



FDF's Ambition 2025: SHAPING SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS PROGRESS REPORT 2022

The year 2022 brought a new set of challenges for the food and drink industry. While businesses were recovering from the impacts of a global pandemic, the world was stricken by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Many companies faced further supply chain issues, labour shortages and increasing threats to energy security. Amid high inflation and sharp rises in energy and ingredient prices, resource efficiency became even more critical.

Despite these challenges, our members remain focused on their commitment to lead the charge for a sustainable, resilient and responsible food and drink industry, and deliver on our ambition to reach Net Zero by 2040 – a decade earlier than government targets.

As the UK's largest manufacturing sector, contributing over £30 billion to the nation's economy, we are cutting our carbon footprint one step at a time to create a more sustainable future. We are taking significant steps to improve the recyclability of our packaging, set against our desire for the UK to put in place an effective Extended Producer Responsibility System. We are tackling food waste wherever it occurs across our supply chains, including by identifying ways to redistribute more surplus food for the benefit of the environment and society.

Figures from this year's report show our companies once more met their collective goal to reduce their scope 1 and 2 CO₂ emissions by more than 60% against the 1990 baseline.

Throughout 2022, we have supported many initiatives aimed at addressing wider supply chain emissions. For example, we continue to collaborate with organisations like WRAP, IGD, and Broadway Initiative among others on a variety of subjects ranging from UK Net Zero strategy, environmental labelling, sourcing sustainable commodities and financing UK nature recovery.

We have seen the number of committed manufacturers to [WRAP and IGD's Food Waste Reduction Roadmap](#) increase five-fold since its launch. Of these businesses, almost 90% have already adopted the 'Target, Measure, Act' approach. We are also supporting Courtauld's ambition to ensure fresh food is being sourced from areas with sustainable water management, and we are encouraging members to take part in collective action projects and to sign up to WRAP's 'Water Roadmap'.

Despite the turbulent political environment, we continue to engage constructively with UK and devolved governments. For example, on improved reporting of food waste for food businesses in England, implementing due diligence on forest risk commodities and the Government's call for evidence on their Net Zero strategy review.

The FDF, alongside BRC & Incpen, are pursuing an extensive programme of engagement with politicians, civil servants and other stakeholders on the current collection and packaging reforms. We are determined to persuade all UK Governments to design a future Extended Producer Responsibility scheme that delivers the best environmental outcomes and for wider packaging reforms. This includes the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme and Consistent Collections to be compatible and interoperable across the four nations.

This year, we will be reviewing our Sustainability Strategy, striving to provide the best support for members in their efforts to build more resilient and sustainable food systems. We will continue collaboration with stakeholders across the supply chain as well as government departments on actions needed to meet climate and wider environmental goals.

Current ambition

2022 progress



CO₂

To achieve a 60% absolute reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2025 against a 1990 baseline.

Members report an absolute reduction of 61.4% in CO₂ emissions from their use of energy in 2021 compared to a 1990 baseline.

In 2022, the FDF focused on collaboration with farm-to-fork partners on practical support for addressing wider supply chain emissions as well as continuing to work on a future phase of [Climate Change Agreements](#).

FOOD WASTE



To reduce food waste across members' own direct operations and supply chain by adopting the 'Target, Measure, Act' approach and contribute to the UN SDG 12.3 food waste reduction target.

The number of committed manufacturers signed up to the Food Waste Reduction Roadmap has increased five-fold since launch, from 47 to 238, with an increase of 29 since September 2021. Of these 48 are FDF members. Almost 90% of the larger manufacturing businesses have provided evidence of implementing 'target, measure, act'.

PACKAGING



To deliver improved environmental outcomes relating to production, use and disposal of food and drink packaging, in particular plastic packaging, while recognising its essential protective functionality.

We continue our programme of engagement with the UK and Devolved Governments on [packaging reforms](#), encompassing Extended Producer Responsibility, the Deposit Return Scheme, Consistent Collections and the Plastic Packaging Tax. We would like Governments to design a scheme that delivers the best environmental outcomes at the least cost to consumers.

WATER



To support and contribute to the Courtauld 2030 water ambition.

The FDF is a supporting organisation of WRAP's Roadmap Towards [Water Security](#) for the Food & Drink Supply which was launched in November 2021; this builds on the work already undertaken under the Courtauld Commitment Water Ambition. To date, 8 members have signed up to the 'Water Roadmap'.

TRANSPORT



To support and contribute to the Government Road to Zero Strategy.

The FDF continues to promote the fewer and friendlier food miles agenda, encouraging the implementation of FDF's 10-Point Checklist for Greener Transport. We are also engaging with the Government more broadly on its Net Zero strategy and other key stakeholders.

SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS



To promote the recognition and uptake of sustainability standards and initiatives in the food and drink sector.

FDF is a member of the UK Roundtable for Sourcing [Sustainable Palm Oil](#), a supporter of the UK Soy Manifesto and a respondent to the Defra consultation on Implementing Due Diligence on Forest Risk Commodities Consultation

NATURAL CAPITAL



To increase awareness of natural capital among members, promoting the business benefits and supporting a shift towards integrating natural capital into decision making.

We continue to [work](#) with members to understand and protect natural capital. Members were introduced to the Nature Recovery Network, a major commitment in the UK Government's 25-Year Environment Plan and enacted by the Environment Act 2021.