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New guidance unveiled at COP24 to spur climate-positive action in corporate value chains

As the climate change negotiations in Katowice commence, Gold Standard and the Science Based Targets initiative co-hosted an event at the WWF Pavilion to launch [Value Change>>](#) - a suite of new solutions that remove barriers to addressing corporate value chain emissions. We were joined by companies already committed to applying the new guidelines within their own value chains, Danone and Barry Callebaut.

Why Value Change?

The recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) clearly states that "limiting global warming to 1.5°C ...require[s] rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban and infrastructure ... and industrial systems." In the private sector, value chain or "Scope 3" emissions are often the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, yet to date they have been the lowest area of focus for most companies due to a range of barriers.

With best practices to reduce Scope 3 emissions, and new guidance enabling credible accounting for intervention-level change, companies can transform their value chains for a sustainable future.

The [Value Change Programme>>](#), was developed with support from EIT Climate-KIC and features practical tools to help remove barriers for transformational change:

- **Prioritising opportunities:**
[Value Change in the Value Chain: Best practices for Scope 3 Greenhouse Gas Management>>](#) developed by the Science Based Targets initiative, Navigant and Gold Standard, outlines the seven most effective emissions reduction levers companies can use to reduce emissions in the value chain. It also features case studies from Danone, HPE, Tennant, IKEA and Provenance.
- **Recognition by accounting protocols:**
[Value Chain Interventions Guidance>>](#) has been developed by Danone, Gold Standard, Livelihoods Funds, Mars, the Science Based Targets initiative, and TREES Consulting. It enables reporting on emissions reductions toward performance targets, in line with common accounting standards like GHG Protocol, and will now be tested on high-scale projects driven by partners.
- **Sector-specific guidance:**
[Soil Carbon Guidance>>](#) from Danone, Gold Standard, Livelihoods Funds, Mars, TREES Consulting and UNIQUE forestry and land use GmbH, demonstrates how to quantify carbon sequestered in soil—a severely neglected source of carbon sinks and a lynchpin in farmer productivity—and is now open for public consultation.

The consortium will now focus on helping companies around the world understand and adopt these solutions to decarbonise their value chains, through working groups and project piloting in the Food & Beverage sector. In addition to strategic partners Mars and Danone, Barry Callebaut, Ben & Jerry's, Livelihoods Funds, Cargill, General Mills, L'Oréal, McDonald's, PepsiCo and Target are testing the Value Chain Interventions Guidance to apply it within their own supply chains, also identifying opportunities for pre-competitive action.

For more information, visit [Value Change Programme>>](#)

"Danone has taken a commitment to be carbon neutral on our full value chain by 2050, and agriculture is central to this since it represents around two-thirds of our carbon footprint. This is why we have been working with farmers and other partners to reduce carbon emissions in our supply chain linked to our agriculture. This accounting framework will help us strengthen our actions by allowing us to measure and report our progress in a transparent and credible way."

Flore Augé
Senior Climate Strategy Manager
Danone

"To achieve the scale necessary to tackle climate change we must completely transform agricultural supply chains. Climate-smart agriculture interventions will help farmers build resilience, improve soil health and increase crop yields, as well as reduce GHG emissions. This guidance enables us to credibly quantify and report the benefits of this work, paving the way for scaling up climate action."

Ashley Allen
Climate and Land Senior Manager
Mars Incorporated



This activity has received funding from the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union, under Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation



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