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# **Aquestia Responsible Procurement Policy**

#### **Purpose:**

Aquestia is committed to promoting sustainability throughout its supply chain by integrating environmental, social, and ethical considerations into procurement decisions. This policy outlines the guidelines for sustainable procurement and establishes expectations for suppliers to align with Aquestia's sustainability goals as elaborated in the following **Supplier Code of Conduct**.

# Scope:

This policy applies to our procurement teams as well as all suppliers, contractors, and service providers working with Aquestia.

### **Policy Objectives:**

# 1. Environmental Sustainability:

- Prioritize suppliers who have a robust environmental management system (Preference for suppliers with ISO 14001 certification).
- Encourage suppliers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption, water use, and waste generation.
- Promote the use of eco-friendly and recyclable materials in products and packaging.

# 2. Social Responsibility:

- Prioritize suppliers that are small and medium-sized businesses in order to support local economic development.
- Ensure that all suppliers comply with international labor standards and respect human rights, including the prohibition of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking.
- Promote fair wages, safe working conditions, and respect for human rights throughout the supply chain.



# Directing the Flow

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#### 3. Ethical Practices:

- Require suppliers to operate with integrity, transparency, and fairness. It is recommended that suppliers maintain a Code of Ethics or Conduct to guide their ethical culture and business behavior.
- Implement anti-bribery and corruption practices in all procurementrelated activities.
- Encourage the reporting of unethical conduct through whistleblower mechanisms.

### Implementation and Supplier Engagement

The implementation of this Responsible Procurement Policy is reflected through periodic assessments of our material suppliers. We remain available to support our suppliers in advancing sustainability practices, and they are encouraged to submit inquiries - including anonymous complaints, recommendations, or collaboration proposals - through a dedicated form available on our Sustainability webpage.

# **Responsible Procurement Governance Structure**

This policy is implemented on an ongoing basis by procurement managers across the company's sites, under the leadership of the Company's VP Operation.

From time to time, as needed, procurement-related matters are brought for discussion at the executive management level and the Board of Directors.

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# **Aquestia's Supplier Code of Conduct**

Suppliers must adhere to the following principles:

#### 1. Environmental Sustainability:

- Compliance woth environmental standards: Suppliers shall comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations and actively work to minimize their environmental impact.
- Suppliers must actively work towards reducing the environmental impact of their products, services, and operations – by reducing energy consumption and emissions; Implementing waste reduction and recycling initiatives; Managing water use and protecting biodiversity, etc.
- Suppliers must participate in product take-back and recycling programs where applicable.
  Suppliers must ensure the safe handling and disposal of hazardous materials.
- 2. Social and Labor Standards: Suppliers must ensure the following:
  - No use of forced or child labor.
  - o Fair wages and working hours in compliance with local laws.
  - Safe and healthy working conditions for all employees.
  - Non-discrimination and equal opportunity in hiring and employment practices.
- 3. **Ethical Business Practices:** Suppliers are expected to conduct business ethically, including:
  - Complying with all applicable anti-corruption and anti-bribery laws.
  - Upholding integrity and transparency in all dealings with Aquestia.
  - Prohibiting any form of harassment or abuse in the workplace.
  - o Protecting data and information security.

Suppliers may submit inquiries, complaints (including anonymously), recommendations, or collaboration proposals through the dedicated communication channel available on our Sustainability webpage.

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