The Group's reporting of the actions in each of these material topics can be found throughout this chapter, in the area dedicated to each of the action pillars that embody the commitment to sustainable development.

In order to also ensure compliance with the Principles of Corporate Responsibility, and to disclose and reinforce them, the Group also has the Committee on Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility, which works closely with the Board of Directors, and the Ethics Committee, which monitors the disclosure of and compliance with the Code of Conduct in all the Group's Companies.

The responsibilities of each of these Committees are described at www.jeronimomartins.pt, in the "Investor" area.

At the end of 2016, LinkedIn, the professional social network, had more than 87 thousand followers and has been an important vehicle for disclosing the Group's activity, including the actions carried out within the scope of the five pillars of Corporate Responsibility. Within this context, throughout 2016, 78 posts were released relating to Corporate Responsibility, resulting in over 2.4 million impressions¹.

Non-Governmental Organisations and Associations

At an institutional level and with regard to its Companies, the Jerónimo Martins Group is part of various national and international organisations and initiatives concerning Corporate Responsibility:

- BCSD Portugal Conselho Empresarial para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável
- Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)
- Forum Odpowiedzialnego Biznesu (Responsible Business Forum)
- Global Social Compliance Programme (GSCP)
- Grupo de Reflexão e Apoio à Cidadania Empresarial (GRACE)
- London Benchmarking Group (LBG)
- Retail Forum for Sustainability
- The Consumer Goods Forum (CGF)
- The Supply Chain Initiative (SCI)
- United Nations Global Compact
- We Mean Business

For further details about relations with stakeholders and about the organisations to which the Group belongs, please go to www.jeronimomartins.pt, in the "Responsibility" area.

Highlights

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¹ This indicator refers to the number of times each post was displayed to LinkedIn users.

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- 109 Private Brand products, in Portugal and in Poland, underwent nutritional reformulation, preventing 152 tonnes of fat, 142 tonnes of sugar and 31 tonnes of salt from entering the market;
- In Portugal, 10 new products from the Pura Vida range were launched, bringing the total references up to 91. This range is aimed at people with specific dietary requirements and/or preferences, such as products without any added sugar, gluten-free or lactose-free products;
- In Poland, investment was maintained in offering new solutions for consumers with special dietary requirements, having increased the assortment of gluten-free and lactose-free products. In total, 34 references were put on the market;
- In Poland, Biedronka was the first distribution chain to launch the Wolno Gotowane (Slow Cooked) range, with the objective of offering consumers healthy convenient products, which are made using vacuum steaming techniques;
- In Portugal, the Meal Solutions area launched five new vegetarian dishes, which became part of the regular weekly offer of meals in the Pingo Doce restaurants.

Respecting the Environment

- The Jerónimo Martins Group obtained an overall rating of "A-" in the CDP Climate Change 2016, positioning the Group at "Leadership" level, closer to reaching the maximum rating (A);
- Energy consumption per one thousand euros registered a reduction of 1.6% compared to 2015;
- Biedronka's 15 Distribution Centres obtained environmental certification according to the ISO 14001:2012 standard;

- The Group was able to increase the waste recovery rate from operations by 1.2 percentage points compared to 2015, contributing to the triennium goals;
- The quantity of waste collected from clients and redirected to recovery increased by 10% in comparison to 2015.

Sourcing Responsibly

- The commitment was maintained to acquire, at least, 80% of food products from local suppliers in all the countries where the Group operates;
- The Group achieved the objective of continuing to introduce sustainability certificates (e.g. UTZ, Marine Stewardship Council and Rainforest Alliance, among others) in its Private Brand products and Perishables, having introduced over 30 products with such characteristics in 2016;
- The Jerónimo Martins Group obtained an overall rating of "A-" for palm oil in the CDP Forests 2016, positioning it at "Leadership" level, just a step away from reaching the maximum rating (A). The commodities soy, paper and wood, and beef obtained a classification of "B", the equivalent of the "Management" level.

Supporting Surrounding Communities

- The value of support offered by the Group amounted to around 18 million euros, an increase of 3% compared to 2015;
- Support was maintained to *Academia do Johnson* (Johnson's Academy) whose mission is to combat social exclusion and the school dropout of about 140 children and young people from vulnerable communities in Lisbon;
- 63 Biedronka stores and seven Distribution Centres donated, to the local dioceses of Caritas Polska and other charities, around 87 tonnes of surplus food that although suitable for consumption, could not be put up for sale;

- The number of schools involved in the *Sniadanie Daje Moc* (Breakfast Gives You Strength) programme increased by 5.8% to 7,826 compared to the previous academic year, which is the equivalent of more than 65% of the primary schools in Poland. The programme encompassed 195,650 children, an increase of over 13 thousand children;
- In Colombia, Ara continued to support the Madres Comunitarias (Community Mothers) programme, by regularly supplying food to 262 community nurseries. The number of children supported increased by 8% to 3,668 compared to 2015.

🜐 Being a Benchmark Employer

- The Group created 7,206 jobs, representing a net growth of 8.1% compared to 2015;
- The Group attributed around 82 million euros in bonuses to its employees and promoted 8,714 employees from the stores, Distribution Centres and head offices;
- With regard to safety in the workplace, the severity indices registered the best performance since 2010, achieving 20.98 points, a result which is due to the employees' performance and to the Group's investment in training sessions, simulations, awareness campaigns and audits;
- The Group invested over 16.6 million euros in social support initiatives for its employees. The "SOS Dentista Júnior" programme began, which is for employees' children. In Portugal 279 children between the ages of 7 and 17 began treatment under this programme. In Poland, the "To School with Biedronka" programme continued, whereby support was given to around 2,700 families without the financial means to cover the school expenses.