



CALL FOR SPEAKERS/PRESENTATIONS
2017 (FMI/GMA) Global Sustainability Summit
Submit Proposals to: www.globalsustainabilitysummit.com
Submission Deadline: JANUARY 27, 2017

The FMI/GMA Sustainability Summit Planning Committee is pleased to send out this call for educational content proposals. FMI and GMA's combined leadership in this area has produced the premier sustainability event for the food and consumer products industry, bringing together retailers, manufacturers, government and advocacy groups to learn, network and seek common solutions.

FMI and GMA are dedicated to accelerating sustainability in the food and CPG industry by providing conference attendees with leading-edge, innovative and interactive programming and speakers. We invite you to share your expertise and experience with sustainability executives from throughout the food supply chain, government, academia, and NGO's at our 2017 Summit. Please review these guidelines and submit your proposal no later than **JANUARY 27, 2017**. Presenters are requested to craft a proposal that demonstrates a clear plan to disseminate information that is interesting, exciting, unique and memorable.

AUDIENCE PROFILE

- Food Retailers and Wholesalers from companies of all sizes
- CPG Manufacturers and Suppliers
- Food and Consumer Products Industry Solutions Providers
- Government and Advocacy groups

Attendees expect educational opportunities that provide cutting edge ideas, new information and the highest level of expertise. Participants are looking for best-practices to help them formulate, implement, and embed sustainable solutions from operations through the value chain, to communicating and engaging employees, consumers and senior management. This conference focuses on KEY TAKE-AWAYS, preference is given to presentations that are practically-oriented, strategic, and interactive.

Audience size for general sessions is around 400 people and 30-50 people for breakout sessions. For an overview of the [LAST YEAR's](#) Sustainability Summit program, please visit the conference website.

BENEFITS

The following benefits will be enjoyed by all speakers:

- Increased visibility and credibility as a subject matter expert within the sustainability field
- The opportunity to share ideas, knowledge and experience with sustainability professionals
- Promotion in conference marketing materials
- Opportunity to learn, connect, and improve their own sustainability initiatives through interaction

The majority of speakers do not receive additional remuneration or expense reimbursement beyond these benefits. FMI/GMA does not provide complimentary registration to the conference. All presenters are expected to register for the conference at the speaker registration rate.

STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

Our audience is looking for emerging trends and opportunities, groundbreaking research, and other leading-edge and highly interactive learning sessions in the following suggested strategic areas of focus.

Regulatory and Compliance:

This area of focus highlights the many ways in which sustainability and business operations interact with and/or are impacted by reporting requirements and schemes and public policy, both globally and in the U.S., including existing and emerging initiatives. This includes, but is not limited to:

- reporting standards and initiatives (ex: GRI, CDP, SASB, voluntary & NGO reporting, standards, & certifications)
- data collection and transparency
- local, state, and federal regulations
- emerging U.S. or global policies
- global policies, regulations, or initiatives

Climate and Energy:

This area of focus highlights solutions, challenges, and emerging issues and trends for companies as they seek to further reduce their environmental footprint both in the U.S. and globally, including in their own operations and up and down the supply chain. This includes, but is not limited to:

- renewable energy use & access
- built-environment
- transportation & fleet management
- climate change policies, efforts, initiatives, & impacts

Sustainable Sourcing and Supply Chains:

This area of focus highlights solutions and emerging issues and information in creating more sustainable products and operations in the consumer packaged goods and retail sectors, both in the U.S. and globally. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ingredient sourcing, selection, and safety: personal care & household products, food, and beverage
- agriculture
- water use and stewardship
- packaging: design, material selection, optimization, recovery/recycling
- efficiencies and minimizing waste: food waste, packaging recovery
- animal and protein sourcing and production: dairy, meat, fisheries, new protein sources
- global commodity and sourcing challenges and solutions: palm oil, soy, high-impact commodities including coffee, cocoa, & sugar

Engagement and Social Responsibility:

This area of focus highlights and provides insights into the many ways companies interact with, inform, and engage with the people –side of sustainability. This includes, but is not limited to:

- employee engagement
- communicating with consumers: new technology/tools, transparency, storytelling
- communicating with suppliers & customers
- corporate social responsibility, philanthropy, and community engagement
- labor in U.S. and global supply chains

The Global Sustainability Summit will include 7 general sessions and 12 breakout sessions, ranging from 45-60 minutes in duration.

SESSION FORMATTING

In response to attendee feedback over the past several years, speakers will be asked to design their presentations to fit into one of the following categories, in order to promote a more engaging, interactive and dynamic learning environment:

- Challenge Sessions – The audience will brainstorm solutions to a challenge presented to them by the speaker, allowing time for discussion and interaction.
(Suggested session timing: 20 minutes for introduction/presentation, 20 minutes to work in groups, 15 minutes to report back group solutions, 5 minutes for wrap-up)
- Story Sessions - Speakers will be asked to share authentic experiences from their sustainability stories, including challenges, successes, and aspirations.
(Suggested session timing: 30 minutes for presentation, 15 minutes for work in groups, 15 minutes for wrap-up)
- Technology Sessions – Discussing current technology that is redefining the industry, with an eye towards what is on the horizon.
(Suggested session timing: 10 minutes for each technology provider)
- Creative Sessions - Discussing a theme or research question from an out-of-the-box perspective.
(Suggested session timing: 30 minutes for concept presentation, 15 minutes for an interactive audience activity, 15 minutes for wrap-up)

SELECTION CRITERIA

Preference will be given to proposals that are in alignment with one or more of the strategic areas of focus, with emphasis on their appeal to our core audience of food industry retail and CPG sustainability executives and ability to drive the sustainability conversation forward for the industry's value chain. Preference will also be given to unique proposals that otherwise conform to the session formatting outlined above and/or compelling speakers or panelists. Only presentations offering a vendor-neutral session will be considered. Scheduling for general sessions and breakout sessions will be at the discretion of the association staff.

Breakout sessions will be tagged for appropriate audience levels based on years of experience, Beginner (0-3 years), Intermediate (4-6 years) and Advanced (7+ years) Please include the intended audience-level in your proposal.

SPEAKER RESPONSIBILITIES

All speakers are required to submit their final presentation outline to FMI/GMA, with permission to post, no later than 14 days prior to conference so that the material can be reviewed, approved and posted to the FMI/GMA website, as well as the conference app.

Please Note: It is the responsibility of the submission contact to confirm and communicate with all proposed speakers that they must register for the Summit and pay the speaker registration fee unless otherwise approved in advance by FMI/GMA staff in writing.

Speakers will be required to log in to the online speaker management system (Conference Harvester™) to complete a series of tasks prior to the deadline. Such tasks include uploading a photo and biography, completing a speaker profile, and travel information and signing a speaker policy agreement.

SESSION REVIEW, SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION PROCESS

- Proposals must be submitted by January 27th using the online Abstract Scorecard™ System on the [Sustainability Summit website](#).

Proposal must include:

- Full contact details including phone and email address
 - Full information on additional presenters
 - Proposals should be no more than two paragraphs in length
 - Include three learning objectives that finish the phrase, “upon completion, participants will be able to...”
 - Intended audience-level in your proposal (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)
- Proposals will be reviewed by a planning committee of industry peers and FMI/GMA staff and will be awarded a score according the following core criteria:
 - Timeliness and appropriateness of subject matter
 - Practical application
 - Content that meets the advanced educational needs of attendees
 - Originality (cutting-edge content not previously presented)
 - Qualifications and expertise of presenter
 - Comprehensiveness and value of presentation learning objectives
 - Organization of presentations
 - Correct submission of supporting documents and information
 - FMI/GMA reserves the right to request/make modifications of content prior to acceptance
 - Since the actual date and time of the session cannot be provided in advance, please make sure that the speaker is available for the duration of the conference dates.
 - FMI and/or GMA staff will work to notify you of your proposal’s status within 6 weeks of the submission deadline.
 - Should your session be accepted, the FMI and/or GMA staff member will contact you to confirm session date and time, logistics and confirmed speakers.

ACCEPTANCE

- Once a proposal is accepted, the conference program manager will contact you and provide you with:
 - A written confirmation including the date and time of your presentation
 - A set of speaker guidelines
 - A presentation slide template
 - Log in details to the Conference Harvester™, the online speaker data management system used by FMI/GMA. You will be given a personalized task list based on your presentation with a deadline for each task. You may also use the Conference Harvester™ to update your profile and upload a photograph and biography.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Jordan Pietrak (JPietrak@fmi.org 202-220-0713).

Questions regarding sponsorship, exhibiting or the Sponsor Tools and Resources strategic area of focus should be forwarded to Andrew Coffey at (acoffey@gmaonline.org).