

At KPMG, corporate responsibility is core to who we are, and environmental sustainability is an essential element of our business strategy. Our responsibility to our communities and the marketplace drives us to implement sustainable principles, which add value for our clients and reflect the values of our professionals.

As a cornerstone of our strategy, we foster the development of a diverse, values-driven talent community, internally and externally. We empower individuals to advance in their learning, education and career, from preschool to the C-suite. The talent in which we invest will provide innovative solutions to help address the world's most pressing social, economic and environmental problems. Our next generation of leaders will demonstrate a business acumen that reflects stewardship, inclusion and environmental stewardship.

KPMG is playing a significant role to help accelerate the integration of the 17 new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by 193 member states of the United Nations (UN) in September 2015. Through the SDG Industry Matrix — jointly developed by the UN Global Compact and KPMG International — we seek to help convert commercial interest stimulated by the SDGs into industry-specific activities that will advance the impact of SDG achievement.

Many of the illustrative examples in the SDG Industry Matrices are innovative — from redesigning products and supply chains to developing new low-carbon technologies. Industry-specific opportunities within the Matrix build on the UN Global Compact's principles for business, one of which is, "Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies."

We are committed to reducing our impact on the environment, addressing environmental challenges in our communities and collaborating with clients to advance environmental sustainability. This year, KPMG joined the American Business Act on Climate Pledge, as well as the Paris Pledge, further demonstrating our ongoing commitment to climate action on a global scale.

Technology also plays a key role in our sustainability efforts and will remain a large part moving forward. KPMG member firms worldwide continue to introduce and promote new technologies, processes and workflows to maximize energy efficiency and reduce carbon footprints. We are keenly aware of our carbon footprint and are continuously looking for ways to decrease it. For example, KPMG South Africa installed 2,720 solar (photovoltaic) panels on the roofs of two of its Parktown office buildings in Johannesburg, generating 652.8 kilowatts of power — among the country's largest installations of this nature.

While it is important for us to improve KPMG's own environmental performance, the greatest impact we can have is helping our clients to do the same. Our climate change and sustainability professionals spend approximately 1 million hours each year doing this.

One of the most exciting developments is to quantify environmental and social impacts in financial terms, which enables our clients to connect corporate value and societal value. KPMG has developed its own methodology to do this — KPMG True Value. Many leading companies are adopting this approach, and our member firms have worked on KPMG True Value projects with clients in the automotive, telecommunications, manufacturing and industrials sectors.

KPMG remains committed to corporate responsibility and environmental sustainability, and we are working throughout our global network, together with clients, and across the broader marketplace to drive meaningful change. As the rapid pace of technological change accelerates, we will continue to innovate and utilize technology to advance our efforts.



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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Veihmeyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

John Veihmeyer
Chairman, KPMG International