Pfizer recognizes the profound societal and public health risks of climate change. We’re proud to have been the first company in the pharmaceutical sector to have our climate target validated by the Science Based Target initiative in 2015.

Pfizer is a global innovative biopharmaceutical company committed to the application of science to bring therapies to people that extend and significantly improve their lives. Every day, Pfizer works across developed and emerging markets to advance wellness, prevention, treatments and cures that challenge some of the most feared diseases of our time. Our colleagues also collaborate with health care providers, governments and local communities to support and expand access to reliable, affordable healthcare around the world.

Our company purpose – ‘Breakthroughs that Change Patients’ Lives’ – guides our environmental sustainability priorities, with focus on climate impact mitigation, conservation of resources and the reduction of waste arising from our operations. Pfizer recognizes the profound societal and public health impacts that are expected to result from environmental issues including climate change. Our commitment to environmental sustainability has driven significant progress in environmental footprint reduction, including advancement of successive greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals over the past two decades. We are proud to have been the first company in the pharmaceutical sector to have our current GHG reduction goal validated by the Science Based Target initiative in 2015. We continue to be guided by science as we look to establish our next generation goals and ambitions.

Our accomplishments are the result of our network of engaged colleagues involved in activities such as site energy assessments, energy efficiency projects, and renewable energy investments. For example, our green chemistry community has developed tools and resources enabling selection of materials with preferable environmental profiles within our product development and manufacturing processes. Together these actions – which amount to thousands of projects, both big and small – have delivered >55% reduction in our GHG emissions since 2000.

In addition to the actions taken across our company, recognizing that a significant portion of our carbon footprint relates to indirect emissions, we established our first environmental sustainability goals focused on our key goods and services suppliers in 2015. These ambitious goals focus on influencing change by partnering with our key suppliers to establish robust environmental sustainability programs and gain commitment for GHG emissions reduction. Through our collective efforts >85% of our key suppliers are managing their environmental impacts and >75% are progressing GHG reduction goals. These actions were recognized through Pfizer’s placement on CDP’s Supplier Engagement Leaderboard in 2018 and 2019. Our engagement efforts have established a firm foundation on which we will continue to build through an ambitious second-generation supplier engagement goal for 2025.

Furthermore, recognizing the role technology advancements can contribute to our future plans, Pfizer completed a sustainability bond in March 2020, a first for the pharmaceutical industry. Proceeds from the bond will be used to drive long-standing strategies to construct “green” buildings; become more energy efficient, conserve more water; reduce waste, and increase recycling. Investment in innovative manufacturing equipment, such as Portable Continuous Modular Manufacturing (PCMM, pictured), further supports environmental footprint improvements of our products.

Pfizer remains committed to climate and environmental sustainability action and plans to soon launch our 4th Generation GHG goals, demonstrating our continuing commitment to decarbonizing our operations aligned with contemporary science, when our current goals come to end of term at the end of 2020.

Caroline Roan, Chief Sustainability Officer, Pfizer

Tips for success

- Set science based GHG reduction target
- Integrate climate impacts into enterprise risk management processes
- Engage with industry groups to catalyze climate action within the sector’s supply chain
- Integrate sustainability within product and process innovation strategies
- Recognize staff achievements through sustainability awards

Source: CDP Stories of Change 2020