



We are collaborating across borders and barriers to help ensure safe food for everyone.

What We Do

As the world's leading consumer goods companies, we are collaborating across borders and barriers to help ensure safe food for everyone. The Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI; the Coalition) is a Coalition of Action from The Consumer Goods Forum (CGF), bringing together 42 retailers and manufacturers from across the CGF membership and an extended food safety community to oversee food safety standards for businesses and help provide access to safe food for people everywhere.

Why We Do It

Around the world, an estimated 600 million people – almost 1 in 10 – fall ill after eating contaminated food each year and concerns over food safety have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. To tackle this, Coalition members are addressing challenges facing food safety systems in their supply chains and the markets they operate in and are helping to raise the food safety bar globally.

Everyone has the right to access safe, nutritious and nourishing food which is why GFSI's work is critical to every community across the globe. As one of the world's largest networks to help achieve safe food, we are committed to making food safety everyone's business.

How We Do It

Celebrating our 21st anniversary in 2021, GFSI has over two decades of experience in supporting the industry on its food safety journey. Today, as a Coalition of Action, GFSI continues to bring together key actors of the food industry to collaboratively drive continuous improvement in food safety systems around the world. Our ambition is to strengthen and harmonise food safety systems so they are able to feed the growing,

global population and develop markets that can deliver food safely, no matter where in the world the consumer is.

While many individual companies and organisations share the goal of delivering safe food, our focus is on enabling the extensive collaboration and dialogues that are so critical to achieving it – involving food retailers and manufacturers, suppliers, the agriculture industry, academics, governments and many others across the world.

Underpinning the actions of the Coalition is the Race to the Top Framework, which proposes an enhancement in the oversight of the GFSI ecosystem with the aim of improving trust, transparency and confidence in GFSI-recognised certification and audit outcomes. Additionally, GFSI is seeking to stay true to its core purpose as a benchmarking and harmonisation organisation responsible for the 'what' – not the 'how' – of food safety.

This redefining of our strategy – based on extensive consultations – is supported by a Coalition Charter and will help our members to collaborate at scale, and with other key stakeholders within the GFSI Community, from farm to fork to ensure transparency in the work we are doing and trust in the outcomes we are achieving.

At our core, we are harmonising and driving improvements in food safety certification programmes; building food safety capabilities across the global food supply chain; and providing a platform for public-private partnerships, including governments, food safety regulators, IGOs. We also work to ensure best-practice knowledge sharing across our network to advance food safety.

“My peers on the CGF Board and I are proud of the direction GFSI is now taking and we are confident the brand is in an even stronger position to build trust in food safety systems worldwide.”



Dirk Van de Put
Chairman & CEO, Mondelez International
Manufacturer Co-Sponsor, Global Food Safety Initiative



On harmonisation, we aim to improve food safety and business efficiency. Our work in benchmarking and harmonisation fosters mutual acceptance of GFSI-recognised certification programmes across the industry and enables a simplified “once certified, accepted everywhere” approach.

On capability building, we have developed tools to provide a pathway towards GFSI-recognised certification for companies with less sophisticated food safety systems. This set of guidance and implementation tools, known as the GFSI Global Markets Programme, sets out how companies who want to put in place or improve their food safety systems can meet the challenge of food safety while improving market access.

On public-private partnerships, we are leading a burgeoning dialogue with regulators and governments to share the achievements of the private sector and to promote recognition by regulators of private sector food safety assessments. We are also proud supporters of the World Food Safety Day, working closely with the FAO and Codex.

And, **on knowledge sharing**, GFSI is the place where the global food community comes together to collaborate on collective concerns. They do so with a shared agreement that food safety is not a competitive issue and that no one company or country can do it alone. And, our role as a global convener is nowhere more evident than at our **annual GFSI Conference**, which brings together food safety experts from across the value chain and around the world.

The Power of Collective Action

We believe everyone has a right to safe food. However, we cannot achieve this alone. Food safety needs to be everyone’s business, and we must work together to build consumers’ trust in the food they buy. We will engage collectively and proactively with the GFSI community and other stakeholders through ongoing, structured dialogue to share progress, ensure accountability and identify venues for collaboration. Collective action and engagement across the entire supply chain is critical to our success, so we welcome those who wish to engage and partner with us.

Membership and Governance

Established 22 years ago, GFSI is modernising. The new Steering Committee heralds a reinvigorated approach to delivering its vision of ‘safe food for people everywhere’, an approach that is further strengthened by aligning with the Governance Model of the GFSI’s parent organisation The Consumer Goods Forum (CGF). The new Coalition of Action is led at the CGF-Board level by **Dirk Van de Put, Chairman & CEO, Mondelez International**

The Coalition is made up of 42 committed members of The Consumer Goods Forum. They are listed below. GFSI is also welcoming 23 members to its all-new Steering Committee. Their role will be to help shape the direction of the Coalition and help deliver its mission of driving collaboration between retailers and manufacturers and ensure an open and transparent relationship with key stakeholders.



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Global Food Safety Initiative

**CEO
Co-Sponsor**



**Committee
Co-Chairs**



*Ensuring safe food for
people everywhere*