

New impulses for sustainability: Volkswagen Sustainability Practice Groups

"Sustainability forms the foundation of our values guiding us in all our responsible actions at Volkswagen Group. It is firmly embedded as a strategic goal and supported by distinct milestones. The independent Sustainability Council brings a fresh perspective to our organization, providing valuable insights to drive our transformation and growth. I am therefore delighted to welcome the new panel of distinguished experts."

Oliver Blume, CEO Volkswagen Group



"By introducing the new Sustainability Practice Groups, we are fostering a constructive and critical dialogue beyond our corporate boundaries. Collaborating with leading experts from science, industry and civil society, we seek to continuously enhance our regenerate+ sustainability strategy. Thereby with strive towards our goal by enabling innovative solutions to create lasting positive impact for both the nature and society.

**Dirk Voeste, Chief Sustainability Officer
Volkswagen Group**



Highlights:

Alignment with sustainability strategy regenerate+

The new format is based on the holistic sustainability strategy regenerate+, it will be more agile and set clear practical impulses. This is also reflected in the name: Sustainability Practice Groups.

Twelve independent experts from academia, industry and society

The experts contribute their ideas to four Sustainability Practice Groups, each focusing on one of the strategic sustainability dimensions of regenerate+: Nature, Our People, Society, and Business. In each Practice Group, three advisory board members work together on an equal footing with three experts from the Volkswagen Group.

New agile format with practical impulses and direct impact on regenerate+

As a mobility provider the vision of regenerate+ is to contribute positively towards nature and society. In the new Practice Groups - the topics are discussed and taken up directly and practically by the external council members together with their Volkswagen Group counterparts. In this way, they can contribute directly to the implementation and further development of the sustainability strategy.

About Volkswagen Group's Sustainability Council

Volkswagen's new Sustainability Council will be presented for the first time at The Volkswagen Group Sustainability Forum in Berlin. For one day, over 90 experts from science, civil society, industry and the Volkswagen Group will exchange ideas and discuss on sustainability topics together.

The independent advisory body, established in 2016, supported the Volkswagen Group in important strategic sustainability topics. The committee was made up of experts from science, politics and civil society. In doing so, it acted as a source of inspiration, supporter, critical voice and "challenger" - always with the aim of bringing different stakeholder perspectives into the company.

While the format until 2023 focused primarily on advising the Executive Board and various corporate committees, its realignment is based also on expert level.

With the new format, the name Sustainability Practice Groups becomes the program: The cooperation model ensures reference and impact on the strategic sustainability fields and the operational implementation in the company. In this way, it contributes to the further development of the holistic sustainability strategy regenerate +, which was presented in the beginning of 2024.

You will find **images** connected with this press release at: [Sustainability Council | Volkswagen Group \(volkswagen-group.com\)](https://www.volkswagen-group.com)

These are the twelve new Council members for the four strategic dimensions:

Nature:

Frauke Fischer, Agentur auf!; University of Würzburg

Rebecca Tauer, WWF Germany

Julian Zuber, GermanZero e.V.

Our People:

Joel Hartter, Parallel Labs; University of Colorado

Christina Schildmann, Hans-Böckler-Foundation

Hannah Zoller, University of Labour

Society:

Aron Cramer, BSR

Laura-Kristine Krause, Yale University

Marcin Piersiak, Alliance for Responsible Mining

Business:

Rosaline May Lee, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

William Todts, Transport & Environment

Jean-Louis Warnholz, Future

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About the Volkswagen Group

The Volkswagen Group is one of the world's leading car makers, headquartered in Wolfsburg, Germany. It operates globally, with 114 production facilities in 17 European countries and 10 countries in the Americas, Asia and Africa. With around 684,000 employees worldwide. The Group's vehicles are sold in over 150 countries.

With an unrivalled portfolio of strong global brands, leading technologies at scale, innovative ideas to tap into future profit pools and an entrepreneurial leadership team, the Volkswagen Group is committed to shaping the future of mobility through investments in electric and autonomous driving vehicles, digitalization and sustainability.

In 2023, the total number of vehicles delivered to customers by the Group globally was 9.2 million (2022: 8.3 million). Group sales revenue in 2023 totaled EUR 322.3 billion (2022: EUR 279.1 billion). The operating result before special items in 2023 amounted to EUR 22.6 billion (2022: EUR 22.5 billion).

Volkswagen Aktiengesellschaft

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Board of Management: Oliver Blume (Chairman), Arno Antlitz, Ralf Brandstätter, Gernot Döllner, Manfred Döss, Gunnar Kilian, Thomas Schäfer, Thomas Schmall-von Westerholt, Hauke Stars

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