

Putting food on the table at COP27 and beyond:

A Business Call for Action

SUMMARY

- We cannot choose between food security and environmental sustainability: they are one and the same. Urgent action is needed to shift food from a driver of climate change and biodiversity loss to a solution, with positive outcomes for food producers, companies and consumers. To accelerate progress and unlock economic, environmental and social benefits, we need broad mobilization across public and private sectors, starting at COP27
- Our calls:
 - We call on companies in the food sector to adopt time-bound, science-based, targets towards net zero.
 - We call on governments to develop and implement national food strategies and to integrate food into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).
 - And we call on international organizations to develop clear strategies for food systems, including a 1.5°C roadmap for food.
- We are prepared to lead and to partner with others to drive an ambitious shared agenda for food and climate.

Our food systems are facing unprecedented, accelerating pressures. From deadly heatwaves and wildfires to violent storms and floods, 2022 has shown how the climate crisis is making extreme weather events part of our everyday reality, disrupting food production and threatening food security. Already today, over three billion people cannot afford a nutritious diet, and close to 900 million people go to bed hungry every night. Globally, food is associated with one third of greenhouse gas emissions and is among the leading drivers of biodiversity loss; at the same time, climate impacts and environmental degradation are leading to lower yields and income for food producers and higher prices for consumers. **The implications are clear: we cannot choose between food security and environmental sustainability, they are one and the same.**

That is why food needs to be on the table, at COP27 and beyond. We must address the current food security crisis, exacerbated by the war in Ukraine, while simultaneously accelerating action to improve access to diverse and nutritious diets; drastically reducing GHG emissions in food systems; protecting and restoring nature; and strengthening the ability of food producers to adapt to climate impacts. By doing so, we can unlock tremendous potential for inclusive, sustainable growth: making food production and land use more sustainable could yield \$5.7 trillion in economic benefits and represent a \$4.5 trillion annual opportunity for businesses by 2030.¹

¹ See: [FOLU Growing Better Report](#)

Proven win-win approaches² to shift to regenerative agriculture, diversify protein supply and support dietary shifts, or tackle food loss and waste can and should be replicated and scaled. But we need broad mobilization if we are to achieve systems-level transformation, with holistic approaches encompassing the supply-side with farmer-centric solutions, all the way through to demand for nutritious, regeneratively-produced food. This requires bold leadership and ambition, radical collaboration, and clear targets backed by action, resources, transparency, and accountability.

We call on companies in the food sector to join us in adopting science-based, 1.5°C-aligned climate targets, backed by roadmaps and transparent reporting, aligned with nature, nutrition and equity goals³. We are already taking action across our value chains: promoting nutritious, sustainable choices through food design, labelling and marketing; establishing deforestation-free supply chains and providing investment and technical assistance to scale regenerative, nature positive approaches to food production; financing models to support farmers in the transition and reducing food loss and waste throughout our value chain (see Annex B). Our businesses collectively operate in over 190 countries, investing and partnering with local communities to create regenerative food systems that will improve resilience to our future climate. These actions have importance not just for local communities of farmers and small-holders, but diverse stakeholders including women, youth, and indigenous communities. With public sector collaboration that leverages our respective contributions, we could go further, faster.

We call on Governments to develop and implement national food strategies, and to integrate food into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). Effective coordination within governments can identify policy synergies and maximize positive outcomes for people, nature and climate. Governments with clear policies, strategies and plans are well-placed to attract private finance and investment, supporting both the public and private sectors to meet shared climate and nature goals. Governments should set time-bound, science-based national goals; commit to phase out harmful subsidies and repurpose public support to incentivise the transition to regenerative agriculture practices; address regulatory barriers to transformation; support strategic research and innovation; and engage citizens around transition pathways. Since these measures may take time, we urge governments to work with the private sector and other stakeholders to unlock creative, near-term solutions that align incentives, attract investment and spur innovation.

We call on international organisations, multilateral development banks and research organisations to adopt clear targets and strategies for food systems that deliver for people, nature, climate and nutrition. We recommend building on efforts that stem out of the Food Systems Summit Business Declaration, that was signed by over 200 business leaders from around the world. We strongly support the call by investors for a [1.5°C.Roadmap for Food](#). Such a roadmap can play a critical role in building global consensus and guiding actions to ensure food and agriculture contributes to global climate goals.

We are prepared to lead and to partner with others to drive an ambitious shared agenda for food and climate. Public-private collaboration models are showing impressive results – but tremendous additional potential could be realized by leaning in together. Platforms and initiatives already exist that we can build on over the next twelve months to make significant progress by COP28. Together, we can secure the present and future of food that nourishes both people and the planet.

² See appendix.

³ For instance, through adherence to WBCSD's membership criteria: <https://www.wbcasd.org/Overview/News-Insights/General/News/WBCSD-raises-the-bar-for-sustainable-business-leadership>



Signatories:



Annex A: Signatories' Strategies and Action on Food and Climate



At Danone, we are deeply engaged in the food transition. Danone is working to develop [regenerative models of agriculture](#) that protect biodiversity, reduce GHG emissions, empower farmers and promote animal welfare. To date, it has led 43 regenerative agriculture projects in 23 countries, and almost 20% of its key ingredients directly sourced from farms which are transitioning towards regenerative agriculture. Danone has also chosen to accompany customers towards healthier and more sustainable diets, by expanding its portfolio with plant-based options and selling 90% of its product volumes in healthy categories, with 89% of products compliant with [Nutri-score](#) A or B. On top of that, Danone is determined to half its food waste ratio. It is already actively reducing it locally whilst increasing food protection through projects like Danone Egypt's initiative towards [Zero Food Waste](#).



At DSM, a global purpose-led science-based company, we want to address the most pressing and interconnected societal and environmental challenges linked to food production and consumption. We invest in (bio)science-based innovations, commercial, civil society and public partnerships and pursue dedicated advocacy activities to help deliver change to ensure accessible, affordable, healthy nutrition and healthy livelihoods within planetary boundaries.

In 2021 DSM [launched](#) a set of measurable '[Food System Commitments](#)', articulating our quantified goals to create a positive impact. Among these goals are to reach 800 million vulnerable and micronutrient deficient people by 2030, reduce double-digit emissions on farm by 2030, scale up plant-based proteins and reach 150 million people by 2030 and reaching 500 smallholder farmers improving their livelihoods by 2030.



Nestlé has embarked on a journey toward regeneration; to help protect, renew and restore the environment, improve the livelihoods of farmers and enhance the resilience and well-being of communities and our consumers. We recognize there is a clear and urgent need for us to show leadership in setting this new path for our business.

Our transformative journey is driven by [our Net Zero roadmap](#), leading us to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Addressing emissions in the agriculture is one of our main focus areas and we will do so by scaling up [regenerative agriculture](#). Leveraging our size, we aim to contribute to advance regenerative food systems working with farmers to shift to more regenerative agricultural practices in



a just transition approach. Best practices producing the best products, we leverage our R&D expertise and experience to offer safe, affordable, sustainable, high-quality products for people everywhere and across all life stages.

This is our vision to help create a more resilient future for our planet and its people.



PepsiCo's sustainability platform, pep+, was launched in 2021 and designed with the intention to set time-bound goals for focus areas like regenerative agriculture. Agriculture is core to PepsiCo's business. We source ingredients from approximately 60 countries supporting over 100 000 agricultural jobs. We're working to source crops and ingredients in a way that accelerates regenerative agriculture and strengthens farming communities.

PepsiCo supports the advancement of farming practices to optimize crop yields, respect human rights, improve farmer livelihoods, and secure supply. We do this because, simply put, without embracing regenerative agriculture, our ability to source the necessary ingredients for our products is in jeopardy, as is the world's ability to reliably access safe and healthy foods.

A key aspect of our work in the agriculture sector is extending regenerative farming practices — a set of techniques that improve and restore ecosystems with a focus on building soil health and fertility, reducing carbon emissions, enhancing watershed management, increasing biodiversity and improving farmer livelihoods.

For more information see: <https://www.pepsico.com/our-impact/esg-topics-a-z/agriculture>



Unilever believes we must address the food crisis head on. As one of the largest food manufacturers in the world, we have a responsibility to help shape a global food system that is fair for everyone. From farm to fork, [our vision is to be a world-class force for good in food](#): we believe we have a critical role to play in helping to transform the world's food system. We are working scale regenerative agriculture, increase plant-based options, drive down food waste, double nutritional products and lowering calories, salt, and sugar levels across products. And we are transforming supply chains – being able to get local ingredients and selling them locally is a key priority, particularly in Africa, where over 65% of our materials are now locally sourced. We recognize the need for a systems change shift, which is why we work cross collaboratively with other companies through coalitions.

The [World Benchmarking Alliance](#) put Unilever in first place in its ranking of 350 food companies' environmental, social and nutritional impact.

Annex B: Examples of Action on Food Systems Transformation and Climate

Regenerative Agriculture	Food Loss and Waste	Healthy and Sustainable Diets
Danone:		
<p>Almost 20% of Danone’s key ingredients directly sourced come from farms which are transitioning towards regenerative agriculture. Danone has led 43 regenerative agriculture projects in 23 countries, with positive results for our business, for farmers and for nature. For example, via the Danone Ecosystem project H’lib Dzair, Danone increased the income of subsistence producers by 85% while decreasing their carbon footprint by almost 4% in just one year, between 2019 and 2020. Globally speaking, roughly half of Danone’s emissions reductions are thanks to regenerative agriculture.</p>	<p>In line with the SDG 12.3, Danone has committed to half its food waste ratio throughout its operations and distribution chain between 2020 and 2030. To achieve this, Danone is acting on the ground: for instance, Danone Egypt’s initiative towards Zero Food Waste, in partnership with the Egyptian Food Bank (EFB), has been focusing on enriching school meals for around 35 000 students with essential dairy products as well as for 5 000 of EFB’s most eligible recipients in orphanages and elderly homes.</p>	<p>At Danone, we choose to serve the food transition by accompanying our customers’ dietary shifts towards healthier and more sustainable eating habits. In 2017, Danone expanded its portfolio with plant-based products through the acquisition of WhiteWave. Today, Danone is a global leader in both dairy and plant-based food and drinks, and our iconic brands like Danette, Activia and Actimel offer both plant-based and dairy options. In 2021, 90% of Danone product volumes sold were in healthy categories and 89% were compliant with Nutri-score A or B.</p>
DSM:		
<p>DSMs portfolio of feed innovations and services supports animal farmers to shift to Regenerative Agriculture practices.</p> <p>An good example is DSMs feed innovation Bovaer® that reduces methane emissions in dairy and meat cattle by 30%+ as proven in pilots in over 40+ countries. Our Sustell® precision service supports onfarm measurement of environmental data.</p>	<p>DSM supports the global SDG 12.3 goal to halve food loss and waste with our science-based solutions from farm to fork.</p> <p>Examples are our natural biopreservatives used in dairy, extend shelf life and avoid food waste, but also Rovimix® HyD®, our feed innovation for leghen, that reduces losses of eggs due to breakages by 15%</p>	<p>Healthy diets within planetary boundaries sits firm at DSMs purpose-driven innovation agenda.</p> <p>Among our solutions to fight hidden hunger and bring back the nutrition in food is fortified rice. We also provide solutions to reduce sugar and sodium which helps to improve Nutrition labelling scores. We work closely with our commercial and civil society partners such as WFP, Unicef and WorldVision to reach oppulations at scale</p>
Nestlé:		
<p>Investing CHF 1.2 billion by 2025 to spark regenerative agriculture across our supply chain, we committed to source 20% of our key ingredients from regenerative agriculture methods by 2025, and 50% by 2030.</p> <p>In this journey, we already kicked off regenerative agriculture initiatives in almost our entire direct sourcing, in more than 30 countries. More than 4500 farm assessments were conducted, using a specific assessment tool to evaluate the farms’ maturity level in regenerative</p>	<p>We committed to halving food waste in our operations by 2030 and accelerate action on SDG Target 12.3 by tackling food loss and waste along its entire value chain.</p> <p>Engaging farmers, we help them minimize losses in agriculture and post-harvest with facilitated farmers’ access to preservation systems and drying technologies.</p> <p>We also maximizing adjacent value streams by upcycling nutrients and agricultural side streams for the</p>	<p>As a food innovator, Nestlé cares about making better nutrition accessible while inspiring people to explore and enjoy more and more food that supports their health.</p> <p>Considering access to adequate food and a nutritious diet as a fundamental human right, in 2021 we provided 124.6 billion servings of affordable nutrition with micronutrient fortification (with the ‘big four’ micronutrients, which are iron, vitamin A, iodine and zinc)</p>



[agriculture](#) and we established 25 reference farms in about 20 countries.

launch of nutritious and affordable products such as [Golden Morn](#) while avoiding nutrient loss.

through products such as [Cerevita](#), [Maggi](#) or [Bear Brand](#).

As part of activities to reduce food loss and waste we raise consumer awareness and promote behavioral changes.

We are also rapidly expanding our [plant-based range](#) as this helps meeting consumer demand, our ambitious net zero roadmap commitment and fosters healthier diets with products such as [Wunda](#), our [Garden Gourmet](#) range and our [KitKat V](#).

The Access to Nutrition Initiative ranked Nestlé #1 in its last [Global Index](#) published in 2021

PepsiCo:

PepsiCo and USAID have co-invested in a Global Development Alliance (GDA) designed to prove the business case for women’s economic empowerment as a key driver of business growth and sustainability. The \$20M, 5-year partnership will work with potato growers in Colombia, Peru, India, Pakistan, and Vietnam to pilot approaches that unlock the full potential of women in the supply chain to address critical business challenges such as farm yields, supplier and farm workforce retention, uptake of regenerative agriculture practices, and SFP compliance. Further information [here](#).

To address the risks of climate change and build resilience, we aim to drive irrigation water use reduction and have launched our Regenerative Agriculture and Livelihood programs in the Africa, Middle East & South Asia region, with our potato farmers. This has resulted in improved irrigation efficiency for potatoes by 32% vs 2015 avoiding the use of 5billion litres of water in 2021 vs 2020 (further information [here](#)).

At PepsiCo, we're inspiring people through our brands by making it easier for people to choose great-tasting beverages and convenient foods that deliver important nutrients across food groups, and are trusted to meet high safety and quality standards.

We currently offer food products with whole grains, nuts, seeds, fruits and vegetables as well as complementary beverage options like water and unsweetened tea, which support hydration without adding calories. Nutritious offerings are vital to our business, and we’re continuously renovating and expanding our portfolio to provide consumers with great-tasting products that provide positive ingredients.

While we’re improving the nutritional profile of many of our products by reducing added sugars, sodium and saturated fat, we are also investing in innovation to deliver important food groups and nutrients to encourage a balanced diet, accelerating a journey we began decades ago.

Please see [here](#) for specific examples from our portfolio

Unilever:

A commitment to scale Regenerative Agriculture using our co-developed Principles. A roadmap of over 90 programmes and innovative tools and finance models in play. Examples include growing soybeans for Hellmann’s and rice for Knorr Sides

Halving food waste in direct global operations from factory to shelf by 2025. Campaigns include Hellmann’s Make Taste Not Waste campaign, Too Good To Go Partnership.

Increasing plant-based options with an annual global sales target of €1 billion from plant-based meat and dairy alternatives, within the next five to seven years. The Vegetarian Butcher is our industry-leading ‘plant-based meat’ brand which has expanded to over 50

following the principles – both with positive impacts on water use and GHG emissions one year on.

countries and provided Burger King's first plant-based burger. Hellmann's, Knorr, Magnum and Ben & Jerry's now have plant-based options.

Doubling the number of products delivering positive nutrition globally by 2025. By the end of 2022, we're aiming to provide more than 200 billion servings with at least one of the five key micronutrients, vitamin A, D, iodine, iron and zinc. So far, we've delivered over 161 billion servings towards this commitment. Examples include Iodine in Royco products in Indonesia, Iron in Royco products in Kenya.

Continuing to lower calorie, salt, and sugar levels across products. We're working to ensure 85% of our nutrition and ice cream servings meet Unilever's Science-based Nutrition Criteria (USNC) by 2028.