

SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

Monthly update about sustainability-related developments across the globe
(16 Apr-15 May 2022)

National Governments' Announcements



New Zealand

Has established country's first-three carbon budgets set out to 2035, by limiting the country's carbon dioxide emissions, setting path to net-zero carbon target for 2050

China



Has asked for cooperative efforts to increase the use of green and low-carbon energy resources – such as wind, solar, biomass and hydrogen – while strictly restraining energy-intensive, high-emission and low-standard projects in the country

India



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has commended for technological intervention in the cement industry to address its carbon emissions helping the Country achieve net-zero emission targets

Saudi Arabia



Government has announced purchasing of 100,000 electric vehicles from Lucid Group, Inc. over a span of 10 years, as part of Saudi Vision 2030 and Saudi Green Initiative to transform the Kingdom via sustainable transportation and technologies

UK



Britain has announced taskforce to write rules compelling financial firms and listed companies to issue plans, starting 2023, for transitioning to a net zero economy by 2050

Sustainability-linked Acquisitions and Investments

Grant Thornton

Acquired 100% stake in

avance-

WOLFS COMPANY

Rationale

To focus on sustainability and ESG ensuring its operations contribute to European climate goals and prevent inequality

AMCS

Acquired 100% stake in

Quentic

Rationale

To increase focus on modifying the entire supply chain, offering smarter outcomes from automating & digitizing the business and reducing waste as much as possible

GFL
GREEN FOR LIFE
ENVIRONMENTAL

Acquired 100% stake in

Sprint
Waste Services

Rationale

To densify its solid waste footprint within the Southern United States

accenture

Acquired 100% stake in

gkzente

Rationale

To incorporate sustainability in everything the company does, creating business value and sustainable impact on everyone it serves

ALLETE

Acquired 100% stake in

NEW ENERGY
EQUITY

Rationale

To enhance its portfolio of companies and capabilities and open new growth opportunities leading way to a sustainable energy future

Key News

06-MAY-22: AVIATION

Etihad Airways has initiated intensive research and testing on its flights to test operational efficiencies that could help reduce carbon emissions

- Etihad Airways, the second flag carrier airline of UAE, has successfully concluded the world's most rigorous sustainable flight-testing program, completing 42 eco-flights over a five-day period, as part of the national airline of UAE's commitment to cleaner flying
- The results of the program will contribute to reducing aviation's carbon emissions and environmental impact as and when the outcomes will be implemented into standard airline operations
- The eco-flights tested used contrail prevention technology to help reduce non-CO2 emissions on flights along with several other operational efficiencies and technologies that help to reduce carbon emissions on flights

05-MAY-22: AGRICULTURE, FINANCIAL SERVICES

Syngenta Group Hong Kong has issued Asia's largest syndicated sustainability-linked loan of \$4,500 million

- Syngenta Group (HK) Holdings Company, which is a wholly-owned overseas subsidiary of the Syngenta Group - an Agro-Chemical company, issued Asia's largest syndicated three-year sustainability-linked loan worth \$4,500 million
- The loan is Syngenta Group's first syndicated loan from the international market, since its inception and asset restructuring, with a syndicate of banks from 11 jurisdictions, and also its first sustainability-linked loan (SLL)
- The SLL is an important breakthrough in the sustainable development of the Group, indicating that more resources will be used to support the evolution of the sustainable agricultural system

28-APR-22: BEEF, ANIMAL SOURCE FOOD

US Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB) has set out a new plan to improve the sustainability of the US beef value chain, making it carbon neutral by 2040

- The US Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB), a multi-stakeholder initiative developed to advance, support, and communicate continuous improvement in sustainability of the U.S. beef value chain, has released a new plan to make cattle raising more sustainable
- The plan, which is a collection of goals and action items, has set a target of making the US beef supply chain carbon neutral by 2040, along with making cattle raising less taxing on the environment
- The broad-spectrum roundtable plan is offering free resources to help meet the plan's goals, and also takes aim at land use, water resources, employee safety, and animal health & welfare

27-APR-22: LUXURY AUTOMOTIVE

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has introduced a new strategy to accelerate next-gen technology and sustainability for its modern luxury vision

- Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), an automobile manufacturer which produces luxury vehicles and sport utility vehicles, has launched a new strategy to expedite technology and sustainability for reimagining its Modern Luxury vision
- The strategy - "Open Innovation" - introduced for the business, its partners, and customers, will propel collaborations with start-ups, scale-ups, and like-minded external organizations
- As part of the global strategy, involving players from electrification, connectivity, digital services, metaverse, intelligent enterprise, manufacturing, supply chain, and sustainability sectors, JLR will open an innovation hub in the UK in partnership with Plug and Play, which is a US-based early-stage investor, accelerator, and corporate innovation platform

25-APR-22: HOSPITALITY

Real Estate Developer Urban Villages and Architecture Firm Studio Gang are building US' first carbon-positive hotel in Denver - Populus

- Urban Villages, a real estate development company, has started construction of 'Populus', an upcoming and country's first-carbon positive hotel, to be opened in late 2023 in Denver, Colorado
- The hotel which will have a 265-rooms structure is being built with sustainable design and features at a significant ecological effort offsite to make it carbon positive for ecologically responsible consumers
- The hotel intends to implement green practices including plantation of trees that represent over 5,000 acres of forest, which will help in offsetting the hotel's carbon footprint

22-APR-22: MEDIA, JOURNALISM

Eco-Business' non-profit arm EB Impact has introduced a new sustainability media academy for Asian journalists

- EB Impact, an NPO focused on delivering training programs to Asia Pacific's underserved communities, has revealed a new sustainability initiative for seasoned and aspiring journalists in Asia
- The Sustainability Media Academy (SMA), which is a novel platform in Asia to train media professionals to tell the climate story in a much better way, has been introduced in partnership with and support of Meta
- Tried for the first time in 2022, the Academy intends to raise the awareness and trust level in information and quality of debate on sustainability issues among society in Asia

22-APR-22: FINANCE

National Stock Exchange of India (NSEI) has introduced an exclusive worldwide International Sustainability Platform to promote sustainable finance

- NSE IFSC, a subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange of India, has established its international subsidiary platform to expedite the listing and trading of green bonds and ESG investments
- The International Sustainability Investment Platform, expected to get operationalized in the second half of 2022, has been launched to encourage responsible and sustainable conduct of business
- The platform is also intended to enable corporates, government bodies, and social enterprises to raise sustainable finance and meet commitments towards SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

19-APR-22: CONSULTING SERVICES, AVIATION

ZenithJet has introduced new sustainability services to help aircraft owners reduce their GHG emissions

- ZenithJet, a technical services consulting firm for business aircraft owners, operators, and corporate flight departments, has introduced a set of new sustainability-based services in its service line for emission reduction of aircraft operators
- New services provide a baseline for business aircraft owners and operators to measure their greenhouse gas emissions and implement reduction strategies as a starting point on their journey towards carbon neutrality
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Accounting, Aviation Emissions Measurement, and GHG Inventory Reporting are some of the services offered by the company among its newly introduced portfolio of services