# YORK'S Business model

#### INPUTS

available to York



#### NATURAL CAPITAL

Utilise available land optimally by considering the practices of stratifying soil types, rainfall, temperature and accessibility. Selecting breeding material for superior growth, wood properties, tolerance against pests and diseases. Employing forest engineering practices to ensure products are extracted and delivered to mills in a cost-balanced manner.



#### MANUFACTURED CAPITAL

To convert available raw material for specific market requirements cost-effectively by utilising processing capacities optimally.



# INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL

Encourage open and transparent dialogue emphasising strong inter-divisional links to create an intellectual debate for enhancing performance across all capitals of the business.



# **HUMAN CAPITAL**

Vibrant workforce that see their effort as a path to mastery. Each employee has a career path and the opportunity to develop to their full potential within York.



# SOCIAL CAPITAL

Communities are our employees' foundation to prosper. We subscribe to a work-life balance and an integrated growth model with all stakeholders.



# FINANCIAL CAPITAL

Engage openly and transparently with financial institutions to secure working capital for sustainable growth. Create long-term sustainable growth in shareholder value.

#### YORK'S VISION IS TO

#### **CREATE VALUE FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS**

York has extensive, sustainable forests providing raw material to its processing facilities. This is supplemented from external sources. It employs people with growth mindsets, and efficient technology and methods to deliver its value-added products and services to its customers in the most efficient and timely manner.



#### THROUGH OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS

# **LUMBER**

#### Cost optimisation

Increase Jessievale capacity to be balanced with the available raw material. Integrate sawmilling operations in the Escarpment.

# **PLYWOOD**

#### Perform at capacity

Balance plant capacity to specific market segments.

Reduce supply chain costs for exports.

### **FORESTRY**

#### **Optimising operations**

Invest in tree breeding based on focus areas. Integrate forest engineering processes.

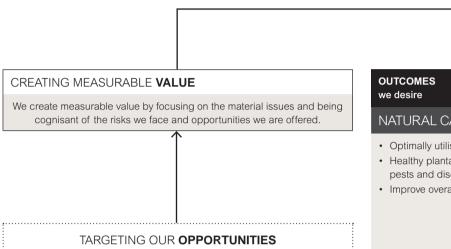
### WHOLESALE

#### Improved frequency of sales

Improve the customer experience.

WE CONTINUALLY ENHANCE OUR BUSINESS MODEL TO CREATE VALUE FROM

THE CAPITALS THAT WE EMPLOY IN THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY.



## **LUMBER**

Increase market share by 4% and improve product mix produced.

#### **PLYWOOD**

Increase export sales to 18%. Demonstrate York's quality products compared to imports. Manufacture products for specific market segments. Maintain throughput at targeted output.

# **FORESTRY**

Improved planning across all operations. Optimal site-specie matching.

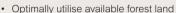
## DRYMILL

Limit the product range. Integrate this division with the processing plants and the wholesale distribution system.

### WHOLESALE

Provide a product offering suitable for customer needs in volumes and quantities as required.

#### NATURAL CAPITAL



- · Healthy plantation by proactively managing pests and diseases
- · Improve overall tree growth

# MANUFACTURED CAPITAL



- Overall plant equipment efficiencies above 75%
- Increase productivity with strategic capital

# INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL



- · Instil the York core value system
- Embed a growth mindset within all employees
- · Emphasise performance collectively as a team

# **HUMAN CAPITAL**



- · Have proficient and relevant HR policies
- · Communicate openly and transparently to all employees
- · Keep people accountable for their performance
- Encourage active participation in training and developing own skillset

#### SOCIAL CAPITAL



- · Family social structures must be maintained
- Assist service delivery to secure basic needs of our staff and communities

# FINANCIAL CAPITAL



- · Lower cost of debt
- · Meet financial covenants
- · Uphold high levels of corporate governance and financial reporting standards
- Deliver sustainable capital growth and investing in cash flow accretive investments

# **CAPITAL TRADE-OFFS** IN OUR ACTIVITIES

Capital reduced in creating value

Capitals enhanced through value creation





Via extensive research partnership programmes, the nursery develops high-yielding tree species and hybrids aimed at optimal site-specie matching and wood quality. Seedlings are dispatched to plantations after five to eight months.

# **FORESTS**

**NURSERY** 

Capital reduced in creating value

Capitals enhanced through value creation









York's sustainable forests are maintained according to industry-leading silviculture practices. York's silviculture regimes vary between compartments, depending on site quality. Pruning regimes are implemented from two to eight years, during which a compartment is pruned to a height of seven metres. Thinning regimes are implemented from 6,5 to 11,5 years during which higher site qualities are thinned up to three times. Clearfell ages range from 18 to 24 years.

# **EXTERNAL LOG PURCHASES**

Capital reduced in creating value

Capitals enhanced through value creation









The shortfall in supply from York's own plantations is sourced from various sustainable external sources.

# PROCESSING FACILITIES

Capitals reduced in creating value





Capitals enhanced through value creation









York has four sawmills and a plywood plant with various timber treatment facilities.

# THERMAL AND **ELECTRICAL ENERGY**

Capital reduced in creating value



Capitals enhanced through value creation







Various operational by-products such as prunings, pulp and defect logs, bark, chips, off-cuts and other mill by-products are salvaged as inputs to generate energy for own use and resale.

# WAREHOUSE AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

Capital reduced in creating value

Capitals enhanced through value creation









Customer needs are met through eight distribution warehouses.

#### Capital reduced in creating value



Capital enhanced through value creation

# **CUSTOMER BASE**

Customers are supplied directly from the mills or via the warehouses. Customers include:

- · Truss plants
- · Corporate and independent retailers
- · Remanufacturers
- Furniture manufacturers

- · Construction contractors
- · International agents, traders and retailers

# **EIGHT-YEAR**FINANCIAL REVIEW

Audited		2012 to 2019	Audited 2019	% change	Restated Audited 2018	Audited 2017	Audited 2016	Audited 2015	Audited 2014	Audited 2013	Audited 2012
Group revenue	R'000	5	1 600 522	(12)	1 812 350	1 832 805	1 771 049	1 543 149	1 323 976	1 131 994	1 112 843
Gross profit	R'000	1	460 355	(17)	552 631	497 502	500 566	404 415	377 945	410 298	421 519
Gross profit margin	%	(4)	28,8	(6)	30,5	27,1	28,3	26,2	28,5	36,0	38,0
Operating (loss)/ profit	R'000	(194)	(106 314)	(154)	196 045	151 369	182 933	144 021	116 811	161 365	166 068
Operating margin	%	(189)	(6,6)	(161)	10,8	8,3	10,3	9,3	8,8	14,0	15,0
EBITDA	R'000	1	204 668	(28)	283 666	246 101	240 048	199 390	156 262	187 153	194 726
EBITDA to revenue	%	(4)	12,8	(18)	15,7	13,4	13,6	12,9	11,8	16,5	17,5
Net profit before finance costs	R'000	(14)	106 856	(61)	272 271	599 038	390 032	196 272	123 531	192 834	303 395
Finance costs	R'000	(2)	77 537	(8)	84 325	88 595	56 632	58 385	56 440	54 672	87 308
Cash flow from operations	R'000	2	223 822	(21)	283 173	169 979	284 963	182 574	151 461	106 486	197 088
Biological assets	R'000	6	3 154 557	8	2 918 550	2 828 518	2 334 327	2 140 067	2 103 092	2 100 870	2 070 222
Interest bearing borrowings Investment in	R'000	3	683 436	(15)	804 595	912 302	894 145	743 360	562 616	597 173	558 400
property, plant and equipment	R'000	12	81 170	25	64 680	154 258	283 241	203 288	66 169	51 958	36 340
Net working capital	R'000	4	161 517	(30)	230 155	245 991	162 685	219 485	213 182	180 446	119 372
Basic (loss)/ earnings	R'000	(183)	(36 268)	(126)	138 280	367 286	238 212	101 468	50 994	106 864	137 818
Weighted average number of shares	Number	(1)	317 439	_	316 874	317 209	325 286	331 032	331 241	331 241	331 241
(Loss)/earnings per share	cents	(183)	(11)	(126)	44	116	73	31	15	32	42
Core earnings per share	cents	(7)	8	(70)	26	17	31	21	16	26	13
Headline earnings											
per share	cents	3	50	9	45	116	73	29	14	33	42
EBITDA per share Net asset value	cents	1	64	(29)	90	78	74	60	47	57	59
per share Tangible net asset	cents	6	980	(1)	990	943	809	731	703	688	655
value per share	cents	9	862	6	809	765	635	559	531	516	484
Underlying TNAV	cents	8	1 134	7	1 061	1 007	834	739	708	692	657
Return on equity	%	(179)	(1,2)	(127)	4,4	12,3	9,0	4,2	2,2	4,7	6,4
Total cost External log	R'000	7	1 499 024	(7)	1 616 305	1 681 436	1 588 116	1 399 128	1 207 165	970 629	946 775
purchases	R'000	11	261 728	30	201 723	269 982	140 887	210 886	182 086	146 305	122 203
Cost excluding log purchases	R'000	6	1 237 296	(13)	1 414 582	1 411 454	1 447 229	1 188 242	1 025 079	824 324	824 572
Cost as % of revenue	%	1	77,3	(1)	78,1	77,0	81,7	77,0	77,4	72,8	74,1

<sup>\*</sup> Underlying TNAV represents the tangible net asset value adjusted for the deferred tax related to the biological assets, which will only become payable after York ceases re-establishment or sale of plantations.

# OUR VALUE

# CREATION MODI



# What we want to do NATURAL CAPITAL

STRATEGIC GOALS

Enhance the quality of the biological assets to ensure extraction of optimal value on a sustainable basis

MATERIAL ISSUES What we need to do

Refine tree breeding processes

Value extraction from harvested volumes Deliver products to mills on a cost-balanced basis **RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES** 

We expect to encounter

- Proactively manage pests and diseases · Long-term log supply from external sources
  - Threat of fire, pests and diseases
  - Erroneous site-specie matching
  - - Introduction of technology to control and manage forestry operations more effectively
    - Produce wood properties suitable for structural and industrial



#### MANUFACTURED CAPITAL

Improve operating efficiencies, upgrade outdated technologies, increase throughput and consolidate poor-performing facilities to maximise value creation

- Extract optimal value from raw material
- Maintenance of equipment, utilisation of machine capacities
- Using technology to identify wood properties suited for the required market segments

Enhance nursery ability to produce quality hedges and cuttings

Forest planning and forecasting/ sustainability/ database management

Refine drying techniques to ensure product stability



- Capital intensive
- Weakening of the Rand for imported equipment
- Sub-optimal extraction of value from raw material



- Offset currency fluctuations with earnings from exports
   Consolidate marginal equations Consolidate marginal operations and adding technology to extract maximum value from available raw material
  - · Increase processing capacities in the Highveld



#### INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL

Encourage dialogue to stimulate intellectual debate so that performance throughout the business can be enhanced

- Big data management
- Develop ability to analyse data Apply scientific methodology to unstructured data
- Machine learning capabilities Enhance decision-making tools



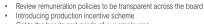
- Outdated enterprise resource planning (ERP) system
   Repeated continuous of the continuous of t
- Repeated capturing of the same data
- Spreadsheet thinking
- · Lack of analytical skills
- Refine the art of making sound decisions based on a scientific approach to understanding/interpreting the underlying data Enhance domain expertise with further integration of business



#### **HUMAN CAPITAL**

Attract and retain new talent, develop and stimulate a growth mindset within York

- Create a professional and stimulating business culture in line with the core values of York: Connectivity; Commitment; Integrity; Innovation and Responsibility
- 0
- Political agenda of unions and unrealistic expectations
  - HR practices that are inadequate



Get to the hearts and minds of our employees



#### SOCIAL CAPITAL

Being mindful of the greater community affected by our operations and contributing to its upliftment

- · Develop a sustainable community-based model
- Creating unrealistic expectations
  - Fulfilling the role of local government

- Active engagement with local and provincial governing bodies to improve commitment to service delivery Communication and community forums
- Assisting with training and education



# FINANCIAL CAPITAL

Create sustainable value for our shareholders

- Illustrate the value of biological assets
- Show consistency in cash generation



Share price is not reflective of the net asset value of the Company



· Explore alternative investor base/profile



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

For more information on our engagement with stakeholders, refer to page 12.

# WE CREATE MEASURABLE VALUE BY FOCUSING ON THE MATERIAL ISSUES AND BEING COGNISANT OF THE RISKS WE FACE AND OPPORTUNITIES WE ARE OFFERED.





STRATEGIC RESPONSE What we did	OUTPUT What we produced	KEY ACHIEVEMENTS How we measure the results
Acquired inbound fleet     Initiated research and development projects across various elements of the forestry value chain     Fire detection camera system upgraded     Invested in firefighting equipment     Monitoring programmes to detect early infestation and to record damage     Produced crossings of pure species for optimal response to the site and market requirements     Ensured that felled trees are optimised to the right product category	Developed a forestry health index on a regional basis Part of the international SNP chip evaluation of pine and genome profiling of pine at FABI. Entered into agreement to determine genetic profile of various pines and hybrids to improve selection of crosses Nursery capacity was expanded Improved LogTrace integration to MicroForest and ERP system to continually improve control within the value chain	Noticeable decline in damage to plantations caused by pests and diseases (J.48% from FY2018) York acquired external hedges and cuttings while increasing internal capacity with suitable breeding material Logs rejected by processing plants remained the same from FY2018, at an average of 5% Accurate delivery of product mix to designated processing plants at 94% Inbound transport costs reduced by 7%
Volume recovered above industry norm Plant intake in line with planned capacities with safety margin above industry norms Investment in upgrading of equipment to improve efficiencies improved overall plant maintenance with plant availability at industry norms Continuing to target value recovery as key indicator of profitability Expansion of export market Introduction of moisture sensors throughout process X-ray scanning to identify poor wood properties	Produced a product mix as required by the market Monitoring of quality defects and responding with corrective actions Various technology upgrades across operations	Target value margin for: Sawmilling operations – 44% (impacted by log prices). Target is set at 45% Plywood – 38% (impacted by glue and high log prices). Target is set at 42% Overall equipment efficiency of 75% Measure wood properties for modulus of elasticity, modulus of rupture, % moisture, South African Technical Auditing Services grading
Continuous data collection, storage and management Final stages of new ERP system implementation Supply chain system – sales/customer analysis Harvesting slicer/LogTrace Infrastructure connectivity Condition monitoring of equipment Heat/steam recovery Forestry – soil depth profiling, geo-referencing and improved tree characteristics measurement in plantations Participation in the Pine SNP Chip project Forestry site database including soil, climatic and topology Tree breeding database including genomics Road utilisation and maintenance database Enhancing control measures throughout the business	Efficient supply of raw material to mills     Tight stock control – limited losses     Frequency of sales/sales patterns tracked/responsive to customer needs     Raw material supply analysis     Increased fibre volume and timber quality     Identification of genes linked to traits of interest – ultimate capability to do molecular breeding/genomic selection	Quality of decision-making     Review and reflect     Response time     Predictive capabilities     New ERP system implementation
Restructured the HR division Strengthened management team to proactively engage with unions Refocus on training of staff at all levels of the business Recruitment and promotion processes enhanced Acquired HR specialised skills at the various operations	On-site problem solving of HR-related issues in accordance with York policies and procedures Improved job profile and establish the correct grade of positions Staff appointed with the responsibility to allow them the opportunity to build a career Remunerating staff at market-related rates	Vibrant workforce Structured engagement with unions Role clarity and understanding of expected performance Implement structured approach to remuneration anomaly
Uplifting learners and supporting local schools and clinics in the Highweld and Escarpment     Supported local communities with skills transfer     Prevented Eskom from interrupting planned electricity supply to the entire Thaba Chweu Local Municipality	Delivered on the triple bottom line of social, environmental and financial value Maintained a close relationship with all our stakeholders Prevented planned electricity interruptions by Eskom during the time of year-end school exams (learners) and festive season (tourism)	Community social well-being     Healthy and supportive workforce     Collaborative environment and better understanding of each other's challenges
Integrated annual report as the key stakeholder communication material     Investor roadshows     Reduced debt, with a focus on cash flow     Self-insurance fund	Won the CSSA award for best integrated annual report in the AltX/Fledgling category four years in a row Gearing reflects cash generative profile Improved biological assets value due to sustainable forestry practices Rebuilt the Jessievale mill warehouse, improving storage space and throughput Unqualified external audit and continuous independent internal audit assessment	Share price to reflect net asset value of the Company     Cash efficiency ratio of 9%     Financially sound and stable

# PERFORMANCE AND TARGETS FOR 2020

The lead page of each of the capital sections contains the KPIs for the past four years and the targets for 2020 based on a rolling three-year forecast.