

Alliance for Clean Air



What motivated your company to join the Alliance for Clean Air?

Chiesi's decision to join the Alliance for Clean Air is driven by our commitment to improving respiratory health and reducing our environmental impact. Recognizing the profound effects of climate change and air pollution on patients' lives, we are dedicated to contributing to global efforts to reduce emissions. This initiative aligns with our Action Over Words campaign, providing us with a platform to share our progress toward achieving net-zero emissions by 2035, collaborate with peers, and collectively work toward a healthier planet.

Air pollution is not only a major environmental challenge but also a key driver of global warming. As pollutant concentrations in the atmosphere rise, so do global temperatures—creating a vicious cycle where worsening air quality further exacerbates climate change. Beyond its environmental impact, air pollution poses a significant health risk. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), outdoor air pollution caused 4.2 million premature deaths in 2019, with over half attributed to respiratory conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), acute lower respiratory infections, and respiratory tract cancers. The primary sources of these pollutants, ranging from fossil fuels and industrial activities to agriculture and waste, underscore the urgent need for action.

To combat this crisis, our Action Over Words campaign is centered on tangible, sustainable solutions to improve air quality and mitigate climate change. Through awareness, advocacy, and collective action, we aim to drive meaningful change, fostering a global community committed to cleaner air and healthier lives.

Joining the Alliance for Clean Air strengthens this mission, enabling us to amplify our impact and accelerate progress toward a more sustainable future.

What would success look like in 1 year? And in 3 years?

Joining the Alliance will significantly enhance our ability to develop precise and actionable goals related to air pollution over the next 1-3 years. We are already actively engaged in initiatives such as the Action Over Words campaign and the Carbon Minimal Inhaler project, both of which emphasize the crucial connection between air pollution and public health. We recognize that air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions are deeply interconnected.

Respiratory patients are among the most vulnerable in areas of poor air quality: pollutants like black carbon and methane not only contribute to poor air quality but also act as climate forcers, accelerating global warming. Addressing these challenges requires a holistic approach that integrates air quality improvements with broader climate action. Through this collaboration, we aim to refine our strategies, share best practices, and implement solutions that simultaneously reduce emissions and improve health outcomes.

Chiesi has an ambitious goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across our entire value chain by 2035, a target validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) and exceeding the European Union's 2050 climate goals. Success for Chiesi will be defined by measurable progress on both GHG emissions and air pollutants emissions. We will continue to make progress on our emission reduction targets, including achieving a 90% reduction in Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.

by 2030 and advancing our Scope 3 reduction initiatives to reach net-zero by 2035.

Through these efforts, we aim to set a new industry standard for sustainability in pharmaceuticals. Through our Action Over Words campaign, we will ensure that these commitments translate into real, impactful change—demonstrating that environmental responsibility and patient care can go hand in hand.

How important is it to inspire and encourage other companies to be more sustainable?

Inspiring and encouraging other companies to be more sustainable is essential to driving meaningful progress toward a healthier planet. As a Benefit Corporation, Chiesi is committed to the principle of shared value—ensuring that our business success is directly linked to societal and environmental progress. Through our partnerships and advocacy initiatives, such as the B Corp Climate Collective and the Race to Zero under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), we actively share best practices and encourage other organizations to adopt sustainable strategies. By leading the way, we can trigger positive change across industries, improving public health and accelerating the transition to a more sustainable future.

Our commitment extends beyond internal efforts—we believe responsible companies must address the entire impact of their value chain. That's why we launched Value Chain Evolution, a long-term initiative that fosters collaboration with strategic vendors to reduce CO₂ emissions and enhance overall sustainability. The Code of Interdependence (CoI), developed with key partners in 2019, sets a clear standard for suppliers, distributors, and collaborators, ensuring that sustainability remains at the core of our external engagements. Additionally, we use EcoVadis, a third-party platform, to assess and track the sustainability performance of our suppliers. By integrating environmental and social criteria into our vendor qualification process, we create a ripple effect of sustainable practices—engaging partners, strengthening accountability, and driving collective progress.

The Alliance for Clean Air and our Action Over Words campaign play a crucial role in amplifying these efforts. Through the Alliance, we collaborate with industry leaders to drive systemic change, share insights, and promote scalable solutions for cleaner air. Action Over Words ensures that sustainability remains more than just a commitment—it is a call to action. By demonstrating what is possible and working hand in hand with partners, we aim to inspire a movement where sustainability is not just an option, but an imperative for all businesses.

What advice would you give to new companies looking to take action on air pollution, and balancing this with other priorities?

New companies aiming to reduce air pollution should begin by assessing their current emissions to establish a baseline. Setting clear, measurable goals for reducing emissions, such as targeting a specific percentage decrease within a set timeframe, is crucial.

Engaging stakeholders, including our community, fosters collaboration and enhances initiative. In Chiesi, we want to act as a force for good, promoting a conscious and different way of doing business which strives to achieve a positive impact on society and nature and engaging all our stakeholders in this journey.

What have been the challenges in measuring greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions across your value chain?

Measuring emissions across our value chain presents several challenges, including the complexity of supply chains and the need for multi-stakeholder engagement. The lack of standardized measurement methods adds to the complexity. We have overcome these challenges by setting measurable goals, being certified by third-party recognized institutions, and conducting regular reporting. For example, our annual sustainability report includes detailed emissions data, verified by external auditors,