GSK sustainability and global health update at COP27

GSK is joining world leaders, policymakers and sustainability experts at COP27 to discuss goals and actions needed on climate, nature and health. At COP, GSK is sharing updates on key supplier sustainability and health resilience initiatives, part of its long-term commitments that aim to reduce carbon emissions and improve global health.

Clear action to reduce carbon footprint through improved supplier sustainability
With 40% of GSK’s total carbon footprint within its supply chain, working with suppliers is crucial to making significant emission reductions. In September 2022, GSK launched its Sustainable Procurement Programme at New York Climate Week, with the goal to support suppliers to take action on sustainability commitments by 2023. At COP27 this week, GSK announced the Activate programme, a new initiative co-developed by Manufacture 2030 and GSK along with four other founding companies, to help Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) suppliers gain access to green funding and practical support to accelerate decarbonisation initiatives. Activate will start onboarding suppliers in March 2023.

Also at COP27, GSK and 14 other global pharmaceutical companies are pleased to share that nine suppliers have formed the first Energize buyer’s cohort who together will purchase two terawatt-hours (TWh) of renewable electricity. Energize was launched at COP26 last year, as a first-of-its kind program designed to enable pharmaceutical suppliers to learn more about and participate in renewable power purchase agreements (PPAs).

And seven CEOs from global healthcare companies, including GSK, last week announced joint action on near-term emissions reduction targets and accelerating the delivery of net zero health systems. These sector CEOs have come together with a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) Health Systems Task Force, a public-private partnership launched at COP26 to take scalable action towards addressing emissions across supply chains, patient care pathways, and clinical trials.

Investing in health resilience to support vulnerable communities
There is clear evidence that changing climate and extreme weather events are exacerbating health issues around the world, and GSK’s aim is to help strengthen the health and nature resilience of local communities who are already feeling the impact. GSK is committed to developing science-led solutions to support its ambition to positively impact the health of more than 2.5 billion people in the next ten years. Currently, GSK is on track to invest more than 50% of its £1bn global health R&D budget on climate-aggravated diseases disproportionately impacting lower-income countries, over the next 10 years.

Building on this, GSK has this week joined the Race to Resilience campaign, which has the goal to build the resilience of four billion people globally by 2030. GSK is the first biopharma company to join this campaign and will support specifically through investment and partnerships with organisations such as Save the Children and Microsoft, who GSK is working with to support local health interventions with disease surveillance. As part of this commitment, GSK will also focus on nature resilience through nature-based action, such as supporting people with water stress as part of the Water Resilience Coalition and reducing air pollution via the Alliance for Clean Air.

About GSK
GSK is a global biopharma company with a purpose to unite science, technology, and talent to get ahead of disease together. Find out more at gsk.com/company