20th Annual Sustainability Conference

Navigate Evolving Sustainability Priorities in a Business-Aligned and Integrated Way

VIRTUAL EVENT
July 15 – 16, 2021

www.conferenceboard.org/sustainability-summit
SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE
Navigate Evolving Sustainability Priorities in a Business-Aligned and Integrated Way

DAY ONE
Thursday, July 15, 2021

11:00 – 11:15 am ET
Day 1, Welcome: Environmental Sustainability Expectations
The pandemic, social justice crises, and the changing climate have formed a “perfect storm” driving environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues into the mainstream. Sustainability/ESG is an urgent priority. Companies are more challenged than ever to integrate and align ESG into the business. This is the core theme of the 2021 Sustainability Conference.

Paul Washington, Executive Director, ESG Center, The Conference Board
Steve Rochlin, Program Director, The Conference Board

11:15 – 11:45 am ET
What's ahead in Environmental Disclosure: Regulation, Reporting Frameworks, and Rating Agencies
After a hiatus, the United States government is back in the ESG policy-making game. The European Union is advancing major ESG legislation. These are aligned with major developments among ESG rating and reporting frameworks. This session will identify how ESG frameworks will set the agenda for the field.

Michelle Lancaster, Director, Sustainability, Microsoft
Elizabeth Sturcken, Managing Director of EDF + Business, Environmental Defense Fund

11:45 – 11:50 am ET
Break

11:50 am – 12:20 pm ET
Taking an Integrated Approach to Achieve Net Zero Carbon Targets
Influential stakeholders from institutional investors to activist NGOs are calling for companies to set net-zero carbon commitments. What’s involved in doing so in a way that achieves results in a timely way without overpromising and under-delivering?

Cynthia Cummis, Director of Private Sector Climate Mitigation, World Resources Institute
Tim Juliani, Director Corporate Climate Engagement, WWF

12:20 – 12:25 pm ET
Break

12:25 – 12:40 pm ET
Breakout Discussion

12:40-12:50 pm ET
Break

12:50 – 1:20 pm ET
Figuring out Internal Carbon Pricing
Should companies proactively set carbon prices in advance of governments setting a rate? If so, what price makes sense? Should companies consider the “social cost of carbon” or use a different approach for calculation?

Michelle Lancaster, Director, Sustainability, Microsoft
Elizabeth Sturcken, Managing Director of EDF + Business, Environmental Defense Fund

1:20 – 1:25 pm ET
Break

1:25 – 1:55 pm ET
Understanding how Capital Markets Expect Your Company to Integrate, Organize, and Communicate Environmental Sustainability
Capital markets are beginning to incorporate ESG considerations as a core part of their investment theses and models. Panelists will discuss their expectations and how major corporations need to respond.

Erika Karp, Executive Managing Director and Chief Impact Officer, Pathstone
John Streur, President & CEO, Calvert Research and Management

1:55 – 2:05 pm ET
Closing Thoughts, Day 1
Steve Rochlin, Program Director, The Conference Board
Paul Washington, Executive Director, ESG Center, The Conference Board

DAY TWO
Friday, July 16, 2021

11:00 – 11:15 am

Day 2, Welcome: Social Sustainability Expectations
Paul Washington, Executive Director, ESG Center, The Conference Board
Steve Rochlin, Program Director, The Conference Board

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact ryan.gavaghan@conference-board.org
11:15 – 11:45 am
Taking a Holistic Approach to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
It is not enough for companies to value diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Companies are expected to set bold targets and integrate DEI into strategy.

Eloiza Domingo, Vice President, Human Resources and Chief Inclusive Diversity & Equity Officer, The Allstate Corporation

John Gibson, Vice President, External and Multicultural Affairs, Motion Picture Association

11:45 – 11:50 am ET  Break

11:50 am – 12:20 pm ET
Addressing the Intersection of Environmental and Human Health
The changing climate is one of the biggest threats to global public health. The worst pandemic the world has seen in 100 years is rooted in the interaction of natural ecosystems and the built environment. Companies must understand the risks and the expectations for the actions they must take.

Margaret O’Gorman, President, Wildlife Habitat Council
Lea Rankinen, Vice President of Sustainability and Public Affairs, Paulig

12:20 – 12:25 pm ET  Break

12:25 – 12:40 pm ET  Breakout Discussion

12:40 – 12:50 pm ET  Break

12:50 – 1:15 pm ET
Assuring Supply Chain Resilience and Sustainability
The global pandemic showed how vulnerable global supply chains are to ESG risks, and how vulnerable workers are as well. Panelists will identify risks and share good practices on how to develop sustainable and resilient supply chains.


David Wofford, Senior Director, Universal Access Project, The United Nations Foundation

1:15 – 1:20 pm ET  Break

1:20 – 1:50 pm ET
Bringing your Corporate Purpose to Life
Purpose has become one of the most important management models of the 21st Century. How to turn the hype of Purpose into reality? Panelists will share their experiences and good practices.

Kim Fortunato, Vice President, Community Affairs, Campbell Soup Company and President, Campbell Soup Foundation

James Gowen, Senior Vice President Global Supply Chain and Chief Sustainability Officer, Verizon and Chairman of the Board of Directors, Global Enabling Sustainability Initiative

Luis Neves, Managing Director and CEO, Global Enabling Sustainability Initiative

1:50 - 1:55 pm ET  Break

1:55 – 2:25 pm ET
Telling Your Sustainability Story
How can companies convey their sustainability efforts to multiple audiences in the face of rising expectations? This session will feature insights from research to help companies think through how best to tell their sustainability story authentically, reliably, and effectively.

Thomas Singer, Principal Researcher, The Conference Board

Lyuba A. Goltser, Partner, Weil, Gotshal & Manges

2:25 - 2:30 pm ET
Closing Observations
Steve Rochlin, Program Director, The Conference Board

Paul Washington, Executive Director, ESG Center, The Conference Board