**Template for non-Party stakeholders’ inputs**

**for the Talanoa Dialogue**

Question 2 - Where do we want to go?

*This template is meant to guide non-Party stakeholders (organization(s), coalition(s), initiative(s) and/or sector(s) etc.) in providing inputs that are relevant and impactful to the Talanoa Dialogue process. Using such the template is not mandatory, however, the High-level Champions encourage non-Party stakeholders to use such a structure to facilitate capturing and highlighting the key messages across the three questions.*

**Where do we want to go?**

*Vision of the future for your organization and/or sector in terms of its possible role in achieving the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

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| **We must transform the food sector!**According to the IPCC 1.5C report, the goal in the Paris Agreement to prevent the worst effects of climate change is still reachable, but only if we take swifter, bolder, collective action in the next decade. Last month, thousands of business, government and subnational leaders gathered at the **Global Climate Action Summit** (GCAS) and **Climate Week NYC** to step up climate action. Leaders made more than 500 bold, ambitious [commitments](https://www.globalclimateactionsummit.org/all-announcements/) to curb emissions. It was clear that companies, like [Mars Incorporated](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mars/), see both the business and moral imperative to taking swift climate action. One sector that will feel the impacts of climate change most is the food industry. Food companies like ours rely on hundreds of ingredients grown around the world. Climate change threatens the quantity and quality of ingredients; for example, the [IPCC report](http://report.ipcc.ch/sr15/pdf/sr15_chapter3.pdf) projects yield reductions for cereal crops and adverse impacts on livestock. To ensure a stable and resilient supply of these ingredients—and wellbeing of the communities and ecosystems that surround them—[we need to move beyond commodities](https://www.triplepundit.com/2018/05/is-the-commodity-era-over/) markets driven by the lowest cost and shift to long-term models driven by sustainability. Mars is calling on food companies to [transform the way we do business](https://www.mars.com/global/sustainable-in-a-generation). Here are four transformations we need to create a climate-smart food sector:1. Go all in for green energy.
2. Set bold and comprehensive science-based targets.
3. Invest in natural climate solutions.
4. Join the resilient supply chain revolution.
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*Possible and potential new commitments and pledges of to achieve the 1.5/2 degrees’ goal and a net-zero emission world by this mid-century [Maximum 300 words]*

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| 1. **Commit to renewable thermal energy**: 400 companies and local governments have set 100% renewable electricity targets. The reason is simple – green energy saves companies money. However, the IEA concludes there’s an overlooked green energy opportunity: bioenergy for heat. Heat accounts for 50% of total energy consumption, e.g., for industrial processes like heating and drying. We need more viable, cost-effective bioenergy. Companies should join the Renewable Thermal Collaborative (launched by Mars and others) to scale up renewable heating solutions.
2. **Incorporate Land Use Change (LUC) into Science Based Targets (SBTs):** 492 companies from 38 countries have committed to a SBT. For food companies, such as Mars, LUC from agricultural production of ingredients can account for 1/3 of their value-chain carbon footprint. If a company’s SBT is not factoring this in, they are missing a significant portion of their carbon responsibility. All food companies should use Quantis’s [methodology](https://quantis-intl.com/metrics/initiatives/lucguidance/) for incorporating LUC into carbon footprints and targets.
3. **Invest in Natural Climate Solutions:** [The Nature Conservancy](https://global.nature.org/initiatives/natural-climate-solutions) estimates natural solutions, such as conservation, reforestation, and regenerative agriculture, can provide 1/3 of emissions reductions to keep warming below 2°. The key is to unlock the potential of trees and soils on agricultural lands to sequester carbon and improve soil health, water retention, and crop yields. This can raise farmers’ incomes and require less land for crops, reducing pressures on forests. We need public-private partnerships – companies working with governments to incentivize those practices through collaborations, longer-term procurement, premium pricing, and investing in data and measurement.
4. **Advance resilient supply chains:**Resilience to physical climate risks (storms, droughts, etc.) is critical for companies with supply chains in the most vulnerable parts of the world. Companies should join BSR’s [new corporate leadership platform](https://www.bsr.org/en/our-insights/news/major-companies-join-forces-to-drive-climate-resilience-in-supply-chains) that will enable businesses to diagnose climate risk throughout supply chains.
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*Foreseen positive impact of these commitments once they are realized, including contributions to the sustainable development agenda [Maximum 300 words]*

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| Taken together, these actions could completely transform the way food systems work, including how we as consumers value the food we buy and the companies we buy from. These efforts can have significant contributions to raise farmer income (SDG 1), increase food productivity (SDG 2), ramp up clean energy (SDG 7), prevent deforestation and restore land health (SDG 15), and combat climate change (SDG 13). All of these steps are possible with the technologies and approaches we have today. Food companies and their value chains – from farmers to consumers – must simply act together over the next decade to make it happen. |