

# Greiner Environmental Policy



# 1. Introduction

As a global society, we have to find new ways to deal with population growth, climate change and global trends such as the progressive aging of society and loss of ecological diversity. No previous generation has had to overcome such fundamental social, ecological and economic challenges. No one can solve the challenge of a more sustainable world alone. But we all have to play our part. This naturally also applies to us as a global company with over 10,000 employees worldwide. As ever, we have high standards: We want to be perceived as a company that is part of a sustainable, positive change. Sustainability is a dominant theme at Greiner and is firmly anchored in our corporate strategy. We have always considered sustainability an interdisciplinary issue that affects all levels and therefore also all employees. No matter where, no matter who, sustainability is a key topic for Greiner worldwide.

# 2. Our Vision

Greiner is conscious of its ecological responsibility and is committed to doing business in a sustainable way as outlined in this [Environmental Policy](#), which forms the framework for our entrepreneurial activities and targets. We recognize our responsibility to stop overexploitation of the earth's natural resources, maintain biological diversity and protect biodiversity and the climate against further negative impacts to the maximum degree possible. We will therefore provide all the resources and information necessary to meet our responsibility and achieve our goals.

We strongly believe that we can only achieve sustainable corporate success over the long term by continuously improving our environmental performance across all levels of the company in full compliance with all applicable environmental requirements and taking extensive measures along our value chain to protect our natural resources. Furthermore, management systems and supplier obligations should contribute to the sustained protection of natural resources.

Our [Blue Plan sustainability](#) strategy also underlines our vision of a sustainable corporate focus. Blue Plan is based on the three pillars of the circular economy, climate protection and employees and is the overarching, long-term sustainability strategy. It forms the strategic framework on our path to becoming a climate-neutral and circular company.

## 3. Unser Commitment

By joining the [UN Global Compact](#), which supports the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is based on ten universal principles, we are unequivocally expressing our commitment to conserving resources and doing business in a sustainable way. We stand resolutely against any destruction of our natural resources, such as the destruction of forests, water pollution and contamination of ecosystems.

We regularly make our environmental performance publicly available in a transparent manner to assure our business partners of the seriousness of our efforts and deeds. We firstly do this through the [Greiner Sustainability Report](#), which is prepared in accordance with the GRI Standards and undergoes external validation by an independent accredited body. We also regularly have our environmental performance assessed on independent and publicly available [sustainability platforms](#) such as CDP or EcoVadis and provide this to all our [business partners](#).

We undertake to monitor, measure and improve our environmental performance on a continuous basis along our entire value chain. For this, we always use meaningful key performance indicators and set ourselves ambitious short, medium and long-term targets to enable us to assess our ongoing development in a clear and transparent way. We follow a holistic approach here, taking all upstream and downstream processes into account.

## 4. Sustainable Materials

The efficient and sustainable use of materials, in particular, is of key significance to us as a manufacturing company. Therefore, continuously increasing [efficiency in terms of resources used](#) and consistently striving steadily to increase the ease with which [secondary materials](#) can be processed, thereby increasing their use and, in particular, keeping them in the (material) cycle, are a very particular focus at Greiner. We also use [bio-based and biodegradable materials](#) in all situations where their use is demonstrably worthwhile from an ecological perspective and economically sustainable. In addition, we consider it an absolute necessity to form links along our value chain and to promote and establish appropriate [cooperations and networks](#). This is the only way to transform our previous economic model into a sustainable model that is fit for the future and aligns with the rate of ecological renewal.

## 5. Sustainable Purchasing

The Greiner [Code of Conduct](#) is one of the ways we underscore our ambitions in this area. By complying with this code of conduct, we commit ourselves and our business partners to doing business in an ethically correct, ecologically sustainable and socially responsible way.

The [Greiner Sustainable Sourcing Policy](#) also makes an essential contribution to the sustainable procurement policy at Greiner. It ensures that we take our potential business partners' social, ethical and ecological performance into account as early as in the decision-making process regarding future partnerships and cooperations.

We refer to third-party [supplier assessments](#) as well as sustainability ratings and audits to check compliance with our principles.

## 6. Sustainable Logistics

We follow the approach of including all emissions created along the value chain in our [carbon footprint calculations](#) and taking the maximum number of influencing factors into account for each category of emissions. We calculate and analyze our greenhouse gas emissions in [inbound and outbound logistics](#) at regular intervals and continuously and consistently reduce our emissions as a matter of course by setting ambitious [science-based targets](#). In the future, therefore, we intend to focus more on short transportation routes, environmentally friendly and resource-efficient modes of transport, route-optimized transport planning and innovative transport solutions. We will also work on sustainable logistics solutions in partnership with our suppliers and customers.

# 7. Sustainable Production

We have a duty to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions dramatically. Our own production and thus all the processes by which we manufacture safe products from raw materials are of key importance here. Our most comprehensive tool in this area is certification of our [management systems in accordance with ISO 14001](#). We endeavor and undertake to use the most efficient state-of-the-art technologies, innovative solutions and good practices to improve our energy-related performance, optimize water consumption further, minimize the amount of raw materials used and waste produced and reduce our emissions in a consistent way.

## 7.1. Reducing Energy Consumption and Emissions

We are committed to improving our energy-related performance on an ongoing basis and focus on several areas of activity here in addition to procuring energy-efficient products and services. Besides [increasing the share of renewable energy](#), we are also working on consistently increasing the [proportion of energy we produce ourselves](#).

Resource efficiency also plays a major role in this area. We have long been analyzing our energy consumption very precisely and continuously strive to use the energy sources we consume indirectly (electricity, heating, cooling) and directly (gas, gasoline, diesel, etc.) as efficiently as possible. Through using the latest technologies and implementing numerous projects we can continue to reduce the electricity and heating and cooling energy required for our processes and buildings and thus steadily and consistently raise [energy efficiency](#). As improving energy-related performance plays an important role on the path to climate neutrality, it also goes without saying that we use only the latest and safest refrigerants. We also align with the scientific discourse on sustainably reducing emissions by developing [science-based targets](#).

## 7.2. Reducing Water Consumption

The careful and sustainable handling of water as a resource plays a particularly important role in these times of climate change and increasing global warming. For this reason, Greiner also attaches great importance to water as a resource. We have set ourselves the goal of consistently [reducing water consumption](#), particularly in water-stressed areas, as well as continuously [improving our water balance](#).

## 7.3. Reducing Waste

To tackle the problem of waste entering our ecosystems worldwide, we recognize that environmental protection does not end at our company gates. This is why we endeavor to ensure that the waste we produce no longer ends up at [landfill](#) and that the [proportion of our waste that can be recycled](#) continues to rise.

# 8. Sustainable Products

We are committed to being an entirely circular company. We therefore pay particular attention to the design and use-phase of our products.

## 8.1. Sustainable Product Design

Integrating our products into the circular economy requires them to be recyclable. We therefore follow the [design for recycling](#) approach. That is the key to becoming a closed circular economy. We follow this approach by implementing our [EcoDesign Guidelines](#).

By [calculating the environmental footprints](#) of our products we also identify alternative designs for our products, enabling us to decrease their environmental impact in a consistent way.

## 8.2. Sustainable Product Use

It is necessary to close material cycles to prevent products entering the natural environment. For this reason, wherever possible and practicable we do all we can to manufacture our products in such a way that they can be [reused, recycled or composted](#). In this process we foster [innovation](#), seek [cooperation](#) and establish [platforms](#). They help us reduce the quantities of materials used, use more secondary rather than primary materials, move away from single-use and toward reusable products, extend product life, achieve weight reductions and establish new, innovative and more sustainable business models.

## 9. Meeting Our Obligations

- We update our materiality analysis at regular intervals and bring this into alignment with our sustainability strategy.
- We collect, analyze and monitor all non-financial data relevant to us and our stakeholders annually and derive key performance indicators for measuring our environmental performance. Based on this, we define and track our short, medium and long-term sustainability goals.
- At least every two years we publish a sustainability report ([sustainability.greiner.com](https://sustainability.greiner.com)), which is prepared in accordance with the GRI and undergoes external validation by an independent accredited body. Through this report, we ensure maximum transparency and provide a deep insight into all our activities and our progress. Our KPIs from the GRI form the basis for reporting our environmental performance. Should new regulatory requirements make it necessary to shorten the reporting period, this will of course be adjusted accordingly.
- We actively raise the level of environmental awareness among all our employees on a continuous basis through effective communication as well as workshops, training courses and meetings.
- Our compliance management system ensures we monitor and comply with all the legal provisions applicable to us at all times.

## 10. Scope of Application

This policy forms the framework for all our targets in the area of sustainability and applies to all operations in which Greiner holds a majority stake worldwide.



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