

# SOCIAL INFORMATION

## ESRS S1 OWN WORKFORCE

voestalpine is committed to providing a working environment based on the values of fairness, safety, and mutual respect. The company's approach revolves around the principles of offering optimal working conditions, treating all workers equally, and actively promoting equal opportunities. Diversity is considered a strength—whereby everyone is equal regardless of gender, age, origin, or other traits. voestalpine is also committed to respecting labor-related rights throughout its entire value chain. These principles form the basis for sustainable growth.

The following table provides specific information on SBM-3:

Topic/sub-topic/sub-sub-topic	Impact, risk, opportunity (IRO)	Description	Value chain	Time horizon	Affected stakeholders
Working conditions and other work-related rights	● Attractive working conditions	voestalpine offers attractive salaries and benefits as well as flexible working hours which promotes employee retention.	>>>	●●●●	Employees and non-employees NGOs and NPOs
	● Healthy and safe working conditions at voestalpine	voestalpine strengthens the safety and health of its workforce through comprehensive occupational health and safety management, as well as periodic training and awareness-raising activities that enhance well-being and improve the capacity to identify risks and apply protective measures.	>>>	●●●●	Employees and non-employees
Health and safety	● Accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses	voestalpine employees are exposed to occupational hazards and risks that can cause accidents, injury, illness, or disease due to the industry, the nature of their job, or the environment in which they work. Regular risk assessments and the definition of protective measures reduce the severity of incidents and/or likelihood of occurrence.	>>>	●●●●	Employees and non-employees

Topic/sub-topic/ sub-sub-topic	Impact, risk, opportunity (IRO)	Description	Value chain	Time horizon	Affected stakeholders
Equal treatment and opportunities for all	● Equal opportunities for all employees	Increasing employee satisfaction and retention as well as promoting equal opportunities for all employees through an inclusive and diversity-promoting HR strategy, especially with regard to diversity. This topic is anchored as a prioritized strategic field of action in the HR Strategy 2030+.	>>>	●●●●	Employees
Training and skills development	● Personal development and training	In addition to the basic training, many different continuing education programs are offered to promote the professional and personal development of all employees (educational programs provided by individual companies, divisional and Group specialist academies, and management programs). voestalpine is an important provider of apprenticeships, particularly in the DACH region. This helps to promote the personal and professional development of employees and improve employee satisfaction.	>>>	●●●●	Employees

**Key**

● Actual positive impact   ● Actual negative impact   ○ Potential positive impact   ○ Potential negative impact   + Opportunity   ! Risk  
 >>> Upstream   >>> Own operations   >>> Downstream   ●○○○ < 1 year   ●●○○ 1-5 years   ○●○○ 5-10 years   ○○○● 10+ years

## IMPACT, RISK, AND OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

### S1-1 – Policies related to own workforce

In its strategic orientation, voestalpine pursues a holistic approach toward responsibility for its employees. Policies that address the company’s own workforce are designed to create a safe, fair, and conducive working environment in which employees can unfold their potential. These policies are based on the Group-wide HR Strategy 2030+, which addresses material impacts and systematically reacts to changes in the economic, social, and technological environment.

## HR STRATEGY 2030+

The HR Strategy 2030+ aims to strengthen voestalpine's position as an attractive employer and to make a decisive contribution to the company's competitiveness by acquiring, developing, and retaining qualified and motivated employees in the long term. This objective is taken directly from the voestalpine Group Strategy 2030+. The HR strategy covers all voestalpine employees at all its companies throughout the Group.

In order to remain competitive in the face of an ever-changing environment and to continue offering employees an attractive working environment, the HR strategy, which was first established in 2017, is reviewed every two to three years. This review is carried out in cooperation between the HR managers of the divisions and Group HR Management. An environmental analysis is conducted on the basis of the Group strategy to identify the critical success factors, review their alignment with the HR mission statement, and translate them into concrete spheres of action.

The HR Strategy 2030+ addresses a number of IROs. Material positive impacts include attractive working conditions, safe and healthy jobs, promoting equal opportunity, personal development, and employee training. Material negative impacts include accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses.

The environmental analysis identified the following key challenges for the coming years: demographic change and labor shortages, a change in the values of existing and future employees, increasing awareness of sustainability and environmental protection, and technological advancements and digitalization. These developments can influence the critical success factors on which HR bases its strategic spheres of action.

As part of the HR Strategy 2030+, the critical success factors define the key fields of action for positioning voestalpine as a forward-looking employer. The focus in this regard is on the long-term retention of qualified and motivated workers and on creating a working environment that promotes diversity, security, and development opportunities. This includes, first of all, targeted positioning of voestalpine as an attractive employer. In addition to traditional employer branding measures, the emphasis is on promoting women, expanding diversity, and improving apprenticeships. Closely related to this is the topic of identity and changes in values, which covers aspects such as work-life balance, life-phase oriented work models, and sustainability.

Another focus is on developing an inclusive corporate culture. Diversity is promoted throughout the Group and a particular focus is placed on the issue of female empowerment. Talent management also plays a central role: by introducing global standards, high-performance talented individuals are to be systematically identified, further developed, and retained at the company in the long term. voestalpine also pursues a comprehensive health management strategy with measures to promote health and safety at work.

In order to prepare employees for ongoing changes, structures and competencies in the area of change management are being improved. Efficient HR processes and targeted use of modern technologies help to increase both quality and efficiency. In order to expand HR IT systems, a transformation for the further digitalization of global HR processes was launched.

### Strategic spheres of action

In order to implement its strategy, voestalpine is working eight strategic spheres of action across the Group. These spheres represent key levers for achieving the HR objectives:

- 1. Values and culture management:** active management of corporate values to keep up with technological advancements and social change.
- 2. Employer branding:** strengthen voestalpine's position as a credible and attractive employer through targeted group-oriented measures.
- 3. Female empowerment:** increase the percentage of women at all qualification levels, especially in leadership positions.
- 4. Employee development:** ensure that the workforce is prepared to meet current and future challenges.
- 5. Leadership:** develop a standardized Group-wide leadership model that integrates the voestalpine values.
- 6. Health and safety:** achieve the vision of zero work-related accidents and no occupational illnesses.
- 7. Corporate HR processes:** standardize processes to enhance the corporate identity and increase efficiency.
- 8. HR IT systems:** develop an HR IT roadmap to support HR processes and increase efficiency.

These topics are dealt with either in specially established cross-divisional working groups or in existing competence teams, sometimes with external support.

#### IN FOCUS: FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

voestalpine has set itself the goal of increasing the proportion of women in management positions from 14% to 18% by 2030. Particular attention is also paid to activities on three levels: positioning, retaining, and guiding/empowering/supporting women. As an attractive employer, voestalpine's aim is to pique women's interest in working at the Group, to inspire them over the long term, and to enhance their professional and personal development.

## HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

voestalpine is fully committed to respecting and upholding human rights, including those of its employees. The Human Rights Policy (<https://www.voestalpine.com/group/en/group/sustainability/human-rights-policy/>) and the company's Code of Conduct (see chapter G1-1), point 5 "Social Responsibility," explicitly call for respecting human rights. Notably, the Code of Conduct states the following:

*The corporate culture of voestalpine acknowledges and welcomes the fact that each person is unique and valuable and shall be respected for their individual abilities. We regard human rights as fundamental values that must be observed by all employees, in accordance with the International Bill of Human Rights, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the principles of the UN Global Compact, and the core labor standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO).*

Since 2013, voestalpine has supported the UN Global Compact (UNGCC) whose ten principles stipulate fundamental duties with respect to human rights, work, the environment, and the fight against corruption. For more information on the UNGCC, please refer to chapter ESRS 2.

Within the scope of the Group-wide human rights program, human rights risks were systematically documented, reviewed, and prioritized in a Group-wide risk catalog, both for the company's own operations and the entire supply chain. Concrete measures to minimize risk were then defined on this basis. The updated Human Rights Policy published in March 2023 specifies the Group-wide standards and sets binding expectations for addressing human rights issues. The Human Rights Policy makes this commitment concrete and lays down binding guidelines for employees and business partners. It was developed together with external experts and civic organizations, and was approved by the Management Board of voestalpine.

The voestalpine Human Rights Policy addresses the following issues:

## HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

Training of employees and security personnel	Right to collective bargaining and freedom of association	Fair wages and working hours	Prohibition of child labor
Prohibition of forced and compulsory labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery	Rights of indigenous peoples	Diversity, equal opportunities, and ban on discrimination	Human rights in the supply chain
	Reports of violations	Human Rights Officer	

Internally, the Human Rights Policy is aimed at all Group companies. It therefore covers all voestalpine workers, who the company actively involves in the implementation of measures in relation to labor and human rights. The following points are of particular importance when it comes to employees:

#### **Training on human rights**

To raise awareness of human rights, an online training program was developed in cooperation with a renowned and independent non-university research institution for fundamental and human rights. For more information on human rights training, see chapter S1-4.

#### **Training of security staff**

The security staff of the works security service consists predominantly of the company's own employees, who are subject to the voestalpine Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct for business partners applies to external security staff. Both documents mandate compliance with human rights. voestalpine provides human rights training for its own employees; external security personnel are trained by their own employers.

#### **Collective bargaining and the right to freedom of association**

voestalpine champions every employee's freedom and their right to join unions. The majority of all the voestalpine Group's employees are in an employment relationship that is governed by collective agreements or comparable industry-wide agreements. In addition, there is a European Works Council and a Group Works Council in place with an established basis for dialog with management (see chapter S1-2).

#### **Compensation and working hours**

Working hours must comply with national legislation and prevent employees from experiencing excessive physical and mental fatigue. Employees must be entitled to at least one day off per week. Employees must be compensated in accordance with applicable legal regulations and collective agreements, and this compensation must be sufficient to meet the basic needs of both employees and their families and to provide them with a decent standard of living.

#### **» Employee-equitable organization of working hours**

In accordance with the criteria of ResponsibleSteel (valid for the certified companies at the site in Linz), voestalpine attaches great importance to the employee-equitable organization of working hours which takes health and social interests into account to the greatest possible extent.

In line with the voestalpine Code of Conduct, clear guidelines are set for employee working hours, which comply with legal requirements and counteract excessive mental and physical fatigue of workers. For example, voestalpine is committed to complying with the statutory maximum working time limits and has an effective internal control system in place. When it comes to the organization of shifts, the protection of the health and social interests of our employees is a priority. New shift models are always introduced in consultation with the workers' representatives. For example, as in the previous year, 61% of our blue-collar employees already work in shifts in part-time models, guaranteeing significantly longer blocks of time off between shifts than required by law.

When overtime is mandated, the interests of employees are also taken into account, including beyond the employees' statutory rights of refusal. The right of employees to choose between overtime payment in the form of money or time off in lieu is not only guaranteed in the cases provided for by law, but also granted to employees beyond that, subject to operational feasibility. The organization of work at voestalpine ensures that the prescribed rest breaks are adhered to throughout, with the legal requirements applied as the minimum standard. This ensures employees are able to take meals and rest in all areas.

With regard to the granting of paid leave, the annual leave of three weeks required by Responsible-Steel as a minimum standard is already exceeded by the provisions of the Austrian Leave Act (*Urlaubsgesetz—UrlG*), which stipulates minimum leave of at least five weeks. Additional days off work are granted at voestalpine both through collective agreements and internal company regulations.

#### **Child labor, forced and compulsory labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery**

voestalpine categorically rejects any form of child labor. Care is taken to ensure that the employment of young people does not jeopardize their health, safety, or development.

voestalpine does not tolerate any form of forced or compulsory labor, human trafficking, or modern slavery. This also includes the withholding of identification documents and passports, restrictions on the freedom of movement, and debt bondage. Both the voestalpine Code of Conduct and the company's Code of Conduct for Business Partners explicitly mention and expressly prohibit human trafficking and modern slavery.

#### **Diversity, equal opportunities, and ban on discrimination**

voestalpine is committed to respecting all people irrespective of gender, skin color, nationality, ethnicity, religion or worldview, disability, age, sexual orientation, and identity. This commitment and corresponding actions promote a climate of acceptance, equal opportunity, and mutual trust. As laid out in the "Respect and Integrity" chapter of the voestalpine Code of Conduct, the Group does not tolerate any form of discrimination. The HR Strategy 2030+ also addresses discrimination and equal opportunity in its strategic spheres of action.

#### **Reports of violations**

Reports of human rights violations or breaches of the above-mentioned international guidelines can always be submitted in person to supervisors, the local or Group Human Resources departments of voestalpine AG, and the executive management. Violations can also be reported to the Human Rights Officer at the e-mail addresses [humanrights@voestalpine.com](mailto:humanrights@voestalpine.com) and [menschenrechte@voestalpine.com](mailto:menschenrechte@voestalpine.com) or anonymously using voestalpine's online whistleblower system. This is available at <https://www.bkms-system.net/voestalpine>. Further information on the whistleblower system can be found in chapter G1-1.)

## **GROUP health & safety POLICY AND THE SAFETY CODE**

Maintaining the health and safety of our workforce is a top priority at voestalpine and is firmly anchored in the company's core values. voestalpine employees are exposed to occupational hazards and risks that can cause accidents, injury, illness, or disease due to the industry, the nature of their job, or the environment in which they work. Our goal is to ensure that no one in our workforce suffers work-related accidents or illnesses. To this end, we continuously assess the risks posed by employees' activities, e.g., in handling machinery or hazardous materials, derive measures from this and train, sensitize, and empower our employees to counter the risks. More information can be found in chapter S1-5. Protecting the health of the company's own workforce is also a key element of the voestalpine sustainability and corporate strategies.

Group-wide health and safety management is undertaken by the Group health & safety Department, which is directly linked to a member of the Management Board. Led by the chief health & safety officer, the department coordinates Group-wide activities and supports cross-divisional cooperation. In close coordination with the health & safety Committee—a body comprising representatives from all four divisions and the Group Works Council—it develops and implements measures to continuously improve the culture of safety.

In the business year 2023/24, a Group-wide Safety Code was introduced. It supplements the Group's health & safety Policy, which has been in place since 2021 and sets minimum standards applicable throughout the Group. The implementation of these standards is binding for all sites—regardless of local statutory requirements.

The Group-wide Safety Code forms an integral part of the measures taken to improve the culture of safety at all voestalpine companies. It is based on the principle that “safety is non-negotiable and takes precedence over quality and production”—for example, by systematically stopping production if conditions are unsafe. The code was drawn up by the health & safety Committee—consisting of divisional managers and members of the Works Council—under the leadership of the Chief health & safety Officer (CHSO). It was approved by the Group Management Board within the framework of the health & safety Board.

The code is implemented across the Group by the committee members responsible for the divisions, (technical) managing directors, and safety managers. Internal communication includes, for example, the initiative “Ja Sicher Lok” at the Linz site, targeted information for managers, and notebooks for shop floor employees and their supervisors. The Safety Code is available digitally on the intranet via the website “Corporate health & safety.”

## OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Occupational safety management at voestalpine is based on the requirements of the internationally recognized ISO 45001 standard. The production companies run their own occupational safety management systems, but orient them on the Group-wide framework.

Each division has its own committees responsible for operational implementation. The committees are made up of (technical) executives, safety managers, and other divisional managers. Strategic management is carried out centrally in line with the existing board structure. Within the divisions, the respective management boards coordinate operational implementation to ensure effective and consistent application of the safety standards.

All voestalpine production sites have systematically integrated all relevant occupational safety requirements into their local processes.

Of the employees at key production sites, 89.3% are covered by certification according to ISO 45001 or an equivalent national standard.<sup>1</sup> Implementation of measures is carried out by trained safety staff and occupational safety representatives, 80% of whom come from within the company. At smaller sites, their expertise is supplemented by external qualified workers where necessary.

In order to identify and introduce preventive measures to improve occupational safety, unsafe situations and near-misses are systematically documented and analyzed. A central web tool is used to document and assess the implementation of health and safety standards on an annual basis. The results are made available to select committees and incorporated into the continuous improvement process. In addition, regular internal and external audits are carried out to verify the effectiveness of the actions taken.

The relevant guidelines and documents are available throughout the Group on the intranet ("Corporate health & safety") and on the voestalpine website. Senior executives and safety workers are regularly updated on the latest developments.

<sup>1</sup> Calculation of metric revised vs. previous year (see BP-2 for details).

## POLICY OVERVIEW

IROs addressed	Policy	Scope of the policy	Responsibility and monitoring	Other comments
All IROs for S1	HR Strategy 2030+	Own operations All employees Specific stakeholder groups: women	HR Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Respect for the Diversity Charter</li> <li>» Involvement of stakeholders through environmental analysis and ongoing participation in working groups and competence teams</li> <li>» Communication on employee webpages, on the external podcast, and at Supervisory Board meetings</li> </ul>
Attractive working conditions	Human Rights Policy	Own operations Own workforce (employees and non-employees) Upstream and downstream value chain (all business partners)	Head of Group Sustainability	» Available on the website
Healthy and safe working conditions at voestalpine  Accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses	Group health & safety Policy and the Safety Code	Own operations Own workforce (employees and non-employees)	Management boards of the divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Prepared by the health &amp; safety Committee and approved by the Management Board</li> <li>» Available on the intranet as well as internal information for safety managers</li> </ul>
Healthy and safe working conditions at voestalpine  Accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses	Occupational safety management systems	Key production locations Own workforce (employees and non-employees) Upstream value chain to a partial extent through the acquisition of external specialists	Divisional representatives in the health & safety Committee	» Division-specific communication, managed by the divisional management boards

## S1-2 – Processes for engaging with own workers and workers' representatives about impacts

voestalpine relies on the continuous dialog that it maintains with its employees and their representatives in order to systematically integrate their perspectives into business decisions. The responsibility for controlling these processes lies with the Group's Human Resources Management in close cooperation with the respective managers. The exchange is based on established formats such as employee surveys, structured feedback discussions, and regular consultations with the Works Council at the local, divisional, and Group levels. Aspects such as diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity are also taken into account in order to maximize the range of perspectives, including in particular those of potentially disadvantaged groups. The effectiveness of the engagement is continuously reviewed through response rates, benchmarks, and the implementation and impact of measures derived from the surveys.

### GROUP-WIDE EMPLOYEE SURVEY

At voestalpine, employees are regularly engaged in strategically relevant issues through a Group-wide survey, among other initiatives. Following the Group-wide employee survey in fall 2024, the participating companies launched the planned review process. This included analyzing the results and deriving suitable measures. By June 2025, a total of 208 companies had reported their prioritized measures in the Group-wide standardized reporting tool, which facilitates transparent communication by enabling data to be entered in English and providing full visibility across all units. Although each company was required to report only the two most important measures, some took the opportunity to list additional activities. A total of 450 measures were recorded—slightly more than after the 2022 survey.

In addition to the key engagement value, which describes the employees' sense of connection to the company, the reported measures primarily concern the topics of appreciation, cooperation, and teamwork. The majority of the measures (81%) are ongoing and 82% relate to all employees (no distinction between white collar, blue collar, apprentices/trainees, etc.).

The results collected by the first reporting date were communicated to the Management Board of voestalpine in July 2025. The survey on the implementation status of the actions started in March 2026. In addition, the group-wide review process includes reporting to the respective supervisory and/or advisory boards as well as ongoing communication to the workforce.

The next voestalpine employee survey will take place in around 50 countries and 26 languages in fall 2026, and will be conducted jointly with an external partner.

### APPRAISAL DIALOG

The appraisal dialog is a key employee development tool and an integral part of the voestalpine leadership culture. It facilitates a structured dialog between managers and employees, and creates a binding framework for feedback, development opportunities, and target agreements. Performance reviews are mandatory for all salaried employees (white collar workers) throughout the Group. For waged employees (blue collar workers), specific formats such as team member interviews are recommended but are not mandatory.

During the employee performance review, individual targets and associated actions as well as development measures are defined and documented in the employee performance review report. The agreements reached are then jointly reviewed at the next performance review. In the business year 2025/26, 34,904 (2024/25: 34,648) employee performance reviews were conducted across the Group, of which 19,456 (2024/25: 19,117) were with waged employees and 15,448 (2024/25: 15,531) with salaried employees.

### **SOCIAL DIALOG WITH WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES**

The social dialog at voestalpine to engage with the company's own workforce and their representatives forms a central part of the company's philosophy and practice. voestalpine is committed to its responsibility to involve the Works Council in business decisions, especially with regard to issues that directly affect the interests of employees.

The legal framework for participation varies around the globe, resulting in different configurations of the works council structures in the countries and regions where voestalpine operates. Regardless of this, voestalpine AG pursues a consistent HR philosophy that aims to involve employees in projects and decisions to an appropriate extent. Depending on the situation and the occasion, voestalpine AG relies on established procedures for information, consultation, and participation:

- » **Information:** proactively sharing relevant company information with the works council.
- » **Consultation:** dialog and exchange of views with the works council, whereby the company listens to the council's position but independently comes to a decision.
- » **Participation:** decisions can only be made with the approval of the works council.

A regular exchange between the executive management, HR, and works council (if available) is recommended throughout the Group. Regular meetings (jour fixe) between management and workers' representatives take place at the companies with works councils. The results of these meetings form the basis for operational decisions.

At Group level, the Steering Committee of the Group Works Council and the Group Management Board meet at regular intervals. Monthly meetings are also held between representatives of the Group Works Council and Group Human Resources management. They cover HR issues of strategic and cross-divisional importance at the meetings. In addition, regular exchanges take place at division level between divisional management, divisional HR and the respective works council.

The **Group Works Council**, as a statutory union of all the works council bodies of the voestalpine Group in Austria, represents the common economic, social, health, and cultural interests of the employees throughout the Group. Its highest governance body is the delegates' conference, consisting of seconded members from the companies' works councils. The delegates' conference adopts the work program and guidelines for the steering committee, appoints representatives to the Supervisory Board of voestalpine, and nominates the Austrian delegates to the European Works Council. The steering committee manages the day-to-day business of the Group Works Council and conducts negotiations with Group Management.

The **European Works Council** is an information committee responsible for representing employees at the European level. Delegates from seven European countries meet roughly twice a year to discuss cross-border issues relating to the Group's employee representation.

Workers' representatives are provided with the necessary financial and human resources in line with the statutory regulations applicable in the respective countries. Aside from the existing institutional arrangements established at national and European level, there is currently no Group-wide framework agreement in place with workers' representatives that applies to all sites worldwide. This also applies to agreements relating to respect for human rights in the working environment. However, voestalpine AG ensures that relevant national and international requirements are complied with in the respective countries and addressed within the framework of the existing participation structures.

### **EMPLOYEE SHAREHOLDING SCHEME**

voestalpine AG has had an employee shareholding scheme since 2001, which has been continuously expanded since then. In addition to Austrian employees, employees in the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Belgium, Czechia, Italy, Switzerland, Romania, Spain, and Sweden are also involved in the scheme.

The voting rights from the employee shares are bundled in the voestalpine Mitarbeiterbeteiligung Privatstiftung (employee foundation for the Group's employee shareholding scheme), which makes it a stable core shareholder of voestalpine AG. As a central method for employee engagement, the employee shareholding scheme promotes long-term employee retention through active participation and giving them a say at the Annual General Meeting. As of March 31, 2026, a total of around 25,800 (2024/25: 26,600) employees held shares in voestalpine AG. They hold around 25.0 million (2024/25: 26.3 million) shares, which equates to 14.0% of the company's share capital (2024/25: 14.7%) due to the general bundling of voting rights.

### **S1-3 – Processes to remediate negative impacts and channels for own workers to raise concerns**

voestalpine AG relies on a structured process to address and reduce material negative impacts to its own workforce. This includes collecting feedback from various sources, analyzing the results and implementing targeted remedies. It is based on a systematic approach that involves regular reviews as well as continuous feedback processes and clearly defined reporting channels. When material negative impacts are identified, targeted remedies adapted to specific needs are employed. These may include, among other things, training opportunities, psychosocial counseling, and adjusting working conditions. The effectiveness of these actions is continuously assessed through employee feedback, internal monitoring, and internal audits.

In addition to platforms such as the annual employee performance review and the follow-up process after the employee survey, other channels set up by voestalpine AG are available for the employees to express their concerns and have them examined:

1. **Whistleblower system** (<https://www.bkms-system.net/voestalpine>)
2. E-mail address of the Group's **Human Rights Officer** ([humanrights@voestalpine.com](mailto:humanrights@voestalpine.com))
3. E-mail address of **the central compliance contact point** ([group-compliance@voestalpine.com](mailto:group-compliance@voestalpine.com))
4. Getting into direct contact with **voestalpine AG's Group Human Resources**

The bodies contacted look into the concerns raised, investigate any complaints, and inform the employees who have contacted them of any decisions or outcomes. Further information on the specific channels, their availability, and awareness of the structures within the workforce can be found in chapter G1-1 in the section on the whistleblower system.

#### **S1-4 – Taking action on material impacts on own workforce, and approaches to mitigating material risks and pursuing material opportunities related to own workforce, and effectiveness of those actions**

Targeted measures are implemented by voestalpine AG across the Group to manage material impacts on the workforce. These address both positive impacts—for example, by promoting diversity and development opportunities—and actual negative impacts—for example in the context of risks to the safety and health of employees. Actions taken are based on strategic concepts, coordinated across divisions, and continuously developed. They aim to create a secure framework, and identify and mitigate risks at an early stage.

In the voestalpine Group, suitable measures to prevent or mitigate negative impacts are generally selected on the basis of systematic risk analyses, internal evaluations, and feedback from relevant stakeholders, such as employees. The specific formulation of actions to be taken is adapted to the respective impact and the operational context. Depending on the subject area, different specialist departments, senior executives, workers' representatives, or specialized committees are involved in the development and evaluation of possible action plans. The aim is to identify effective yet achievable solutions that are tailored to the identified risks. The prioritization of risks may be based on, for example, the magnitude of the actual impact, the affected group of workers, and the urgency of the situation.

The effectiveness of key actions is checked through various processes in the voestalpine Group. These include standardized evaluations, feedback instruments, monitoring data such as training participation, and site-specific audits and surveys (e.g., in the field of health & safety). Specific targets (e.g., proportion of women, accident metrics) are used as indicators. The findings from these review processes are fed into the further development of existing policies and actions.

The necessary funds and personnel resources for these actions are made available by voestalpine AG. Funding is allocated for impacts in the field of health and safety by the health & safety Board, and for HR-related impacts by the HR Board. The Group health & safety and HR departments are responsible for the development and implementation of the actions.

A description of the key spheres of action related to material impacts on voestalpine's own workforce is provided below.

#### **DIVERSITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Targeted measures are implemented by voestalpine AG throughout the Group to strengthen equal opportunities and actively promote diversity in the long term. A core element of this approach is a comprehensive set of actions, which includes programs to promote women in the company, target group-specific employer branding, and actions to improve work-life balance. The following actions contribute to equal opportunities for all employees—an aspect that was found to be a material positive impact of voestalpine AG.

### » Female empowerment as a strategic sphere of action

An important building block for promoting diversity is the strategic sphere of action “Female Empowerment” included in the HR policy 2030+. The aim is to position voestalpine AG as an attractive employer for women—both among current and potential employees. In light of this, a Group-wide target for increasing the proportion of women has been set. voestalpine has set itself the goal of increasing the proportion of women in management positions from 14% to 18% by 2030. See S1-5 for more information.

Since the business year 2024/25, the Human Resources and Organizational Development competence team has taken over the Group-wide coordination of initiatives and measures for female empowerment. In relation hereto, a sub-competence team containing representatives from all divisions and various professions specifically addresses the topic of female empowerment twice a year. This team discusses action plans—both planned and already implemented—and reflects on Group-wide topics. On the one hand, this supports independent follow-up on the topics in the organizational units; on the other hand, it facilitates Group-wide coordination, for example with regard to resources and strategic orientation.

The following aspects constitute the most important actions in the three defined spheres of action:

#### 1. Positioning

Actions for positioning include target group-specific marketing, positioning, and recruiting, initiatives for early outreach—for example partnerships with schools and sports associations, cooperation with the labor market service to address women in a targeted manner, and target group-specific apprenticeship marketing—childcare facilities offering up to 24/7 care at the Linz site, certifications such as the Austrian “equalitA seal of quality,” and representation at specific events such as the Female Empowerment Festival “Let’s get visible” in Linz.

#### 2. Retaining

The actions to retain female employees include the expansion of flexible working time models, the international rollout of an internal e-learning course on mutual respect, workshops to raise awareness, the use of gender-sensitive language, a dedicated female empowerment section in the Group-wide intranet, and a newsletter that focuses on women at voestalpine AG, the expansion of childcare facilities, and the establishment and expansion of women’s networks.

#### 3. Guiding, supporting, empowering

Actions on this topic include establishing female empowerment as a fixed element of the Austrian education program, ensuring women represent at least 20% of the participants women in the internal management training program value:program, female empowerment as a focus in management training programs, a mentoring program for women who show potential, measures to cushion the career break after maternity leave—including specific part-time models—and an increased focus on female high-potential employees in succession planning.

## TRAINING ON HUMAN RIGHTS

As part of its human rights due diligence obligations, voestalpine provides mandatory e-learning courses for employees and additional training for safety staff. The aim behind this is to raise awareness of human rights issues and identify potential risks at an early stage. Training is carried out by the respective Group companies and is supported by ongoing monitoring of participation rates and training volumes.

It is aimed at all employees with access to e-learning courses and is available in 14 languages. The training program provides information and guidance on human rights compliance and includes three mandatory modules on the following topics:

### MODULE 1: Fundamental of Human Rights

- » Definition
- » Human Rights at voestalpine
- » Code of Conduct
- » Sustainable Development Goals
- » Corporate Responsibility

### MODULE 2: Human Rights in Day-to-Day Work

- » Working Conditions
- » Non-Discrimination
- » Equal Opportunity
- » Right to Freedom of Association
- » Right to Education

### MODULE 3: Human Rights in the Supply Chain

- » Critical Human Rights
- » Success and Risks
- » Alliances
- » SSCM and CR Checklist
- » Consequences

At the end of the 2025/26 business year, 96% (2024/25: 92%) of the assigned human rights training courses were successfully completed.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

voestalpine AG undertakes to continuously develop its training and education in order to adapt the skills of its employees to current and future requirements. This is also anchored in the fields of action of the HR Strategy 2030+. The following measures, tailored to various target groups, contribute to the personal development and training of employees—an aspect that has been assessed as a material positive impact of voestalpine AG—as well as to the achievement of the objectives of the HR Strategy 2030+. The programs are group-specific and support employees as they progress through different career and development phases.

In the business year 2025/26, Group-wide expenses for personnel development amounted to more than EUR 74 million (2024/25: EUR 76 million). 85.0% (2024/25: 84.7%) of all employees (excluding apprentices) took part in training and further education measures. The total volume of training was 793,101 hours (2024/25: 839,068 hours), which equates to an average of 20.1 hours per participant (2024/25: 20.8 hours per participant).

#### » voestalpine COACHING

Coaching is an integral part of employee development at the Group. The online platform voestalpine COACHING allows voestalpine employees to individually arrange coaching sessions worldwide. These sessions provide professional support for personal transformations in a professional context.

#### » Management training program—“value:program”

In the business year 2025/26, voestalpine continued to rely on its Group-wide value:program to train current and future managers. The multi-stage program combines training, project work, and international, cross-departmental exchange with the involvement of senior executives and members of the Management Board. For quality assurance purposes, all modules are evaluated after completion. Feedback from the participants, the latest developments, and company-wide values are used to further develop the content as required. In the business year 2025/26, 193 employees from 24 countries took part; of these, 30.1% were women.

### Regional programs

#### » TALENT ROAD CHINA

Talent Road China is a regional development program for high-potential employees and senior executives at voestalpine in China and combines classroom modules with online training. The sixth program was completed in June 2025 with 40 participants; the next one will start in October 2026.

#### » GET CONNECTED PROGRAM North America

The Get Connected Program North America is geared towards young talent and future senior executives in Canada, Mexico, and the USA, and combines classroom training with online modules. In the 2025/26 business year, 26 participants completed the current round; another started in January 2026.

### Specialist programs

#### » HR ACADEMY

The HR academy is a Group-wide training program for voestalpine HR professionals. It is aimed at HR generalists and specialists who want to improve their competencies in HR management in the Group. The program consists of three modules. The sixth academy kicked off in February 2025 with the first module; two more will follow in the business year 2025/26.

#### » purchasing power academy

The purchasing power academy is a group-wide training program for buyers and comprises two levels of competence as well as complementary lifelong learning. Digital learning formats are combined with classroom seminars and certifications and are continuously being enhanced.

## APPRENTICES/TRAINEES

As of the annual reporting date (March 31, 2026), the voestalpine Group was training 1,526 apprentices (2024/25: 1,574 apprentices) in about 50 skilled trades, the majority thereof (66.3%) (2024/25: 68%) at locations in Austria. A total of 15.6% of apprentices were being trained in Germany under the dual system applicable in that country (2024/25: 14%). Because apprenticeships are based on defined requirements, almost all of the apprentices who successfully complete their training are offered an employment contract. voestalpine clearly believes that it has the duty to invest in the training of young, skilled workers. In addition to excellent professional training, attention is also paid to developing personal and social skills. On average, the Group invests EUR 106,000 in training each apprentice (2024/25: EUR 100,000).

The company will offer some 440 trainee slots (2024/25: 500) in the next training year (starting in September 2026) in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. To give interested young people insights into the vocational training programs on offer at voestalpine, open house days are held at various training locations, designed in a way that targets the specific audience with the involvement of apprentices. One particular aim is to get girls interested in technical professions. The proportion of women in technical apprenticeships has increased by roughly 25% in the past 10 years and currently stands at 13.5% (2024/25: 17.8%). Intensive measures such as participation in careers fairs and visits to schools as well as Girls' Day are undertaken to further increase the proportion of women in technical apprenticeships in particular.

The international success of voestalpine apprentices confirms the quality of their training, such as the silver medal in the electrical systems category at the EuroSkills Professional Championship in Herning, Denmark, in September 2025. voestalpine apprentices have also been successful in Austria: winning awards such as the "Stars of Styria" and the Upper Austrian Apprentice Award places them firmly among the region's top experts.

In addition to their everyday training, apprentices at voestalpine are encouraged and challenged in terms of self-development and personal growth. Examples include team-building seminars, stints of employment abroad, or language trips. The importance of solidarity and social engagement is another focus point, for example, through participation in the 3-Bridges Run in Linz, where an apprentice team consisting of around 170 apprentices and their trainers collected points ("cares") during the voestalpine cares runs, helping those in need. For more information on the voestalpine cares run, see chapter S3-4.

Through a variety of actions taken, voestalpine AG underscores the importance of vocational training and demonstrates how apprenticeship programs can be set up in line with a forward-thinking approach, such as with solutions like the voestalpine BÖHLER CAMPUS, which officially opened in November 2025 and has offered housing for over 30 apprentices for the duration of their training since September 2025. Platforms such as the "Digital Miniature Factory" promote digital skills: In a two-week training project, apprentices develop a functioning miniature production plant and implement real production processes on a small scale.

### » Apprentice advertising campaign #FavoriteMoments

In 2025, voestalpine once again launched its apprenticeship campaign under the umbrella of its brand campaign, which specifically addresses the needs of young people. The campaign showcases the real “favorite moments of apprentices” at voestalpine. It highlights aspects such as team spirit and culture, practice, good compensation, diversity, and quality of education.

The aim of the cross-media campaign is to use the apprentices' #FavoriteMoments to make voestalpine tangible as an employer. Apprentices from voestalpine act as ambassadors and provide authentic insights into their training. In formats such as word raps, apprenticeship presentations, or short videos with reference to the campaign song “All these Moments,” the apprentices provide insights into their everyday lives and many other highlights of an apprenticeship at voestalpine. The campaign employs a wide range of communication channels, such as the Group's own corporate apprenticeship website (<https://www.voestalpine.com/lehre>), social media, print media, and internal channels to reach young people, their parents, and teachers. TikTok and Snapchat are increasingly being used to address the youngest target group.

### » Group Apprentice Day

The Group Apprentice Day is a special experience during the apprenticeship: In the program's final year, all apprentices are invited to the Group's headquarters in Linz to spend an eventful day that includes a talk with Management Board members, a tour of the plant, team challenges, along with a lot of other fun and action. Almost 400 apprentices and trainees from 40 sites in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland took the opportunity to meet in person and get to know the Group headquarters in Linz at the voestalpine Group Apprentice Day on October 21, 2025.

Under the guiding principle of the apprentice advertising campaign #FavoriteMoments, the day was all about unforgettable experiences. At the talk with members of the Management Board, apprentices from different sites shared their personal #FavoriteMoments—from language trips to internships abroad. The program also included a lecture by EU Youth Ambassador Ali Mahlodji, a tour of the plant in Linz, as well as team challenges. The day concluded by awarding the winner of the photo contest with the most beautiful #FavoriteMoments: An image that shows how colleagues have become friends.

### health & safety

In its HR Strategy 2030+, voestalpine undertakes to continuously develop measures to promote employee health and improve occupational safety in order to increase job satisfaction while simultaneously reducing time off due to sickness, accidents, and work-related ill health.

A variety of activities were initiated to support this sphere of action and reflect the importance of this critical success factor.

The voestalpine health & safety calendar 2026, for example, accompanies us throughout the year, focuses on relevant topics on a monthly basis, and promotes discussion on the subject of occupational safety. Insights from safety flashes complement this dialog by analyzing serious incidents across sites and making learning opportunities visible.

voestalpine wants to convey to all employees the importance of identifying risks at an early stage and consistently avoiding risks. The “red lines” set clear boundaries for activities with potentially life-threatening consequences, and are taught as part of a multilingual e-learning course. In addition, the initiative #safetystartswithme in the Metal Forming Division reflects our practice of personal responsibility, intervening when necessary, and the mindset that safety begins with each and every individual.

Uddeholm, one of the High Performance Metals sites, also consistently pursues the goal of zero accidents. More than 6,000 risk assessments, regular safety rounds, and a strong reporting system support the early identification of risks. Training, open communication, and the continuous development of the safety culture are essential building blocks in this regard.

In 2026, the Metal Engineering Division is launching the campaign “Decide now, avoid accidents” to raise employee awareness of near misses so that they can react correctly and avoid risks before they result in serious accidents.

Responsibility for implementation and monitoring the campaign lies with the health & safety Department and with the local safety managers in coordination with local executive management. The engagement and participation of workers’ representatives and the health and safety committee ensure practical and effective action that is geared toward specific operational requirements is pursued. The company ensures the necessary financial and human resources are provided in an appropriate form.

In recent years, the number of occupational accidents across the Group has been significantly reduced. This is also reflected in the Group-wide target “reduce the frequency of accidents.” For more information, see chapter S1-5. This decline is the result of consistent and structured health and safety actions that have been effectively rolled out in the divisions.

In addition, occupational accidents are systematically analyzed to identify their causes and contributing factors. Based on this, we derive targeted prevention measures and consistently implement them. Where relevant, findings from accidents are communicated across sites in order to avoid similar incidents in the long term.

The companies have a wide range of support tools at their disposal. The specific selection and implementation of actions is carried out for each site by the respective divisional companies in close coordination with the responsible safety managers.

#### » health & safety training

voestalpine AG companies regularly hold safety meetings with all of their employees. Monthly discussions between master craftspeople and staff, as well as the 15-minute safety training by safety staff and safety representatives, provide key formats for communicating occupational safety measures. Workers’ representatives are also actively involved in this process in order to jointly develop actions to improve safety.

Additionally, quarterly safety inspections are conducted by executive management, with one inspection each year being carried out with the involvement of Management Board members. All employees are required to complete an online training course on health and safety that conveys the safety values and standards of voestalpine AG and supplements the classroom-based training. Targeted training courses for management and master craftspeople are also held. Mandatory participation in safety training courses is documented and tracked.

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIONS

IROs addressed	Action	Time horizon	Scope of the action	Significant expenditure (if relevant)/ other comments
Equal opportunities for all employees	"Diversity and equal opportunities" set of actions	Implementation of the set of actions by the end of 2026 at the latest	Own operations Employees	Some actions already implemented
Attractive working conditions	Training on human rights	Current actions	Own operations  All employees  External security personnel (upstream)	-
Personal development and training	"Personal development and training" set of actions	Current actions	Own operations  All employees  Apprentices in the DACH region	Yes, OpEx  (>EUR 74 million total annual cost for employee development)  Identification of training needs during employee performance review
Healthy and safe working conditions at voestalpine  Accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses	"health & safety" set of actions	Dependent on actions taken	Own operations  Own workforce (employees and non-employees)	Consideration of the interests of safety managers and workers' representatives  Remedial action taken as required

## METRICS AND TARGETS

### S1-5 – Targets related to managing material negative impacts, advancing positive impacts, and managing material risks and opportunities

#### **TARGET: TO INCREASE THE PROPORTION OF WOMEN**

As part of the HR Strategy 2030+ strategic sphere of action “Female empowerment,” voestalpine aims to position itself as an attractive employer for women—both for current and potential employees. Female empowerment contributes to diversity in decision-making positions, increasing employee engagement, and promoting a positive corporate culture. The aim is to measure and strengthen the positive impacts identified for “equal opportunity for all employees.”

A gender-balanced approach at the company counteracts social inequalities and strengthens the right to fair participation in working life—a fundamental principle of sustainable development. By aiming to increase the proportion of women—especially in leadership positions—voestalpine AG is strengthening human rights principles.

Equal opportunity in the world of work is one of the internationally recognized human rights, in particular the ILO core labor standards. voestalpine AG also supports the UN sustainability goal SDG 5. In particular, the focus is on sub-objective 5.5, which entails “ensuring that women are equally involved at all levels of decision-making.” This SDG objective is also anchored in the European Union’s strategic frameworks—including the EU Green Deal and the EU Sustainable Finance Agenda. voestalpine contributes to the implementation of these European objectives and to the EU Gender Equality Strategy, which aims to achieve a gender-equitable Europe.

A higher proportion of women further strengthens the competitiveness and sustainability of the company. Diverse teams have been found to be more resilient, innovative, and decisive, which represent key advantages for the management of complex industrial structures. Targeted support for women in underrepresented areas also unlocks previously untapped talent potential and helps to overcome the shortage of skilled workers.

At the same time, a visible commitment to equal opportunity increases employer attractiveness—especially among younger generations—and fosters a cultural shift toward an inclusive, modern corporate culture.

In concrete terms, the undertaking strives to increase the proportion of women at all qualification levels throughout the Group. In particular, the proportion of female senior executives is to be increased from 14% (business year 2023/24) to 18% by 2030. Senior executives are defined as employees with disciplinary personnel responsibility, with the exclusion of board members. This target is based on an evaluation of the previous development and the current gender distribution in the Group.

## TARGET: TO INCREASE THE PROPORTION OF WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

<b>KPI</b>	Percentage of women in leadership	
<b>UNIT</b>	in percent	
<b>BASE VALUE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TARGET VALUE</b>
14% Business year 2023/24	15.5% Business year 2025/26	18% Business year 2029/30
<b>Responsibility and monitoring</b>	HR Board	
<b>Scope</b>	All female senior executives (employees with disciplinary personnel responsibility, with the exclusion of members of the Management Board)	
<b>Stakeholders</b>	Employees and employee representatives	
<b>IROs addressed</b>	Equal opportunities for all employees	
<b>Reference to policy</b>	HR Strategy 2030+	

HR objectives in relation to the topic of female empowerment are defined as part of a participatory process with the engagement of employee representatives. This includes regular employee surveys, stakeholder communication, topic-specific working groups and regular committees with the division HR managers. The aim is to take different points of view into account and to ensure the relevance and feasibility of the objectives.

Implementation and target achievement are monitored through periodic reviews and evaluations based on quantitative and qualitative indicators. In addition, feedback tools such as employee surveys and joint review sessions with the workforce are used to gain additional knowledge and derive measures as necessary. This approach strengthens the Group's commitment to diversity and inclusion, and promotes an open and collaborative corporate culture.

The goal to increase the proportion of women in management positions is anchored in voestalpine's corporate governance. It is monitored and evaluated as part of the ongoing management processes and, where necessary, further enhanced by actions and initiatives.

As of March 31, 2026, the total proportion of women in the voestalpine Group was 16.6% (2024/25: 16.4%). The percentage of female workers among waged employees was 7.3% (2024/25: 7.3%); among salaried employees it was 30.1% (2024/25: 29.9%). The proportion of female senior executives was 15.5% (2024/25: 14.4%). In all categories, there was a slight increase compared with the previous year.

## TARGET: REDUCE THE FREQUENCY OF ACCIDENTS

This target has been set on the basis of the international standard ISO 45001, as well as national and European targets for occupational health and safety. In particular, voestalpine AG takes into account the objectives of the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2021–2027, which, among other aspects, pursues the guiding principle of "Vision Zero"—i.e., zero fatalities due to occupational accidents. The objective is to systematically reduce work-related health risks and to adjust the level of safety in line with internationally recognized standards throughout the Group. The health & safety Committee, consisting of the respective representatives of the divisions and workers' representatives, sets the Group's targets, which are ultimately approved by health & safety Board.

Implementation and target achievement are ensured by periodic reviews and evaluations as part of the quarterly health & safety Committee meetings or the semi-annual health & safety Board meetings.

The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) indicates the frequency of accidents based on the number of recordable workplace accidents entailing more than three sick days per one million hours worked. To ensure uniform comparability, the definitions of recordable accidents, days lost, and hours worked have been standardized across the Group—especially in light of the differing national regulations.

Reducing the frequency of accidents contributes significantly to sustainable development, as safe working conditions represent a key element of decent working (SDG 8 “Decent Working and Economic Growth”) and ensure the long-term viability and health of employees.

For employees, this means a lower risk of injury and an overall safer and healthier working environment. For the company, the systematic prevention of occupational accidents increases operational stability, reduces downtime, and enhances employer attractiveness—especially in safety-critical work areas.

In relation to health and safety, voestalpine aims to reduce the accident rate to the target value of 5.5 by the end of the business year 2029/30.

The Group health & safety Department reviews this target within the scope of Group-wide reporting and control processes.

#### TARGET: REDUCE THE FREQUENCY OF ACCIDENTS

<b>KPI</b>	LTIFR (lost time injury frequency rate)	
<b>UNIT</b>	Recordable accidents per million hours worked	
<b>BASE VALUE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TARGET VALUE</b>
16.1 Business year 2015/16	6.1 Business year 2025/26	5.5 Business year 2029/30
<b>Responsibility and monitoring</b>	health & safety Committee and health & safety Board	
<b>Scope</b>	Own operations, own workforce (employees and non-employees)	
<b>Stakeholders</b>	Own workforce	
<b>IROs addressed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Accidents at work, injuries, and occupational illnesses</li> <li>» Healthy and safe working conditions at voestalpine</li> </ul>	
<b>Reference to policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Group health &amp; safety Policy and the Safety Code</li> <li>» Occupational safety management systems</li> </ul>	

In the context of the IROs “attractive working conditions” and “personal development and training”, there are no Group-wide, time-limited and specific outcome-oriented targets in place related to voestalpine’s own workforce. This is due to the fact that the structure and management in these areas is predominantly decentralized and corresponding targets are also set at this level.

## S1-6 – Characteristics of the undertaking's employees

The following information is presented based on head count. The number of persons represents the total of waged and salaried employees, with both fixed-term and permanent contracts, including the number of apprentices. Together, these employee groups form the number of employees. No employees with zero hours contract are employed by the Group.

Unless otherwise stated, the following metrics refer to the reporting date of March 31, 2026.

As of the reporting date (March 31, 2026), the voestalpine Group had a global workforce of 48,010 employees (including apprentices). Of these, 1,526 apprentices were receiving training at the voestalpine Group as of March 31, 2026, a slight decrease of 3.0%, or 48 apprentices over the previous year (2024/25: 1,574). 6,524 or 13.6% of employees had a fixed-term contract (2024/25: 6,854). Overall, the number of employees fell by 1,288 or 2.6% compared with the previous year.

In the Annual Report, the information according to S1-6 is presented in Note D.28. Information on employees in the notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### EMPLOYEES BY GENDER

As of the March 31 reporting date	2024/25	2025/26
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	41,114	40,006
Female	8,184	8,000
Other	0	0
Not specified <sup>1</sup>	-	4
<b>Total Employees</b>	<b>49,298</b>	<b>48,010</b>

<sup>1</sup> The "Not specified" category was first compiled in the business year 2025/26.

### EMPLOYEES BY COUNTRY

Number of persons in countries with companies with >50 employees and >10% of the Group workforce, as of the March 31 reporting date	Austria		Germany	
	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	20,520	20,264	5,297	4,925
Female	3,803	3,775	1,109	1,014
Other	0	0	0	0
Not specified <sup>1</sup>	-	0	-	0
<b>Total Employees</b>	<b>24,323</b>	<b>24,039</b>	<b>6,406</b>	<b>5,939</b>

<sup>1</sup> The "Not specified" category was first compiled in the business year 2025/26.

## EMPLOYEES BY TYPE OF CONTRACT AND GENDER

As of the March 31 reporting date	Female	Male	Other	Not specified <sup>1</sup>	Overall
<b>2024/25</b>					
Employees	8,184	41,114	0	-	49,298
Number of permanent employees	6,926	35,518	0	-	42,444
Number of temporary employees	1,258	5,596	0	-	6,854
Number of non-guaranteed hours employees	0	0	0	-	0
<b>2025/26</b>					
Employees	8,000	40,006	0	4	48,010
Number of permanent employees	6,816	34,666	0	4	41,486
Number of temporary employees	1,184	5,340	0	0	6,524
Number of non-guaranteed hours employees	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> The "Not specified" category was first compiled in the business year 2025/26.

Numerous measures in the voestalpine Group aim to make the best possible use of the knowledge and experience of the employees and to increase their job satisfaction. This also helps to keep the fluctuation rate as low as possible. Based on the total number of employees employed as of the reporting date (excluding apprentices), which amounted to 46,484, the turnover rate for employment contracts terminated by mutual consent or by employees was 7.5% in the business year 2025/26 (2024/25: 7.8%). A total of 5,622 employees (excluding apprentices) left the company (e.g., due to resignation, unrenewed expiring fixed-term contracts, retirement, death), which is 45 more employees year over year (2024/25: 5,577). This corresponds to an overall turnover rate of 12.1%, which is 0.4 percentage points higher than in the previous year (2024/25: 11.7%) (see Note D.28. Employee information in the notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

### S1-8 – Collective bargaining coverage and social dialogue

voestalpine AG is committed to freedom of association and right of its employees to organize themselves in a union. Trade unions represent the interests of employees and negotiate with the employer to achieve fair working conditions, in particular in the form of wages, salaries, working hours, and leave entitlements, which are set down in writing in collective agreements. They may vary from country to country. As of the reporting date for 2025/26, 36,959 employees (including apprentices) in the voestalpine Group, i.e., 77.0%, were covered by a collective agreement (2024/25: 38,378 employees, or 77.8%). For companies in the EEA area, the coverage rate was 87.7% and 32,753 (2024/25: 33,839 and 88.7%) for a total of 37,350 employees (including apprentices). At 96.9% coverage in Austria (2024/25: 98.8%) and 64.9% in Germany (2024/25: 65.4%), a significant number of employees in the Group are covered by collective agreements.

In many voestalpine Group companies, a works council represents employee interests alongside collective agreements. Austria and Germany are particularly significant in this regard, with 29,978 (62.4%) of the Group's 48,010 employees around the globe coming from these two countries. Of these, as in the previous year, 98.6% of employees in Austria and 88.1% in Germany are represented by a works council.

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COVERAGE AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

As of the March 31 reporting date, no changes from the previous year

	Collective bargaining coverage for employees		Social dialogue
	Employees—EEA <sup>1</sup>	Employees—Non-EEA <sup>2</sup>	Workplace Representation (EEA only) <sup>3</sup>
<b>2025/26</b>			
<b>Coverage Rate</b>			
0–59%			
60–79%		Germany	
80–100%		Austria	Germany, Austria

<sup>1</sup> For EEA countries with > 50 employees representing > 10% total employees.

<sup>2</sup> Non-EEA (estimate for regions with > 50 employees representing > 10% total employees).

<sup>3</sup> Workplace representation (EEA only) for countries with > 50 employees representing > 10% total employees.

## S1-9 – Diversity metrics

### TOP MANAGEMENT

The top management of the voestalpine Group (headquartered in Linz) comprises the Management Board of voestalpine AG and executive management of the divisional subsidiaries. At the end of the reporting year, the proportion of women in top management was 11.1%.

### GENDER DISTRIBUTION AT THE TOP MANAGEMENT LEVEL

	Number 2025/26	Percentage 2025/26
<b>Top management</b>		
Male	16	88.9%
Female	2	11.1%
Other	0	0.0%
Not specified <sup>1</sup>	0	0.0%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<sup>1</sup> The “Not specified” category was first compiled in the business year 2025/26.

### AGE STRUCTURE IN THE GROUP

A balanced age structure helps ensure the transfer of knowledge, make age-related departures predictable, and avoid staff shortages. It makes it easier to replace employees entering retirement in a timely manner. To achieve this, employees need to feel loyal to voestalpine and be retained in the long term. As of March 31, 2026, the average age of employees in the voestalpine Group—excluding apprentices—was 42.2 years old (2024/25: 41.7 years old).

The following table shows the age distribution of the workforce (excluding apprentices):

#### AGE STRUCTURE OF EMPLOYEES (EXCLUDING APPRENTICES)

	Number		Percentage	
	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
Under 30 years old	8,795	8,204	18.4%	17.6%
30 to 50 years old	26,517	25,981	55.6%	55.9%
Over 50 years old	12,412	12,299	26.0%	26.5%

#### S1-10 – Adequate wages

voestalpine upholds minimum social standards throughout the Group with its Code of Conduct. Chapter 5, Social Responsibility, states the following obligation under the heading “Compensation”: *“employees must be compensated in accordance with applicable legal regulations and collective agreements, and this compensation must be sufficient to meet the basic needs of both employees and their families and to provide them with a decent standard of living.”*

This requirement must be implemented in every Group company. The respective executive management verifies compliance with the code every two years with their signatures. As of the business year 2025/26, companies will be required to undergo spot checks to review compliance.

The spot check was undertaken at 32 voestalpine companies which had stated that their employees were not covered by a collective agreement. The answers were collected in the form of an electronic questionnaire. The questions related to compliance with minimum legal standards or, in the absence of legal regulations, to other national or international benchmarks. If there was no regulated benchmark, companies were required to apply the minimum wage per hour according to the Wage Indicator as a benchmark.

In all countries of the companies audited, remuneration is regulated by law. The audit found that no employees of the companies concerned are remunerated below the legally established minimum standard.

#### S1-14 – health & safety metrics

The following quantitative information on occupational health and safety relates exclusively to employees of the voestalpine Group. In accordance with the ESRS transitional provisions, information on non-employee workers is not yet reported.

In the business year 2025/26, 507 (2024/25: 597) recordable workplace accidents were recorded in the voestalpine Group. The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR), which is calculated uniformly across the Group, indicates the number of recordable workplace accidents entailing more than three sick days per one million hours of work performed. This amounted to 6.1 in the reporting year (2024/25: 7.0). Unfortunately, there was also one fatal accident involving a voestalpine employee (2024/25: two).

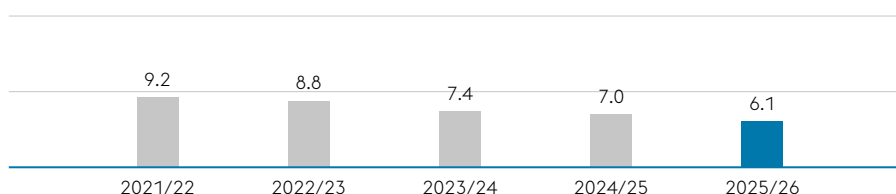
Near misses are also systematically recorded as part of a Group-wide health & safety web tool. Actions to improve the situation are defined on the basis of the review of incident reports and documented if necessary.

Thanks to consistent health and safety measures across all divisions, the number of workplace accidents has been significantly reduced in recent years. Ongoing classroom training at all sites contributed to the further reduction in the frequency of accidents in the business year 2025/26.

The LTIFR metric is documented on a Group-wide basis and evaluated using an internal system.

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOST TIME INJURY FREQUENCY RATE (LTIFR)

As of the March 31 reporting date



### S1-16 – Remuneration metrics (pay gap and total remuneration)

In order to determine the income gap between men and women in the Group, the gender pay gap was calculated on the basis of annual total remuneration (fixed and variable components as well as benefits in kind), target hours, and overtime paid. Target hours may take into account the available capacity of part-time workers. To ensure valid comparability, the members of the Management Board were not included in the calculation as they are not considered employees.

Apprentices are not included in the calculation either. Apprentice wages are a training allowance that is based on the progress made in the apprenticeship and not on actual work performance or market value. At voestalpine, the amount of an apprentice's wage depends exclusively on the applicable collective agreements and is not freely agreed between apprentices and the company. Neither the gender nor the working hours of apprentices have any influence on the pay structure. The data reported by the companies was first recorded in the domestic currency at the individual level and then converted to euros for the purpose of comparability. In the voestalpine Group, the gender pay gap (excluding the Management Board) came to 15.2%; a slight rise of 1.7 percentage points over the previous year<sup>1</sup> (13.5%). The disparity can be explained partly by the different fields of activity (service sector, production companies, etc.), a slight reduction in predominantly male production roles, and severance payments for male retirees from the baby boom generation.

<sup>1</sup> Prior-year figure retroactively adjusted from 19.8% to 13.5% (see BP-2 for details).

The ratio of the median annual total remuneration of all employees (excluding the Management Board) compared to the highest earner came to 1:63.9 in the business year 2025/26 (2024/25: 1:64.2).

In addition to the fixed gross salary, variable salary components, and the values of benefits in kind (company car; company apartment, voluntary insurance) are also included in the total remuneration. The Group median was calculated using a statistical approximation method, as system limitations mean that only aggregated remuneration data are available for foreign subsidiaries, whereas complete individual data are available for Austria. The approximation is based on country-specific weighting factors taking into account comparable salary levels. A subsequent plausibility check confirmed only minor, economically insignificant variances.

### **S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts**

Compliance and human rights violations can be reported using various internal and central reporting points such as the whistleblower system. Whistleblowers can choose whether or not to state their name. For more detailed information on the channels through which concerns can be expressed, see chapters S1-3 and G1-1.

In the business year 2025/26, 50 reports were received through the established reporting channels (2024/25: 24). Of these, 34 cases were reported through the whistleblower system and 16 by e-mail. Each case was assessed and dealt with. The outcome of two cases is still pending. Of the 48 categorized cases, 13 (2024/25: 7) can be classified as discrimination in the form of harassment, micromanagement, and non-inclusion. 10 reports concern lack of appreciation and three cases concern violations of labor law. Four cases concern possible private sector misconduct by employees and 18 cases concern general complaints. Two years ago, legal proceedings were initiated in one case of dismissal and are still pending. None of the 50 reports received involved any form of human rights violations. In the business year 2025/26, as in the previous year, no fines or compensation payments were made on the basis of human rights violations.

## OVERVIEW OF METRICS

ESRS disclosure requirement	Paragraph	Datapoint/metric	Basis for the preparation and description of the assumptions and methodology	Information on sources of a high level of measurement uncertainty and information on measurement
S1-6 – Characteristics of the undertaking's employees	50a	Employees by gender	Number of own staff (headcount) by gender, including apprentices and non-guaranteed hours employees, excluding interns (during summer breaks or as part of school programs), freelance contractors, diploma students/ PhD students	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-6 – Characteristics of the undertaking's employees	50a	Employees by country	Number of own staff (headcount) by country, including apprentices and non-guaranteed hours employees, excluding interns (during summer breaks or as part of school programs), freelance contractors, diploma students/PhD students. Only Germany and Austria included	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-6 – Characteristics of the undertaking's employees	50b	Employees by type of contract and gender	Distinction between permanent contracts, fixed-term contracts, and non-guaranteed hours employees (e.g., casual workers, zero hours contracts)	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-6 – Characteristics of the undertaking's employees	50c	The total number of employees who have left the undertaking and the rate of employee turnover	Total number of own staff (excluding apprentices) who left the company voluntarily (termination by employee), by mutual agreement, as a result of termination by the employer, retirement, due to occupational disability, or death (excluding transfers to another voestalpine company). Average annual values as of March 31 of the previous year + March 31 of the current business year	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-8 – Collective bargaining coverage and social dialogue	60a	Collective bargaining coverage for employees	Collective agreement coverage in percent = number of employees covered by a collective agreement (headcount)/total number of employees (headcount). Collective agreements are defined as “any written agreement on terms and conditions of employment concluded between an employer, a group of employers, or one or more employer organizations on the one hand, and one or more representative employee organizations (trade unions) on the other hand”	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-8 – Collective bargaining coverage and social dialogue	60b	Collective bargaining coverage on a country-by-country basis (EEA countries)	The disclosure requirements on collective agreements in the European Economic Area concern only the voestalpine companies in Austria and Germany, since only in these countries are the thresholds according to ESRS S1-8 (at least 50 employees and at the same time at least 10% of the total workforce) achieved	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-8 – Collective bargaining coverage and social dialogue	63a	Coverage by worker's representatives on a country-by-country basis	Workers' representatives refer to i. Trade union representatives, designated, or elected by trade unions or by members of such unions in accordance with national legislation and practice ii. Duly elected representatives, namely representatives who are freely elected by the workers of the organization, not under the domination or control of the employer in accordance with provisions of national laws or regulations, or of collective agreements, and whose functions do not include activities which are exclusively reserved by the trade unions in the country concerned and the existence of which is not used to undermine the position of the trade unions concerned or their representatives	Limited—data represents the individual companies

ESRS disclosure requirement	Paragraph	Datapoint/metric	Basis for the preparation and description of the assumptions and methodology	Information on sources of a high level of measurement uncertainty and information on measurement
S1-9 – Diversity metrics	66a	Gender distribution at the top management level	The top management level is defined as the Management Board of voestalpine AG and the executive management of the divisions' lead companies	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-9 – Diversity metrics	66b	Age structure of employees	Total own workforce as of March 31 (excluding apprentices), divided into age groups: 1) <30 years old, 2) 30–50 years old, and 3) >50 years old	Limited—data represents the individual companies
ESRS S1-10 – Adequate wages	70	If not all its employees are paid an adequate wage in line with applicable benchmarks, the undertaking must disclose the countries where employees earn below the applicable adequate wage benchmark and the percentage of employees that earn below the applicable adequate wage benchmark for each of these countries	In accordance with the Code of Conduct of voestalpine, chapter 5 “Social Responsibility” states the following obligation under the heading “Compensation”: employees must be compensated in accordance with applicable legal regulations and collective agreements, and this compensation must be sufficient to meet the basic needs of both employees and their families and to provide them with a decent standard of living. Compliance with the Code of Conduct is mandatory for all companies in which voestalpine AG directly or indirectly holds at least 50% of the share capital or over which it exerts control in another manner	–
S1-14 – Health and safety metrics	88a	Percentage of workers covered by the health and safety management system	Total employees of certified companies/ Total employees of material companies * 100	Limited—mapping of the data in the companies via Safety Webtool
S1-14 – Health and safety metrics	88b	Number of deaths due to work-related injuries and illnesses	Total fatalities » after fatal accidents at work and » after work-related ill-health (only from 2nd reporting year onward, due to transitional provision)	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-14 – Health and safety metrics	88c	The number and rate of recordable work-related accidents	Is calculated based on LTIFR (lost time injury frequency rate: indicates the frequency of accidents based on the number of reportable workplace accidents entailing more than three sick days per million hours worked. The scope of the report covers all companies with personnel	Limited—data represents the individual companies
S1-16 – Remuneration metrics	97a	Gender pay gap, defined as the difference of average pay levels between female and male employees, expressed as percentage of the average pay level of male employees	This metric is calculated on the basis of the gross earnings (fixed + variable) paid during the business year and any benefits in kind, per male and female employee. Fixed remuneration is defined by basic salary, allowances, premiums, paid overtime, fringe benefits, special payments, and pension benefits. Variable remuneration is defined by success premium, target premium, and other premiums. Benefits in kind include company cars, company housing, and voluntary insurance	Limited—data represents the individual companies

ESRS disclosure requirement	Paragraph	Datapoint/metric	Basis for the preparation and description of the assumptions and methodology	Information on sources of a high level of measurement uncertainty and information on measurement
S1-16 – Remuneration metrics	97b	Ratio of the annual total remuneration of the highest paid individual to the median annual total remuneration for all employees	This metric is calculated on the basis of the gross earnings (fixed + variable) paid during the business year and any benefits in kind, per male and female employee. Fixed remuneration is defined by basic salary, allowances, premiums, paid overtime, fringe benefits, special payments, and pension benefits. Variable remuneration is defined by success premium, target premium, and other premiums. Benefits in kind include company cars, company housing, and voluntary insurance	Limited
S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts	103a	The total number of reported incidents of discrimination, including harassment, in the reporting period	Number of incidents reported through the Group channels (whistleblower system, e-mail address for the Group Human Rights Officer (Group Sustainability), and by e-mail to the Group compliance contact point (Legal, Investments, and Compliance), or Group HR management	Whistleblower system, other reporting channels in accordance with Code of Conduct
S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts	103b	Number of complaints received through channels from own workforce (including grievance mechanisms)	Number of incidents reported to the Group Compliance Officer, Head of Group Sustainability, or the Head of Group Human Resources outside of established Group channels	Other reporting channels according to Code of Conduct or direct report to managers
S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts	103c	The total amount of significant fines, penalties, and compensation for damages as a result of the incidents and complaints disclosed above	Litigation Report containing a list of human rights violations and discrimination including, sexual harassment, subject to court or authority proceedings as of March 31, 2026	Limited
S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts	104a	Number of severe human rights incidents in connection with workers	Number of severe human rights incidents in connection with workers reported using reporting channels set up by the Group in accordance with point 7 of the voestalpine Code of Conduct	Insufficient forwarding of reports: When someone who receives a report fails to forward it to the responsible Group entity, the case is not recorded across the Group
S1-17 – Incidents, complaints, and severe human rights impacts	104b	Total amount of fines, penalties and compensation for damages in relation to severe human rights incidents connected to the undertaking's workforce and reconciliation of the monetary amounts disclosed in the most relevant amount in the financial statements	Total fines and compensation for damages in relation to severe human rights incidents involving voestalpine's own workforce based on the list of human rights violations and discrimination including sexual harassment, subject to court or authority proceedings included in the Litigation Report as of March 31, 2026	-

## ESRS S2 WORKERS IN THE VALUE CHAIN

voestalpine sources a wide range of materials, products, and services from a large number of suppliers around the globe. It supplies its products—mostly semi-finished products—to companies from various sectors and countries. The analysis of indirect impacts and management of risks along the value chain remains primarily focused on the upstream sector, specifically on the supply chain.

The purchasing principles are based on the Group Strategy 2030+ and the sustainability strategy. voestalpine aims to minimize (potential) negative impacts in the value chain and associated risks for the company.

As part of its supply chain management, voestalpine documents impacts related to labor and human rights, along with other impacts, associated with the activities of suppliers. The company adopts a risk-based approach that takes into account sector-specific and country-specific risks. The focus is on suppliers that produce raw materials and input materials such as ores, alloys and other metals. As part of preparations for the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) requirements, the current due diligence process is to be continuously expanded, and a Group-wide due diligence management system is to be implemented. This includes the development of roles, competencies and responsibilities.

Violations of labor or human rights, such as child or forced labor, can lead to inappropriate or abusive working conditions. Violations may result in penalties, loss of reputation, and the consequent loss of customers. This risk has been classified as material as part of the double materiality assessment (see ESRS 2, IRO-1 disclosure). For an overview of all material IROs, see SBM-3 in chapter ESRS 2. The following table provides specific information on SBM-3:

Topic/sub-topic/ sub-sub-topic	Impact, risk, opportunity (IRO)	Description	Value chain	Time horizon	Affected stakeholders
Worker rights and conditions in the value chain	○ Inappropriate or abusive working conditions in the value chain	voestalpine's value chain may include workers who are exposed to poor or abusive working conditions and discriminatory practices, such as low pay, long working hours, unsafe or unhealthy environments, and forced or child labor.	>>>	●●●●	Workers in the value chain, local communities  Suppliers  Legislators  Local, national, and international authorities

### Key

● Actual positive impact   ● Actual negative impact   ○ Potential positive impact   ○ Potential negative impact   + Opportunity   ! Risk  
 >>> Upstream   >>> Own operations   >>> Downstream   ●○○○ < 1 year   ○●○○ 1-5 years   ○○○○ 5-10 years   ○○○● 10+ years

## IMPACT, RISK, AND OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

### S2-1 – Policies related to value chain workers

As an undertaking, voestalpine is committed to respecting human and labor rights throughout its value chain. This obligation applies not only to its own companies but also to its business partners. Requirements for voestalpine companies and business partners are laid down in the Code of Conduct for Business Partners (CoC-BP), which together with the Due Diligence User Manual (see G1-2), the Human Rights Policy (see S1-1), the Group Procurement Policy, the General Terms and Conditions of Purchase (GOP), and the Sustainable Supply Chain Roadmap forms the basis for responsible cooperation and the fulfillment of due diligence in the value chain.

These voestalpine policies for reducing (potential) negative impacts in the supply chain take into account both legal requirements and international frameworks such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the principles of the UN Global Compact, the International Bill of Human Rights, and the UN Convention against Corruption.

The table below lists the main internationally recognized frameworks for the implementation of human rights and environmental due diligence frameworks with which the specified policies are consistent.

### OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE FRAMEWORKS

Organization	Guideline	Details
United Nations (UN)	UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Basic framework for corporate responsibility and human rights</li> <li>» Guidelines for undertakings, governments, and civil society in their efforts to prevent and manage the risk of negative impacts on human rights</li> </ul>
International Labor Organization (ILO)	Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Competent body for the establishment and respect of international labor standards and the promotion of fundamental rights at work</li> </ul>
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provides practical guidance on key topics such as climate change, biodiversity, technology, business integrity, and supply chain due diligence</li> <li>» Refers to other international standards and to international commitments and regulations (e.g., the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement)</li> <li>» Represents a common understanding between governments and stakeholders of the due diligence framework for responsible business conduct</li> </ul>

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BUSINESS PARTNERS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF PURCHASE (GOP)**

The Code of Conduct for Business Partners (CoC-BP) and the voestalpine General Conditions of Purchase (GOP), which apply to all suppliers, set out a number of criteria for promoting sustainable sourcing and, in particular, ensuring human rights are respected. Any deviation from or failure to comply with internationally recognized frameworks, such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights or the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, can be reported using the established grievance process.

Due to increased legal requirements and the associated reporting obligations, voestalpine standardized its approach to the obligation to prove compliance with human rights and environmental standards for all purchasing activities in 2024 and set forth corresponding requirements in its Procurement Policy. Monitoring compliance with the above-mentioned international frameworks therefore also takes place on the basis of the Group's Procurement Policy.

The current version of the CoC-BP was adopted by the Management Board of voestalpine at the end of the business year 2022/23. This Code defines voestalpine's principles and requirements, and is designed to ensure that the practices of business partners conform to both voestalpine's values as well as the pertinent laws and regulations.

- » Compliance with laws
- » Social responsibility
- » Environment and climate change mitigation
- » Supply chain management
- » Reporting of misconduct
- » Cooperation and participation

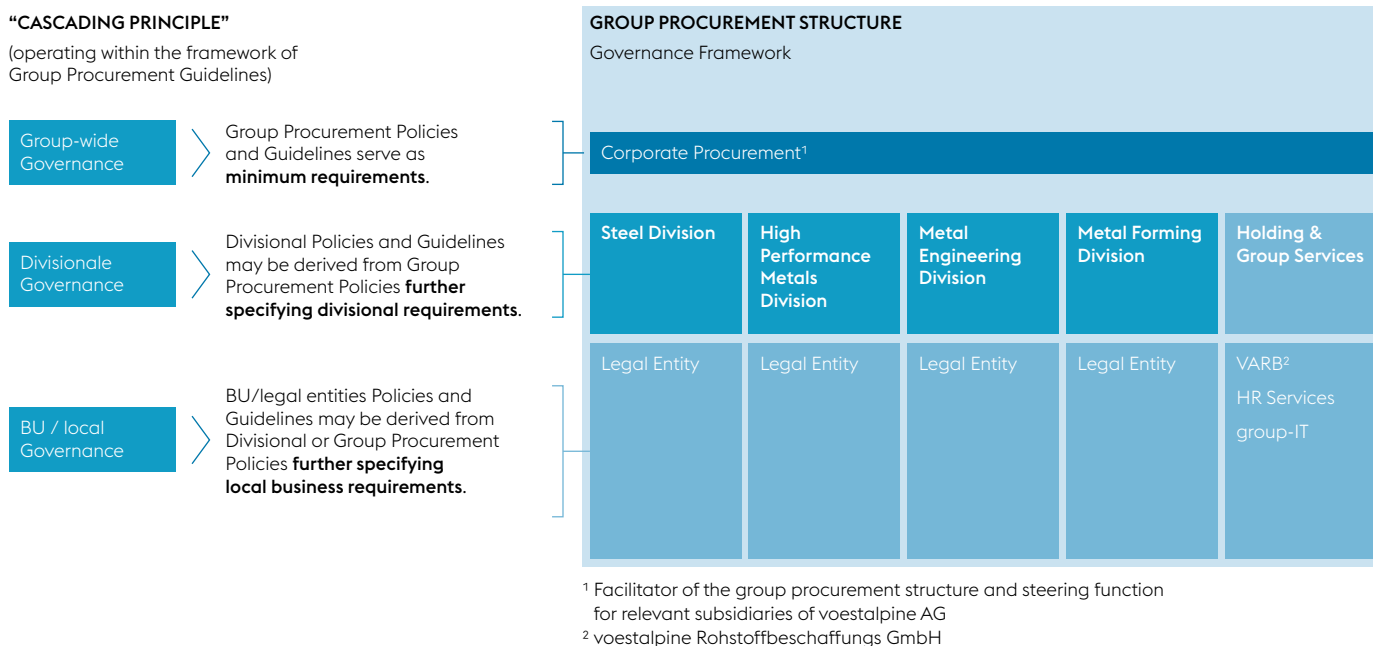
Business partners are required to inform their employees and direct suppliers that they can also report wrongdoing and violations of CoC-BP requirements using the voestalpine whistleblower system.

## **PROCUREMENT POLICY**

Supply chain due diligence obligations and the associated actions to prevent negative impacts on workers are to be implemented within the existing procurement structures. Human and organizational resources are continuously available to assist with this process. Resources earmarked specifically for this undertaking are not currently reported separately.

A clearly defined governance framework has been established for corporate procurement (see figure below), which regulates the dissemination principles and responsibility for implementation within the organization.

## GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR THE GROUP PROCUREMENT STRUCTURE



Procurement governance follows a cascade principle: the Group defines binding minimum standards and specifications at the overarching level. Subordinate organizational units must operate within this framework and comply with the requirements of the respective superordinate level.

The executive management of the respective Group company is responsible for implementing Group-wide and divisional Procurement Policy, adjusting them if necessary to account for local circumstances or legal requirements, and for creating the necessary organizational framework. In addition, each Group company must contain written documentation of the form in which procurement is structured and regulated.

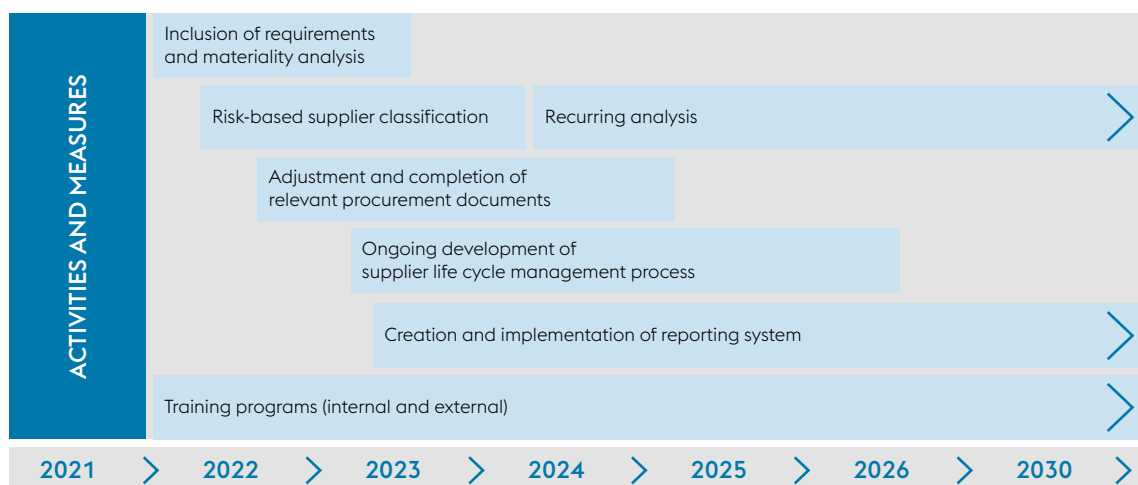
Another key measure related to value chain workers is the integration of the sustainability topic block into the training program of the Group procurement structure (Purchasing Power Academy). For more information, see S1-4.

In accordance with the requirements of the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (LkSG), voestalpine has set up the new role of Human Rights Officer at each affected German voestalpine company. In addition, at Group level, the Head of Corporate Sustainability has been appointed Human Rights Officer of the voestalpine Group.

### SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAIN ROADMAP

A strategic plan has been consistently pursued in recent business years in an attempt to ensure transparency and sustainability in the supply chain, thereby achieving important milestones (see figure) on the roadmap. The strategic plan is regularly reviewed and, where necessary, adapted.

## voestalpine ROADMAP OF SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES



## POLICY OVERVIEW

IROs addressed	Policy	Scope of the policy	Responsibility and monitoring	Other comments
Inappropriate or abusive working conditions in the value chain	Code of Conduct for Business Partners	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent (excl. use by customers, self-pickups)	Responsible: Management Board/executive management  Monitoring and compliance regulations: Compliance organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» The result of numerous conversations and discussions at the level of the Management Board as well as among executive management and department heads of the voestalpine Group</li> <li>» The Code of Conduct as well as the International Bill of Human Rights, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the principles of the UN Global Compact, and the core labor standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO)</li> <li>» Available in multiple languages on the intranet and on the website: <a href="https://www.voestalpine.com/compliance/en">https://www.voestalpine.com/compliance/en</a></li> </ul>
	Due Diligence User Manual	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent (excl. use by customers, self-pickups)	Procurement board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Consider stakeholder analysis in policy</li> <li>» Internal communication to all users</li> </ul>

IROs addressed	Policy	Scope of the policy	Responsibility and monitoring	Other comments
Inappropriate or abusive working conditions in the value chain	Human Rights Policy	Own operations  Own workforce (employees and non-employees)  Upstream value chain (business partners in the upstream value chain)	Head of Group Sustainability	» Available on the website
	Procurement Policy	Upstream value chain  Partial coverage of own operations  Partial coverage of the downstream value chain (excl. use and self-pickup)	Board of Procurement	» Consider stakeholder analysis in policy  » Communication to <a href="mailto:procurement@voestalpine.com">procurement@voestalpine.com</a>
	General Terms and Conditions of Purchase	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent	Board of Procurement	» Consider stakeholder analysis in policy
	Sustainable Supply Chain Roadmap	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent	Board of Procurement	» Consider stakeholder analysis in policy  » Communication to <a href="mailto:procurement@voestalpine.com">procurement@voestalpine.com</a>

## S2-2 – Processes for engaging with value chain workers about impacts

As an undertaking, voestalpine does not currently have a standardized process in place for engaging with value chain workers, apart from the whistleblower system, which can also be used by value chain workers. A corresponding procedure is currently being developed in preparation for the requirements of the CSDDD. In the absence of a formal procedure, value chain workers will be engaged in the event of an incident, such as suspected violations.

## S2-3 – Processes to remediate negative impacts and channels for value chain workers to raise concerns

### EXISTENCE OF A GRIEVANCE PROCESS

In addition to the risk-based due diligence process, voestalpine has set up an anonymous whistleblower system on its website for raising grievances and, if necessary, takes situation-specific action to remedy and compensate for any violations. The whistleblower system is available not only to internal employees, but also to workers in the value chain and other stakeholder groups to report possible violations of legal requirements or internal guidelines—such as voestalpine’s Code of Conduct for Business Partners (CoC-BP).

Business partners also undertake, according to the General Conditions of Purchase (GOP) and the Code of Conduct for Business Partners (CoC-BP), to inform their own employees and direct suppliers about the option of using the voestalpine whistleblower system. The system thus helps to identify potential negative impacts on value chain workers.

Unless there is a legal obligation to set up a whistleblower system, voestalpine recommends that its business partners establish an appropriate system that allows both open and anonymous reporting.

All reports are treated confidentially.

No further action is currently being pursued to inform value chain workers about the ways in which they can report concerns or complaints. At present, no assessment takes place to determine whether value chain workers are familiar with and trust these grievance mechanism structures or practices. voestalpine is working to establish a general mechanism for working with value chain workers to strengthen dialogue and communication in the long term.

Further information on the whistleblower system can be found in G1-1.

In the business year 2025/26, as in the previous year, no reports of violations pertaining to workers in the value chain (e.g., labor and human rights violations) were received via the whistleblower system or other communication channels.

#### **S2-4 – Taking action on material impacts and approaches to managing material risks, and pursuing material opportunities related to value chain workers and the effectiveness of those actions and approaches**

##### **SUPPLIER ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE (SAQ)**

Suppliers classified as potentially high or medium risk are subject to further risk assessment conducted in the form of the Supplier Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ). The SAQ reflects the requirements outlined in voestalpine's CoC-BP and is designed to:

- » Identify actual human rights and environmental risks
- » Obtain information and evidence on compliance with the voestalpine CoC-BP
- » Determine targeted supplier development actions including further reviews of supplier risk such as on-site audits

The SAQ is used to collect information on the following topics:

- » Compliance
- » Human rights and working conditions
- » Environmental protection and climate change mitigation
- » Management of the supply chain
- » Reporting of misconduct

The structure of the questionnaire is based on the requested information and evidence (see table below). This includes: policy documents (e.g., guidelines), documentation on existing management systems (e.g., various ISO certifications), communication information (content and channels), KPIs, and other information on specific issues (e.g., the sourcing of conflict minerals and climate targets).

### SAQ STRUCTURE WITH SAMPLE QUESTIONS AND THEIR PURPOSE

Topic	Sample question	Purpose
Policy/guideline	Does your organization have a formal policy in place (such as a code of conduct) that contains the requirements of the voestalpine Code of Conduct for Business Partners?	Guidelines show that the company is committed to a specific issue and has a policy in place (principles and values, benchmarks, targets, etc.)
Management approach/system	Does your site have an environmental management system in place?	Management systems demonstrate the existence of formal processes
Communication	How do you ensure that your employees are made aware of and comply with your internal guidelines/code of conduct or other guidelines on environmental protection and climate change mitigation?	Communication ensures that the guidelines and procedures are acknowledged, implemented, and observed
KPIs/further information	Has your undertaking set CO <sub>2</sub> emission reduction targets in its own operations and along the supply chain to work towards achieving the targets of the Paris Agreement (1.5°C target)?	Internal KPIs show commitment and verify the implementation of policies

If required, voestalpine assists its business partners with implementing the requirements. Where necessary, training for suppliers or on-site visits are carried out in order to improve their understanding and ensure the implementation of effective improvement measures. This requires the cooperation and participation of the business partners.

### SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT

The engagement and active participation of suppliers and business partners is key to ensuring compliance with the voestalpine Code of Conduct for Business Partners. The due diligence process specifically helps vulnerable suppliers with inadequate sustainability performance to resolve identified shortcomings and taking corrective action. Following up on the performance evaluation helps to better understand and implement necessary changes. This process forms part of voestalpine's broader Supplier Development Program, which aims to continuously improve sustainability performance.

As shown in the table below, supplier training, capacity building, cooperation, and engagement complement suppliers' sustainable development activities.

### OVERVIEW OF SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

Supplier training and capacity building	Helping suppliers improve their practices with training and advice. This may include training on human rights, labor standards, environmental management, and prudent business conduct. Capacity building involves, for example, helping to solve specific issues faced by suppliers through the provision of expertise or supporting with the implementation of sustainable practices
Collaboration and engagement	Collaboration with stakeholders, including suppliers, civil society organizations, industry associations, and government agencies, is crucial when it comes to addressing systemic problems and promoting positive change

voestalpine reserves the right to take appropriate action (remedial and retaliatory) in the event of violations or an unwillingness to cooperate on the part of suppliers, which may ultimately lead to suspension or termination of the supply relationship.

A user-friendly IT system is used to collaboratively communicate with suppliers to collect their responses, analyze the questionnaires, and draw up action plans.

#### **CSDDD—PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

Other key actions related to value chain workers are implemented as part of the CSDDD project realization. The expansion of the due diligence process, including change management for procurement governance and supplier screening, is to be actively promoted.

The conditions required for the expansion of the due diligence process, which was previously limited to companies subject to the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (LkSG), to the whole group and all suppliers are currently being established by voestalpine. A key prerequisite for the Group-wide management of due diligence is the introduction of a comprehensive database that permits systematic risk analysis and management. In a second step, the global harmonization and consolidation of due diligence actions takes place in order to ensure uniform implementation within the Group.

One starting point is voestalpine's existing Supplier Lifecycle Management system. This system involves a multi-stage process to establish, maintain, and develop relationships with suppliers. The focus is on the following aspects:

- » Ensuring supplier and delivery quality
- » Preventing and managing risks and threats
- » Establishing a transparently assessed pool of qualified suppliers
- » Complying with ESG and sustainability criteria

New suppliers are added to the database on the basis of risk and on a gradual basis. Supplier development is evaluated using a conventional supplier assessment. All relevant suppliers are classified as A, B, C, or D suppliers once a year. Depending on the product group, different criteria are included in the evaluation, such as environmental and quality management, social engagement, innovative strength, flexibility, and adherence to deadlines. A and B suppliers enjoy preferential treatment in the procurement process. C and D suppliers are used to define targeted corrective actions that are to be implemented within a defined period of time. The corresponding implementation of the corrected actions is reviewed, for example, in follow-up assessments or in correspondence with the responsible procurement functions.

On the basis of the initial risk assessment, voestalpine specifically requests additional evidence from risk-prone business partners as to the extent to which they meet the requirements of the Code of Conduct for Business Partners. This evidence is provided in the form of the Supplier Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ). Tasks, responsibilities, strategies, management systems, and performance indicators (KPIs) related to the content of the CoC-BP are requested and reviewed by voestalpine.

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIONS

IROs addressed	Action	Time horizon	Scope of the action	Significant expenditure (if relevant)/other comments
Inappropriate or abusive working conditions in the value chain	CSDDD— Project Implementation	April 2025–March 2028	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent	Use of KPIs to monitor the share of sustainable suppliers
	Supplier Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ)	Ongoing	Upstream value chain— and downstream value chain to a partial extent—for high-risk suppliers	Communication to <a href="mailto:procurement@voestalpine.com">procurement@voestalpine.com</a>
	Integration of the sustainability topic block into the training program of the Group procurement structure (Purchasing Power Academy)	Ongoing	Upstream value chain  Downstream value chain to a partial extent  All buyers	Communication to <a href="mailto:procurement@voestalpine.com">procurement@voestalpine.com</a>

## METRICS AND TARGETS

### S2-5 – Targets related to managing material negative impacts, advancing positive impacts, and managing material risks and opportunities

voestalpine set itself the sub-target of reviewing at least 70% of the Group's total procurement volume—including 100% of all relevant raw material deliveries—in line with a defined process for the application of established sustainability criteria by the end of 2025. By the end of the business year 2025/26, it was confirmed that the Code of Conduct had been adopted for 72.5% of the procurement volume (2024/25: 35%). In addition, other suppliers were reviewed in accordance with the sustainability criteria, but are not yet included in specific targets. The overall target for increasing the proportion of sustainable suppliers stems from the sub-target explained above.

Due diligence focuses on suppliers that are more relevant to potential negative impacts to workers in the value chain. These include those at-risk suppliers that are classified as medium or high risk on the basis of the risk analysis, as well as recurring suppliers taking into account the purchase volume. The purpose of reviewing these suppliers is to systematically identify potential negative impacts, for example in relation to respect for fundamental labor rights and human rights. Targeted prioritization of these supplier groups enables effective management of corporate due diligence actions and supports the continuous improvement of sustainability performance in the supply chain.

## TARGET: INCREASING THE SHARE OF SUSTAINABLE SUPPLIERS

<b>KPI</b>	Proportion of at-risk suppliers who accept the voestalpine Code of Conduct for Business Partners	
<b>UNIT</b>	in percent	
<b>BASE VALUE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TARGET VALUE</b>
n.a. 2021	<b>72.5% of the procurement volume</b> Business year 2025/26	<b>100%</b> 2029
<b>Responsibility and monitoring</b>	Board of Procurement	
<b>Scope</b>	Upstream value chain	
<b>Stakeholders</b>	Recurring suppliers (based on order volume)	
<b>IROs addressed</b>	Inappropriate or abusive working conditions in the value chain	
<b>Reference to policy</b>	All policies from S2	

The aim is to reduce risks associated with compliance with regulations, the infringement or violation of human rights, and environmental impacts, while at the same time meeting the defined sustainability criteria.

The review includes the assessment of whether suppliers accept the Code of Conduct for Business Partners and therefore meet the specified sustainability criteria. The sustainability criteria were defined and monitored on the basis of internal analyses and regulatory requirements. Direct engagement of value chain workers or their representatives is not yet envisaged.

voestalpine is aware that simply accepting the Code of Conduct does not imply actual compliance with its requirements. The target is therefore to be understood as a basic prerequisite for management and admittance and will be supplemented in the future by in-depth due diligence measures.

## ESRS S3 AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

This chapter examines the impacts of voestalpine’s business activities on affected communities. It outlines how the interests and needs of these communities are taken into account and the actions being taken to promote positive impacts and address any challenges.

The following table provides specific information on SBM-3:

Topic/sub-topic/ sub-sub-topic	Impact, risk, opportunity (IRO)	Description	Value chain	Time horizon	Affected stakeholders
Affected communities	● Engagement with affected Communities	voestalpine supports charitable causes and works with the communities affected by its activities, involving them in its activities, impacts and plans. In addition, the company contributes to the social and economic development of the communities by creating jobs (Linz, Donawitz, Kapfenberg).  As a reliable employer, voestalpine ensures economic stability in many communities close to its sites.	>>>	●●●●	Local residents  Employees as well as the Works Council and trade unions  Politics (national, international)  Educational institutes and research (NGOs, NPOs)  Special interest and advocacy groups  Energy suppliers

**Key**

● Actual positive impact   ● Actual negative impact   ○ Potential positive impact   ○ Potential negative impact   + Opportunity   ! Risk  
 >>> Upstream   >>> Own operations   >>> Downstream   ●○○○ < 1 year   ○●○○ 1-5 years   ○○○● 5-10 years   ○○○● 10+ years

### IMPACT, RISK, AND OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT

#### S3-1 – Policies related to affected communities

Transparency, honesty, respect, and confidentiality are the key values on which voestalpine basis its dialogue with stakeholders. The principles of cooperation with affected communities are governed by Group-wide guidelines which are also an integral part of the management system at sites and companies exposed to risk.

#### » Code of Conduct for voestalpine’s Lobbyists (Lobbying Code of Conduct)

This code sets out clear and transparent rules for the voestalpine’s lobbying activities. It governs dealings with stakeholders, including affected communities at major sites in Austria, as well as in Europe and on a global scale, in accordance with the Austrian Lobbying and Advocacy Transparency Act. (See G1-1 for more details.)

» **Communications policy**

The policy sets forth the main aspects of voestalpine's internal and external communications. These include fulfilling the notification obligations incumbent on a listed undertaking, cooperating with the media, sponsoring, communicating directly with affected communities using online and social media channels, and how to handle visits by politicians and business delegations. The policy also contains a separate chapter on crisis communication. Supplementary site-specific process instructions are issued with the aim of facilitating a rapid and situation-appropriate response—especially in the event of a crisis. The process instructions regulate the corresponding procedures and responsibilities for external communication.

» **HR Strategy 2030+**

The HR Strategy 2030+ aims to strengthen voestalpine's position as an attractive employer and to make a decisive contribution to the company's competitiveness by acquiring, developing, and retaining qualified and motivated employees in the long term (see S1-1). By strategically anchoring key areas of activity within the Group—such as apprenticeship, health and safety at work, female empowerment, and work-life balance—voestalpine creates a secure working environment that has a positive impact on affected communities beyond the company's borders and contributes to economic stability in the regions where it is based. The economic and social contribution made by voestalpine is published with transparency on its website, as noted in ESRS 2 SBM-3 S3.

As outlined in S1-1, voestalpine is fully committed to upholding human rights in compliance with the International Bill of Human Rights, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Core Labor Standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the UN Global Compact. This is also enshrined in the voestalpine Code of Conduct and in its Human Rights Policy. In the business year 2025/26, as in the previous year, no human rights violations or violations of the aforementioned guidelines and guiding principles were reported.

## POLICY OVERVIEW

IROs addressed	Policy	Scope of the policy	Responsibility and monitoring	Other comments
Engagement with affected communities	Code of Conduct for voestalpine's Lobbyists (Lobbying Code of Conduct)	Own operations External lobbyists	Responsible: Management Board/executive management  Monitoring and compliance regulations: Compliance organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» The result of numerous conversations and discussions at the level of the Management Board as well as among executive management and department heads of the voestalpine Group</li> <li>» Available in several languages on the intranet and on the website <a href="https://www.voestalpine.com/compliance/en">https://www.voestalpine.com/compliance/en</a></li> </ul>
	Communications policy	Own operations	Responsibility and monitoring: Head of Group Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Takes into account communication with external parties (politician visits, press, media relations, social media, etc.)</li> <li>» Available on the intranet</li> </ul>
	HR Strategy 2030+	Own operations All employees  Specific stakeholder groups: women	HR Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Respect for the Diversity Charter</li> <li>» Involvement of stakeholders through environmental analysis and ongoing participation in working groups and competence teams</li> <li>» Communication on employee webpages, on the external podcast, and at Supervisory Board meetings</li> </ul>

### S3-2 – Processes for engaging with affected communities about impacts

voestalpine pursues a comprehensive, structured stakeholder communication strategy across its sites which encompasses both Group-wide processes and direct dialog with local stakeholders. Short-term or unforeseeable occurrences on affected communities are mainly covered by the direct or indirect reporting systems in place (e.g., noise or emissions caused by technical defects or specific operating procedures). For this purpose, regulations for emergency communication have also been implemented at sites exposed to risk. Additional stakeholder activities are planned on a regular basis, typically at the beginning of a calendar year with updates throughout the year, by the relevant departments and Group Public Affairs with the involvement of experts from the companies concerned. Ultimate responsibility for stakeholder dialogues and their approval lies with the responsible chairperson or member of the Management Board. Progress is reviewed on an ongoing basis and the measures revised where necessary.

Taking into account the decentralized, global structure of voestalpine, with the necessary control at Group level as well as the standards in place for stakeholder communication, the process is designed to enable implementation as efficiently, unbureaucratically, and quickly as possible, while ensuring coordinated and consistent communication across all major stakeholder groups. The process described below sets out the previously described working method in which specific activities are developed, coordinated, and implemented.

## PHASE 1: STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

This step determines which stakeholders are affected by potential impacts and, if so, prioritizes their involvement. An example of this is the environmental impact assessment for upgrading the power grids for the first stage of greentec steel (expansion from 110 to 220 kV). Here, the local communities primarily affected and their potential objections were identified at an early stage in order to plan further activities together with authorities and project partners.

## PHASE 2: STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATION

Communication with stakeholders is organized Group-wide as an interdisciplinary function. Group Public Affairs works with Group Sustainability, Research & Development, the Group's energy network, the Works Council, and other parties to ensure a consistent approach toward external stakeholders. To facilitate this, periodic exchanges take place, for example at recurring meetings with the above-mentioned departments. These formats are not only used for internal coordination, but also to reflect on external perspectives: Insights, concerns, and expectations from the dialogue with stakeholders are incorporated into the technical debates and decision-making processes of the participating departments, where they are processed further. These platforms also help voestalpine to assess the effectiveness of working with affected communities.

The following table shows the type and frequency of engagement with affected stakeholders:

Stakeholders	Type of engagement	Frequency of engagement
Local residents	Direct dialogue for questions/complaints (telephone, e-mail) Proactive involvement in larger projects (e.g., projects communicated in advance at information events; media; social media channels)	Event and topic-related
Employees and their representatives	Discussions and communications on the latest transformation topics, policy positions, and shared perspectives and activities; for example, at regular meetings of the Works Council or on an ad hoc basis for certain topics with regard to current social policy aspects	Periodically, e.g., at works council meetings and events at Group or site level with varying frequency
Legislative and executive powers at national and European level (government, EU Commission, parliaments)	Participation in policy-making through topic-based bilateral outreach and peer review processes; participation in working groups, e.g., in ministries and in the framework of the EU Commission (Directorates-General); topic-based exchange with parliaments (e.g., specialist committees and representatives); participation in dialogue formats (e.g., the EU Commission's Strategic Dialogue on Steel, the site strategy, and the Climate-Neutral Industry initiative in Austria)	Event and topic-related
Political think-tanks; academic and research institutions; civil society and NGOs	Dialog maintained primarily within the framework of current topic and working groups (e.g., Austrian carbon management strategy, hydrogen, electricity market)	Event and topic-related
Legal and voluntary lobbying groups at national and European level	Representation in management and specialist committees, participation in the development of positions and lobbying priorities	Periodic (e.g., quarterly Executive Committee and twice-yearly General Assembly at EUFOER) Event and topic-related
Energy industry and energy-intensive industries	Informal exchange on common topics with the energy industry (e.g., electricity market design, hydrogen) Alliances at national and European level with other energy-intensive companies for joint positioning on key policy issues	Event and topic-related

Using the example of the installation of the 220 kV power line, this means that public forums have been set up in which the various stakeholder groups (citizens' initiatives, civil society and individuals) have been able to voice their concern to grid operators, voestalpine, the authorities or local government. The concerns raised were discussed jointly and, where technically possible, taken into account in the further course of the procedure.

In order to train employees with respect to communication with affected communities, voestalpine provides mandatory training on human rights and compliance (see chapters S1-4 and G1-3). Specific training is also available for senior executives on sustainability.

### **PHASE 3: MONITORING AND REVIEW**

The main communication objective of voestalpine is to implement projects on time and in agreement with local residents through transparent and timely engagement of the affected communities and by making changes on the basis of this engagement.

In the case of the greentec steel transformation program, the measures taken were continuously evaluated. Together with the project partners, the authorities, and the departments responsible for stakeholder communication within voestalpine, experts from the greentec steel project team, and the colleagues responsible for administrative procedures, this objective was achieved with the final approval of the environmental impact assessment by the Federal Administrative Court, and implementation of Austria's largest industrial climate protection program started on schedule. At the same time, it was possible to avoid the risk of the tight schedule being jeopardized due to a lack of connection to the grid and complaints from local residents.

#### **S3-3 – Processes to remediate negative impacts and channels for affected communities to raise concerns**

No material negative impacts on affected communities were identified. At the sites in Linz, Donawitz, and Kapfenberg, the company is subject to close regulatory monitoring and public scrutiny. voestalpine has also implemented processes that are specifically geared toward maintaining dialogues with affected communities—such as local residents. If unforeseen events occur during normal production and business activities, these site-specific procedures offer affected parties an immediate opportunity to get in touch and provide feedback. Depending on the situation, this involves examining whether there are any legal reporting obligations or whether an in-depth dialogue with the affected groups is necessary, and which remediation measures can be taken.

#### **PROCESSES AT THE LINZ SITE**

An environmental officer has been appointed at the Linz site since 1985, who is responsible for the legal requirements relating to the protected assets of air, water, soil, and noise. A specially established environmental on-call service therefore ensures that a qualified contact person is available around the clock for environmentally relevant incidents and also for internal and external environmental concerns. Immediate action is taken in line with a site-specific emergency plan together with the task force and, if necessary, the competent authorities are notified.

The on-call service also provides the point of contact for external complaints. Accordingly, any type of complaint will be investigated immediately, action will be taken if necessary, and the complainant will be informed about the status of the complaint if desired. Foreseeable environmental events, such as expected noise or dust emissions, are communicated in advance to the decentralized communication departments and, if necessary, to the media and authorities. External inquiries or complaints

reach the environmental on-call service either through internal bodies—such as the switchboard or factory security—or are forwarded by authorities (e.g., Linz municipal authorities or the Upper Austrian Government).

The environmental on-call service centrally documents all incidents and complaints relevant to the environment and the actions taken. The handling of environmental incidents and complaints as well as the associated documentation is reviewed on an annual basis within the framework of an external audit, which ensures the effectiveness of the implemented processes and reporting channels.

#### **PROCESSES AT THE DONAWITZ SITE**

At the Donawitz site, concerns raised by local residents are channeled through the Legal department, and forwarded to the Management Systems department in the event of complaints. The department works together with the respective operational unit (e.g., blast furnace, steelworks), to undertake an internal root cause analysis and initiate corrective measures, as well as to document the measures in a corrective measures sheet. Feedback to local residents as well as central documentation are managed by the Legal department. The complaints are reported and analyzed internally as part of the management report. The effectiveness of the implemented processes is ensured by an external audit.

#### **PROCESSES AT THE KAPFENBERG SITE**

At the Kapfenberg site, clear responsibilities, structured processes, and permanent accessibility ensure compliance with all environmental and site-relevant requirements. A central unit coordinates all activities relating to air, water, soil, climate and noise, and acts as a liaison with the authorities, internal committees, and external stakeholders. 24/7 availability ensures that the system reacts immediately to environmental events or technical faults. In the event of an incident, measures are taken immediately and, if necessary, the authorities are informed. The central unit also serves as a contact point for external complaints and ensures prompt, transparent handling. All incidents, complaints and measures taken are documented centrally. Operations are reviewed annually through internal and external audits to ensure that processes work, communication is reliable, and improvements are continuously implemented. Through proactive communication, reliable reporting channels, and robust emergency and environmental management, the Kapfenberg site contributes to safe, transparent and sustainable operations and meets both legal requirements and public expectations.

In addition to these site-specific processes, reports can be submitted anonymously using the whistleblower system, which is available in 14 languages. Details on this and an overview of the number of cases can be found in chapter G1-1. Complaints can also be submitted using the general e-mail addresses and contact forms on the voestalpine website and on the websites of the respective divisional subsidiaries.

Another communication channel is the Group's social media channels, which are listed under the following link: [www.voestalpine.com/group/en/media/social-media](http://www.voestalpine.com/group/en/media/social-media). A social media listening tool is used to monitor the Group's own channels and external comments. Responses to users are provided by Group Communications or commissioned agencies according to a defined process. A platform strategy is in place for each social media channel that is geared toward target groups.

There is no systematic survey to determine the extent to which affected communities are aware of the various reporting channels and consider them to be trustworthy. Protection against retaliation measures is regulated in voestalpine's Code of Conduct. More information on the retaliation measures is available in G1-1.

### **S3-4 – Taking action on material impacts on affected communities, and approaches to managing material risks and pursuing material opportunities related to affected communities, and effectiveness of those actions**

Engagement with affected communities at the Linz, Donawitz, and Kapfenberg sites was identified as a material positive impact on affected communities. The focus is therefore on the ongoing expansion of cooperation and dialogue with affected communities in the vicinity of the Austrian voestalpine production sites. Action taken aims to improve early engagement with affected communities in current and planned projects. Due to the Group's decentralized structure, these actions are primarily planned and implemented at the site, company, and divisional level, in each case in coordination with the responsible Group divisions. In addition to executive management at company, divisional, and Group level, the Group Public Affairs, Group Communications, and Legal departments are involved in managing the key IROs.

Examples of effective management in communications with affected communities include the 110 to 220 kV power line expansion (see chapter S3-2) and the construction of the special steel plant in Kapfenberg.

As part of the construction of the stainless steel plant in Kapfenberg, various actions have been implemented to take the perspectives of the affected stakeholders into account at an early stage and to be able to respond accordingly. Before the start of construction, a dialogue office was set up to give local residents the opportunity to obtain information directly and to raise any concerns they have. In addition, a telephone hotline and a separate e-mail address were provided. A dedicated website provided information on the project, supplemented by a local info-point, which included a message box for people without internet access. In addition, information events were organized to enable a timely response to any concerns and suggestions raised by the public.

The actions listed for stakeholder engagement have helped the affected communities to obtain information, raise concerns, and actively participate in shaping the projects. At the same time, uncertainties were reduced and greater acceptance achieved.

In addition to the project-related actions, voestalpine also fulfills its corporate social responsibility throughout the Group. Initiatives in the arts, culture, and sports as well as in the social arena are pursued at the different sites and supported through monetary donations and donations in kind. One special example of this is the voestalpine cares run, which will be held for the fourth time in spring 2026.

#### **voestalpine CARES RUN—“TOGETHER WE MOVE THE WORLD”**

The voestalpine cares run is a Group-wide social responsibility program that motivates employees to engage in joint sporting activities, combining social commitment with health promotion. Based on achieved activity goals, donations of up to a total of EUR 700,000 for social cooperation partners are gradually released via an app.

The funds support selected projects near Austrian and international production sites, including in India, Indonesia, and Ukraine. The projects funded in 2026 with international and national partner organizations focus on promoting access to education, basic health care, and emergency humanitarian aid.

In order to track the lasting positive impact of these donations on the affected communities, voestalpine receives project reports and final reports from the beneficiary institutions in order to be able to review the impact and use of funds for project management purposes.

As an employer, voestalpine also contributes to economic stability in the individual regions in which it is located. Measures in this context stem directly from business activities, such as the personal development and training of employees, a targeted apprenticeship campaign and the BÖHLER CAMPUS, and health and safety initiatives. See chapter S1-4 for more details.

## OVERVIEW OF ACTIONS

IROs addressed	Action	Time horizon	Scope of the action	Significant expenditure (if relevant)/ other comments
Engagement with affected Communities	Site and project-dependent package of measures	Dependent on actions taken	Local residents in the vicinity of voestalpine sites  Production facilities in Linz, Donawitz, and Kapfenberg  Upstream value chain to a partial extent	Integration of various stakeholder interests

## METRICS AND TARGETS

### S3-5 – Targets related to managing material negative impacts, advancing positive impacts, and managing material risks and opportunities

As a result of the largely site-specific and event-related measures to promote positive impacts, apart from the Group-wide strategic goals—in particular in relation to decarbonization and sustainability—there are currently no separate, time-limited, and outcome-oriented targets in relation to affected communities.

Nevertheless, there are indicators to demonstrate successful stakeholder engagement management at voestalpine, such as the evidence of positive economic and social impacts on the environment at its production sites (see <https://www.voestalpine.com/oesterreich/de/>).

In addition, regular audits (internal audit, EMAS audit) are conducted to ensure the compliance of internal processes.

A continuous exchange with all relevant stakeholders ensures that concerns and suggestions can be addressed at an early stage. The success of the described policies and actions is determined by assessing whether voestalpine has achieved the legal certainty and calculability of its strategic targets at the end of the respective projects.