



# 2025 ESG Summit

Accelerating Impact Through People,  
Policies, and Purpose

April 24 – 25, 2025  
Westin New York  
at Times Square  
New York, NY

# 2025 ESG Summit

## Accelerating Impact Through People, Policies, and Purpose

April 24 – 25, 2025

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### DAY ONE

Thursday, April 24, 2025

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

#### Breakfast and Registration

9:05 AM – 9:20 AM

#### Opening Remarks

9:25 AM – 9:55 AM **General Session A**

#### The Role of Business in Addressing and Humanizing Environmental Issues

Our opening discussion will explore how companies can craft compelling narratives that make environmental and social challenges—such as clean water access, extreme weather, and climate displacement—more personal and relatable. We will also examine the importance of engaging employees as sustainability ambassadors, integrating climate action into brand identity, and leveraging influencers and partnerships to amplify the message and drive meaningful change.

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM **General Session B**

#### Innovation-Driven Sustainability: Unlocking New Paths to Growth

In this panel, we'll explore specific strategies businesses are using to align sustainability with innovation, enhancing profitability, competitiveness, and market relevance. We'll dive into approaches such as developing eco-friendly products, adopting circular economy models, leveraging green technologies, and embedding sustainability into the core of business operations.

10:35 AM – 10:45 AM

#### Morning Break

10:50 AM – 11:20 AM **General Session C**

#### The ROI of Sustainability

Our panel will explore key questions such as: How can businesses effectively measure the financial return on investment (ROI) from sustainability initiatives like energy savings, waste reduction, or increased resource efficiency? How do companies balance short-term operational costs with the long-term financial benefits of these efforts? What strategies can businesses implement to ensure that long-term advantages—such as improved brand loyalty, reduced risk, and regulatory compliance—are included in their ROI calculations?

11:25 AM – 11:55 AM **General Session D**

#### Corporate Transparency and Accountability: Building Trust Through Ethical Environmental Reporting

This session will explore how companies can manage the potential risks of full transparency, such as revealing shortcomings or underperformance, while maintaining ethical standards in their environmental reporting. We will also discuss strategies businesses can adopt to address gaps or areas of concern in their sustainability performance without compromising trust.

12:35 PM – 1:35 PM

#### Lunch

1:40 PM – 2:10 PM **Concurrent E**

#### Empowering Communities: The Role of Corporate Philanthropy in Sustainable Development

This session will explore how corporate philanthropy can go beyond financial donations to empower communities through capacity building, skills development, and infrastructure support. We will showcase examples of companies that have successfully leveraged philanthropy to create self-sustaining, resilient communities capable of driving their own sustainable development.

1:40 PM – 2:10 PM **Concurrent F**

#### The Future of Responsible Sourcing: Reimagining Global Supply Chains for a Sustainable and Equitable Tomorrow

This session will explore how companies can reimagine their supply chains to prioritize sustainability at every stage, from sourcing to production and distribution. We will also examine how businesses can ensure that their sourcing practices uphold human rights, promote fair wages, and provide safe working conditions for all stakeholders, particularly in developing economies.

2:15 PM – 2:45 PM **Concurrent G**

#### Climate Risk Management: How Governance Drives Resilience and Adaptation

This session will address key questions such as: What governance practices can help companies proactively adapt to emerging climate risks, ensuring long-term business continuity and resilience? How can companies integrate climate-related risks into existing risk management processes, such as enterprise risk management (ERM), to ensure they are considered alongside financial, operational, and strategic risks?

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact [mhoole@tcb.org](mailto:mhoole@tcb.org)

2:15 PM – 2:45 PM **Concurrent H**

### **Employee Engagement in Social Impact: Leveraging Volunteering and Giving Programs to Accelerate Impact**

This session will explore strategies businesses can adopt to ensure their volunteer initiatives create measurable, sustainable outcomes for communities. It will also examine the metrics and frameworks companies can use to track the success of their volunteering and giving programs, ensuring they create long-term impact for both the community and the organization.

2:50 PM – 3:00 PM

### **Afternoon Break**

3:05 PM – 3:35 PM **General Session I**

### **Boardroom Leadership and Corporate Governance: Steering Sustainability and Ethical Responsibility**

This session will examine the responsibilities of the board in overseeing and integrating ESG metrics into corporate performance evaluation and reporting. It will also explore how boards can take a leadership role in managing climate risks and identifying opportunities for business growth through sustainability innovations.

3:40 PM – 4:10 PM **General Session J**

### **The Rise of ESG Activism: Navigating Investor Demands and Corporate Accountability**

This session will delve into the key factors driving the rise of ESG activism among investors and how this trend has reshaped corporate accountability. It will also discuss how companies should respond to shareholder resolutions and campaigns led by ESG activists.

4:15 PM – 4:45 PM **General Session K**

### **Environmental Justice: Past, Present, and Future – Reflecting on Progress and Shaping the Road Ahead**

In our closing session, we will reflect on the origins of the environmental justice movement and the ongoing challenges faced by vulnerable communities, including pollution, poor air and water quality, and hazardous waste. We'll also review current policies, such as the "Justice40 Initiative" and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Finally, we will discuss how corporations can evolve their ESG strategies to better address environmental justice, particularly in global supply chains and carbon reduction efforts.

4:50 PM – 5:00 PM

### **Closing Remarks**

5:05 PM – 6:05 PM

### **Reception**

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## **DAY TWO**

**Friday, April 25, 2025**

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

### **Registration and Breakfast Roundtables**

9:05 AM – 9:20 AM

### **Opening Remarks**

9:25 AM – 9:55 AM **General Session L**

### **Integrating ESG Metrics into Corporate Strategy and Decision-Making**

This session will explore how companies can align ESG goals with their broader corporate objectives to ensure sustainability and profitability go hand-in-hand. It will also examine how businesses can leverage ESG data to inform strategic decision-making across departments, from supply chain management to product development and marketing. Additionally, the session will highlight the role of data analytics and reporting tools in integrating ESG metrics into real-time business decisions and long-term planning.

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM **General Session M**

### **Strategic Corporate Philanthropy: Aligning Giving with Business and Social Impact Goals**

This session will address key questions such as: How can companies balance immediate philanthropic efforts, like disaster relief or emergency aid, with long-term social investments that address systemic issues? What are the risks of philanthropy being perceived as disconnected from a company's mission or values, and how can businesses ensure authenticity in their giving efforts to align with both business and social impact goals?

10:35 AM – 10:45 AM

### **Morning Break**

10:50 AM – 11:20 AM **General Session N**

### **Bridging the Skills Gap: Preparing Workers for the Green Economy**

This session will focus on how companies and governments can collaborate to reskill and upskill the current workforce, particularly those in traditional sectors like fossil fuels, to transition into green jobs. It will also examine the role of public-private partnerships in addressing the skills gap, and how businesses can work with governments and non-profits to develop training programs that meet the evolving demands of the green economy.

11:25 AM – 11:55 AM **General Session O**

### **Addressing Climate Displacement: Corporate Strategies for Supporting Affected Communities**

This session will address the main drivers of climate displacement, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and desertification, and their impact on communities worldwide. It will also explore how corporations can use their influence to advocate for policies that tackle the root causes of climate displacement, such as stronger climate regulations and international agreements on climate migration.

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM

### **Closing Remarks**