

# 2023 F&B Industry Report

The State of ESG Compliance for the Food and Beverage Industry

In less than 30 years, ESG has evolved from a lofty ideal to an increasingly corporate and consumer imperative, with the movement quickly spreading to the food and beverage sector given its significant impact on the planet, its people and standards of governance. In its latest research, TraceGains talked to food and beverage professionals to shed light on the challenges brands are facing on the road to becoming more sustainable.

## **Brands Want to Do Better**

46% already prioritize ESG performance in sourcing partners and ingredients.

64% of F&B brands overwhelmingly acknowledge the significance of ESG.

50% are ready to "walk the talk", saying they'd be willing to halt production on new products if they can't ensure compliance with relevant ESG guidelines.

# What's Holding Them Back?

Despite good intentions, there's a disconnect between well-meaning brands and their ability to fulfill the promise of sustainable product delivery.



### TOP BARRIERS TO ENTRY



42%

#### **GENERAL MARKET CONFUSION**

42% of brands agree that confusion around the labeling of sustainable foods is an issue.



60%

#### **DIFFICULTY SOURCING PARTNERS** Half of the 60% of brands with

resources to search for ESG-compliant partners faced challenges in the last 6 months.



16%

#### **AUTOMATED TOOLS** Only 16% of brands use

technology-assisted processes for

validating ESG partners.



24% **HIGH INGREDIENT COSTS** 

#### **NOT ENOUGH SUPPLIER TRANSPARENCY**

49%

49% want supply chain visibility

beyond just Tier 1 suppliers.

### 24% of brands can't afford to pay

more for premium ingredients.

## F&B brands are intent on becoming more sustainable, but it

demands unwavering dedication.

Navigating Toward a Sustainable Future

42% of brands are planning to use

more sustainable ingredients within the next 6-12 months.

#### While few F&B brands are using it, all agree: technology is crucial for ESG compliance.

Technology is Critical

THE MAIN DRIVERS FOR INVESTMENT

55%

Supply chain transparency + traceability

48% Managing supplier + vendor

standards + compliance

43% Reducing carbon footprint + greenhouse gas

emissions

By offering deep visibility into supply chains, collaboration between brands

sustainable future for the industry and the planet.



and suppliers, carbon footprint management and more, TraceGains stands

ready to empower F&B brands to achieve their ESG goals, ensuring a more

Address ESG with Ease