

AIM-PROGRESS Charter

AIM-PROGRESS is a forum of leading Fast Moving Consumer Goods Manufacturers and Suppliers assembled to enable and promote responsible sourcing practices and sustainable supply chains.

The mission of AIM-PROGRESS is to:

Positively impact people's lives through our combined leadership of robust responsible sourcing practices throughout our supply chains.

Strategy objectives:

- **Building supply chain capability** so that member organisations and their suppliers are competent in executing robust responsible **sourcing programs**.
- **Effectively assuring compliance** in the members supply chains through aligning practices, standards and metrics.
- **Driving continuous improvement** in member supply chains.

Through doing this we aim to raise the bar for responsible sourcing in the FMCG supply chain.

AIM-PROGRESS is a global initiative supported and sponsored by the FMCG industry associations in Europe (AIM) and North America (GMA).

Scope

1. The 4 pillars of the AIM-PROGRESS program are Human Rights & Labor Standards, Health & Safety, Environmental Compliance and Business Integrity.
2. The 4 pillars reflect the core values and principles shared by the member companies, aligned with the 10 principles of the UNGC.
3. It is not intended to create a unified supplier policy or ethics code for member companies. Instead, we aim to converge companies' practices, thereby creating momentum towards continuous improvement.
4. Supplier evaluation methods and questionnaires will converge towards the combined requirements of member companies, thereby striving towards a harmonised approach to collecting supply chain data.
5. The program's main priority will be Tier 1 suppliers of Raw and Packaging materials, ingredients and critical indirect items.
6. However, AIM-PROGRESS will provide flexibility to address specific initiatives of member companies, which may involve deeper Tiers in the supply chain (e.g. from farm/mine to shelf.)
7. Issue resolution and corrective action plans arising from supplier evaluations will be left to the needs and discretion of individual members, although overall guidance may be given

Working method

1. Provide a forum to exchange views & best practices and share learnings to improve common practices for responsible sourcing.
2. Support collaboration and alignment with other global initiatives having similar aims or interests
3. Converge evaluation methods to demonstrate sustainability performance within the supply chain
4. Drive efficiencies for all companies, manufacturers and their suppliers, by collecting, assessing and sharing non-competitive information on supply chain CSR performance.
5. Through mutual recognition of audits, reduce audit fatigue for suppliers. "An audit for one is an audit for all".
6. Build supplier capability to enable alignment with member companies' responsible sourcing expectations.

Guiding principles for AIM-PROGRESS

1. Whether or not to adopt specific AIM-PROGRESS recommendations is left to the judgement and ultimate decision of the respective member companies.
2. All supplier-related decisions (including selection criteria, supplier policies etc.) will be entirely within the discretion of each of the member companies.
3. Member companies are sensitive to competition law and are committed to comply with all applicable antitrust regulations. This includes that no competitively sensitive information will be discussed or exchanged during or outside of any AIM-PROGRESS meeting or in connection with any AIM-PROGRESS activity. Competitively sensitive information includes at least all information relating to pricing, terms and conditions, and downstream activities related to sales, marketing or product development initiatives.
4. All FMCG brand manufacturers, both members and non-members of AIM and GMA, as well as common suppliers to the FMCG industry are encouraged to participate in AIM-PROGRESS (with the exception of the arms and tobacco industries). All will be required to pay an appropriate fee to cover costs incurred through meetings, work stream activities, resources, etc.
5. Participation in AIM-PROGRESS does not require joining a specific data handling platform nor prevent members from joining platforms of their choice.
6. Member companies who have agreed to deploy a collaborative approach within an existing platform provider may do so.
7. AIM-PROGRESS shall act as a forum to support the collective interests of member companies using common platforms in the pursuit of the objectives, and encourage convergence between those platforms.
8. AIM-PROGRESS members hold themselves to at least the same standards as they require of their suppliers.

AIM-PROGRESS Membership Criteria

AIM-PROGRESS is open to any manufacturer and supplier integral to the FMCG manufacturer's supply chain that meets the expectations of the members, with the exception of companies in the arms and tobacco industries.

Expectations of the members:

- Support the Mission of AIM-PROGRESS
- Attend at least one meeting per year
- Actively participate in at least one work stream
- Agree to participate in the Mutual Recognition Initiative
 - Share current audit protocol for benchmarking
 - Contribute to the AIM-PROGRESS shared audited supplier list where audits exist
- Hold themselves to at least the same standards as they require of their suppliers
- Be current on AIM-PROGRESS annual membership fees

7,500 Euro for AIM and GMA members

10,000 Euro for non-members