

Colonial Biodiversity policy
2018



BIODIVERSITY POLICY

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1.1.

Basic principles

The biodiversity crisis is mainly as a result of human activity and it represents a serious threat for human development. Biodiversity loss as a result of habitat destruction, intensive agriculture or pollution continues its inexorable course.

The conservation of biodiversity is a common concern of humankind. The preamble to the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) of the United Nations makes clear that contracting parties are conscious of the intrinsic value of biologic diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components.

Grupo Colonial sets its commitment to biodiversity, both in terms of conservation and management, in line with the Environmental Policy, the Sustainability Master Plan and the CSR policy of the Group, where the sustainability strategy of the company and its commitment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are defined. Alongside this policy a "Good Practice Guidance for Biodiversity" has been developed which details the different actions and strategies to be implemented in existing buildings and in future projects of the Group.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are:

- Contribute to the general development of the Environmental Policy and Sustainability Master Plan of the company.
- Initiate and promote actions and measures regarding biodiversity in the business development, its facilities and stakeholders.
- Achieve certifications and assessments that enable to guide the business strategy towards biodiversity.

Strategic lines of action

The sphere of action involving the Biodiversity Policy of the Group covers the entire investment portfolio and corporate offices and its immediate surroundings including both Colonial's existing buildings and new developments. Biologically speaking, the company mainly operates in urban or peri-urban habitats.

STRATEGIC LINES OF ACTION

The main actions that Grupo Colonial takes into account towards its assets are:

- **Biodiversity Management Plans:**
Grupo Colonial intends to draft plans (BMP) that identify the measures for the improvement of biodiversity and the possible risks arising from the activity in the buildings of the Group.
They must include a series of measures that consider providing an ecosystem functioning between the building and the environment (green roofs or walls, artificial nests for birds, plant and flower wefts for butterflies, etc.).
- **Environmental studies:**
Grupo Colonial intends to draft environmental studies that analyse the location in order to understand the initial ecological value and to propose appropriate measures to the existing environment and improve it.
- **Living ecosystems:**
Grupo Colonial intends to have adequate habitats available for the different inhabiting species or nearby species and to encourage that they fully integrate with each other, strengthening the functioning ecosystems structure.

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- **Innovative designs:**
Grupo Colonial plans to integrate viable solutions for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) that would strengthen the presence of the different inhabiting species in that area or region.
- **Efficient irrigation:**
Grupo Colonial analyses the feasibility of irrigation systems that offer greater water savings and that are best suited to every type of landscaping (drip irrigation, etc.), also including humidity sensors based on each area and rain gauges, as well as treated and recycled water facilities for irrigation and rainwater and graywater facilities when possible.
- **Glazing:**
Grupo Colonial is working on avoiding birds colliding with the buildings windows, analysing important problematic areas in order to implement dissuasive measures for birds.
- **Exotic, invasive or unwanted species:**
Grupo Colonial plans strategies to avoid unwanted biodiversity incompatible with the proper functioning of the buildings, implementing the appropriate measures to stop these species from proliferating within the buildings or the surroundings, helping towards their control and management. This will always be carried out in coordination with the responsible authorities.
- **Greenway: soil, trees and vegetation:**
Grupo Colonial plans to prioritize ecological gardening and xerogardening practices, by using mulching techniques or others that help biodiversity while looking after its aesthetic appearance. The use of native species also adapted to the climate of the area or region is promoted, where possible, while avoiding exotic species and never planting any invasive species.

Furthermore, proposals include ecological gardening practices based on systems and products that protect biodiversity and using organic and sustainable products and

techniques for disease treatments and control adventitious rooting.

- **Structural layouts:**
The vegetation in roofs, façades and walls of Grupo Colonial's buildings must include species that comply with these fundamental requirements:
 - Native species also adapted to the climate in the region.
 - Low water consumption and nutrient input.

HABITATS AND SPECIES

Grupo Colonial takes into consideration the following **habitats**:

- Woodland
- Shrubs and hedges.
- Grass, meadows and grassland
- Aquatic environments, ponds and water sources
- Walls and dividing walls
- Patios and small gardens
- Balconies, terraces and green roofs
- Indoor flowerpots

The species that Grupo Colonial takes into consideration are:

- Flora and vegetation
- Birds
- Small mammals
- Amphibians and reptiles
- Butterflies and pollinators
- Invertebrates



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