

BIODIVERSITY COMMITMENT

“LIVING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE”

We, the Board Members and the Executive Body of Aroundtown, concerned that despite substantial efforts of society and the attention to sustainability, humanity still remains on an unsustainable development path, see the loss of biodiversity as an equally threatening global crisis as climate change. Therefore, we see it as part of our corporate responsibility, to not only minimize the negative impacts we as a company have on biodiversity but to also contribute positively.

Sustainability and good asset management of the assets under our ownership is key to our business. We co-operate with the local authorities, business partners, tenants and communities to encourage sustainable practices.

Since our business model does not entail large construction projects, let alone greenfield development but rather the acquisition associated repair and maintenance and management of existing building stock, the company's impact on the loss of biodiversity is comparatively small.

However, our portfolio includes significant amounts of green space surrounding our buildings. These can play an important role in urban biodiversity.

OUR APPROACH

To implement our commitment to biodiversity, the company shall be guided by the following main principles of conduct, which shall be applied in all its activities and businesses:

1. Minimize negative impact on biodiversity

- We aim to not operate in World Heritage areas and IUCN Category I-IV protected areas
- We aim to not operate in areas with globally or nationally important biodiversity
- We apply the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, minimize, restore & offset) when operating in areas in close proximity to critical biodiversity
- When procuring wood and wood products, we aim not to use illegal logged timber, and endeavour to use wood that has been produced by sustainable methods, such as recycled wood and FSC certified wood
- We instruct our facility management companies not to use herbicides or pesticides on our premises that could harm natural life

2. Contribute positively to biodiversity

- We conduct a biodiversity assessment as part of our due diligence
- We work with external facility management companies to ensure the protection and promotion of biodiversity. This shall be part of our agreements with facility managers to ensure it is being considered in property maintenance like plantations and gardening work
- We consult with local authorities on the topic of biodiversity
- We aim to cooperate with kindergartens and day care centers to put up bird houses and insect hotels close to our properties together with local children and thereby promote environmental education at the same time
- We promote biodiversity awareness for our own employees as well as subcontracted personnel and those of its suppliers

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING

We are committed to regularly monitor and report on the implementation of our biodiversity achievements in our sustainability reporting.

Our commitment to biodiversity contributes to the achievement of the following SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals):



In summary, this statement set out a roadmap for our company towards a pro-active approach to achieve our biodiversity objectives and facilitate progress towards a long-term vision of “living in harmony with nature”.