

# Sustainability at the Volkswagen Group

SUSTAINABILITY HAS A LONG TRADITION AT THE VOLKSWAGEN GROUP AND ITS COMPANIES RECOGNISED IN PUBLIC SINCE YEARS.

Volkswagen's model for sustainable development formulated back in 2002 for the world summit for sustainable development in South Africa links our tradition with the future. It is to be considered as a measure of a long-term oriented corporate policy with three central elements:

- lasting balance of economic, ecological and social systems and the aim for a long-term balance of divergent interests,
- responsibility for own actions at the regional, national and global level,
- transparent communication and fair cooperation.

## Volkswagen's Model of Sustainable Development

- At Volkswagen, our model of sustainable development is the benchmark for a long-term corporate policy which squares up not only to economic challenges but ecological and social ones as well.
- Together, commercial success, far-sighted environmental protection and social competence enhance the global competitiveness of the Volkswagen Group.
- The Volkswagen Group develops, manufactures and markets automobiles and services throughout the world in order to provide its customers with attractive solutions for their personal mobility.
- It is Volkswagen's goal to make advanced technologies available across the globe while taking account of environmental protection and social acceptability considerations.
- Along with economic success, the primary objectives of Volkswagen's corporate policy include the continuous improvement of the environmental acceptability of its products and the reduction of its consumption of natural resources.
- Volkswagen is a company with German roots, European values and global responsibility. The rights, personal development, the social security and the economic participation of its employees are core elements of corporate policy.
- A spirit of cooperation and partnership forms the basis of successful collaboration between management and employee representatives in Germany, in Europe and around the world.
- For Volkswagen, globalisation is a decisive factor in securing international competitiveness and safeguarding the future of the company. Shaping globalisation to be environmentally and socially compatible is the task of a modern and responsible corporate policy. The same policy serves the long-term interests of Volkswagen's customers, stakeholders, employees and partners. Globalisation must not be based on exploitation.
- Volkswagen also actively promotes an environmentally and socially compatible approach to business among its suppliers.
- Wherever it operates, Volkswagen considers itself a partner to society and the political sphere.