The Future of Food
How leading food companies can turn climate pressure into business and supply chain opportunity
Online conference, 10th-12th May 2022

Some confirmed speakers include:

- Zitouni Ould-Dada, deputy director, office of climate change, biodiversity and environment, UN FAO
- Marika McCauley Sine, global vice president of sustainability, MARS
- Anastasia Volkova, CEO, Regrow
- Matt Close, executive vice president global ice cream, Unilever
- Aldo Uva, CEO, CSM Ingredients
- Catherine David, director of collaboration and change, WRAP
- Merijn Dols, global director of open innovation & circular economy for food, Danone
- Gilberto Tomazoni, CEO, JBS
- David Wilkinson, head of agricultural procurement, PepsiCo
- Anna Turrel, head of environment, Tesco
- David Cleary, director of agriculture, TNC
- Dave Rapaport, global social mission officer, Ben & Jerry’s
- Daniella Vega, global senior vice president health & sustainability, Ahold Delhaize
- Ethan Budiansky, director of environment, World Cocoa Foundation
- Neil McGowan, global regulatory and wellbeing senior director, Kellogg
- Carmen Barker-Lemay, head of strategic partnerships, IIRR
- Laura McMullen, global head of sustainability, Compass Group
- Cathy Pieters, vice president global sustainable ingredients, Mondelēz International
- Britta Gallus, head of corporate responsibility, METRO AG
- Gabriel Serber, director of sustainable development and social impact, Arcos Dorados
- Jessica Attard, head of health programme development, ShareAction
- Speaker TBC, Fairtrade
- Speaker TBC, Cargill
- Speaker TBC, Proforest

Day 1: Food system transformation
All timings are in BST and are subject to change

12.00-12.30 Food system transformation: How will climate ambition and a just transition impact the future of food?

Big companies and suppliers, increasingly the food value chain, are in general agreement that a just transition requires serious reform by all actors.

In this Q&A session, we’ll first discuss what ‘food systems transformation’ really means in practice for a food brand. We’ll assess what business leadership looks like in the context of climate ambition and a just transition, whilst assessing how commitments and pledges play out on-the-ground, in reality.

We will then assess the role companies can play in shaping a positive policy agenda, and what’s needed to get the right decisions on the table to enable a just transformation of food systems.
Renewed commitments on forests and agriculture: How business can shift from strategy to action

Climate action in practice: How investments in support, training and financing can drive supplier GHG reductions

Emissions from agriculture and associated land-use change are commonly reported to account for nearly a quarter of GHG emissions worldwide. A major challenge is that agriculture is significantly less consolidated than other sectors; meaning that reducing supply chain emissions requires action by one-quarter of the global population.

In this session, we will ask our panel of brands to share practical examples of how they have been able to reduce supply chain emissions. We will assess:

- Food brands have established clear targets and a roadmaps towards emissions reductions with key supply chain partners: What’s happened so far? A discussion about results
- Will we soon see breakthrough technologies and approaches to measure and monitor emissions reductions on the ground?
- The investments in support, training and financing required to enable farmers and suppliers to act on climate: Is inter-company collaboration the answer, and is this happening, fast enough?
- Case study examples into how companies have been able to drive supply chain decarbonisation and overcome the barriers to scale
- Science-based targets: Are they really making a difference? What more needs to be done? Are there unintended consequences?

Sustainable nutrition: How large food businesses can show they are serious about the right to food

The United Nations identifies the four key elements of the Right to Food as: Availability, Accessibility, Adequacy and Sustainability. This is a hugely complex area which requires alignment and action across a range of diverse stakeholders. In this session, we will assess the role of business in contributing to making this happen.

Our panel of experts will discuss the major barriers to healthy, affordable diets and provide practical examples of how business can intervene. We’ll also assess how business can work proactively with different stakeholders to influence policy discussion, close the income gap and create a positive impact at scale.

Day 2: Farming, land use and regenerative agriculture

Regeneration in action: What does a regenerative food company look like in practice?

The climate targets which have been set are high, but the stakes are even higher. Many companies are looking towards regenerative approaches to meet their carbon reduction pledges, often through practices that sequester carbon in soil. However, transforming agricultural approaches at scale across supply chains is easier said than done.

In this session we will ask our panel of experts, including farmers, their views on:

- Beyond agriculture and forests, what does a regenerative business look like?
- How can the principles of regeneration be put in place across the entire value chain?
- How leading brands have implemented regenerative practices and the challenges they have encountered along the way
- How to ensure social and economic indicators are incorporated into a regenerative strategy
- Farmer perspectives into the pros - and cons - of regenerative agriculture and their experience of how corporate strategy translates to action on the ground
13.20-16.10 Breakouts

| Benchmarking biodiversity: What does a credible biodiversity strategy look like? | Supply chain carbon: The leading technologies and approaches to reduce farming emissions |
| Commodity driven deforestation: Cross-sector challenges and the key lessons learned | Soil carbon: How to boost soil health and accurately measure the carbon benefits |
| The value of farmer data: How to assess and communicate farmer data for improved crop performance and enhanced risk mitigation | The farm of the future: How brands can incentivise and enable suppliers to develop solutions and adopt sustainable innovations |

14.40-15.30 Farmer livelihoods: How business can boost farmer incomes and enable a transition to sustainable production

For environmental and social progress to be made companies need to work across the value chain. In this session we will look at what companies are doing to improve the livelihoods of families in farming communities, through living income, cash incentives, reduction of child labour, and female empowerment.

We will ask our panel for practical examples of what has worked and what successful schemes they have in place. Some key points we will discuss:

- Global commitments to living income: How brands can overcome the barriers to implement living income programs at scale
- Closing the gender pay gap: The role of business to empower women and marginalised groups within supply chains
- The role of cash incentives: Can this work, and what this can look like at scale?

Day 3: Innovation, transparency and trust

12.00-12.45 How carbon accounting can incentive and accelerate action within agriculture and land use

The agriculture, forestry, and land-use sector account for more than 18% of global GHG emissions. There is therefore a huge opportunity for the sector to transform and deliver on climate mitigation through the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems. This session will explore the importance of carbon accounting in this equation.

We will assess how the right frameworks can function as catalysts and incentives for change within the food and land-use system. Our panel of key stakeholders will discuss:

- The role of carbon accounting rules to incentivise the right interventions
- Types of intervention that can conserve and restore natural ecosystems in landscapes that companies’ source from
- Practical challenges of implementing and utilising carbon accounting in the forest and land-use sector
- Opportunities for companies with land-use footprints to invest and scale up natural climate solutions at the landscape level
- Why insetting may be the answer, and the credible offset programs out there you can use
13.00 – 13.50 Sustainable procurement as opportunity: How the right incentives, education and KPIs can drive sustainability

According to a 2021 McKinsey report, two-thirds of the average company’s environment, social, and governance footprint lies with suppliers. Establishing the right culture within a procurement department is critical to achieving sustainability targets and driving a positive impact within the supply chain.

In this session we will look at the opportunities in sustainable procurement and the most effective ways to engage supply chain professionals. We will ask our panel of procurement leaders to discuss:

- How to start the journey: The importance of a clear sustainability strategy for procurement
- The role of KPIs in driving a cohesive approach to sustainability throughout the company
- The importance of education around sustainability both for procurement specialists and suppliers
- How to manage the cost implications and the potential for conflicting incentives

14.00-14.50 Global commitments to tackle food waste: Supply chain solutions that improve productivity, whilst reducing costs, inputs and waste

Despite our global agricultural systems producing more than enough food to feed everybody on the planet, millions of people worldwide still went hungry in the last year. The United Nations estimates that roughly one third of all the food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted every year. According to USDA Economic Research Service estimates that in the US alone up to 40% of waste occurs at supply chain level.

In this session we’ll hear from expert speakers on the following topics:

- Where along the supply chain is the majority of food waste coming from and why?
- An exploration of circular food systems. What are they and how do they work? Are they a more practical and timely solution to tackling the waste at the source? If so, how?
- Best practice case studies of food waste reduction programmes
- What innovative solutions are on the horizon?

15.00-15.50 Traceability and transparency: How brands can reconnect consumers with their food

Innovation in agricultural technology is exploding as companies look for solutions to transform agricultural practices. However, which 'Next Gen' tech solutions are out there to engage consumers? In this session we will discuss the role new technologies and a new era in transparency can play in connecting consumers with their food and the supply chain it comes from.

Our panel will discuss:

- Practical examples where transparency has driven improved trust
- Detailed examples of where technology has enabled that transparency
- Tech bet smackdown: What are the three enabling technologies for transparency our panel would put money into, tomorrow, if they were leading VC groups

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Who Attends:
The conference will attract 200+ delegates representing corporates, NGOs, suppliers, traders, development agencies, investors, government bodies and other relevant organisations. Attendees will represent a broad range of the key stakeholders involved in defining, planning and implementing sustainable practices across agricultural supply chains. Delegates range from senior management up to director level, primarily from CSR, sustainability, supply chain, procurement, ethical trade, corporate affairs and corporate communication functions, as well as food innovation and consumer insights job roles.

Who is Innovation Forum?
IF is a purpose driven business based in London. Our people have collectively worked in sustainability for decades. Our mission is to help make sustainability mainstream in business. As a platform for change, we research, create, and facilitate debate-driven, focused events and discussions tackling the critical business sustainability challenges around the world. We support this work with online publishing, analysis and in-depth research into challenges we know are essential for business innovation towards sustainability, the circular economy, improved resilience and regeneration.