

OUR PARTNERS



EXTENDING OUR IMPACT WITH LIKE-MINDED PARTNERS

We work with our partners to deliver practical and sustainable solutions that further our purpose of creating a cleaner, healthier world. We want to build lasting solutions that have real social impact. To do that, we look for partners that share our purpose and endorse our values.

How we engage

Reckitt is on a mission. Our purpose – the relentless pursuit of a cleaner, healthier world – drives our actions and our compass guides our thinking. That sense of purpose underpins our sustainable business model. We further our purpose through purpose-led brands that serve a genuine social need. And that drives growth.

We join forces with others to build shared success. External partners support our efforts with expertise, objective assurance, research and local knowledge. We forge purpose-led alliances that link with our categories and brands. We participate in local and global campaigns to advance social and environmental objectives. And we combine with trading partners to build efficient, resilient supply chains that meet consumer needs and expectations.

Sparking innovation

Innovation for us is not just about making world-beating products, it's about connecting with our consumers in different ways, finding different ways to grow our business and making a difference to society and the environment.

The best ideas can come from anywhere, but there are natural synergies with like-minded start-ups and small-scale disruptors. They bring fresh thinking and new approaches. Our knowledge and resources can scale up their ideas.

Together, we can have a lasting impact in areas that really matter to people's lives.

We reach out to entrepreneurs in many different ways. In 2020, we partnered with Startup Grind, the world's largest independent start-up community, at its tenth anniversary event in Redwood City, California. We hosted a health innovation hack there.

Reckitt mentors guided teams of entrepreneurs and creative leaders. They were supported by our R&D and marketing experts. We gave them 24 hours to prepare mental health solutions for expectant and recent mothers, which they then presented to an expert judging panel. As well as kudos, the winning team won a commitment from Reckitt to explore how to bring its idea to life.

The annual Reckitt Global Challenge is another way we reach out to talented innovators. Our flagship innovation competition attracts hundreds of entries. In 2020, they came from 32 countries on three continents. The teams were asked for ideas that contribute to positive social change. The national winners went to a global final at the annual One Young World conference. They got the chance to work at Reckitt, with their ideas going into our innovation pipeline and mentoring available to support their development.

ACCESS VC

B Corporations are purpose-driven organisations that want to use business as a force for good. The over 3,500 certified B Corps in 71 countries include some of the most innovative and progressive companies in the world. They are committed to combining profit and purpose.

We want to encourage collaboration with these independent, purpose-driven entrepreneurs. Their objectives chime with our own. That's why we've launched our own B Corp venture.

Access VC has been set up to be agile, flexible and a great partner for purpose-driven initiatives. It manages our existing Reckitt minority stake assets, including the Your.MD and Founders' Factory investments. It will be the launchpad for B Corp start-ups in the coming years.

Access VC offers more than just venture capital: it's a cooperative enterprise. Purpose-driven entrepreneurs get access to Reckitt's experts, brands, resources and scale.

Clinical professionals

We engage with healthcare professionals internationally to exchange information, share best clinical practice and sponsor research.

In South America we work with Neocosur, a non-profit, voluntary network of around 30 neonatal units in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. In India, we worked with senior paediatricians and dieticians to develop the country's first ever milk ladder and tackle cow's milk allergy (CMPA) in infants and young children. We also conducted clinical studies with the Department of Translational Medical Sciences at the University of Naples Federico II to better understand CMPA management.

In France, we worked with the paediatric, gastroenterology and allergy department at the Necker hospital for sick children, Europe's largest paediatric hospital, on research into eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE).

We manage numerous educational partnerships, including with Harvard School of Public Health, the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne and SickKids in Canada. We also share our expertise in professional journals and at presentations for international symposiums and congresses, including a virtual CME Symposium sponsored by the Pediatric College of Nuevo Leon and at the World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition in Vienna.

Innovative and responsible supply chains

We seek to encourage sustainable practice across the supply chain. To do that, we make sure we source responsibly and we collaborate with key suppliers and manufacturers to advance our purpose. Our Partners to Innovate programme aims to promote sustainable innovation and improve manufacturing processes.

This has included work with Dow to develop a new polymer system for Finish products. These use recyclable feedstock and replace a key petrochemical ingredient with biodegradable materials. We are working with major polymer producers to develop the next generation of recycled materials for high-quality post-consumer recycled (PCR) plastic packaging. We have also developed 100% PCR packaging with Banyan Nation in India for Dettol handsoap.

Manufacture 2030 is a software platform that aims to halve resource use in global manufacturing over the next decade. This industry-wide, cloud-based initiative helps to evaluate and improve the environmental performance of manufacturers, especially in developing markets. We joined the platform in November 2020. We're using it to encourage factories and suppliers to improve environmental performance. The initial 289 third-party manufacturers involved will soon be joined by others, bringing us a step closer to improving environmental performance across the whole supply chain.

In Africa, we partnered with leading e-commerce platform Jumia to simplify consumer access for health and hygiene products. As part of this agreement, we finance free shipping in eight African markets, to reach consumers in Algeria, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda.

And we're increasing transparency across our supply chains. We have worked with key dairy suppliers, including Glanbia in Ireland and Friesland Campina in New Zealand, to trace milk to farm level. This provides reassurance that key Enfa products use milk from grass-fed cattle – an important issue for many consumers, especially in China.

Responding to COVID-19

Trinity Challenge

In September, Dame Sally Davis, Master of Trinity College of Cambridge, launched the Trinity Challenge in response to COVID-19. She was motivated by the belief that humanity has the means to ensure future health emergencies will not disrupt and destroy lives and livelihoods. But to do that it must prepare now.

The Challenge aims to build a coalition of partners that use data and analytics to develop insights that can protect us all against future health emergencies.

Reckitt is a founding member. We've joined a network of 22 leading institutions including some of the world's best minds and most influential leaders from business, academia and the social sector to help identify and evaluate potential solutions.

Our collaborative research efforts focus on measuring and modelling the socio-economic impacts of pandemics and looking at the cost-effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical health and hygiene interventions.

COVID-19facts.com

There has been a lot of misunderstanding about COVID-19. There have been numerous competing narratives as the world struggled to get to grips with a fast-moving global pandemic. The World Health Organization has warned of an infodemic, with misperceptions on topics such as transmission, cures and protective measures circulating widely.

We teamed up with the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to create a dedicated fact-checking website that aims to debunk common myths. Working in conjunction with Reckitt, EIU experts have been providing authoritative, science-based information on the COVID-19facts.com website since its launch in March 2020.

Advancing best practice

Illicit trade has grown well beyond the capabilities of individual governments and individual companies, and now demands a sustained, coordinated response. Reckitt joined the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) in 2020. TRACIT is a private sector initiative to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade and counterfeit goods.

We also worked with Route 2, to assess the societal impact of our Durex brand. This quantified our impact throughout the value chain, from latex farmers through to end-consumers, as a Total Economic Contribution. Route 2's analysis established that the sale and use of Durex condoms in 2019 had created an estimated £122 million in value through the avoidance of deaths, unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections and diseases.

With the Danish Institute for Human Rights and our supplier partners, we assessed the whole of our Durex and Enfa value chains in Thailand to understand our impacts and consider how we could strengthen human rights. The DIHR report and our associated action plan has been published.

We are continuing our work to strengthen the human rights and livelihoods of people in our Durex and Enfa networks in Thailand. Our new Fair Rubber commitment is building community benefits and economic stability for the smallholder farmers in Thailand and Malaysia that provide us with high-quality latex for the brand.

Regulatory intelligence

We engage actively in the continuing debate on international regulatory frameworks for nutrition, health and hygiene.

Food law and regulation is a complex and evolving area. We are regularly consulted on policy and participate at high-profile educational events. For example, in 2020, Reckitt representatives presented to a global audience of industry professionals, academics and regulators at a Michigan State University programme on best practice for food safety and regulation.

The Economist Intelligence Unit's two Reckitt-sponsored white papers on self-care and the future of health continue to influence global debate on healthcare policy. Reckitt specialists and partner organisations have published and presented in China, Thailand and elsewhere on the role of self-care and the need to maintain transparent and consistent regulatory frameworks that protect people and support the sector.

In Hygiene, we cooperated with numerous regulatory and industry bodies to authorise and approve biocidal products for use in the battle against COVID-19. Our US regulatory team successfully advocated for the US Environmental Protection Agency to publish its List N of disinfectant ingredients expected to kill the coronavirus. After receiving data confirming the efficacy of our products for this specific SARS-Cov2 strain, Reckitt worked with regulators to expedite registration approvals. In several markets, including Australia, the US and Canada, we were the first to obtain this approval.

We also work with industry groups to develop common standards and enhance international best practice. As active members of the International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products (AISE) we are currently helping to develop the AISE Charter for Sustainability.

CASE STUDY

RECKITT GLOBAL HYGIENE INSTITUTE

In July, we established the Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (RGHI), a new, fully independent, not-for-profit global initiative to develop insights and scientific analysis that can inform public health initiatives. Our £18m funding aims to strengthen the scientific evidence demonstrating hygiene's importance as a foundation for health. RGHI will act as a research and innovation hub bridging epidemiology, public health, and behavioural insights to generate practical, high-quality scientific research that leads to enduring behaviour change.

The Institute aims to advance understanding of the links between hygiene and health, encourage behaviour change and higher global hygiene standards, and promote best-in-class hygiene science internationally.

RGHI has assembled an expert panel of internationally renowned academics, which will drive and direct its research activities. Its early priorities include advocacy, establishing a new RGHI fellowship programme and publishing cutting-edge research.

Reckitt Global
Hygiene Institute

