

A close-up photograph of a honeybee in flight, positioned in the center-right of the frame. The bee is angled towards the left, where a purple flower is partially visible. The background is a clear, bright blue sky with soft, out-of-focus clouds. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the bee's wings and the flower's petals.

# Sustainability journal 2

2022

# Xpol

Where demand and  
supply synchronise





## Sustainability achievements 2021 and 2022

This is the second edition of reporting our sustainability programme and we are pleased to show the results we have achieved in 2021 and 2022.

Inspiring each other is half the job when it comes to a more sustainable business and supply chain

We started this programme in 2018: in the back of the report you can find the achievements in the first phase 2018-2020.

No blueprint is available in how to achieve results when it comes to sustainalising our supply chain. Along the way we think how to improve sustainability and bring it into practice. This suits the Xpol way: improving and optimising by doing.

We found that some of our targets cannot be influenced enough by ourselves, therefore we slightly adjusted our targets that we planned earlier in 2018.

### ADJUSTMENTS

Target no. 4 (Due diligence): we adjusted environment into due diligence, since we joined the programme of IRBC/IMVO, where several leading companies gather to exchange knowledge and develop tools to speed up the sustainability in the floriculture supply chain.

We are actively introducing and discussing the Code of Conduct with the growers within our supply chain. This brings forward a set of principles and values that reflect the goals and expectations which our company has under the IRBC agreement towards ourselves and our supply chain partners.

Target no. 5 (Emissions & Environment): we combined emissions with environment

Target no. 6 (Water): here we learned in the past few years that our influence on reduction of water usage at the growers is limited. That's why we decided to take out this target in our overall approach. From now on we include water reduction in target #5, with the efficiency goal of water usage in our own operations facilities in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands.

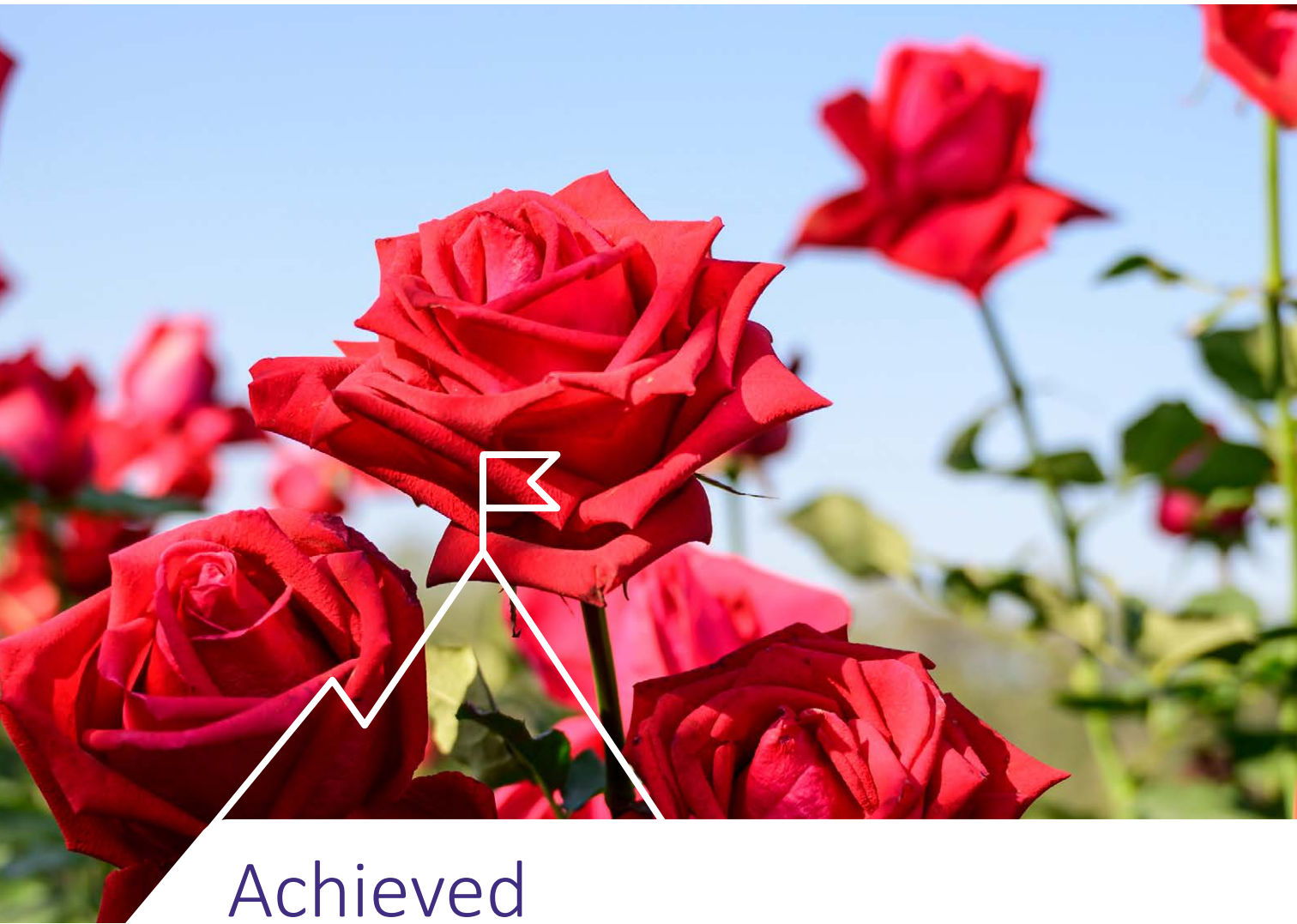
### 2023 ONWARDS

With our new state-of-the art building with production facilities we make a big step when it comes to energy savings. Our office is totally renewed from the inside and heating is only done with electricity, no more fossile gas needed.

From 2025 there will be EU regulations for companies with a turnover from € 40 Million and more to report sustainable efforts. We agree this is a good tool to get more transparency; for us it is an extension, since we are used in sharing our sustainable efforts and steps.

In case you want to know more about our programme, feel free to contact us!





Achieved  
2022

## 1 Waste reduction

- 92% of the total waste in operations Rijsenhout, The Netherlands was separated and taken into separate waste management flows, optimising recycling
- Our waste in Rijsenhout operations: 70% carton waste (recycled), 22% green waste (composted), 8% residual waste including plastics (destroyed)
- 95% of the growers use the Xpol BOXX meaning reducing paper use, increase of efficiency in transport, less CO2 per stem
- Opening operations at Xpol Finland in 2022 means decreasing the steps in the logistic supply chain towards Finland; less waste of materials and flowers, increase of vase life

## 2 Packaging

- Testing of cardboard skids has taken place
- Integration of thinner flower buckets, reducing the use of plastic

## 3 Energy

- Starting building new facilities and refurbishing and isolating the office, the way towards lower energy use. The new building is in use from mid of February 2023

- Latest efficient techniques for cold stores in operations using less energy per m<sup>2</sup> and safer cooling liquids
- Office heated and cooled by electricity, no use of fossile gas

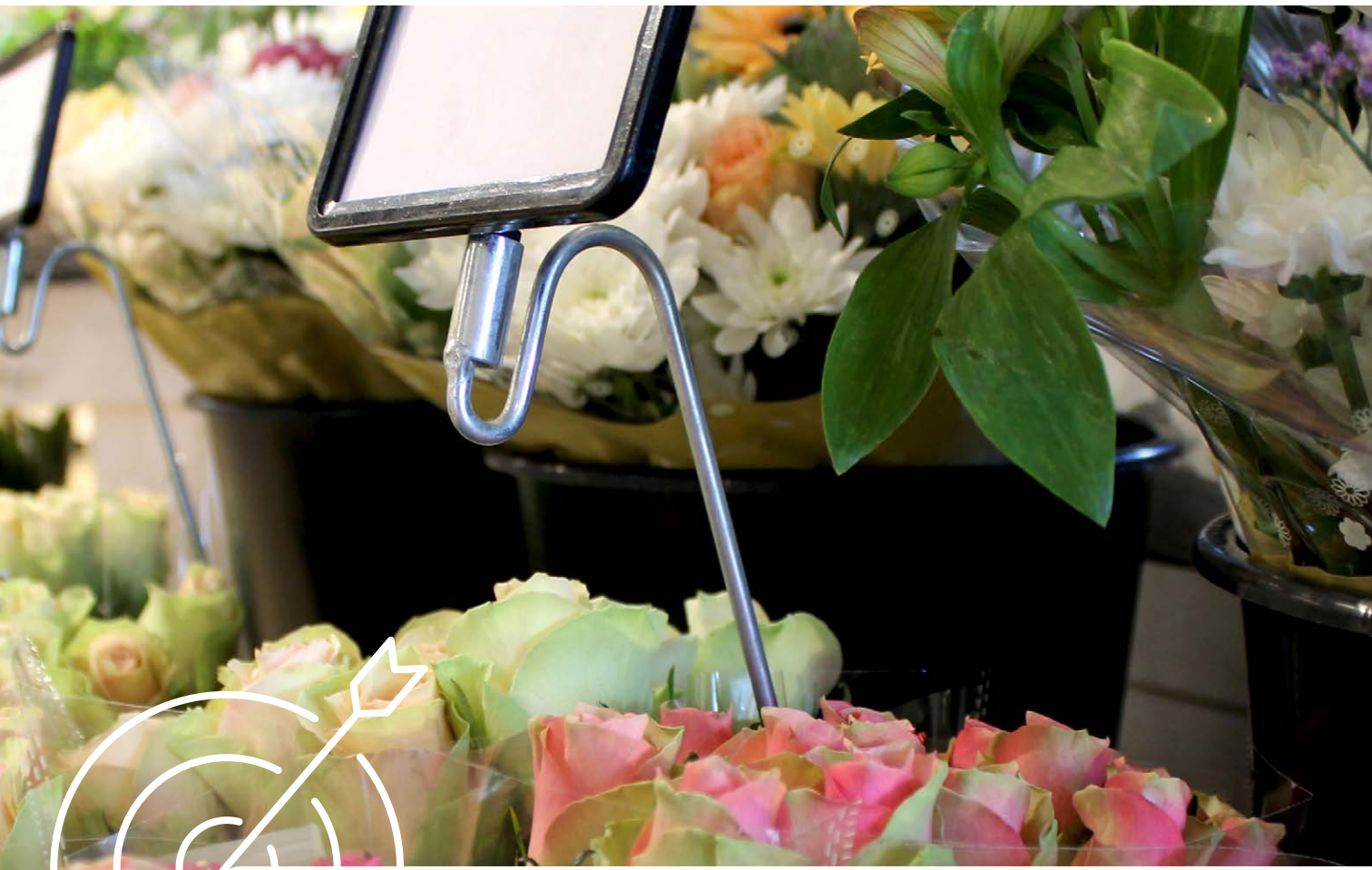
## 4 Due diligence

- Introduced due diligence in the sustainability targets
- Prepared the Code of Conduct within our supply chain

## 5 Emissions & environment

- Increased sourcing from Europe with 5%
- Opening operations at Xpol Finland in 2022 means decreasing the steps in the logistic supply chain towards Finland, lower CO2 emissions

We deleted the **water target** and integrated one water target for Rijsenhout in number 5 from 2023 onwards



## Targets 2023

### 1 Waste reduction

Further optimizing in new production facilities in Rijsenhout, The Netherlands:

- 30% extra residual waste reduction by separating PP products, sticker waste and green waste
- Xpol BOXX: increase the usage towards more clients
- Monitoring the stock days KPI per product category: optimizing the use of Navision and Power BI
- Decrease the steps/days in the logistic supply chain through more direct hubs in Europe, meaning less waste of materials and flowers, increase of vase life

### 2 Packaging

- Increase of recycling wooden pallets/skids
- Increase the use of carton skids
- Increase the use of grey (more sustainable) buckets

### 3 Energy

Monitoring the operational revenues and energy savings of the new operations facilities and work space in The Netherlands via:

- Use of electricity solar panels
- Cold stores latest technique; electricity reductions
- Refurbished office heating without gas, highly isolated

### 4 Due diligence

- Code of Conduct signed by all Xpol suppliers through introduction and explanation to the growers within our supply chain. We commit for 75% of the purchased products to be sustainably produced – (FSI basket)

Focus on social covers projects:

- Afrikado
- Fairtrade
- Newday (TEMA & sponsorships)

### 5 Emissions & environment

- Further increase sourcing EU
- Further increase sea freight in the total mix of transport supply chain
- Investigate logistic partners with emission targets and programmes, such as electric/hybrid road transport
- Introduction of Carbon footprint monitoring tool
- Investigate possibilities re-using rainwater in new operations Rijsenhout, The Netherlands
- Decrease the steps/days in the logistic supply chain through more direct hubs in Europe = lower CO2 emissions



# 2022 in the picture



Expansion Rijsenhout



Fully automatic carton separation line



Optimum carton waste processing



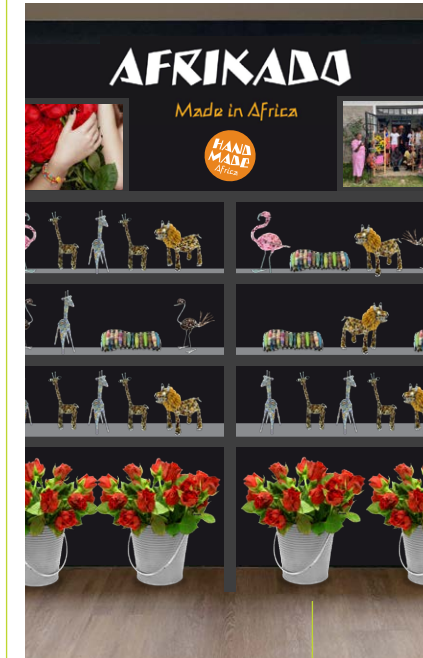
Efficient green separation at production



Automated labeling



Opening Xpol Finland Oy April 2022



Prominent promotion Afrikado



Team Afrikado Kenya



Xpol Boxx 2023



# Previous achievements 2018-2020

## 1 Waste reduction

- Green waste: larger containers = less transport and average 33% less green waste compared to 2018
- Production waste separation Rijsenhout increased from 79% to 94%
- Testing a different way of labelling, using label machines rewinding the foil behind the stickers, saving a lot of volume in waste and time
- Re-use of cardboard corners of airplane pallets
- Xpol BOXX: self-locking instead of taping/stapling
- Invested in strapping machines for aqua boxes, resulting in less damage of products in stores and no taping (saving plastic)
- Waste separation stations installed in the office and canteen
- Printing paper usage: an overall decrease in printing paper usage of 70%
- Freshness products increased by 5% (less stock in the supply chain)

## 2 Packaging

- Xpol BOXX: reducing over 15% of paper used per airplane pallet vs. traditional box
- Testing dry flowers; less packaging material and can be kept/used longer by consumers
- Testing grey buckets (100% recycled plastic)

## 3 Energy in Rijsenhout

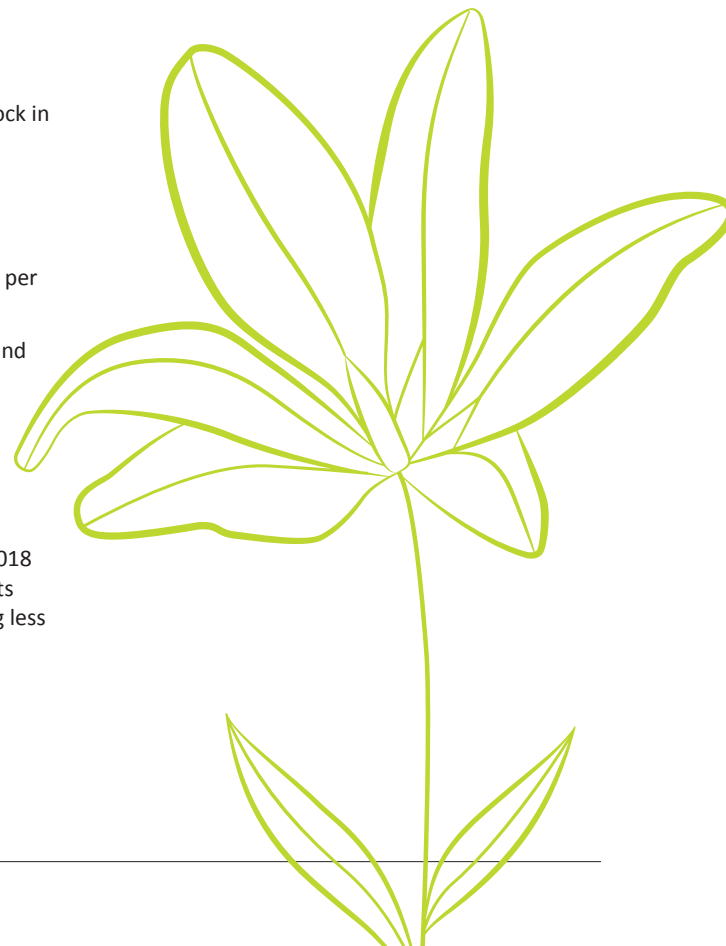
- Reduction energy usage: cooling. Between 2018 and 2020 overall the number of days products are in the cooling area is decreased, meaning less energy is used.

## 4 Environment

- In Q3 2020 37% of our growers working under sustainable products active ingredients conditions
- In total volume delivered to Xpol this equals to 57%

## 5 Emissions

- Increased transport by truck vs. airfreight
- Sourcing: further development of more products from more European countries
- Xpol BOXX establishes appr. 5-10% CO2 emission reduction due to more effective airfreight and packing
- Development of an additional ICT tool following the emission figures continuously







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Xpol B.V.  
Kruizemuntweg 27A  
1435 DD Rijsenhout  
The Netherlands  
T: +31 (0) 297 34 41 23

[www.xpolplatform.com](http://www.xpolplatform.com)

