

Sustainability highlights 2021

Sappi is a leading global provider of everyday materials made from woodfibre-based renewable resources. In Europe, we produce a range of paper products for communication, self-adhesive, packaging and labelling and transfer printing.

Our goals and performance in 2021

The **United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** inspire us all to strive for a better future, setting out a roadmap for where we collectively need to go and how to get there. We have identified priority goals where we believe Sappi can make the most impact and where we are concentrating our efforts. As part of our global **Thrive25 strategy**, we have set ambitious 2025 targets for seven selected SDGs.

Here are some highlights from our European performance in 2021.

See our [Group Sustainability Report](#) for more detail.



A new purpose for a thriving world

“2021 was an important year for climate action at Sappi. Despite the tough economic conditions, we secured investments for decarbonisation projects in Europe that will reduce our fossil-based carbon emissions by approximately 460,000 tons.”



Marco Eikelenboom,
CEO of Sappi Europe

EcoVadis Platinum Score

Sappi Europe scored “Platinum” in the EcoVadis rating, being recognised as within the top 1% of pulp and paper companies assessed in terms of sustainability achievement. Furthermore, we are using EcoVadis to assess the sustainability performance of our suppliers. The platform is empowering us to **gain a clearer view of our supply chain and is supporting our sustainable procurement practices. In our first year, 90 suppliers were** disclosing to us on EcoVadis representing 33% of Sappi’s global procurement spend.



Decarbonisation roadmap

We’re marshalling all our expertise and ingenuity like never before to achieve a carbon neutral future. Our European decarbonisation plan, which covers a period from 2021-2025, reflects over 80 projects to be implemented throughout the period and contribute to our European 2025 target to reduce specific greenhouse gas emissions by 25%.

The plan’s main priorities include:

1. **Exiting coal and increasing the share of renewable energy.**
2. **Sourcing green electricity.**
3. **Increasing eco-effectiveness to reduce energy consumption.**

Forest sector’s voice at COP 26

World leaders at COP26 were calling for big and bold actions to keep the Paris Agreement’s 1.5 degree warming pathway within reach. The decarbonisation investments we’re making at our mills embrace Glasgow’s call to move urgently from words to actions. At COP26 we used our voice to advance conversations around **scaling up the role of forests and forest products in supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy. Sustainably managed, working forests** offer a 3-way solution: optimizing carbon sequestration rates, storing carbon in soils & forest products, and substituting fossil-derived, resource intensive products.



Sappi’s Director of Sustainability speaking at the Nature Pavillion together with representatives from WWF, IUCN, Climate KIC, Stora Enso and Lendlease.

Keeping forestland forested

Climate change and the loss of biodiversity are among the greatest challenges of our time. At Sappi, we're committed to being part of ambitious solutions which also means we follow and contribute to public policy developments.

The European Commission is currently revising its [Forests Strategy](#) to help accelerate the EU Green Deal. This is a historic opportunity to grow European forestlands to support a vibrant European bioeconomy and help fight climate change.

Our view at Sappi is that **EU forest policy should seek a balanced approach which strengthens the overall climate benefits stemming from forests and the forest-based value chain.** This means embracing carbon sequestration and carbon storage in forests and products as well as substituting fossil-based raw materials and energy in favor of bio-based renewables.

In addition, it requires an unambiguous commitment to sustainable forestry both in words and deeds, transparency of supply chains and robust implementation of forest certification systems. All practices that you can see reflected in Sappi's own policies and on the ground across our global business.

Mitigating climate change and biodiversity loss requires smart, science-based legislation created with all the diverse stakeholders involved, from forest owners and industry groups to civil society.

No single government or business can do this alone. A fact acknowledged at the last

COP26 in the Glasgow Leader's Declaration on Forests and Land use. It urges us all to commit to working collectively to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030, while delivering sustainable development and promoting inclusive rural transformation. This Declaration is a call-to-action we energetically support.

We continue to work with ambition and ingenuity to do our part at Sappi together with all our partners across the value chain - in Europe and everywhere we operate.



Gratkorn steps into a new era

The last coal was fired at Gratkorn in 2021 thanks to this visionary project that involved the complete modernisation of Boiler 11. With state-of-the-art technology, the multi-fuel boiler at Gratkorn is now fuelled by natural gas with the transition to biomass planned in the next phase. Our goal is to eventually use only sustainable and renewable fuels.



Discover some of the breakthrough projects on Sappi Europe's decarbonisation journey here: <https://www.sappi.com/taking-sdg-action>