

Yakult



Yakult Group

Supplier CSR Guidelines

Introduction

As a corporate citizen, we are expected in all of our business activities to fulfill our social responsibility to comply with laws and regulations, respect human rights, give consideration to the environment, and properly manage information.

The Yakult Group has established the Basic Policy on CSR (corporate social responsibility), which states, “All of us in the Yakult Group will strive through corporate activities based on our corporate philosophy to earn the trust of all the Group’s stakeholders and promote mutually beneficial relationships with all stakeholders.” In addition, the Yakult CSR Action Plan has been established in accordance with ISO 26000, the international standard for social responsibility. In accordance with this policy and action plan, the Yakult Group inside and outside Japan conducts activities in local communities and offers and communicates information on health, promotes science and technology, conducts environmental conservation activities, and conducts CSR activities including health-focused management.

Among these CSR activities, promoting sustainable procurement is positioned as a priority that supports a range of activities contributing to the production and sale of products that benefit health and creation of a sustainable society. As initiatives that also contribute significantly to the business activities of Yakult Group business partners, we aim to give consideration to our impacts on society and the environment and reduce risks throughout the supply chain, and increase the sustainability of society, based on cooperation with our business partners achieved through proactive communication.

Toward promoting sustainable procurement, we have compiled our requests to all of our business partners, including when beginning to work with a new partner, in the Supplier CSR Guidelines. We inquire about the details of activities relating to the requests contained in these guidelines using questionnaires, audits and other means, and take appropriate action when points requiring improvement are found.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Corporate Philosophy

We contribute to the health and happiness of people around the world through pursuit of excellence in life science in general and our research and experience in microorganisms in particular.

Corporate Slogan

**In order for people to be healthy,
everything around them must also be healthy.**

Meaning behind the corporate slogan

Yakult believes that only when everything on the Earth is healthy, from water, soil and air to plants and animals and the societies woven together by people, can people live healthy lives and can healthy societies be built.

Yakult Group CSR Procurement Policy

Recognizing the importance of sustainable procurement that takes into consideration issues such as human rights, labor, the environment, and anti-corruption, the Yakult Group will promote sustainable procurement throughout the supply chain, in cooperation with our business partners.

1. Respect regulatory compliance and international codes of conduct

We will comply with national and local laws and regulations, respect international codes of conduct, and promote fair and equitable procurement activities.

2. Consider human rights, labor, safety and health

We will prohibit the use of child labor and forced labor, respect fundamental human rights, and promote procurement activities that take into consideration the work environment, safety and health.

3. Ensure safety and quality

We will promote procurement activities, giving attention to cost and stable supplies, and aim to ensure high quality and safety.

4. Consider the global environment

We will promote procurement activities that comply with the Yakult Basic Policy on the Environment and take into consideration the global environment.

5. Maintain information security

We will strictly control confidential information on procurement transactions and use it only for legitimate purposes.

6. Coexist with society

We will promote procurement activities that take into consideration social contributions towards coexistence with society.

WEB

Yakult Basic Policy on the Environment

<https://www.yakult.co.jp/english/csr/environment/policy/>

Yakult Group Supplier CSR Guidelines

1. Respect regulatory compliance and international codes of conduct

We will comply with national and local laws and regulations, respect international codes of conduct, and promote fair and equitable procurement activities. We will establish systems for this purpose.

Regulatory compliance	We will not conduct acts that infringe on laws and regulations relating to our business that are prescribed in countries and/or regions.
Anti-corruption	We will maintain impartial relationships with customers, business partners, government agencies and administrations and other business associates, and will not give or receive inappropriate gains, including engaging in acts of corruption, bribery or misconduct.
Fair and equitable transactions	We will comply with laws and regulations relating to antitrust and other laws, and will conduct fair and equitable transactions.
System establishment	We will maintain company policies including a code of conduct and internal regulations, and will establish an effective framework for them, including providing employees with education and conducting awareness-raising activities on their content, and establishing systems to detect problems at an early stage.

2. Consider human rights, labor, safety and health

We will uphold international human rights principles, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and will establish fair and appropriate working environments that consider safety and health. When internationally recognized human rights and national and/or regional laws and regulations are in conflict, we shall respect international human rights principles.

Elimination of child labor	We will prevent work damaging to children's health, safety and morals, and will eliminate labor by children not yet of working age.
Elimination of forced labor	We will not use work performed against the wishes of the workers, or labor performed by workers whose freedom to leave the employment is restricted.
Elimination of discrimination	We will respect basic human rights, and will not discriminate in employment, appointment, promotion or other ways based on race, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, nationality, birthplace, language, disability, marital status, pregnancy or other protected characteristic.

Payment of reasonable wages	We will comply with all relevant laws and regulations regarding minimum wages, overtime pay and other wage matters, and will pay reasonable wages that meet or exceed the statutory minimum standards of the country or region in which employees are employed.
Application of fair working hours	We will comply with statutory limits on overtime work, holidays and other working hour matters, and will reduce long working hours through appropriate management of employees' working hours and days off.
Rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining	We will comply with laws and regulations relating to the freedom of association and collective bargaining, and will respect employees' rights to join a labor union, form a union and engage in collective bargaining.
Safety and health management	We will establish systems and environments to create sanitary and healthy workplaces that are safe and free of accidents.

3. Ensure safety and quality

We will build a framework to ensure high quality and safety.

Building a framework to maintain quality	To maintain the quality of healthy and reliable products and services, we will build and operate a management framework to uphold established quality standards agreed to with the Yakult Group.
Ensuring safety	We will comply with laws and regulations pertaining to products, services, their manufacture and similar, and will strive to ensure safety and provide highly trustworthy products and services.
Respect and ethical consideration for animal lives	We will comply with laws and regulations relating to animal welfare, and will appropriately handle livestock animals and laboratory animals provided for research activities. Regarding animal experiments, an alternative method will be employed when it has scientific validity and is approved by the regulatory authorities. In addition, we will take steps and conduct appropriate management to reduce the number of laboratory animals used and to improve experiment procedures to minimize their pain and stress.

4. Consider the global environment

We will build a management framework to reduce our environmental impacts, take action on climate change, preserve biodiversity, prevent pollution, appropriately manage waste and effectively use resources.

Building an environmental management system	We will periodically inspect and audit the status of implementation and will revise environmental practices, aiming to effect ongoing improvements to achieve reductions in environmental impacts.
Taking action on climate change	We will strive to conserve energy in all of our business activities, will promote the use of renewable energy, and will strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Preservation of biodiversity	We will comply with laws and regulations relating to impacts on biodiversity in our business activities, and will strive to sustain natural ecosystems.
Prevention of pollution	We will comply with laws and regulations relating to prevention of soil, air and water pollution, and will strictly manage substances with risk of environmental contamination and safety hazards.
Reduction and appropriate management of waste	We will strive to reduce waste through resource conservation, improve waste disposal and recycle resources.
Water use and resource circulation	We will reduce the use and emission of water, raw materials and other limited global resources, and will promote their sustainable and efficient use.

5. Maintain information security

We will strictly manage confidential information.

Appropriate management of information	We will build a framework to appropriately manage information obtained from business activities, and will take measures to protect information from computer network threats and negligence due to human factors.
Protection of personal information and privacy	We understand the importance of privacy protection, and will appropriately manage personal information including that of customers, third parties, employees and all others obtained from business activities.

6. Coexist with society

We will promote activities to coexist with society and to create a sustainable society.

Coexistence with society	We will proactively participate in activities that contribute to society, toward coexisting with local communities.
Creation of a sustainable society	We will contribute to the creation of a sustainable society through engagement with the international society and local communities.

We ask all of our business partners to comply with the requests listed above. For the purpose of continuing communication going forward, please inform Yakult Group procurement staff of the CSR contact at your company.

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Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd.
CSR Promotion Department, Public Relations Department

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