

Asda Environmental affiliated third parties as at August 2023.

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Barry Callebaut and The Cocoa Horizons Foundation	The Cocoa Horizons Foundation is active in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Tanzania. and focuses on two key pillars to address the challenges and achieve real progress: <b>productivity</b> and <b>community</b> .	To safeguard the future of cocoa, The Cocoa Horizons Foundation ( CHF) supports farmers to increase their yield per hectare, and help them earn a better income from cocoa farming. Better cocoa production practices are needed to ensure that cocoa farming is a viable option also for the next generation of growers, including young women.	<a href="#">Supporting Cocoa Farmers   callebaut</a>	Barry Callebaut support The Cocoa Horizons Foundation by supporting farmers to increase productivity. Training enables farmers to grow cocoa sustainably and responsibly, to increase their yields and improve their family's livelihood. Within a three-year cycle, all registered farmers are trained in order to build capacity and raise awareness of sustainable cocoa production practices. A premium is also paid directly to farmers and farmer groups to increase their income from cocoa farming and enable them to invest in their farms and communities.	Asda own brand cocoa products are Barry Callebaut/The Cocoa Horizons Foundation certified.	Traceability of sustainable cocoa from farmer to the first Barry Callebaut warehouse. Full focus on cocoa issues - productivity and community development activities. Full transparency of premium use verified by a third party. Impact driven through on-the-ground teams working directly with farmer groups. Access to farmer testimonials, the people benefiting from these efforts. Asda purchasing The Coca Horizons Foundation supports the objectives of the third party.

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Better Cotton Initiative	Better Cotton plan to make cotton better for the farmers who produce it and for all those who have a stake in the future of the sector. The Better Cotton Assurance Programme ensures that farms and farmer groups meet all the core requirements of the Better Cotton Principles and Criteria before they can be licensed to sell Better Cotton. The Assurance Manual is the core document that defines processes, roles, and requirements related to the Assurance Programme.	To embed sustainable farming practices and policies, enhance well-being and economic development and drive global demand for sustainable cotton.	<a href="#">Who we are - Better Cotton</a>	<p>Only committed Retailer and Brand Members can use the On-Product Mark.</p> <p>This means initially sourcing at least 10% of their cotton as Better Cotton, with a plan to increase this to at least 50% Better Cotton within five years.</p> <p>Better Cotton verify that cotton Producers (Better Cotton Farmers) have met the core indicators of the Better Cotton Principles and Criteria before they are licensed to sell their cotton as Better Cotton.</p>	George has made a commitment to source 100% more sustainable cotton for George own brand clothing and soft home textile products by 2025. In 2022, 98% (2021:91%) was sourced via Better Cotton with a small proportion of Organic and Recycled cotton. We anticipate that we will achieve 100% by the end of 2023.	<p>The Better Cotton logo doesn't mean the product is made of physically traceable Better Cotton. The cotton supply chain is complex, so Better Cotton use a system called Mass Balance, a widely-used volume-tracking system. It allows Better Cotton to be substituted or mixed with conventional cotton as long as equivalent volumes are sourced as Better Cotton.</p> <p>By working with Better Cotton, more sustainable cotton means working to continuously improve environmental and social performance on the fields where cotton is grown, including but not limited to, factors such as: Maximising land use efficiency/yield; improving soil health; optimising inputs like water and chemicals ; decreasing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions and promoting conditions that are better for workers and farmers.</p>

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The Cargill Cocoa Promise	The Cargill Cocoa Promise is our program to enable farmers and their communities achieve better incomes and living standards while growing cocoa sustainably.	Our ambition is to accelerate progress towards a transparent global cocoa supply chain, to enable cocoa farmers and their communities to strengthen their socioeconomic resilience, and to deliver a sustainable supply of cocoa and chocolate products from bean to end-product.	<a href="#">The Cargill Cocoa Promise   Sustainable Cocoa   Cocoa &amp; Chocolate   Cargill</a>	Being affiliated with The Cargill Cocoa Promise means at Asda for our own brand products we understand where the cocoa beans we use originate from.	100% of Asda own brand cocoa products meet the standards of Rainforest Alliance Certified, Barry Callebaut's Cocoa Horizons, Fairtrade certified or Cargill's Cocoa Promise for all products with cocoa (both more than and less than 12%). Note, in 2021, we achieved 95% certification for products containing more than 12% cocoa. However, in 2022 our 92% certification encompasses our entire footprint, including products with both more and less than 12% cocoa content.	Farmers are empowered through farmer organizations to become entrepreneurs and run their farms as businesses. Communities are equipped with the tools to own their socio-economic benefits and create better prospects for the future. Landscapes are protected with action to prevent deforestation while also ensuring that cocoa farmers can still make a living.

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Fairtrade	Fairtrade works with farming co-operatives, businesses and governments to make trade fair and so they can improve their living standards, and invest in their future.	Together with Fairtrade farmers and workers we have a vision: a world in which trade is based on fairness so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods.	<a href="#">What is Fairtrade? - Fairtrade Foundation</a>	Fairtrade standards comprise both minimum social, economic and environmental requirements, which producers must meet to be certified, plus progress requirements that encourage the continuous improvement of farmer's organisations or the situation of estate workers.	A number of Asda own brand products are Fairtrade certified including our bananas, coffee and cocoa.	<p>Through Fairtrade, farmers are able to improve their livelihoods by forming strong Fairtrade co-operatives, and Fairtrade farmers have the protection of a Minimum Price and additional Fairtrade Premium on projects such as tree planting, irrigation, crop diversification and clean energy.</p> <p>Fairtrade also supports farmers to combat climate change through technical advice from expert Producer Networks – regional associations that support and represent producers in their own area.</p>
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<p>FEFAC - Experts in Animal Nutrition</p> <p>FEFAC Sourcing Guidelines</p>	<p>The FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021 set out the legal compliance requirements with relevant forest and eco-systems protection legislation as the first key step towards responsible soy production.</p>	<p>The FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021 ensure legal compliance, responsible working conditions, environmental responsibility, good agricultural practices and respect for legal use of land.</p>	<p><a href="#">Mission   FEFAC</a></p>	<p>The FEFAC sourcing guidelines set out a number of requirements for farms and producers, including environmental responsibility. More information can be found here: <a href="https://fefac.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FEFAC-Soy-Sourcing-Guidelines-2021.pdf#:~:text=The%20FEFAC%20Soy%20Sourcing%20Guidelines%20are%20a%20benchmarking, responsible%20soy%20production%20from%20within%20and%20outside%20Europe">https://fefac.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FEFAC-Soy-Sourcing-Guidelines-2021.pdf#:~:text=The%20FEFAC%20Soy%20Sourcing%20Guidelines%20are%20a%20benchmarking, responsible%20soy%20production%20from%20within%20and%20outside%20Europe</a></p>	<p>In 2022, 70% of the soy sourced for animal feed for Asda products is certified to schemes benchmarked against the FEFAC sourcing guidelines (2021) with desired criterion 34 and fixed cut off date of 2020.</p>	<p>Standards and programmes for responsible soy make sure that there are adequate checks to ensure the relevant soy expansion, forest, biodiversity and nature legislation is being complied with.</p> <p>Criterion 34 states that "No soy is produced in converted natural ecosystems (natural forest, native grasslands, wetlands, swamps, peatlands, savannas, steep slopes and riparian areas) after a specific cut-off date no later than 2020."</p>

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Forest Stewardship Council	Sustainable forest management, operating the world's most rigorous and trusted forest certification system. The "check tree" label is found on millions of products worldwide, verifying sustainable sourcing from the forest to store shelves.	Healthy and resilient forests are the first line of defence against the climate and biodiversity crises. Sustainable forestry supports thriving forests. Responsible Sourcing helps businesses work with forests responsibly, conservation maintains and enhances forest value and restoration accelerates forest recovery.	<a href="https://www.fsc.org">Home   Forest Stewardship Council (fsc.org)</a>	Every FSC label is backed by a diverse ecosystem of forest managers, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and others committed to upholding a common set of responsible forestry standards that support: zero deforestation; safeguarding of ancient and endangered forests; fair wage and work environment; biodiversity preservation and community rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples.	100% of Asda own brand timber, pulp or paper is PEFC or FSC certified.	Manufacturers that use forest-based materials can obtain FSC's chain-of-custody certification. Chain-of-custody certification shows your supply chain and customers that you're committed to sustainable sourcing. It verifies you've put processes in place to produce and trade FSC-certified products. Your chain-of-custody certification allows you to use the globally recognised FSC label on your products, letting customers know your product supports responsible forestry.

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Global Recycle Standard (GRS)	The GRS is an international, voluntary, full product standard that sets requirements for third-party certification of recycled content, chain of custody, social and environmental practices and chemical restrictions.	The GRS is intended to meet the needs of companies looking to verify the recycled content of their products (both finished and intermediate) and to verify responsible social, environmental and chemical practices in their production. Their objectives are to define requirements to ensure accurate content claims and good working conditions, and that harmful environmental and chemical impacts are minimised.	<a href="http://controlunion.com">GRS - Global Recycle Standard - Certifications (controlunion.com)</a>	<a href="http://textileexchange.org">ASR-101-V2.1-Accreditation-Certification-Procedures-for-Textile-Exchange-Standards.pdf (textileexchange.org)</a>	At the end of 2022, recycled polyester used in George clothing or general merchandise is 50% certified (2021:36%) to Global Recycle Standard (GRS) and Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)	GRS claims are independently verified through third-party verification. In addition, traceability and contamination risks can be managed better by certifying Asda's management system and/or product.

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LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming)	To inspire and enable a more circular approach to farming and food systems through integrated regenerative and vibrant nature-based solutions, that deliver productivity and prosperity among farmers, enriches the environment and positively engages young people and wider society.	Working closely with farmers, the food industry, scientists and consumers to inspire and enable sustainable farming.  The principles of Integrated Farm Management (IFM) underpin the requirements of LEAF Marque certification and is a whole farm business approach which delivers more sustainable farming.	<a href="#">What we do   LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming)</a>	All produce from LEAF Marque certified farms has been farmed with care for the future of the environment, wildlife, countryside, food and animals. Application to become LEAF Marque certified is a step by step process from self assessment through to annual inspections.	In early 2023, we committed to obtaining the global LEAF Marque Environmental Assurance System across all our fresh produce by the end of 2025.	The LEAF Marque environmental assurance system provides independent, third party verification around core areas of sustainable farming practice including soil and water management. It offers growers a framework to help them monitor their performance and set targets for improvements across the whole farm.
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Marine Stewardship Council(MSC)	The MSC work with fisheries, scientists and industry to make sure our oceans are fished sustainably and it's easy to find and buy certified sustainable seafood. By choosing seafood products with the blue MSC label you are directly supporting fishers that take care of our oceans and encouraging others to do the same.	The MSC want future generations to be able to enjoy seafood and oceans full of life, forever. Our aim is to use our ecolabel and fishery certification program to contribute to the health of the world's oceans by recognising and rewarding sustainable fishing practices, influencing the choices people make when buying seafood and working with our partners to transform the seafood market to a sustainable basis.	<a href="#">What is the MSC   Marine Stewardship Council</a>	Certification to the MSC Fisheries Standard is voluntary. It's open to all fisheries who catch marine or freshwater organisms in the wild. This includes most types of fish and shellfish. Fisheries are assessed by accredited independent certifiers (called Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) – also called certification bodies), not the MSC. The MSC Fisheries Standard has three core principles that every fishery must meet: sustainable fish stocks, fishing activity must be managed carefully so that other species and habitats within the ecosystem remain healthy and fishery operations must be well managed. MSC certified fisheries must comply with relevant laws and be able to adapt to changing environmental circumstances.	In 2022, 99% of the fish we sell is MSC certified or we are working towards certification in a fisheries partnership.	A certified supply chain assures consumers that only seafood from an MSC certified fishery is sold with the blue MSC label. The MSC Fisheries Standard has three core principles that every fishery must meet: sustainable fish stocks, fishing activity must be managed carefully so that other species and habitats within the ecosystem remain healthy and fishery operations must be well managed. MSC certified fisheries must comply with relevant laws and be able to adapt to changing environmental circumstances.

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Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)	PEFC is an international non-profit, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) through independent third-party certification. PEFC works throughout the entire forest supply chain to promote good practice in the forest and to ensure that timber and non-timber forest products are produced with respect for the highest ecological, social and ethical standards. PEFC's distinctive 'green trees' logo make it a truly global brand and means customers and consumers are able to identify products from sustainably managed forests.	The organisation is committed to the following guiding principles: Quality – through the stringency of criteria for technical and professional competencies with which to operate the Scheme. Continuous Improvement – through response to new knowledge and changes in demands. Consistency – with internationally recognised indicators and performance criteria of credible forest certification standards, schemes, and of the certification process itself.	<a href="#">PEFC UK - PEFC</a>	In order to obtain PEFC Chain of Custody certification, certain key requirements must be fulfilled. The management systems in place outlining procedures must ensure compliance with the PEFC International Chain of Custody standard, PEFC Standard 2002:2020. This information can be integrated into existing systems your company may have already implemented, such as ISO 9001 or ISO 14001 procedures. The personnel responsible for performing the tasks which will affect the implementation and maintenance of the chain of custody, e.g. buyers, marketing and sales personnel, must be identified, briefed and trained. It is vital to ensure that everyone involved has appropriate knowledge of the purpose and requirements of Chain of Custody certification. The necessary checks need to be implemented to verify that sourced material is certified – production of certified goods requires procurement of certified material. Internal audits must be conducted on an annual basis. These internal audits are in addition to external third-party audits.	100% of Asda own brand timber, pulp or paper is PEFC or FSC certified.	The PEFC standards approach ensures that standards meet the expectations of stakeholders on the ground, address local conditions, and are consistent with national laws and regulations, while at the same time meeting international benchmarks and being internationally recognised. This ownership is key to the success of forest certification as it empowers local people to manage forests in compliance with the standards in whose development they themselves were involved.

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Rainforest Alliance	The Rainforest Alliance is an international non-profit organization working at the intersection of business, agriculture, and forests to make responsible business the new normal.	The Rainforest Alliance are building an alliance to protect forests, improve the livelihoods of farmers and forest communities, promote their human rights, and help them mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis.	<a href="https://rainforest-alliance.org">About   Rainforest Alliance (rainforest-alliance.org)</a>	The Rainforest Alliance Certification Program encompasses a Sustainable Agriculture Standard, and provides assurance that technology systems are data-powered, and based on the principles of continuous improvement, risk-based assurance, contextualization, and shared responsibility.	A number of Asda own brand products are Rainforest Alliance Certified, such as tea, coffee, Cocoa and banana.s	Products with the Rainforest Alliance Certified seal are grown and harvested on farms and forests that follow sustainable practices.
Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)	The Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) set the criteria for third-party certification of recycled materials and chain of custody.	The RCS and GRS have three main objectives: to align definitions of "recycled" across different applications; verify recycled content in products and give brands and consumers a means to make informed buying decisions.	<a href="#">Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) + Global Recycled Standard (GRS) - Textile Exchange</a>	<a href="#">Microsoft Word - Recycled Claim Standard - FINAL.docx (textileexchange.org)</a>	At the end of 2022, recycled polyester used in George clothing or general merchandise is 50% certified (2021:36%) to Global Recycle Standard (GRS) and Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)	GRS claims are independently verified through third-party verification. In addition, traceability and contamination risks can be managed better by certifying Asda's management system and/or product.


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Roundtable on Responsible Soy (RTRS)	RTRS is a non-profit organisation promoting the growth of production, trade, and use of responsible soy. It works through cooperation with those in, and related to, the soy value chain, from production to consumption.	RTRS aims discuss and develop solutions, aiming to reach consensus on the key economic, social and environmental impacts of soy among the various stakeholders. By communicating issues regarding responsible soy production, processing, trading and use in commercial products, and consumption to a wide range of global stakeholders. By developing and promoting definitions for responsible soy production, processing, trading and consumption.	<a href="https://responsiblesoy.org">About RTRS – RTRS (responsiblesoy.org)</a>	The RTRS Standard for Responsible Soy Production is a holistic certification scheme including five principles and 108 mandatory and progressive compliance indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Legal Compliance and Good Business Practices</li> <li>· Responsible Labor Conditions</li> <li>· Responsible Community Relations</li> <li>· Environmental Responsibility</li> <li>· Good Agricultural Practices</li> </ul> Ensures zero deforestation and zero conversion soy production. RTRS Certification for Responsible Soy Production is valid for 5 years with mandatory annual surveillance audits.	At Asda we calculate our direct soya usage e.g. soya flour and beans and our indirect usage for things like animal feed where our suppliers are working towards certification. At the end of 2022, 70% (2021:74%) was certified to schemes benchmarked against the FEFAC sourcing guidelines (2021) with desired criterion 34 and fixed cut off date of 2020.	Through membership of RTRS and accreditation of soy, Asda is a major player in the process towards environmentally sustainable, socially fair and economically feasible soy production. As members we support and maintain a holistic and robust certification scheme, supported by a transparent and reliable verification system.
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Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)	The RSPO are a global, non-profit organisation with voluntary members. Focused on bringing together stakeholders from across the palm oil supply chain to develop and implement global standards for sustainable palm oil.	To advance the production, procurement, finance and use of sustainable palm oil products. To develop, implement, verify, assure and periodically review credible global standards for the entire supply chain of sustainable palm oil. To monitor and evaluate the economic, environmental and social impacts of the uptake of certified sustainable palm oil in the market, and to engage and commit all stakeholders throughout the supply chain, including governments and consumers.	<a href="#">Who we are - Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)</a>	To become RSPO Certified, organisations are required to demonstrate compliance with the applicable RSPO Standards. They must complete a thorough and continued verification process through a systematic annual audit process, as well as maintain and improve their compliance status, reflecting continuous improvement.	At the end of 2022, Asda own brand products are 99,80% RSPO physically certified (mass balance or segregated), 0.2% covered by certificates. Certified to schemes benchmarked against the FEAC sourcing guidelines (2021) with desired criterion 34 and fixed cut off date of 2020.	RSPO works towards transforming markets to make sustainable palm oil the norm. Accredited organisations must be able to demonstrate that sustainable palm oil creates a tangible impact for People, Prosperity and Planet – improving the quality of life of oil palm farmers and their communities, creating a more inclusive and prosperous palm oil industry that embraces sustainability, and enabling us to better conserve, protect and enhance our natural ecosystems and resources.

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<p>Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)</p>	<p>The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) drives ambitious climate action in the private sector by enabling organizations to set science-based emissions reduction targets.</p> <p>The SBTi is a partnership between CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The SBTi call to action is one of the We Mean Business Coalition commitments.</p>	<p>Defines and promotes best practice in emissions reductions and net-zero targets in line with climate science. Provides technical assistance and expert resources to companies who set science-based targets in line with the latest climate science. Call to action from a global coalition of UN agencies, business and industry leaders, which mobilized companies to set net-zero science-based targets in line with a 1.5°C.</p>	<p><a href="#">Ambitious corporate climate action - Science Based Targets</a></p>	<p>Companies must demonstrate an ambition to be a net-zero business. Asda stated its ambition in 2021 and in 2022 built up on this through commitment to establish a net-zero science based carbon reduction target approved by the SBTi.</p> 	<p>Asda's near term Science-Based carbon reduction target submitted for validation by SBTi, expected in late 2023.</p>	<p>Once the target is approved by the SBTi, it will be published on the SBTi website and relevant partner websites. Targets are published one month after approval.</p> <p>Thereafter Asda must disclose the company's emissions annually and monitor progress on reaching the target.</p>



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