



## **FACT SHEET: SUSTAINIA100**

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### **What is Sustainia100?**

Sustainia100 is a guide to 100 ready, available and sustainable solutions. Individually, the solutions represent innovation and inspiration in various sectors. Collectively, they provide a guide of the building blocks available for transforming our societies. Behind the Sustainia100 solutions are the people, companies, communities and organizations that represent the greatest story never told: Bottom-up change is in fact already happening at an impressive speed

### **What purpose does Sustainia100 serve?**

Sustainia100 demonstrates that the solutions to transform our societies to become more sustainable are there. It showcases existing solutions and serves as an inspiration for politicians, investors, Mayors, architects, city planners and other people with an interest in building a sustainable future. We don't claim that the Sustainia100 are necessarily the best in the world, however they all represent the kind of solutions we need to implement to achieve more sustainable societies. The purpose is to inspire and motivate while providing clarity over existing possibilities.

### **Where does the 100 solutions come from?**

Sustainia100 takes you to 56 countries on six continents. The solutions impact 10 different sectors in a multitude of ways. Their potential for cross-sectorial impacts and scalability are common denominators for all the solutions.

### **How has Sustainia100 been collected?**

The research for Sustainia100 was carried out by the Sustainia secretariat in concert with the global sustainability community. A public call enabled the world to submit solutions, while the secretariat carried out extensive research to ensure the sectorial and geographical diversity of solutions. We relied greatly on our network of partners and their network.

### **Which sectors are covered in Sustainia100?**

The solutions cover 10 different sectors: Energy, buildings, cities, transportation, resources, food, fashion, health, education and information technology.

### **What have been the selection criteria?**

All solutions must have a relation to at least two of the three criteria – social, economic and environmental – for sustainable development. In addition, we have developed seven overall criteria, which guide the selection process of the Sustainia100. A Sustainia100 solution should be; ready and available, scalable, collaborative, transformative, cost effective, have environmental impact and increase the quality of life.

### **Is this a one-off publication or annually?**

Sustainia100 will be updated once every year and new solutions gathered.

### **Has the companies behind received any financial support from Sustainia100?**

No. Sustainia has not contributed to development of the solutions in any way.

### **What will Sustainia100 accomplish?**



The Sustainia100 catalogue will be delivered to decision-makers at a high-level Sustainia Event on June 20 at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. It aims to inspire discussions at the summit, which could potentially kick-start a new global approach to sustainable development.

### **How will you ensure the 100 solutions are being implemented on a larger scale?**

We will raise awareness through our global community, our partners, events and by constantly engaging more people, more organisations, more corporations and more decision makers in our on-going work to help realize Sustainia.

### **What is the Sustainia Award?**

One of the Sustainia100 solutions will be honored for its outstanding performance in sustainability, and will receive the Sustainia Award. The announcement and award ceremony takes place at the Sustainia Action Forum in Copenhagen later this year.

### **Who are the nominees?**

The nominees are the 100 solutions in the Sustainia100.

### **Who will select the winner?**

The winner will be selected by the Sustainia Award Committee. Former Governor of California Arnold Schwarzenegger serves as Honorary Chair for the committee. His fellow committee members are; EU Commissioner Connie Hedegaard, IPCC chairman Dr. Rajendra Pachauri and former Prime Minister of Norway, Gro Harlem Brundtland.

### **How have you defined Sustainability?**

The concept of sustainable development was first introduced by the World Commission on Environment and Development, in 1987, in the report "Our Common Future" (the Brundtland report). The report defines sustainable development as "*development that meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*". It contains two key concepts:

- The concept of 'needs', in particular the essential needs of the world's poor to which overriding priority should be given; and
- The idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs."

The notion of the triple bottom line springs from the Brundtland definition. To be considered for Sustainia100, solutions must impact at least two – though preferably three – of the elements: social, environmental and economic sustainability.