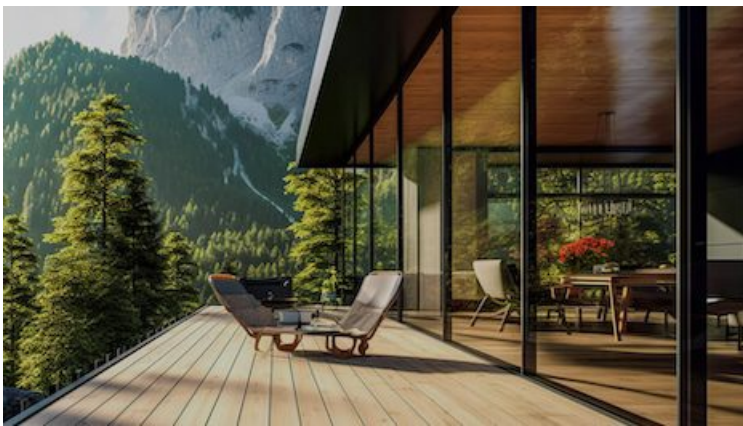


TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Marriott International, IHG, Hilton partner to promote responsible supply chain practices

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HARP grants the luxury hospitality industry a common voice and platform on the topic of sustainability within the global supply chain. Image credit: EcoVadis

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

The owners of such luxury operations as The Ritz-Carlton and Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts are coming together to drive positive impact.

A statement from hospitality group Marriott International announces the launch of the **Hospitality Alliance for Responsible Procurement** (HARP), naming, among others, IHG, Hilton and Accor as partners in the new coalition. Backed by sustainability rating company EcoVadis, HARP aims to build transparency, targeting responsible value chain development while seeking to minimize the effects that respective member businesses may impart on the environment.

"As companies seek to engage their value chain partners in their sustainability efforts, they realize the complex scope, as well as common challenges, in their own sector," said Richard Eyam, Chief Customer Officer at EcoVadis, in a statement.

"It is through partnerships and industrywide collaboration that the hospitality industry can maximize its collective impact," said Mr. Eyam. "By joining forces, aligning focus and sharing best practices, HARP members can achieve positive outcomes that pave the way toward net zero targets and a more sustainable future for all."

Moving forward

Through HARP, luxury hospitality industry players will move as a united front, advancing sustainable practices within global supply chains at scale.

The new initiative will address core challenges, improving overall value chain visibility with, for instance, the implementation of better supplier assessments.

Other goals, including the acceleration of "suppliers' performance improvement curve," will be achieved by enhancing engagement with suppliers here, HARP will place "focus on the industry's key categories," according to a statement.

Tapping EcoVadis' sustainability rating methodology, scorecards, and improvement platform, Marriott International and the other seven founding members rated more than 2,000 suppliers upon forming this collective, with plans to expand this count as the collaboration continues.

The move is much needed, according to previously released expert insights.

A recent report from Positive Luxury found that, on average, corporate CEOs spend just 1 percent of their time interfacing with suppliers ([see story](#)).

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