

# **The Business Case for Systems Collaboration**

# Determining the next steps towards amplifying your sustainability initiatives for your organization

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## STEP 1: ASSESS CURRENT STATE

What do you need to know **right now** in order to take steps towards accelerating your sustainability goals?

## STEP 2: DEFINE FUTURE STATE

What are your **organization's goals** in each area? Are they **realistic given the time horizon**?

## STEP 3: DETERMINE IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

What **questions need to be answered** and what **decisions need to be made first** in order to make progress towards the defined goals?

# Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

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## Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

1. Cross Industry Cooperation
2. Supplier Partnerships
3. Internal Organization Collaboration

## Step 1: Assess the Current State

1. **Supply Chain Transparency:** Do we have full visibility into the sustainability practices within our supply chain?
2. **Cross-Industry Collaboration:** How are we currently leveraging cross-industry collaborations to enhance our sustainability efforts?
3. **Supplier Engagement:** What systems are in place to ensure our suppliers adhere to our sustainability standards and goals?
4. **Internal Collaboration:** How are our sustainability goals integrated across different departments within our organization?
5. **Sustainability Impact:** How do our supply chain and system collaborations contribute to our overall sustainability performance?

# Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

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## Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

- 1. Cross Industry Cooperation**
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## Step 2: Define the Future State

1. What successful sustainability practices from other industries can we adapt and implement in our own operations?
  - While adapting practices, ensure they align with your company's values, goals, and operational capabilities. Customization might be necessary to fit your unique context.
2. What cross-industry alliances or partnerships can we form to drive more significant sustainable impact?
  - Evaluate potential partnerships on the basis of mutual benefit, shared values, and the capacity to achieve greater sustainability impact together.
3. How can we contribute to the sustainability efforts of the industries we interact with, and how can this cooperation enhance our business case for sustainability?
  - Assess the value you can bring to other industries and how it can positively reflect on your brand's reputation, customer loyalty, and overall sustainability impact.

# Systems/Supply Chain Collaborations

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## Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

1. Cross Industry Cooperation
- 2. Supplier Partnerships**
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## Step 2: Define the Future State

1. How can we encourage our suppliers to adopt sustainable practices that align with our sustainability goals?
  - Communicate your expectations clearly and provide support where possible. Consider supplier capacity and readiness for change.
2. What criteria should we use to evaluate the sustainability efforts of our potential and current suppliers?
  - Criteria should be objective, measurable, and relevant to your sustainability goals. It should consider both the supplier's current sustainability practices and potential for improvement.
3. How can we incentivize sustainable practices among our suppliers and integrate these practices into our contractual agreements?
  - Incentives should be meaningful and achievable. They should motivate suppliers to align their operations with your sustainability goals.

# Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

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## Systems/Supply Chain Collaboration

1. Cross Industry Cooperation
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## Step 2: Define the Future State

1. How can we align different departments within our organization towards our sustainability goals?
  - Ensure that sustainability goals are translated into department-specific objectives. Foster inter-departmental communication and collaboration.
2. How can we foster a culture of sustainability within our organization that encourages collaboration across all levels and departments?
  - Culture change involves leadership commitment, communication, education, and recognition of good practices.
3. How should we communicate our sustainability goals and progress to our employees, and how can we encourage their active participation?
  - Communication should be regular, transparent, and engaging. Encourage participation by acknowledging contributions and providing opportunities for involvement.

# Systems Collaboration Across Industries

**Building the Business Case for Sustainability Through Systems Collaboration:**

The business case for sustainability is driven by strategic collaborations, both within their organization and with other companies. By fostering a culture of collaboration and innovation, they have developed more sustainable operations that drive cost savings, reduce waste, and improve operational efficiency.

Assess the Current State	
1.	<b>Supply Chain Transparency:</b> Many companies have engaged in collaborations with their suppliers to create more demand for lower carbon materials, driving costs down and opening up new supply streams.
2.	<b>Cross-Industry Collaboration:</b> Many companies are part of various partnerships and alliances aimed at promoting sustainability.
3.	<b>Supplier Engagement:</b> Many companies have engaged with their suppliers in discussions about creating bio-based materials and other sustainable practices.
4.	<b>Internal Collaboration:</b> Many companies foster a culture of internal collaboration and innovation, encouraging employees to take charge of sustainability initiatives.
5.	<b>Sustainability Impact:</b> Many companies' collaborative approach to sustainability has led to cost savings, waste reduction, improved operational efficiency, and increased employee engagement.

Define the Future State	
<p><b>Cross Industry Cooperation</b></p> <p>Many companies' participation in partnerships and alliances like the Consumer Goods Forum and NextWave sets a precedent for future cross-industry cooperation on sustainability.</p>	<p><b>Supplier Partnerships</b></p> <p>Many companies' existing collaborations with suppliers to create more demand for lower carbon materials suggest future partnerships will continue to focus on sustainable sourcing.</p>
<p><b>Internal Organization Collaboration</b></p> <p>Many companies' culture of internal collaboration and innovation indicates a future state where employees continue to drive sustainability initiatives, promoting a culture of sustainability within the organization.</p>	

*These strategies can help organizations reduce waste, lower costs, improve operational efficiency, and foster a culture of sustainability, making it a strategic business decision.*

# Worksheet: Building Your Business Case for Systems Collaboration

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## Considerations for Your Business Case:

- Understanding the current situation
- Business case development

*Today's Focus*

- Cost and Investment Analysis
- ROI and Payback Period Estimation
- Risk Analysis
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Implementation Plan
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Communication Plan

*Future State Planning*

- Reflection & Next Steps

*Outcome*