



**■ - BASF**

We create chemistry

# Responsibly Active Bioactives for a Positive Future

Update 2023

*Together  
we are  
Responsibly  
Active*

# Dear Reader,

Two years ago, we embarked on our Responsibly Active journey with a firm commitment to foster sustainable practices in our bioactives business. Our program has been proudly embodied in every aspect of our daily operations, as we strive to create a positive impact on the environment and society.

We understand that by choosing our bioactives, you trust us to take concrete actions that reflect our ambitions. That is why we have set clear and measurable targets. Today, we are proud to provide an update on our efforts through 2023. A particular

highlight is our achievements in relation to our climate goals – on water savings as well as energy, where we reached 100% renewable electricity at our site in Pulnoy, France.

On the following pages we will share a few examples driven by the joint effort with our partners across the value chain, and underpinned by a team with the passion and commitment to make a difference.

*Together  
we are  
Responsibly  
Active*

**Lucilene Veira Nunes**  
Head of Business Management for  
Bioactive Ingredients, EMEA  
July 2024



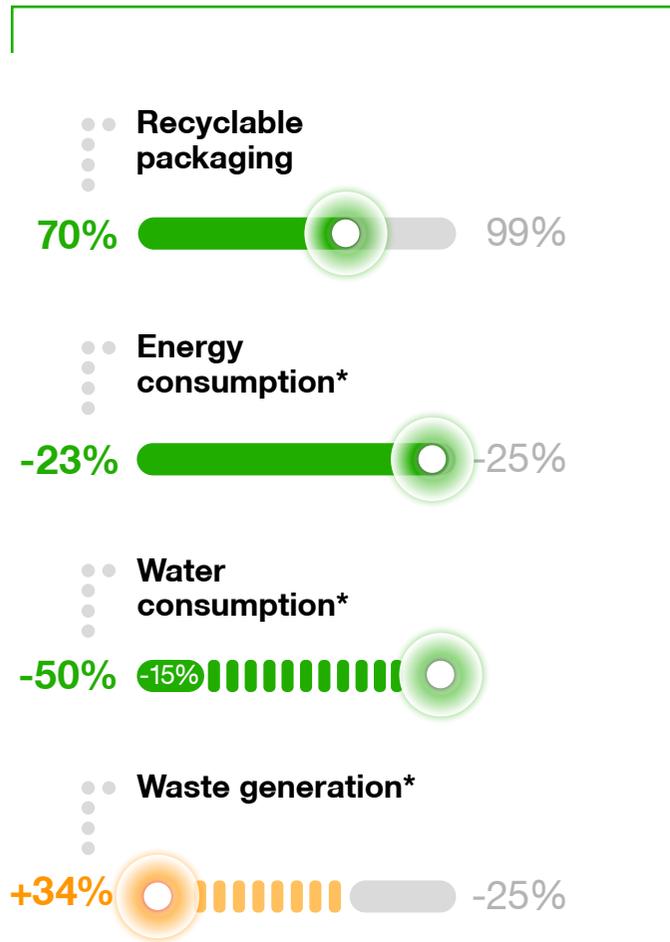
# From Commitment to Action

## The State of Positive Change

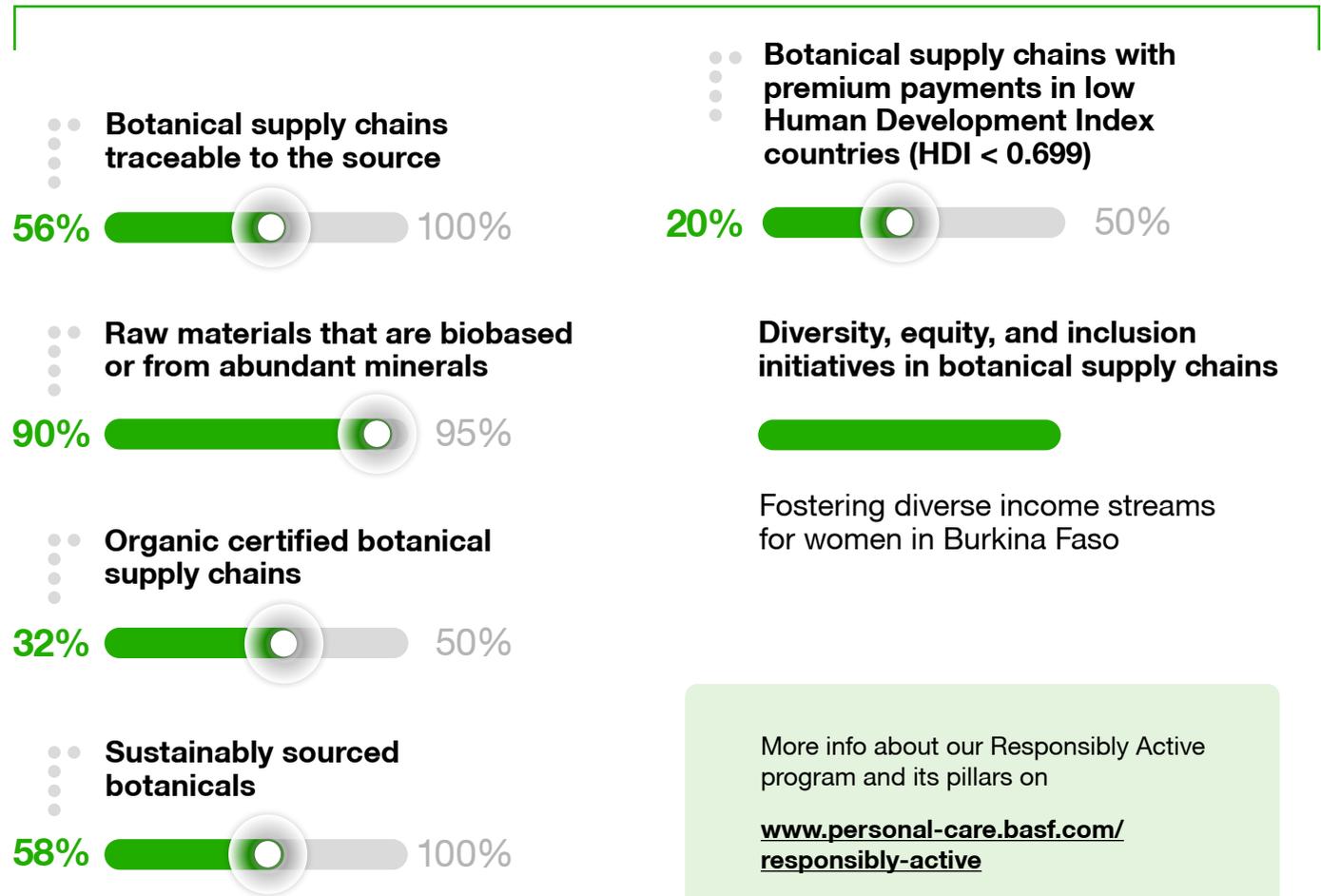
Sometimes numbers speak louder than words. And these numbers speak volumes about our progress toward our 2025/2030 targets for our bioactives business. The results demonstrate our commitment to innovating products that protect natural resources, empowering and respecting people along our value chain, and reducing our environmental footprint. And they motivate us to do even better in 2024.



### Our bioactives targets by 2025



### Our bioactives targets by 2030



#### Diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives in botanical supply chains

Fostering diverse income streams for women in Burkina Faso

More info about our Responsibly Active program and its pillars on

[www.personal-care.basf.com/responsibly-active](http://www.personal-care.basf.com/responsibly-active)

\* for every ton of product leaving the company compared to 2016

From Commitment to Action

# Empowering Women in our Bix'Activ® Supply Chain

The origins of our innovative botanical extracts can be traced back to dedicated individuals who have the know-how to harness the power of nature and harvest precious plants. In the case of Bix'Activ®, the core ingredient is derived from Bixa Orellana seeds, which are sustainably cultivated by farmers and then sorted by a group of rural women in Burkina Faso.



We recognize the importance of caring for these key actors in the supply chain, and it is our responsibility to take concrete action to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. That is why we have partnered with the NGO Fair Match Support West Africa to initiate a three-year action plan that supports these values.

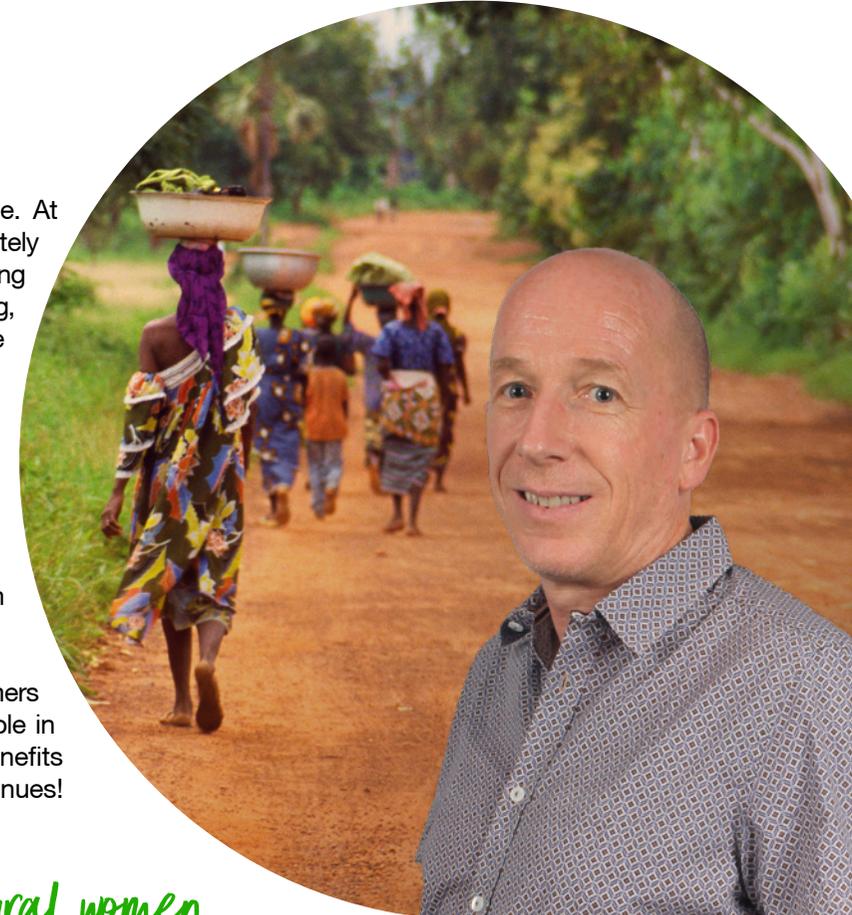
What began in 2022 with actions to ensure a fair living wage across the value chain, continued in 2023 with trainings on more sustainable and productive cultivation methods as well as better traceability and transparency. Moreover, we empowered rural women by providing them with the means to create and effectively

oversee new sources of income. At present, a group of approximately 20 women are already reaping the benefits of micro-financing, which enables them to explore various income-generating avenues such as ceramic and fabric businesses. But it doesn't end there. The women receive comprehensive training and guidance, ensuring that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in their entrepreneurial pursuits.

We expect the number of farmers involved in the program to double in 2024, further amplifying the benefits of this project. The journey continues!

*"We aim to empower rural women. With micro-funds to develop new sources of income and entrepreneurship trainings for a self-determined management of their economic activities."*

The Bixa Orellana seeds used for Bix'Activ® are sustainably cultivated in Burkina Faso.



**Mathieu Briard**  
Director of Fair Match  
Support West Africa



From Commitment to Action

# Tradition Meets Innovation with Laricyl®

Wild harvesting of the mushroom *Fomes officinalis* has been replaced by solid-state fermentation.

The power of nature is truly remarkable, and we believe in unlocking its potential to develop innovative actives. However, in order to preserve nature's delicate balance, we continue to critically reevaluate our sourcing practices. Hand-picked mushrooms such as *Fomes officinalis* have been revered for their medicinal properties and have a rich history of use in various folk medicines across the globe. Thanks to the groundbreaking advancements in biotechnologies, we have been able to make a significant transition from traditional wild harvest methods to the organic certified cultivation of *Fomes officinalis* – the core ingredient of our bioactive Laricyl® – through solid-state fermentation. This method allows us to carefully control the growth conditions and mimic the natural habitat of these mushrooms, ensuring sustainability and minimizing any negative impact on their natural populations.

Laricyl, relaunched in 2023, is 99.7% from natural origin according to ISO 16128. Controlled and reproducible production conditions ensure consistently highest levels of quality, while the new active ingredient's efficacy is setting new standards – with a clinically proven immediate pore-tightening effect that is 2.8 times better than the previous wild-grown version. Laricyl thus proves that sustainability is not detrimental to performance and quality.

*"Science, and biotechnology in particular, holds enormous potential to enabling a more sustainable future while mimicking the wonders of nature."*

**Florence Henry**  
Sourcing & Phytochemistry  
Team Leader, BASF



From Here to 2030

# Ready to Move Forward

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our strategy for sustainable success. We will continue to drive actions through strong supply chain engagements together with our stakeholders.

2024 will see further product innovations with supply chains in line with the Responsibly Active approach. Our upcoming launch, a skin care ingredient derived from *Lysimachia christinae*, will showcase the winning combination of efficacy and ethical sourcing. Through Fair Wild certification and local partnerships, we seek to protect the species, ensure traceability and fairness, and encourage local communities to value its vulnerable ecosystem.

When it comes to the operational footprint of our active ingredients, we will further focus on recyclable packaging, where results have so far

fallen short of our expectations. We are on course with identifying possible new suppliers of fully recyclable packaging and confident to make further progress – also with regard to renewable materials, space and weight savings.

While many of the goals of our bioactives program, such as energy consumption and traceability, are already well underway, we strive to continuously challenge the status quo. That's why, on our journey towards more sustainable practices, we are also upgrading supply chains of existing bioactives for better traceability and agricultural methods. Another highlight is our engagement to maximize the use of renewable resources and optimize the naturality index of our products by replacing synthetic preservatives with plant-based alternatives. We currently offer over

80 preservative-free actives, with 40 of them being 100% from natural origin. And we are working hard to expand this offering even further.

We remain committed to making sustainability a priority in everything we do. With our Responsibly Active program, we proudly contribute to our Care Chemicals division's initiative, Care 360° – Solutions for Sustainable Life. With the same passion, ownership and dedication, we will continue on our path to achieving our targets and making a positive impact – and we invite everyone in our bioactives value chain to join us on this journey and shape the future with us.



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