

OPEN LETTER TO SUPPLIER PARTNERS ON CLIMATE AND NATURE ACTION FROM MEMBERS OF THE SUSTAINABLE MARKETS INITIATIVE (SMI) HEALTH SYSTEMS TASK FORCE

21 November 2025

Dear Supplier Partners,

Reducing carbon emissions across health systems requires partnership across the value chain. As Chief Procurement Officers (CPOs) from members of the SMI Health Systems Task Force, we ask for your support.

We have a shared responsibility and opportunity to contribute to a healthier, more sustainable future by reducing emissions in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement. The healthcare sector contributes around 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions, of which [more than 50% stem from the supply chain](#), and we know that these emissions harm human health. As valued suppliers, you play an essential role in addressing these emissions and your environmental footprint to contribute to a more sustainable and resilient value chain.

In light of this, we have updated the joint, minimum sustainability targets for suppliers which our CEOs first issued in 2023. We ask that you align your operations with these revised targets and engage your own suppliers to do the same:

Updated joint, minimum Supplier Sustainability Targets

1. Emissions

- Assess and disclose scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions¹; disclose product carbon footprints or life cycle assessments (LCAs) for your top 10 products² (ordered by annual GHG emissions impact) by 2028.
- Publicly set third-party validated science-based targets³ (near-term and long-term) across Scopes 1, 2, and 3 by 2027.

2. Electricity

- Source at least 80% renewable electricity by 2030⁴ and publish annual interim progress.

3. Heat

- Reduce process heat emissions by at least 20% by 2030⁵.

4. Resource Efficiency

Set targets, a credible supporting plan, and demonstrated action in the following areas⁶:

- Source lower carbon and circular input materials, including sustainable feedstocks for solvents and plastics.
- Minimise resources by reducing material use; manage unavoidable waste by increasing recycling rates.
- Reduce emissions from solvent use (e.g. via solvent reuse, solvent recycling).

5. Nature & Water

- By 2028, assess dependencies, impacts, risks, and opportunities related to pressures on nature⁷ across the value chain and take visible actions in response to the assessment by 2030, including on sustainable and deforestation-free sourcing of key naturally derived commodities.
- By 2030, set targets and demonstrate action on water. For high water stress or risk areas, set absolute water reduction targets and adopt water stewardship practices⁸. For all areas, measure pollutant release and improve water efficiency.

6. Suppliers

- Integrate the targets above into contracting for your suppliers.

To support you and your teams in taking meaningful action on the targets outlined above, we have launched several initiatives as follows:



1. **Renewable Power and Heat Procurement Programmes:** We have launched joint procurement programmes for renewable electricity in [China](#) and India⁹ which can be joined. We have also identified clean heat solutions to reduce emissions.
2. **Sustainable Plastics Sourcing:** We have committed to prioritise low-emission plastics. If you are a plastics supplier, partner with us as we work to substitute fossil-based plastics with lower emissions alternatives within our portfolios, such as certified bio-based plastics. We ask that you provide low-impact options for polyolefins¹⁰ and other plastic materials wherever possible to support our Scope 3 decarbonisation targets.
3. **Emissions Measurement Tools:**
 - a. We will be launching a life cycle assessment (LCA) standard later this year. We encourage you to assess your product level impact using this standard and will share relevant trainings to support you here
 - b. If you are a clinical trials supplier, we encourage you to use our [clinical trial carbon calculator](#) to measure emissions from clinical trials and use the insights to enhance your decarbonisation strategies.
4. **Dedicated Support Webinars:** Join our webinar series to gain actionable insights on decarbonisation strategies. Register [here](#) to receive updates and invites for upcoming webinars.

As a group of Chief Procurement Officers of pharmaceutical and healthcare companies, we have seen encouraging progress among our top suppliers over the past three years. For example, we have seen the number of suppliers adhering to the [original supplier targets we set](#) double¹¹, and many suppliers have joined the renewable power procurement programmes we have established.

Sustaining momentum remains a top priority which is why our Chief Procurement Officer Forum meets quarterly to review progress and next steps to decarbonise the value chain.

We are excited to continue collaborating on this journey with you. By working together, within the bounds of competition law, we can advance to net zero health systems and build a healthier, more sustainable future.

Sincerely,

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GSK

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¹ Using methods aligned with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol

² For other providers (e.g., manufacturing service providers, materials providers), provide primary data compatible with standards (e.g., PAS2090 chapter 5.1.1); For pharmaceutical products, comply with the product category rules described in PAS 2090; see PSCI for an overview of LCAs;

³ E.g., SBTi, CSRD, ISO, IPCC-aligned - leveraging relevant sectoral guidance

⁴ See RE100 technical criteria for more information on included technologies and credible claims requirements

⁵ Based on your SBT base year - heat generated on-site or in third-party installations and used to manufacture products (often from stationary fuel use)

⁶ SMI supplier toolkit to provide more detail

⁷ E.g., land/water/sea use change, resource exploitation, biodiversity risk, pollution - see SBTN, TNFD, and WBSCD for more info - not all topics will be materially relevant for all suppliers

⁸ Encourage adoption of globally recognized standard (e.g., Alliance for Water Stewardship) and seek certification where possible

⁹ For more information on these programs, please join our webinars (see 4, register [here](#) to receive invites)

¹⁰ Polyethylene and Polypropylene

¹¹ E.g., share of top SMI suppliers committed to set near-term targets aligned with the 1.5 °C pathway has grown from ~15% to ~50%