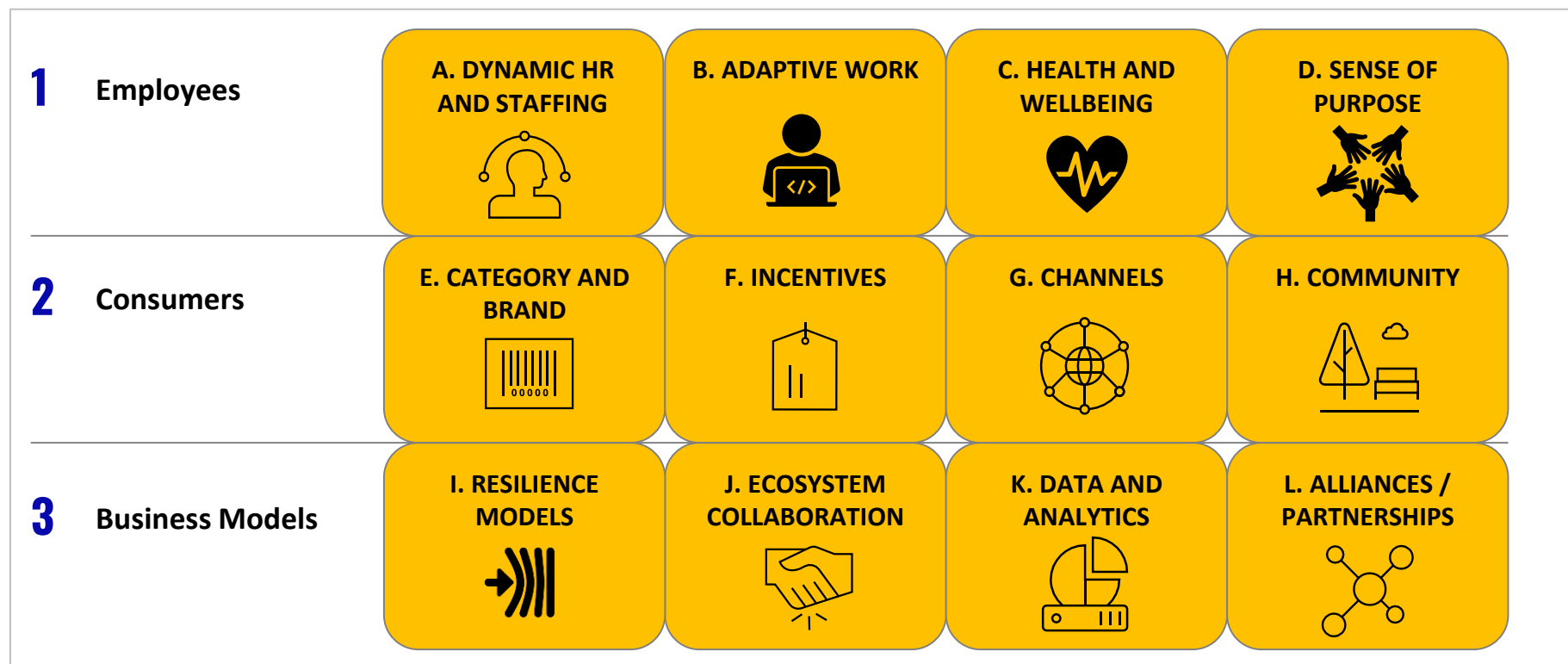
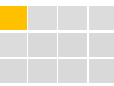


# LEARNINGS FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW



*Looking for similar sections?*

- Filter to any module in the “Covid-19 Framework” filter on the GLM for other module summaries
- Search “**New Normal**” in the GLM for all module new normal summaries



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## A. DYNAMIC HR & STAFFING



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Lack of health coverage and benefits
- Reduced staff availability / absenteeism
- Impacted employee jobs driving immediate cost fluctuations (e.g., additional shifts, work share programs, furloughs, layoffs)



### Key learnings

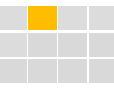
- Continue to communicate with, listen to, support, and reward employees that are working, and check in with those who are not working
- Realign employees to areas of increased demand as quickly as possible
- Slow ease of cost containment with priority to critical skills and functions
- Provide clear, factual, and sustainable messaging toward the employees about company position
- Look for opportunities to partner with other companies to temporarily lend employees based on demand shifts
- Develop short-term support mechanisms for employees and their families

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Need for additional staff and frontline workers (e.g., drivers, distribution centres) to meet increased demand
- Short-term support needed for employees and their families (i.e., telehealth, online courses, online fitness)
- Continued focus on cost containment



- Empower employees to ensure decisions are taken within general guidelines from management
- Consider rewards for those working during the crisis beyond pay – examples include well-being support (assistance for essential expenses, childcare, vacation days) and flexible schedules (compressed work week), alternative work schedules, or results-based schedules
- Use manager or HR capacity to revise personnel marketing concepts and rethink company talent position
- If applicable, collaborate and share employees effectively within your company (and potentially with other companies)
- Reinforce operations with additional staff, better staff management, and staff re-alignment
- Ensuring employee learning and development goals are heard and met



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## B. ADAPTIVE WORK



### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- HR steps up to “its crisis”
- Stay-at-home orders from local governments
- Work-from-home and remote working requirements
- Focus on cost / headcount management
- Government job retention schemes in many countries

### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Limited return to worksite, with continued impact to jobs for those not returning; prolonged childcare concerns
- Continued anxiety & fear of exposure to disease can make returning to work unpredictable and unsafe for some
- Share of jobs that can be performed at home during social distancing inputs in predicting economy performance

## Challenges/ trends

## Key learnings

- HR organises and leads the response to the crisis
- As fast as possible, reorganize employee tasks to focus on high-need areas, within safety guidelines
- Adjust workplace configurations to enforce safety as quickly as possible (remote or enforcing social distancing)
- Share best practices for both remote work and on-site work (e.g., providing frontline employees with PPE)
- Enforce limit on business travel, especially to areas most affected by the virus; employees stay home when sick
- Additional support for employee physical and mental wellbeing and prevent exposure as much as possible
- Rebase leadership and management interactions with staff (focus on purpose, less on task management)
- Review workforce size and shape in view of needs including furloughs, reduced hours, etc.

- Strategize flexible working models – consider the ‘how, when, where, what, and who’ dimensions of a job
- Implement any models that are win-win for employers and employees (cost / time saving, more productive, healthier)
- Increase employee engagement and communication
- Encourage employees to support various functions given adaptive mindset as the crisis evolves
- Invest in workforce development as much as possible, by flexing employees to areas of demand and training to deal with social distancing to avoid violence incidents
- Support designing protocols through employee lens (e.g., “Day in the Life” or “moments that matter”)
- Prepare for greater flexibility of schedules given childcare and anxiety concerns
- Encourage employees to stay home if sick or at high risk, but allow those who feel vulnerable or challenged at home to return



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## C. HEALTH AND WELLBEING



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Unavailability of protective equipment at first
- Impact of long hours, risk, and stress
- Employees' safety and motivation is top of mind
- Employees feeling sick or worried about contracting the virus



### Key learnings

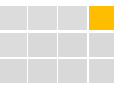
- Provide protective equipment especially for the essential frontline workers as quickly as possible given supply concerns
- Recognize increased health risks involved for on-site work, varying by job and level
- Prioritize cleaning supplies for retailer (i.e., employees, store environment) and manufacturer (i.e., trucks, plants, distribution centers) operations prior to consumer need
- Utilize alternatives to physical contact like curbside pickup, drive-thru services, and online ordering if possible
- Show appreciation to workers:
  - Provide hazard fees for every delivery made to consumers' doors and provide weekly bonuses
  - Increase hourly wages and expedite Q1 pay
  - Provide meals for frontline workers if possible

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Development of stress-related diseases and prolonged anxiety due to length of crisis presence
- Increased demand for PPE on a daily basis
- Potential pushback from employees due to dissatisfaction around safety precautions and exposure to health hazards



- Provide protective equipment (masks, gloves, sanitizer, plexiglass, disinfectant wipes) continuously
- Provide coronavirus testing and other solutions to soothe worker fears when available
- Encourage social distancing using tape markers or signage, or have a monitor at the door enforcing capacity or distance
- Implement new workplace configurations (e.g., "partial capacity," deep cleaning, A/B team) for safety
- Consider providing paid sick leave, family leave, health coverage, and caregiving support
- Have managers check in with employees as much as possible for a 1:1 meeting on health and wellbeing
- Ensure employees are able to maintain mental health while adapting to work-from-home using surveys and focus groups
- Offer telehealth (both physical and mental) and online courses (i.e., fitness) for employees and family members
- Assess fatigue impact of 100% digital work



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## D. SENSE OF PURPOSE



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Public organizations are labelling certain jobs as essential or non-essential, indicating what roles are able to work in person or what businesses are able to operate
- Grocery store, distribution, and delivery workers are becoming more important to improving public health
- Many workers furloughed or uncertain about job security



### Key learnings

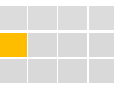
- Persistently demonstrate commitment to employees through words and actions to earn trust and loyalty
- Create new jobs with no resume or previous work experience required to help furloughed workers
  - “Social distancing ambassadors” responsible for monitoring shopper flow and enforcing limits
  - Warehouse operations, delivery network jobs, or other critical supply chain roles
- Shift current employee roles to be more relevant in response to the crisis
- Pause non-essential item delivery to prioritize distribution of essential items
- Consider rewarding employees who will be in continuous contact with other employees and / or the public

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Food supply chains, from growers, to truck drivers, to retail grocery and delivery workers, are essential
- Retailers and manufacturers remaining operational begin to gather greater sense of purpose and increase desire for social impact in the community



- Listen to employee perspective and communicate employer perspective (demand shift implications and impacts of social distancing)
- Maintain productivity and motivate front line through feedback loops and offer ways to participate in decision making / crowd-sourcing suggestions
- Provide role flexibility for employees to ensure they understand their sense of purpose throughout the crisis
- Consistently remind employees of their role and importance to the company, whether working now or furloughed
- Invite employee participation to co-create an organizational purpose that can become a call-to-arms for the organization



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## E. CATEGORY AND BRAND



## Challenges/ trends

## Key learnings

### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Demand spikes of non-perishables and essential goods
- New consumer needs, mainly linked to the pandemic. Shoppers re-evaluate how they are consuming; many cooking at home or shopping online for the first time
- Out of stocks for the most in-demand products
- Strong shift to “whatever is available” before discounted / cheap products
- Aversion towards categories perceived as being “higher risk” (e.g., salad bar)



- Refocus efforts on essential products by assessing supply chain and planning for shelf re-stocking; understand that during the crisis consumers will buy fewer premium products to save money
- Reduce efforts in non-food and non-essential items
- Plan ahead for substitute products and impose volume limits to reduce stockpiling behaviour; publish messaging to discourage panic buying and hoarding of essentials
- Notify consumers about out-of-stock and unavailable products

### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Certain categories will spike (e.g., basics, stockpile essentials, frozen, rice / pasta), while other categories will decline (e.g., health and beauty, clothing)
- Difficult to forecast demand even after initial spike
- A new dynamic on basket building – larger baskets, less frequency
- Continued pressure from recession combined with downward price trend
- Competitors evolving their value strategy in light of COVID-19 experience



- Re-organize assortment for changing consumer needs, such as desire to purchase larger pack sizes and private label products, while maintaining profitability
- Implement and revise rationing and product limits over time as the crisis progresses and demand shifts
- Anticipate negative impact to come from “pull forward” of previously high-demand items during the crisis peaks
- Consider most efficient direct-to-consumer business models (e.g., offer more value by selling convenience items and take-and-bake meals)
- Recommend product bundles with available products for easier shopping



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## F. INCENTIVES



## Challenges/ trends

## Key learnings

### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Promotional elasticity is likely to decrease given the primary focus on meeting “basic needs”
- Need for consumer health & safety
- Evolution of elderly as consumer group (i.e., shopping support initially)
- Pantry-loading and panic buying: consumers depend on stores to have necessary items and provide safe in-store environment



- Reduce / redirect promotions to ease store and supply chain operations
- Shift focus of promotions to online and reduce / eliminate physical marketing efforts (e.g., leaflets)
- Manage consumer disappointment with out of stocks
- Step-up in-store hygiene and adopt social distancing practices
- Communicate to consumers that the organization cares about their safety and consumption needs
- Promote ways for at-risk groups to shop without physically entering stores
- Manufacturers to collaborate with retailers by maintaining prices during lockdown period

### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Pressure from recession: more focus on discount products and attractive promotions
- Shifts in current consumer segmentations as retailers and manufacturers lose certain consumers but gain on others
- Consumers expect brands to tell the truth, value people over profits, and use resources for greater good



- Tactically revise pricing and promotional plans to meet shoppers' needs and reduced consumer confidence
- Shift more promotions to consumer-specific actions
- Institutionalize hygiene practices
- Proactive communication with consumers regarding steps retailers and manufacturers are taking to maintain safety for all
- Manufacturers launch social help campaigns (e.g., repurposing manufacturing plants and materials to produce hand sanitizers and PPE)
- Prepare multiple phase 3 scenarios
  - Change promotions strategy to maintain large and less frequent baskets to preserve consumer loyalty
  - The “new normal” proposition where the retailer can lead the market or respond most effectively



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## G. CHANNELS



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Sudden surge of e-commerce and format shifts
- Reduced staff availability, but increased needs (higher volumes)
- High spikes in out of stock and shrink
- Online demand well beyond picking capacities

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Acceleration scenario for online growth and, in some areas, shift toward convenience
- Recovery of staff but restrictions in place
- Unstable operational KPIs and in-store service standards
- Lower consumer loyalty
- Growing demand / loyalty to delivery and online systems
- Public transportation availability decreases
- Supermarkets see increase due to one-stop availability



### Key learnings

- Tactically revise forecasts
- Reinforce operations with additional staff and shifts
- Focus assortment and offers on high running SKUs to optimize productivity; cancel promotions
- Adjust planograms; if needed, set up purchase limits
- Suspend supplier penalization for incomplete, late / early deliveries etc.
- Evaluate need to close stores that are difficult to serve or have limited staff availability
- Leverage consumer loyalty and mobile ecosystems

- Reinforce resources: FTEs, delivery partnerships, etc.
- Reinforce convenience store assortment and operations
- Increase flexibility in staff employment guides or contracts
- Implement control mechanisms and scorecards on store operational KPIs
- Develop consumer development and retention campaigns
- Ramp up economic fulfilment capability for online
- Continue refining and advancing operations of online ordering and delivery / curbside pickup processes



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## H. COMMUNITY



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Importance of health and safety of employees and community, especially high-risk populations
- Specific areas / geographies may be adversely more affected



### Key learnings

- Provide in-store signage to educate, serve, and protect local communities
- Engage with local communities and health organizations to protect shoppers and employees
- Support local areas and staff to best manage where issues may be more severe
- Constantly communicate online with the right tone and be a "local friend"
- Support the local community with initiatives to support mental health

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Government restrictions may challenge operations going forward
- Having worked / served throughout the crisis, food retailers and manufacturers may become a more visible authority on COVID-19 and on other issues in general

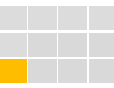


- Work and establish close partnerships with local authorities to collaborate through the crisis and its aftermath
- Develop new community partnerships to better educate community and reduce spread
- Step up engagement in between industry associations and community organizations
- Build local store marketing programs to make the community aware of store's efforts

#### OW Social Listening: Supermarket social responsibility, % of tweets

<i>Efforts to help elderly get food</i>	6%	6%	4%	2%	8%	3%
<i>Supermarket's help to local community</i>	1%	3%	4%	1%	6%	4%

**Customers' reactions to the critical role of food retailers during the COVID-19 crisis is very relevant in social networks.** Failing to lead on social responsibility can be harmful for a retailer's customer perception for the long-term.



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## I. RESILIENCE MODELS



### Challenges/ trends

### Key learnings

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- All operations have shifted drastically; some companies seeing an unpredicted increase (i.e., grocery, retail sales of certain products) and others seeing a drastic halt in sales (i.e., food and beverage manufacturers with food service customers)
- Though companies are trying to cut costs, some fixed costs cannot be reduced
- Re-examine business models due to immediate changes in employees, demand, and channels



- Conserve cash by cutting variable costs in various ways:
  - Negotiate reduced / delayed payments for rent where possible
  - Reach out to creditors to negotiate for more time for debt payments
  - Cancel extra orders from suppliers and negotiate a delay in payment
  - Re-examine executive pay
  - Carve out essential roles for workers to keep as many as possible
- Convert stores to support click & collect and online

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Need to shed unprofitable areas and rapidly finance growing ones
- Shift from immediate business model changes to forecasting and budget planning for the rest of the year
- Aim to increase financial resilience
- Need for scenario planning



- Shift investment focus from growth to stable profits
- Continue investments in post-COVID-19 environment to be focused on deliveries and contactless payment
- Initiate and conduct cost base reset (including leveraging COVID-19 efficiencies and learnings) for short-term cost reduction and for survival minimum
- Start investing to simplify and automate store operations, become leaner
- Continue to assess scenarios for financial development (be ready to seize opportunities)
- Consider more direct-to-consumer alternative business models that allow consumers to avoid or shorten in-store shopping trips



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW



## Challenges/ trends

### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- DCs and logistics saturated (given high demand, scarcity of drivers, etc.)
- Some manufacturers incapable of fulfilling all orders
- Demand spikes in online
- Out-of-home options closed, but people still want to order



## Key learnings

- Organize suppliers to directly serve stores or store hubs
- Increase delivery capacity using last-mile delivery partners
- Partnerships to offer practical, yet unique, offerings (i.e. restaurants / chains to prepare eat-at-home meals)

#### Examples of supply chain collaboration

- General Mills is skipping steps in supply chain by bypassing its own warehouses and delivering straight to store warehouses
- Smart & Final stores in US are planning to bypass distribution centres where possible
- Amazon is not accepting shipments of certain products in its warehouses in order to free up space for critical medical supplies and household products
- Sysco and PFG are leveraging its supply chain services to food retail

### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Increased criticality of certain suppliers and need for new ones
- Demand through online channels still far above capacity
- Work-from-home continuing among large share of population
- Still low demand for out-of-home options



- Integrate with critical suppliers (e.g., fix demand volumes, data sharing) and / or add new suppliers
- Extend delivery partnerships forged during the crisis
- Enter into discussions to offer a wider range in stores
- Evaluate acquiring or partnering with choice intermediaries and last-mile delivery companies

#### Examples of supplier payment terms

- Morrison's in UK aims for 48 hour payment terms, rather than 14 days
- Tesco in UK shortens period of payment terms from 14 to 5 days
- Aldi announced immediate payment terms to small suppliers (<£1m) as well as Systeme U in France (<50m€)
- Sainsbury's moves to immediate payment terms
- Walmart revised supplier financing agreements so that suppliers get payments more quickly



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## K. DATA AND ANALYTICS



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Shoppers need alternative methods than physical to get products to reduce exposure
- Maintaining uptime on technology despite disruption
- Fast-track digitalization of essential functions if disrupted
- Usage of analytics to improve product forecasting

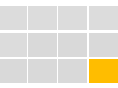
#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Technology, security, uptime, and fall-backs essential to resilience
- Demand for more frequent and recent data and analysis of consumers and market
- Increased e-commerce volumes and app usage
- Accelerated requirements for new services

### Key learnings

- Stop using business-as-usual algorithms to manage supply chain during the pandemic
- Ensure sufficient short-term capacity in IT solutions
- Rapidly spread practices with other functions and continually reassess their needs
- Gather operational data to inform situational awareness for business
- Expand technologies to cover greater income streams (e.g., delivery, apps, website information)
- Implement data analysis within online / digital innovations and channels

- Triage essential services to keep up vs. those to deregulate to increase agility
- Deploy architecture and policy modifications to enhance quality and speed of information distribution
- Redeploy data scientists and R&D to support decisions
- Enable use of third parties to rapidly add services
- Increase data-sharing between delivery services and CPG manufacturers to help prevent supply chain issues
- Use technology and analytics: tracking apps with processed product scanner to provide nutrition and storage education, or implement identity verification software to eliminate errors, speed up processes, etc.



# LEARNINGS SUMMARY OVERVIEW

## L. ALLIANCES / PARTNERSHIPS



### Challenges/ trends

#### Maintaining Business Continuity (Short-term)

- Opportunity to address some short-term gaps with partnerships and alliances (e.g., staff shortage / absenteeism)
- Opportunity to share best practices and learnings with such an unprecedented event

#### Managing the Crisis (Medium-term)

- Formation of industry partnerships and alliances to best serve consumers, meet demand, and survive economic crisis
- Industry forums growing as retailers and manufacturers look for best practices
- New forums may emerge / existing ones become more important

### Key learnings

- Utilize industry forums and experts for ideas on how to ensure business continuity (joint working / crisis committees)
- Look for immediate business partnerships in order to ensure business continuity (e.g., partner with food service companies to hire additional staff)
- Collaborate with national retail bodies to develop standards for in-store “social distancing” and personnel safety
- Take strict hygiene measures across all retailers and manufacturers, and develop joint strategy to serve the at-risk and limited mobility population

- Manage supply / demand by sharing pricing and stock data with other retailers to maximize product availability
- Take part in industry forums and groups in order to understand best practices across the industry
- Communicate with other organizations about logistics to ensure supply for population (e.g., while store closures may be inevitable, coordination is possible to have one retailer open per region)
- Participate in virtual events (e.g., webinars, video conferences) to learn about relevant topics and create new connections with other participants
- Explore joint ventures and deep collaboration, especially across smaller players (retailers and manufacturers)