



EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON MARKETING PRACTICES AND RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESSES

INTRODUCTION

Since the constitution of ALMENDRAVE in 1947, corporate responsibility has been present in all the actions developed by Almendrave, being the basis of our mission as an Association.

For this, throughout our seventy-five years of history we have helped our associates to generate value in their products, which are obtained from sustainable practices and in the best conditions of quality and traceability.

This makes our customers, employees, consumers, etc., convinced that our growth has an optimal global impact.

To this end, Almendrave seeks to adopt the best possible decisions regarding the health and safety of people, always respecting the environment.

The commitment of our Association has a particular resonance today, in a context of climate and social emergency. The time has come for our action to focus on the necessary transitions, be they ecological, food, energy, digital, etc. This requires the mobilization of all, public authorities, civil society and the private sector.

With a representativeness of 62% of the Spanish export of almonds and hazelnuts, present on all continents, Almendrave has become a great reference at the associative level, working on the coordination of the effort, together with customers and final consumers, as well as throughout our supply chain to achieve the ambitious objectives, marked by this Code of Conduct.

For all these reasons, Almendrave fully supports the objectives of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Food Business and Market Practices, for which it develops the following **ACTIONS**:

- I. All plantations and production processes of our associates are governed by **sustainable agriculture criteria**.
- II. The Spanish almond sector already has the Environmental Product Declaration, obtaining the **carbon footprint certification**, verified by AENOR:

https://www.aenor.com/Productos_DAP_pdf/GlobalEPD%20009-001.pdf

- III. **We are committed to the rural world**, demonstrating a strong commitment to the territory and the people who live in it. We believe that the development of the primary sector conditions the balanced growth of a society, both economically and socially and demographically.
- IV. Our partner firms are companies rooted in their land. We support agriculture and promote rural development: from its economic activity to its popular traditions, through its environment and landscape, favoring the demographic balance in the territory, giving opportunities to young people so that they can settle down and carry out their **life project in rural areas**.
- V. Another key practice in sustainable development is **precision agriculture** which allows us greater efficiency in the use of resources thus allowing us to monitor the water status of the soil and the plant and thereby adjust the dose of risk to the needs of each moment of the vegetative cycle.
- VI. Our partner firms have **action plans for Biodiversity**, with which we will be able to preserve and increase biodiversity on farms through practices that contribute to carbon sequestration, erosion reduction and climate change mitigation.
- VII. Among many other initiatives developed by our partners are the implementation of **plant covers** that control the loss of fertile soil and pest control in a natural way, as well as the planting of trees and shrubs where the fauna of the ecosystem can find food and help **sequester atmospheric carbon**.
- VIII. It is committed to **innovation** as the way to give maximum value to our products, improve crops and transformation processes to improve the profitability of all links in the almond chain, in addition to achieving maximum satisfaction from our customers, throughout the world.
- IX. Commitment to the territory, environment and **collaboration with all links in the chain**, actions that allow us to offer natural products of guaranteed traceability and differentiated quality.
- X. **Alliances that add up:** Working on the sustainable development of the supply chain is key in the Social Responsibility strategy of all ALMENDRAVE associates. Therefore, our **commitment** is extended to **suppliers, contractors** and **collaborators**.
- XI. All our associates are gradually working on incorporating **more sustainable transport vehicles** into the fleet or helping farmers manage their farm in the most efficient way, preserving the environment.
- XII. In addition, to ensure the good behavior of all other employees, in the contracts of those associated with ALMENDRAVE, clauses relating to operations with suppliers are included as part of **the ethical management of the supply chain** and its quality code.

XIII. The partners of ALMENDRAVE, for a long time, have been developing plans to take care of their collaborating entities, prioritizing **work-life balance, diversity, equality, health, and safety at work.**

XIV. ALMENDRAVE promotes **healthy habits**, promoting actions that encourage the consumption of nuts, outstanding products of the valued Mediterranean diet, supporting all those research initiatives.

XV. Our associates work on **recyclability and eco-design** in their products, pursuing designs with sustainable criteria and eco-innovation.

The gradual introduction of recycled PET in packaging and the ECOSENSE certification of single-dose tubs are some of the examples of how our products, in addition to being healthy by nature, also contribute to combating food waste and reducing the environmental impact of packaging.

XVI. Since the beginning of 2020, approximately 90% of the electrical energy of the production centers of those associated with ALMENDRAVE comes from **renewable sources**, thus contributing to a significant reduction in CO2 emissions generated from industrial activity.

XVII. **Importance of Organic Almond Cultivation:**

The cultivation of organic almonds has become a great market opportunity that, increasingly, allows facing the constant increase in the demand for organic product, totally differentiated from that of super-intensive farms of other origins.

This type of organic farming, increasingly present in Spanish almond productions, maintains the productive schemes of conventional agriculture, carrying out practically the same steps in terms of pruning, soil work, treatments and fertilization, implementing a replacement of conventional inputs by those allowed in organic agriculture, complying with current legislation.

Specifically, Spain is the world's largest producer of organic almonds, with an area, in 2021, of 24% with respect to the total national area.

For all these reasons, the Iberian almond is a great example of food sustainability, guided by a zero waste philosophy, which complies with the agricultural production methods of the European Union, characterized by:

1. Safety and traceability in the production process;
2. Authenticity of the different varieties;
3. Quality and taste
4. Aspects related to the rural environment.