BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Biodiversity forms the backbone of a sustainable ecosystem and plays a vital role in maintaining the long-term stability of raw material areas. Recognizing the intrinsic link between production activities and biodiversity conservation, Betrimex is committed to protecting and restoring biodiversity as part of our mission to build a thriving, sustainable coconut ecosystem.

Plantation areas supported with measures to control black-headed caterpillar infestations

1,000 ha

Farmers trained in biodiversity conservation

13,121

COMMITMENT AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Guided by a vision of sustainable agricultural development in harmony with environmental protection, Betrimex is firmly committed to integrating biodiversity conservation into every aspect of our production and sourcing activities. The company views each coconut plantation not merely as a raw material base, but as a living ecosystem where diverse species interact and thrive. Therefore, Betrimex places biodiversity strategy at the core of our **sustainable farming programs, farmer livelihood enhancement projects, and responsible supply chain management**.

The company pledges **to avoid any negative impact on ecological systems within our operational areas and work to prevent biodiversity loss and the disruption of natural habitats**. Through practical initiatives in line with regenerative agriculture development direction, such as coconut plantation regeneration, the breeding of natural enemies, and intercropping models, Betrimex supports ecological restoration and balance.

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONAL SCOPE AND RAW MATERIAL AREAS

Betrimex operates an extensive raw material network across Ben Tre province and neighboring areas in the Mekong Delta, one of Vietnam's most ecologically rich and diverse regions. These material areas have attained 27 prestigious international certifications, including Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Organic EU & USDA-NOP, and Global G.A.P., demonstrating Betrimex's commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development.

Geographic coverage and operational scope	Surrounding ecosystem	Conservation impact
Betrimex's raw material areas span Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, and Tien Giang, located at the mouths of the Tien River and Ham Luong River. These regions are characterized by wetland ecosystems, lush vegetation, and a high diversity of flora and fauna.	As Vietnam's key coconut-growing region, this area also supports a wide range of native plant and animal species, significantly contributing to the biodiversity of the Mekong Delta.	Betrimex's raw material areas are not located within or adjacent to nature reserves. Nevertheless, the company is fully committed to implementing measures to minimize environmental impact and safeguard biodiversity throughout operations.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

To protect ecosystems and promote long-term sustainability, Betrimex has rolled out a series of biodiversity conservation activities across our raw material areas:

1. **Organic farming model**

   By eliminating chemical inputs and increasing the use of organic and biological fertilizers, Betrimex improves soil fertility and protects beneficial microorganisms.

2. **Intercropping model**

   On 32 hectares of land, Betrimex has introduced intercropping systems that combine coconut trees with crops such as cacao, banana, Pinto peanut (Arachis pintoi), and native plant species. This model enriches on-farm biodiversity and naturally suppresses pests.

3. **Natural enemy breeding and release**

   Betrimex breeds and releases various natural enemies, such as parasitic wasps, ladybugs, and predatory bugs, that help control pests without reliance on chemical pesticides.

4. **Soil coverage and subterranean ecosystem protection**

   Farmers are trained to cover soil with coconut leaves and maintain shallow-root vegetation. This practice helps retain moisture, prevent erosion, and maintain habitats.

For further details, please refer to the 2024 Sustainable Development Report - Section IV.2: Sustainable farming and climate change adaptation and IV.5 Sustainable management of land and water resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Driven by a strong sense of responsibility to protect the ecosystems in which it operates, Betrimex has implemented a comprehensive environmental management and monitoring system. This approach enables effective control over the environmental and biodiversity impacts of our production and sourcing activities.

More than a compliance measure, this system lays the groundwork for building an environmentally responsible coconut value chain.

Key monitoring indicators include

1. Water and wastewater quality
2. Air quality and noise levels
3. Waste management: Sort, collect, reuse, and treat waste in accordance with applicable standards, as well as minimize the generation of hazardous waste.
4. Biodiversity in raw material areas:
   - Track the presence and variations in native flora and fauna species, as well as changes in vegetation cover.
   - Assess the impact of farming activities (such as irrigation, organic fertilizer use, and pest management) on the agricultural ecosystem.
   - Prioritize organic coconut farms with high ecological value, and promote the restoration of adjacent forests, native plant species, and biological corridors.

Betrimex conducts environmental monitoring at monthly, quarterly, and annual intervals with the support of environmental experts and digital technology. The company also partners with international certification bodies and supply chain stakeholders to ensure that our operations do not harm the native ecosystem and that our raw material areas remain biodiversity-friendly over the long term.

ENHANCING FARMER CAPACITY IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Beyond internal management, Betrimex places strong emphasis on raising awareness and building capacity among our employees and the 13,121 farming households in our coconut material areas. The training programs are holistically designed by combining sustainable agricultural techniques with biodiversity conservation.

Organic farming training aligned with international standards (USDA/EU/JAS)

- Adopt coconut cultivation practices that eliminate synthetic chemical use.
- Guide farmers in the production of organic fertilizers, biological pest control methods, and soil conservation.
- Implement cultivation diaries and promote traceability practices.

Awareness of climate change and ecological conservation

- Educate farmers on the risks climate change poses to coastal agriculture.
- Highlight the importance of natural ecosystems (such as mangroves, native vegetation, and pollinators).
- Promote regenerative agriculture models that restore soil health and enhance water and nutrient retention.

These initiatives are implemented through a structured approach of **“training - monitoring - evaluation - support”**. This ensures that farmers not only acquire theoretical knowledge but also apply it in practice and then actively share their experiences within their communities.