

# The Future of Climate Action 2021

**25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 | VIRTUAL**

**How to cut supply chain GHGs and achieve net zero**



Increasingly, companies want to show commitment to climate leadership. But how do we tackle the hard to reach carbon reductions? This conference will deep dive into what serious reduction really means for supply chains and business transformation.

We'll assess the potential solutions, whilst placing an emphasis on what is practical and realistic for business to achieve results at scale. The focus throughout will remain on how business can deliver on tough Scope 3 climate targets through innovation, circular systems and natural climate solutions.

*All timings are in BST and are subject to change*

## **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>: Policy, strategy and leadership**

### **12.30-13.00 Strategy: What will COP26 mean for ambitious supply chain GHG targets in business?**

There has been fast-growing momentum behind climate action, ambition, and commitments from companies. COP26 is finally due to take place in November. During this Q&A, a leading figure will set the scene and offer predictions on what business needs to do get ready for COP 26, and the step change expected in 2022.

### **13.10-14.00 Cross-sector insights: How leading brands have established Scope 3 targets that are credible, attainable and in line with stakeholder expectations**

Expectations around climate action have grown steeply in recent years. Businesses have actively responded with a multitude of ambitious, time bound targets. Big brands and key players have set Science Based Targets, committed to Net Zero and even pledged Carbon Negative.

During this session, a number of leading brands will talk candidly about how they got to their Scope 3 emission targets. We'll assess how they were able to manage and navigate stakeholder expectations in order to reach credible climate targets.

### **14.10-15.00 How do you take advantage of public policy leverage and incentives to drive down supply chain emissions?**

According to the CDP there are more than 70 countries currently working to establish policies for net-zero emissions by 2050. Of these, 22 countries have incorporated or are set to incorporate net-zero targets into their legislation or policy documents. And these numbers will only grow.

This session will look at:

- Incentive into opportunity? How leading businesses can respond to the regulatory agenda.
- Where will incoming and evolving legislation have the greatest impact on business operations?
- Given only a small percentage of companies currently have Scope III targets, when can we expect primary legislation to drive that number upwards, and what will it look like?
- How and when will CO2 pricing mechanisms take hold, and what will they look like?

### 15.10-16.00 **The money side: How are financing options evolving to drive down Scope 3 emissions?**

Finance will play a pivotal role in reaching global climate goals. We are already seeing increasing amounts of investor pressure on companies to decarbonize their supply chains. Beyond this, investors are also establishing innovative strategies and financing models to help suppliers along this journey of decarbonization.

During this discussion, our ESG panel will look in-depth into current financing trends and assess which mechanisms are most effective to encourage the laggards to act on climate.

## **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>: Supply chain impacts, innovation and engagement**

### 8.45-9.45 **Implementing value chain SBTs: How can companies communicate targets and engage the supply chain in real, verifiable reductions?**

The science is clear that serious and urgent action needs to be taken to mitigate climate risk. Companies are increasingly aligning strategy and targets with this science. In June 2020, the number of corporate Science Based Targets had increased 136% from the same point in 2019 according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Setting these targets is one thing but implementing real change at scale within company supply chains is another hurdle altogether.

During this session, we'll highlight how companies can best communicate SBTs within supply chains to ensure all actors are engaged and are working towards the same goal. We will discuss:

- Best practice for communicating SBTs with tier 1 suppliers and beyond
- How can companies accurately measure, monitor and benchmark supplier efforts?
- What incentives have proved to be effective when engaging suppliers on emissions reduction?

### 10.00-14.15 **Breakout Sessions**

| <b>Transforming procurement</b>   | <b>Supply chain impact and GHG reductions</b>  | <b>Innovation, product design and circularity</b>   |
|---|--|---|
| Time to reset and refocus: Best practice for communicating change and successful buy-in across procurement and sourcing | Supplier target setting: How do you ensure that the right targets are set, and resourced?  | A circular solution: What is the potential for circular business models going forward?  |
| Quality in, quality out: How to ensure better transparency in emissions data throughout the value chain                 | SME Decarbonization: What are best practices for engaging and supporting suppliers on emissions reductions?                        | Designing for circularity: The fundamentals for closing the loop up front, and helping the supply chain adapt   |
| Trust but verify scope 3 emissions: How do you verify and measure supply chain GHG cuts on the ground?                  | Regenerative is all the rage: How have leaders in regenerative agriculture delivered change already, and what are the key lessons? | Non fossil materials in the supply chain: How will new approaches drive the shift from stranded fossil carbon to lower carbon natural and circular solutions? |

### **14.30-15.15 How to frame low GHG supply chains as opportunity: Practical tips from leading companies**

For big business, the vast majority of emissions originate in the supply chain. We all know the science and we all know how critical it is to decarbonise these supply chains for the good of the planet. But what about the good of the business? How can we best communicate the *business* value behind decarbonisation to key stakeholders?

In this session, we'll hear from leading companies on the most effective ways to communicate around GHGs. We'll hear examples of how decarbonisation can positively impact the bottom line and how best to frame the opportunity to different actors across the supply chain.

## **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>: Solutions, solutions, solutions**

### **10.00-10.45 You are not alone: How climate coalitions of companies will drive supply chain transformation by 2030**

Across all sectors we are seeing coalitions of companies form to fight climate change. In each case, collaboration is seen as a key catalyst towards industry transformation and net zero targets. But when it comes to pre-competitive collaboration, progress can be slow and sometimes frustrating.

In this session, we'll hear from a variety of industry coalitions on their work to date and how this will evolve over the next decade. We'll discuss:

- What collaboration really looks like in practice: Examples of successes, failures and lessons learned
- What are the key barriers to genuine collaboration and how can these be overcome?
- How coalitions of leading companies can influence the laggards to ensure a true industry shift
- Can collaborations collaborate or is that too much collaboration? How to share best practice across different industries

### **11.00-11.45 Natural climate solutions: How to successfully implement solutions that deliver large scale GHG reductions**

Natural Climate Solutions are defined as "conservation, restoration and improved land management actions that increase carbon storage or avoid greenhouse gas emissions in landscapes and wetlands across the globe." They are also featuring more and more prominently at the forefront of corporate commitments and corporate strategies to reach net zero. But aside from planting trees, what solutions exist that are cost-effective, resource efficient and practical for business to create an impact scale?

This session will showcase leading initiatives that are delivering natural climate solutions. We'll discuss where progress is being made, highlight examples of success and assess how to determine the right approach for your business.

### 13.15-15.30 *Working Groups*

| Supply chain impact and GHG reductions   | Climate finance  | Low carbon solutions  |
|--|--|---|
| How can the business case for biodiversity targets be created using GHG targets and tools? | The balance between offsetting and insetting: Business will need both, how do you get that balance right and how do you ensure it is done ethically? | What would a standard on Scope 3 emissions reporting for suppliers look like?         |
| How to make your supply chain 'Forest positive'  | Investor criteria: What do investors want to see from your climate policies?   | Can regenerative approaches deliver Scope 3 GHG cuts OUTSIDE agriculture and forests? |

### 16.00-16.30 **Your supply chain carbon reduction story: How to credibly report and engage stakeholders in Scope 3**

It is imperative that companies incorporate Scope 3 emissions data into their reporting. There is a variety of technical guidance on how to report on Scope 3 emissions. However, when it comes to Scope 3, this is an area that isn't well understood. Simply presenting the numbers without context does little to engage key stakeholders. A greater level of transparency is required.

In this closing session, our panel of experts will highlight how to successfully report on Scope 3 and the carbon reduction process. We'll assess the benefits of transparent disclosure and how best to engage key stakeholders in your journey towards decarbonisation.

For more information email Natasha at [Natasha.bodnar@innovationforum.co.uk](mailto:Natasha.bodnar@innovationforum.co.uk) to discuss how to get involved

#### Your ticket to The Future of Climate Action 2021 includes:

Recordings of all main conference sessions to listen to at your own leisure

Full access to the 3-day live conference, including all plenary sessions, working groups and networking

Additional in-platform networking opportunities, via 1:1 or group meetings with any other attendee

*We strongly encourage attendees to join as a team to ensure that you don't miss anything across the breakout and working group sessions, and to make the most out of the networking and connections available on the platform.*

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