



Materials and Waste

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WE DO COMMITMENT

We will reduce organic waste in all the countries where we operate and at clients' sites by 2015, and will support initiatives to recover organic waste.



We will reduce non-organic waste in all the countries where we operate and at clients' sites by 2015, and will support initiatives to recover non-organic waste.

The Materials and Waste Context

We live in a world of finite material resources whose biophysical capacity to replenish and absorb waste to land, air and water 'sinks' is limited. Despite our human ingenuity, we have a long way to go before our fundamental understanding of this is reflected in more efficient use of materials and reduced consumption, and actions that recognise 'waste' as resources that can be put to productive use again.

Competition for materials drives the global economy while some landfill sites overflow, 30 to 40% of global food production fails to reach the table at huge cost to people, profits and planet. More efficient and reduced material consumption and recovery are necessarily a priority for sustainable development.

Rethinking material efficiency and consumption, reducing, reusing and recycling have become well-known mantras of our preoccupation with reliable access to materials and food which are integral to maintaining and supporting the **Quality of Daily Life**. Given its position in the value chain, the breadth of its offer and the myriad opportunities it has to engage, Sodexo is well placed to contribute to more efficient and reduced consumption, and increased recovery.

The industries Sodexo operates in and its supply chain partners can play an important role in increasing awareness of materials and waste challenges, putting in place the processes and equipment to reduce waste while supporting recovery, and measuring the impact of its collaboration. Successful participation in materials and waste initiatives can have significant positive impacts on Sodexo operations, its industry sectors and supply chains, while influencing clients and customers.



Business Impacts

Sodexo's material throughput - the materials used in direct operations and indirect consumption in its supply chains - is considerable. We need to understand where the best opportunities are to be more efficient, to reduce material consumption, and realise the contribution that recovery initiatives can make.

- ✦ **Opportunities.** Understanding our consumption of materials and waste streams in our operations and our supply chain will position the company to take specific action at local level. As materials' true value is recognised by more frequent calls towards closed loop systems, opportunities will arise to embrace solutions to our own and our clients' benefit - such as waste management service offers.
- **Reducing Costs.** We can reduce costs by being more efficient, by tackling pre-consumer food waste and making sure that all materials are only ever used in the recommended or appropriate quantity. We can also reduce costs and help our clients to reduce theirs by supporting initiatives to recover waste in the face of increasing disposal costs.
- ✦ **Increased Regulation.** New regulation is adding to business' obligations. For example, the French listed company regulations that have an impact on the entire Sodexo Group's environmental reporting.
- **Brand Risk.** Sodexo's brand is valuable and there are reputational risks to it unless we take a lead on materials and waste as our stakeholders increase their awareness of the challenges.
- ✦ **Greater Accountability.** Though materials and waste reporting, together with their water and carbon coefficients, are still evolving, stakeholders require ever more transparency and accountability.

The Sodexo Strategy on Waste and Materials

With the 2009 launch of the Better Tomorrow Plan, the Sodexo Group reinforced its commitment to reduce organic and non-organic waste in all the countries where it operates and at clients' sites by 2015, and support initiatives to recover organic and non-organic waste. Sodexo is developing a materials and waste strategy to maximize opportunities and manage risks, which includes:

- ✦ Changing behaviours and perceptions around materials – Sodexo is well placed owing to its size and spread
- Building the profile of materials and waste around the elimination of waste from a resource perspective
- ✦ Promoting awareness and corresponding behaviors among Sodexo teams and customers
- Promoting processes and equipment to help Sodexo teams reduce waste and support recovery initiatives
- ✦ Collaborating with key suppliers to reduce material consumption and recover waste
- Engaging with the NGO sector to understand the full scope of Sodexo's potential contribution
- ✦ Supporting the development of service solutions to help clients manage materials and resources more sustainably
- Identifying waste hotspots and collaborating with stakeholders to tackle them



Progress to Date

To support the Better Tomorrow Plan implementation, a Subject Matter Experts Working Group for materials and waste was established in 2010. To date, this group – which meets on a regular basis - has:

- ✦ Initiated engagement with major suppliers to better understand areas for collaboration and potential synergies.
- Analyzed the Better Tomorrow Plan annual global inventory started in FY2010 for key information points such as the relative prevalence of awareness and behaviour initiatives at Sodexo sites compared to quantitative measuring and monitoring.
- ✦ Prepared a Unit Managers' toolkit, which includes a "Call to Action" document, a "What can I do?" guide, internal team and client presentations, and a "What can I do next..." guide. All toolkit information is in the final stages of review.

Next Steps

- Use the launch of the site manager's environmental toolkit to raise internal awareness about the importance of reducing materials and waste, supporting initiatives to recover waste, and identify strategies to raise the awareness of our clients and consumers.
- ✦ Collaborate with key suppliers to increase awareness within the broader supplier community of how to manage materials sustainably and recover waste.
- Focus on pre-consumer food waste where Sodexo foodservice operations can have the greatest impact.

More info on Sodexo Corporate Citizenship is available on [Citizen](#) and www.sodexo.com. To share any advance communication drafts or projects you may have on the subject, please contact: Bettertomorrow.group@sodexo.com.