

NEWS RELEASE

AIM-PROGRESS RESPONSIBLE SOURCING FORUM

26 FEBRUARY 2019, MUMBAI, INDIA

ALPLA Givaudan **DIAGEO**



February 2019 - AIM-PROGRESS Members host Supplier Forum in Mumbai, India

On February 26, [AIM-PROGRESS](#) convened a supplier forum in Mumbai to promote responsible sourcing. The forum was sponsored by four AIM-PROGRESS members: **ALPLA, Diageo, Givaudan and Unilever**, with support from ELEVATE, and was attended by over 160 supplier representatives. The day-long event covered brands' responsible sourcing expectations, the value of audits and mutual recognition, compliance issues related to health and safety, forced and child labour, including at agricultural level, along with how to cascade responsible sourcing practices beyond tier 1 and to farm-level.



The morning plenary kicked off with an overview of AIM-PROGRESS co-sponsors' responsible sourcing programs, and a discussion on the **importance of responsible sourcing** and how to best engage suppliers. This was followed by a session on the **value of audits** in leveraging continuous improvement, and in enabling transparency about challenges and working collaboratively to address these, thereby improving the sustainability of shared supply chains.

Mutual recognition of audits was emphasized as a key benefit for suppliers to leverage the commonalities in companies' programs, thus saving efforts and costs.

A session on **responsible sourcing practices beyond tier 1**, facilitated by Impactt, covered the importance of knowing one's own supply chain, cascading requirements and responsibility for driving improvements, as well as assessing supply chains (Tier 1 and beyond), and sharing best practices and expectations beyond Tier 1.

The following session on **addressing forced labour and child labour** provided an introduction to the subsequent afternoon deep-dive workshop on the topic, through sharing global and India-specific trend information. The **Consumer Goods Forum Priority Industry Principles** were introduced, including responsible recruitment, followed by a discussion on addressing child labour.

Deep-dive interactive workshops were organised in the afternoon, covering **health and safety** facilitated by ELEVATE; **forced labour and child labour**, led by Sustrack; and **agriculture for commodity suppliers**, managed by Impactt.





- **Health and safety** – covering fire safety (aisles, exits, evacuation plans, drills, fire extinguishers, alarms), PPE, Machine Safety, and Hygiene, along with examples of how to address non-compliances relating to each of these topics.
- **Forced labour and child labour** – covering responsible recruitment and how to assess labour agents to ensure workers are hired responsibly, followed by a discussion around practical ways to ensure freedom of movement (e.g. no passport retention, paying full wages timely, security monitoring), and how to prevent or remedy child labour. An overview of common non-compliances related to Wages & Benefits and Working Hours, was also included.

- **Agricultural focus** – covering how to cascade responsible social practices to farm-level, including the mention of agriculture-specific health and safety considerations (such as the appropriate use of pesticides), along with examples of how to address non-compliances relating to each of these topics.

Suppliers expressed satisfaction at learning from a collective group of brands about their expectations, and ways to address them.

Presentations from the supplier event will be made available very shortly on the AIM-PROGRESS website. In the meantime, for those interested in addressing these topics, discover our [business supplier toolkit here](#).

