The Dairy Sustainability Alliance is a multi-stakeholder group led by the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy consisting of representatives from across the dairy supply chain, including producers, processors, manufacturers, retailers, nonprofits, trade organizations, government and academia. Established in 2008, the Dairy Sustainability Alliance guides Innovation Center-led initiatives and actions to support the U.S. Dairy Sustainability Commitment. Dairy Sustainability Alliance membership represents every link in the supply chain, uniting the dairy community on a common sustainability journey. We are a partnership of over 100 companies and more than 200 professionals that promote and lead sustainability efforts in the industry.

Our Collective Mission
The goal of the Dairy Sustainability Alliance is to provide a precompetitive forum where member organizations can convene to share knowledge, collaborate on issues affecting the industry and accelerate progress toward common sustainability goals. Collectively, Dairy Sustainability Alliance members strive to measure, improve and communicate dairy’s role in a sustainable food system, and we define “sustainability” as providing consumers with nutritious products in ways that make the industry, people and the earth economically, environmentally and socially better—now and for future generations. To evaluate progress, members of the Dairy Sustainability Alliance contribute to the development of sustainability-focused indicators and metrics that will be approved by the Innovation Center Board. Topics include environmental stewardship, employee investment and community contributions. These are detailed in the Stewardship and Sustainability Framework for U.S. Dairy, the primary resource for stakeholders to clearly understand the goals, progress and leadership of the dairy community.
Guiding Principles

The U.S. dairy industry supports socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sound dairy food systems that promote the current and future health and wellbeing of:

• Our consumers, through access to safe, nutritious, high-quality products.
• Our communities, through contributing, participating and investing where we live and operate.
• Our cows, through animal stewardship.
• Our employees, through ensuring a safe and respectful workplace.
• Our planet, through the stewardship and responsible use of natural resources.
• Our businesses, through a focus on long-term economic vitality.

Getting Involved

Membership is open to companies and organizations that are committed to driving sustainability throughout the dairy industry.

Joining the Dairy Sustainability Alliance provides members with opportunities to share best practices, come together to tackle sustainability problems too big to solve alone and develop industrywide goals and standards. Members of the Dairy Sustainability Alliance are required to:

• Commit to the Guiding Principles of the U.S. Dairy Commitment.

• Participate in one or both of our annual conferences:
  o The Dairy Sustainability Forum gathers and engages industry leaders to discuss key dairy sustainability challenges and opportunities, and recognizes outstanding dairy farms, businesses and partnerships for their socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sound practices during the U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards Ceremony.
  o The Sustainable Agriculture Summit convenes members of the broader agricultural supply chain to learn and discuss opportunities to advance a coordinated and comprehensive approach to drive continuous improvement in agricultural sustainability.

• Designate a primary representative for group communications.

• Actively engage with the dairy community (for example, endorsing the Stewardship and Sustainability Framework, submitting a Sustainability Awards nomination, attending Dairy Sustainability Alliance webinars or having a representative on an Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy committee or task force).

• Provide ongoing support of sustainability communication efforts (for example, sharing your company’s dairy-related sustainability progress in your sustainability report, speaking on behalf of the industry at conferences or engaging in social media).

• Complete an annual member engagement survey.

Please contact Angela Hessinger at angela.hessinger@dairy.org or for more information visit usdairy.com/dairysustainabilityalliance

Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy® is a forum that leverages the collective power of the dairy community to address the changing needs and expectations of consumers through a framework of shared best practices and accountability. Our voices span the food chain, from dairy farms through retail, including farmers, companies, organizations and grocers. We focus on priorities that are pre-competitive in nature, where working together brings strength and the opportunity to make meaningful change. Initiated in 2008 by dairy farmers through the dairy checkoff, we collaborate on efforts that are important both to us and our valued customers—issues like food safety, nutrition and health, the environment and economics. The Innovation Center is committed to continuous improvement from farm to table, striving to ensure a socially responsible and economically viable dairy community.