

World Economic Forum Sustainability Strategy



The World Economic Forum continues to make progress towards its vision of “a sustainable Forum”, where sustainability is embedded in the fabric of how the organization operates, especially when it comes to stakeholder engagement, global operations and events.

Building on the six priority areas that has framed its [sustainability policy](#) since 2015, the Forum is committing to a number of actions outlined in this strategy, revolving around three pillars. The strategy reiterates the Forum’s willingness to take a global leadership role in sustainability and to be recognized as an organization that integrates sustainability as part of all its activities.

Stakeholder engagement

The top focus of the Forum is to remain a thought leader driving action on sustainability issues globally. As highlighted in the updated [Davos Manifesto](#), published at the Annual Meeting 2020, a company is more than an economic unit generating wealth. A company’s performance must be measured not only on the return to shareholders, but also on how it achieves its environmental, social and good governance objectives. Along with stakeholder engagement, these are some of the guiding principles that the Forum has been following over the years.

Every World Economic Forum platform has at least one workstream that relates to sustainability, including addressing climate change. The communities involved incorporate a range of stakeholders – the private and public sectors, social entrepreneurs, academia and civil society, as well as the perspectives of young people through the Forum’s Young Global Leaders and Global Shapers communities.

Some stakeholders can engage through UpLink, the Forum’s open innovation platform, where they can search and amplify innovative solutions that respond to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and are communicated on social media and through various public events.

Among other topics, the Forum has coalesced a global community of business leaders to develop a baseline set of environmental, social and governance (ESG) metrics and disclosures, as outlined in the Measuring Stakeholder Capitalism white paper. Through this effort, the Forum has helped catalyse a global movement towards convergence and alignment of ESG metrics and reporting.

The need for action is particularly acute related to climate challenges, knowing the current trajectory of global warming. The Forum, together with its stakeholders, is committed to pursuing action on this topic as quickly and meaningfully as possible across all workstreams.

Global operations

With offices around the world – Geneva, New York, San Francisco, Beijing, Tokyo and Mumbai – the World Economic Forum has the responsibility to be a leader in sustainable management at the institutional level and ensure that sustainability best practices are integrated throughout the organization.

- Reach net zero by 2030 by reducing CO₂e emissions in line with the Forum’s Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) guidelines
- Continue to reinforce the sustainable [procurement policy](#)
- Ensure high levels of work-safety practices and the well-being of employees everywhere the Forum operates
- Minimize energy consumption and produce, or source renewable electricity for Forum offices (obtain ISO 50001 certification for the Geneva headquarters)

- Assess and optimize the use of natural and energy resources for digital operations

- Increase the use of sustainable commuting options
- Optimize sustainability management of green spaces

- Ensure continuous training of employees on the code of conduct and sustainability

- Ensure full implementation of data protection frameworks

ESG pillars

- Governance Pillar
- People Pillar
- Planet Pillar

Events

The Forum’s meetings serve as global platforms that enable decision-makers to define and advance crucial issues. They aim to provide a sustainable environment that fosters participants’ and staff well-being, ensuring the highest quality of services and minimizing negative environmental and social impacts wherever possible.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ● Ensure catering provides healthy food, integrates low-impact ingredients and offers vegetarian choices in line with the Forum’s sustainable catering guidelines <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Optimize energy consumption and foster sustainable resource use at all Forum events <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minimize the CO₂ emissions and the impact on biodiversity at all Forum events <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Renew ISO 20121 certification at Annual Meetings and look to extend the scope to other meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prioritize circularity in sourcing decisions and sustainability education <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strengthen engagement with local communities and stakeholders on sustainability <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure Forum activities are inclusive of all populations and that they are managed in a way that provides dignity for all
<p>ESG pillars</p> <p>● Governance Pillar ● People Pillar ● Planet Pillar</p>	



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