

Circular economy, resource use and waste policy



Corbion is a global leader in sustainable food-ingredient solutions focused on advancing natural preservation and nutrition with science and innovation. By harnessing deep expertise in fermentation and application development, we empower customers to create safe, sustainable, and longer-lasting food products. We preserve what matters.

Our commitment to operating in an environmentally responsible manner is fundamental to who we are as an organization. As such, striving to minimize and mitigate the impact of our manufacturing operations is vital. We are continuously seeking to improve our environmental performance by minimizing the use of raw materials, energy and water, the emission of greenhouse gases, and the production of waste. Measuring and reporting on our impact guides us towards implementing the best practices at all of our facilities. Additionally, sharing relevant knowledge and expertise with our suppliers, customers and other partners is another key responsibility, along with complying with all legally applicable environmental requirements.

This policy outlines our approach to manage our material impacts, risks and opportunities related to resource use and circular economy. Our key themes are:

Resource use

We aim to transition away from extraction of virgin non-renewable resources by prioritizing renewable, reused, or recycled materials. Today, more than 98% of our raw materials are biobased. Our [Supplier Code](#) explains what we expect from suppliers to support our responsible sourcing commitments. For our agricultural raw materials, we have specific policies including [policy on sustainable agriculture](#), and we apply relevant certifications. Our statement on [‘Biobased or renewable feedstock’](#) explains our vision regarding the use of feedstocks for biobased.

We engage with our suppliers and seek opportunities to implement regenerative agriculture practices.

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Operational efficiency and Waste management

We are committed to improve our production processes to use materials efficiently, prevent and control pollution, and avoid or minimize waste generation, prioritizing hazardous waste. In line with circular economy principles, our ambition is to achieve “zero waste” by preventing or reducing waste, promoting reuse and recycling, and continuously seeking valorization solutions. When waste is not avoidable, it is segregated and managed according to the waste hierarchy¹. Corbion is committed to achieve zero waste and by-products to landfill by 2030.

Through innovation we seek to develop new technologies to improve the efficiency of our future assets.

Our products

Most of our products are biobased² and biodegradable². In applications like food, feed, home, personal care, or pharma applications, they break down biologically into biogenic CO₂, returning carbon to the atmosphere. For uses like plastics or coatings, when recycling is not possible, incineration also releases biogenic CO₂ back to the atmosphere. In all cases, the carbon remains part of the biological cycle as defined in the biobased economy.

Next to this, our preservation solutions extend the shelf life of products, contributing to waste reduction along the downstream value chain.

We comply with the EU Waste Framework Directive and ensure our operations meet the highest local standards on waste management ([Waste Framework Directive - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#))

The Chief Technology Officer, Chief Integrated Supply Chain Officer, and Head of Sustainability hold joint accountability for the implementation of these codes and policies. They approves targets and policies, and is responsible for their implementation. Progress is monitored on a regular basis.

Corbion's policies and statements: [Statements, codes and policies | Corbion](#)

¹ Waste Hierarchy : (a) prevention; (b) preparing for re-use; (c) recycling; (d) other recovery, e.g. energy recovery; and (e) disposal Directive - 2008/98 - EN - Waste framework directive - EUR-Lex (europa.eu)

² Based on biobased carbon content relative to the total amount of carbon in the raw material, by quantity, excluding inorganic raw materials. Biobased products, in the CSRD context, are derived from materials of biological origin such as plants, animals, algae and microorganisms, including bacteria, fungi and yeast (Bio-based products - European Commission (europa.eu)) Biodegradable materials are those that can naturally decompose into simpler, non-toxic substances in the environment, typically through the action of microorganisms.