



**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS REGARDING
SUSTAINABILITY FOR OWN BRAND PRODUCTS**

**Version 1.2
EXHIBIT E-b**

This document is valid from 10-11-2025

Updated: Microplastics, Mica, Seafood-petfood, Liability for incorrect claims

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1 General

1.1 Own brand definition

- Own-brand products, at Ahold Delhaize company-operated and affiliated stores, include: private labels, fancy brands (proprietary private labels that are a fantasy name owned by Ahold Delhaize), exclusive brands (brands that are not international, national or regional brands), store-prepared products (in-store food preparation, even if derived from branded stock), non-branded products (such as bulk fruit and vegetables or no name non-food products) and promotional items relating to the former.
- In short, every product that is not an international, national or regional brand is considered to be an own-brand product.

1.2 General minimum requirements

- The requirements stated in Exhibit E-a (product integrity) and -b (sustainability) are valid for all Albert Heijn operating companies (Albert Heijn, Albert Heijn to go, Albert Heijn Belgium, Etos and Gall & Gall), further referred to as 'Albert Heijn'.
- Suppliers of own brand products of Albert Heijn operating companies shall, at all times, comply with the requirements set in this Exhibit.
- Brokers shall also comply at all times with the requirements in this Exhibit. In addition, brokers need to comply with one of the GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative) standards, including IFS (International Featured Standards) broker or BRCGS (British Retail Consortium Global Standards) agents and brokers. Brokers need to have their chain of brokers towards their LSOP and LSOP (Last Stage of Production) certified against a GFSI recognized standard.
- Suppliers shall have signed the Ahold Delhaize Standards of Engagement, the Albert Heijn Standard Buying Terms (or comparable terms from Albert Heijn operating companies) and The Supply Framework Agreement, including the corporate responsibility appendix.
- Suppliers and products shall comply with current European, as well as national, legislation in the relevant sales markets of Albert Heijn operating companies.
- Albert Heijn operates in Belgium. For food products with added nutrients (e.g. vitamins and minerals) and food supplements there is a legal obligation on notification in Belgium. Suppliers of these products shall notify Albert Heijn via the online application Foodsup of the Federal Public Service of Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment of the Belgium government.
- In addition to complying with European legal requirements, the supplier shall be able to present documentation proving that products comply with the specific legal requirements of the countries in which the operating companies operate.
- Production shall take place in accordance with product specifications and contract terms.
- Products and packaging shall, at all times, conform to specifications in the Albert Heijn product specification database. Moreover, the product label shall conform with specifications at all times.
- Albert Heijn shall be informed immediately of any modifications and/or non-conformities in the product, product specifications, product label, packaging, production location or production methods.
- A supplier shall be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- A clear process and procedure shall be in place to ensure effective recalls or withdrawals of products. This shall also be tested at least once a year to ensure it is updated and working in practice. This procedure should include informing the Albert Heijn quality department in the discussions about the product(s) involved. Albert Heijn quality department is available 24/7 through telephone number: +31 88 659 9111

- For each relevant sales market of Albert Heijn operating companies, the responsible supplier or distributor of the product shall:
 - Register/notify the products to local authorities if needed (e.g.: poison center, Cosmetic Product Notification Portal);
 - Be affiliated to recycling organizations and pay all necessary fees to meet our requirements regarding packaging and products.
- Albert Heijn has the right to execute unannounced audits (direct access to production without delay). See chapter 2 and 3 of this Exhibit for more information.

1.3 Traceability

- Products shall be traceable up until the last stage of production. This means that all products shall be traceable back to the production batch and production site within three hours, through code and date labelling on the package.
- In relation to traceability, Albert Heijn requires all own brand suppliers and producers to be able to trace back ingredients to the first stage of production

2 Sustainability

The requirements on sustainability mentioned below are subject to alteration. For the latest and complete policies or in case of questions, contact Albert Heijn via:

- sustainablesupplier@ah.nl
- sustainablesupplier@gall.nl
- sustainablesupplier@etos.nl

Please also check the [Albert Heijn sustainability and quality hub](#) for more information pertaining to supplier requirements and compliance.

2.1 Overarching sustainability requirements

- **Climate - Targets and Reporting**
 - Albert Heijn has climate targets covering Scope 1-2-3 carbon emissions in line with the maximum 1.5C degrees global warming scenario and these targets are validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). In that context, Albert Heijn requires suppliers to set climate targets and to report progress annually.
 - Supplier shall:
 - Set climate targets covering Scope 1-2-3 carbon emissions in line with maximum 1.5C degrees global warming scenario and ensure that these targets are validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) (or equivalent). For those who haven't yet set validated 1.5C degrees targets, SBTi membership (or equivalent) is required by 30th of December 2025. Equivalency is determined by Albert Heijn. Targets can be set by Supplier at group level or at national level.
 - Annually submit the Ahold Delhaize climate reporting questionnaire before the indicated deadline via the applicable reporting platform. Currently, the questionnaires are accessible via the platforms of ImpactBuying and CDP. Annual Reporting is required as from 2025 reporting campaign regardless of whether Supplier has targets or is a member of SBTi (or equivalent).
 - Supplier shall comply with relevant legal and regulatory requirements, including but not limited to Directive (EU) 2022/2464 as regards corporate sustainability reporting (CSRD), Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation (EUDR), Regulation (EU) on packaging and packaging waste (PPWR), etc., at the latest from their respective entry into force.
- **Climate – Renewable Electricity**
 - Supplier shall use 100% Renewable Electricity (as defined below) for all electricity consumption related to the production, manufacturing and provision of Products or services to Contracting Party and/or Company, proportionally to the share (%) that Albert Heijn, Etos and/or Gall & Gall represent of Supplier's total sold volume.
 - Definition: the European Union ('EU') definition of Renewable Electricity is leading. The EU currently defines Renewable Electricity as: "electricity from renewable non-fossil sources, namely wind, solar (solar thermal and solar photovoltaic) and geothermal energy, osmotic energy, ambient energy, tide, wave and other ocean energy, hydropower, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas, and biogas".

- Proof of Compliance: upon request of Contracting Party and/or Company, Supplier agrees to provide within ten (10) working days, documentation evidencing its use of Renewable Electricity, such as but not limited to energy bills, certification of renewable energy purchases (e.g., Renewable Energy Certificates, Guarantees of Origin) or contracts with energy providers. This documentation must clearly show that 100% of the electricity used by Supplier is Renewable Electricity and is therefore sourced from renewable sources.

- **Packaging (all materials)**
 - Target: All packaging of own brand products shall comply with Albert Heijn's packaging policies. A summary can be found in the sustainable packaging guide. In 2025 all Albert Heijn own brand packaging shall be 'good recyclable' (based on the definition of Kennisinstituut Duurzaam Verpakken, KIDV). Packaging weight should be minimized without compromising other packaging qualities, such as keeping products protected and fresh. All revised or new products shall undergo evaluation with regard to our sustainability policies for packaging. The sustainable packaging guide is available on the sustainability hub.
 - Additional requirements:
 - Recyclability: Do not use the following packaging materials: Black plastic, Colored PET, Polystyrene (PS), Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). Where possible, only use mono materials.
 - Recycled content: Maximize the use of recycled content in packaging.
 - Monitoring: To monitor progress, each supplier is required to maintain up to date data on primary, secondary and tertiary packaging within TraceOne (all fields). It is the supplier's responsibility to notify relevant stakeholders of any changes or mutations and initiate the necessary projects in TraceOne to update the information.
 - All suppliers shall comply with applicable legislation (94/62 EC – Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive; 2025/40 - Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation)

- **Packaging (Paper, cardboard and wood-fiber)**
 - Targets:
 - All primary and secondary packaging made from wood fibers must be certified sustainably sourced against acceptable standards.
 - All paper, cardboard and wooden own brand primary, secondary and tertiary packaging must be recyclable.
 - Acceptable standards: Forest Stewardship Council (FSC; or FSC mix; or FSC recycled); Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). Primary and secondary packaging made from wood fibers containing >70% recycled fibers is considered sustainably sourced as well. Cotton fibers applied in paper or cardboard packaging must be certified according to BCI standards.
 - Additional requirements:
 - Wood is not allowed for secondary packaging. If wood is used for primary packaging, approval must be requested.

- **Social Compliance**
 - Targets:
 - Suppliers of own brand products of Albert Heijn operating companies shall, at all times, comply with the social compliance requirements set in this Exhibit.
 - Albert Heijn suppliers of own brand products with one or more production locations in high- and medium-risk countries must have a valid amfori BSCI (Business Social Compliance

Initiative) audit, or equivalent. without critical, crucial and/or major non-compliances. For the following standards specific minimum performance levels are required:

- amfori BSCI: level B
- ETI Smeta: level Green in Sedex database (equivalent to max.4 minor non-compliances)
 - If using ETI Smeta, please ensure you link to Albert Heijn in the Sedex database.
- SIZA: level Gold
- The Albert Heijn social compliance policy builds on the Ahold Delhaize global policy with additional requirements from January 1st 2025, for more information see [here](#).
- Definitions:
 - High-risk countries are countries where workers are extra vulnerable and where the risk of poor working conditions is significantly higher. Medium-risk countries have large numbers of migrant workers, which increases the risk of exploitation and poor working conditions. All countries that are not on [the list](#) of low- and medium-risk countries, are considered high-risk countries.
 - Production locations in-scope: locations where the last stage of production takes place. This is the stage that involves labor to produce or process the final product. For unprocessed fruit and vegetables, the last stage of production is at the farm and packing station levels. The last stage of production excludes (re-)packing in a non-risk country.
- Acceptable Standards:
 - See appendix for the accepted social compliance standards.
 - Audit reports shall, at all times, be made available in the designated database (ImpactBuying/ SIM Portal, Sedex database).

2.2 Product-specific sustainability requirements

- **Beef**
 - Origin ban: The use of all beef (fresh and processed) from Brazil is prohibited in all products (own brand and national brand).

- **Cocoa**
 - Target:
 - All cocoa in own brand products shall be certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - By 1 January 2028, all cocoa used in any own brand food product must be purchased according to the Tony's Open Chain principles through one of the available processing models ('Beans-to-machine or 'Beans-to-brand)
 - Accepted standards:
 - Fairtrade Mass Balance or Segregated; OR
 - Rainforest Alliance Mass Balance or Segregated (allowed until end of 2027 when transition to Fairtrade should be finalized); OR
 - Organic certification with Fairtrade certification or Rainforest Alliance (Rainforest Alliance allowed until end of 2027).
 - Stand-alone Organic certification is not accepted.
 - Products in-scope: Own brand food products containing >0% of cocoa and own brand non-food products containing ≥5% cocoa.

- **Coconut**
 - Target: All coconut milk shall be free from monkey labor.
 - Accepted standards: Supplier self-declaration no monkey labor
 - Products in-scope: All own brand coconut milk products from relevant countries, including but not limited to Thailand, Sri Lanka, Vietnam.

- **Coffee**
 - Target: All own brand coffee products shall be certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Rainforest Alliance Segregated; OR
 - Organic certification with Rainforest Alliance or Fairtrade certification
 - Stand-alone Organic certification is not accepted.
 - If 100% segregated is not available, then only the highest possible content claim is accepted.
 - Products in-scope: Own brand products containing >1% of coffee and own brand products containing <1% coffee, but with coffee or mocha included in the product name and/or front of pack claims or shown in images on the packaging.

- **Cotton**
 - Target: all own brand cotton textile products shall be certified to an accepted standard.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS); OR
 - Better Cotton Initiative (BCI); OR
 - Organic Cotton Standard (OCS); OR
 - Global Recycled Standard (GRS).

- Additional requirements: All organic certified cotton textile products shall include a GOTS or OCS logo on pack. BCI certified cotton textile products shall contain a logo on pack only when using Physical Better Cotton (segregated chain of custody).
- **Dairy**
 - Target:
 - All own brand fresh dairy products and all own brand butter and own brand Gouda-type cheese must be produced with meadow milk (*weidemelk*) and certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Meadow Milk Grazing Certificate by Grazing Foundation (*Stichting Weidegang*); AND
 - Better for Nature & Farmer – Dairy program (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer – Zuivel programma*) certification; OR
 - Organic certified.
 - Additional requirements: All in scope products with Better for Nature & Farmer certification must be produced in The Netherlands.
 - Products in-scope: All Dutch own brand fresh dairy products, all Dutch own brand butter and all Dutch own brand Gouda type cheese products.
 - Products out of scope: all other products that contain dairy or dairy ingredients, and dairy products from outside the Netherlands.
- **Eggs**
 - Targets:
 - Consumer eggs: All own brand consumer eggs shall be barn eggs (EU Egg Code 2) and Beter Leven Keurmerk (BLK) 1-star certified as a minimum standard.
 - Products containing eggs: For all own brand products containing egg, barn eggs (EU Egg Code 2) shall be used as a minimum standard. The use of cage eggs is prohibited.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Better for Nature & Farmer – Egg program (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer – Eieren programma*) certification;
 - BLK certification (1,2, or 3 stars); OR
 - Organic certification.
 - Additional requirement: All eggs with Better for Nature & Farmer certification are produced in the Netherlands.
 - Products-in-scope: All own brand consumer eggs; All in own brand products containing egg (>0%)
- **Flowers and plants**
 - Target: All flower and plant production locations shall be certified against the social and environmental standards within the Floriculture Sustainability Initiative (FSI) 2025 Basket of Standards.
 - Accepted standards: The list of accepted standards is available on the [FSI website](#).
 - Additional requirements: Suppliers of flowers and plants are asked to become members of the FSI.
- **Fruits and vegetables**
 - Targets:

- Dutch fruit and vegetable products must be certified to an acceptable standard: either Better for Nature & Farmer – Fruit and Vegetable program (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer – Aardappelen Groente en Fruit programma*); OR Organic certified.
 - High-risk countries: All fruit and vegetable production locations in high-risk countries shall have an amfori BSCI audit report or equivalent. See appendix for the accepted social compliance standards.
 - Medium-risk countries: All fruit and vegetable production locations in medium-risk countries are asked to comply with the SIFAV 2025 Basket of Standards.
 - All fruit and vegetable production locations outside of the Netherlands must take part in the [Positive Produce for People and Planet](#) program.
 - Definitions:
 - Countries in-scope: A high-risk country is any country that is NOT listed on the Ahold Delhaize non-high-risk country list and can be found in Exhibit D. A medium-risk country is defined on basis of the SIFAV classification, including Portugal.
 - Additional requirements:
 - The origin of all processed and unprocessed fruit and vegetables shall be traceable up to farm / production level; AND
 - All suppliers must be able to provide insight into production method (open ground, greenhouse, etc); AND
 - All Dutch producers / growers shall register the usage of plant protection agents for the production of fruit and vegetables for Albert Heijn in a designated online tool (Cropvision, Teeltcentraal, Agrovision).

- **Game (reared/farmed and wild catch)**
 - Target:
 - All own brand reared/farmed or wild-caught game shall be traceable from primary production or catch-method up to processing; AND
 - For reared/farmed game, the production is certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - Accepted standards: third party certification according to a Specific Farm Quality Assurance System available for primary production per species:
 - Quail: Label Rouge
 - Duck: Free range
 - Rabbit: Beter Leven Keurmerk (BLK) 1 star
 - Additional requirement: A ban (own brand and A-brand) is in effect for foie gras as well as the meat, feathers and other by-products from ducks/geese involved in its production, and for the hair and other by-products from angora rabbits.
 - Products in-scope: Own brand products containing ≥5% reared/farmed or wild-caught game and own brand products containing <5% reared/farmed or wild-caught game, but with game included in the product name and/or front-of-pack claims, or shown in images on the packaging.

- **Mica**
 - Target: All mica in own brand cosmetics shall be sourced from child-labour-free mines.
 - Accepted standards:
 - For mica mined in Jharkhand/Bihar (India) or Madagascar, suppliers shall be member of Responsible Mica Initiative (RMI).
 - For mica mined in high and medium risk regions (including other regions in India) suppliers shall provide a self-declaration of legal, social, economic and occupational health & safety

standards.

- Products in-scope: Own brand cosmetics products that contain mica.

- **Microplastics**
 - Target: By end of 2026; all formulated own brand products (mixtures) are free from microplastics (definition conform Annex XVII Regulation (EG) 1907/2006) (excluding waterproof make-up).
 - Additional requirements: The claim “microplastic free” shall not be used on products in categories for which the use of microplastics is legally forbidden (REACH).
 - Products in scope: Own brand products of Albert Heijn are in scope for this policy, which are considered non-food substances, mixtures or articles.
 - Products out of scope: Own brand waterproof make-up

- **Nuts: all nuts processed in high-risk countries**
 - Target: All own brand nut processors in high-risk countries shall be certified to one of the accepted social compliance standards. This includes, and is not limited to shelling, peeling, sorting & grading, and packing.
 - Accepted standards: amfori Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI) audit or equivalent. See appendix for the accepted social compliance standards.

- **Nuts: almonds, pecans, pistachios, macadamias and walnuts**
 - Target: All own brand producers of almonds, pecans, pistachios, macadamias and walnuts in the snack segment, shall cover water-related risk using a system that can be monitored and reported. The system shall cover processing and primary production.

- **Nuts: hazelnuts**
 - Target: All hazelnuts in own brand products shall be certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Rainforest Alliance Mass Balance; OR
 - Rainforest Alliance Segregated; OR
 - Rainforest Alliance may also be combined with Organic certification.
 - Stand-alone Organic certification is not accepted.
 - Additional requirement: All product in-scope shall comply with the latest Rainforest Alliance labeling and Trademarks policy.
 - Products in-scope: Own brand products containing ≥5% of hazelnuts and own brand products containing <5% hazelnuts, but with hazelnut as an identifiable ingredient, included in the product name and/or front-of-pack claims, or shown in images on the packaging.

- **Palm oil**
 - Targets:
 - All palm (kernel) oil and its fractions and derivatives used in own brand products shall be certified to the Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).
 - From 2025, all palm (kernel) oil shall be verified deforestation and conversion free and compliant with the Albert Heijn cut-off date of 31 December 2020. Previous commitments,

such as the RSPO cut-off date of 2018 for High Conservation Value (HCV) areas and High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests, remain in effect.

- Certification requirements:
 - Food products: RSPO segregated
 - Near/non-food products: RSPO segregated. If RSPO segregated is not available, Mass Balance is accepted as a transitional model. If neither option is available, please contact Albert Heijn.
- Additional requirements:
 - Suppliers shall be member of the Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil; AND
 - The production location must be RSPO Chain of Custody certified; AND
 - Suppliers shall provide the name(s) of the first importer(s) in their supply chain to Albert Heijn on an annual basis or upon request; AND
 - Albert Heijn does not accept 'no palm' claims on-pack of any own brand product.
 - Albert Heijn expects all suppliers, including upstream suppliers, to:
 - Have a formal policy in place committing to zero deforestation and zero conversion across their entire palm-oil related operations by 2025 at the latest, using a cut-off date of December 2020 or earlier;
 - Implement concrete practices to monitor and mitigate deforestation and conversion risks, such as traceability systems, supplier engagement, risk assessments, and sourcing criteria;
 - Publicly report on the progress of their commitments at least annually.
- Products in-scope: own brand products containing $\geq 1\%$ (ingredient based) of palm (kernel) oil, fractions and/or derivatives.

- **Pork**

- Target:
 - All own brand fresh pork and processed pork meat from the Netherlands and Belgium shall be certified to an acceptable standard.
- Certification Requirements:
 - Better for Nature & Farmer - Pork program (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer – Varken programma*), which includes Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) minimum 1-star certified as a requirement; OR
 - Better Life Label (Beter Leven Keurmerk) 2-stars; OR
 - Organic & Better Life Label (Beter Leven Keurmerk) 3-stars.
- Additional requirement: All in scope products with Better for Nature & Farmer certification must be produced in The Netherlands.
- Products in-scope: This applies to own-brand of fresh pork and cold cuts from the Netherlands with:
 - $\geq 5\%$ pork as an ingredient
 - $< 5\%$ pork as an ingredient, but with pork listed in the product name or depicted on the packaging.
- Products out of scope:
 - Products with $< 5\%$ pork as an ingredient and without mentioning pork in the product name or depicted on the packaging.
 - Foreign specialties.
 - Pet food.

- **Poultry (chicken species)**

- Target:

- All own brand in scope poultry products shall be certified against one of the accepted standards.

- Accepted standards:

- Chicken:

- Better for Nature & Farmer – Chicken program (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer – Kip programma*) certification, which includes Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) (BLK) 1-star certification as a minimum requirement; OR
 - Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) (BLK) 2-star; OR
 - Organic certified AND Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) (BLK) 3-stars.

- Turkey:

- All own brand turkey products shall be Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) (BLK) 1-star certified as a minimum requirement.

- Additional requirement

- Chicken: All in scope products with Better for Nature and Farmer (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer*) certification must be produced in The Netherlands.

- Products in-scope: own brand products containing ≥5% chicken/turkey and own brand products containing <5% chicken/turkey, but with chicken/turkey included in the product name and/or front-of-pack claims, or shown in images on the packaging.

- Out of scope: Foreign specialties in cured and sliced chicken and turkey products.

- **Pulp (paper) and wood**

- Target: All own brand products made from wood, pulp or products containing pulp shall be certified to an accepted standard.

- Accepted standards:

- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); OR
 - Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Grade A certified (only after approval of Quality Assurance department). PEFC Grade A refers to a list of lower risk countries of origin.

- Additional requirements:

- All Albert Heijn ecological paper products shall be FSC recycled and certified according to one of the ecological schemes (e.g. EU-Flower).
 - A ban is in effect for products made from wood/fibers from virgin tropical hard wood.
 - Suppliers shall be able to prove that the products/components delivered to Albert Heijn are not from illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) sources.

- **Seafood – Food products**

- Target: All own brand seafood products shall be certified to one of the accepted standards or, if no certification is available (yet), sourced from a credible Fishery/Aquaculture Improvement Project or assessed by a credible third party as being low risk.

- Accepted standards:

- Marine Stewardship Council (MSC); OR
 - Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC); OR
 - any other GSSI-equivalent standard;
 - OR EU Organic

- Products in-scope: own brand products containing ≥5% of seafood (fresh, frozen, canned) and own brand products containing <5% seafood (fresh, frozen, canned), but with seafood included in the product name and/or front-of-pack claims or shown in images on the packaging.
- Additional requirements:
 - It is not permitted to source seafood species (own brand and national brand) which appear as 'endangered' or 'critically endangered' on the IUCN red list.
 - It is not permitted to source seafood species (own brand and national brand) which appear as 'red / high-risk' on the Dutch VISwijzer.
 - All own brand seafood products have information of origin.
 - All own brand and national brand octopus or other cephalopods sourced are wild caught and not farmed
 - All own brand farmed tropical shrimp are produced without eyestalk ablation and are humanely (electrically) stunned and slaughtered.
 - By 2030 it is required for own brand farmed seafood to have a Forage Fish Dependency Ration (FFDR) for meal of ≤0.5 and an FFDR for oil of ≤1 and for the feed to come from ASC, or equivalent, certified feed mills.

- **Seafood – Petfood products**
 - Target: All own brand pet food products containing seafood shall be certified to one of the accepted standards or, if no certification is available, sourced from a credible Fishery/Aquaculture Improvement Project or assessed by a credible third party as being low risk.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Marine Stewardship Council (MSC); OR
 - Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC); OR
 - any other GSSI-equivalent standard;
 - OR EU Organic
 - Products in-scope: own brand pet food products containing ≥4% seafood

- **Shelf stable tomatoes**
 - Target: All own brand shelf stable tomato processors in Italy, Portugal and Spain, and all supplying farms in these countries shall be certified to one of the accepted social compliance standards.
 - Accepted standards:
 - For processors: amfori Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI) audit or equivalent without non-compliances on deal-breakers. See appendix for the accepted social compliance standards.
 - For supplying farms: amfori BSCI audit or equivalent without non-compliances on deal-breakers; OR GLOBALG.AP. GRASP v2 audit with rating "Improvement needed" as a minimum.
 - Additional requirements: Suppliers of own brand shelf stable tomato products shall be able to provide full traceability on the geographic origin of the tomatoes down to farm level.
 - Products in-scope: Own brand shelf stable tomato products such as canned tomatoes, tomato paste, pasta sauce, passata.

- **Soy**

- Target:
 - All high risk (South American) soy in own brand products and supply chains shall be certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - From 2025, all soy shall be verified deforestation and conversion free and compliant with the Albert Heijn cut-off date of 1 January 2020.
 - Accepted standards: Based on alignment with the most recent FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines, including criterion 34 (non-conversion) with a cut-off date of December 2020 at the latest, the following standards are considered acceptable: ADM Responsible Soybean Standard (SG); OR Donau Soja (SG); OR ISCC (SG); OR ProTerra (SG); OR Round Table on Responsible Soy Association – RTRS (SG). For credits we accept RTRS Area Mass Balance Soy Credits; OR CRS Cefetra Certified Responsible Soya Standard. *Note: the use of credits and mass balance does not meet Albert Heijn’s commitment to sourcing deforestation and conversion free soy.*
 - Additional requirements:
 - Suppliers shall provide the name(s) of the first importer(s) and feed suppliers (if applicable) in their supply chain upon request.
 - Products in-scope:
 - Own brand meat/fish products (beef, chicken, pork, farmed fish), including marinated/seasoned and raw/frozen products, excluding cold cuts, canned meat/fish and meat/fish in processed food products;
 - Own brand egg/dairy products where >95% of the products is egg/dairy;
 - Own brand products containing >95% soy and own brand products containing <95% soy, but with soy included in the product name and/or front-of-pack claims or positioned as a substitute for animal protein.
- **Tea**
 - Target: All own brand tea products are certified to one of the accepted standards.
 - Accepted standards:
 - Rainforest Alliance Segregated; OR
 - Organic certification with Rainforest Alliance or Fairtrade certification. Stand-alone Organic certification is not accepted.
 - If 100% segregated is not available, then only the highest possible content claim is accepted.
 - All products in-scope shall comply with the latest Rainforest Alliance Labeling and Trademarks policy or the Guidelines for use of the Fairtrade mark.
 - Products in-scope:
 - Own brand products containing >1% of white tea, green tea, black tea, rooibos and/or herbal infusions.
 - Own brand rooibos and herbal infusions within the (ice) tea category
 - **Veal**
 - Target: All fresh veal shall be Better Life Beter Leven Keurmerk (BLK) 1 star certified.
 - Accepted standards: Better Life Label (*Beter Leven Keurmerk*) (BLK) 1-star, 2-star or 3-star.
 - **Wine**
 - Target: All wine suppliers, farms and factories, shall be compliant with an acceptable social and environmental certification.

- Accepted standards: The Albert Heijn quality department has determined which social and environmental standards are acceptable. These are available upon request. Any new standards shall be (externally) benchmarked prior to formal acceptance within this policy.
- Products in-scope: we strive towards 100% certification regardless the size of the producer. There is an exception for suppliers with a total purchase volume to Ahold Delhaize's operating companies of <5000 bottles per producer per year. For these suppliers, signing the Ahold Delhaize Standards of Engagement (which outline principles essential to supporting human rights and protecting the environment) is considered sufficient.

2.3 Sustainability Claims

All sustainability and health claims made by Supplier in relation to the Products must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including (but not limited to) relevant (self-)regulatory requirements such as the ACM Guidelines on Sustainability Claims and the "Code voor Duurzaamheidsreclame" as issued by the "Stichting Reclame Code".

Supplier shall at all times remain fully responsible and liable for the accuracy, clarity and verifiability of any claims made by Supplier and shall indemnify and hold Albert Heijn harmless from and against any and all damages, claims, fines and third-party claims arising from misleading or otherwise unlawful claims.

Additionally, any claim, logo or certification used (for example, the Rainforest Alliance or Fairtrade marks) shall comply with the latest rules and guidelines of the respective standards or certification bodies.

- **Better for Nature & Farmer (*Beter voor Natuur & Boer*) claims**

For products with a *Beter Voor Natuur & Boer* claim on the label the following rules are applicable:

- Supplier is required to fill out the Beter Voor Natuur & Boer Questionnaire and send this to the Beter Voor Natuur & Boer Foundation.
- Supplier makes sure that all Beter Voor Natuur & Boer ingredients are sourced from a certified Beter Voor Natuur & Boer supply chain partner.
- Supplier ensures that full payment is done of the Beter Voor Natuur & Boer sustainability premium to the Beter Voor Natuur & Boer supply chain partner.
- Supplier ensures that all use of the Beter Voor Natuur & Boer trademark is according to the rules stated in the guidelines.
- Supplier should be able to show evidence upon request of Albert Heijn.

3 Appendix

List of amfori-BSCI equivalent standards

(Version 6.1 - October 2024)

1. amfori Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI)
2. RCGS Ethical Trade and Responsible Sourcing Standard – Issue 1 and 2
3. Equitable Food Initiative Social Standards, Guidance, & Interpretations_v2.1 (EFI) including Ethical Charter
4. Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) / SMETA †, ††††
5. Fair for Life / For Life
6. Fair Labor Association (FLA)†
7. Fair Trade USA ††,†††
8. Fairtrade Hired Labour
9. Fairtrade Textile
10. FISH standard for crew
11. Florverde
12. FSSC 24000
13. Global Seafood Alliance; responsible fishing standard
14. Kenya Flower Council (KFC)
15. MPS -Socially Qualified (SQ)
16. ProTerra †††
17. Rainforest Alliance (RA) / Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) ††, †††
18. Sustainable Agriculture in South Africa (SIZA)
19. Sustainably Grown
20. Social Accountability (SA) 8000
21. Wine and Agricultural Ethical Trade Association (WIETA)

The full audit frequency is set at 2 years for schemes that do not prescribe an audit frequency. An annual (re)inspection is still required if there are major non-conformities findings on the audit.

† Only audit reports conducted by external, independent auditors are considered equivalent.

†† Chain of Custody/Trader certificates are not accepted

††† Only applicable in case the scope of certification does not include processing

†††† Only audit reports that are registered in the SEDEX database are accepted. Major non-compliances are non-compliances that have a remediation time of equal or less than 90 days in the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) both 2 and 4 pillar audits are accepted.