



Business and the SDGs – Accelerating Transformation

Insights from Chief Sustainability Officers & sustainability champions

Wednesday 18 July

09:00 - 09:10 **Opening**

Welcoming remarks

Keynote Speaker(s):

- *Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)*

09:10 - 09:20 **Introduction:**

Setting the scene

WBCSD to set the scene sharing insights of a survey conducted among its membership highlighting current trends including notable gaps in engagement and challenges companies are facing.

Speaker(s):

- *Filippo Veglio, Managing Director & Senior Management Team, WBCSD*

09:20 - 10:20 **Solutions workshop:**

Dialogue with leading companies around challenges and solutions regarding strategic integration of the SDG agenda

A panel of companies will then discuss solutions to some of these issues and explore what practical and meaningful integration of the SDGs at a strategic level looks like. Discussion to include topics such as:

- How can companies best unpack the complexity of the SDGs and identify key opportunities for impact;
- How to generate buy-in internally and make the business case;
- How to integrate local considerations into global strategy

Speaker(s):

- *Helen Medina, Senior Public Affairs Manager, CSV Engagement, Global Head of Public Affairs and ESG Engagement, Nestlé SA*
- *Takafumi Ikuta, Senior Fellow, Fujitsu Research Institute*
- *Pirkko Harrela, Executive Vice President, Stakeholder Relations, UPM-Kymmene Corporation*
- *Gleuza Jesué, Executive Manager of Environment, Vale International S.A.*
- *Jeff Turner, Vice President Corporate Sustainability, DSM N.V.*

Moderator(s):

- *Filippo Veglio, Managing Director & Senior Management Team, WBCSD*

10:20 - 11:00 SDGs & human rights:

The transformative potential of corporate respect for human rights as a positive driver of change

This session will position corporate respect for human rights as a key vehicle through which business can contribute to sustainable development, underlining the importance of connecting these two agendas at the corporate level.

Speaker(s):

- *Andrew Petersen, Chief Executive Officer, BCSD Australia*
- *Tony Henshaw, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Group*
- *Tim Fleming, Director of Enterprise Sustainability, AT&T*

Moderator(s):

- *Caroline Rees, President and Co-founder, Shift*

11:00 - 11:30 Networking Break

11:30 - 12:15 Business as unusual:

Collaborating to maximize impact and drive transformation

To achieve the transformative ambitions of the SDGs pioneering new forms of collaboration are necessary. These collaborations need to occur both at the sector and systemic level. This session will explore new partnerships that are emerging and look to ascertain what are/will be some of the key factors in helping them to succeed.

Speaker(s):

- *Bjorn Otto Sverdrup, Senior Vice President, GSB Corporate Sustainability, Equinor*
- *Arne Cartridge, Special Adviser, Head of Global Initiatives, Yara International ASA*
- *Dominique Debecker, Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer, Solvay S.A.*
- *Michelle Grogg, Vice President, Corporate Responsibility & Sustainable Development, Cargill Incorporated*
- *Pierre Victoria, Director of Sustainable Development, Veolia*

Moderator(s):

- *Andrew Wilson, Permanent Observer to the United Nations, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)*

12:15 - 12:55 Winning the race to the top:

Investor interest in the SDGs and how to effectively capture and communicate SDG performance

A session to explore mounting investor interest in incorporating the SDGs into decision-making and the emergence of the concept of SDG benchmarking. The panel will also discuss how, in the face of investor scrutiny, companies can most aptly measure and communicate their SDG impact.

Speaker(s):

- *Timothy Mohin, Chief Executive, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)*
- *Steve Waygood, Chief Responsible Investment Officer, Aviva Plc*
- *Libby Bernick, Managing Director and Global Head of Corporate Business, TruCost*

Moderator(s):

○ *Katherine Blue, Principal – Sustainability Services Leader, KPMG*

12:55 - 13:00 **Wrap up**