



Sustainability Flash 2026-3

FORWARD Goals



FORWARD Goals for Sustainable Development

Through the **FORWARD Goals for Sustainable Development**, FORWARD Belgium encourages companies to actively contribute to a sustainable and future-oriented logistics sector. Participating companies implement at least five concrete, local actions within the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), spread across various thematic areas. In this way, they demonstrate their commitment to People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

Following a positive assessment, companies receive the FORWARD Goals label, a recognition that highlights their sustainability efforts both within and outside the sector. This label is valid for two years.

On 29 September, the evaluation committee met again to assess the applications from companies whose FORWARD GOALS certificate expires this year. The following companies submitted an application for renewal: **BDP International, Cryo Logistics Belgium, Manuport Logistics, Naxco Belgium** and **Vedrova**.

All applications were assessed positively, meaning these companies have once again been awarded the **GOLD label**. The renewed label is valid for the period **2026–2028**.

Is your label also due to expire soon and would you like to renew it? Or would your company like to submit an application for the first time? Please feel free to contact [the FORWARD Belgium secretariat](#) for further information and guidance.

[More info](#)

CBAM



New European guidelines for the final implementation phase

The European Commission has recently published ten new documents providing further guidance on the application of the **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism** (CBAM) in the final phase.

These guidelines offer practical support for producers outside the EU, authorised CBAM declarants and verifiers, including on the calculation, monitoring and reporting of embedded emissions.

[Anyone requiring further documentation may request it via the FORWARD Belgium secretariat.](#)



EUDR

EUDR update

On 17 September 2026, the new Delegated Regulation under the **EU Deforestation Regulation** (EUDR) was officially published in the Official Journal of the European Union. This regulation marks an important step towards the full implementation of the EUDR at the end of this year.

A number of products have been removed from the scope, whilst instant coffee, certain palm oil derivatives and frozen beef tongues, amongst others, have been added. For these newly included products, the EUDR will not apply until 30 December 2027, to give businesses sufficient time to prepare. In addition, specific exemptions have been provided for, amongst other things, waste, second-hand products, packaging materials, medical devices and samples for analysis and testing purposes.

The European Commission has also published an updated **EUDR User Guide** for economic operators. This guide provides practical guidance on registering accounts in the EUDR Information System, submitting and managing Due Diligence Statements (DDS) and Simplified Declarations (SD), and using the dashboard and search functions within the system. It also further clarifies the roles and responsibilities of operators, traders and authorised representatives.

In addition, the Commission announced new online training sessions on the EUDR Information System. These sessions focus on both the submission of Due Diligence Statements and Simplified Declarations and are designed to support businesses in the practical implementation of the regulations.

The European Commission also published the implementation reports on the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) and FLEGT, as well as updated infographics on the EUDR supply chain.

[Further information on this matter can be obtained from the FORWARD Belgium secretariat.](#)



FORWARD Annual Event

Sustainable venue choice

This year's annual event will take place on Tuesday 8 December at [Botanic Sanctuary Antwerp](#). Please make a note of this date in your diaries.

We deliberately chose this venue because Botanic Sanctuary is strongly committed to sustainability, including through local and seasonal catering, energy-efficient systems and an eco-friendly restoration policy. This choice is in line with our broader ambition to seek out sustainable partners, venues and catering solutions for all our events.

SDG FORUM 2026

Registration now open

Registration for the **SDG Forum 2026** is now open. On Tuesday 13 October 2026, Belgium's largest event on sustainable development will once again take place at Flagey, Brussels.

The programme includes, amongst other things, a keynote speech by Jean-Nicolas Beuze, UNHCR representative for EU affairs and Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and the Netherlands.

Participants can choose three workshops from a selection of 26 sessions, organised by various organisations active in the field of sustainable development.

In addition, the new SDG Barometer will be presented, followed by a panel discussion, and the Belgian SDG Awards will be presented for the first time — recognising organisations that excel in their commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals.

[More information and registration](#)

Tip

SDG5 | Gender equality

Stipulate in the staff regulations that all employees — regardless of gender identity — are entitled to equal and fair pay. This actively contributes to eliminating pay gaps.

[Find out more](#)

Tip

SDG8 | Decent Work and Economic Growth

Provide a welcome pack for new staff or organise a 'welcome day' so that new colleagues feel welcome and supported from day one.

[Find out more](#)



On our website, you'll find WARD, FORWARD's digital assistant.

WARD helps members quickly find the right information, documents and answers to frequently asked questions. By digitising processes and making information more accessible, WARD contributes to more efficient and sustainable operations within our sector.

Less searching, fewer emails, less paper — more time for what really matters.

You can use WARD directly via our website. For any further questions, the secretariat remains

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