

**As a senior sustainability professional, you've played a major role in pioneering the profession. You've needed to walk a fine line and strike a balance, being true to both the short- and long-term commercial aspirations of your company whilst responding to the complexities of sustainable development (SD) and the big planet agendas, confused furthermore perhaps by a local issue.**

Whether a CSO at the peak of your career, or if you are just starting, you have to build a career, and at the moment the career path is unclear. Do you progress as a specialist SD manager? Do you need to gain experience of an operational or commercial function?

There will be never a right or wrong place but GACSO creates the space for these conversations, for you to talk with others and through your involvement to track trends and case studies. GACSO is not about saving the planet, or about profiles. It is about nurturing your career, to help you be the best at helping your company succeed through embracing sustainable development and at the same time enjoy a flourishing career.

## **What skills, talents and ways of thinking will you need?**

How will you fit into the organisation and what value will you create? How will your career develop? The answers are by no means clear, indeed, maybe we haven't identified the fundamental questions yet...

## **GACSO is meeting this challenge**

We are a membership organisation of corporate sustainability professionals from leading UK and international organisations. Together we will explore these questions, capturing the learnings to professionalise the CSO role and define career- and development-paths for those already in such positions and those considering entering.



**Bob Latham,**  
Sustainability Director, PaperlinX

*"GACSO provides an invaluable platform from which like-minded professionals from diverse corporate interests can share best practice, learn from each other and share career development experience. Embedding Sustainable Development in Corporate life requires a great mix of skills and commercial sensitivity - GACSO helps identify what those are and who can help"*



**Barnaby Briggs,**  
Strategic Relations Manager, Shell

*"...the benefits of the conversations are not so much the details, rather the fact that we are sharing experiences from across different industries and sectors. Many of the themes are otherwise only water-cooler topics, and it's useful to hear other professional perspectives in a conducive environment"*



**Ulrike Sapiro,**  
CR Director for Environment, Coca-Cola Europe

*"Being given the opportunity to step off the treadmill for a moment and to reflect on what's happening around us, is certainly thought provoking. I don't think we found all the answers, but at least we raised a lot of the questions."*

**GACSO is creating a voice for sustainability professionals who believe that society's future and long-term business success depend on how organisations embrace sustainable development.**

Together we enhance the effectiveness, influence and careers of corporate sustainability professionals by:

- providing members (and the wider profession) with a clear consensus description of the role and its impact on the wider business.
- codifying the knowledge and skills required to work at the highest levels in corporations, purposefully aligning their interests with those of sustainable development.
- tracking key trends in corporate sustainability careers and providing members with access to career pathway data and mentoring opportunities.
- providing industry leaders with a 'safe space' in which to discuss the development of the profession and a mechanism to support the next generation of sustainability professionals.

**We invite you to play your part...**

We welcome all those who want to add their contribution to our purpose, professionalizing the role and creating valued and valuable careers in this field.

Please contact us at [gacso.org@gmail.com](mailto:gacso.org@gmail.com)