Taking action to drive sustainability is fundamental – for the health of people, society, and the planet.

Together with others, we have a responsibility to innovate and accelerate the delivery of sustainable healthcare in order to ensure a brighter future.

Pascal Soriot,
AstraZeneca CEO

Our sustainability strategy

Our sustainability strategy is guided by a materiality assessment which we updated in 2021, inviting internal and external stakeholders to contribute their views and help us to prioritise. This assessment led to a broadening of the scope of nine material focus areas where we could make the most impact, each with their own targets and commitments.

Our analysis also confirmed our three interconnected strategic priorities:
- Access to healthcare
- Environmental protection
- Ethics and transparency

Our ambitions

- Increasing access to life-saving treatments, promoting prevention, and strengthening global healthcare resilience and sustainability
- Accelerating the delivery of net zero healthcare, proactively managing our environmental impact, and investing in nature and biodiversity
- Ensuring ethical, open and inclusive behaviour across our organisation and value chain

Our sustainability approach

- Systems thinking — we recognise that our globalised world binds us together in a dynamic, complex network of relationships. We look for opportunities that offer synergies and address systemic issues.
- Long-term perspective — we acknowledge there are no quick fixes so we must think long-term. We anticipate, and avoid or address unintended impacts, monitoring changes over time and building resilience.
- Creating the conditions for lasting sustainability — we apply science to go beyond preventing and addressing any impacts from our activities to improve the environment.

Sustainability at AstraZeneca

Using our capabilities to make the most meaningful impact where society needs it – health.

Sustainability overview

Access to healthcare

Environmental protection

Ethics and transparency

Further reading

Equitable access

Affordability and pricing

Health system resilience

Ambition Zero Carbon

Product sustainability

Natural resources

Ethical business culture

Inclusion and diversity

Workforce safety and health

2021 performance:

31m+ people reached through our access programmes (cumulative)

59% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions since 2015

48.1% women in senior middle management roles and above
Access to healthcare

Health is key for people, planet and business to thrive

Our ambition:
Increasing access to life-saving treatments, promoting prevention, and strengthening global healthcare resilience and sustainability

Connection to health:
Innovative and sustainable healthcare solutions are essential to improving global health outcomes

Approach:
At AstraZeneca, we are committed to supporting society through some of its toughest healthcare challenges. We work in collaboration with governments, academia, international and local organisations, and other stakeholders and we always put patients first. We provide healthcare solutions across the patient care pathway — from prevention, raising awareness, diagnosis and treatment, to post-treatment.

We are focused on:
• Innovating to deliver life-changing medicines and future-proof global health systems
• Partnering to improve health equity for patients now and in the long-term
• Transforming healthcare to ensure everyone has equitable access to treatment

2021 performance:
31m+ people reached through our access programmes (cumulative)
11m+ people reached through our Patient Assistance Programmes (cumulative)
199,000+ healthcare workers and others trained (cumulative)
3,500+ healthcare facilities activated

Our material focus areas

Equitable access
Embedding practices into the product portfolio to drive equitable access to healthcare — including digital health, clinical trial diversity, patient centricity, investing in rare diseases, open innovation and life-saving arrangements

Affordability and pricing
Drive accessibility of medicines for diverse, equitable and inclusive patient groups, through company policy and programming, including core pricing principles and access programmes

Health system resilience
Strengthen health systems by advocating for health system reform and policy; building capabilities to address unmet medical need, improve access to quality healthcare and provide solutions along a continuum of care - from prevention, awareness, diagnosis, treatment to post-treatment and wellness; and committing to disaster relief, grants, and donations

2025 target
Reach 50 million people (cumulatively) through Healthy Heart Africa, Young Health Programme (YHP), and Healthy Lung programmes

2021 Update
1,250 non-profit organisations funded by AstraZeneca

Status: On Plan

2025 target
Train 170,000 healthcare workers (cumulatively) to strengthen health systems throughout the world through our Healthy Heart Africa and Healthy Lung programmes

2021 Update
More than 31 million people reached (cumulatively) through Healthy Heart Africa, Young Health Programme and Healthy Lung programme

2021 Update
More than 112.9m total community investment, sponsorships, partnerships and charitable contributions (not including Patient Assistance)

Philanthropy
2021 Update
$2,351.5 million in product donation through Patient Assistance Programmes

2021 Update
$112.9m total community investment, sponsorships, partnerships and charitable contributions (not including Patient Assistance)

2025 target
Train 170,000 healthcare workers (cumulatively) to strengthen health systems throughout the world through our Healthy Heart Africa and Healthy Lung programmes

Status: On Plan

2021 Update
More than 124,000 healthcare workers trained (cumulatively)

Health facilities activated
2021 Update
More than 3,500 healthcare facilities (cumulatively) were activated through Healthy Heart Africa and Healthy Lung programmes

Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals, a universal blueprint for prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future

SDG 3
Good health and wellbeing

SDG 17
Partnerships for the goals
Environmental Protection

The health of the planet impacts all life worldwide

Our ambition: Accelerating the delivery of net zero healthcare, proactively managing our environmental impact, and investing in nature and biodiversity

Connection to health: Supporting a healthy environment helps prevent the onset of certain diseases and improve health outcomes

Approach:

We are using a science-led, patient-centric approach to discover innovative solutions which will help to lower the economic and environmental burden of healthcare. This will help build more sustainable, resilient health systems. It is clear from the 2021 IPPC report that the latest science is telling us we are at a critical point, and we must all increase our efforts to limit the impacts of the climate crisis on our planet. A systems-level approach is needed with a lower environmental footprint. We recognise that working in partnership is critical to achieving this, which is why we are a founding member of HRH The Prince of Wales Sustainable Markets Initiative, where Pascal Soriot our Chief Executive Officer is championing the newly launched Health Systems Taskforce. The commitment by 50 countries at the World Health Organization-led COP26 Health Programme to develop ‘climate smart’ healthcare is another strong example of the power of collaboration.

2021 performance:

1 of 7 companies to have climate strategy verified to new science-based Net Zero Corporate Standard

SDG 6
Clean water and sanitation

SDG 7
Affordable and clean energy

SDG 12
Responsible consumption and production

SDG 13
Climate action

SDG 15
Life on land

SDG 17
Partnerships for the goals

Our material focus areas

Ambition Zero Carbon

- Achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by maximising our energy efficiency, shifting to renewable energy sources, and investing in nature-based removals to compensate for any residual GHG footprint
- Build resilience by managing the physical (sites, supply chain) and transitional (regulatory, market and production) risks and opportunities arising from climate change in the value chain through adaptation and business continuity planning

Product sustainability

We follow processes throughout the lifecycle of our products with the aim of understanding and minimising their environmental impact: from discovery through development and production, to launch of a new product and end-of-use.

Natural resources

Natural resources are essential to produce our medicines and operate our sites. We are committed to:
- Reducing our impact on the planet through the efficient, circular use of water and other natural resources across the value chain to ensure responsible sourcing, consumption, production, and disposal
- Protecting and restoring ecosystems to improve health outcomes and tackle environmental drivers of disease, such as water and air quality, through our focus on water stewardship and biodiversity

2025 target

- Maintain absolute water use at 2015 baseline levels
- Reduce waste by 10% below the 2015 baseline
- Achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by maximising our energy efficiency, shifting to renewable energy sources, and investing in nature-based removals to compensate for any residual GHG footprint
- Achieve 100% of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) syntheses meet resource efficiency targets at launch

Status:

- On Plan
- Lagging

2021 update

- Since 2015, 75% of projects (three of four) have met defined resource efficiency targets. In 2021 a new oncology medicine met its Process Mass Intensity (PMI) target at launch and we achieved a PMI reduction of 14% in report across the late stage project portfolio
- In 2021 a new product and end-of-use

2025 target

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- Achieve 100% of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) syntheses meet resource efficiency targets at launch

Status:

- On Plan
- Lagging

2021 update

- Water footprint was 3,82 million m³, a 17% reduction from 2015
- Protecting and restoring ecosystems to improve health outcomes and tackle environmental drivers of disease, such as water and air quality, through our focus on water stewardship and biodiversity
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2025 target

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2021 update

- Total waste was 28,848 tonnes, down 7% from 30,942 tonnes in 2019, representing a decrease of 8% from 2015
Ethics and transparency

Our ambition:
Ensuring ethical, open, and inclusive behaviours across our organisation and value chain

Connection to health:
Fostering a culture of doing the right thing across our value chain promotes health and wellbeing

Approach:
We seek to create positive societal impact and embed ethical business culture, open, and inclusive policies and practices, within our company. It’s important that we create value beyond the impact of our medicines on patients.

Building trust by demonstrating integrity, transparency, and fair treatment is central to everything we do. Our shared Values underpin all our activities and serve as a compass to guide us in our interactions.

Equality and prosperity for all fosters healthy societies

2021 performance:
85% of employee survey respondents feel that AstraZeneca is a Great Place to Work
83% of employee survey respondents feel that AstraZeneca has a ‘Speak Up’ culture
50.9 instances of non-compliance with the Code of Ethics per thousand employees in commercial business units
48.1% women in senior middle management roles and above
3 countries launched new supplier diversity programmes

Our material focus areas

Ethical business culture

Drive the highest standards of conduct and accountability beyond compliance including, but not limited to, anti-bribery and anti-corruption, product safety, use of human tissue and animals for research, human rights, and building supplier capabilities to uphold high social standards.

2025 target
Maintain 100% of active employees trained on the Code of Ethics in 2021

Status: On Plan
2021 update
100% of active employees trained on the Code of Ethics in 2021

Inclusion and diversity

Create a working environment where every employee has a sense of belonging, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability status or sexual orientation. This includes equitable compensation, benefits and opportunities for development and advancement.

2025 target
Reach gender equality in management positions

Status: On Plan
2021 update
48.1% of senior middle management roles occupied by women

Workforce safety and health

Provide a healthy and safe working environment, based on a culture of learning rather than blame. This includes human and operational performance principles, engineering and preventative maintenance, and supporting employee health through flexible ways of working, access to disease prevention, and treatment and mental health services.

2025 target
Workforce safety: 75% reduction in total injury rate from 2015 baseline

Status: On Plan
2021 update
68% reduction in reportable injury rate since 2015

2025 target
Driver safety: 55% reduction in collisions per million kilometres driven from 2015 baseline

Status: On Plan
2021 update
40% reduction in collision rate since 2015

2025 target
Reach gender equality in management positions

Status: On Plan
2021 update
48.1% of senior middle management roles occupied by women

2025 target
Launch supplier diversity programmes in 10 new countries (outside of the United States)

Status: On Plan
2021 update
Programmes launched in total of six countries outside of the US, with three more countries - Australia, New Zealand and Poland - launched in 2021

SDG 3 Good health and wellbeing
SDG 5 Gender equality
SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth
SDG 17 Partnerships for the goals
Further reading

Sustainability is part of our organisational DNA, embedded from the lab to the patient, and delivered thanks to the efforts of over 80,000 employees.

We seek to create value to society beyond the impact of our medicines, and I’m therefore proud of the progress that we’ve made throughout 2021 across our three sustainability pillars: increasing access to healthcare, protecting the environment, and demonstrating our commitment to ethics and transparency.

2022 promises to be another important year as we continue to play a leading role in building a healthy future for all and challenge ourselves to make an even bigger difference.

Katarina Ageborg,
EVP, Sustainability and Chief Compliance Officer.

Footnotes

Sustainability overview
1. Includes four Access to healthcare programmes: Healthy Heart Africa, Healthy Lung, Phakamisa and Young Health Programme to end 2020; Phakamisa is no longer included from 2021 onwards.
2. People ‘reached’ is defined per programme, depending on the operations: Healthy Heart Africa – includes the number of blood pressure screenings; Phakamisa – includes the number of women reached through early breast cancer detection and awareness; Healthy Lung Asia methodology updated from 2017 – ‘people reached’ includes only those diagnosed or educated or treated.

Access to Healthcare
1. Includes four Access to healthcare programmes: Healthy Heart Africa, Healthy Lung, Phakamisa and Young Health Programme to end 2020; Phakamisa is no longer included from 2021 onwards.
2. People ‘reached’ is defined per programme, depending on the operations: Healthy Heart Africa – includes the number of blood pressure screenings; Phakamisa – includes the number of women reached through early breast cancer detection and awareness; Healthy Lung Asia methodology updated from 2017 – ‘people reached’ includes only those diagnosed or educated or treated.
3. Patient Assistance Programmes use fully donated product without expectation of payment from the patient for any portion or access to the programme.
4. Healthy Lung programmes in Gulf, Mexico and Egypt have reported no activities since 2020 due to COVID-19 related restrictions at the healthcare facilities; Healthy Lung Saudi Arabia was terminated in 2020.
5. Healthy Lung data that contributes to: 114,709 healthcare workers trained since 2010 (82% of total being reported), 1,807 million people reached through Access to Healthcare programmes (6.6% of the total) and 2,641 Health facilities activated was not signed off and that this constitutes (73% of the total) was not included in the external assurance in 2021.

Environmental Protection
1. Scope is 46 APIs for which data is available to calculate safe API discharge limits and based on 2020 manufacture and formulation activities.
2. One of 75 API discharges exceeded the safe discharge limit (Exceeded limits at the time of reporting. The safe discharge limits for the APIs in question have been subsequently refined and demonstrate discharges were safe). Four of 75 API discharge assessments from suppliers were not submitted.
3. Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions from Alexion that was acquired during 2013 (reporting boundary expansion to include the acquired business, calculate the emissions across all scopes in a consistent manner, and integrate to previous years reporting).
4. Data currently covers AstraZeneca spend, Alexion spend assigned to SBTi still to be assessed
5. Scope 1 for products launched with a new active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) and the manufacturing process developed in-house.
6. Process mass intensity (PMI) has been used for over 15 years to evaluate and benchmark progress towards more sustainable manufacturing and quantifies process input mass (e.g. solvent, water, reagents) per mass of output produced. Source: Metrics for Green Chemistry, Science Direct
7. Data in this section includes Alexion that was acquired during 2021 - reporting boundary expansion to include the acquired business and integrate to previous years reporting.

Ethics and transparency
1. Compliance rates were calculated based on number of employees in commercial regions as of 1st of January 2022
2. 2021 data includes Alexion data