

January 2024

## K+S Aktiengesellschaft

# **Capital Market Conferences**

**Dr. Burkhard Lohr** CEO

Nathalie Frost
Senior IR Manager

Dr. Christian H. Meyer

**CFO** 

**Esther Beuermann, MBA** 

Senior IR Manager



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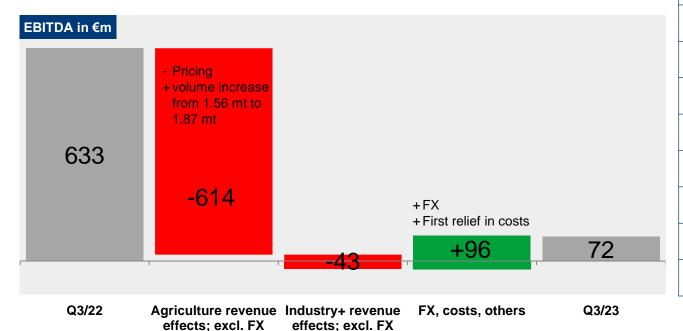
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## Q3/23 EBITDA decreased after record 2022

## Highlights

- Q3/23 EBITDA at €72m (Q3/22: €633m); not yet reflecting price increases, mainly in Brazil, after finally having seen turning point at the end of Q2
- Agriculture sales volume up at 1.87 mt (Q3/22: 1.56 mt)
- Q2/23 adj. FCF at **€55m** (Q3/22: **€**580m)



## **Financials**

€ million	Q3/2022	Q3/2023	%
Revenues	1,470	881	-40
t/o Agriculture	1,163	621	-47
t/o Industry+	307	260	-15
EBITDA	633	72	-89
Scheduled D&A	111	115	+4
Adj. net profit	379	-24	_
Adj. EPS (€)	1.98	-0.13	_
ROCE (LTM; %)	30	8	_
Operating cash flow	656	174	-74
Adj. FCF	580	55	-91
Capex	115	149	+29

# **ASP** development in Agriculture customer segment

		2021	Q1/22	Q2/22	Q3/22	Q4/22	2022	Q1/23	Q2/23	Q3/23
Revenues	€ million	2,272.1	944.1	1,244.2	1,162.8	1,114.6	4,465.6	820.4	557.0	620.7
Europe	€ million	950.9	349.9	543.0	372.0	406.8	1,671.6	340.1	231.9	300.1
Overseas	USD million	1,562.5	666.5	746.5	796.3	722.3	2,931.6	515.3	353.9	349.0
Potassium chloride	€ million	1,349.3	625.3	849.2	779.5	722.5	2,976.5	504.6	348.0	382.5
Fertilizer specialties	€ million	922.8	318.8	395.0	383.3	392.1	1,489.2	315.8	208.9	238.2
Sales volumes	million tonnes eff.	7.62	1.79	1.87	1.56	1.89	7.11	1.73	1.67	1.87
Europe	million tonnes eff.	3.23	0.76	0.84	0.55	0.66	2.81	0.62	0.59	0.86
Overseas	million tonnes eff.	4.39	1.03	1.03	1.01	1.23	4.30	1.11	1.08	1.01
Potassium chloride	million tonnes eff.	4.69	1.11	1.18	0.95	1.20	4.44	1.10	1.11	1.19
Fertilizer specialties	million tonnes eff.	2.94	0.69	0.69	0.61	0.68	2.67	0.63	0.56	0.68
Average price	€/tonne eff.	298.0	527.0	663.9	744.5	592.2	628.1	474.2	333.5	331.4
Europe	€/tonne eff.	294.4	462.1	640.7	675.9	617.7	594.1	548.3	390.5	349.2
Overseas	USD/tonne eff.	356.0	644.3	727.2	787.3	585.6	682.4	464.2	328.9	344.3
Potassium chloride	€/tonne eff.	287.9	565.3	718.9	822.7	602.1	670.4	458.7	313.5	321.3
Fertilizer specialties	€/tonne eff.	314.2	465.0	570.2	623.9	576.6	557.8	504.0	373.0	348.9



## **Continued positive environment**

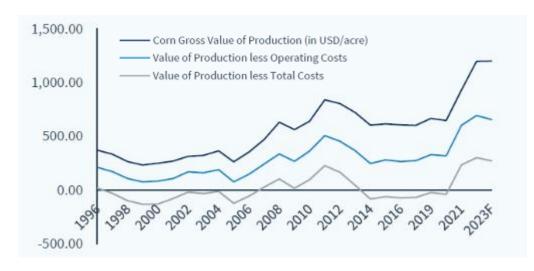
#### Farmer profitability at historically high level

#### Price development of agricultural commodities since 01/2020

# 220 200 180 160 140 120 100 80 01 04 07 10 01/21 04 07 10 01/22 04 07 10 01/23 04 07 10

Source: Worldbank

#### US corn farmer profitability in USD/acre since 01/1996

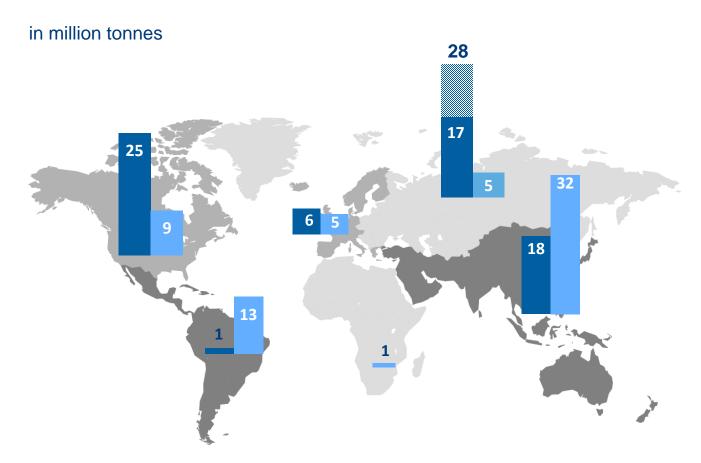


Source: USDA, Kepler Cheuvreux



- Sharp increase in crop prices significantly exceeds higher input costs; leading to farmer profitability at all-time highs in some regions
- Potash costs only account for ~5% of total input costs

## World potash production and sales volumes by region



- Even before limitation of Russian exports and sanctions against Belarus, the potash market was fully used at capacity limit.
- Until 2021, Russia's Uralkali and Belarus each accounted for approx. 16% of global potash production (28 mt in total). Most of the future capacity expansions (11 mt) would have come from these producers.
- 28% of global wheat exports come from Russia and Ukraine.

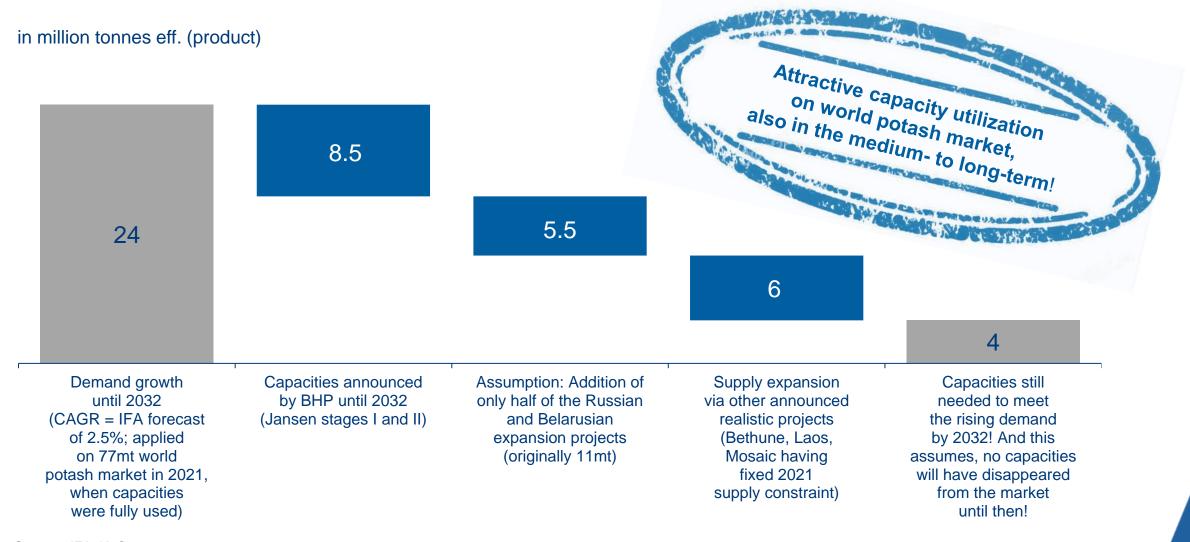
World potash production 75.3 mt 77.9 mt 67.0 mt

World potash sales volume 77.3 mt 77.0 mt 64.7 mt

Sources: IFA 2022 preliminary, K+S

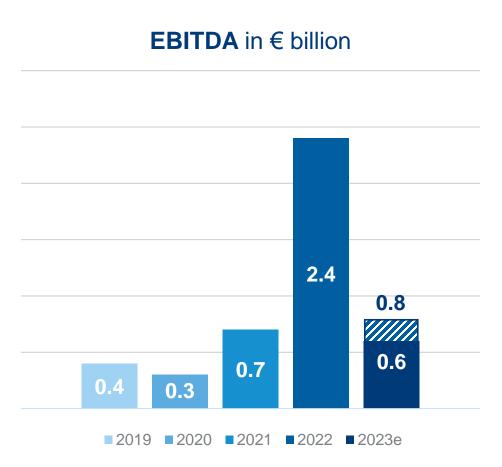
Basis: Year 2022 - incl. Potassium sulfate and low-grade potash

# New potash capacities needed to meet rising demand!



Source: IFA, K+S

## 2023 outlook confirmed! \*



- 2023 EBITDA still expected to range between
   €600 million and €800 million
- Adjusted free cash flow still expected to range between €300 million and €450 million, based on €550 million of capex
- Agriculture customer segment:
  - FY average price moderately to tangibly higher compared to Q3/23 incorporated in guidance (Q3/23: 331 €/t)
  - Sales volumes to range between 7 mt and 7.4 mt (2022: 7.1 mt)
- Cost increases of a double-digit million euro amount especially for energy, personnel, and materials; mainly inflation-related

<sup>\*</sup> as of November 14, 2023

## **New distribution policy**

## K+S sets guiding principles for attractive shareholder participation



Shareholder participation in K+S's corporate success will generally be based on the adjusted free cash flow (operative, excluding special effects). This key figure already takes into account the investments to optimize our existing business in terms of total shareholder return.



K+S aims to return 30% to 50% of the adjusted free cash flow generated annually to shareholders. Capital is returned in the form of a dividend, which can be combined with a share buyback, if applicable.

The possible combination of both instruments also aims to counteract large fluctuations in the annual dividend.



The following factors are applied in determining the exact **percentage**:

- + Expected business development
- + Balance sheet structure + Expected development of

capital expenditure

K+S wants to maintain a strong balance sheet and generally strives for a maximum leverage ratio (net debt/EBITDA) of 1.5x.

Shareholder participation in the company's success		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Capital repayment per no-par value share eligible for dividend payment	€	0.25	0.04	-	0.20	2.00
- thereof dividend	€	0.25	0.04	-	0.20	1.00
- thereof share buyback		-	-	-	-	1.00



## Housekeeping items / Financial calendar

#### Additional information on 2023 FY outlook – continuing operations

Tax rate: 30%CapEx: €550m (2022: €404m)

Cash interest: ~ €-30m (2022: €-53m)
 D&A: ~ €450m

#### **Financial calendar**

Commerzbank/ODDO BHF German Investment Seminar, New York – CEO	January 8-9, 2024
ODDO BHF Forum 2024, Lyon – IR	January 11, 2024
UniCredit/Kepler Cheuvreux German Corporate Conference – CFO	January 16, 2024
Annual Report 2023	March 14, 2024



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## **K+S Conspect**



The roots of the K+S Group date back to the **middle of the 19th century**. At that time, miners in Germany exploited the world's first potash deposits and started fertilizer production.

Today, the K+S Group is an internationally oriented raw materials company with production sites in Europe and North America.



#### K+S Group financials Q3/2023

**Revenues EBITDA** €880.8 million €72.2 million

Adjusted free cash flow €54.6 million

**EBITDA** margin

8.2%





K+S strives for **sustainability** and acknowledges its responsibility towards people, the environment, communities, and the economy in the regions in which it operates.

The claim is to enrich life for generations and to be a pioneer for environmentally friendly and sustainable mining.





## **Board of Executive Directors**



**Dr. Burkhard Lohr**Chief Executive Officer
Mandate until May 31, 2025



**Dr. Christian H. Meyer**Chief Financial Officer
Mandate until March 14, 2026



**Dr. Carin-Martina Tröltzsch**Member of the Board
Mandate until February 19, 2026

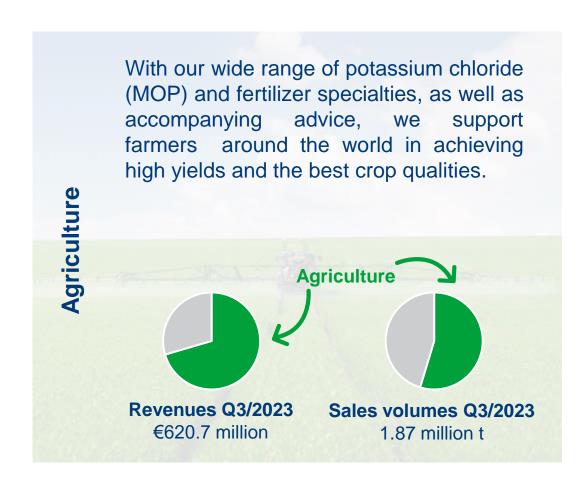


Christina Daske
Labor Director
Mandate until December 01, 2026

For current information on the responsibilities of the individual members of the Board of Executive Directors, please refer to our bylaws which can also be found on the K+S website at: <a href="https://www.kpluss.com/executivedirectors">www.kpluss.com/executivedirectors</a>

## K+S at a glance

#### **Customer segments (no segments according to IFRS)**





## Important megatrends and their implications



Global population in 2030 Today: 8.0 billion

40%

of the population suffers from water scarcity in 2030

**70%** of water used for agriculture



0.2 °C

Average global warming per decade

# 2/3 of the world's population

belong to the middle class in 2030
2015: 14% of the
world's population

#### Implications for K+S

- Arable land shrinking
- Yield needs to be improved
- Higher efficiency of fertilization and irrigation needed
- Plants have to be more stress resistant
- Infrastructure needs to be improved
  - → focus on renewable energy
- Growing population, especially in Asia, needs more salt for various purposes

Sources: United Nations, 2017; World Population Clock of the Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (dated July 2022); "Global temperature change" from James Hansen et al. (September 25, 2006); World Water Report 2021 of the UNESCO; James Davies, Rodrigo Lluberas and Anthony Shorrocks, Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook 2015

## Why use fertilizers?

#### "The Natural Laws of Husbandry", Justus von Liebig, 1863

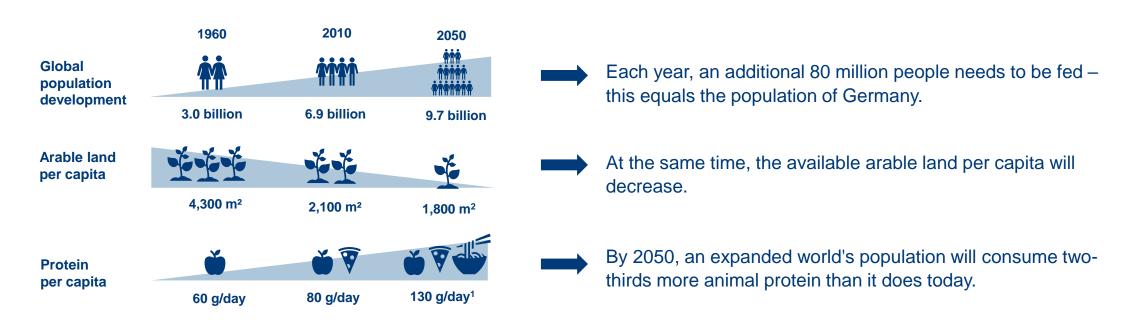


"The growth and yield of a plant is limited by the nutrient available in the smallest amount."

- Plants need sunlight, water, and minerals to thrive.
- There are few soils on earth which have a sufficient content and availability of **plant nutrients** to achieve **high yields** over a longer period without fertilization.
- Potash is an indispensable addition to the natural nutrient content of arable soils.
- The deprivation of nutrients by harvesting and other factors must be compensated by **balanced fertilization**.

## Long-term key drivers for our fertilizer business

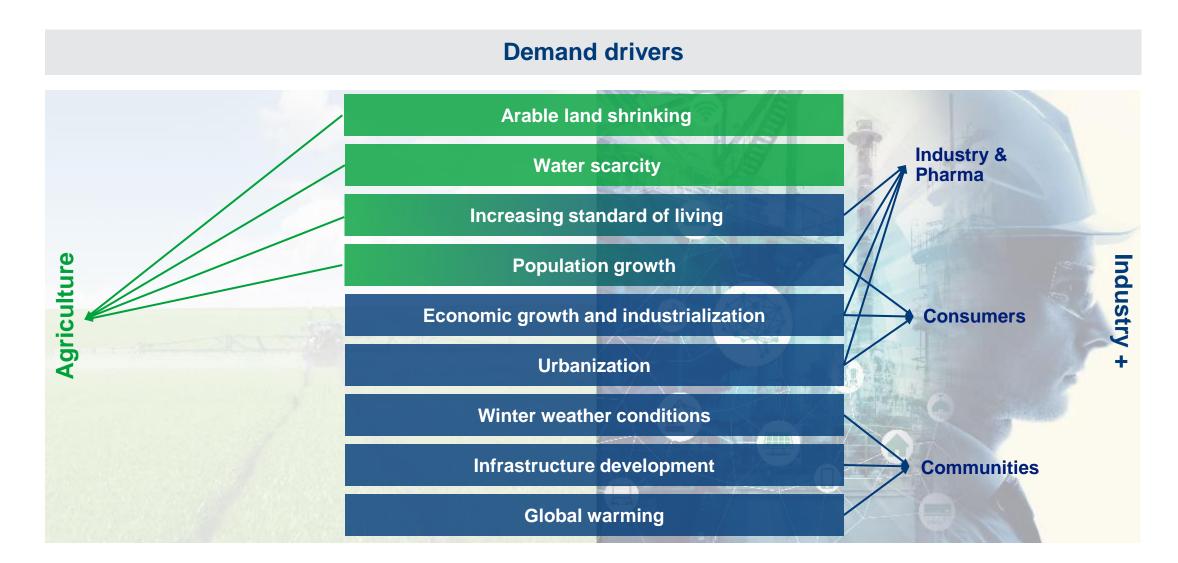
#### Less arable land – but more protein consumption per capita



In 2050, only roughly 25% of a soccer field will be available for a person's annual food supply – 80% of the future growth in agricultural commodity production will result from increases in yields. This is achieved through the use of balanced fertilization.

Source: UN, World Population Prospects, 2022 Revision, UNDP, 2013; FAOStat 2014; 1 FAO 2014 - Forecasts based on expected increase in animal protein

## **Long-term demand drivers**



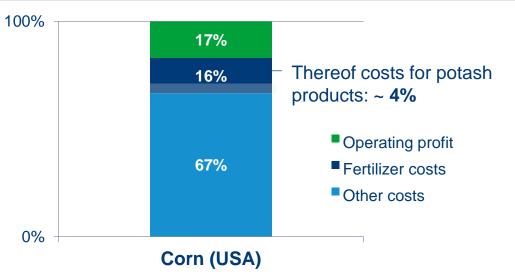
# Farmer profitability of corn (USA)

#### Expenditure for potash products of an agricultural farm: approx. 4% of the total cost



The earnings prospects should give the agricultural industry sufficient incentive to increase the yield per hectare by using plant nutrients.

#### Profit potential in % of revenues



## Guiding principles of strategy and management focus



#### **Financial ambitions**

- Earn cost of capital over a 5-year cycle
- At the same time, an EBITDA margin of > 20% is aimed for over this cycle
- Striven leverage (net debt/EBITDA): maximum 1.5x



# Optimize the existing

#### **EBITDA** impact: around €30 million p.a.

#### **Agriculture**

- Increase of marketing in USA ex Bethune
- Increase of trading business in Middle East, China and India
- Improved leveraging of local sales network

#### Industry+

- Focus on potash product groups for industrial product sales
- Capacity expansion of high-purity salts
- Optimization of de-icing salt setup

#### **Supply Chain**

- Warehouse and network optimization for European salt logistics
- Optimization of warehousing
- Improved use of infrastructure

#### **Bethune**

- Long-term ramp-up to up to four million tonnes of capacity
- Improvement of cost position
- Increase in granulated products



#### **Zielitz**

- Improvement of the cost position
- Optimization of maintenance
- Increase in energy efficiency
- Increase in KaliSel production capacity



#### Werra

- Optimization of product mix and production volumes
- Optimization of maintenance
- Increase in energy efficiency
- Increase in granulation capacity for potassium sulphate



#### **Neuhof-Ellers**

- Improvement of the mineral content through AI
- Increase of the granulating capacity of kieserite





EBITDA impact: around €50 million p.a. from 2023

# Werra 2060 – Securing a sustainable future

70 %

#### How do we want to achieve this?

Innovations in extraction and production

- Unterbreizbach and Wintershall sites: Focus on wastewater-free processing methods
- Unterbreizbach mine: Expansion of secondary mining operations (drill and blast)
- Hattorf-Wintershall mine: Introduction of secondary mining (drill and blast)
- Unterbreizbach and Hattorf-Wintershall mines: Dry backfill utilization
- Hattorf plant: Continued operation unchanged for the time being

Methods already tested or in use on other sites!

Future-oriented product portfolio

- New processing methods in Unterbreizbach and Wintershall have an energy-saving effect with CO<sub>2</sub>-reduction, and also change the product portfolio:
- Further development of specialties portfolio with unchanged production volumes
- Increase in share of round granules
- The products become more competitive under cost, sustainability, and quality criteria.

Reduction in environmental impact

Reduction solid residues:
by 8 to 7 million t eff. p.a.

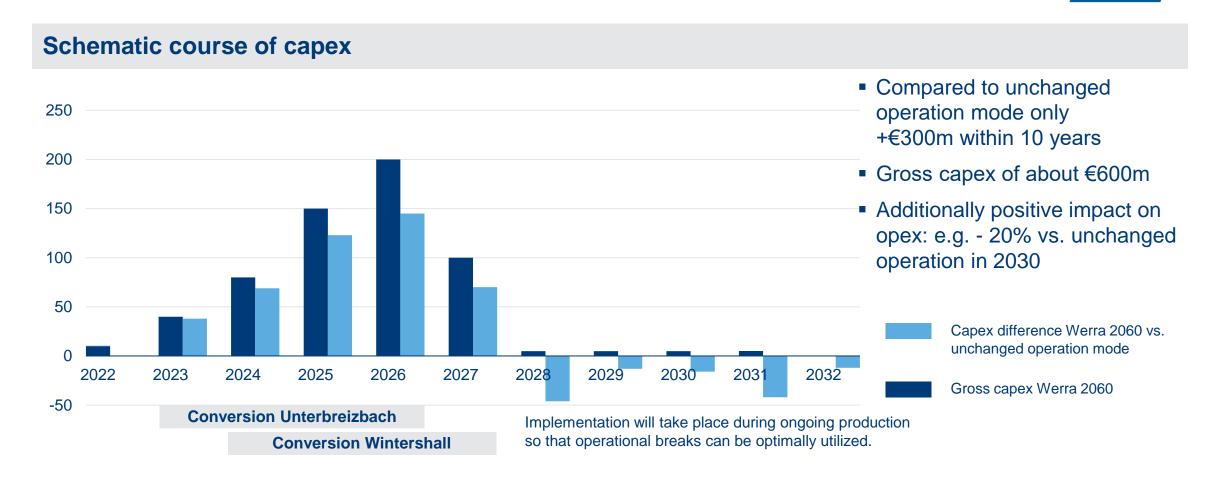
▶ avoiding tailings pile expansion
Wintershall beginning of the 2030s

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduced by 190kt to 650kt p.a.; Reduced steam requirement: higher flexibility regarding the energy source



# Capex: Werra 2060







Capex amortization period: < 10 years (as of today)

## **Grow the core**

#### We enable farmers to achieve greater economic success



#### **Expansion of the portfolio**

- Fertilization
- Micronutrients
- Biostimulants
- Concepts for soil health
- Further additions to the portfolio

#### Logistic access

- Circular economy
- Last Mile Distribution

#### **Digital sales**

- Agronomic services
- Digital sales channels (e.g., web shops)
- New digital business models
- Direct access to the farmer

## **New business areas**

#### Subsequent use of existing assets and development of new business areas

#### Renewable and green energy

- Increasing use of renewable energies (wind, sun) at our sites
- Use of available space at our sites
- Research into the production and use of green hydrogen

#### Waste management and circular economy

- Underground recovery, underground storage
- Extraction of valuable minerals from waste streams (e.g., magnesia)

#### Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

- CCS: underground storage (solid and gaseous)
- CCU: se for the production of biomass or as a raw material for basic chemicals

#### Reuse of our mines

 Research into alternative uses for agriculture or as a production area for biotechnology

Mines

Caverns

Tailings piles

Land

Technical/structural infrastructure

Technological know-how

Agronomic know-how

## **Performance Indicators**

#### **Key Financial Performance Indicators**

The Company's activities are managed based on the following key financial performance indicators, which are the most important financial performance indicators within the meaning of the German Accounting Standards (DRS) 20:

- EBITDA
- Group earnings after tax, adjusted
- Capital expenditure
- Adjusted free cash flow
- Return on capital employed (ROCE)
- Net financial liabilities (incl. financial lease liabilities)/ EBITDA
- Net debt/EBITDA

#### **Non-financial Performance Indicators**

Performance indicators and target values in sustainability management were defined for the K+S Group in 2018. Since the 2020 financial year, we have also managed the Company using the non-financial indicators stated below. These have formed the basis for part of the long-term incentive (LTI) as a variable component of the Board of Executive Directors' as well as all LTI-entitled employees' remuneration since 2020. They are the key non-financial performance indicators within the meaning of the German Accounting Standard (DRS) 20.

- Lost Time Incident Rate (LTI rate¹)
- Reduction of saline process water in Germany
- Sustainable supply chains, specified by the performance indicators "Proportion of critical suppliers aligned with the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group" and "Coverage of purchasing volume by the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group"

Other financial and non-financial performance indicators that are relevant for the K+S Group include revenues, sales volumes, average selling prices, and number of employees. However, these figures are not considered financial or non-financial key performance indicators within the meaning of German Accounting Standards (DRS) 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The so-called LTI rate measures occupational accidents with lost time in relation to one million hours worked.

## **Performance Indicators**

Key Financial Performance Indicators		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	9M/23
EBITDA	€ million	606.3	640.4	444.8	1,067.3	2,422.9	550.2
Group earnings after tax, adjusted	€ million	85.4	77.8	-1,802.5	2,182.4	1,494.0	153.1
Capital expenditure	€ million	443.2	493.2	526.0	334.3	403.8	347.2
Adjusted free cash flow	€ million	-206.3	139.7	-42.2	92.7	932.0	328.2
Return on Capital Employed (ROCE)	%	2.6	2.3	-22.8	42.9	25.7	8.3
Net financial liabilities (including financial lease liabilities)/EBITDA (LTM)	x-times	5.3	5.4	7.8	0.7	_ 1	_ 1
Net debt/EBITDA (LTM)	x-times	7.3	7.1	10.5	1.7	0.3	0.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There are no longer any net financial liabilities as of December 31, 2022.

Non-Financial Performance Indicators <sup>2</sup>		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Lost Time Incident Rate	LTI rate	-	10.4	8.8	11.3	8.3
Saline process water in Germany	million m <sup>3</sup>	-	3.5	2.9	3.3	2.3
Sustainable supply chains, specified by the performance indicators "Proportion of critical suppliers aligned with the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group" and "Coverage of purchasing volume by the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group"	%	-	23.2	77.4	86.6	89.6

<sup>2</sup> Yearly numbers.



## **Distribution policy**

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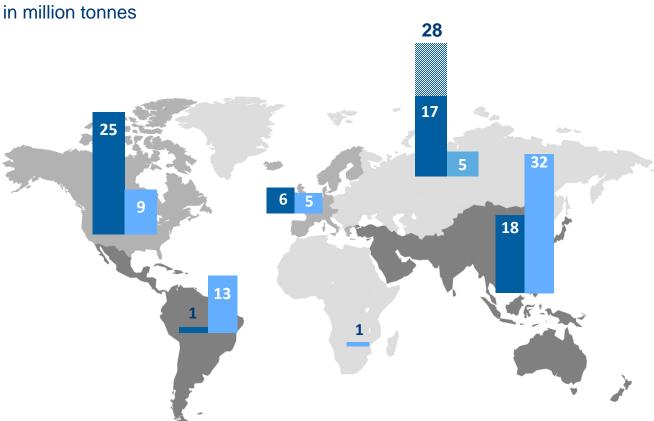


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## World potash production and sales volumes by region



- Even before limitation of Russian exports and sanctions against Belarus, the potash market was fully used at capacity limit.
- Until 2021, Russia's Uralkali and Belarus each accounted for approx. 16% of global potash production (28 mt in total). Most of the future capacity expansions (11 mt) would have come from these producers.
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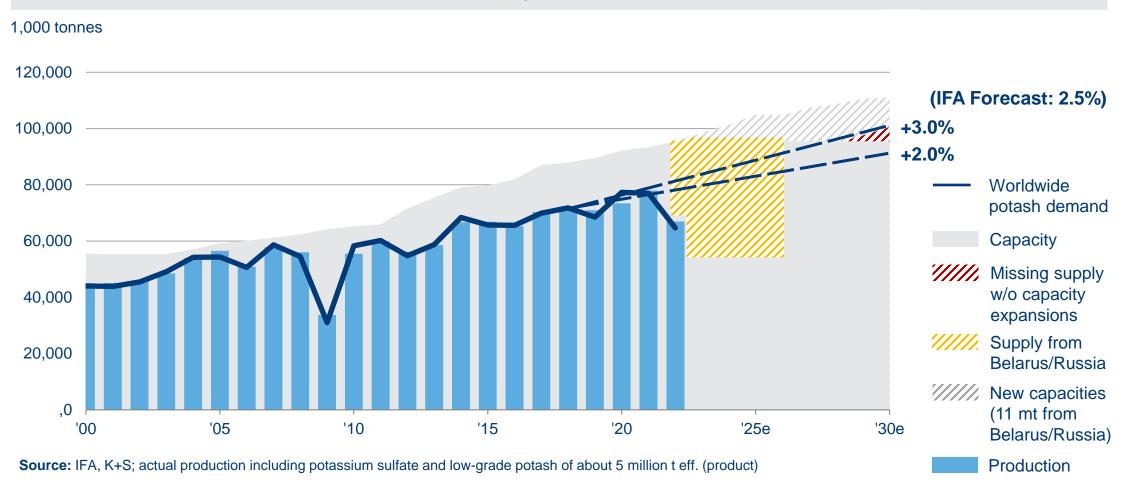
	2020	2021	<b>2022</b> preliminary
World potash production	75.3 mt	77.9 mt	67.0 mt
World potash sales volume	77.3 mt	77.0 mt	64.7 mt

Sources: IFA 2022 preliminary, K+S

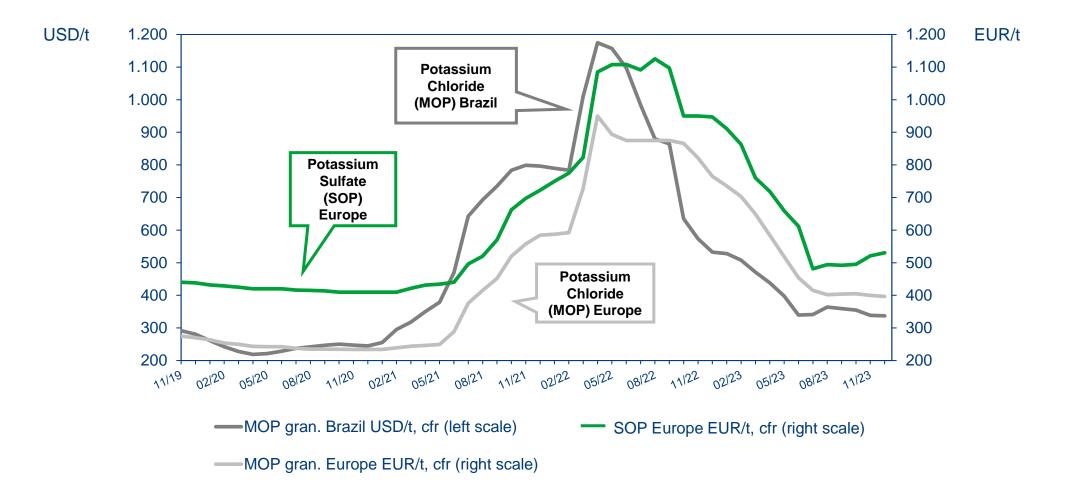
Basis: Year 2022 – incl. Potassium sulfate and low-grade potash

## Increasing demand for potash

#### New potash capacities needed to meet rising demand

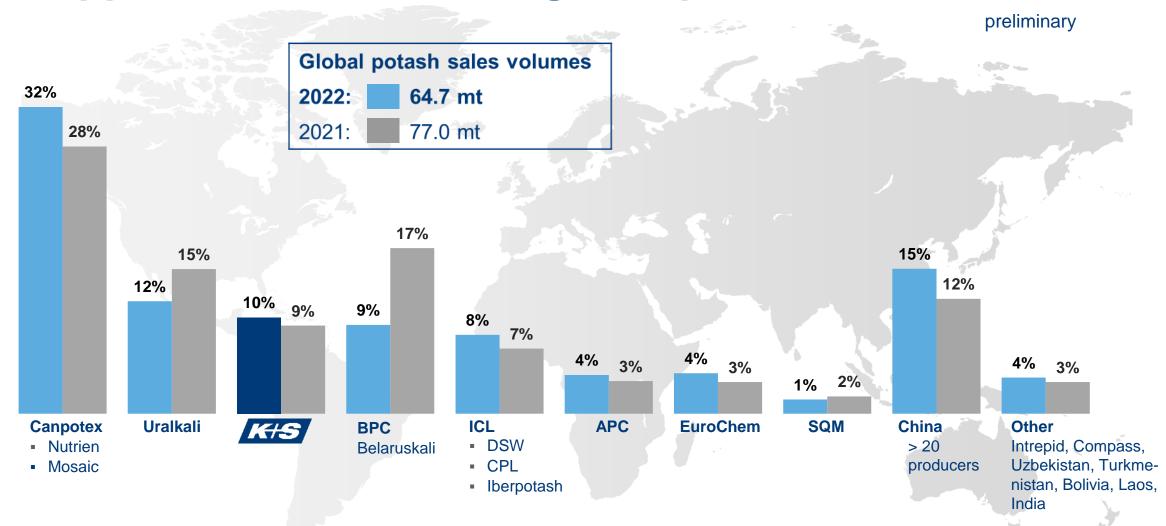


## Potash price development



Source: FMB Argus Potash

# Supplier structure on the global potash market 2022



Source: IFA 2022 preliminary, K+S, company data

Basis: Year 2022 - incl. Potassium sulfate and low-grade potash

## Between desire and reality

## Classification of potash projects announced since 2006 (Greenfield)

**Announced** projects

Various greenfield projects planned in Thailand, Laos, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Canada, USA, Brazil, and Argentina, among others. Companies involved include BHP Billiton, K+S, state-owned companies, and new, start-up companies.



Reasons for project cancellation



Current projects in ramp-up

**K+S** accelerates annual ramp-up at Bethune to 150,000 t (2022: good 2 million t, target: 4 million t per year). Since H1/2020, **EuroChem** has been producing potash at one of two Russian mines.



**Source**: World Potash Developments, Mark D. Cocker & Greta J. Orris, 2012

## **Continued positive environment**

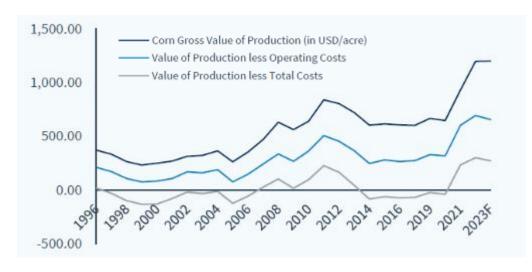
## Farmer profitability at historically high level

#### Price development of agricultural commodities since 01/2020

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Source: Worldbank

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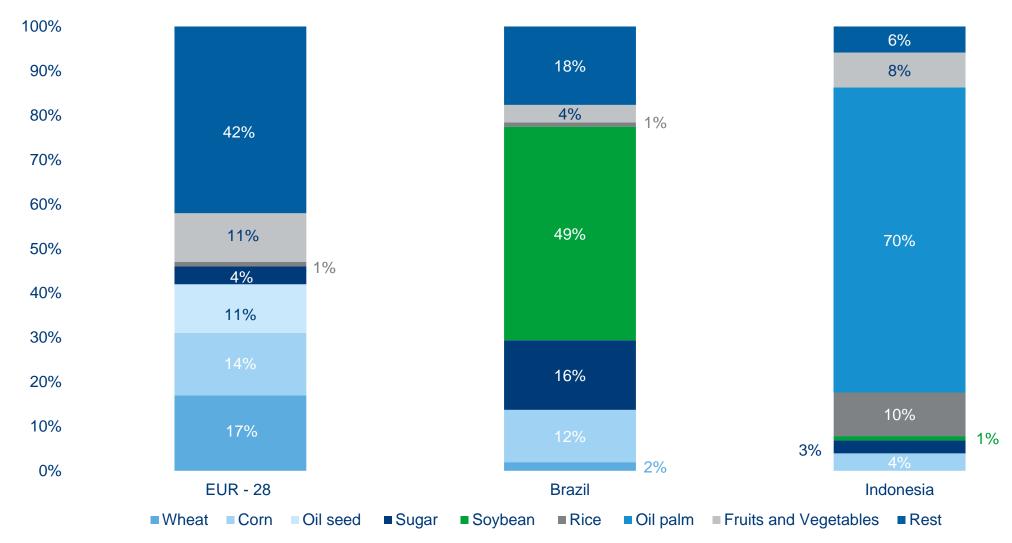


Source: USDA, Kepler Cheuvreux



- Sharp increase in crop prices significantly exceeds higher input costs; leading to farmer profitability at all-time highs in some regions
- Potash costs only account for ~5% of total input costs

## Potassium use by crop in selected countries



Source: IFA, "Fertilizer Use by Crop" based on data from 2014, published 2017



# Global potash sales volume by region

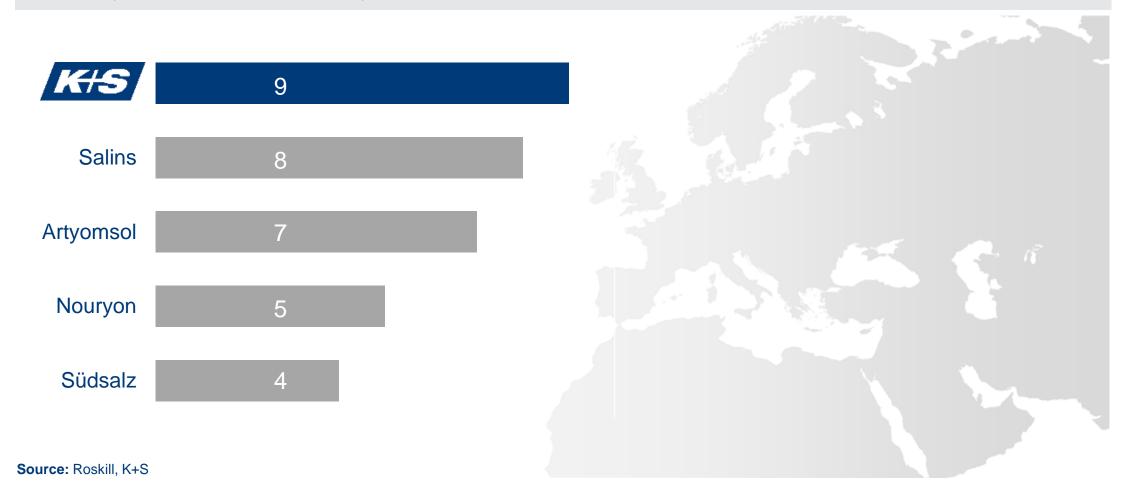
million tonnes	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Western Europe	5.6	5.8	6.2	6.0	5,9	6,2	6,2	6,0	6.2	6.5	5.0
Central Europe/FSU	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.2	5.3
Africa	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.4
North America	9.1	9.7	11.8	9.5	10.9	11.2	11.5	9.8	11.7	12.4	9.2
Latin America	10.5	11.0	11.9	11.5	12.2	12.7	13.7	13.5	15.8	17.2	13.0
Asia	23.4	26.2	32.4	32.3	30.1	32.5	32.6	31.6	35.7	32.0	30.2
- thereof China	12.0	13.8	16.7	18.5	16.2	16.2	16.3	17.8	19.5	16.3	17.2
- thereof India	2.8	3.5	4.5	4.1	4.0	5.0	4.5	4.5	5.4	3.3	2.6
Oceania	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6
World total	54.8	58.7	68.4	65.7	65.6	69.9	71.8	68.5	77.3	77.0	64.7

Incl. potassium sulfate and low-grade potash of around 5 million tonnes eff.; Sources: IFA, K+S



## Supplier structure on European salt market

Capacity in million tonnes (crystallized salt and salt in brine; excl. captive use)

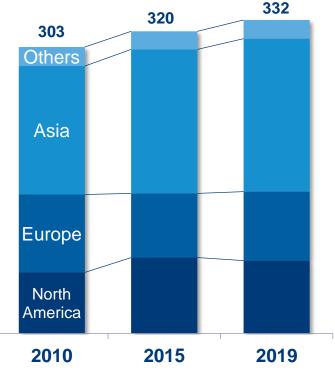


K/S

## Development of salt consumption and production

#### **Consumption (in million tonnes)**

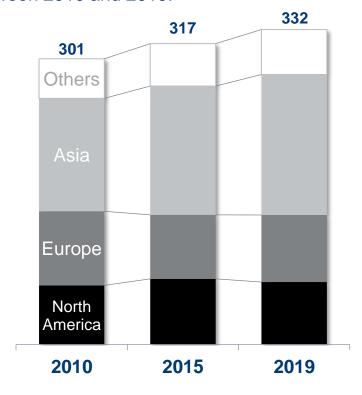
Between 2010 and 2019, global consumption increased by about 0.90% yoy to a record 332 million tonnes.



Source: K+S, Roskill

#### **Production (in million tonnes)**

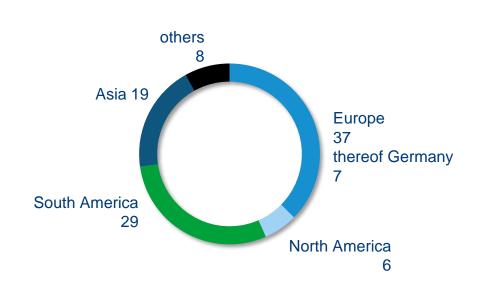
World production reached a record of more than 330 million tonnes in 2019. It increased by an average of 1% yoy between 2010 and 2019.





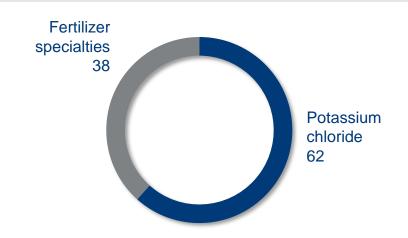
## Agriculture customer segment at a glance

#### Revenue split by region 2022 (%)



in € million	Q3/2022	Q3/2023
Revenues	1,162.8	620.7
Sales volumes (million tonnes)	1.56	1.87

## Revenue split by products Q3/2023 (%)



#### **Characteristics**

- Close proximity to our most important customers as a logistical advantage
- Shipments to overseas customers at competitive costs from Hamburg harbour
- Solid and long-term customer relationships
- Broad specialty portfolio provides flexibility and stability, partly following different trends and seasons

## Our ingredients of natural origin





## **Further information on our products:**

www.kpluss.com/fertilizer







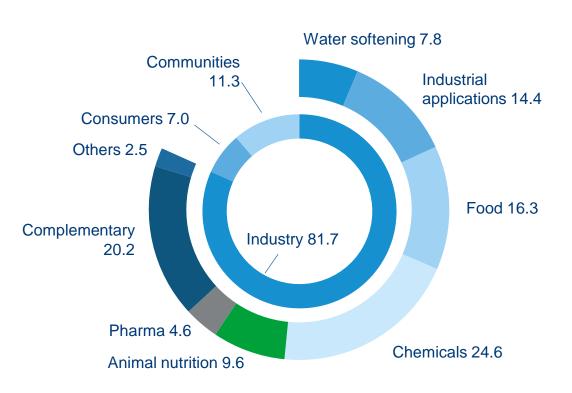
## Industry+ customer segment at a glance

#### **Characteristics**

- Emerging markets: Growth, especially in Asia, leads to increasing demand for electrolysis.
- Electrolysis and specialties: Focus on product quality, service and proximity to the customer.
- Pharma: High quality standard, certified, innovative, and overarching customer focus as well as reliability.
- Consumers: Strong brands in table salt, water softening salt, pool salts, and de-icing salt.
- Communities: Public road construction authorities, winter road clearance service providers and large commercial users procure de-icing salt from K+S largely through public tenders.

€ million	Q3/2022	Q3/2023
Revenues	307.1	260.1
Sales volume (mt)	1.68	1.55
- thereof: de-icing	0.48	0.44

#### Revenue split by products 9M/2023 (%)



## Main areas of application

#### Chemical

- Chlor-Alkaliprocesses (PVC)
- Polycarbonates and MDI (isocyanate) (plastics, synthetic resin)
- Synthetic Soda ash (glass)



#### Food processing

- Food processing industry
- Baking industry
- Condiment and preservative agent
- Preserving of fish



#### **Pharma**

- Infusions, dialysis solutions
- Pharmaceuticals



#### Oil and Gas

Drilling fluids



- Animal feed
- Lick blocks



#### Water softening

- Water softening
- Water treatment



#### Complementary

- Waste management and recycling
- Granulation of Catsan® for Mars GmbH
- CFK (Trading)



#### Others

- Dyeing works
- Leather treatment







## Adding value along our entire supply chain

**Exploration** 



Our potash and salt deposits came into being millions of years ago. They are either our property or we have corresponding rights or approvals that allow the extraction or solution mining of the raw material reserves.

Mining



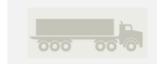
We extract raw materials in conventional mining below ground as well as through solution mining. We also use the power of the sun and extract salt by evaporating sea water or saline water.

**Production** 



The refining of raw materials is one of our core competencies. Above ground, the crude salt is processed in complex, multi-phase, mechanical, or physical processes, with the natural properties of the mineral remaining unchanged.

Logistics



The long-term securing of freight capacity is of strategic importance to us. A large part of our international transportation volume is forwarded by service providers with which we maintain long-standing partnerships.

Sales/ Marketing



The K+S Group wants to be the preferred partner of its customers in the market. High product quality and reliability are crucial prerequisites for this. K+S offers a comprehensive range of services for agriculture, industry, and private consumers.

**Application** 



Our customers apply our products, use our raw materials in their processes or process them in their products. We make extensive product information available and advise our customers on the application of our products.

# Underground mining production cycle

## **Conventional mining**

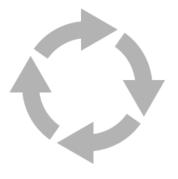






















## Main production methods

#### **Rock salt**

Conventional mining



#### Sea/solar salt

Crystallization of sea water



#### **Evaporated salt**

Recrystallization of purified brine



#### **Brine**

Controlled solution mining



- Around 60% of worldwide salt production (more than 290 million tonnes including brine) is obtained from rock salt mining and solution mining.
- Approximately 40% of production is obtained from seawater and salt lakes.<sup>1</sup>

Salt is produced in almost every country in the world. Due to the high share of transportation costs in production costs, markets are generally regionally limited to the area around the production sites.

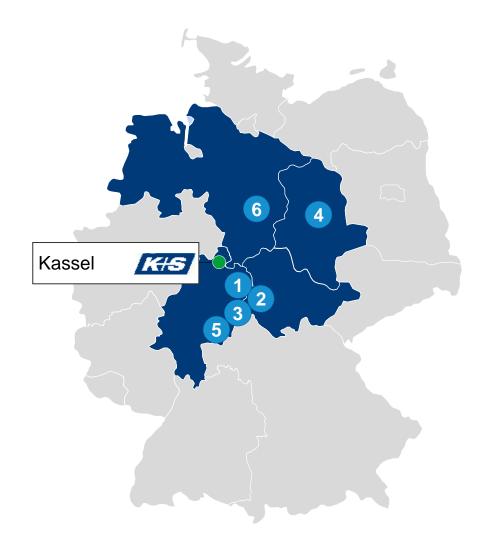
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Roskill Information Services Ltd., 2020

## **Potash sites in Germany**

#### **Share of annual production capacity (in %)**

(production site, no mining)

Wintershall
 Unterbreizbach
 Hattorf
 Zielitz
 Neuhof-Ellers
 Bergmannssegen-Hugo



## K+S in Canada: Bethune

#### **Strengthening our global presence**



- Expanding our current production portfolio in Germany with a North American production site
  - → Only supplier with production on two continents
- Securing a good asset base with competitive production costs
- Sales and distribution through existing distribution structures of the K+S Group
- Regional growth projects in China and Southeast Asia
- Flexible multi-product strategy

## **Bethune – Solution Mining**

## **Procedure (Primary Mining)**

Mining technique	Solution Mining
Depth	1,500 meters
Thickness	33 meters
K <sub>2</sub> O / KCI Content	18% / 29%

- In solution mining, freshwater is brought into solvent (salt) rock through a drill hole, therefore creating chambers, or caverns, filled with a water-salt solution.
- In a subsequent step, the saturated brine is brought to the surface through an additional pipeline.
- This brine is then evaporated in the factory and processed into potash products. The water obtained during evaporation is recirculated back into the caverns.





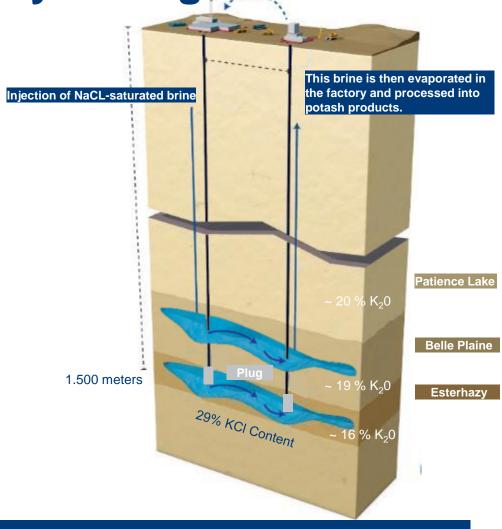
**Bethune – Primary vs. Secondary Mining** 

#### **Secondary Mining**

Secondary mining uses exclusively saturated NaCl solution to selectively dissolve residual KCl from existing caverns.

#### Advantages (in comparison to primary mining)

- Less energy-intensive (e.g., the solution is heated by residual heat from the evaporators and KCl crystallizes by natural cooling in outdoor ponds)
- Significantly more water-efficient
- Reduces salt to be piled up to by 30%

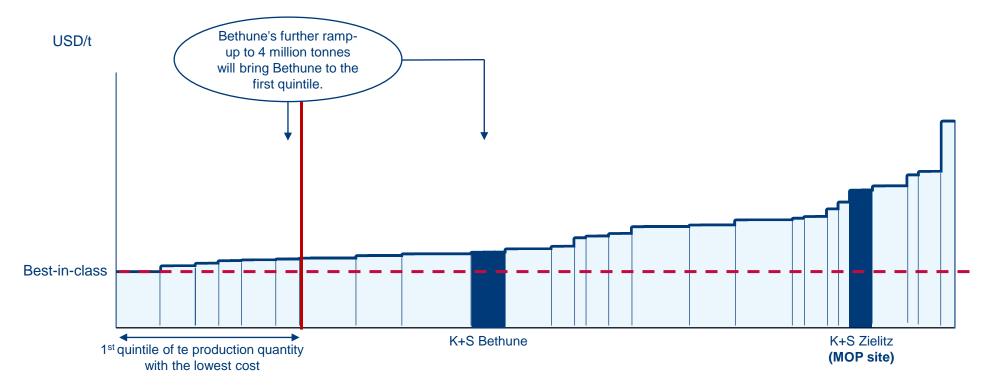




The production costs for NaCl solution mining are 50% of the production costs of primary mining.

# Site costs (at mine gate) in comparison

## Ramp-up of Bethune as well as measures to optimize the portfolio business



**Source:** S&P Global, Fertecon, July 2023

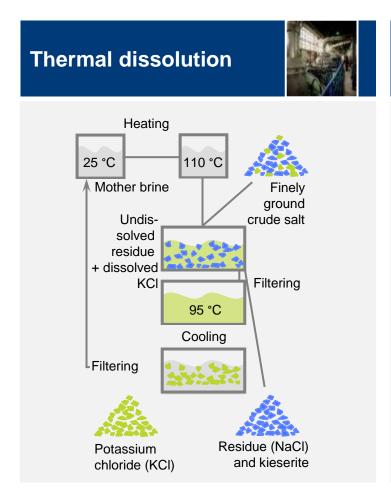
Column width = Production capacity in million tonnes



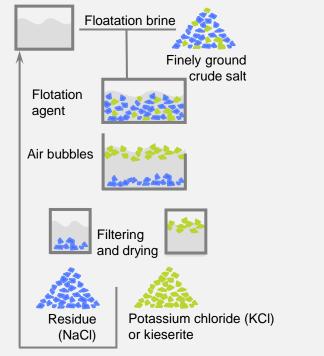
Increasing improvement in cash costs and competitive position



# Potash processing above ground

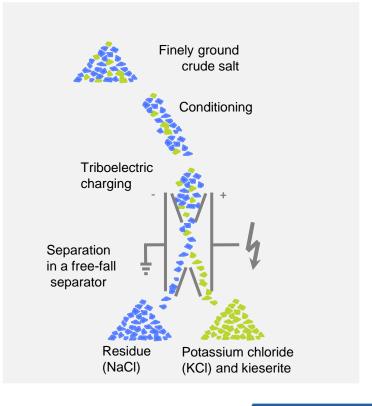






# Electrostatic separation (ESTA®)





## Potash production: management of residues

- Crude salt has only a limited recyclable content (max. 30%), therefore the generation of residues is inevitable.
   All potash producers worldwide face this challenge.
- The recycling of partial volumes is performed at all producers.
- The methods, processes, and equipment for the construction of tailings piles from solid residues are scientifically justified, tried and tested in practice. These ways of disposal depending on the corresponding site are used also in combination. They currently represent the best available technique. Solid or liquid residues are disposed of worldwide in the following ways:

#### **Tailings piles**



Underground disposal



River injection\*



Remote disposal



Ø Share\*\* of residue disposed by this method in the Hessian-Thuringian potash district in 2022:

~84% ~7.5% ~5% ~3.5%

<sup>\*</sup> With low river water levels in the Werra, there are possibilities for K+S in the Hessian-Thuringian potash district to temporarily store liquid residues in water basins or suitable mine spaces on site or temporary ways of disposal by flooding decommissioned mines or gas caverns in Lower Saxony or Saxony-Anhalt.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Percentage by mass of salt

## **Green investments = long-term planning security**

#### **Tailings piles extensions**



**Hattorf** 

**Wintershall** 

**Zielitz** 



 Approval of Hattorf tailings pile expansion (phase 3) in mid-2025 and investments required

 Next approval and significant investments in tailings pile extensions will not be necessary again until the end of the 2020s

#### **Liquid residues**



Werra



- Deep-well injection ended 2021
- Future: Permanent storage underground (subject to approval)
- From 2028: Higher utilization of underground storage through further treatment of saline water
- Injection from 2028: only less concentrated tailings pile waters and no process waters

## Tailings pile coverage and greening

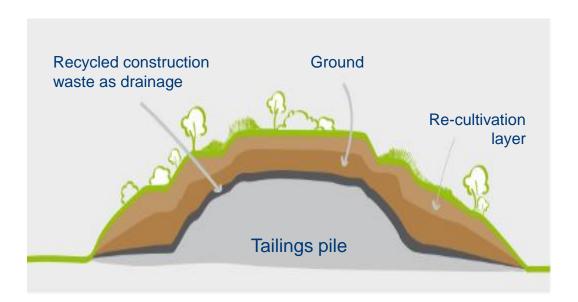
## **Our objectives**

- From 2030 onwards, K+S will be able to use three million tonnes of residue annually for purposes other than rearming.
- By 2030, we want to cover a further 155 hectares of tailings pile area and thus further reduce or avoid the accumulation of tailings pile water.

#### The procedure

Soil and construction rubble are installed in several layers on the stockpile in a precisely defined process.

→ Formation of a cover, the upper layer of which is permanently greened.



## Tailings pile and process water at the Werra site

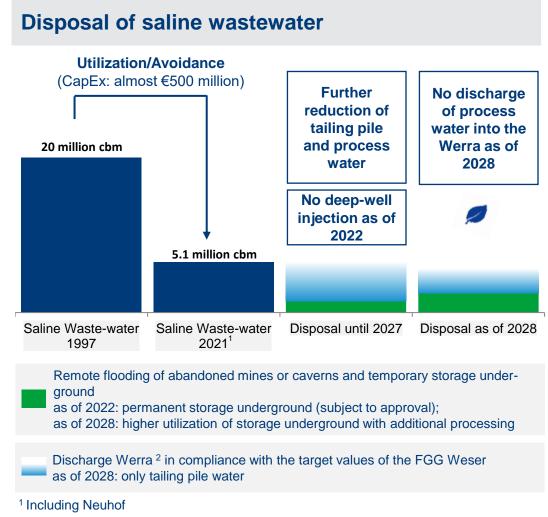
#### **Development of saline wastewater**

Reduction of saline wastewater based on various measures within the last 25 years:

- Underground disposal in Unterbreizbach
- Optimization of production and manufacturing processes
- ESTA facility, cold preliminary decomposition and high consistency facility, kainite crystallization and MgCl2 facility
- Establishment of a kainite crystallization and flotation facility; advantage: additional product

#### Additional ways of disposing saline wastewater

- On-site: Temporary storage possibility of up to 1.0 million m<sup>3</sup> (basins and temporary storage underground).
- Off-site: Flooding of decommissioned mines or caverns for their restoration.
- As part of our strategy and the optimization of our existing business, the focus at the Werra site will be on reducing solid and liquid residues as well as energy consumption and therefore CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Further reduction and avoidance of tailing pile water targeted by covering tailings piles; continuing R&D developments with external partners, among others

## Underground storage in Springen

## **Our objective**

- Our first goal of discontinuing the injection of saline wastewater into the plate dolomite as of 2022 has been accomplished.
- Discontinuing the discharge of saline wastewater into the Werra as of 2028.

**The solution**: Storage of process water into disused cavities



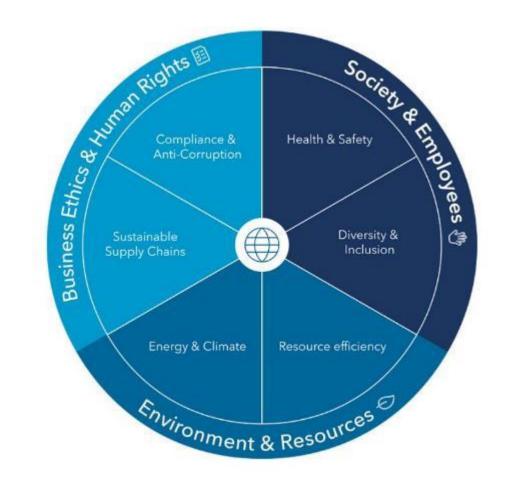
→ Mine field Springen offers 21,000,000 m³ of space for underground storage.

#### The procedure

- Highly concentrated saline solution from potash production is discharged into the mine field via existing lines.
- Due to the high salt concentration of the liquid, the salt pillars, which are responsible for the stability of the shaft, are not damaged.
- Finally, the old shafts are tightly closed with gravel and clay so that no saline water can discharge.



## **K+S Sustainability Goals**



We have set ourselves ambitious goals in these three areas of action:

## Society & Employees, Environment & Resources and Business Ethics & Human Rights

- The human being is our focus
- Active commitment to environmentally friendly production
- Integrity & a sense of responsibility characterize our actions







# **K+S Climate Strategy**

## **Germany compared to K+S** (German potash production, Scope 1) K+S -79 % Values in million t CO<sub>2</sub> DE -40 % 1.248 **100** % 80 Germany 739 60 40 20 0 1990 2020

# **80% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions already reduced (1990 – 2020):** Through fuel change, increased energy efficiency and site closures.

#### **Short-term goal**

Introduction of a "K+S climate protection fund" from 2022 to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

#### Mid-term goal

Reduction of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 10% by 2030 compared to 2020.

#### Long-term goal

K+S supports the goals of the "Paris Agreement": Climate neutrality in 2050 can be internationally achieved with a supportive regulatory framework.

K+S calls for fair competitive conditions worldwide (this requires carbon leakage protection), sufficient and resilient energy **infrastructure**, **funding** for the conversions and **affordable renewable energies**.

# **K+S Sustainability Goals 2030**

	Goal	KPI	2022	Target value 2030	Base year	Achievement of targets
ety &	Health & Safety	Injury with lost time (LTIR)*	8.3	0 Vision 2030	2017 (11.5)	28%
Society & Employees	Diversity & Inclusion	Positive perception of an inclusive work environment by employees <sup>1</sup>	87%	> 90%	2019 (54.4)	97%
		Percentage of critical suppliers that have acknowledged the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group*	89.6 %	100% end 2025	2017 (0)	90%
Business Ethics & Human Rights	Sustainable Supply Chains	Coverage of the purchasing volume by the Supplier Code of Conduct of the K+S Group*	84.5 %	> 90% end 2025	2017 (0)	94%
		Coverage of relevant suppliers with a sustainability risk assessment.*2	-	100 % end 2027	2023	
	Compliance & Anti-Corruption	Coverage of the K+S companies with a standardized compliance risk analysis (was designed 100% in 2020 after achieving the previous target)	66.7 %	100 % end 2023	2020 (0)	67%

<sup>\*</sup> LTI-relevant (Board of Executive Directors and management)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The first survey was conducted in 2019 (different base year), and an updated survey with new questions was conducted in 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Comprises suppliers with annual revenues of at least €5,000 whose registered office is in a country with a relative value of ≤ 75% in the Sustainability Development Report ranking. This includes consolidated and non-consolidated K+S Group companies managed via the SAP system.

# **K+S Sustainability Goals 2030**

	Goal	KPI	2022	Target value 2030	Base year	Achievement of targets
Environment & Resources	Resource	Additional reduction of saline process water to be disposed of from potash production in Germany (million m³ p.a.)*1	-0.4	-0.5 (excluding reduction by KCF facility and end of production SI)	2017 (0)	82%
	efficiency	Amount of residue used for purposes other than tailings piles formation or avoided by increasing the yield of raw material (million t p.a.)	0.21	3	2017 (0.2)	7%
		Additional covered tailings piles area	14.1	155	2017 (0)	9%
	Energy & Climate	Absolute CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the K+S Group worldwide	-3.0%	-10%	2020	30%
		Reduction in specific CO <sub>2</sub> emissions* <sup>2</sup>	-	254.6 kg/t end 2027	2023	
		Specific greenhouse gas emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> ) in logistics (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/t)	-13.1%	-10%	2017	100%

<sup>\*</sup> LTI-relevant (Board of Executive Directors and management)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Excluding a reduction due to the KCF plant and the end of production at Sigmundshall.

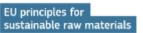
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Calculated by the ratio of CO2 emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2) of all potash and rock salt producing sites in kilograms to the primary production volume of the Hattdorf, Wintershall, Unterbreizbach, Bethune, Zielitz, and Neuhof-Ellers sites.

# K+S Sustainability: Ratings and Standards

Organization	Rating scale	Previous rating	Current rating
MSCI 🌐	Rating scale from AAA to CCC	AA	AA
ISS ESG ⊳	Rating scale from A+ to D-	C-	С
SUSTAINALYTICS  a Marringster company	Rating scale from 0 to 40+ (The lower, the better)	36.8	35.2
FTSE Russell	Rating scale from 0 to 5 (The higher, the better)	3.2	3.3
DISCLOSURE INSIGHT ACTION	Rating scale from A to D-	Water: B Climate: C	Water: B Climate: C

#### **International Engagement**















## Our contribution to the 17 SDGs

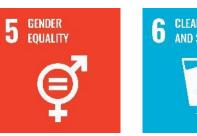
K+S makes a direct contribution to a number of global sustainable development goals – and thus contributes to the fulfillment of the goals. More information and more details about our article can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.







































# Our future – The climate-friendly potash production

In future, we want to produce "green potash" with the lowest possible CO<sub>2</sub> footprint – compared to today and compared to our foreign competitors.

To do this, we are treading two paths in parallel:



The **change in production and processing processes** – from wet to dry processing



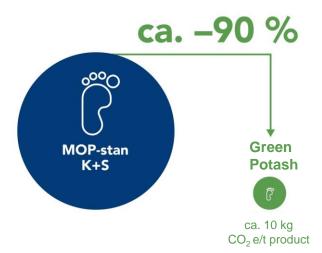
The **change in energy use** – from fossil fuels to renewable energies

With the "Werra 2060" project, we are taking the first major step in **changing our production processes**. To do this, we need to extract and process the crude salt from the reservoir in a way that is as climate-neutral as possible. This transformation project is the only one of its kind in potash mining in the world. In Zielitz, we have launched a pilot project for the use of power-to-heat, thereby pushing a **change in energy use** ahead.

The de-carbonisation of the entire German potash production requires **state support**: in the provision of infrastructure and green energy sources, in the development of legal frameworks, in procedures (planning acceleration) and in the **provision of subsidies**.

# Green potash for sustainable agriculture

#### Development of CO<sub>2</sub>e footprint green potash (MOP)



The reduction in emissions results from the conversion of consumption from fossil to renewable energy.

The remaining emissions are distributed across sub-processes that (so far) cannot be converted.





Green potash with renewable energy use

Essential requirements for the change in technology

In future, we will be able to produce "green potash" in Germany with the lowest possible  $CO_2$  footprint. Both ways of achieving this – changing the production and processing methods as well as changing the use of energy – require high investments.

The potash industry needs a **supportive regulatory framework** for this:



High availability of green electricity to facilitate the production of green potash



Expansion of renewable energies and targeted grid connection to meet increased electricity demand

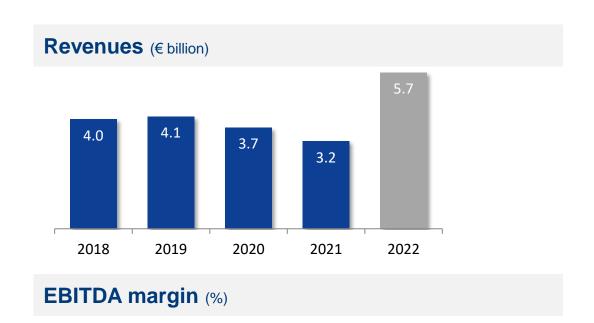


Offsetting additional expenditure incurred by using green electricity through government funding

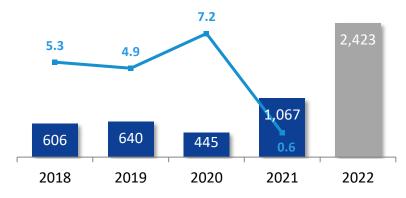
(The calculations are based on average German production, excluding Canadian production).

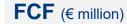


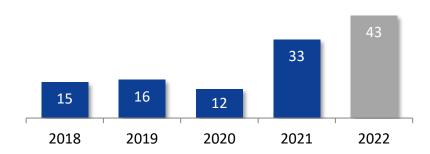
# **Key financial figures**<sup>1</sup>

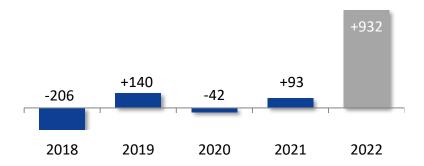


#### EBITDA vs. Net financial liabilities/EBITDA<sup>2</sup>





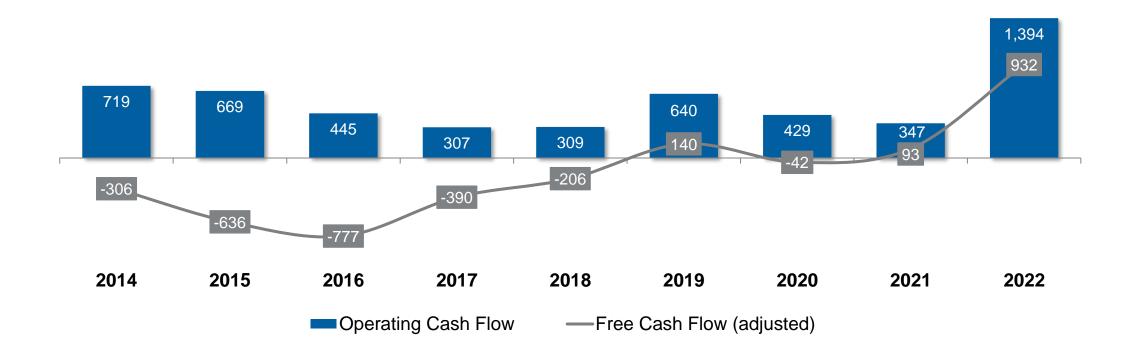




<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The figures relate to the continuing and discontinued operations of the K+S Group for the years 2018 to 2020. For the years 2021 and 2022, the figures relate to the continuing operations of the K+S Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As of December 31, 2022, there are no longer any net financial liabilities.

# Operating and adjusted cash flow<sup>1</sup>





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The figures relate to the continuing and discontinued operations of the K+S Group for the years 2014 to 2020. For the years 2021 and 2022, the figures relate to the continuing operations of the K+S Group (in € million).

### **Cash flow and balance sheet**

	FY/21	3M/22	H1/22	9M/22	FY/22	3M/23	H1/23	9M/23
Operating cash flow - thereof continuing operations	347	254	486	1,143	1,394	221	484	657
Investing cash flow (pre-sale/purchase of securities and other financial investments) - thereof continuing operations	-255	-151	-252	-329	-462	-107	-210	-329
Adjusted free cash flow - thereof continuing operations	2,691 93	103	234	814	932	113	274	328
Capex - thereof continuing operations	334	49	125	240	404	78	199	347
Net financial liabilities (-); Net financial asset position (+) <sup>1</sup>	-606	-520	-426	+152	+245	+347	+261	+241
Net financial liabilities/EBITDA <sup>1</sup> (LTM)	0.6	0.4	0.2	-	-	-	-	-
Equity ratio	61%	63%	65%	65%	68%	71%	71%	71%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 2022, there are no longer any net financial liabilities.

### K+S Share

#### **Key data**

WKN: KSAG88

ISIN: DE000KSAG888

Type of shares: registered shares of no-par value

■ Total number of shares: 191,400,000¹

Trading segment: Prime Standard

Ticker symbols: Bloomberg SDF/Reuters SDFG

<sup>1</sup> of which 12.3 million shares have been repurchased as of November, 2023

#### **Shareholder structure as of Dec 31, 2022**



Institutional Investors 63%

### The following banks publish research studies about K+S

- Baader Helvea Equity Research
- Bank of America
- Bank Pekao Equity Research
- Berenberg Bank
- BMO Capital Markets
- Citi Research
- Deutsche Bank

- DZ Bank AG
- Exane BNP Paribas
- Jefferies Equity Research
- J.P. Morgan
- Kepler Cheuvreux
- LBBW
- M.M. Warburg

- Morgan Stanley
- Oddo BHF
- Pareto Securities AS
- Scotia Capital
- Société Générale
- Stifel
- UBS

## **Share buyback 2023**

#### K+S has successfully completed the share buyback.

Since mid-May 2023, K+S has bought back a total of 12.3 million of its own shares for just under €200 million (ISIN DE000KSAG888) at an average price of around €16 per share. This corresponds to 6.4 percent of the Company's share capital. K+S aims to cancel the bought-back shares by the end of 2023.

- 12.3 million own shares (6.4% of the share capital) bought back for just under €200 million
- Average price of about €16 per share

The share buyback supplemented the dividend payment of €1.00 per share for the 2022 financial year. K+S has therefore returned capital totaling around €390 million to its shareholders – this corresponds to a good 40 percent of the adjusted free cash flow for 2022.

"After the record year 2022, it was important for us to let our shareholders participate in this success. With the completion of the share buyback and the dividend payment for 2022, we have returned a total of around €2 per share to our shareholders, taking appropriate account of the different interests within our shareholder structure," says Dr. Burkhard Lohr, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors.

Further information on the share buyback can be found on our website: <a href="www.kpluss.com/sharebuyback">www.kpluss.com/sharebuyback</a>

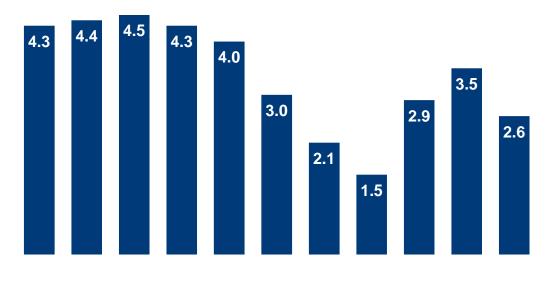
# **Share performance**

### Performance of the K+S Share

Index: December 31, 2020 = 100



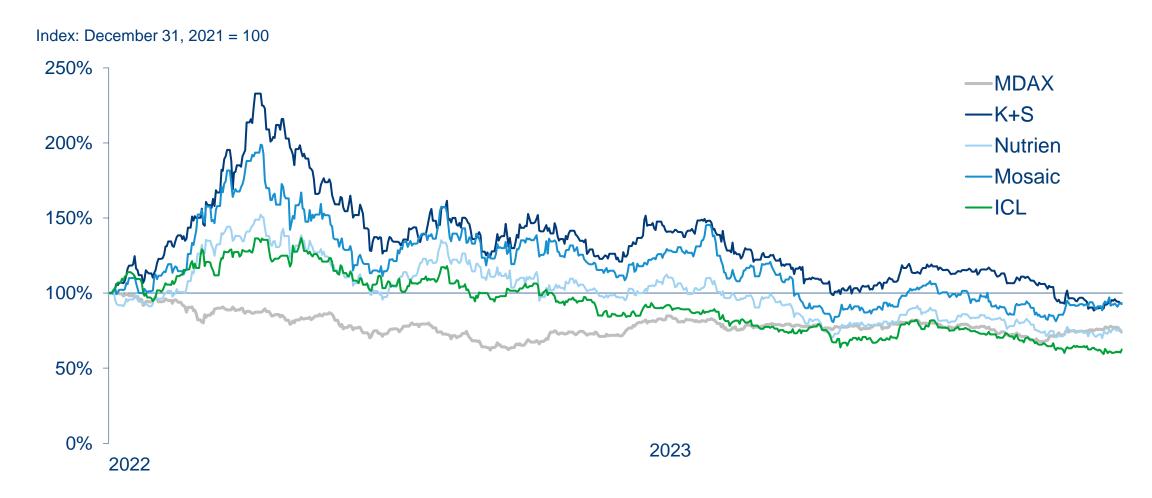
### **Market capitalization**



As of Dec. 31, 2023, in € billion

Source: Bloomberg; as of January 2024

# Performance of the K+S share in comparison



Source: Bloomberg; as of January 2024

## **K+S ADR Programme**

The K+S ADR Program offers North American investors the opportunity to take stock in K+S. Since the ADRs are quoted in US dollars and dividends are also distributed in US dollars, this financial instrument closely resembles an American share. Two ADRs represent one K+S ordinary share. The K+S ADRs are traded in the United States under a level 1 ADR Program in the over-the-counter market (OTC).

#### **Trade on OTCQX**

**Symbol:** KPLUY

**CUSIP:** 48265W108

Ratio: 2 ADRs = 1 Share

**Country:** Germany

ISIN: DE000KSAG888

**Depositary:** The Bank of New York Mellon

#### **Benefits to North American investors**

- Clear and settle according to normal U.S. standards
- Stock quotes and dividend payments in U.S. dollars
- Can be purchased/sold in the same way as other U.S. stocks via a U.S. broker
- Cost-effective means of international portfolio diversification

Further information: <a href="https://www.kpluss.com/adr">www.kpluss.com/adr</a>

# K+S debt instruments and issuer rating

Issuer rating (S&P): BBB- (outlook: stable), June 2023

	Bond 07/2024 (3-months-par-call)
WKN	A2N BE7
ISIN	XS1854830889
Listing	Luxembourg SE
Issue volume	€600 million
Outstanding volume	€278 million
Issue price	100.000%
Coupon	3.250%
Maturity	18.07.2024
Denomination	€100,000

+ Syndicated credit facility up to €400 million + Commercial paper program as an additional source of liquidity

### Financial calendar

2023 Annual Report: December 31, 2023	March 14, 2024
Quarterly Report: March 31, 2024	May 13, 2024
Annual General Meeting	May 14, 2024
Half-Year Financial Report; June 30, 2024	August 14, 2024
Quarterly Report: September 30, 2024	November 14, 2024

### More content available online

K+S Website: www.kpluss.com

■ Annual reports: www.kpluss.com/ar2022

Newsletter subscription: www.kpluss.com/newsletter

Social Media: in <a>Im</a> <a>Im<













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