



VGP Environmental Management Systems

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Introduction

Version 5.1 / June 2026

As a pan-European developer of new real estate as well as manager and owner of operating logistics and semi-industrial real estate our environmental strategy is based on two complementary Environmental Management Systems (EMS).

EMS reduce the impact of our assets at every stage in their life cycle, from initial design to daily operation. VGP's EMS (based on ISO 14001)¹ for sustainable design and construction is called the "Sustainable Design Framework", while our EMS for sustainable management of operations is known as the "Sustainable Management Framework". Best practices from the Sustainable Design Framework are leveraged to improve the Sustainable Management Framework and vice versa.

1. Aligned internally, based on ISO 140001, not externally audited.



These two complementary EMSs help the Group to:

- deliver sustainable and flexible projects with the high “BREEAM” or “DGNB” certification levels, as well as EU Taxonomy compliance;
- secure licenses and permits to operate the Group’s development projects (new developments and adaptations);
- ensure that managed assets are operated efficiently from a sustainable development and economic point of view;
- develop environmental awareness and create a positive trend amongst employees involved in the design, development and management of the Group’s assets;
- ensure a high level of transparency and security to the Group’s shareholders and investors.

The Group has defined and monitors several indicators to manage the environmental performance of its standing assets and development projects, in line with the objectives of its **ESG strategy**. Some of these objectives are incorporated into the budget and year-end manager and employee performance review processes to ensure that they are managed efficiently.

VGP relies on external environmental certifications to validate the environmental performance of its assets. The Group deploys an active certification policy for both greenfield/brownfield projects and standing assets based on its two in-house environmental management systems. This serves as evidence to the Group’s stakeholders that the buildings as well as their responsible management processes respect unilaterally high environmental standards available.

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN FRAMEWORK

The Sustainable Design Framework – an EMS for development projects – ensures that all development projects, whatever their size or user-type (e-commerce, cooling storage, logistics or light-industrial/manufacturing), are designed in the most sustainable way in the long-term in order to minimize their environmental impact. It also ensures that all building projects obtain an environmental certification (BREEAM or DGNB) as the Group aims for the BREEAM “Excellent” or DGNB “Gold” certification for both greenfield as well as brownfield projects.

For each project, the Sustainable Design Framework covers all four stages in the development process and involves several departments (land acquisition/commercial, technical and project management department, legal and compliance, and, sustainable certification/audit:

- land acquisition due diligence: sustainability and risks related to climate change are analysed and evaluated during the Group’s due diligence process and a full stand-alone climate risk analysis is conducted (for e.g. EU Taxonomy);
- project reviews: at the design stage, each project is assessed using the Group’s in-house guidelines, the “VGP Building Standard” to ensure the optimization of the building and to prepare for its environmental certification (BREEAM or DGNB). In addition, a Life Cycle Assessment is conducted on projects, right from the design phase, to identify levers for reducing their carbon footprint;
- construction: The Group works with general contractors and subcontractors who abide by the Group’s Code of Conduct and VGP’s Considerate Construction Charter;
- commissioning: a commissioning process is followed to ensure that building’s technical installations perform efficiently (settings and operating instructions), and that VGP Facility Management is properly equipped and trained if needed to take over the day-to-day management of the site



BREEAM standards for building help us deliver positive social impacts through seven aspects including through i) Health and wellbeing of asset users and local communities, ii) responsible construction management, iii) inclusive and accessible design including safe access and travel plans, iv) EMS, v) stakeholder consultation, vi) local investment and vii) responsible sourcing of construction products



PROJECT DESIGN AND REVIEW STAGE

The Group's "VGP Building Standard" is being applied to all greenfield/brownfield development projects. This Standard's alignment with the BREEAM/DGNB certification requirements ensures that the Group's projects, irrespective of the type of end-user, will be designed to ensure the highest attractiveness, flexibility and to be sustainable, with low energy intensity and reduced GHG emissions.

"VGP Building Standard" requirements for new developments include:

- close attention to structural elements that can affect energy requirements and the carbon footprint of a building (e.g. orientation, prevailing winds, shell composition);
- architectural design that maximizes natural lighting while minimizing solar heat;
- the use of natural ventilation and integrated systems to produce renewable energy when appropriate (e.g. geothermal energy to cool and heat);
- energy efficient equipment based on an integrated design, coupled with an effective energy management system that optimizes energy use and efficiency in operating technical equipment.

The "VGP Building Standard" is regularly updated taking into account new studies, technologies and operational feedback from standing assets across the Group. The "VGP Building Standard" is being enriched with innovative solutions such as industrial heat pump systems, LED lighting and materials usage.

Reducing the carbon footprint of new developments

VGP applies a structured approach to reducing embodied carbon across its development activities, integrating carbon considerations from the earliest design stages through to construction and operation. This approach is in line with recognised standards and frameworks, and is embedded in the Group's broader sustainability and investment strategy.

The main levers of this low-carbon construction strategy are the following:

- a “lean building” approach applied from the early design phase in close collaboration with tenants, optimising building layout, structure, technical systems and material use to reduce embodied carbon while maintaining functionality and flexibility;
- the selection of low-carbon and resource-efficient materials, including low-carbon concrete, recycled materials and timber where appropriate, as well as consideration of supply chain impacts such as sourcing and production-related emissions;
- the integration of sustainability criteria into procurement and design decisions, supported by partnerships with contractors, engineers and material suppliers to implement innovative and scalable low-carbon solutions;
- the systematic use of Life-Cycle Assessments (LCA) to evaluate and manage carbon emissions across the full life cycle of developments, from construction through operation, with carbon performance increasingly informing investment decisions;
- the application of an internal carbon pricing mechanism, used to assess and compare design options and investment choices, ensuring that carbon costs are explicitly factored into decision-making and incentivising lower-carbon solutions across projects.

This comprehensive life-cycle approach enables VGP to balance capital expenditure, operational efficiency, carbon performance and long-term asset value, ensuring that reductions in operational emissions are not achieved at the expense of higher embodied carbon during construction. It also supports the Group's commitment to delivering high-quality, sustainable buildings (e.g. BREEAM Excellent and alignment with EU Taxonomy criteria), while continuously improving the environmental performance of its portfolio at both project and portfolio level.

Water and waste

The Group's development projects are built in line with the “VGP Building Standard”, the Considerate Construction Charter and BREEAM or DGNB certification water and waste management requirements. In particular, these recommendations include:

- good practice and clear technical steps on how to achieve water efficiency right from the design stage, in particular, in the choice of equipment installed (toilets, urinals, fire extinguishers, sprinkler systems, cooling systems, etc.);
- the production of waste management plans and project-specific reduction/reuse/recycling facilities are considered good practice in how to achieve waste efficiency;
- waste recycling targets and financial incentives are typically used for construction contractors;
- The goal is for the charter to be adhered to at our construction sites. It should be noted that VGP works with large, reputable construction firms, which also apply their own certified construction and demolition waste management schemes.

Pollution and environmental risk management

The Group complies with all applicable environmental legislation across all its activities. The Group's acquisitions and developments are covered by the policy of risk management and subject to health and safety and environmental risk analysis.

As such, the Group's land acquisition process incorporates an assessment of technical, regulatory, health and safety and environmental risks, including soil pollution, wetland protection and climate change, as part of its pre-acquisition due diligence. For both greenfield and brownfield projects, the Group complies with all applicable regulation regarding health, safety and environmental matters. An assessment of the environmental impact of each project is carried out at a very early stage. In the event that a health issue is identified (land degradation, pollution and asbestos in particular) this assessment may result in works to ensure the site is suitable for future use in order to ensure a safe environment for our employees and contracted workforce during construction and for tenants of the park in operation.

Sustainable construction

The Group's Considerate Construction Charter is typically applied to all new greenfield and brownfield construction projects. It describes the Group's requirements and recommendations intended to optimise our worksites' environmental quality whilst minimising pollution for employees and contracted workforce on site, the neighbouring area and the natural environment. It integrates in every respect all the requirements set by the relevant local and national urban planning regulations, as well as the provisions related to the BREEAM and DGNB certification. The goal is for construction contractors to adhere to the Group's Considerate Construction Charter when signing any contracts with VGP

in every region where the Group operates. The Considerate Construction Charter includes the following requirements:

- providing information to people living nearby and limiting traffic disruptions;
- training and informing employees of construction companies;
- ensuring a proper management of risk and of hazardous products' handling;
- managing and limiting noise and visual pollution, as well as the risk of soil, water and air pollution;
- monitoring resources in order to reduce resource consumption.

Health and Safety on work sites

The construction contractors overseen by the Construction Management Contractor are contractually required to make the necessary provisions for site safety and comply with the relevant Health and Safety legislation.

The Construction Management Contractor's team develops the technical requirements provided to contractors within the tendering process. These include specific safety requirements, as well as the applicable health and safety standard a successful bidder must comply with. Tender submissions that do not comply with either the technical requirements and the applicable Health and Safety standards are disqualified from the tendering process.

During the construction phase site Health, Safety and Security is continuously monitored by the Construction Management Contractor's teams. At every project Health and Safety Coordinators are appointed. They are employed by the Construction Manager (either VGP directly or the General Contractor), with as principal function to coordinate health and safety matters between the various stakeholders.



CONSTRUCTION: GREEN CERTIFICATION

VGP targets a BREEAM or DGNB certification for all of its new greenfield/ brownfield construction projects. BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) and DGNB (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen) are the most widely used environmental building certification frameworks in Europe. VGP aims to achieve minimum levels of BREEAM Excellent or DGNB Gold, as well as the most efficient energy performance certificate (EPC).

Both the BREEAM and DGNB certification process acknowledges the project's environmental efforts, the proactive nature of the policy implemented and the contractor's technical ability. Right from the design stage, this framework can guide and manage efforts across a series of environmental initiatives relating to energy, resource management, health and wellbeing, water management, pollution control, transport, waste, innovation and the management of the global environmental impact via the use of life cycle assessment tools.

Reducing carbon impact of construction materials

As part of its commitment to reducing its construction carbon footprint, the Group is analysing its building standard on the choice and use of the materials used in its development projects.

Specifically, it involves:

- adopting a “lean material construction” approach right from the design phase (bearer structure, façade, fixtures and fittings, etc.);
- using new solutions and optimised low-carbon materials (low-carbon cement and concrete, bio-sourced and recycled materials, etc. where applicable);
- insisting that subcontractors put forward alternative solutions optimised in terms of their carbon content;
- adopting a purchasing policy which includes criteria for the carbon content of products and construction materials (requiring environmental and health and safety certification);
- Environmental Product Declarations, taking into account transport distance in respect of materials supply chain as well as energy mix in the countries where the materials are originally manufactured.

In 2023 a methodology for measuring the carbon footprint of new development projects was developed by the Group. The target for the group is to reduce the embodied carbon intensity (kg CO₂-eq./m² GLA) in new projects by 20% by 2030.

In the case of a conventional standardized logistics warehouse the carbon impact typically follows the Pareto principle: around 20% of construction materials account for 80% of the construction carbon impact of a project:

- Most of the carbon impact of the construction process of a standardized VGP warehouse is generated by the **structure of the building**, i.e. floor ceilings, pillars, stairs, hall floor, foundations at **around 54%** [102 kg CO₂-eq./m² GLA].
- This is followed by the **building insulation** (facade and waterproofing **around 28%** [53,5 kg CO₂-eq./m² GLA]), **technical equipment around 11%** [20 kg CO₂-eq./m² GLA] and,
- **interior walls around 8%** [14,5 kg CO₂-eq./m² GLA]
- Earthwork and road systems and on average, fixtures, fittings and finishing works are not considered in the carbon impact calculation.

With this in mind, the Group’s priority is to work towards reducing the carbon impact of the most significant items, beginning with the structure and foundations of the building.

The goal of the policy is to ultimately ensure that materials are matching the carbon goals, that reuse of existing structures and materials is examined, and that preference is given to materials with low environmental impact and to recycled products. The Group began work on identifying and ranking materials as well as seeking alternative solutions so as to produce guidelines for development teams and suppliers (list of preferred materials and those to be avoided).

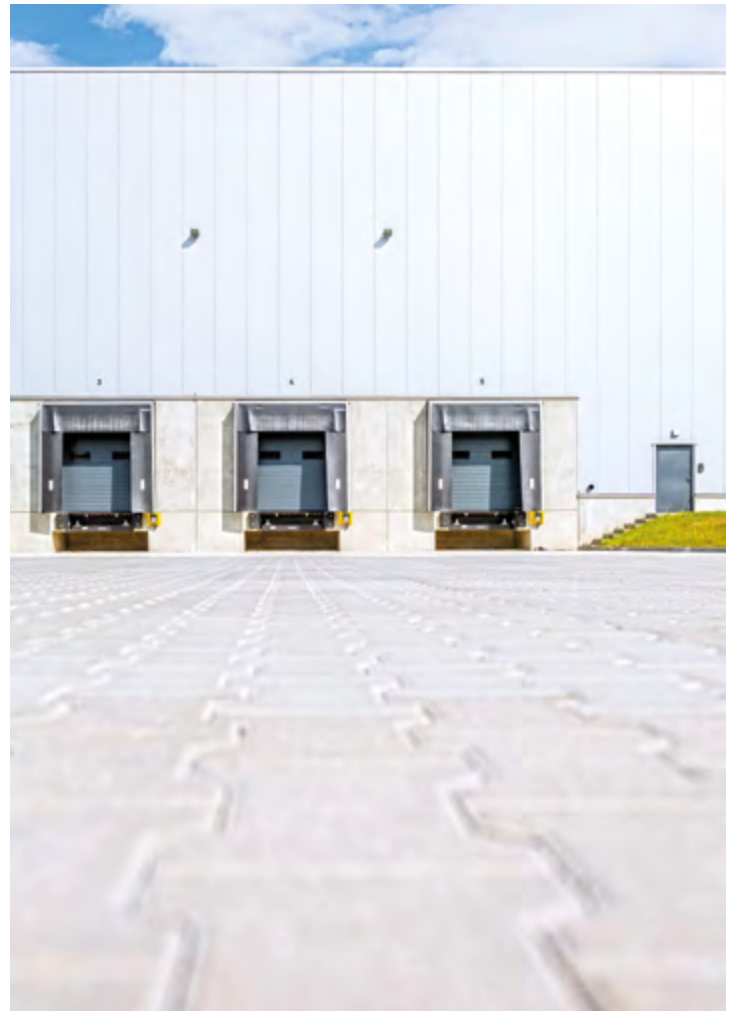
Responsible Procurement – Environmental Compliance

VGP's Supplier Code of Conduct is a key component of its procurement approach and supports **environmental compliance across the value chain**. Procurement activities are guided by the principles of fairness, quality, long-term partnerships, risk reduction and compliance with applicable regulations.

The Code of Conduct, communicated to all suppliers, establishes clear expectations regarding **compliance with environmental laws and regulations**, as well as alignment with recognised environmental standards and good industry practices. It is complemented by category-specific requirements embedded in VGP's sustainability brief for development projects. These include, among others:

- the use of **100% certified timber** from sustainably managed forests (FSC or PEFC certification) for construction and building structures;
- a target to **aim for at least 70% waste recycling (by weight)**, supported by clear traceability of waste streams to minimise landfill and biodiversity impacts;
- the implementation of measures to **prevent and control pollution**, including impacts on soil, water and air, as well as the management of noise and visual disturbance.

Environmental performance is further integrated into procurement and design decisions, supported by collaboration with contractors and suppliers, the use of Life-Cycle Assessments (LCA), and the application of an **internal carbon pricing mechanism** to incentivise lower-carbon solutions.



The Code also provides stakeholders across the value chain with access to VGP's Compliance HotLine, ensuring that any concerns related to environmental or regulatory non-compliance can be reported in good faith without fear of retaliation, in line with the Group's whistleblowing policy and applicable regulations.

COMFORT, HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND PRODUCTIVITY FOR THE TENANTS OF OUR BUILDINGS

Comfort and well-being issues are a determining factor in our technical and architectural choices for development of the office as well as warehouse spaces (e.g., façades, sky lights, interior finishes of offices, canteens and other amenities, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning equipment, lighting, occupant control methods, etc.). The VGP Building Standard 'White Book' provides steps on how to achieve comfortable and safe spaces, based on thermal comfort, visual comfort, acoustic comfort and interior air quality.

In our new development projects, sky lights and facades are designed to achieve a balance between thermal performance rating (insulation value, solar factor), carbon performance and visual comfort (daylight illumination, glare control).

Depending on the building usage and tenant demands, the acoustics of our spaces are also designed to provide the best solutions to reduce technical equipment

noise levels, to reduce noise levels passing through facades, to improve interior sound absorption and insulation between premises. Interior surfaces were selected on the basis of their volatile organic compound emissions thresholds, as set by BREEAM or DGNB certification which requires the use of construction products that abide by the best practices in each country.

Moreover, during the design phase of large new offices as part of development projects, comfort and well-being are typically evaluated using dynamic thermal simulation to ensure best levels of comfort during operation. To assess the climate change resilience of projects, the same simulations are also done using future climate change scenarios. Projects must be adapted (or explain how they can easily adapt) to the expected levels of comfort.

The Group works in close cooperation with tenants to provide comfortable and safe spaces. Green Leases and annual meetings to review sustainable targets should be set up with tenants in order to raise awareness of issues amongst the various stakeholders, and set out tenants' responsibilities for the final efficiency factor determined by the use of the spaces provided by us as landlord.



SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR STANDING ASSETS

The Environmental Management System (EMS) is implemented across the whole owned and managed joint ventures portfolio in Europe. This pragmatic and dynamic EMS ensures that the Group is able to meet its annual and long-term targets and supports VGP's continuous improvement for each area covered by the Group's ESG policy, including climate change and resource use. It completes the Sustainable Design Framework, as part of the overall policy of managing the environmental quality of the Group's assets throughout their life cycle.

The EMS system is based on four steps of the environmental performance management process: target setting, establishing an environmental action plan, measuring results and reviewing the performance:

- **Group policy and targets:** we aim to set targets for each year for each owned and joint venture managed asset in line with our long-term targets and with the specific characteristics of each individual building and its users;
- **Environmental action plan:** an action plan as part of the certification covering key topics such as energy, greenhouse gas emissions, water, waste, transport and stakeholders is being implemented and challenged for each 100%-owned and joint venture building which has been completed after 1. 1. 2020 or for buildings under construction. For buildings delivered before 1. 1. 2020, VGP submits these projects for BREEAM In Use certification assessments with a minimum level of „Very Good“. This is repeated for new and existing construction projects once their previous certifications expire. Facility managers ensure the environmental performance and monitoring of operations and implement the roll-out of the asset environmental action plans.



- Additional external technical reviews commissioned by technical teams may also be conducted at asset level when a specific expertise is required;
- **Annual report:** performance is measured and assessed on an annual basis at the site, country and Group levels. A corrective action plan is implemented in case of deviation;
- **Review:** at asset level, the Group conducts internal environmental performance reviews. These reviews are conducted at least on an annual basis by the facility management teams in charge of environmental sustainability at the site/tenant levels and with support from the Group team (sustainable building-, renewable energy-teams). Achievements against targets are reviewed on these occasions.

The Group sets itself strict targets in terms of asset certification under the BREEAM and DGNB standard. This certification policy has been introduced by the Group in 2019 to promote the quality of the environmental management and related performances for our tenants and towards the local communities in which we operate.



an action plan including various measures to save energy and water and sort waste. In order to support our tenants, our group policy is to install renewable energy resources on every building where this is technically possible and economically viable to do so.

As part of its operational management process of environmental performance, the Group measures improvements in its energy efficiency per asset. To reach its ambitious targets in terms of energy efficiency, the Group plans to formalise a dedicated Energy Management Action Plan, whereby the assets will be required to have a dedicated energy management plan, setting the operational path towards reaching the objective, with levers identified at asset level to improve energy efficiency, their associated budget, and their gradual implementation schedule. This policy also underlines energy optimisation best practices, and sets the approach to define renewable energies roll-out targets as well as green electricity purchasing.

GREEN LEASES AND TENANT COMMITMENTS

Since 2021, the Group has been committed to an active policy of promoting “green leases”. Green leases aim at improving tenants’ ESG performance during the operation phase through a set of requirements, including operation and reporting requirements.

This approach, based on dialogue, information, and sharing of best practices, encourages the tenants to play a role in the environmental performance of the assets which they occupy. As well as contributing to decreasing energy and utilities consumption and improving waste management. In that respect, since 2020 and ahead of any regulations, all tenants are being engaged to commit to sharing energy consumption data and the aim is to ensure, in reciprocity, to engage in an annual review, preparing

With regards to technical equipment, the Group has the goal to outfit all its assets with Energy Management Systems (EMS), so tenants as well as facility management teams can easily monitor and manage energy performance. Energy efficiency is also a crucial factor when it comes to replacing technical equipment, especially in the context of regular maintenance works related to lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation: low-consumption energy-effective alternatives are systematically considered in the multiannual planning process.

Improvement in eco-efficiency of the building is discussed with tenant on an annual basis. New leases contain a request (i.e., green lease clause) for tenants to procure renewable energy in the case utility contract is controlled by the tenant.

ENERGY MIX

VGP works at reducing the environmental impact of the energy it consumes in its portfolio buildings as well as in its own offices by generating or purchasing low-carbon or renewable energy from suppliers and generating low-carbon or renewable energy on site. As such, the Group targets to:

- Multiply its installed capacity of on-site renewable energy twentyfold by 2025 (since 2019) to 300MWp so self-consumption can be maximised;
- procure green energy for own operations;
- request tenants to switch to green energy



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