

Agribusiness Position Statement

November 2023

Purpose

This position statement outlines Westpac Group's approach to the agribusiness sector¹.

Scope

This position statement applies to:

- Lending to institutional and commercial agribusiness customers; and
- Westpac Group operating locations, noting we continue to work on implementation and alignment in the locations where we operate.

Our position

We seek to not provide lending in relation to:

- Growing tobacco or manufacturing tobacco-based products, in accordance with our [Tobacco Position Statement](#);
- Shark finning;
- Commercial whaling;
- Any activities giving rise to 'Land Grabbing'²; and
- Illegal, Unrecorded and Unregulated (IUU) fishing³ and related activities.

We seek to develop relationships with customers that:

- Reduce deforestation impacts in accordance with our Natural Capital Position Statement;
- Avoid impacts to areas of critical habitat⁴ and UNESCO World Heritage Sites⁵ in accordance with our Natural Capital Position Statement;
- Uphold the rights of workers, including the right to fair wages and working conditions, in accordance with our Human Rights Position Statement and Action Plan;
- Uphold the rights of local communities, including support for the principle of 'Free, Prior, and Informed Consent'⁶ in accordance with our [Human Rights Position Statement and Action Plan](#) and our [2022–2025 Reconciliation Action Plan](#);
- Treat livestock with due care, in compliance with relevant jurisdictional animal welfare regulations and in line with industry best practices; and
- Operate in ways that avoid or minimise environmental impacts.

We seek to support customers to:

- Adopt better management practices and technologies - particularly animal welfare, land and soil management, labour and community rights, biodiversity protection, emissions management and water use.
- Meet the challenge of both transition⁷ and physical⁸ risks associated with climate change; and to maximise opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions arising from the adoption of new technologies and farming techniques.

Applying our positions

Westpac's Sustainability Risk Management Framework sets out our approach to managing sustainability risk including use of position statements. This framework is approved by the

Board Risk Committee. Management of our sustainability approach is delegated by the CEO to Group Executives and senior management across the Group. We continue work to operationalise our position statements and improve our risk management.

See [Approach to Sustainability Risk Management](#) for more information.

End Notes

1 Agribusiness refers to all businesses that cultivate, harvest, process, and distribute products from agriculture. It does not apply to traders that do not take possession of a physical commodity.

2 Based on the International Land Coalition (2011) Tirana Declaration: Securing Land Access for the Poor in Times of Intensified Natural Resources Competition, land grabbing is defined as 'large-scale land acquisition or concessions that are one or more of the following: (i) in violation of human rights, particularly the equal rights of women; (ii) not based on free, prior and informed consent of the affected land-users; (iii) not based on a thorough assessment, or are in disregard of social, economic and environmental impacts, including the way they are gendered; (iv) not based on transparent contracts that specify clear and binding commitments about activities, employment and benefits sharing, and; (v) not based on effective democratic planning, independent oversight and meaningful participation'.

3 Illegal, Unrecorded and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing is a broad term defined by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Committee on Fisheries in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU). The definition includes but is not limited to: Illegal fishing in violation of national laws or international obligations, including those undertaken by cooperating States to a relevant regional fisheries management organization; Unreported fishing which has not been reported, or have been misreported, to the relevant national authority, in contravention of national laws and regulations; and unregulated fishing in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources under international law.

4 Any area of the planet with high biodiversity conservation significance, based on the existence of habitat of significant importance to critically endangered or endangered species, restricted range or endemic species, globally significant concentrations of migratory and/or congregatory species, highly threatened and/or unique ecosystems and key evolutionary processes.

5 As listed on the UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites of natural and/or cultural significance.

6 Free, prior, and informed consent as described in the United Nations Global Compact's Indigenous Peoples' Rights and the Role of Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

7 Transition risks arise out of policy, legal, technology and market changes to address climate change.

8 Physical risks resulting from climate change can be event driven (acute) or longer-term shifts (chronic) in climate patterns.