



EUROPEAN NURSERYSTOCK ASSOCIATION

www.enaplants.eu

ENA's ambition for clear programmes and objectives on sustainability.

'As the horticulture sector, with a large number of small businesses, together we make a significant contribution to sustainability, which we demonstrate through the SDG's, a language that is spoken the world over'.

The key to unlocking a move towards a mainstream sustainable horticulture sector is the development of a shared vision and to create a structure where current and future sustainability issues can be tackled on a sector level, in line with the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs).

Presented at the ENA General Assembly in July 2019, the four Sustainable Development Goals, used for good sustainable practices in the horticultural sector are now part of ENA's ambition for a sustainable nursery industry. By understanding the current practice and comparing it to desired practices, ENA can acquire more clarity on what and how to improve and determine ambition levels on key issues.

Sustainability for ENA means continuously re-thinking what we do and how we do it, to further expand our contribution to a safe and liveable world.

In recent years the horticultural sector has developed and increased empowerment of stakeholders, and has pushed forward the need for transparency and traceability of the total supply chain and clarity on sustainability practices.

The Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN (United Nations) Member States are 17 thematic areas that outline a roadmap for sustainable development until 2030. All are a result of long-term negotiations and apply to all countries while recognising different priorities and different levels of development. The SDGs provide a practical framework for a wide range of initiatives and innovations.

ENA has defined five sustainability focusses areas that are important for our stakeholders and ourselves. Affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, climate action, life on land and, of course, partnerships to achieve these goals.

Each organisation member of ENA wants to demonstrate how hard the horticulture sector in several countries is working to achieve impact on sustainability. The certification costs a little time and trouble, but it offers excellent advantages and will be the license to produce and deliver in the near future.

The main issues for our horticulture sector are:

- Climate
- The use of chemicals
- Transparency and traceability
- Work conditions
- Energy

Because of that, ENA has formulated its ambition to make clear programmes and objectives for these goals.

The 17 Sustainability Development Goals



End poverty in all its forms everywhere.



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Be it for jobs, security, climate change, food production or increasing incomes, access to energy for all is essential. Working towards this goal is especially important as it interlinks with other Sustainable Development Goals. Focusing on universal access to energy, increased energy efficiency and the increased use of renewable energy through new economic and job opportunities is crucial to creating more sustainable and inclusive communities and resilience to environmental issues like climate change.

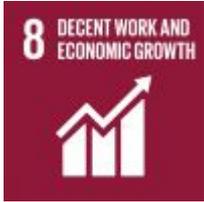
However, the challenge is far from being solved and there needs to be more access to clean fuel and technology, and more progress needs to be made regarding integrating renewable energy into end-use applications in buildings, transport and industry. Public and private investments in energy also need to be increased and there needs to be more focus on regulatory frameworks and innovative business models to transform the world's energy systems.

Sustainable Development Goal 7 calls on every member of ENA to accelerate sustainable energy solutions. In the ongoing energy transition, all ENA members should provide innovative solutions, focus on their own carbon footprint and promote the energy efficiency of their offices and fleet of vehicles.



EUROPEAN NURSERYSTOCK ASSOCIATION

www.enaplants.eu



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

A continued lack of decent work opportunities, insufficient investments and under-consumption lead to an erosion of the basic social contract underlying democratic societies: that all must share in progress. Even though the average annual growth rate is increasing year on year.

Sustainable economic growth will require societies to create the conditions that allow people to have quality jobs that stimulate the economy while not harming the environment. Job opportunities and decent working conditions are also required for the whole working-age population. There needs to be increased access to financial services to manage incomes, accumulate assets and make productive investments. Increased commitments to trade and horticulture infrastructure will also help increase productivity and reduce unemployment levels.

A sustainable economy has an impact on practically all aspects of human life and well-being. Sustainable economic growth requires societies to create the conditions that stimulate sustainable business development and job creation, while safeguarding environmental sustainability. The creation of such employment will remain a major challenge for all ENA members.

ENA members treat people with dignity and respect and offer equal opportunities for all, based on performance and development, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or other status.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.



Reduce inequality within and among countries.



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Greenhouse gas emissions from human activities continue to rise and accelerate climate change. Global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions have increased by almost 50 per cent since 1990 and are now at their highest levels in history. Continuing with 'business as usual' is not a feasible option.

Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives today and even more tomorrow. Weather patterns are changing, and sea levels are rising, weather events are becoming more extreme. Without action, the world's average surface temperature is likely to surpass 3 degrees centigrade this century.

Affordable, scalable solutions are now available to enable companies to leapfrog to cleaner, more resilient economies. The pace of change is quickening as more companies are turning to renewable energy and a range of other measures that will reduce emissions and increase adaptation efforts.

Climate change, however, is a global challenge that does not respect national borders. It is an issue that requires solutions that need to be coordinated at an international level to move toward a low-carbon economy. Continuing with 'business as usual' is not any longer a feasible option. ENA members have a responsibility to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and plan low emission development pathways.



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

In the past 50 years, changes in biodiversity have occurred more rapidly than at any other time in human history. Habitat change from harvesting natural resources for industrial production and urbanisation is one of the most important causes of biodiversity loss,

Forests cover 30.7 per cent of the Earth's surface and, in addition to providing food security and shelter, they are key to combating climate change, protecting biodiversity and the homes of the indigenous population. By protecting forests, we will also be able to strengthen natural resource management and increase land productivity.

Deforestation and desertification – caused by human activities and climate change – pose major challenges to sustainable development and have affected the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the fight against poverty

The national organisations, together with ENA, should develop methods and unlock knowledge related to natural capital, ecosystem services and biodiversity. Goal 15 extends to a national and international scale, focusing especially on the significance of biodiversity and the human environment.



EUROPEAN NURSERYSTOCK ASSOCIATION

www.enaplants.eu



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.

Cross-cutting sustainable development issues require solutions that work across different sectors and levels of governance. Sustainable development Goal 17 is about ensuring that individual actors and institutions are not left alone to deal with environmental degradation.

A successful sustainable development agenda requires partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships built upon principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre, are needed at the global, regional, national and local level.

Long-term investments are needed in our horticulture sector. These include sustainable energy, infrastructure and transport, as well as biodiversity, information and communications technologies.

Revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development. Most of the challenges demand an international approach. Therefore, ENA seeks collaboration between the several organisations of the member states. In doing so we contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.

HH, 7-1-2020