GLOBAL SELF-CARE FEDERATION

Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care

2024 Progress Report

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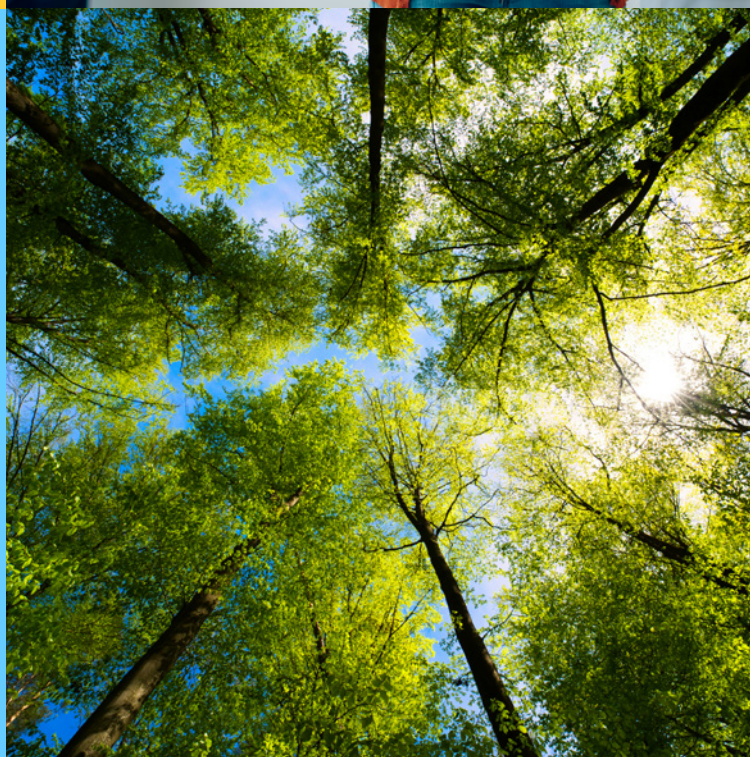
Preface

This year marks the third anniversary of the launch of GSCF's Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, the first climate action resolution from the consumer health sector. Our vision of a healthier world recognizes that environmental security is essential to achieving better health outcomes and emphasizes that self-care is a key driver for both. The consumer healthcare industry is uniquely positioned to make a positive long-term impact, and our Charter provides a flexible, inclusive framework for continued collective action. Through initiatives such as the Blister Packs and Supply Chain Task Forces, we are laying the groundwork for smart sustainability strategies that will shape a healthier and more sustainable future for all. Since its release the relevance of the Charter has only grown, reflecting the increased urgency with which environmental challenges have risen up the global agenda.

In 2024, significant political developments shaped the global landscape of environmental and health policies. Notable events included the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July, where progress toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals was reviewed. At the 77th World Health Assembly, a landmark resolution on climate change set ambitious goals for member states to reshape global health systems to address climate-related health challenges. The G20 Summit in Brazil in November emphasized climate change, environmental sustainability, and global governance reforms, while COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, focused on financing climate adaptation for low-income countries and accelerating the transition from fossil fuels.









A key focus in 2024 has been advancing recycle-ready packaging through policy advocacy, ongoing research and trials on blister packs alongside relevant stakeholders, with results anticipated in 2025.

These milestones reflect an increasing global commitment to addressing the interconnected challenges of health, environmental sustainability, and social equity. As part of this effort, GSCF has made significant progress under its Charter, including three new pledges and continued advancements in post-launch workstreams. Achieving tangible outcomes across the Charter's three focus areas hinges on collective action and cross-sector collaboration, driving the initiative forward.

Building on the 2023 launch of initiatives for alternative blister pack materials, recycling workstreams, and the GSCF position paper, Transition to Sustainable Plastic Packaging for Consumer Healthcare Products, a key focus in 2024 has been advancing recycle-ready packaging through policy advocacy, ongoing research and trials on blister packs alongside relevant stakeholders, with results anticipated in 2025.

Another major priority was engagement with the UN Plastics Treaty, in collaboration with other innovative health industries. Efforts centered on monitoring developments and proposals affecting health products while advocating for adequate transition periods to support the development of sustainable alternative plastics for healthcare packaging and materials. These efforts underscore GSCF's commitment to advancing sustainable solutions and driving impactful change within the consumer healthcare industry.



Greg Perry
Director General, Global Self-Care Federation



What is the Charter?



In November 2021 the consumer health sector issued its **first industry wide resolution on climate action**; the Charter for **Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**. Designed to share best practices and provide advice on the latest regulatory standards, the Charter reflects our goal of **minimizing the environmental impact of our sector without compromising on the health outcomes of our consumers or the safety and accessibility of products they rely on to manage their wellbeing**.

Ambitious and future focused the Charter provides a framework for the direct delivery of tangible results. Building on a joint set of guiding principles it promotes the values of a circular economy throughout our industry's value chain which includes taking responsibility for the environmental impacts of self-care products from their conception to production and post-consumer use.

A first of its kind commitment, the pledges that make up the Charter are all made voluntarily by their respective company or association. Through this common platform members are able to learn from best practices and spread the drive for innovative solutions. Comprising three years of work from across our industry, the Charter reflects the unprecedented level of dedication to drive positive change – while acknowledging the public health and societal benefits of our industry's actions.

The pledges that make up the Charter are all made voluntarily by their respective company or association. Through this common platform members are able to learn from best practices and spread the drive for innovative solutions.

This year we are proud to welcome three new pledges from SSP Co. Ltd., Japan, Kobayashi Pharmaceutical Co, Ltd and ROHTO pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., further strengthening our collective commitment to sustainability. Their participation not only broadens our global reach but also reinforces our industry's shared responsibility in driving environmental progress.

In its role as the first global initiative of its kind in the consumer health industry, the Charter also promotes direct action and maximizes impact to realize positive change that complements the UN's 'Decade of Action' and helps meet the Paris Agreement's 2030 target. Our efforts tie into the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) supporting:

- **3: Good Health and Wellbeing;**
- **12: Responsible Consumption and Production;**
- **13: Climate Action;**
- **14: Life Below Water;**
- **15: Life on Land;**
- **17: Partnerships for the Goals of the SDGs.**

With ambitions high, collaboration is essential which is why we also seek to promote dialogue beyond our industry. Ultimately, we want to build open channels of communication with all relevant stakeholders to obtain their feedback and co-create solutions for more sustainable self-care.

Health and climate action increasingly become interrelated, and it is our belief that both public and private actors must come together to engage on these issues.

Through our robust framework we continue to empower our members to take impactful, collective action while growing partnerships with stakeholders in sectors relating to both healthcare and sustainability. We remain flexible and ready to evolve alongside regulation and the global sustainability landscape we operate in. As we have done every year so far, pledges and commitments will be reviewed each year as we continue to challenge our principles and priorities to deliver the highest impact possible.



Our commitment & guiding principles

Signatories to the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care make a commitment to their future and to their sustainability efforts to achieve their goals. Alongside this, we pledge to support them in achieving their goals.

Ours is this: As a federation of national associations and consumer healthcare manufacturers, we commit to drive environmentally sustainable self-care. **We care for the environment by:**

Developing guidance for our members on best practice, how to deliver on our ambitions, and navigating requirements and standards to help raise the bar on environmental sustainability.

Providing a platform for exchange of information, ideas and innovation, finding and creating opportunities to collaborate within and beyond the self-care sector.

Enriching dialogue with our stakeholders, proactively informing them of our progress on environmental sustainability and seeking their feedback.

This commitment is based on several guiding principles that drive us forward.
Individually and together, we seek to:

Maximize our positive environmental impacts and minimize our negative impacts while never compromising health outcomes for consumers.

Promote circular economy principles throughout our value chains, managing the environmental impacts of our products from discovery and development all the way through to post-consumer use and end-of-life.

Contribute to the development and acceleration of innovative technologies and other solutions to address environmental challenges.



We know that achieving sustainability goals is a challenging task and one that is not accomplished alone. That's why we strive to support our members and Charter signatories to connect, engage, and innovate for the future. It is only together that we will find success.

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Three priority areas

The Environmental Sustainability Charter calls on members of GSCF to commit to concrete pledges addressing the three priority areas:







Proper packaging is essential to ensuring non-prescription medicines meet quality and safety standards to protect the health of consumers. Without compromising on this critical function of packaging, the Charter firstly encourages members to **reduce plastics in packaging wherever feasible**, promotes the **adoption of circular design principles**, redefining products from design to end-of-life, and proactively working with partners across the value chain to i**nnovate packaging solutions** and **improve recycling infrastructure**.

Manufacturing of medicines involves chemical processes that often has a direct impact on the environment. Pillar 2 seeks to **address the issue of pharmaceuticals in the environment** (PiE), specifically active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), **while safeguarding access to effective self-care products for consumers**. Some examples of measures to reduce the presence of APIs include actively managing and reducing effluent discharge from manufacturing plants, promoting the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals and take-back schemes.

Finally, the Charter encourages its members to r**educe their CO_2 footprint in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement**. While many members already have emissions targets in place for scope 1 (direct) and scope 2 (indirect) emissions, the Charter goes one step further by addressing the elusive but more significant scope 3 emissions, those indirect emissions caused by the entire value chain of the industry. A framework is provided to **measure, report and reduce scope 3 emissions, and identifying high emitting carbon hotspots**.

Plastics & Packaging

We actively seek ways to reduce plastic packaging wherever feasible, while recognizing that proper packaging is essential to ensuring non-prescription medicines meet quality and safety standards to protect the health of our consumers.

We encourage the implementation of circular design principles to address the impacts of packaging and plastics in self-care products, from design to end-of-life.

We will proactively work with partners across the value chain to innovate packaging solutions and improve recycling infrastructure. This will entail having a full understanding of regulatory and other developments surrounding over-the-counter packaging requirements to advocate for change towards more sustainable outcomes.

To that end, we will investigate thoroughly on ways to effectively package and recycle without the risk of affecting the quality/safety of non-prescription medicines. With the above analysis in future we will contribute towards the development of a robust regulatory framework.

Key commitments include



Reduce the use of plastic.



Explore sustainable materials.



Explore innovations and partnerships around recycling infrastructure.



Incorporate circular design into secondary packaging.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

We are committed to protecting the environment through preventing the release of pharmaceuticals in the environment (PiE), and more specifically active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs). We aim to do this while safeguarding access to effective self-care products and treatments for consumers.

Some of the measures we aim to take to reduce the presence of APIs include actively managing and reducing effluent discharge from manufacturing plants and promoting the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals and the use of take-back schemes, where they exist. We also provide a platform for the industry to come together on issues related to PiE.

Key commitments include



Actively manage environmental risks from manufacturing, look to reduce discharge in the process.



Promote best practices beyond regulatory requirements.



Engage stakeholders to evaluate all aspects of product lifecycle.



Partner with relevant stakeholders to develop consumer education programs on safe disposal of OTC medications.



Encourage takeback schemes as appropriate for a given geography and the need to raise consumer awareness.

CO_2 Footprint

We recognize the strong connection between a climate-secure world and health and well-being. We acknowledge the role of the consumer health industry in addressing the climate crisis and keeping temperature warming below 1.5°C, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Climate change has widespread impacts across our industry and covers all our environmental sustainability priority areas.

We aim to facilitate the transition of the self-care sector to a climate-smart future. We encourage members to reduce their carbon emissions through setting comprehensive science-based emissions reduction targets (SBTs) that are accredited by the Science-Based Targets Initiative.

We provide a platform for the industry to better understand Scope 3 emissions, which are emissions that occur across an organization's supply chain, helping them to work closely with their suppliers to reduce these. We aim to share best practice to contribute to the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Key commitments include



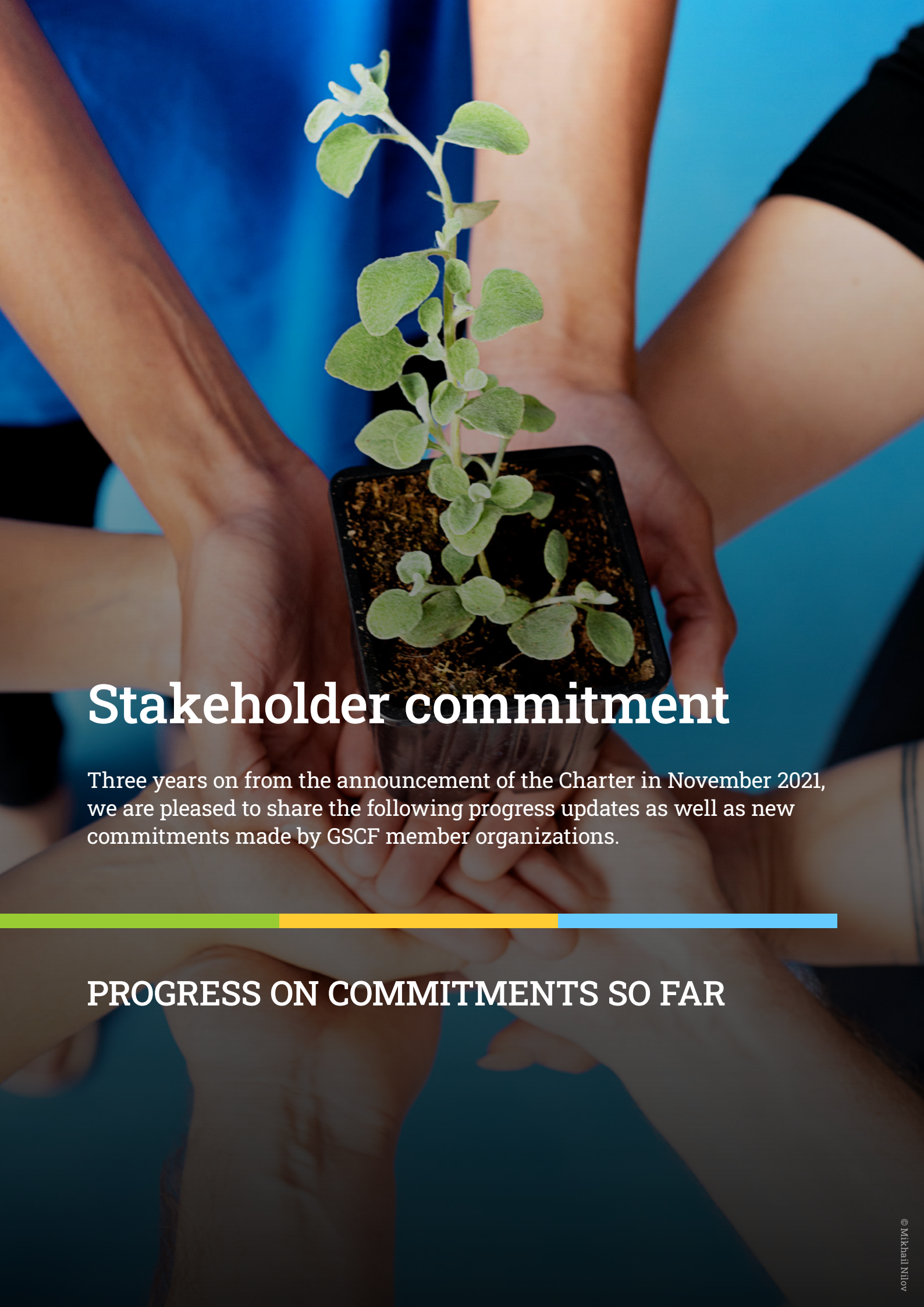
Reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions and look to achieve net zero by either 2030 or 2050.



Develop climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.



Understand carbon hotspots and start measuring, reporting and reducing Scope 3 emissions.



Stakeholder commitment

Three years on from the announcement of the Charter in November 2021, we are pleased to share the following progress updates as well as new commitments made by GSCF member organizations.

PROGRESS ON COMMITMENTS SO FAR

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AESGP progress on commitment

The Association of the European Self-Care Industry (AESGP) continues to lead and advocate for the **sustainable growth of the self-care industry in Europe**, working closely with over 2,000 companies. These companies include both large multinational corporations and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), either directly affiliated with AESGP or connected through various local and national member associations. AESGP remains committed to promoting the accessibility and safety of self-care products while advancing European healthcare systems and protecting our environment.

In 2024, AESGP strengthened its dedication to environmental responsibility by establishing the Environmental and Sustainability Committee (EnviCOM). This committee plays a central role in shaping AESGP's response to key environmental challenges facing the consumer healthcare sector. EnviCOM provides vital guidance, support, and expertise to ensure that AESGP members are well-prepared to meet evolving European environmental policies and regulations, equipping them to lead on sustainability initiatives within the industry.

AESGP and its members also continue to uphold the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, which promotes the exchange of best practices and collaborative sustainability efforts.

More details on AESGP's relevant activities and progress related to the **Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care** can be found **here.**

Plastics & Packaging



AESGP promotes **sustainable & safe packaging for use in self-care products** to:

- **Reduce packaging waste.**
- **Use of safe recycled packaging material** without undermining product safety.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

AESGP remains active in the **Inter-Association Initiative (IAI) on Pharmaceuticals in Environment (PiE)** working alongside the innovative and generic pharmaceutical sectors to tackle the environmental impact of pharmaceuticals. The initiative focuses on reducing the release of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) into the environment.

AESGP has reaffirmed the **industry's commitment to co-fund upgrades to EU urban wastewater treatment plants**, aiming to remove micropollutants in a collaborative and proportionate manner.

This commitment includes AESGP's continuous support for MedsDisposal awareness programmes at the European level, promoting the safe disposal of unused medicines to minimize environmental impact.



CO_2 Footprint

AESGP supports member companies' efforts in **sustainable manufacturing and green energy uptake** with an aspiration for CO_2 neutrality by sharing best practices.

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PHARMA DEUTSCHLAND progress on commitment

Pharma Deutschland is the leading trade organization of the pharmaceutical industry in Germany and fully supports **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**.

In collaboration with the member companies, new projects for sustainable transformation in the pharmaceutical sector were implemented in 2024. Our goal is to continue this successful work in the next years.

Plastics & Packaging

CO_2 Footprint

Achieved Goals

To motivate companies to be more sustainable, Pharma Deutschland has awarded the **sustainability award in the pharmaceutical** for the second time in 2024. The prize was launched since 2022 and is awarded every two years.



The award was made on the basis of a transparent quality criteria which was developed by Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Stefan Schaltegger from the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, a leading scientist on sustainability management in Europe. **The projects were selected by an independent jury of distinguished experts from science and civil society**.

- Award-winning projects: PEKANA Naturheilmittel GmbH for Responsibility in the Climate Alliance of Baden-Württemberg; Hexal Sandoz) for BSI-certificated.
- Since 2022, Pharma Deutschland launched several training courses on sustainability management in the pharmaceutical industry: CO_2-Footprint, EU-Taxonomy, CSRD, EUDR &CSDDD.
- In collaboration with Envoria/FISA, Pharma Deutschland offers a new service offering for implementing CSRD has been available to members since August 2024.
- January 2023 marked the start of a permanent column on sustainability in the pharmaceutical industry in a trade journal.



Next Purposes:

- **Expansion of further training opportunities.**
- **Intensify the work of the Sustainability and Climate Protection Committee as well as the AESGP Sustainability Committee.**
- **Expansion of cooperation with manufacturers of packaging materials.**

For many years, Pharma Deutschland supports member companies in context of trace substances and the reduction of possible environmental factors. In addition, Pharma Deutschland is involved in the **stakeholder dialogue on the national strategy for micropollutants.**

In order to make the work of the AMR industry alliance in Germany more visible, a publication about the responsible manufacturing standard and the BSI-Certification was published in 2023.

For many years, BAH supports member companies in context of trace substances and the reduction of possible environmental factors. Moreover, BAH participates in the PiE Task Force, an Inter-Association Initiative in the EU.

In 2023, a joint expert opinion on the commission proposal for the urban wastewater treatment directive was carried out under the initiative of the BAH.

In order to make the work of the AMR industry alliance in Germany more visible, a publication is being prepared.



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progress on commitment

Bayer is proud to support the **Global Self-Care Federation's Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care** and share its annual progress for 2024. In each of the Charter's three focal areas of action.

Plastics & Packaging

In the last year:

Bayer launched a first-of-its-kind in the healthcare industry, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) blister packaging on its Aleve brand. Realized in partnership with pharma packaging specialist Liveo Research, this innovative solution reduces the carbon footprint of this packaging by 38%[1] and marks a stride in environmental stewardship by eliminating the use of polyvinyl chloride. Blister packaging has long posed a challenge for environmental sustainability due to its multilayer composition of plastic and aluminium, which makes it hard to sort and recycle.

Launching first in the Netherlands, Bayer's ambition is to replace all its blister packaging with more sustainable alternatives. With the launch of this new blister packaging, Bayer is:

- Decreasing the per unit carbon footprint of this packaging by **38%**.
- Reducing factors that contribute to biodiversity loss by using **78% less water and 53% less land** (per unit).
- **Lightweighting the package by 18%** (per unit) compared with the current packaging.





© Alexandr Podvalny

[1] Per unit, in comparison to current packaging, based on third-party verified LCA

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Bayer has established strict voluntary Safe Discharge Limits (SDLs) for all aqueous emissions of Active Ingredients (AIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) across all of its production and formulation sites. Bayer teams calculated the SDLs for all AIs and APIs at each site, utilizing over 350 Predicted No Effect Concentrations (PNECs), along with site-specific wastewater flow and dilution factors. Each site is required to verify compliance with these limits and to develop a comprehensive risk mitigation roadmap by early 2025, ensuring our commitment to environmental stewardship.

In 2023, Bayer streamlined its SDL program and embedded the SDLs into its standard business processes, including our Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Key Requirements. This strategic alignment not only elevates the significance and rigor of these limits but also ensures their consistent application across all sites.



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CO_2 Footprint

- **Scope 1+2**: Bayer Consumer Health outperformed its 2023 reduction target, achieving **2% reduction YoY** and delivering **42% emissions reduction since 2019**. We achieved this goal by implementing energy efficiency measures across our major facilities & expanding our procurement of renewable energy at our Lerma, Cimanggis, and QiDong production sites.
- **Scope 3**: Bayer's Consumer Health Division **reduced its Scope 3 emissions in 2023 compared with 2022 by a striking 7.9%**, achieving a reduction of 12.8% compared to its 2019 baseline. This is a significant outperformance against our **overall emission reduction goal of a 12.3% reduction by end of 2029 compared to our 2019 baseline**. As a result of stringent material and service management, operational improvements, and our newly established Scope 3 decarbonization accelerator program, which engaged directly with 22 of our most strategic suppliers, accounting for ~37% of our Scope 3 emissions, we identify opportunities to collaboratively reduce CO2 emissions in our value chain.



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CHPA® | CONSUMER HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

Taking healthcare personally.

progress on commitment

Consumer Healthcare Products Association is committed to promoting best practices that seek to minimize environmental impacts, without compromising on health outcomes, product safety, and access to consumers. Since endorsing the **Global Self-Care Federation Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care** in November 2021 CHPA has continued to meet our pledge by:

- **Ensuring members have access to information about the Charter and GSCF's continued efforts through member updates and consultations.**
- **Encouraging member companies to pledge to GSCF's Charter on Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.**
- **Actively contributing to emerging state legislations related to Environmental Sustainability.**
- **Featuring member best practices in a series of association newsletter articles.**



FOOD, HEALTH & CONSUMER PRODUCTS OF CANADA
PRODUITS ALIMENTAIRES, DE SANTÉ ET DE CONSOMMATION DU CANADA
FHCP PASC

progress on commitment

Food, Health & Consumer Products of Canada remains steadfast in its commitment to the **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care** and each of its pillars. This endorsement shapes our efforts and guides our advocacy. Our focus on sustainability is the right thing to do for the planet, for business, and for Canadians.

Continued promotion of the Charter to FHCP members and the development of resources to assist them in achieving regulatory compliance and corporate commitments to improve environmental outcomes remains a key priority.

Plastics & Packaging

FHCP works with members, partners and governments across Canada on the development of policies and programs to advance a circular economy for plastics. Our efforts are focused on **packaging innovation to eliminate plastic waste** through design, and the introduction of full extended producer responsibility for residential and curbside recycling across the country. **We support policies that are progressive, will drive environmental outcomes and are economically sustainable**. We have challenged our members to do more to **reduce plastic pollution** and supported their journey by advocating for ambitious but achievable policy and offering experiential learning opportunities to inform packaging design and policy.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

FHCP is actively engaged in leadership roles and committees across the country to **develop, maintain and strengthen regulated medicine take-back programs**. In 2024 two new provincial programs began. These programs serve to **prevent unwanted, expired and unused medicines from entering the environment**.

CO_2 Footprint

FHCP has **increased our internal capacity to enhance supports for our member companies to measure, track, report and reduce emissions**. We have brought on additional partners to assist companies in meeting not only emerging policy requirements but data and performance requests by retail customers.

© Karolina Grabowska

HALEON progress on commitment

Haleon is committed to helping tackle the social and environmental barriers that hold people back from better everyday health. By reducing its environmental impact, Haleon aims to make better **everyday health more sustainable** and is focused on delivering on its environmental goals to help do this.

Plastics & Packaging

We aim to develop solutions for all product packaging to be recyclable or reusable by 2030*.

Around >70% of packaging is recycle ready (Reporting period = 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023).

Haleon is actively involved in the **GSCF Task Force on Plastics and Packaging, supporting the work on evaluating the recyclability of blisters and other challenges associated with it** (such as understanding the impact of contaminants).

Haleon joined the Ellen Macarthur Foundation Network and WRAP to support system-level action to help drive the transition towards a circular economy for consumer health packaging. Haleon is also part of the Sustainable Medicines Partnership, working to define standards for, and explore approaches to, developing recycle-ready blisters.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

We aim for all of our key agricultural, forest and marine-derived materials used in our ingredients and packaging to be sustainably sourced and deforestation free by 2030.

In 2023, 91% of our palm-oil derivatives were RSPO mass-balance certified (Reporting period = 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. Scope includes Haleon's globally managed spend).

With mint being a key ingredient in our oral health products, Haleon established its Healthy Mint Supply Chain program in the Indian region of Uttar Pradesh in 2022. The program supports smallholder farmers to adopt more sustainable agricultural practices, increasing yields while reducing water used for irrigation.

CO_2 Footprint

We aim to reduce our Net Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions by 100% by 2030.**

In 2023, Haleon achieved a 48% reduction in Net Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions versus our 2020 baseline (Reporting period = 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023). This performance was driven by steps such as reaching 100% renewable electricity across all the sites Haleon owns and controls through directly generating renewable energy on site, investing in Power Purchase Agreements and purchasing Renewable Electricity Certificates.

Haleon signed The Climate Pledge, which is a commitment by companies to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2040 - a decade ahead of the Paris Agreement's goal of 2050.

For more, access Haleon's recent responsible business reporting **here.**

*Where safety quality and regulations permit.

**Versus our 2020 baseline. Our goal to reduce net Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions by 100% by 2030 is underpinned by a 95% absolute reduction target. We have submitted our Scope 1, 2 and 3 goals to the Science Based Targets Initiative for verification and have registered our commitment to Net Zero.

ILAR ASOCIACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE AUTOCUIDADO RESPONSABLE

progress on commitment

ILAR - The Latin American Association of Responsible Self-Care, is a regional non-profit organization leading to promote the development of responsible self-care as best way to get and stay healthy as well as to ensure access to over the counter (OTC) medications. ILAR is a member of the **Global Self-Care Federation (GSCF)**, international non-governmental association in official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Founded in December 2001, the Association is formed by manufacturers of products and leading pharmaceutical companies in the region as well as National OTCs Associations, committed to the proper use of OTCs medicines and Food Supplements in Latin America.

ILAR is conscious about the Environmental challenges that our planet is facing such as Climate Change, temperature increase, biodiversity loss, among other threats.

These concerns motivate us to take actions to collaborate for a more sustainable self-care sector.

In 2024, ILAR has continued to meet its pledge by:

- Ensuring members have access to **information about GSCF's continued efforts through regular meetings and consultations** launched on GSCF initiatives and deliverables.
- Contributing to **regulatory discussions in LATAM region on e-labeling** through local research.
- Currently, **90% of personal care product and packaging is recyclable**, the goal is to reach 100% in the medium term.



progress on commitment

Established in 1985, Japan Self-Medication lndustry (JSMI) is the national association of over- the-counter (OTC) drugs manufacturers with 76 members. JSMI has been contributing to the country's public health through enhancing the role and function of OTC medicines as well as promoting self-medications. JSMI is a member of the **Global Self—Care Federation (GSCF)**.

Recognizing the need to promote environmental sustainability, JSMI's progress on the pledge made under the GSCF Charter for Environmental Sustainability is highlighted below:

JSMI member companies are working to **promote the SDGs**, and the Environmental Committee is responsible for promoting this project.

The **JSMI Environmental Committee** continues to collect information on the efforts of its member companies to reduce their environmental impact.

In response to requests from GSCF, JSMI have been calling on member companies to join the GSCF Environmental Charter, and in 2024, two companies, ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and SSP Co., Ltd., submitted pledges.

We will continue to call on member companies to join the GSCF Environmental Charter.



The research-based pharmaceutical industry

progress on commitments

Lif is the trade association for the Swedish research-based pharmaceutical industry and the self-care industry and has about 90 members. We work to ensure high quality care and access to medicinal treatments by strengthening the Swedish Life Science sector in collaboration with healthcare stakeholders, politicians, civil servants and patients. As a trade association, Lif represents the companies in the Swedish pharmaceutical industry on issues of shared interest.

The pharmaceutical industry strives to be transparent in all aspects of sustainability – environmental, social and financial. We are open to collaboration and dialogue on how the industry can make the greatest possible contribution to achieving society's goals of good health and long-term sustainable economic growth, while minimizing the negative impact on the environment.

Lif is proud to support GSCF's Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, and pledges to promote the objectives set out in the Charter to our membership, serving as a platform for good practice sharing and collaboration. We work in accordance to our Sustainability Strategy "Sustainable Health - a central feature of the 2030 Agenda" which was launched during 2022.

Each year we collect data and information from the membership in order to report on our joint performance at the Lif Sustainability Annual Conference in end of November. Based on the feedback received, we plan to support our SME-members and take initiatives on training and educational sessions (on general sustainability, our manifesto and the follow-up questionnaire) in 2024. Progress is also reported specifically in relation to the 9 commitments made in the Lif Sustainability Manifesto sorted in the three pillars of:

1. **Ethics and transparency.**
2. **Good health and access to medicines.**
3. **Reduced environmental impact.**

The commitments under the third pillar – We are part of the transition to a circular economy, We aim to achieve a fossil free pharmaceutical industry, and We aim to achieve reduced discharge of pharmaceutical residues into water – are well aligned with the objectives GSCF's Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

progress on commitment

As the UK trade association representing manufacturers of branded over-the-counter medicines, self-care medical devices and food supplements, PAGB is committed to supporting the UK consumer healthcare industry to drive environmentally sustainable self-care. PAGB will support and encourage its member companies to make pledges in line with the **Global Self Care Federation Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**.

We will share information and intelligence with our members and will work with them to develop industry-wide positions on relevant topics.

During 2024 we updated our website to include specific information on the environment and sustainability and the work that PAGB was undertaking.

We also provided a series of 3 environmental webinars for our members during 2024 which included green advertising claims, ePI overview and an overview of the impact of the UK extended producer responsibility (EPR) recycling labelling requirements.

Plastics & Packaging

- Providing reminders, updates, and links to PAGB members, including a monthly newsletter.
- **PAGB Environmental Working Group** met twice in 2024.
- **Supporting cross industry plastic** / recycling initiatives including GSCF work on plastics, when needed.
- Working with key stakeholders such as DHSC, DEFRA and MHRA to support members with the **introduction of new labeling requirements for recycling information.**
- Input into relevant consultations, working with other Trade Associations where relevant.
- Participating in the cross-industry UK ePI Task Force which is **working to secure the transition from printed PILs to electronic alternatives** with the potential benefits that brings to the environment.
- DEFRA / MHRA interaction relating to the recycling information needed on packs and resulting webinar via OPRUL.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

- **Influencing policy development** in the UK and the EU via our expert consultant.
- Providing members with **updates on policy developments** in EU and UK.
- **Attended cross-industry meeting** with DEFRA and UK Environment Agency in 2024.

CO_2 Footprint

Continually striving to reduce our office CO_2 Footprint including:

- Using less plastic.
- Reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Using renewable energy.
- Reviewing our banking and pension plans to ensure they promote sustainability.

Information about the work PAGB has undertaken at a local level for the company itself has also now been included on the PAGB's new website so members can understand the local initiatives we have undertaken.



© Juliane Liebermann

reckitt

progress on commitment

As a global hygiene, health and nutrition business, with around 30 million products sold every day, we have an opportunity to make a real difference for our consumers, our partners, the societies in which we operate and our environment. Embedding sustainability, and delivering our Sustainability Ambitions, sits at the very heart of Reckitt and our desire to see a cleaner, healthier world.

Reckitt is actively taking steps to help tackle climate change, reduce the impacts associated with packaging and support the communities where we work. We are pleased to work with partners and GSCF on these issues, recognizing that collaboration is essential in tackling shared challenges. Further information about our Sustainability Ambitions can be found in our **Sustainability Report**.

Packaging plays a vital role in protecting our products, ensuring quality, efficacy, and safety – it can also reduce product losses by protecting contents against physical damage in the supply chain. However, we recognize that there are environmental impacts associated with packaging, exacerbated by limited or poorly adopted local recycling infrastructure. **We reduce our footprint by using fewer and more easily recycled materials**, by using just one type of material, especially in laminates, and removing colours which can make recycling harder. Changes such as the reduction in size of blister packaging in Mexico, and removing plastic secondary packaging of some formats in the USA, are examples of how we're achieving this across our self care portfolio.

In 2023, we **reduced the total virgin plastic in our packaging vs. 2020 by 15% and over 78% of plastic packaging is recyclable or reusable**. We continue to look for new, transformational ways to get products to consumers using less virgin plastic. Further information can be found in the **Plastics and Packaging chapter of our Sustainability Report**.



progress on commitment

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Reckitt remains committed to **minimizing the possible environmental impact of Pharmaceuticals** and continues to collaborate with stakeholders across sectors, including governments, policymakers, regulators, healthcare professionals, industry, and consumers, to **advance progress in PiE while safeguarding the availability of OTC medicines**. In 2023, Reckitt joined the **Innovative Health Initiative PREMIER research project**, a ten million Euro private-public sector collaboration to support transparency and consistency in assessing the environmental risks of novel and generic active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs).

More broadly, we are committed to **reducing our environmental footprint from our operations** and we focus on minimizing our water use and waste generation from our manufacturing sites as a priority. In 2023, we achieved **7% reduction in water use per tonne of product** (vs 2015), 100% of manufacturing sites sent zero waste to landfill and we have **reduced the amount of waste generated per tonne of product by 18%** (vs 2015).



CO_2 Footprint

In 2022, we continued to meet our validated Science-based Target, with a **67% reduction of GHG emissions** from manufacturing and warehousing operations (Scope 1 & 2), compared with our emissions in 2015. This is driven by energy savings and increased reliance on renewable energy, with **94% of electricity use now from renewable sources**. We are continuing with our decarbonization programme, while also strengthening our scope 3 modeling and data, and remain committed to reducing our emissions and achieving net zero by 2040. More information is contained within our Climate Change chapter of our **Climate Change chapter of our Sustainability Report**.



Opella. progress on commitment

At Opella, our Sustainable Care Pledge is lending a major part of its focus to support a healthier planet. Given the healthcare sector's climate footprint accounts for 4-5% of global greenhouse gas emissions, it underscores the need for substantial action and presents an opportunity for significant impact.

Additionally, Opella currently holds B Corp certification in North America, Germany, Italy and Hispanic Latin America. This rigorous and independent accreditation confirms that we meet high standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability. By the end of 2024, they were also B Corp certified Central & Eastern Europe.

We are committed to continuing to solidify our position in a global community and strive not only to be the best in the world but also the best for the world. As part of the **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**, we would like to share an update on the key areas below.

Plastics & Packaging

- In 2023, **Opella became part of the Bottle Collective** and in 2024 joined the Blister Collective as well. These initiatives bring together the pharmaceutical, consumer health and Fast-Moving Consumer Goods businesses and are led by PA Consulting and PulPac, the Swedish R&D company behind Dry Molded Fiber (DMF) Technology. Their mission is to **help tackle virgin plastic waste**, by inventing and industrializing a high-speed process that produces recyclable DMF Bottles.
- Involvement in the Blister/Bottle Pulpac Collective extends to **support feasibility studies and develop pupl-based technology** as part of the overarching Opella strategy to reduce virgin petroleum-based plastic and improve healthcare packaging recyclability.

Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

- Opella proactively manages the **release of pharmaceutical substances and combats antibiotic resistance**, recognizing how these substances can impact the environment. From the inception of drug development to the end-of-life cycle of medicines, it seeks to minimize this kind of environmental harm.
- In 2023, following the assessment of PIE risks at all 13 Opella manufacturing sites, there are **PIE action plans developed and are starting to be implemented across multiple sites**, including pilot initiatives at the manufacturing plants in Suzano, Brazil and Ocoyoacac, México.

CO_2 Footprint

- Opella achieved a **31% reduction total carbon dioxide emissions for Scopes 1 and 2 in 2023**, compared to 2022. Since embarking on the decarbonization journey in 2019, Opella has realized a cumulative **56% decrease in total carbon emissions** for Scopes 1 and 2. This progress aligns with the 2025 target of a 65% total reduction in Scopes 1 and 2 emissions, compared to the 2019 baseline.
- Opella is focused on reducing emissions by transitioning to renewable energy sources for electricity. By the end of 2025, **the target is to achieve 100% renewable electricity** (as part of the RE100 initiative) and, as of 2023, 87% of Opella's electricity is derived from renewable sources.
- In 2023, the Opella teams undertook **initiatives to bolster internal renewable capabilities**. A solar farm was built in Virginia (Australia) covering the site's rooftop. This constituted the first phase of production, accounting for 10% of electricity usage. Plans are underway to expand this solar farm by commissioning the installation of solar panels in employee parking lots, ultimately **aiming to cover 25% of total electricity usage**, including through the installation of charging stationsfor electric vehicles.

self-care association OF SOUTH AFRICA

progress on commitment

The Self-Care Association of South Africa represents and supports companies involved in the manufacture, sale, distribution,and consultation of healthcare products (including **over- the-counter (OTC) medicines, complementary medicines, health supplements and self-care medical devices or IVDs**), that enable the public to better manage their health and wellbeing. The association maintains close contact with the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and advocates for a regulatory environment which provides for safe, efficacious, and quality self-medication products.

Additionally, the Self-Care Association of South Africa regularly meets with the National Department of Health to ensure we represent the best interests of our members, and in so doing the interests of the South African consumer when it comes to self-medication. The Self-Care Association of South Africa is a member of the **Global Self-Care Federation**, a non- government organization in official relations with the WHO.

Plastics & Packaging

Working with the regulator, SAHPRA and our prescription colleagues to commence phase 2 of the online medicines directory launched in 2023 to include prescription only medicines.



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Entering the final planning phase of a pilot taking the paper leaflet out of pack and replacing it with an e-leaflet accessible via a QR Code. Commenced research to understand what the perception and ease of use and recommendations of accessing e-leaflets via a QR code on pack would be and if a gradual total move from paper to electronic is acceptable to the general populus of South Africa.



CO_2 Footprint

Working with a local pharmacy association, SAHPRA,the South African harmacy Council, DHL logistics, and other key stakeholders on a safe disposal of medicines' project.



TAISHO PHARMACEUTICAL HOLDINGS CO., LTD. progress on commitment

Taisho see sustainability as an imperative part of our corporate activities and actions on environmental issues have been set and monitored for years. We pledge to care for the environment and biodiversity in all corporate activities from product R&D, manufacturing, disposal, distribution, and sales. As part of the **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**, we pledge to:

Plastics & Packaging

Recycling of waste from manufacturing processes:

- Paper scraps from drink label recycled into toilet paper.
- Aluminum caps recycled into aluminum ingot.

Reuse of transportation materials (Stretch film and PP bands).



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Conducted **waste management self-checks** at 12 facilities.



CO_2 Footprint

Reduction of CO_2 emissions by 15.3% (vs. 2013 baseline year):

- Upgraded to high-efficiency equipment.

Reduced gasoline consumption for company vehicles by 26%.



progress on commitment

Formed in 2014, Foundation Consumer Healthcare is dedicated to **improving consumers' lives by developing and growing a portfolio of differentiated over-the-counter (OTC) products**. Environmental stewardship is a core value of Foundation Consumer Healthcare. As part of **the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**, we pledge to:

- Reduce emissions, conserve energy and other resources.
- Reuse and / or recycle byproducts.
- Reduce environmental impact of our products throughout the value chain.
- Maintain all appropriate permits and approvals.
- Work with community partnerships and other stakeholders (including suppliers) to ensure we are steadily marching towards **better planetary and environmental health that protect and preserve natural resources.**

We continue to work with partners and stakeholders to create a **positive impact** and march towards **better human and planetary health**.



Perrigo progress on commitment

Perrigo is committed to taking purposeful and sustainable actions to **address climate change and related environmental issues associated with our business operations**. We believe this commitment as an integral part of our Vision: "To make lives better by bringing quality, affordable Self-Care Products that consumers trust everywhere they are sold".

That's why we are proud to support the **Global Self Care Federation's Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**.

Plastics & Packaging

Perrigo is committed to **Sustainable Packaging with the below goals by 2025:**

- 80% to 100% recycle-ready, reusable, or compostable packaging.
  Progress: Currently at 71-76%
- 20% to 30% of consumer packaging contains recycled content (where regulations allow).
  Progress: 9% for internationally distributed
- All paper cartons/packaging come from certified sustainable sources.
  Progress: Approx 90% complete
- Since 2021, Perrigo has set annual targets to reduce virgin packaging weight.
  Progress: We have reduced over 2 million pounds of material since 2021



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

We are committed to being responsible, supporting drug take-back initiatives and **educating our consumers and employees regarding disposal of unused pharmaceuticals** where it makes sense to do so.



CO_2 Footprint

Perrigo have set a goal to achieve **net-zero carbon emissions by 2040.** As part of this commitment, we have set the following targets for our global operations:

- **100%** of the electricity will be from renewable sources by **2026**.
- **10%** reduction in energy, water, and waste by **2026.**
- **42%** reduction in Greenhouse gas emissions by **2030.**





Stakeholder commitment

POST LAUNCH COMMITMENTS

Commitments by KOBAYASHI Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

Kobayashi Pharmaceutical believes that putting into practice its management philosophy of "providing people and society with great joy" will lead to harmony between people, society, and the environment, contribute to the realization of a sustainable society, and lead to sustainable growth as a company.

We will broaden our perspective on various social issues, discover "problems" that are often overlooked in the lives of individual people, and contribute to the realization of a "society where no one is left behind" through our products and services.

Plastics & Packaging

Reducing Environmental Impact in Packaging:

As part of reducing their environmental impact in packaging, Kobayashi Pharmaceutical is proud to **use recycled plastics and plastics alternatives.** This is illustrated by our use of recycled and biomass plastics and FSC-certified paper.



CO_2 Footprint

GHG emissions reduction:

- Kobayashi Pharmaceutical is **transitioning its major plants in Japan to electricity with zero CO_2 emissions**, significantly reducing its environmental footprint.
- We are actively **collaborating with suppliers through the CDP Supply Chain Program** to enhance sustainability across the value chain. Additionally, Kobayashi Pharmaceutical is committed to developing low-carbon products to support global efforts in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Commitments by Moving the Heart ROHTO

We have been proactive in implementing initiatives to reduce environmental impact, such as using refill pouches for cosmetics and reducing plastic and energy use.

In May 2023, we established **"Sustainability Goals 2030"**, actively focusing on key areas to advance towards a sustainable society and the preservation of the global environment.

Plastics & Packaging

Reduce Environmental Impact by plastics and packaging

Reduction of usage of plastics for containers and packages

- We will formulate a roadmap to reduce plastic usage for our products which significantly affects GHG emissions.

Establishment of criteria for using the "R-eco" mark

- Started to put the original symbol, the "R-eco" mark, on the packaging of our eco-friendly products. As definite criteria for placing that mark have not yet been established, we will set those criteria for the whole Group and discuss a specific target.



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Strengthen chemical substance management

Conduct appropriate management, develop and produce chemical substances that have the potential to have harmful effects on human health and the ecosystem.

- We will strengthen management throughout the entire life cycle of our products, from procurement of raw materials to production, distribution, use, and disposal, and will develop products with consideration for reducing environmental impact.

CO_2 Footprint

Reduce carbon emissions

Continuously work on attaining our targets and switch the purchase of electricity for major offices (own facilities such as factories and research facilities) to CO_2-free electricity.

Commitments by エスエス製薬 an Opella. company

As part of Sanofi Consumer Healthcare / Opella, SSP Co. Ltd. will contribute to implement sustainability action basing on Opella's global policy, and localize it for Japan society / environment.

As part of **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**, we pledge to:

Plastics & Packaging

Our challenge for plastic & packaging:

- Try to optimize and simplify existing packaging material.
- Seek a chance to use eco-friendly material for new product.
- Consider to optimize a packaging size to increase supply chain efficiency.



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

Our challenge for Pharmaceuticals in the environment:

- Keep trying to find API and sub-material with low environmental impact.
- Continual improvement of production feasibility to reduce energy during production.



CO_2 Footprint

Our challenge for CO_2 footprint:

- Monitor CO_2 emission amount and try to seek a chance to improve.
- Estimate a CO_2 emission reduction when product's specification was changed.
- The Narita site in Japan has been using 100% renewable electricity since July 2023, reducing CO_2 emissions by 2,700 tons per year.





Ongoing member campaigns

Ongoing member campaigns

Our members have implemented campaigns that touch on a wide variety of sustainability topics[1]. One example is the work of Bayer Consumer Health and Liveo Research on their New One-Material Blister packaging that was launched in October 2024.

New One-Material packaging reduces carbon footprint and impact on natural resources at no additional cost to the consumer.

Bayer has launched a first-of-its-kind in the healthcare industry, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) blister packaging on its renowned brand, Aleve. Realized in partnership with pharma packaging specialist Liveo Research, this innovative solution reduces the carbon footprint of this packaging by 38%[1] and marks a stride in environmental stewardship by eliminating the use of polyvinyl chloride (PVC). Blister packaging, widely used in over-the-counter products, has long posed a challenge for environmental sustainability due to its multilayer composition of plastic and aluminum, which makes it hard to sort and recycle. Launching first in the Netherlands, in the coming years, the company has the ambition to replace all of its blister packaging with more sustainable alternatives.

With the launch of this new blister packaging, Bayer is:



Decreasing the per unit carbon footprint of this packaging by **38%**.



Reducing factors that contribute to biodiversity loss by **using 78% less water and 53% less land** (per unit).



Lightweighting the package by **18%** (per unit) compared with the current packaging.

The market launch is the result of many years of extensive preparation and cooperation between the experts at Bayer and Liveo Research.

[1] GSCF member initiatives

Another exemplary campaign from our members was Sanofi's B Corp journey. This international certification is awarded to for-profit companies who achieve high standards of social & environmental performance, transparency, and accountability.

In July 2023 Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America became the first large pure Consumer Healthcare business to receive this certification, achieving additional credentials in Italy, Germany and Hispanic Latine America in early 2024. In June 2024, Sanofi Consumer Healthcare Western Europe (excluding France) also certified as B Corp. This is a significant milestone on Sanofi's journey to become part of a global community that contributes to a healthier planet and healthier society.

Highlights stemming from this achievement include:



Sanofi Consumer Healthcare Italy reaching **52% representation of women in senior leadership roles** as part of goal to reach 50/50 gender party in senior leadership positions by 2025.

Sanofi Consumer Healthcare Germany **supporting young and senior citizens** through the German Red Cross in Hessen and supporting several local Tafel branches in sorting and handing out food to people experiencing poverty.





Sanofi Consumer Healthcare Hispanic Latin America is partnering with charities and NGOs to **provide better access to clean drinking water and safe sanitation** across the region.

Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America's Allegra and Xyzal brands working to remove plastic packaging waste to ensure cartons are fully recyclable and **eliminate 3.7 metric tones of plastic on an annual basis**.





Multisectoral collaboration

Multisectoral collaboration is crucial in driving environmental sustainability in order to enable diverse industries, governments, and civil society to work together on complex, interconnected issues that no single entity can solve alone.

Joint Industry Collaboration on the UN Plastics Treaty

On March 2, 2022, the UN Environment Assembly agreed to develop a legally binding treaty to reduce plastic pollution, including ocean pollution and microplastics. **Treaty negotiations are moving quickly, with five sessions planned.** Three were held in 2023, and a fourth took place in April 2024 in Canada. The fifth (INC-5) and planned, final round of talks will occur in November 2024 in Korea, with the goal of completing the treaty by the end of the year. Member States are still debating whether the treaty should cover the full lifecycle of plastics or focus solely on waste management, with potential impacts on sectors like healthcare if stricter regulations are introduced.



To address concerns about access to medical products, some Member States have proposed exemptions for essential medical uses and emergencies. Continued engagement from the healthcare sector is crucial to ensure the treaty does not unintentionally restrict access to critical products.

Together with other key healthcare organizations, including International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA), Global Medical Technology Alliance (GMTA), and the Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network International (DCVMN), GSCF is actively involved in the negotiations and collaborating in joint healthcare organization actions. GSCF hosted a joint industry webinar in June 2024 that focused on building understanding of the negotiation process and opportunities for broader industry engagement. Sub-sector positions may differ given the nature of the healthcare product, but it is crucial that the broader healthcare industry actively contributes to the UN Plastics Instrument with practical industry experience and examples.

Together the GSCF and IFPMA have drafted a joint position statement ahead of the INC-5 talks which has been shared with other health organizations to join the alliance. The statement highlights essential factors in maintaining medicinal products on the market whilst transitioning to more sustainable packaging and components – calling for sufficient time allowance.

Further to this webinar, these same healthcare industry organizations issued a joint statement on this topic that was delivered at the final round of talks will occur in November 2024 in Korea.

Sustainable Partnerships

Sustainable partnerships are crucial for the healthcare sector as they help address the environmental impact of medical practices, products, and waste.

Collaboration with organizations focused on sustainability enables the healthcare industry to adopt eco-friendly innovations, reduce plastic waste, and improve resource efficiency, all while maintaining patient safety and care standards.

In 2024, GSCF announced two new partnerships in alignment with our commitment to fostering collaboration within and beyond the self-care sector.

GSCF is now a member of the Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health. The alliance aims to realize the ambitions set at COP26 by building climate-resilient and sustainable health systems. Together with WHO Member States and stakeholders, the alliance is driving this agenda forward by integrating climate change and health considerations into national, regional, and global plans.

GSCF has become a supporter member of RecyClass, an organization focused on advancing scientific testing methods for innovative materials. RecyClass works on creating guidelines and tools for Design for Recycling, as well as systems to ensure reliable traceability of plastic waste origin and verification of recycled content in plastic products.

GSCF joins 2 new Packaging Initiatives

In 2024 GSCF officially became a member of two packaging initiatives: **CiPPPA** and **CEFLEX**.

The Circularity in Primary Pharmaceutical Packaging Accelerator (CiPPPA) initiative aims to simplify and ensure the recyclability of primary pharmaceutical packaging waste for both companies and the public.

The Circular Economy for Flexible Packaging (CEFLEX) initiative is a collaboration of companies, associations and organizations representing the entire value chain of flexible packaging.

These partnerships mark a significant milestone in GSCF's environmental sustainability journey. By collaborating with CiPPPA and CEFLEX, we are reinforcing our commitment to reducing plastic packaging and fostering circular solutions.



Outlook for the future

Post-Launch Workstream Objectives

Climate change discussions are rarely framed within a global health lens.

Despite this, we know that there is an inextricable link between climate change and biodiversity loss and the health of populations.
The scale and speed of change that we need is only possible if all relevant actors come together to execute plans that are focused on efficacy and long-term impact. Cross-sectoral and public-private partnerships are key to tackling environmental sustainability and serve as a vital catalyst for the urgent changes we need. Collaborative actions like those that underpin the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care are the foundations for global success.



This year, we saw critical action on three of our priority areas: Plastics and packaging, Pharmaceuticals in the Environment (PiE) and CO_2 footprint.
GSCF's Blister Packs Task Force has launched several progressive research and testing initiatives involving blister pack formats. These efforts build on extensive work to map recycling waste stream capabilities and deepen understanding of recycling infrastructure and operational requirements.



We will continue our educational work on the reduction of GHG emissions, as well as work to engage with suppliers in order to ensure entire supply chains are committed. These sorts of efforts are not done alone – we're proud to work with organizations such as PSCI and M2030, who are developing tools reduce emissions along supply chains.



2025 and future perspectives

As we look to 2025, we can see that plastics & packaging continue to be a significant workstream for the healthcare sector due to their extensive use and environmental impact and need for partnerships.

Shifting toward recycle ready packaging and working towards mature infrastructure for collection, sorting and recycling are crucial steps to aligning with global environmental goals, such as those outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and reducing the carbon footprint of overall healthcare services in general.

Thus, the challenge is finding solutions that maintain the safety and effectiveness of healthcare products while addressing environmental concerns.

For 2025, GSCF is intensifying its focus on plastics and packaging sustainability through several key initiatives:

Reaffirming its dedication through the **release of a new position paper titled "Transition to Sustainable Plastic Packaging for Consumer Healthcare Products"**.

Conducting ongoing studies on blister pack sorting, with findings expected to be published in 2025. These results will provide critical insights for the industry on advancing towards second-generation recycle ready blister packaging.

These efforts demonstrate GSCF's dedication to advancing sustainable practices in consumer healthcare packaging.

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We invite interested companies and associations from the healthcare sector to pledge to the GSCF Charter. If you are interested in supporting the Charter or would like to know more: **Padma Kamath: pkamath@selfcarefederation.org**

GLOBAL
SELF-CARE
FEDERATION

The Global Self-Care Federation exists to create a healthier world through better self-care. We represent associations and manufacturers in the self-care industry, working closely with our members and relevant stakeholder groups to ensure evidence-based self-care products and solutions are recognized as key contributors to health for individuals and systems worldwide. Our work ensures key policy and decision-makers embrace self-care, recognize its values and use its broad range of benefits as the building blocks to deliver better and more sustainable health outcomes for all.

We represent the self-care and self-medication industry and endeavor to contribute to the World Health Organization's public health goals through our specialized expertise. GSCF is a non-State actor in official relations with WHO.

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