



# Danone Djurdjura Algeria

---

Disclosure Report  
Date Submitted: June 2024



## Disclosure Materials

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- 1) Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

### B Lab's Public Complaints Process

Any party may submit a complaint about a current B Corp through [B Lab's Public Complaint Process](#). Grounds for complaint include:

- 1) Intentional misrepresentation of practices, policies, and/or claimed outcomes during the company's [certification process](#)
- 2) Breaches of the B Corp Community's core values as expressed in our [Declaration of Interdependence](#)

**This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company.**



# Disclosure Questionnaire

## Industries and Products

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company is involved in production or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that apply.		
Animal Products or Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity Impacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Firearms Weapons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Pornography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Tobacco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Energy and Emissions Intensive Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fossil fuels Gambling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Genetically Modified Organisms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Illegal Products or Subject to Phase Out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Industries at Risk of Human Rights Violations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monoculture Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nuclear Power or Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Payday, Short Term, or High Interest Lending	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water Intensive Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tax Advisory Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Outcomes & Penalties

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.		
Anti-Competitive Behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Breaches of Confidential Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company has filed for bankruptcy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consumer Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Labor Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Litigation or Arbitration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-Site Fatality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Political Contributions or International Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recalls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Significant Layoffs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



## Practices

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company workers are prisoners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Confirmation of Right to Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No signed employment contracts for all workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
Sale of Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers paid below minimum wage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers Under Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child or Forced Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Negative Environmental Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Negative Social Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



# Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

## Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Litigation, Arbitration, and/or Penalties

<b>Issue Date</b>	January 2023
<b>Topic</b>	Formal notice related to violation of Algerian Environmental Law (Discharge of hazardous industrial waste water).
<b>Summary of Issue</b>	<p>Danone Djurdjura Algeria (DDA) is the legal entity carrying Danone's operations in Algeria. The company's operations consist of a factory, HQ office and logistic centers.</p> <p>The Akbou dairy manufacturing plant was acquired by DDA in 2006. It is located in the Tahraucht Industrial Zone, at the wilaya of Bejaia (Algeria) had its operations running without a water treatment facility since 2001 when the plant opened.</p> <p>The company has discharged approximately 1,500 m3/day of untreated industrial waste water into the Soumman River until June 20224.</p> <p>On January 15th 2023, the company received a formal notice by the Public Administration (Bejaia Wilaya commission) after a visit of the factory carried out in December 2022 during which non-conformities were observed regarding the factory's water discharges.</p> <p>The formal notice related to the break of Algerian law. n°03-10 released in 2003 on environmental protection. (Loi n° 03-10 relative à la protection de l'environnement dans le cadre du développement durable.)</p>
<b>Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)</b>	Affected communities that depend on the water and resources of Soummam River.
<b>Impact on Stakeholders</b>	The environment (fauna & flora) and surrounding communities of Soumman River.
<b>Resolution</b>	The company committed to build and implement a water treatment plant- STEP (STation d'EPuration des eaux usées). The project started in 2023 and became operational in June 2024. The Public Administration accepted it as a remediation plan.
<b>Management Practices</b>	<p>While the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) was being built, Danone Djurdjura Algeria has put in place several practices to overall reduce the use of water at the plant and the amount of hazardous water discharged. Optimization of production processes enabled to reduce the amount of industrial waste which in turn reduced the amount of discharged water.</p> <p>In line with the project's timeline, Danone Djurdjura Algeria's wastewater treatment plant was inaugurated on the 5th of June 2024, on the occasion of World Environment Day. The treatment plant is located near DDA's dairy manufacturing site located in the Taharacht industrial zone, Akbou, in the Wilaya of Bejaia.</p> <p>The plant had a CAPEX of 5MM Euros, and has a capacity of 2000 m3 and 4800 kg of COD per day, with an efficiency rate of 99,5%. It treats wastewater from Akbou DDA's plant but also from other local companies. It is also worth highlighting that this plant will not only serve DDA but also the local ecosystem by protecting surrounding</p>

	biodiversity and serving local farmers, who will be able to benefit from the treated water. The WWTP is already operational, though it hasn't yet reached its full capacity. This is standard procedure when setting a WWTP in operation : to allow natural biological maturation, the % of water and sludge input gradually increases over time until full capacity can be reached. This process usually takes 3 months.
<b>Report</b>	<a href="#">ALGÉRIE : le français Danone traite désormais ses eaux usées dans la wilaya de Béjaia   Afrik 21</a>
<b>Management Comments</b>	<p>Akbou's production began in 2001 but the factory was not 100% owned by Danone until 2006. In line with Danone's water stewardship commitments, starting in 2006, DDA conducted feasibility studies to eventually set up a water treatment system for the factory in 2011 (at the time it enabled partial treatment of the wastewater). In 2016, the water treatment system's capacity became no longer sufficient to absorb the plant's discharges.</p> <p>Since the shutdown of the water treatment system in 2016, DDA has been working to address the issue with other stakeholders and run the water treatment plant again. Between 2016 and 2019, Danone Djurdjura Algeria led several initiatives to find a common, and thus more impactful solution for the entire industrial zone (Ramdy, Soummam, Agrana). Unfortunately, discussions with other industrial players led to no consensus and outsourcing the service to a third-party specialist was made impossible due to local regulation's restrictions - hence why DDA decided to fund and build its own WTP.</p> <p>Danone is the first company in the region to have proactively and privately invested in a WWTP, showing leadership and commitment to the environment in a country lacking the appropriate public infrastructure. In the region, there is no WWTP for any water discharge, industrial or domestic.</p>
<b>Related Incidents (Yes/No)</b>	No



# Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

## Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Recalls

<b>Issue Date</b>	March 1, 2020
<b>Topic</b>	Recalls due to alleged use of expired raw materials for the preparation of yogurts
<b>Summary of Issue</b>	<p>Danone Djurdjura Algeria reported one recall in the last five years due to allegations of expired raw materials in the yogurts in its former Blida factory. The accusations against the company were made by the Blida Trade Department, which determined the factory should be sealed.</p> <p>The company refuted the accusations and affirmed that its products were compliant with its internal quality procedures and the Algerian regulations.</p>
<b>Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)</b>	<p>There was no mandatory recall imposed by the local authority. To reassure its consumers, following the incomprehensible climate of doubt that has arisen, the company carried out a recall on the product "Trèfle Tartise à verre" containing the "biscuit" flavor.</p> <p>Danone Djurdjura Algeria declared that they recalled all products (bottles of TARTISE 1kg ) from their distributors' stocks and their own as a precautionary measure. This represented 0.29% of the company's annual production.</p> <p>There was no penalty/fine imposed on the company as no breach of food safety was attested after the investigation conducted by the authorities.</p>
<b>Impact on Stakeholders</b>	<p>The raw materials in question were not expired since they were not subject to a DLC (shelf life date) but to a DLUO (best use date). There would therefore have been no food safety risk in using them, only a less pronounced taste of the aroma in question. In addition, there was no impact on food safety or taste since the raw material had been removed from our stocks and therefore not used in our finished products.</p>
<b>Resolution</b>	<p>Early 2020, for economic reasons, DDA decided to rationalize its operations in Algeria and close the Trèfle factory - located in Blida Wilaya district, acquired 5 years earlier. Despite being communicated well in advance, and with a stakeholder engagement process, the decision generated some understandable disappointment within the stakeholders, including local authorities. On March 3rd, 2020, the day after the announcement, trade officials visited the factory and believed to have found stocks of out-of-date raw materials. Though the products were clearly marked and set aside for destruction by the factory employees, and production line wasn't operational at the time of the visit (it had been decommissioned since 7th of November 2019), the trade officials requested to seal the factory as a precaution, to make light of the intended future use of the products. On the 7th of March 2020, after an audience with the Algerian Minister of Trade, where the misunderstanding was resolved and Danone cleared of any wrong-doing, the seal was lifted, and the factory was cleared and allowed to resume operations. A few days after the ministerial decision, the Trèfle factory in Blida officially closed, as initially planned and communicated by DDA. Employees were dismissed through voluntary agreements and in concertation with the Unions. As of today, the Trèfle plant's facilities are still DDA's property but are now dormant assets.</p>



<b>Management Practices</b>	<p>In this particular case, there was no Food Safety &amp; Quality failure, as attested by the authorities when Danone was cleared and the factory seal lifted without any penalty. The local Blida authorities exerted caution and suspended access to the factory during the time of the investigation, in the best interest of consumers - once the misunderstanding was investigated and cleared, the factory officially and permanently closed, as planned. There was no resuming of operations of any kind.</p> <p>Danone strives to always put food safety and quality first, to best serve its consumers. The company continues to regularly review, update, and test those processes, in Algeria and in any country where Danone operates. In addition, since 2020, Danone's operational manufacturing site in Algeria has been FSC 22000 certified, an international certification in food safety management. The company's food safety commitments were most recently updated in 2022 and are publicly available on their <a href="#">website</a>.</p> <p>- Danone Djurdjura Algeria shared communications with stakeholders to clarify the issue. See the Report section of this disclosure documentation.</p>
<b>Management Comments</b>	<p>- According to the company's press release (March 5, 2020): "Danone Djurdjura Algeria considers the recent allegations from the Blida trade department to be erroneous and the envisaged sanctions to be completely disproportionate."</p> <p>- On its statement to consumers, the company shared that "does not under any circumstances use raw materials whose date has expired"</p> <p>- The company also shared to B Lab Global that the authorities deliberately misled consumers by referring to the danger of Danone by using expired products in order to harm Danone's image following its decision to close the plant. Its decision to withdraw products from the market and not challenge the authorities on this point is more to reassure its consumers but the company nevertheless wanted to specify in its press release that there was no wrongdoing on the part of Danone and that the authorities' accusations were unfounded.</p>
<b>Related Incidents</b>	<p>The CBU has not had a product recall in the last 5 years. The scrapped products were stored in the company's warehouses, it was not a recall that removed products from the market.</p>
<b>Report</b>	<p>- <a href="#">Statement to consumers (March 14, 2020)</a></p>