



# Sustainable Development Goals



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
**GOALS**



# Sustainable Development Goals Report

## Helping members to achieve the Goals



### Context and challenge

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were launched by the United Nations in 2015. This report sets out how the goals address the major challenges facing humanity today and provide a roadmap for businesses to address those challenges.

There are 17 goals, which include 169 targets and 232 unique indicators. These goals were generally aimed at a larger corporate level. However, this report recognises that all sectors of global society need to engage with and contribute towards the goals for them to become a success.

Many businesses, including Sedex members, need to put more emphasis on the Sustainable Development Goals and set measurable targets. There is a failure to continuously monitor the progress made against the goals which can cause programs to be less effective. This report aims to bridge the gap between ambition and action for business.

### Actions and considerations for Sedex members

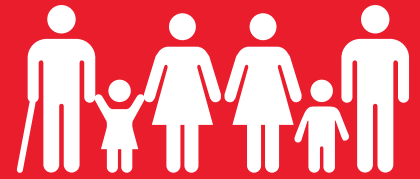
Many companies worldwide will already be achieving significant progress towards the goals without realising it. By breaking each goal down into targets and indicators, you can see what progress you might already be making. This can form the basis of your contribution towards certain goals and provides a foundation to continue monitoring and reporting on future targets and progression. It is just as important to understand the positive impact as well as the negative impact your company and supply chain is having on the goals.

This report shows how you can link progress made back to SMETA audit reports and actions, as well as highlighting the context and challenges of each goal, with best-practice examples from Sedex members worldwide.

### Link to SMETA

The intent of the goals can be mapped against the Sedex 4-pillar model. Within day-to-day business, the SDG targets are often difficult to associate with. In order to support organisations who might only be engaging at headline level, we have mapped each goal against SMETA issue titles.

### Goal 1: No Poverty



#### Challenges Faced

1



More than 800 million people are still living on less than US **\$1.25 a day**

2

Just under 10% of the world's workers live with their families on less than **\$1.90 per person per day**



3

The overwhelming majority of people that are living below the poverty line belongs to two regions: **Southern Asia** and **Sub-Saharan Africa**



4

High poverty rates are often found in **small, fragile and conflict-affected countries**

5

**Children** born into poverty are almost twice as likely to die before the age of five as those from wealthier families

6

**Women** are more likely to live in poverty than men due to unequal access to paid work, education and property





# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Poverty is the widest and most historical sustainability challenge being faced globally.

Many Sedex members through their responsible sourcing programmes, have already actively contributed towards mitigating poverty. SDG targets can be addressed through a number of methods at a corporate, facility and site level, and members can be proactive in addressing this issue through the following:

- ✓ Ensure decent, fair and equal pay to all workers, free of discrimination
- ✓ Offer suitable connections to reputable social care systems
- ✓ Access to safe, on-site accommodation for workers where possible, at either a reduced or fair rate

- ✓ Provide information and access to effective banking systems, where workers are offered financial literacy support
- ✓ Where possible, ensure new opportunities for job creation and upskilling/training are available for current and future workers
- ✓ Awareness and training on disaster-risk issues for vulnerable workers relating to environmental, social and financial matters

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

5. Living Wages and Benefits
6. Working Hours
7. Discrimination
8. Regular Employment
- 8.A. Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
- 10.C. Business Ethics
11. Community Benefits



# Best Practice example



Mondelez, International buyer and supplier empowering farmers to overcome poverty.



## Cocoa Life (Sedex A/B Member)

Mondelēz International's Cocoa Life is a holistic sustainability program rooted in a vision of thriving and empowered cocoa communities as the necessary foundation to a sustainable cocoa supply chain. Backed by a \$400 million commitment over 10 years, Cocoa Life invests directly in cocoa-growing communities and aims to empower at least 200,000 smallholder cocoa farmers.

Five years in, Cocoa Life is driving transformational impact at scale. Mondelēz International is already sourcing 35% of its cocoa from 120,500 farmers in 1,085 Cocoa Life communities, and independent evaluation is showing significant improvements in farmers' incomes and communities' livelihoods.

The third party verified program empowers cocoa-growing communities to set their own **development course** and equips farmers with **knowledge and skills** to improve their income from cocoa and other sources. Going well beyond good agricultural practices, Cocoa Life takes holistic action to prevent deforestation, empower women, protect children and inspire the next generation of farmers.



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



### Goal 2: Zero Hunger



#### Challenges Faced

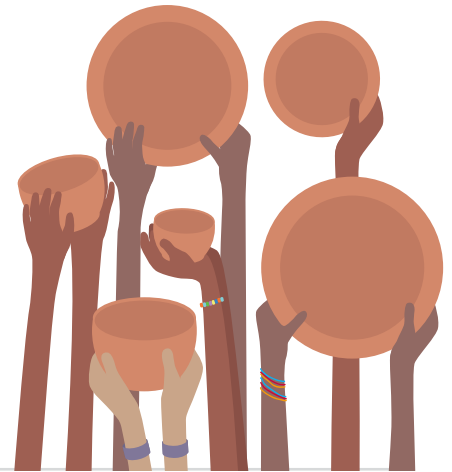
1

Globally, **one in nine people** in the world today are undernourished



2

Southern Asia faces the greatest hunger burden, with about **281 million undernourished people**. In sub-Saharan Africa, projections for the 2014 - 2016 period indicate a rate of **undernourishment of almost 23%**



3

Poor nutrition causes nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five – **3.1 million children** each year globally



4

66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with **23 million** in Africa alone



6

500 million small farms worldwide, most still rain-fed, provide up to **80% of food consumed** in a large part of the developing world

5

Agriculture is the single largest employer in the world, providing livelihoods for **40% of today's global population**. It is the largest source of income and jobs for poor rural households





# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Hunger issues are prevalent throughout both the developed and developing world, with the possibility for workers and their livelihoods to be greatly affected through a lack of nutrition.

Sedex members can take the lead in supporting supply chains and the workers within them, through implementing measures to aid the fight against hunger:

- ✓ Make health monitoring and advice more readily available for workers
- ✓ Provide on-site catering and facilities throughout all working hours
- ✓ Provide information and education on how to fulfil a sustainable nutritional life for workers and their families

- ✓ Invest in sustainable agriculture and new technologies to increase the efficiency of food production
- ✓ Work with your supply chain to establish set quotas and contracts on the supply of agricultural produce to protect food security
- ✓ Consider investing in the genetic diversity of seeds, plants and farmed animals, to increase their cultivation and promote the best practice and knowledge to industry peers

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

3. Safety and Hygienic Conditions
5. Living Wages and Benefits
8. Regular Employment
11. Community Benefits



# Best Practice example

Kellogg is a global food group who are implementing new programmes to address food security for people most in need.



**Kellogg** (Sedex A/B Member)

## Breakfast For Better Days

As a global food leader, Kellogg believe strongly in the important role their company and their foods play in fighting hunger and increasing feeding potential. Their passion and commitment comes to life through their Breakfasts for Better Days™ global signature cause platform. These efforts integrate their nutrition, hunger relief, sustainability and public policy work to address the critical worldwide issue of food security. In a world with a growing population and increasingly limited natural resources, they are partnering with colleagues, customers, government leaders, partners and people to help make sure there is enough food for everyone.

Through their Breakfasts for Better Days™ goals and other commitments, Kellogg is doing its part to achieve five United Nations (U.N.) 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): #2 – Zero Hunger #5 – Gender Equality #12.3 – Food Loss and Waste #13 – Climate Action #17 – Partnerships. Since launching Breakfasts for Better Days™ in 2013, Kellogg has **provided more than two billion servings of food** to people in need. In just 2017, they provided nearly 570 million servings of food to people in 30 countries via donations to 38 food banks, more than double their annual target.

To date, 580,000 children around the world have benefitted from their funding to provide breakfast and nutrition education programmes. And, Kellogg have also supported more than 320,000 farmers around the world through **training on climate-smart agriculture practices** to help increase yields and improve livelihoods.

 **Goal 1:** No Poverty

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being



#### Challenges Faced

1

**Four out of every five deaths** in children under the age of five occur in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia



2

Maternal mortality ratio in developing regions is **14 times higher** than in the developed regions



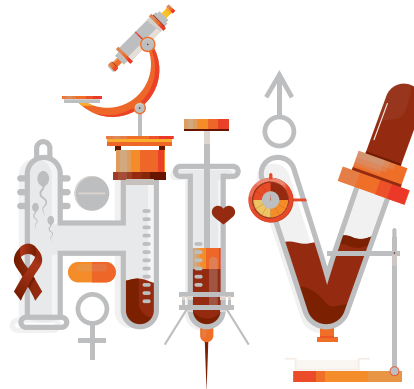
3

Only **half of women** in developing regions receive the recommended amount of health care they need



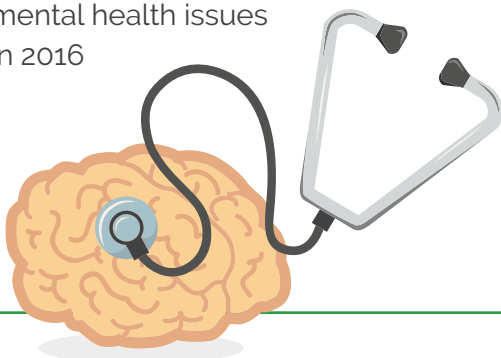
4

HIV is the **leading cause of death** for women of reproductive age worldwide



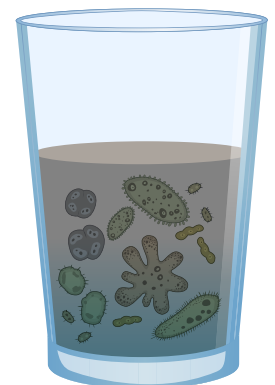
5

It's estimated that over **1.1 billion people** worldwide had a mental or substance use disorder related to mental health issues in 2016



6

**Every minute** a newborn dies from infection caused by lack of safe water and an unclean environment



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Maintaining good health and well-being of employees is integral to the success of any business.

Businesses can be proactive in taking on elements of this responsibility throughout their supply chain:

- ✓ Support the medical treatment and care of pregnant women in the workforce
- ✓ Ensure a substantial quantity of hygienic welfare facilities are available
- ✓ Provide education about health-related lifestyle choices and consequences
- ✓ Provide health monitoring and advice with an established policy to manage worker illness
- ✓ Establish healthcare to function alongside the state system
- ✓ Ensure sufficient levels of training in material/chemical handling and supply appropriate personal protective equipment
- ✓ Control industrial emissions and waste discharge to safeguard surrounding communities that use communal resources
- ✓ Monitor workers' hours and task allocation to ensure staff are qualified to use workplace equipment and machinery
- ✓ Allocate suitable shift patterns for workers to safeguard their health and well-being, ensuring it remains a priority
- ✓ Offer incentives for healthy living amongst your employees

- ✓ Ensure workers have access to appropriate equipment to prevent injury during work, paying particular attention to any transport or machinery related activities
- ✓ Educate workers and where possible, provide medical support on sexual health and family planning
- ✓ Implement human resource policies to combat drug and alcohol abuse, with the overall aim to improve long-term worker health over immediate dismissal
- ✓ Establish policies that cover and support mental health issues
- ✓ Monitor and control hazardous emissions through chemicals, water, soil and air that could affect worker health - using reduction or filtering technology where possible

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- o.A. Universal Rights covering UNGP
- o.B. Management systems and code implementation
- 3. Safety and Hygienic Conditions
- 4. Child Labour
- 6. Working Hours
- 7. Discrimination
- 9. Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10B4. Environment 4-Pillar
- 11. Community Benefits



# Best Practice example


Lidl, the global supermarket chain, are changing their store layouts to encourage healthy living options.



## LIDL (Sedex Buyer (A) Member)

All companies can contribute to the SDGs in one way or another. Lidl's 2014 initiative showcases how a few small and simple changes can help contribute towards good health and well-being. Lidl's Healthy Checkouts initiative saw sweets, chocolates and other **unhealthy snacks removed** from the check-out aisle. These were **replaced with healthier options** such as dried fruit, nuts, and corn snacks. Lidl's research found that 52% of parents found it hard to encourage healthy eating for their children due to the number of unhealthy snacks constantly on offer. This initiative helps to replace poor eating habits, by only providing healthier options at key purchasing sites.



 **Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production

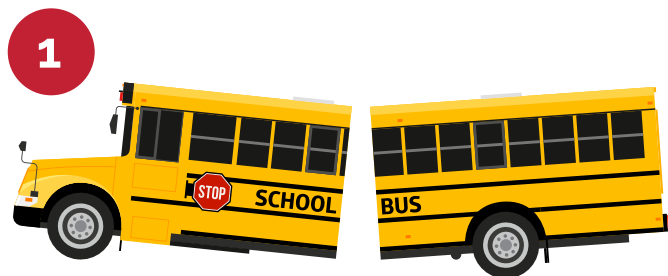


**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

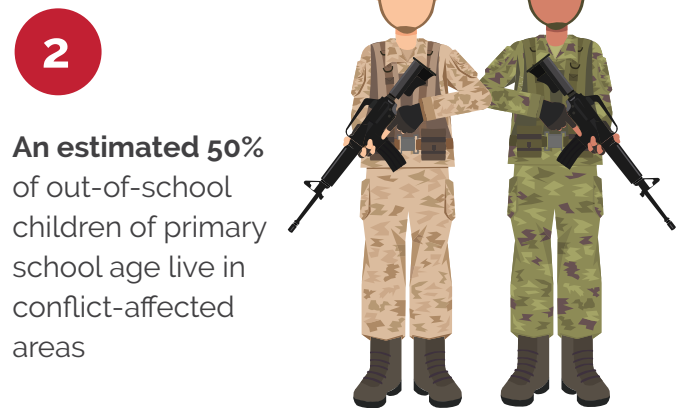
### Goal 4: Quality Education



#### Challenges Faced



**1** More than half of children that have not enrolled in school live in Sub-Saharan Africa



**2** An estimated 50% of out-of-school children of primary school age live in conflict-affected areas

**3** 103 million youth worldwide lack basic literacy skills, and more than 60% of these people are women

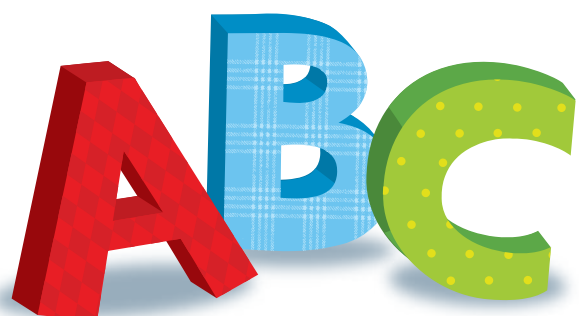


**4** 114 million young people still lack basic reading and writing skills, with 2/3 being women

**5** Better enforcement of early-marriage laws would increase average years of school for women in Sub-Saharan Africa by 39%



**6** 30 countries have adult literacy rates below 70%. 22 of these countries are in sub-Saharan Africa



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Having a strong education from an early age can be crucial to the success of many children's lives in the future. Education should be available and effective for people of all ages to help further their livelihoods and careers.

Employers can be a fundamental support in this procedure:

- ✓ Be open to parent-friendly working arrangements to support educational development of children
- ✓ Provide and arrange nurseries, childcare facilities and local schools to support the families of workers.
- ✓ Provide equal access to training and development opportunities for workers to enhance their skill set

- ✓ Protect vulnerable employees to make sure they have access to the appropriate level of education
- ✓ Create tertiary-level education (technical, vocational and university) entrance routes into employment
- ✓ Offer equal opportunities for education and training for all genders and vulnerable workers, including indigenous people and those with disabilities
- ✓ Promote and encourage the knowledge and skills of sustainable lifestyles including human rights, gender equality, environmental protection, global citizenship, appreciation of cultural diversity and promote a culture of peace.



## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.A Universal rights covering UNGP
- 0.B Management systems and code implementation
- 3. Safety and hygienic conditions
- 4. Child Labour
- 6. Working Hours
- 7. Discrimination
- 8.A. Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
- 11. Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Total Worldfresh, one of the largest fresh produce producers and providers, have formed collaborations to provide new leadership training at their sites.




## Total Worldfresh (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Total Worldfresh specialises in supplying its customers with premium quality soft and stone fruit. In 2015 Total Worldfresh embarked on a strategic partnership with United Exports to grow superior quality blueberries in South Africa.

In February/March 2017, in collaboration with Emerging Leaders & Marks and Spencer, the 'Leadership for Life' training programme was delivered for the workers at one of the first production sites 'Mbiza Berries'. The training offered is designed for around 50 people and looks at the principles of good leadership. The first module tackles **personal mindset**, and the second module addresses the potential **issues surrounding relationships within the workplace or home**. Module three **provides the knowledge and skills to manage money**, and module four encourages workers to **use their new knowledge to establish and drive new initiatives**. These teachings have an impact on worker happiness, motivation and responsibility, which in turn has been proven to have a direct effect on the profitability of the business with increased crop yields.

Since the training, many workers have taken the key principles and applied them to promote their own personal development. They now have a better understanding of how to manage their money and how they can influence and control key aspects of their own lives. There are many stories of how the programme has brought meaningful changes. Several workers have stopped drinking thereby improving attendance and health. A group of eight people from Lesotho have established a saving circle, saving R2,000 per month, which is then distributed within the group according to need. The training from this collaboration has aided workers in realising their potential and helped to further **educate them on how to plan for a better future**.

 **Goal 1:** No Poverty

 **Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth

# Best Practice example 2

A collaborative group, including a Matrix-led consortium of 9 other brands have developed the SCORE partnership in China. This scheme was set up to help 22 small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to identify and implement their own sustainable workplace improvement initiatives.

## MATRIX

Consortium of Brands including Matrix APA, New Look, Boden, The White Company, The Body Shop, Mothercare, Inditex, Orsay, White Stuff and Regatta together with ETI, ILO and Sequa GmbH (Supplier (B)) SCORE: Improving Social Standards and Working Conditions in China

The program also gained funding from Sequa GmbH as part of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's DeveloPPP, which enabled 50% of the cost of each training module to be covered by funding.

SMEs in China make up 60% of national industry output and create nearly 80% of local jobs, however they can be increasingly likely to have lower levels of compliance with national laws and inadequate worker protection measures.

Therefore, the SCORE programme was designed to help deliver improvement for workers on issues such as health & safety, excessive working hours and improved workplace practices.

The SCORE programme's main activity involved rolling out shared classroom learning sessions and on-site training for the SMEs. The training was focused on five key topics: Workplace Cooperation, Quality Management, Clean Production, Human Resources and Health & Safety. Each module included two classroom sessions and three follow-up visits from the training company.





The programme places great importance on involving the workforce in all activities, as well as building cooperation with management to ensure the good practices continue after the training ends. Consequently, the SMEs have all created their own Enterprise Improvement Teams, which meet regularly to discuss initiatives and review performance that ensures the SMEs themselves are the ultimate beneficiaries.

The training progress of each SME is measured and monitored throughout the two-year period of the programme on a range of Key Performance Indicators. The results below from the programme reflect the dedication and work invested by all collaborators and SMEs:

- ✓ Improved the working conditions for over 9,000 workers in China
- ✓ Matrix's partner factory received 86 worker suggestions through the Enterprise Improvement Team that was set up, as well as their on-time delivery rate increasing from 77% to 96% after the SCORE Quality Management training
- ✓ Inditex's partner factory dramatically reduced worker turnover from 16.3% in July 2017 (just after the beginning of the programme), to only 3% in September 2018. Considering the labor shortage in Chinese labor-intensive enterprises, this is a critical development for the SME as it becomes increasingly important to retain skilled workers.
- ✓ Regatta's partner factory has seen unit productivity increase from 91.8% to 97.3%; with first pass yield increasing from 81.57% to 92.7% and defect rate reducing from 11.97% to 7.15% between April and November 2018.
- ✓ White Stuff's partner factory noted that worker satisfaction increased from 75.4 % before the SCORE programme to 87.38% after SCORE training initiatives had been implemented.

- ✓ New Look's partner factory established a new quality management system which reduced the defect rate from 3.5% in March 2018 to 1.7% in June 2018.
- ✓ The White Company's partner factory dramatically changed the physical layout of the factory including installing personal lockers for workers, designated drink areas, implementing 5S, ordered warehouse management and display boards for training notices.
- ✓ Mothercare's partner factory found that their production capacity increased by 34% after SCORE training and the unit energy consumption decreased by 24% from implementation of new clean and efficient production methods.

- Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9:** Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption & Production
- Goal 17:** Partnerships to achieve the Goals



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

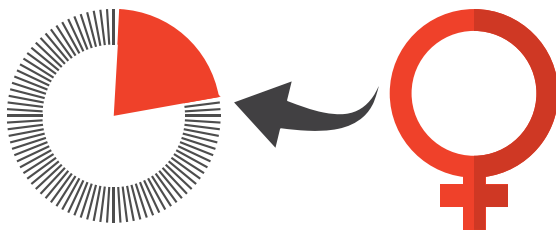


### Goal 5: Gender Equality



#### Challenges Faced

- 1** About **two thirds** of countries in developing regions have achieved gender equality in education
- 2** Among the largest publicly listed companies in the European Union in 2016, **only 15% of executives and 5% of CEOs were women**



- 3** Only **22% of all national parliaments** were made up of women as of 2016

**4**

Female **genital mutilation** has been documented in approximately 30 countries (mainly in Africa, as well as Middle East and Asia).



**1 in 3 girls aged between 15 -19 in these countries have undergone the procedure.**



- 5** Women in Northern Africa hold **less than one in five paid jobs** in the non-agricultural sector. The proportion of women in paid employment outside the agricultural sector has increased **from 35% in 1990 to 41% in 2015**

**6**

In the UK, female managers earn **£12,000 less** than their male counterparts



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Achieving gender equality has become an increasingly prevalent priority in both developing and developed countries across all industry sectors.

Sedex Buyer and Supplier Members have already played a pivotal part in this, and will need to continue to do so in the future through continuous implementation of quality measures. Ways to achieve this include:

- ✓ Providing equal opportunities and equal treatment across the entire business to both women and men
- ✓ Clearly communicate a firm policy of zero tolerance towards any sexual harassment in the workplace
- ✓ Clearly communicate a firm policy of zero tolerance towards all violence and exploitation in the workplace

- ✓ Ensure continuous monitoring and full transparency of employment diversity statistics regardless of business size or location
- ✓ Acknowledge and support women's healthcare (including maternity/paternity assistance)
- ✓ Provide women's sanitary facilities
- ✓ Equal access to social benefits, education access and development opportunities
- ✓ Actively support all employees participation within trade unions or equivalent to achieve gender equality
- ✓ Ensure equal opportunities are available for women to progress their careers within the workplace



## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- o.A. Universal Rights covering UNGP
- o.B. Management systems and code implementation
- 2. Freedom of Association
- 5. Living Wages and Benefits
- 6. Working Hours
- 7. Discrimination
- 8. Regular Employment
- 8.A. Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
- 9. Harsh or Inhumane Treatment

# Best Practice example 1

Twining's, the renowned English tea company, is providing health and training schemes for their female employees.



## Twining's (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Twining's Sourced with Care programme is an ambitious agenda aimed at improving the lives of people in communities from which it sources. Twining's is committed to gender equality and empowering women in its supply chain through **health and education initiatives**, as part of Sourced with Care.

One example is Twining's work to improve women's health, particularly concerning **reproductive health and family planning** in its supply chain in Kenya. Twining's works with Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) to deliver the HERhealth project and through the model, **trains local women** to be Peer Health Educators who then raise awareness in their own communities.

Twining's has already impacted 7,000 women tea workers and farmers through this initiative and has committed to reach an additional 40,000 women in its supply chain by 2020.

Gender equality is imperative for a just society and for economic development and Twining's is committed to making this happen in communities from which it sources around the world.

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable cities and communities

 **Goal 3:** Health and wellbeing





# Best Practice example 2

Jinnat Knitwears, a garment supplier, are helping their female employees' career progression by offering new opportunities and increased training.



## Jinnat Knitwears Ltd (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

In 2014, Jinnat Knitwears Ltd initiated their Female Supervisor Leadership Program (FSLP) to **promote female Line Operators to the Supervisor position**. The garment manufacturing unit consists of approximately 49% women, making this program even more important for gender equality. In addition to the workforce feeling empowered, this in-house scheme has other benefits. Firstly, the workers now have a career progression within the company. Secondly, the organisation's culture, systems, and way of operating also remain intact since an existing employee will be more familiar with these aspects. The **165-hour FSLP training addresses both hard and soft skills** including counselling, housekeeping, safety, motivation, communication, code of conduct as well as production and quality modules.

Over the past 4 years, FSLP has played a significant role in reducing female employee turnover and absenteeism. Compared with 2011, the employee turnover dropped from 6% to 2% and absenteeism from 8% to 3.6%. Jinnat Knitwears have also found that Female Supervisors are better at dealing with housekeeping tasks.

The sewing lines led by them are up to 2.98% more efficient than their male counterparts, yielding extra annual production worth US\$ 1,300,000. There are also societal benefits of the program, as these Supervisors have an increased respect both in the workplace and in their community. Jinnat Knitwears Ltd. now aims to have 50% of their sewing lines led by female Supervisors within the year 2020. These Supervisors are inspiring other workers to adopt the FSLP and move forward in their careers.

 **Goal 10:** Reducing Inequalities

 **Goal 1:** Reducing Poverty



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



### Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation



#### Challenges Faced

- 1** **663 million** people are still without access to safe-drinking water
- 2** Water scarcity affects more than **40% of the global population** and is projected to rise. Over 1.7 billion people are currently living in river basins where water use exceeds recharge



- 3** **2.4 billion people** lack access to basic sanitation services, such as toilets or latrines



- 5** Each day, nearly **1,000 children** die due to preventable water and sanitation-related diarrhoeal diseases



- 4** More than **80% of wastewater** which has resulted from human activities is discharged into rivers or seas without any pollution removal



- 6** Approximately **70% of all water** abstracted from rivers, lakes and aquifers is used for irrigation



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Businesses play a key part in monitoring how water is managed within their supply chains. It is a vital resource across every tier of suppliers and buyers, with the dangers of misuse felt worldwide.

Companies are not only responsible for the direct provision of clean water to their employees, but they also have a responsibility to the local environment and wider society to ensure water resources are not contaminated:

- ✓ Ensure safe drinking water is made readily available for all staff
- ✓ Ensure sanitary bathroom and washroom facilities are suitable for the company size
- ✓ Provide women's sanitary facilities
- ✓ Use safe and low-impact materials that carry a minimal effect on the environment
- ✓ Ensure strict monitoring and control of industrial wastewater/emissions, eliminating dumping and minimising release of hazardous chemicals, with effective and communicated policies in place for their disposal
- ✓ Create maximum efficiency of water use that looks to harness water recycling where possible

- ✓ Communicate and create awareness about competing local water sources and uses, and implement shared remediation procedures where possible
- ✓ Facilitate community engagement projects to raise awareness of water issues and sanitation management

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.B.** Management systems and code implementation
- 3.** Safety and Hygienic Conditions
- 9.** Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 11.** Community Benefits



# Best Practice example

Britvic, a leading soft drinks company, has established water risk assessments and processes to protect the valuable resource used throughout their production sites.





## Britvic (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Britvic, through its 'A Healthier Everyday' sustainability strategy, is committed to managing water use responsibly, recognising it as an essential resource used throughout the value chain; from the water used to irrigate the fruit that goes into soft drinks to the water used to clean the bottling lines. Protecting water is therefore a top priority for Britvic and its approach focuses on three key areas; water withdrawal, water effluent and water within the supply chain.

Britvic operates manufacturing sites around the world and has **completed water risk assessments on all of its sites** to establish which, if any, are located in water vulnerable areas.

All sites have **water reduction and efficiency targets** in place to make the water used go further. The 2020 goal is to achieve a water intensity ratio of 1.4 across their global operations, meaning for every litre of soft drink produced 1.4 litres of water is used. Alongside managing the direct water use and discharge, Britvic also **works closely with its suppliers** throughout the supply chain to **promote sustainable water use**, particularly with its agricultural suppliers, many of which have **introduced water saving technologies**.

 **Goal 3:** Good health & wellbeing

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production

**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



# Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy



## Challenges Faced

**1** One in five people still lack access to modern electricity



**3** Energy is the dominant contributor to **climate change**, accounting for around 60% of total global greenhouse gas emissions



**5** Electricity production generates the second largest share of greenhouse gas emissions, with approximately **68% of our electricity coming from burning fossil fuels**



**6** Burning fossil fuels produces around **21.3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide** per year. Natural processes can only absorb about half of that amount, so there is a net increase of 10.65 billion tonnes of atmospheric carbon dioxide per year



**2** Reducing the carbon intensity of energy is a key objective in long-term climate goals

**4** **3 billion people** rely on wood, coal, charcoal or animal waste for cooking and heating



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

All workers should be able to access a source of energy. Businesses that provide this energy must take responsibility to ensure it is from a sustainable source with minimal impact on the environment in which workers are living.

It is up to Buyers and Suppliers of Sedex to take the lead on this issue, supporting both the workforce and the supply chain in which they interconnect. Ways to achieve this include:

- ✓ Measure, monitor and improve energy efficiency of the business' outputs
- ✓ Increase the use of renewable energy sources from smaller-scale initiatives such as replacing lighting with LEDs, to larger upgrades of energy efficient machinery and equipment

- ✓ Provide education and awareness for staff on the issues and benefits of energy efficiency
- ✓ Provide efficient utilities in worker housing, where these are being supplied by the company
- ✓ Focus on finding energy efficient alternative resources to replace older, less efficient equipment

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.A** Universal rights covering UNGP
- 0.B** Management systems and code implementation
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Tate & Lyle, a multinational agribusiness, have invested in new and cleaner production systems to reduce their environmental impact and carbon footprint.



## Tate & Lyle Loudon (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)


Tate & Lyle, a leading global provider of food ingredients and solutions, are making active changes to tackle key environmental issues. Since 2008, they have reduced their CO2 emissions and energy usage by 22% and 5% per tonne of production, respectively.

In Spring 2017, Tate & Lyle completed a cogeneration project at its corn wet mill in Tennessee, US. At this facility, local corn is processed into sweeteners, including low and no calorie ingredients, and industrial products, which are then distributed widely throughout the Americas and globally.

Representing a US\$60 million investment, their new **natural gas-fired combined heat and power system** has improved energy and operational efficiency at the Loudon facility and helped lower Tate & Lyle's total greenhouse gas emissions by 11% per tonne of production in 2017 alone.

The natural gas for the combined heat and power system is supplied through a **new dedicated pipeline**, which as well as meeting Tate & Lyle's energy needs, provides the wider area with additional natural gas capacity to support local economic development efforts.

This is one of the largest carbon reduction projects that Tate & Lyle has carried out and represents a significant commitment from the company and local site team. The investment helped the corn wet mill secure the US Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR certification in 2017 in recognition of its superior energy efficiency performance.

 **Goal 12:** Responsible production and consumption

 **Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth





# Best Practice example 2

Kariwala Industries, a diverse product and services business, are introducing energy saving initiatives across their operations to make for more efficient usage.



## Kariwala Industries (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

Kariwala Industries Limited (KIL) is a signatory to UNGC and many of their initiatives have been recognised by international and national organisations, with industry associations and government agencies commending KIL for their energy conservation practices. KIL takes these initiatives very seriously and strives to improve with regular environmental impact assessment of their operational activities through a dedicated environmental management system.

KIL has a target to reduce their CO2 emissions by 20%. As of the end of 2017, KIL has achieved a 21.7% reduction in electricity usage per unit of production by **using solar panels and low energy consumption machines**. A 10KW solar plant has been installed on the terrace of their factory, which is directly connected to the main electricity grid. The electricity produced throughout the day is utilised directly by all the machine installations in the factory.

A major part of KIL's production process uses sewing machines. KIL have installed **178 low-energy consumption sewing machines** free from belt drives and clutch motors, helping to decrease the operating electricity consumption by 25% compared with the previous conventional machines.

KIL have also **installed a solar water heater** to preheat a proportion of the water required for ironing boilers, with the remaining using conventional power. Along with other smaller initiatives, such as the increased **use of energy saving lights** in their factories, KIL are showing how any business has the potential to implement significant changes to increase efficient energy usage.

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities

 **Goal 13:** Climate Action



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



# Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth



## Challenges Faced

1

Global **unemployment increased** from 170 million in 2007 to nearly 202 million in 2012, of which about 75 million are young women and men



2

**470 million jobs** are needed globally for new entrants to the labour market between 2016 and 2030

5

The average **gender pay gap is 23%**, with women consistently posted in the lowest-paid and least-secure areas of work



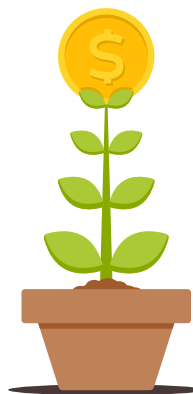
3

Nearly **2.2 billion people** live below the US\$1.90 poverty line and that poverty eradication is only possible through stable and well-paid jobs



4

Billionaires saw their wealth **increase by \$362 billion** in 2016. This increase could have ended global extreme poverty seven times over



6

Amongst **persons with disabilities**, men are almost twice as likely to have jobs than women



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Every worker across all tiers of the supply chain has the right to work in a clean and safe environment.

It's the company's responsibility to make sure that these standards are maintained, as a decent workforce tends to propel higher levels of productivity. In turn, this has the potential to contribute to greater economic growth. There is an abundance of ways businesses can contribute to this goal:

- ✓ Providing and ensuring equal opportunities and equal treatment to all staff regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation
- ✓ Maintaining clean and safe working conditions for all staff
- ✓ Ensuring decent, fair and equal pay being provided on time
- ✓ Reducing waste along with implementation of recycling initiatives and facilities where staff are trained on their use
- ✓ Collaborating on projects and sharing best-practice to encourage improved results
- ✓ Offering and implementing youth employment and apprenticeship schemes throughout the business

- ✓ Implementing policies on the identification and removal of forced, trafficked and child labour, ensuring these potential workers are supported throughout the process
- ✓ Protecting the labour rights of all workers, especially migrant workers and female migrants, as well as those in precarious positions

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.A.** Universal Rights covering UNGP
- 0.B** Management Systems & Code Implementation
  - 1.** Freely chosen employment
  - 2.** Freedom of Association
  - 3.** Safety and hygienic conditions
  - 4.** Child Labour
  - 5.** Wages and Benefits
  - 6.** Working Hours
  - 7.** Discrimination
  - 8** Regular Employment
  - 8.A.** Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
  - 9.** Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
  - 10A.** Entitlement to Work
  - 10C.** Business Ethics

# Best Practice example 1

Cotton On Group, an Australian fashion retail chain, are implementing training schemes to educate their farmers in sustainable agricultural methods.



## Cotton On Group (Sedex Buyer (A) Member)

Cotton On Group is committed to supporting ethically and sustainably sourced cotton in order to create positive change in farming communities globally.


To achieve this, they have **partnered** with Business for Development, Base Titanium and the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to launch their first sustainable cotton programme in Kwale County, Kenya.

The project aims to improve the livelihoods of the Kwale community by **increasing agricultural productivity** in the region, creating a pathway out of poverty. **Farmers are trained in sustainable cotton farming practices**, are **assisted in establishing their farms**, and the Group is committed to purchasing 100% of the cotton lint produced.

Smallholder farmers have been **guided to organise themselves into a functioning, democratic, cooperative structure**, the PAVI Kwale Farmers' Co-operative Society Limited.

This is the driving force for generating sustainable economic growth for the region. This structure aims to establish a self-proficient community with an enduring connection to global commercial markets, negating the need for ongoing funding.

With more than 1,500 farmers currently involved and a view to reaching 10,000 by 2020, the program has acted as a catalyst for economic activity and provided employment opportunities for local people where very few previously existed.

 **Goal 8:** Decent Work and Economic Growth

 **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals





# Best Practice example 2

Princes, a leading food and drinks brand, are working to ensure their recruitment of workers is fair and provides employees with new skills and advice to establish long-term relationships.



## Princes (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

Princes Tuna (Mauritius) supplies mainly canned and pouch branded and own brand tuna products to a number of retailers across the UK and continental Europe. When Princes Tuna (Mauritius) acquired a second processing plant on the Indian Ocean Island in 2015, it took on the major challenge of **aligning its working practices with the firm's existing factory**. Ensuring the newly acquired business met all the requirements of these schemes, while overcoming initial staff fears of job losses, required a major effort.

The Mauritius labour force is light, and to meet its requirements, Princes recruits approximately a quarter of its workforce from Bangladesh. Bangladeshi employees tend to stay for four to eight years before heading back home. A pipeline of willing and vetted migrants is required to replace those whose time is finished on the island. Achieving this while ensuring no exploitation of migrant workers requires expertly careful managing.

Princes **works with just one recruitment agency** in Bangladesh, and has done since 1999. It wants to maintain a close and long-term relationship to minimise the risk of bad practice creeping into any stage of the process. In addition, the Head of Human Resources regularly travels to Bangladesh to **offer skills and advice** and to talk through Princes' requirements. Trust between the recruiter, the prospective employee and the employer is absolutely fundamental.

The approach delivers results. Retention is high, employees positively engage with the business, and make recommendations to friends and families. A number of workers have voluntarily returned to Princes Tuna (Mauritius) to secure long-term contracts.

Princes are pleased to have been invited to share their learnings and best practices around the Employer Pays Principle with the Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment.

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities

 **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being

 **Goal 4:** Quality Education



# Best Practice example 3



G's Fresh is an international family-led business that supplies fresh produce to all major supermarkets in the UK, Europe and USA.

Through their "Delivering our Values Ethics Programme", G's Fresh has committed to continually improving the protection of human rights and labour conditions within its supply chain.

## G's Fresh's Ethics Programme (Buyer/Supplier (AB))

This programme has four pillars through which they are improving due diligence; Mitigation, Detection, Management, and Ownership. Their mitigation step is all about establishing best practice in labour management, to create the right environment for worker's rights to be upheld. They've created a greater focus on ethical recruitment, particularly through increased transparency in the early stages. In addition, they have introduced best practice contractual arrangement with their third-party agencies to improve their ethical agent management.

Finally, within mitigation, G's Fresh have created extensive ethics induction and training packages for both seasonal and permanent staff to ensure workers fully understand their rights.

The second pillar is Detection, where G's Fresh conduct extensive internal audits along with 'beyond audit' strategies to increase the identification capacity on sensitive issues, which can then be appropriately addressed. Their third stage of Management uses a mix of analytical data systems and project-based strategies to collaboratively management complex issues. Using their Ethical Screening Procedure, along with risk assessment tools such as their Labour Provider Risk Assessment and Modern Slavery Risk Assessment, enables G's Fresh to monitor their operations and create a risk-based decision-making process. Their final stage is Ownership; this includes an internal training scheme to cover all ethics topics, as well as collaborations with several industry working groups aimed at raising labour standards in the country.

G's Fresh's programme is an example of how companies can take ownership of improving due diligence in the supply chain, helping to detect and remediate potential issues.

 **Goal 4:** Quality Education

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities

 **Goal 16:** Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



# Best Practice example 4

Ethical Migrant Recruitment Policy – ensuring safe and freely-chosen employment for our workers



## Thai Union (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

Thai Union Group PCL is one of the world's leading seafood companies, bringing high quality, healthy, tasty and innovative seafood products to customers across the world for more than 40 years.

### Challenge faced

Migrant workers can be faced with a number of risks when they look for work. Alongside potentially dangerous travel, they can also be vulnerable to labour exploitation, and particularly debt bondage.

Throughout the recruitment process, workers may have to deal with several agencies, government officials and other parties, and may be at risk of exploitation. They may be charged recruitment and other fees that aren't always made clear upfront and that can mount up quickly.

If they're forced to borrow money to repay these debts, this can place them in debt bondage as they will have to work to pay off debts, rather than for their own benefit. All too often, this financial exploitation can be compounded by being misled about pay and conditions at their destination, or even having their passports confiscated on arrival.

### Solution(s)

To address these issues in their Thailand seafood processing factories, Thai Union established its Ethical Migrant Recruitment Policy in 2016. This policy does not necessarily envisage a zero-cost model for workers but aims to significantly reduce migrants' costs by directly managing recruitment and eliminating recruitment service fees.





The Policy has a set of principles that ensure recruitment and hiring are managed consistently, professionally, fairly and transparently. It seeks to ensure safe migration, reduce vulnerability of labour exploitation and significantly reduce workers' recruitment costs. Additionally, agencies are required to be fully transparent on costs, disclose all charges and clearly publish their terms of business.

The Policy was launched and implemented with the support of the Migrant Workers Rights Network (MWRN), a membership-based civil society organisation for migrant workers from Myanmar residing and working mainly in Thailand. In 2019, to understand the successes and challenges of Thai Union's efforts, Humanity United and The Freedom Fund commissioned ethical trade consultancy Impactt to conduct a six-month, independent evaluation of the implementation of the Policy.

### Results

Impactt carried out a comprehensive evaluation, involving direct interviews with workers and Thai Union, review of documents and visiting sites and migrant communities based around Thai Union factories, as well as a village in Myanmar where many Thai Union employees have homes.

The evaluation found significant improvements. Workers recruitment costs were greatly reduced, they felt safer during their journeys and experienced higher levels of job satisfaction. They were also more likely to recommend working at Thai Union factories to their friends and family. Thai Union factories saw a decrease in labour turnover and found greater levels of trust, which led to receiving more job applications than there were posts available. At the same time, agencies were becoming more professional in their approach and were placing more emphasis on an ethical approach to business.

During the evaluation, Impactt also developed guidelines for an ethical recruitment roadmap for companies to follow when working towards a fair and transparent recruitment process. While there is still work to be done, the evaluation helped demonstrate that companies can make major improvements in the recruitment experience of migrant workers and reduce the risk of debt-bondage, if they are willing to invest and take real action.



# Best Practice example 5

Pantaleon, Central America’s leading sugar producer, is improving compliance and sustainability best practice in its sugarcane supply chain.



Pantaleon

## Pantaleon (Supplier (B))




Pantaleon is committed to protecting the labour rights of its 20,700 employees and recognises that this commitment must extend beyond its internal operations, into its sugar cane supply-chain.

Through their Responsible Sourcing program in Guatemala, Pantaleon supports small and medium farm holders to improve their compliance with labour, workplace health and safety, environmental, and human rights practices and legislation. Farmers receive in-field evaluations, tailored action plans, training modules and an easy to follow compliance manual to implement improvements.

By partnering with the the Center for Corporate Social Responsibility Action in Guatemala (CentraRSE), farmers also receive technical support from a dedicated team of specialists to help close identified gaps in compliance.

This partnership also helps farmers to prioritise preventative actions to ensure adequate labour practices are implemented moving forward. Currently, more than 85% of the sugar cane procured by Pantaleon from independent farms in Guatemala have participated and demonstrated continuous improvement.

Together, Pantaleon and its sugar cane suppliers are contributing towards assuring the sustainability of small and medium farm holders and improving the quality of life for their workers and local communities.

-  **Goal 4:** Quality Education
-  **Goal 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities
-  **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



### Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



#### Challenges Faced

1



About **2.6 billion people** in the developing world are facing difficulties in accessing electricity full time

3

**1-1.5 billion people** do not have access to reliable phone services



4

More than **4 billion people** still do not have internet access



2

**2.5 billion people worldwide lack access to basic sanitation** and almost 800 million people lack access to water, with many hundreds of millions of them in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia



5

Small and medium sized enterprises that engage in industrial processing and manufacturing make up **90% of business worldwide**



6

Manufacturing is an important employment industry, accounting for around **470 million jobs worldwide** in 2009 – or around 16% of the world's workforce of 2.9 billion



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

This goal links together key aspects of operating as a sustainable business. Investing in infrastructure and innovation is a pivotal method to encourage business growth and sustainable development.

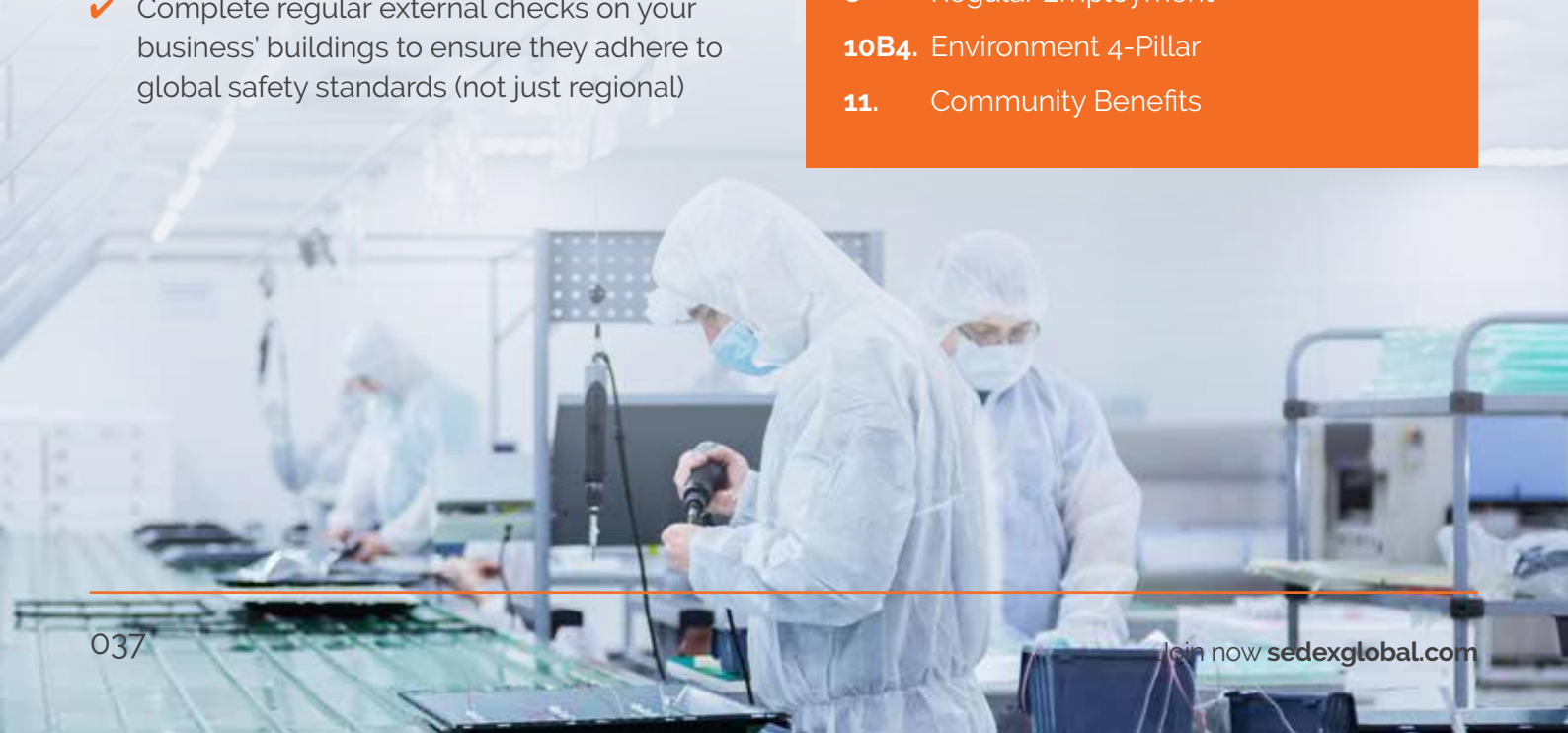
Businesses developing innovative solutions in key industries sets the tone for other organisations to follow suit, by creating and implementing their own methods and impact. Become an innovative leader of your industry or work collaboratively with others using some of the following ideas:

- ✓ Develop and upgrade to reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being in your business
- ✓ Implement clear evacuation policies and pathways for all workers
- ✓ Complete regular external checks on your business' buildings to ensure they adhere to global safety standards (not just regional)

- ✓ Upgrade technological capabilities of machinery and equipment
- ✓ Invest in the research and development of technologies to make production and manufacturing more efficient, with less waste and emissions produced
- ✓ Run joint projects with suppliers in similar industries to collaborate and share knowledge on strong infrastructure and unique innovation practices
- ✓ Procure and prioritise the sourcing of low-impact raw materials from suppliers

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 3. Health and Safety
- 4. Child Labour and Young Workers
- 5. Wages and Benefits
- 7. Discrimination
- 8. Regular Employment
- 10B4. Environment 4-Pillar
- 11. Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Waitrose, a renowned British supermarket, has reduced their single plastic use by creating new packaging designed to reduce waste.

# Waitrose

## Waitrose (Sedex Supplier (A) Member)

Waitrose are investing in innovation to become a crucial driver in reducing single-use plastic, by bringing more recyclable products into their packaging.

On the back of the **removal of all take-away disposable coffee** cups from shops by Autumn 2018 (saving more than 52 million cups a year), Waitrose are now developing innovative solutions when looking at alternatives to plastics.

Waitrose has **introduced punnets made using tomato vines** for some of its tomatoes. The punnets - which combine dried vines with recycled cardboard - are used for the supermarket's Duchy Organic tomatoes. The environmentally-friendly packaging puts the by-product of tomatoes to good use as the vine and leaves would otherwise be wasted.


This packaging is created in a complex process using the latest technology, that **joins together dried tomato leaves and recycled cardboard pulp**. The cutting-edge packaging is widely recyclable and replaces the original plastic punnets the tomatoes were held in.

Nicola Waller, head of fresh produce at Waitrose, says, "We're serious about looking for alternative packaging materials. This uses materials that would otherwise be wasted, which can only be a good thing.

We will ensure that all our own-label packaging is widely recyclable (using the widely recycled logo), reusable or home compostable by 2025 - and looking for alternative forms of packaging is part of this process."

In addition, Waitrose have been increasing their sustainable innovation through **pushing out all own-label black plastic (which is difficult to recycle) and removing single use plastic straws. Improvements have also been made to sandwich wrappers** to allow the cardboard and plastic to be made easily recyclable.

 **Goal 15:** Life on land

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production



# Best Practice example 2

ScanCom International is committed to bringing to market unique material innovation and is a leading global manufacturer of outdoor furniture.



## ScanCom (Supplier (B))

ScanCom is a company based on the ethos of 'Doing Business the Right Way', and this can be seen in everything the business does, including the way it works with its communities, employees, and through its material management for a more sustainable future.

Its UK brand, LifestyleGarden®, benefits from some unique materials which offer both retailers and consumers a real point of difference, the most popular of which is the DuraBoard®.


Built to last a lifetime, DuraBoard® - an innovative material for outdoor table tops - is an environmentally friendly material that is durable, highly UV-resistant and has a unique surface finish.



It features two main components: the first is a unique blend of high-quality eucalyptus sawdust and polyethylene resin, extruded to create a strong, durable structure. The table top is treated with a UV-coating process, receiving a multi-layer coating which makes it highly resistant to scratches and weather conditions.

The production of DuraBoard® occurs entirely in-house, enabling each stage of the process to be closely monitored for quality control purposes. Due to the combination of the two components and the highly durable surface finish created, LifestyleGarden® DuraBoard® is the future of table top surfaces.

However, DuraBoard® is just the start. DuraOcean® represents the next generation of advanced material usage. The first commercially available garden chair of its type, the DuraOcean® is made from fishing nets, ropes and plastic waste collected from the ocean, as part of the Ocean Recovery Project. Produced in just four minutes, each DuraOcean® chair is made from marine plastic and is complemented by Brazilian FSC Eucalyptus. An industry first, the DuraOcean® from LifestyleGarden represents the future of truly sustainable and environmentally conscious design, helping in the fight against plastic which is plighting our world and considered the biggest threat to our precious ocean life.

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production

 **Goal 14:** Life below water



# Best Practice example 3

Green IT technologies bring 'air miles' of benefits. Givaudan's IM&T team is helping to save the equivalent of 530 return flights from Givaudan's headquarters in Geneva to New York in greenhouse gas emissions every through various projects.



## Givaudan (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

For their Data Centre evolution programme, IM&T has been very sensitive about a Green IT approach that ensures respect for the environment in the selection of partnerships. Our new data centre, which replaced the old Givaudan data centre at our Vernier site, has been chosen because of its low carbon footprint which uses less electricity.

Through the use of new and efficient Green IT technologies such as Flashdisk or better cooling of the new rooms, IM&T has been able to reduce the electricity power from a total of 230 kW to 130 kW. This represents 530 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> which is equivalent to the carbon footprint of 530 return flights from Geneva to New York.

"IM&T Givaudan teams are engaged in contributing to our Company's carbon targets and commit every day to finding ways of preserving our planet." Olivier Berthet, IM&T Operations Problem Manager & Continuous Improvement Lead.

Givaudan have also applied the values of the circular economy across their appliances, where they now have a lifecycle management system to replace and renew old equipment. Instead of using external companies to collect and destroy their old IT hardware, they now use a broker specialising in recycling to take their old equipment.

Additionally, their IBM old disk storage solution – replaced at Vernier by the new Flashdisk – is being used by a Danish financial services firm. The IBM servers which were used to run SAP over the past seven years are now used by a company in Sweden, and their Cisco network equipment was resold to other companies across Europe<sup>1</sup>.

Recycling Givaudan's old IT equipment has helped improve to improve their environmental footprint, and their initiatives are great examples of how simple and local changes can have a large impact.

### Goal 13: Climate Action

1. All Givaudan data were removed for security reasons and all storage cleaned and cleared under the control and the certification of the manufacturers.



# Best Practice example 4

AMC Group, a fresh produce supplier, are developing an advanced treatment system for depurating and re-utilising water to improve the circular economy of this resource.



## AMC Group (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

The food industry is one of the largest water demanding sectors globally. This is because the transformation of fruits and vegetables into juices and derivatives requires processes that demand a high consumption of water.

The need for innovation to address excess water consumption is therefore imperative to ensure a sustainable future for this sector - particularly in regions that experience high levels of water scarcity.

To achieve their goal, the Juice Squeezing Business Unit at **AMC Group is part of a consortium with various water engineering companies**. Their objective is to develop a versatile and global technological solution for the water treatment to achieve 100% reutilisation of this resource. A modular system is currently being developed to **manage water flows throughout the season**, to allow water utilisation for both the manufacturing process, and the cleaning and cooling systems. In addition, AMC are also looking at **ways to use the water flows as irrigation water in the fruit orchards** located around their factory.

Nowadays, only 4% of the water consumed worldwide is reused. This innovative project aims to increase this percentage as well as stimulate the cooperation amongst companies located in a dry region of Murcia.

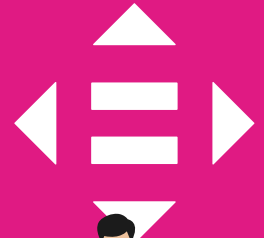
 **Goal 6:** Clean water and sanitation

 **Goal 11:** Sustainable cities and communities



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities



#### Challenges Faced

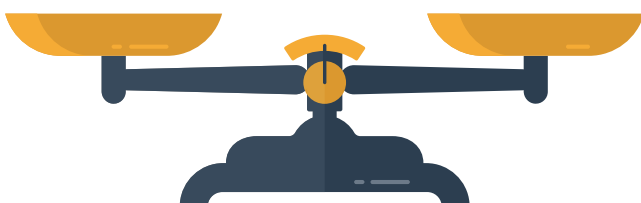
- 1** Income inequality **increased by 11%** on average in developing countries between 1990 and 2010
- 2** **More than 75%** of the population in developing countries are living in societies where income is more unequally distributed than it was in the 1990s



- 3** People with disabilities are up to **five times more likely** to incur catastrophic health expenditures



- 5** Evidence shows that **inequality harms growth and poverty reduction**, the quality of relations in the public and political spheres and individual sense of fulfillment and self-worth



- 4** Women in rural areas are **up to three times** more likely to die while giving birth than women living in urban centres



- 6** Children in the poorest 20% of developing countries are up to **three times more likely** to die before their fifth birthday





# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Inequalities between people exist across the world.

Reducing inequalities in the workplace is the starting point to creating greater positive global impact.

As a business, you have the opportunity to create policies and measures that will protect your workers, providing them with an equal platform, regardless of external societal factors. Ways that businesses can contribute towards achieving this goal include:

- ✓ Implementing remuneration policies to benefit lower-paid workers
- ✓ Actively seeking to reduce inequalities and implement policies to eradicate discrimination against people irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, sexual orientation or economic status
- ✓ Ensuring transparency and disclosure of any policies relating to achieving improved equality in the workplace
- ✓ Providing education and advice about personal finances for those unable to access external support

- ✓ Implementing policies to ensure both men and women are given equal opportunities to advance in the workplace
- ✓ Embedding fair and responsible recruitment practices that are free of bribery and corruption, and also protect migrant workers

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.A. Universal Rights covering UNGP
- 0.B. Management systems and code implementation
- 5. Living Wages and Benefits
- 6. Working Hours
- 7. Discrimination
- 8. Regular Employment
- 8.A. Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
- 9. Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10C. Business Ethics



# Best Practice example

Baxters Food Group are improving the lives of farmers in India through a varied method of technical advice, training, safety kits and mutually agreed contracts.



## Baxters (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Baxters Food Group have been working very closely with one of their strategic partners, Good Greens India, to support a number of improvements in the ethical performance of the gherkin supply chain.

The aim is firstly to provide the necessary **technical advice** for gherkin growers, to ensure the adoption of improved technologies in farms and thereby improve the income levels of the smaller and more marginalised gherkin growers. These technologies use improved agronomy controls such as timing of planting, irrigation and fertilisation, and pest control methods to improve both the yield and quality of the crop. Secondly, **providing farmers and their families with the necessary training and safety kits** (free of cost), improving their safety and protecting them from the potentially harmful effects of pesticides.

Thirdly, **contracts are agreed** with each factory worker/farmer that guarantees a minimum living wage, or in the case of famers, a guaranteed price and volume commitment for the crop they sell into our supplier.

Through this initiative, Good Greens and Baxter's have worked in partnership to improve the livelihoods of over 500 farmers in some of India's more key growing regions.

Baxters ensure the continuation of the initiative by providing an **annual monetary and training investment** into the farming communities. The supplier is also extending the same principles into a number of other agronomy supply chains for different crops e.g. Jalapenos

 **Goal 1:** No Poverty

 **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-Being

**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



# Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities



## Challenges Faced

1

Half of humanity live in cities today. By 2030, almost **60% of the world's population** will live in urban areas



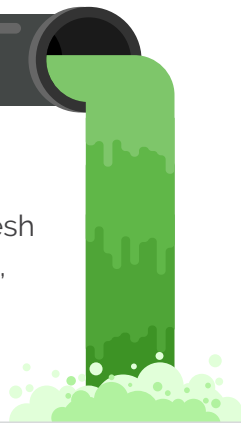
2

**93% of all adults** do not have access to any formal housing finance



3

**Rapid urbanisation** is exerting pressure on fresh water supplies, sewage, the living environment, and public health



4

The world's cities occupy **3% of the Earth's land**, but account for 60-80% of energy consumption and 75% of carbon emissions



5

Today, **828 million people** live in slums and the number is rising



6

Across the world, **1.2 billion people** live in substandard housing



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Moving towards the creation of sustainable cities and communities is one of the most crucial targets to improve sustainability.

Although cities do not take up the greatest proportion of land, their existence has created some of the greatest negative impacts on earth. It is the responsibility of these cities and communities, and businesses within these, to understand and mitigate the direct and indirect consequences of their outputs. Businesses can help build sustainable cities and communities by:

- ✓ Aligning the quality of worker housing (where supplied) with the business' sustainability standards, including optimal efficiency facilities
- ✓ Provide worker transport where possible
- ✓ Support and empower the wider community through community engagement projects to enable self-sustainability
- ✓ Engage with local planning authorities to establish mutual goals and outputs that benefit all

- ✓ Respect and protect cultural differences within the workplace, and in the areas your business operates
- ✓ Increase control of industrial waste, water and emissions, and implement clear policies to address any infringements
- ✓ Strengthen efforts to safeguard and protect the world's cultural and natural heritage, including animal life
- ✓ Implement plans about how to safeguard employees from natural disasters, including the creation and practice of evacuation routes and safe-housing post disaster

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.B** Management systems and code implementation
- 7.** Discrimination
- 9.** Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10B4.** Environment 4 Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits

# Best Practice example 1

Co-op are investing in supplier communities both financially, and through community development projects. Sales of certain products is generating further support worldwide.



## Co-op (Sedex Buyer (A) Member)

The Sustainable Development Goals recognise that investment in communities is a key driver of economic growth and development. SDG11 focuses on sustainable cities and communities and reflects on the associated challenges. For example, the rapid growth of cities, lack of community cohesion and extreme poverty. At the Co-op, 'Concern for Community' is one of their principles and in 2017 they **invested £27.6m in UK communities**. This includes £20m invested in over 8,000 local community projects, from youth groups and sports clubs to community development projects – as chosen by their Members. Co-op also trialled an **impact assessment** to better understand the potential added value that this local funding generates, which found that at least £2 of social value is created for every £1 spent.

Co-op additionally provided £2.1m worth of support for international communities in 2017, including:

- ✓ **investment in water and sanitation projects** in Africa using money raised from the sale of Co-op branded water sold in stores
- ✓ becoming UK founder members of the newly-launched Global Investment Fund for Water, generating a further estimated donation of £900,000 a year to invest in the global fight against water poverty

- ✓ donations for hurricane-struck communities in the Dominican Republic
- ✓ money raised for the Disasters Emergency Committee appeals for Yemen, East Africa and most recently the emergency appeal for people fleeing violence in Myanmar.

🔗 **Goal 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation

🔗 **Goal 16:** Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

🔗 **Goal 11:** sustainable cities and communities





# Best Practice example 2

Sainsbury's are creating guidance through a committed working group to specifically support workers in static home accommodation and caravans.



## Sainsbury's (Sedex A Member)

Sainsbury's are committed to protecting the rights of people working in their supply chains. They recently helped **establish a new food and agriculture-industry working group** to address the substandard living and working conditions that are sometimes experienced by seasonal workers. The group has developed **guidance** (<http://www.freshproduce.org.uk/services/fpc-publications>) to address the lack of industry standards for caravans and static home accommodation for seasonal workers. This guidance outlines legal requirements, benchmark indicators and a self-help checklist to help suppliers and labour providers assess the status of their accommodation.

Sainsbury's continue to be involved in the drafting and revision of the guidelines, providing feedback and facilitating their suppliers to trial the guidelines on their farms. Together with other retailers, they are **developing tools to continue monitoring the standard of all types of accommodation** in their supply base and are also exploring **capacity building** initiatives, including providing best practice examples for producers. **Free webinars** on the accommodation guidance can be found on the Sedex e-learning platform.

 **Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth

 **Goal 10:** Reduced Inequalities





# Best Practice example 3

The Mohammadi Group are implementing measures around education, skill development, health and safety and subsidised products to support their workers and the communities they live in.



## Mohammadi Group (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

The Mohammadi Group are launching several projects to aid the lives of their workers and the surrounding communities.

The Mohammadi Group (MG Niche Stitch Ltd.) provides **free education** to their employees' children. The students also receive free books, bags, food, musical instruments, medicine and health services.

The Mohammadi Group have created a **skill development centre** that has been approved by the Bangladesh technical education board. In the centre, they **recruit workers**, and **provide training** about every sewing process through trained instructors, and includes education on health and safety. These workers are trained for 45 days, before ingenerating into the factory community. These skills are properly developed, with the opportunity to learn at a more reasonable pace, in a supportive environment.

Additionally, the Mohammadi Group have started offering **health insurance** for all their employees, free of cost – with the medical facility Edison Health Care Centre. This offering includes health awareness training, free diagnostic tests and continuing monthly check up and free medicine if needed.

Finally, the factory has launched a '**Fair Price**' **shop** at manufacturing rate which is 20% - 30% less than market price. Any employee can purchase their daily necessary commodities in credit up to 40% of their salary, which is deducted end of the month, helping ensure workers have greater control of their disposable income.

 **Goal 4:** Quality Education

 **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well Being



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

# Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



## Challenges Faced

1



More than **1 billion people** still do not have access to fresh water

2

Households consume **29% of global energy** and contribute 21% of resultant CO2 emissions



3

The food sector accounts for around **30% of the world's total energy consumption** and 22% of total greenhouse gas emissions

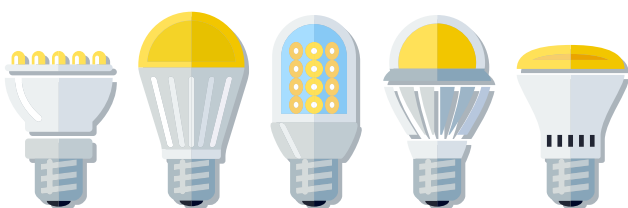


4

Each year, an estimated **one third of all food produced**, ends up in the bins of consumers and retailers, or spoilt due to poor transportation and harvesting practices

5

If people worldwide switched to energy efficient light-bulbs the world would save **US\$120 billion** annually



6

Should the global population **reach 9.6 billion by 2050**, the equivalent of almost three planets would be required to provide the natural resources needed to sustain current lifestyles



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Businesses have a clear responsibility to act and produce their goods and services in a way that has a minimal negative impact on the surrounding environment and people.

Customers also have the responsibility to 'consume' appropriately, and dispose of goods in an appropriate manner. However, businesses should ensure they are allowing for this behaviour to take place by offering clear sustainable solutions. Ways this can be achieved is through:

- ✓ Monitoring and reducing resource use to prevent unnecessary waste throughout all processes of the business
- ✓ Investing in improved product design to increase efficiency throughout a product's lifecycle, including its disposal
- ✓ Information-sharing of good practices and methods with other organisations
- ✓ Implementing stronger controls for industrial waste, water and emissions, despite potential industry norms in given areas
- ✓ Action to reduce food and other waste across all relevant activities, throughout production and supply chains
- ✓ Establishing relationships and collaborate with others to appropriately distribute food surplus, across all levels of business

- ✓ Providing education, awareness and advocacy for employees on how they can meet company targets and policies for responsible production
- ✓ Educating consumers on how they can take responsibility of their own consumption and disposal of waste
- ✓ Engaging in circular economic activities to ensure the products you make (or their parts) can have a second life in another product in the future

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.B** Management systems and code implementation
- 3.** Safety and Hygienic Conditions
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits





# Best Practice example 1


Pret A Manger are reducing the amount of paper cups being disposed of by adding a discount for customers who bring in their own reusable cup.



**Pret** (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Throughout 2017, Pret continued to explore the ways they could reduce their environmental footprint. There were several initiatives trialled, with one aimed at **reducing the amount of paper cups** being used and thrown away. To tackle this issue, Pret introduced a 25p discount to any customer that brought their own reusable cup. In December 2017, the CEO of Pret, Clive Schlee, tweeted to ask how Pret could encourage more customers to bring a reusable cup. This resulted in the discount offer being increased to 50p per cup, as well as Pret adding more china cups along with seating to their shops. This scheme increased the number of customers, reinforcing positive consumer action and above all minimises the amount of waste being created.



 **Goal 13:** Climate Action

 **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being



# Best Practice example 2

Through innovative partnerships with high street restaurants and retailers, CupCycling is giving another life to take-out coffee cups and recycling them into other products such as shopping bags.

**JAMES  
CROPPER**  
EST. 1845



## James Cropper (Sedex Supplier (B) Members)

CupCycling™ by James Cropper is a working example of the circular economy in action and how collaboration between businesses can lead to successful outcomes for both industry and the environment.

Britain's use of take-out coffee cups and how consumers dispose of them is a deeply concerning issue within society, with only a fraction of cups – one in 400 – being disposed of correctly. Britain's love of takeaway coffee shows no signs of diminishing, so a solution that reduces the environmental impact of disposable cups is one that is high on the agenda for both the Government and industry.

James Cropper has **developed the technology to recycle disposable paper cups** on a commercial scale, and has played an integral role establishing demand for paper produced with CupCycling™ technology.

High street restaurants and retailers, such as Costa, McDonald's and Selfridges, have installed cup collection stations to allow for correct disposal, and there are currently more than 4,000 dedicated cup recycling stations across the UK. The used cups are collected by waste management companies, processed, checked for quality, compacted and baled, before being delivered to James Cropper's CupCycling™ plant.

By partnering with such waste management companies, coffee chains and restaurants, the business has created a suitable supply chain to enable cup waste – which would otherwise have ended up in landfill or incineration – to be turned into beautiful papers and given another life.

 **Goal 9:** Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

 **Goal 15:** Life on Land

 **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals



# Best Practice example 3



Varcli Pinares S.A. is a small family-run banana farming business, based in Costa Rica. They have transformed many aspects of their company, to ensure that sustainable agriculture is the only way forward.

## Varcli Pinares S.A. (Supplier (B))

Varcli are tackling social responsibility in their business by creating an active internship programmes with AIESEC, Cun Limón, and Local schools, to help educate future generations on the preservation of wildlife and sustainable agricultural methods. To ensure their workers are treated with respect and equality, they have benchmarked their wages with other banana businesses in the country, and currently provide one of the highest wage rates. In addition to this, they offer and promote the same salaries for women and men and have an additional bonus system for their workers to reward quality in their processes.

Varcli Pinares is also contributing to tackling environmental challenges. Firstly, through reducing their water consumption, which is especially important for Costa Rica. They have achieved a minimal water footprint in the banana business by investing in a new millennium packing system. This has enabled them to reduce the water consumption from 150 litres per banana box to less than 4 litres.






In other areas of environmental protection, Varcli Pinares are now able to pack all their products using only solar energy. In their soils, they have switched to an agricultural precisions system which eliminates the use of herbicides, and they now use the Rayado system that helps with soil oxygenation, helping to promote better biota in the soils.

Varcli Pinares is proud of its Costa Rican identity and has committed to preserving the flora and fauna of their country. They have invested resources into

the protection of the green, carei and leatherback turtles through an alliance with the Pacuare Reserve, and by participating on the board of the Turtle Love Project. Varcli's have also provided over 40 hectares of reforestation, helping to build a more sustainable farming businesses, as well as preserving 100 hectares of their jungle to allow the wildlife to thrive.

Varcli Pinares is an excellent example of how suppliers can go above and beyond to help make a positive impact to their employees, society and environment.



-  **Goal 6:** Clean water and sanitation
-  **Goal 7:** Affordable and clean energy
-  **Goal 9:** Industry, innovation and infrastructure
-  **Goal 13:** Climate action
-  **Goal 14:** Life below water



# Best Practice example 4

Gate Gourmet is a global leader in catering services supplies for Airlines. Together with Iberia, Ecoembes, Ferrovial, Biogas Fuel Cell (BFC) and ESCI-UPF they are developing the Life + “Zero Cabin Waste” Project.



## Gate Gourmet: Life + Zero Cabin Waste (Buyer/Supplier (AB))

At Gate Gourmet Spain, there is a strong commitment to environmental respect and an accountability for the impact caused to the environment through the global process of airline catering. Therefore, they are implementing a series of measures to minimise this impact, and to promote best practices in recycling, circular economy resources and awareness raising with employees.

Gate Gourmet's procedure was developed to establish the basis for sustainable waste management, with the least possible impact, analysing the current management and the management proposal through life cycle analysis.

 **Goal 13:** Goal 13 Climate Action

The project analyses different waste streams generated in the aircraft cabin, proposing minimisation measures and implementing separation of residues (recoverable and non-recoverable fraction), as well as the collection and treatment of the different flows of waste. This project has a focus on the treatment of Category 1 waste, which is the waste coming into the airport from non-EU flights (including food and packaging). In accordance with European legislation, this waste can only be designated to landfill or incineration. Gate Gourmet want to propose a management that allows the application of alternative measures to the treatment of this waste, helping to avoiding dumping.



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 13: Climate Action



#### Challenges Faced



**1** 17 of the 18 warmest years on record have occurred since 2001



**2** From 1880 to 2012, average **global temperature increased by 0.85°C**; for each 1 degree of temperature increase, grain yields **decline by about 5%**

**3** From 1901 to 2010, the global average **sea level rose by 19 cm** as oceans expanded due to warming and ice melted. The Arctic's sea ice extent has shrunk in every successive decade since 1979, with 1.07 million km<sup>2</sup> of ice loss every decade



**4** Average sea level rise is predicted to be **24 – 30cm by 2065 and 40 - 63cm by 2100**. Most aspects of climate change will persist for many centuries even if emissions are stopped



**CO<sub>2</sub>**

**5** Global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) have **increased by almost 50%** since 1990, levels of CO<sub>2</sub> in the air are now at their highest for 600,000 years

**6** **Emissions grew more quickly** between 2000 and 2010 than in each of the three previous decades

# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

The actions of businesses and impacts of supply chains have already contributed to extensive damage to the planet and its people.

If companies can change certain aspects of their operations, they have vast potential to help reduce negative climate action. Sedex members can take the lead in this change, and can do so through the following ways:

- ✓ Reduce water, waste and emissions from internal operations
- ✓ Work with suppliers to develop and support their own climate impact engagement strategies
- ✓ Continuously assess the risks from climate exposure to ensure the safety of your business and workforce
- ✓ Provide education, awareness and advocacy on the ways workers can reduce their impact on climate action, both in their job and in their homelife

- ✓ Provide training and capability building on both climate risks and disasters to ensure workers are prepared for all circumstances
- ✓ Improve product design for increased efficiency throughout its lifecycle
- ✓ Strengthen resilience of climate-related hazards and natural disasters
- ✓ Maximise use of buildings and facilities through renewable energy capture e.g. solar panels
- ✓ Monitor the environmental effect of your supply chain, especially in relation to transportation of products for example shipping, aviation and vehicles

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0B.** Management systems and code implementation
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 11.** Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Food retailer Tesco are investing in energy efficient equipment across all their stores. They have set science-based targets to help them meet their zero-carbon ambition.



## Tesco (Sedex Buyer (A) Member)

As a food retailer, Tesco's supply chain and long-term business success depends on the health of the natural environment. As citizens and members of the community, their customers and colleagues expect Tesco to play its part in caring for the planet.

Tesco has been working on addressing climate change through carbon reduction for over 10 years. They've **invested over £700 million in energy and refrigeration efficiency** in their stores and distribution centres since 2007, which has reduced their estate's emissions by 41% per square foot. Their efficiency improvements have also cut their electricity bill by £200 million per year. Despite this progress, they were on track to reduce their absolute carbon reduction by only 10% by 2020 (against a 2006 baseline), but recognised that this pace of decarbonisation did not put them on track towards becoming a zero-carbon business by 2050.

Following the Paris Climate Agreement, Tesco worked with external experts to set new, **science-based targets** that are aligned with a 1.5 degree trajectory and enable Tesco to meet their zero-carbon ambition.


Their new targets are to achieve absolute reductions, based on 2015 levels, of:

- ✓ 35% by 2020
- ✓ 60% by 2025 and
- ✓ 100% by 2050.

To achieve these tougher targets, Tesco **aim to source 100% of their electricity from renewable sources** across the Group by 2030. Last year, they switched to 100% renewable purchased electricity in the UK, Ireland and Slovakia, supported by renewable certificates, which has contributed to a 26% drop in their carbon emissions since 2015.

Tesco's commitment demonstrates their continued support for the Paris Climate Agreement and UN's Sustainable Development Goals. These international agreements represent the strongest hope that we can avoid dangerous climate change and create a sustainable future.

 **Goal 7:** Affordable and clean energy

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production



# Best Practice example 2

Li & Fung have developed a sensor package allowing factories worldwide to measure and reduce their energy levels by targeting certain hot spots.



**Li & Fung** (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

With climate change being a critical challenge of our time, Li & Fung has taken initiatives to leverage technology to drive energy efficiency in its supply chain.

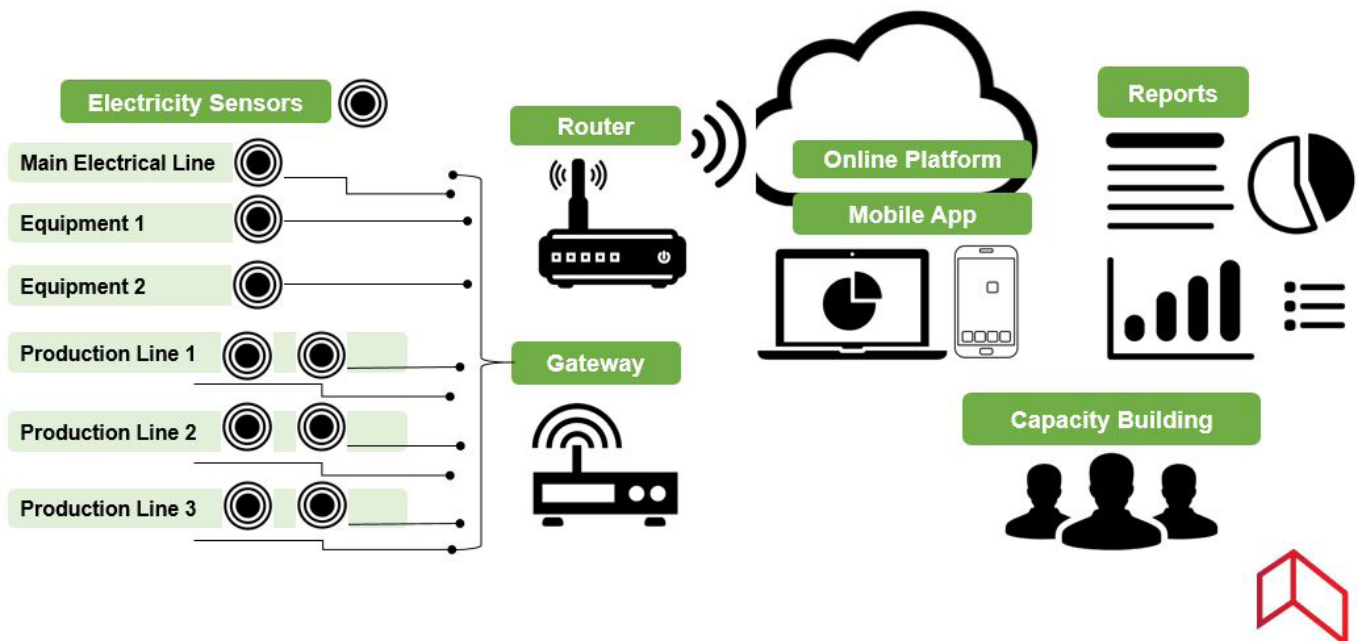
A partnership between Li & Fung and the Fung Academy has involved the **development of a sensor package** that enables factories to understand their energy consumption and take measures towards energy efficiency. The package is composed of electricity sensors, and a web-based tool and mobile app. Data collected will be used to pinpoint certain areas where factories can use energy in a more efficient manner.

Pilots conducted in 2017 demonstrated promising reductions in energy use, mostly through operational process changes. Li & Fung is driving a factory-wide sensor package to engage more factories to save energy and cut emissions, combatting climate change at a larger scale. Li & Fung also aims to develop a similar approach to improve other areas of sustainability such as water and waste management.

**Goal 7:** Affordable and Clean Energy

**Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production

## How does the package look like?



# Best Practice example 3

Asaleo Care is a leader in personal care and hygiene products across Australasia. Climate change poses complex and varied challenges to businesses and supply chains.

Taking action requires commitment and a deep understanding of climate change drivers.



## Asaleo Care (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Asaleo Care limits its greenhouse gas emissions by using renewable energy and improving manufacturing efficiency. For example, in 2010, they started using naturally occurring, local geothermal energy, rather than burning natural gas, to make steam for its paper machine at Kawerau, New Zealand. This directly reduced Kawerau's greenhouse gas emissions by 46 per cent.

All of Asaleo Care's New Zealand manufacturing and operational sites take advantage of the country's low-emissions electricity generation network. That way, the company can manufacture its products and run its distribution centres in New Zealand with a low greenhouse gas footprint.

According to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), forest landscapes must be kept intact and managed more sustainably in order to stabilise the climate more effectively.



Every year, forests decline by around 13 million hectares. Some of the world's most endangered forests, including those of Kalimantan (Borneo) and Sumatra, are rapidly shrinking due to draining of tropical peatland for conversion to palm oil plantations and unsustainable logging for paper products. Draining and establishing pulpwood plantations on tropical peatlands leads to extreme climate and health impacts and increases greenhouse gas emissions.

For this reason, Asaleo Care is committed to responsible forestry and fibre procurement and supports the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) system. The company is the first tissue paper manufacturer in its market to include a no tropical peatland commitment in its fibre procurement policy. Asaleo Care encourages its customers to limit their scope 3 emissions through the purchase and consumption of FSC certified tissue paper products that are peatland free.

The company is also the first tissue manufacturer in its region to use Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for its popular products including toilet tissue, paper towels and napkins (serviettes). Independently verified, an EPD details the environmental impact of a product throughout its lifecycle, providing comparable information and greater transparency. Through the EPD process, the company gains valuable insight into areas where it can improve.

While hand towels are popular in large offices, environmentally conscious employees were concerned about what happens to them after use. Asaleo Care discovered that many people were unaware paper towels could be composted and how to go about it. Large-scale composting services for companies were also lacking.

The company identified a network of composting facilities and collection options throughout Australia and New Zealand. They also teamed up with a local manufacturer of a worm composting system to provide a solution for large corporate customers using thousands of paper towels a day.



Highly efficient, this odourless system breaks down food waste and paper towels into a smaller waste quantity for reuse in local gardens. Waste emissions and its associated transport removal costs are greatly reduced. Worm farms particularly like hand towels which absorbs moisture, suppresses insects and provides the necessary fibre required for composting.

Asaleo Care is passionate about continuing to seek opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the entire life cycle of its products.

1. IUCN, <https://www.iucn.org/resources/issues-briefs/forests-and-climate-change>, accessed 2nd December 2019.

2. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), SDG 15 (2015), <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-15-life-on-land.html>, accessed 29th November 2019.



# Best Practice example 4

HSBC, an international banking and finance organisation, are showing their contribution to climate action through the introduction of green bonds. These are designed to encourage financed environmental projects worldwide.



## HSBC (Sedex Buyer (A) Member)

Many companies on their own journeys towards a low-carbon economy, leading to increased demand for green and sustainable financing. To support the global transition to a low carbon economy,

HSBC has made a commitment to **provide \$100bn of sustainable finance and investment** by 2025. One of the ways HSBC is meeting its commitment is through the issuance of **green bonds**. To help diversify the green bond market, in 2017, HSBC started issuing an innovative Equity Linked Green Bond, where the payoff is linked to a well-defined Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) index. The first of these bonds issued supports efforts for clean energy and lower-carbon technology by securing investment from the private sector. The bond was issued for 38m Euros, and supports a number of energy efficient technology assets, including solar thermals, water heaters, boilers, and renewable energy solutions.

This has led to the mitigation of over 3 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over a twenty year period.

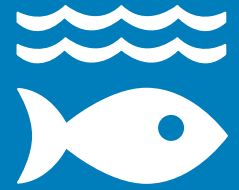
HSBC is committed to supporting their customers in achieving development in a green and sustainable way. As the green bonds market continues to flourish, HSBC will help provide financial solutions to businesses.

 **Goal 13:** Climate Action

 **Goal 7:** Affordable and clean energy

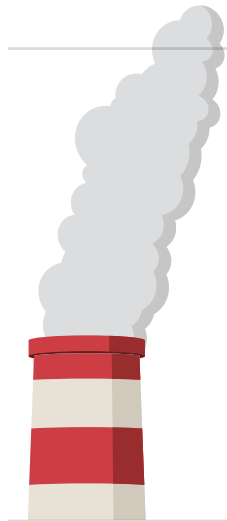
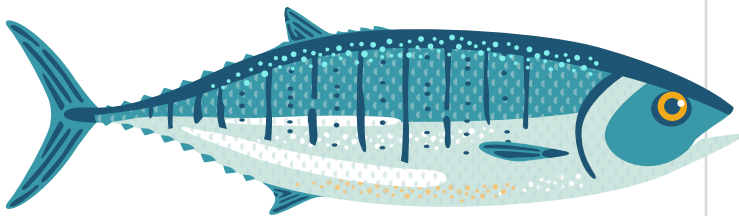
**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 14: Life Below Water



#### Challenges Faced

**1** **40% of the world's oceans** are negatively affected by human activities, including pollution, depleted fisheries, and loss of coastal habitats



**3** **Oceans absorb about 30%** of carbon dioxide produced by humans, buffering the impacts of global warming

**5** Marine fisheries directly or indirectly employ over **200 million people**

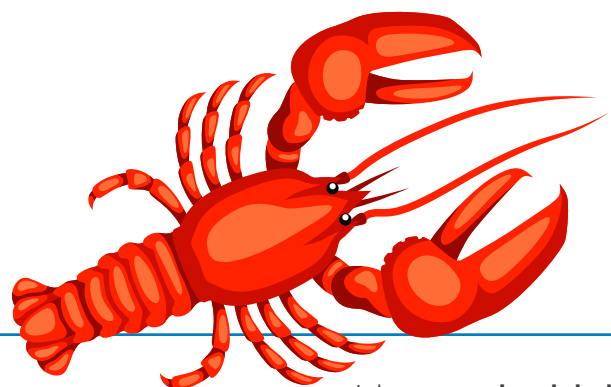


**2** **Over 3 billion** people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods



**4** Oceans serve as the world's **largest source of protein**, with more than 3 billion people depending on the oceans as their primary source of protein

**6** Globally, the market value of marine and coastal resources and industries is estimated at **5% of global GDP**





# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Oceans have an enormous impact on the planet. Poor business practices are causing a significant burden on this natural resource, causing detrimental and irreversible effects.

Issues related to waste disposal in oceans is often directly driven by consumers. It is therefore important for businesses to produce innovative solutions to ensure their products are used or recycled appropriately, and do not end up polluting the ocean. Businesses can strongly influence government policies and the behaviour of people to preserve oceans for future:

- ✓ Focus policy management to reduce marine degradation, especially for species at greater risk
- ✓ Control and prevent industrial effluent and emissions, especially plastic waste, from entering surrounding water bodies
- ✓ Provide education, awareness and advocacy on the risks of human and corporate impact into the ocean, and how to mitigate this impact

- ✓ Work with suppliers to develop and support their own engagement projects on protecting the ocean and its inhabitants
- ✓ Work with governments and provide information on quotas to ensure fair access for smaller suppliers
- ✓ Develop innovative products and packaging that can be recycled or are biodegradable, to protect and support the well-being of life in the oceans
- ✓ Set business harvesting rates, that fulfill national quotas and allow ecosystems to replenish during pre-decided periods
- ✓ Engage with local charities and organisations to either contribute or enable marine protection and safeguarding projects

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0B.** Management systems and code implementation
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Procter & Gamble, a multinational manufacturer, have produced the world's first recyclable shampoo bottle.


# P&G

Procter & Gamble (P&G) (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

When the World Economic Forum declared that by 2050, there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish by weight, P&G was inspired to be part of the solution. In partnership with recycling experts TerraCycle and SUEZ, Head & Shoulders **produced the world's first recyclable shampoo bottle** made with up to 25% recycled beach plastic. The bottle launched in France in the summer of 2017 and is a first major step in establishing a unique supply chain that involves the support of thousands of volunteers and hundreds of NGOs collecting plastic waste found on beaches. P&G are now leveraging this same model to expand Marine Plastic to other brands, including Fairy in the United Kingdom.



 **Goal 13:** Climate action

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production



# Best Practice example 2

DuPont Nutrition and Health are launching the Sustainable Seaweed Programme. This encourages sustainable seaweed harvesting and cultivating practices.




## DuPont Group (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

As one of the world's largest buyers of seaweed, DuPont Nutrition & Health has a responsibility to ensure its products are produced in ways that protect the ecosystems and communities where the business operates. This year DuPont Nutrition & Health has chosen World Oceans Day to announce a unique and new seaweed program that will guide seaweed farmers and harvesters towards the adoption of sustainable practices. Developed in collaboration with the Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at the New England Aquarium over the past year, the program is the first sustainable seaweed program specifically for the hydrocolloid industry.

Designed to assure the environmental and social criteria of sustainability and bring transparency throughout the complex supply chain, the standards will help preserve the environment as well as conditions for the seaweed producers. In collaboration with Anderson Cabot Center scientists, DuPont Nutrition and Health **developed the standards** to strive to ensure the most environmentally friendly practices are followed and seaweed producers in every corner of the world receive fair treatment and work safely.

"Seaweed is one of the principal raw materials in the hydrocolloid industry and our goal is to see these sustainable management practices implemented worldwide," says Erick Ask, Seaweed Development Manager. "Some would call this ambitious, but we want to help educate all seaweed farmers and harvesters to develop a working knowledge of sustainable practices and enhance their ability to become good stewards of their farms and seaweed beds, upon which they depend for their livelihoods and their family's future."

DuPont Nutrition & Health is initially implementing the Sustainable Seaweed Program in Norway, Australia and Iceland, eventually expanding the program to other regions where seaweed is sourced.

 **Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production

 **Goal 13:** Climate Action

 **Goal 17:** Partnerships For The Goals

**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



### Goal 15: Life On Land



#### Challenges Faced

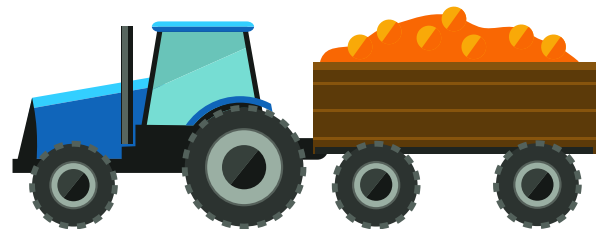
1

Forests are home to more than **80% of all terrestrial species** of animals, plants and insects



2

**2.6 billion people** depend directly on agriculture, but 52% of the land used for agriculture is moderately or severely affected by soil degradation



3

Of the 8,300 animal breeds known, 8% are extinct and 22% are **at risk of extinction**



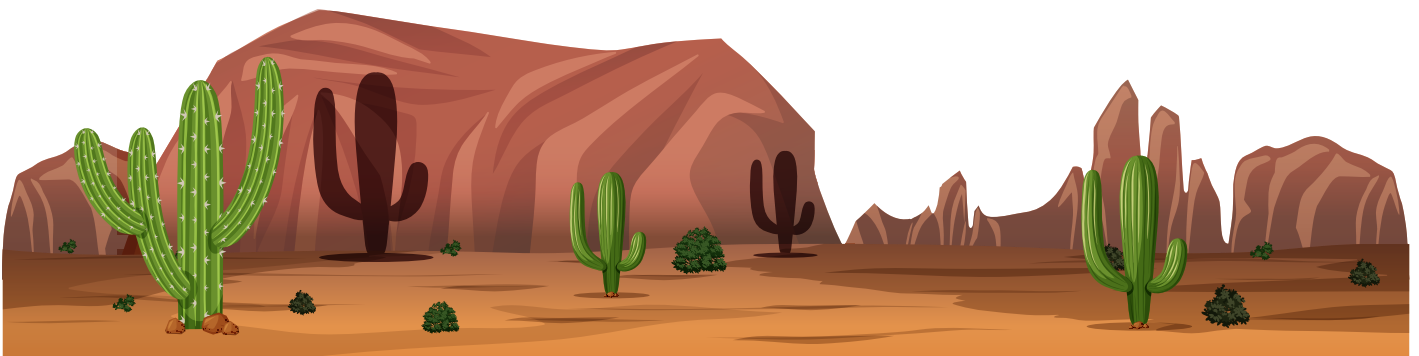
4

**Over 80%** of the human diet is provided by plants, rice, maize and wheat, providing **60% of energy intake**



5

As of 2008, land degradation affected **1.5 billion people**, globally



6

Due to drought and desertification each year, **20 million hectares of land are lost**, where 20 million tonnes of grain could have been grown

# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

Land degradation, declining soil fertility and unsustainable water use are all lessening the ability for the natural resource base to supply food to people worldwide.

Business and supply chain practices, operations and interactions with the land directly impact our ability to preserve it.. Organisations must be able to track, monitor and reduce their outputs and work with suppliers to reduce environmental impacts and meet reduction targets. Business targets can include:

- ✓ Focusing on policy management to reduce risk of environmental degradation
- ✓ Controlling industrial effluent and emissions, especially plastic waste
- ✓ Provide education, awareness and advocacy on the risks of human and corporate impacts on land, and how to mitigate this impact
- ✓ Create and implement policies to combat deforestation and enhance biodiversity

- ✓ Work with suppliers to develop and support their own engagement projects on protecting the land and its inhabitants
- ✓ Work with local farmers to promote the growth of crucial ecosystems and species
- ✓ Protect and restore degraded forests and promote afforestation through policies planting more trees to offset deforestation
- ✓ Monitor land and soil use within the supply chain, and where necessary provide appropriate resources to ensure the protection of land from floods, droughts and desertification

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0B.** Management systems and code implementation
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits





# Best Practice example 1

Arla Foods, the largest producer of dairy products in Scandinavia, are supporting pollination in Sweden and developing a digital database for farmers to increase the transparency of their practices.





## Arla Foods (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Arla's Sustainable Dairy Farming Strategy was developed in 2014. Following a mid-term review in 2017, the strategy has been updated and now includes four focus areas: Animal Welfare, Climate Impact, Good Relations and Interaction with Nature.

Maintaining biodiversity on farms is a priority to Arla's farmer owners as well as to the dairy co-operative. In the spring of 2017, Arla launched a project to support pollination. The project resulted in at least **15 hectares of bee feed crops being planted**, which will support pollination on 30 Arla farms across Sweden. The 30 Arla farmer owners were also provided with a **"handbook"** on pollination with advice on farm management practices, which will promote pollination to encourage further action on this important ecosystem service.

In 2017, Arla also introduced the **Arlagården® Plus database**. The digital database is open for all farmer owners to enter data on a quarterly basis in three categories: Farm Information, Herd Information and Animal Assessment. The farm information data will increase the transparency of farming practice relating to the environment and biodiversity on Arla farms to support the Sustainable Dairy Farming Strategy. Learnings from the Ecosystem Services Pilot in Sweden have aided development of questions in the Arlagården® Plus database. Data collected from Arla farms will be utilised to progress a global monitoring of ecosystem services and supporting activities.

 **Goal 4:** Quality education

 **Goal 13:** Climate action





# Best Practice example 2

Frozen food produce, Nomad Foods, have strict farming practices to uphold high-levels of sustainability. Partnerships allow for an online systems management of their operational sustainability levels.

## Nomad Foods

### Nomad Foods (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)


Nomad Foods, the leading frozen foods producers, with brands such as Birds Eye, Iglo and Findus, have invested a great amount into ensuring that their produce is both good for their customers, and for our planet.


To help ensure they source their vegetables responsibly, they have **developed their own farming practices**, which include principles around soil health, biodiversity, nutrient management, fertilizers and pesticide use and energy management. Part of their approach is to work with local certification bodies and assurance schemes. In the UK, Nomad Foods have long standing relationships with LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) meaning all of their UK peas are certified and compliant with the expected standards.

2017 marked the third year that all of Birds Eye's 212 pea growers completed the LEAF **sustainable farming review**. The review is an online, self-assessment management resource, based on the nine principles of Integrated Farm Management (planning, soil, crop protection, pollution, animal husbandry, energy, water, biodiversity and community), developed by LEAF, in conjunction with Birds Eye.

The results were discussed between the farmer and Birds Eye field staff, and the overall results were communicated across the grower group to monitor progress. It helps to demonstrate performance annually and over time, providing benchmarking together with interactive help and support for the grower. 2017 was a promising year and Birds Eye growers showed improvements in performance across almost all sections of the review.

Although two thirds of their vegetables are already grown according to their own sustainable agriculture standards, Nomad want to go further. They see the value and credibility that independent certification schemes like LEAF bring, and they are working towards harmonising their approach to this across the group with a single certification body covering all their vegetables. This will be started in 2018, where they will be measuring existing practices across their portfolio and rolling out best practice findings to a wider variety of vegetables that they source.

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production

 **Goal 6:** Clean water and sanitation



# Best Practice example 3

PEBA Tandem, a manufacturing company for the outdoor garden industry, are aiming to cover 7.1 million hectares of degraded forests throughout the Philippines, creating millions of jobs at the same time.



## PEBA Tandem (Sedex Supplier (B) Member)

### Tree Planting

PEBA Tandem have engaged in an annual CSR activity, in partnership with DENR (Department of Environment & Natural Resources) - a government entity that monitor and ensure environmental conservation and sustainability.

DENR have implemented their National Greening Program of the Philippines, which aims to **cover the remaining 7.1 million hectares of unproductive and degraded forestlands** nationwide. To date, approximately 1.7 million hectares were planted with 1.3 billion seedlings, this also resulted in the creation of some four million jobs that benefitted around 558,323 individuals with employment. The current administration have targets to reforest approximately 1.2 million hectares between 2017 to 2022. Their objective is to provide opportunities for communities to produce sustainable livelihood and to encourage local government units and organise upland communities to develop new forest parks. They are also seeking to attract private sector's interest to invest in forestry-related undertakings, such as tree plantation development and forest protection projects, as a measure to achieve carbon neutrality.

In Cebu, where PEBA Tandem is located, the areas of reforestation and rehabilitation are those where survival rates of fruit-bearing trees are low, mostly on the mountainside. Aside from the reforestation program, this activity also provides a livelihood to the farmers' organisations being tapped by DENR to monitor the seedling development. PEBA Tandem supports this program annually by buying seedlings and sending employees to plant the identified areas.



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



#### Challenges Faced

**1**

**603 million women** live in countries where domestic violence is not considered a crime



**2**

Every minute nearly **20 people** are **displaced** as a result of conflict or persecution



**3**

There are **10 million stateless people** around the world who have been denied a nationality and related rights



**4**

Corruption, bribery, theft and tax evasion cost some US **\$1.26 trillion for developing countries per year**. This amount of money could be used to lift those who are living on less than US\$1.25 a day above the poverty line for at least six years

**5**

The rate of children leaving primary school in conflict affected countries reached 50% in 2011, which accounts to **28.5 million children**



**6**

**1 in 10 children** now live in conflict-affected area





# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

The role of businesses in preventing corruption and actively putting a stop to certain factors such as tax evasion and conflict is crucial.

This goal is looking for organisations who comply with the local and international laws, as well as being an industry leader by teaching others the importance of these processes. If issues relating to forced labour, child labour and trafficking amongst others are found in the supply chain, the risks to these peoples, and businesses, can be detrimental. Ways for business to counteract this are:

- ✓ Recognise and respect local and international law, educating the workforce on the importance of abiding by these processes. Businesses should pay particular attention to migrant and international workers who may not have the same knowledge and understanding of local law
- ✓ Invest in worker welfare and support with an open and effective whistleblowing procedure and policy in place
- ✓ Implement an action plan and remuneration process to enable the discovery of child, forced and trafficked labour, where the focus is on helping them achieve security
- ✓ Provide transparent payment terms for all suppliers regardless of their size
- ✓ Provide open transparency across all financial transactions, using reputable bodies to aid these processes

- ✓ Implement actions and seek the correct authorities to contact in case of corruption or bribery
- ✓ Actively implement and/or use available tools that anonymously collect feedback from workers, which can be used to create better informed business decisions
- ✓ Ensure effective, accountable and transparent decision-making across all levels, with the potential to create a board of decision makers, rather than a sole decider, to minimise risk of potential corruption and bribery impacts
- ✓ Strengthen HR processes and ensure copies of correct documents are filed and updated on all workers

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- o.A. Universal Rights covering UNGP
- o.B. Management systems and code implementation
- 1. Freely chosen employment
- 2. Freedom of association
- 4. Child Labour
- 6. Working Hours
- 7. Discrimination
- 9. Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10A. Entitlement to Work
- 10C. Business Ethics

# Best Practice example

Global brewer, Carlsberg, are training employees in high-risk markets and anti-corruption. They provide supporting manuals through their 'Speak Up' programme, and ensure compliance risk assessments are carried out across the business.



## Carlsberg (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Carlsberg are committed to ensuring their business acts responsibly across all aspects of their work. All Carlsberg employees are **trained in high-risk markets on anti-corruption** annually, with their Anti-Bribery & Corruption Policy being launched in 2017. In addition, Carlsberg have produced detailed **supporting manuals and guidance documents** which were finalised in December 2017.

In 2017, the Carlsberg Group carried out **compliance risk assessments** across all departments. Based on their findings, they adapted the approach and strategy to cover both emerging and existing risks. Third-party screening procedures are part of the Carlsberg Group's standard procurement process, helping them mitigate the risk of bribery and corruption. Their key objectives are to ensure full compliance with the relevant legislation and industry best practices, and to develop new, more tailored and user-friendly screening protocols.

Secondly, Carlsberg encourage their **employees to report any suspected matters of misconduct** to their line manager or compliance function, or to file a report via their anonymous 'Speak

Up' system. In 2017, they promoted this system globally with communication materials about how and where to speak up. The system is available in over 30 languages and can be accessed via web or phone. They have also developed a **'Speak Up' Manual** and a Misconduct Investigation Manual to give guidance for employees. Reported matters are reviewed by their newly established Integrity Committee, chaired by the CFO and includes representatives of different disciplines. The purpose of the Integrity Committee is to govern key matters of misconduct in relation to reporting, investigation and follow-up. In 2017, 53 matters were reported through their 'Speak Up' system. This represented a significant increase, as in previous years they had received between 23-30 reports. Of all 2017 Speak Up matters investigated and closed, 29% were upheld and sanctions varied from verbal reprimands to dismissal. Their goal in 2018 is to continue to raise awareness and further improve their transparency around speaking up.

 **Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth

 **Goal 10:** Reduced inequalities

**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

### Goal 17: Partnerships For The Goals



#### Challenges Faced



1

In 2016, six countries met the international target to keep official development assistance at or above **0.7% of gross national income**

2

**79% of imports** from developing countries enter developed countries duty-free



5

The debt burden on developing countries remains stable at about **3% of export revenue**



6

More than **four billion people** do not use the internet, and 90% of them are from the developing world



3

In 2016, official development assistance stood at **US\$142.6 billion**.



4

In 2016, international remittances totalled **USD\$575 billion** - 75% of this went to developing countries



# Actions and considerations for Sedex members

The need for businesses to collaborate with one another is what drives the Sustainable Development Goals.

Organisations at all levels of the supply chain should be looking to create new partnerships, and upkeep existing cooperations with those who are leading on certain goals. Partnerships are effective at all levels, from government to small-scale suppliers coming together to create positive change for the future. Businesses can achieve these goals by:

- ✓ Initiating new collaborative projects with other organisations in the supply chain
- ✓ Proactively engaging with organisations working within the same sector to create new projects or bolster existing ones
- ✓ Ongoing charitable and philanthropic engagement
- ✓ Facilitating of open trade agreements with businesses in developing economies
- ✓ Encouraging and promote effective public, private and civil society partnerships

## Linking through to SMETA issue title

- 0.A.** Universal Rights covering UNGP
- 0.B** Management Systems and Code Implementation
- 1.** Freely chosen employment
- 2.** Freedom of Association
- 3.** Safety and hygienic conditions
- 4.** Child Labour
- 5.** Living Wages and Benefits
- 6.** Working Hours
- 7.** Discrimination
- 8** Regular Employment
- 8.A.** Sub-Contracting and Homeworking
- 9.** Harsh or Inhumane Treatment
- 10A.** Entitlement to Work
- 10B4.** Environment 4-Pillar
- 10C.** Business Ethics
- 11.** Community Benefits



# Best Practice example 1

Confectionery producer, Ferrero, are engaging with multiple partners to contribute to the eradication of workforce child labour in Turkey.



## Ferrero (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Partnerships are key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Since 2013, Ferrero has been participating in a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) with the European Association of Chocolate, Biscuit & Confectionery Industries (CAOBISCO) and the ILO on a project to eliminate the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) in seasonal agriculture in hazelnut harvesting in Turkey. To improve the labour condition in the hazelnut sector in Turkey, it is crucial to tackle the issue with a systemic solution through a multi-stakeholder collaboration.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the eradication of workforce child labour in seasonal agriculture in line with the Turkish Government's National Employment Strategy 2014 - 2023. The project is funded by CAOBISCO (the private sector) and the Dutch Government, and implemented jointly by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Turkey (MoLSS), provincial governments and the ILO. The activities of the project include **building institutional capacity, direct interventions of preventing and withdrawing child labour, as well as awareness raising.**

In 2015, Ferrero continued to support this partnership for a further 3 years. Based on the previous experience, the project has scaled up its activities and expanded its geography of interventions from the East Black Sea to the West Black Sea region.

It has also selected cities in the South East Anatolian Region where seasonal agricultural workers are densely populated. The new phase of the project has further been extended until 2020.

This ongoing PPP has successfully contributed to the development of a comprehensive policy on the ground in particular with its support to conceive 3 consecutive policy documents issued by the Turkish MoLSS, Prime Minister and the Ministry of National Education (MoNE), namely "National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (2017 - 2023)", "Prime Minister Circular (2017/6) on Seasonal Agricultural Workers", and "MoNE Circular (2016/5) on Access to Education of Children of Seasonal Agricultural Workers and Nomadic or Semi-Nomadic People".



# Best Practice example 2

UK food manufacturer, William Jackson Food Group, is working with the Sustainable Futures Project.



This brings together farmers for best-practice knowledge sharing and support from subject matter experts on certain topics.

## William Jackson Food Group (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Founded in 1851, the William Jackson Food Group (WJFG) is a family-owned food manufacturer and retailer based in Yorkshire in Northern England. The Group takes its environmental and social responsibilities seriously and has a set of public targets including collaboration within its supply chain. Figures published by the UK Government's Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) show that the impact from greenhouse gas emissions from the UK's food and drink sector arise mainly from farming, which has an impact seven times that of the manufacturing part of the chain. Alongside reductions in its own energy use, the most effective way for WJFG to have a significant positive impact on climate change is to work with other actors on the agriculture stage.

As a core part of the strategy to deliver this change, WJFG is an industry-sector member of the Sustainable Futures project which **brings together farmers for peer-to-peer best-practice knowledge-sharing**. Events within the project are aimed at the farmer members, who collectively farm more than 10% of the land in Yorkshire, though overall membership also includes academics, NGOs and Utility companies. There is a small secretariat that organises the activities that are funded by the industrial members, who have specific interests in a number of key local crops including wheat, barley, potatoes and sugar beet.

Activities include **'walk the supply chain'** where members are able to see and understand the operations of other stages in the chain, and **'travel to learn'** where specific best-practice examples are demonstrated locally and internationally. Specific input on topics such as cover crops and soil health is provided by subject matter experts.

WJFG has been instrumental in developing the project into a landscape-scale, recognising that impacts of farming extend beyond the boundaries of an individual farming business into the wider environment. This new direction of the project will see further involvement from external partners providing the farming members with simplified access to a range of enabling technologies such as precision farming, soil analysis and satellite mapping. Although WJFG's initial motivation was to reduce GHG emissions, the project is also expected to deliver benefits in soil health, enabling crop quality, water quality and farm productivity. This will protect and potentially increase employment in the sector.

 **Goal 15:** Life on land

 **Goal 12:** Responsible consumption and production



# Best Practice example 3

Going beyond guarana production in Brazil. Givaudan's guarana Sourcing for Shared Value programme, initiated in 2014, has launched a farmer literacy project funded by the Givaudan Foundation in the Bahia province of Brazil, an area with a need for infrastructural investment.



## Givaudan (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

"We believe that literacy is key to improving living conditions because if the farmers can't read or write, they are outside of the system," explains Candice Filipak Monsano, Head of the Floravida Institute, who are a partner non-profit association dedicated to socio-environmental education initiatives across health, environment and local development.

"With support from the Givaudan Foundation, we have recruited and trained teachers to conduct a 15-month literacy course for up to 60 producers and their family members in 20 communities, using a methodology specifically aimed at people in remote regions," she added.



In 2019, Givaudan began conducting farm level sustainability assessments with the farmers across the southern Bahia region. These reviewed the sustainable practices at the farms and identified areas of improvement in social, health, safety and environmental aspects. In addition, action plans have been created to address certain needs, such as enhancements of sanitation, drinking water and access to medical care.


**Continuing to secure a precious livelihood**

Across 2019, the guarana harvest faced reduced yields due to a tripe fungus, *auricularia mesenterica*, which has affected the entire south of Bahia. The cooperative is working closely with the producers to find a natural remedy for the fungus to protect the supply of guarana and the livelihoods of these farmers.

André, Givaudan's Buyer Supervisor for Flavours in Brazil, sees a marked change in mindset after five years of working closely with the producers:

"This past year has been extremely positive. The farmers have obtained higher quotations for the guarana seeds sold through the cooperative which improves the standard of living for the producer families. More and more farmers are joining the cooperative as they see the benefits of working with the support of Givaudan and our partners. What is more, five producers will be completing the steps for organic certification this year!"

From 2014 to 2018, the Sourcing for Shared Value programme focused on good agricultural practices, the promotion of a producer's cooperative, and soil enrichment to help secure income by enabling the farmers to diversify their activity through agroforestry to also include crops like cacao, bananas and palm. Givaudan is committed to supporting the communities who live and work at the source of its strategic raw materials by strengthening the social, environmental and economic fabric of their lives through 'Sourcing for Shared Value'.

 **Goal 8:** Decent work and economic growth





# Best Practice example 4

Banana producer Fyffes, have partnered with the Sustainable Trade Initiative to help improve the quality of life for their employees and communities within Colombia.



## Fyffes (Sedex Buyer/Supplier (AB) Member)

Boost Banana and Plantain Smallholders production and improve their quality of life Colombia

There are numerous urgent environmental, political and economic challenges currently facing our world. A transformation is required to enable agriculture to increase food security, environmental sustainability and economic opportunity, whilst Fyffes recognises the key role of business and the need to work in partnership to maximise impact of sustainability activities.

As an example of their commitment to sustainability in line with the SDGs, in 2016 Fyffes partnered with the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH), Solidaridad, Uniban, and the Fundauniban to conduct a three year, US\$800,000 project in Colombia. The objective was to boost smallholder banana and plantain production as well as improve the quality of life of employees and their communities. The project consists of **introducing innovation on best practices in cultivation techniques, agricultural practices, and entrepreneurial and organisational skills.** This is implemented through training, use of **pilot plots** and **technical monitoring** with follow ups. In addition, **primary field drains** were constructed, which addressed critical developmental constraints as well as water sanitation issues.

Additional outputs included availability of the products, increasing income for smallholder farmers, this was in addition to improving their level of resilience through sharing knowledge on the introduction and application of new technology. Such a project contributes to the SDGs Reduced Poverty (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Health & Wellness (SDG3), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Water and Sanitation (SDG6), Employment and Economic Growth (SDG8), Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG9), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG12), Reduced Inequalities (SDG10) as well as Partnerships for the goals (SDG17), highlighting how the SDGs are fully interlinked.



**SDG targets:** These actions, considerations and links to SMETA have been designed in context with the SDG targets. To read the full list of SDG targets for this goal please visit [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)





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