



Environmental
Sustainability

Sustainable value chains and business practices globally

What We Do

Our Environmental Sustainability initiative sees members collaborating to position the industry as a driving force in protecting against climate change and reducing waste. Our approach to tackling today's biggest climate change issues is built around engaging our wider membership and encouraging participation and implementation. Our members have a firm commitment to reduce the environmental impact associated with the consumer good industry and for that The Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) has created specialist working groups designed to address the key issues.

Why We Do It

With deforestation, refrigeration and waste (both foods and plastics) being significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions, the need for our industry to address these, and other, sustainability challenges was clear. As one of the four strategic pillars of the CGF, our work on sustainability came as a result our members' desire to help drive positive change, work collaboratively and communicate sustainability improvements throughout the value chain of the consumer goods industry.

The Influencers Leading It

The CGF is governed by a Board consisting of global CEOs of more than 50 of our member companies. Our sustainability work is led by our two CGF Board Co-Sponsors, Steve Rowe (CEO, M&S) and Grant Reid (CEO, Mars, Incorporated) and by our Environmental Sustainability Committee. The Committee's role is to identify priority issues for the Sustainability Pillar and recommend corresponding actions and steer existing and new projects, as well as encourage

broader implementation across the industry. In addition, we eight Working Groups composed of 30 senior executives and sustainability experts from key global players also helping to drive developments across the specific areas of focus.



Deforestation

In 2010, our Board approved a resolution to achieve zero net deforestation by 2020. We aim to achieve this through the responsible sourcing of these key commodities – soy, palm oil, paper and pulp and cattle – so that the sourcing of these key commodities will not deplete tropical rainforests. As we near the end of our original commitments, we now understand better the drivers of deforestation and the challenges faced. Building on our collective learnings, we remain committed to a forest-positive future.



Refrigeration

Our members recognise the major and increasing contribution to total greenhouse gas emissions from HFCs and derivative chemical refrigerants. In 2010, the CGF's members made a commitment to tackle the growing impact of refrigeration systems and in a move to sustain momentum, the CGF's Board announced a second Refrigeration Resolution in October 2016 to continue the phase out of HFCs and call for the inclusion of HFCs in the Montreal Protocol. This proposed amendment was included in 2016: a huge step towards the global phase-out of harmful HFCs.



Food Waste

In mid 2015, the CGF Board approved a resolution to halve food waste within the operations of its members by 2025 and to support wider UN Goals on the issue. This was

*See how our members are working
towards the implementation of our
resolutions via our case studies booklet
available on our website.*



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yet another milestone in the consumer goods industry's commitment to environmental stewardship and leadership.



Plastic Waste

While the plastics industry has grown to meet consumer demand, our members are committed to reduction efforts – we know reducing waste means less environmental impact. Sadly, most single-use packaging has become waste, ending up in landfill and ultimately in our rivers and oceans, posing a major threat to aquatic ecosystems. Reducing plastic use at the onset will reduce waste which means less environmental impact, but also less resources and energy used and more money saved.

In October 2018, our members collectively issued a statement calling on the consumer goods industry to play a leading role in eliminating plastics waste on land and sea and to support the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy, which explores the application of circular economy principles to global plastic packaging flows.

Our Multi-Sectoral Approach

Our members fully appreciate the need for multi-sectoral and collaborative actions if we are to achieve our climate change goals, and how global partnerships can bring about positive change. We know this is true, because we've already had success in this area. By developing cross sector partnerships we can create powerful sources of advocacy and show how multiple companies from multiple sectors support action by policy makers on issues such as carbon pricing, science-based targets and carbon reporting. This is evident by the portfolio of programmes and workstreams that we are currently working on and through the co-founding of such collaborative partnerships as the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 and through our work with the Banking Environment Initiative. In 2017, we worked with Champions 12.3 on a Call to Action to simplify and standardise food date labels globally in order to reduce food waste by 2020. We are also partnering with the Ocean Conservancy's Trash Free Seas Alliance and The Ellen MacArthur Foundation on the threat that solid waste poses to the planet, and in particular the oceans.

"We reaffirm our commitment to engage and act with determination, leadership and ambition to address challenges posed by climate change and to help advance progress against the goals and objective outlined in the Paris Climate Agreement".

*The Board of Directors,
The Consumer Goods Forum*

Aligning with Global Goals

Our work on Environmental Sustainability is also supporting the broader UN goals for sustainable development.

More specifically, we are playing our part to ensure global sustainable consumption, tackle climate change and its impacts and ultimately protect the planet.

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



15 LIFE
ON LAND



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



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Social and Environmental Sustainability

CEO
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MARS
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M&S
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Positioning the consumer goods industry as a leader in tackling climate change and reducing waste