



## Forestry Policy

The Portucel Soporcel Group promotes an efficient and competitive management of its planted forests and other agro-forestry land, ensuring the conservation of its natural resources and enhancing forest management, thus generating value and obtaining the recognition of society in general, the shareholders, employees, clients and all stakeholders as part of its corporate social and environmental responsibility and in line with its Sustainability Policy.

The Portucel Soporcel Group is aware of the environmental value of its estate and pursues the objective of producing tangible and intangible assets according to its Forestry Code of Conduct. In order to achieve this, the Group relies on forest management practices that contribute to the maintenance and enhancement of the economic, environmental and social functions of forests both at a stand and landscape levels. In particular, they include:

- :: Improving the productivity of planted forests through the use of best silviculture practices, adapted to the local conditions and compatible with the environment.
- :: Creating and improving forest roads and boundaries in accordance with management requirements while making the forest accessible for the protection against fires.
- :: Ensuring the water cycle is respected and, whenever possible, promoting the rehabilitation and protection of water quality and water resources.

### **Within its forestry activities, the Portucel Soporcel Group is also committed to:**

- :: Ensure that forest practices meet all legal requirements and other self-imposed regulations and policies.
- :: Actively contribute in curbing illegal logging and controlling the origin of its purchased wood.
- :: Take responsibility for setting up, maintaining and informing about the Group's Forest Management System, while establishing and updating its objectives and promoting the continuous improvement of the system's effectiveness.
- :: Provide to its clients excellence in service through continuous optimisation in management and investing in quality, innovation and improved production processes.
- :: Encourage and support its employees' sense of initiative, providing them with training opportunities permitting professional development and promoting high levels of motivation and dedication to accomplish management objectives.
- :: Urge suppliers to adopt best practices, encouraging them to perform their activities in respect to the principles of good forest management.
- :: Manage its forest estate in compliance with Pan-European criteria for sustainable forest management, following the Portuguese National Standard NP 4406 for Sustainable Forest Management.

:: Manage its forest estate according to the Forest Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria, and making these principles and criteria known to all stakeholders.

:: Adopt and encourage a proactive attitude in its relationship with other forest organisations, developing strategic partnerships and taking an active role in seeking the best ways of improving overall forest performance and competitiveness.

:: Accept and respond to the questions put forward by all stakeholders, actively advertising the Group's Forestry Policy and cultivating a strong social and environmental responsibility with the surrounding community.

:: Review its Forestry Policy whenever necessary.

**The Executive Committee | April 2005**