

Sustainability Strategy 2021

20
19

JANUARY

twenty one actions for 2021

The World Economic Forum published its Sustainability Policy in July 2015, outlining its commitment to reduce the impact of its operations on the environment and on people. It established a set of measures for the management and delivery of its sustainability objectives.

After three years, the World Economic Forum has progressed towards its vision of a “Sustainable Forum”. The Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters received the ISO 20121 certification for sustainable event management in January 2018, following a series of external audits. The carbon footprint of the Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters has been reduced by 2% in a year despite hosting 15% more people.

With the aim of expanding sustainability efforts to its value chain, the Forum’s Sustainable Procurement Policy was published in July 2017, setting criteria for goods and services to be procured with an emphasis on fair employment and environmental attributes, as well as other social and ethical criteria.

In the context of the Forum’s steady development, this strategy reiterates its willingness to take a leadership role in sustainability and to be recognised as an organization which practices sustainability in all its activities.

Building on the six priority areas which frame its sustainability efforts since 2015, the World Economic Forum is committing to 21 sustainability actions for 2021.

These actions address a large scope of sustainability issues. They have been defined through a materiality assessment supported by an environmental impact assessment of the Forum’s offices, a carbon footprint study and a social risk assessment of its major event – the Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters.

With these 21 actions, the Forum aims to ensure the highest level of sustainability for its offices, improving the sustainability performance of its events, and strengthening the integration of sustainability in its business practices and global operations.

Sustainable Global Operations



With events and offices around the world, the World Economic Forum runs activities at a global level. Its objective is to ensure that sustainability best practices are integrated throughout the organization.

ONE.

Reduce air travel related emissions per employee

TWO.

Ensure all branded items are designed and procured following strict sustainability criteria

THREE.

Ensure the Forum's catering offer is nutritious, healthy, integrates low impact ingredients and systematically includes a vegetarian choice

FOUR.

Reinforce the deployment of the Sustainable Procurement Policy across the Forum's supply chain

FIVE.

Assess and optimize its use of natural and energy resources for its digital operations

SIX.

Ensure high levels of work-safety practices everywhere it operates



Sustainable Events

The Forum's meetings serve as global platforms that enable decision-makers to define and advance crucial issues. They aim to provide a sustainable environment that fosters participants' and staff well-being, ensuring the highest quality of services and minimizing the negative environmental and social impacts.

SEVEN.

Renew the ISO 20121 certification for the Annual Meeting and extend its scope to the Sustainable Development Impact Summit

EIGHT.

Reduce single-use plastic by 80% and global waste by 15%

NINE.

Reduce energy consumption per participant

TEN.

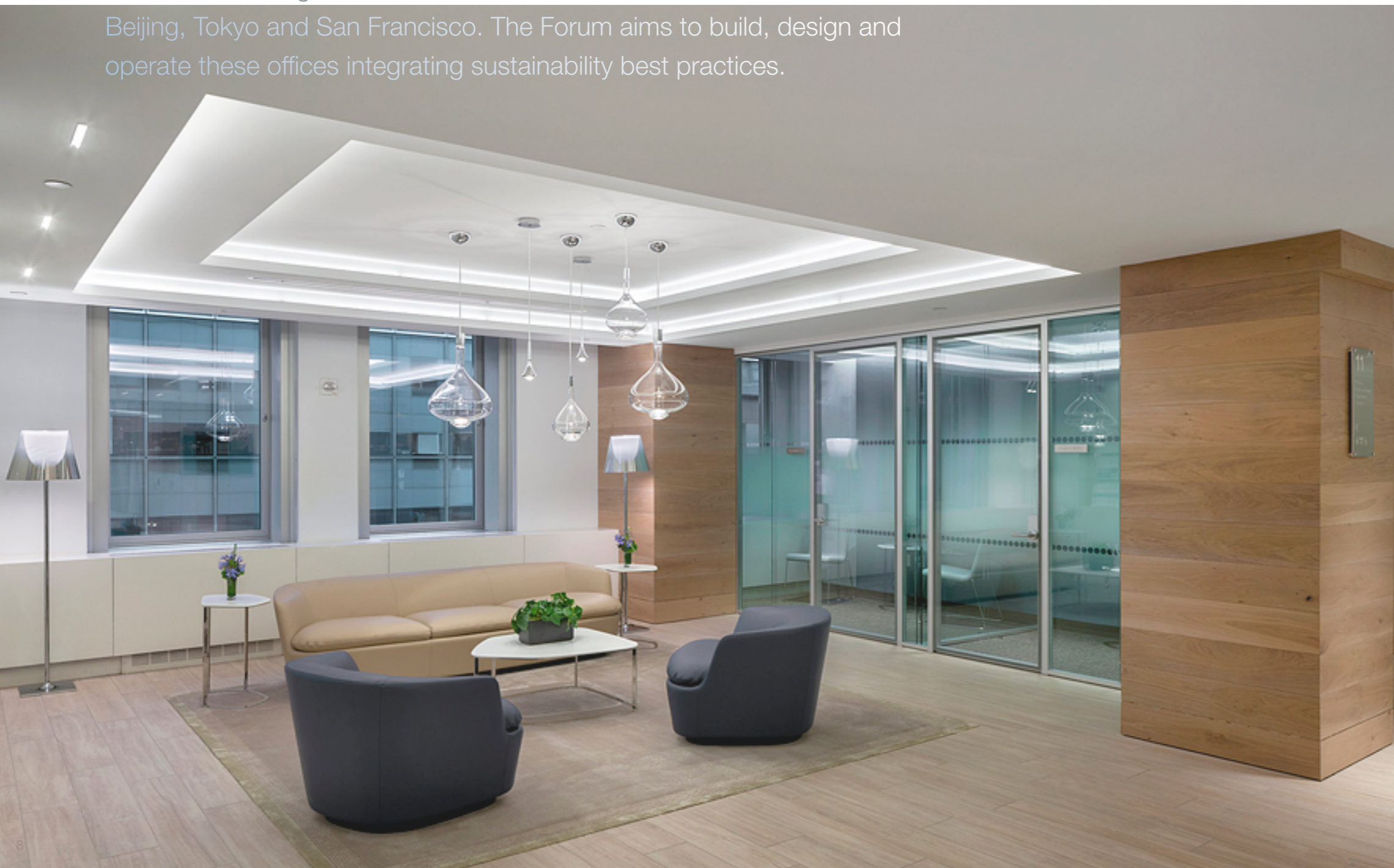
Foster sustainable resource use at the Annual Meeting of the New Champions

ELEVEN.

Involve constituents in the Forum's sustainability actions

Sustainable Offices

The Forum's offices are hubs of expertise, knowledge sharing and collaboration. Its global network of offices includes Geneva, New York, Beijing, Tokyo and San Francisco. The Forum aims to build, design and operate these offices integrating sustainability best practices.

**TWELVE.**

Produce or source 100% renewable electricity for all Forum offices

THIRTEEN.

Obtain the ISO 50001 certification for energy management of the headquarters

FOURTEEN.

Obtain sustainable building certification for new offices (LEED or other)

FIFTEEN.

Increase the use of sustainable commuting options by 15%

SIXTEEN.

Reduce water use for green spaces by 20%

Sustainable Business Practices

Expectations of the World Economic Forum as the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation have increased immensely, and with it comes a responsibility to be irreproachable in business practices.



SEVENTEEN.

Strengthen its engagement with stakeholders and local communities on sustainability

EIGHTEEN.

Enhance the well-being of employees

NINETEEN.

Ensure continuous training of employees on the code of conduct and sustainability

TWENTY.

Ensure full implementation of a data protection framework

TWENTY-ONE.

Continuously encourage and support the Forum's Partners in becoming leaders in sustainability practices

How the 21 actions respond to the six priority objectives defined in the Sustainability Policy

	Sustainable global operations	Sustainable events	Sustainable offices	Sustainable business practices
Promoting sustainability	2, 3, 4	7, 9, 11	13, 14	17, 19, 21
Reducing its environmental impact	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	7, 8, 9, 10	12, 13, 14, 15, 16	
Upholding the highest standards of governance	4	7	13, 14	19, 20
Keeping its people safe	3, 4, 6	7	14, 15	18
Being a responsible employer and a responsible client	2, 3, 4	7	14	18
Engaging positively with local communities	3, 4	7, 10	14	17