

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Kao Recognized as Supplier Engagement Leader by CDP for the Fifth Consecutive Year**

Kao Corporation has been recognized, for the fifth consecutive year, as a Supplier Engagement leader for its initiatives in reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change across its supply chain by CDP, an international non-profit organization that drives companies and governments to reduce their greenhouse emissions.



CDP's selection of Supplier Engagement leaders, in relation to CDP's Climate Change program questionnaire, was initiated in order to promote improvement from a supply chain perspective. It evaluated and assessed the carbon emission and climate-related risk reduction strategies that companies have implemented across their supply chain. Kao was recognized as a Supplier Engagement leader on the basis of a high appraisal of Kao's efforts to influence its suppliers. This year, CDP named over 500 companies, including 105 companies based in Japan, on its Supplier Engagement leader board.

Recognizing its responsibility as an enterprise that provides products people use on a daily basis, the Kao Group takes active steps to reduce the environmental footprint of its products throughout the entirety of the product lifecycle. In April 2019, Kao launched its ESG strategy—the Kirei Lifestyle Plan, which incorporates 19 key leadership actions. Working together with its suppliers, Kao will continue to deepen its understanding of climate change and of the risks and opportunities relating to water resources and forests, so as to reduce carbon emissions across the product lifecycle. By integrating ESG into the core of its company management, Kao will drive business growth and better

serve consumers and society through its enhanced products and services. With this socially conscious ethos, Kao will create a Kirei life for all—providing care and enrichment for the life of all people and the planet.

### **About CDP**

CDP is a global non-profit that runs the world's environmental disclosure system for companies, cities, states and regions. Founded in 2000 and working with more than 590 investors with over \$110 trillion in assets, CDP pioneered using capital markets and corporate procurement to motivate companies to disclose their environmental impacts, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard water resources and protect forests. Over 14,000 organizations around the world disclosed data through CDP in 2021, including more than 13,000 companies worth over 64% of global market capitalization, and over 1,100 cities, states and regions. Fully TCFD aligned, CDP holds the largest environmental database in the world, and CDP scores are widely used to drive investment and procurement decisions towards a zero carbon, sustainable and resilient economy. CDP is a founding member of the Science Based Targets initiative, We Mean Business Coalition, The Investor Agenda and the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative. Visit [cdp.net](https://www.cdp.net) or follow us @CDP to find out more.

### **About the Kirei Lifestyle Plan**

Over the past 130 years, Kao has worked to improve people's lives and help them realize more sustainable lifestyles—a Kirei Lifestyle. The Japanese word 'kirei' describes something that is clean, well-ordered and beautiful, all at the same time. The Kao Group established its ESG strategy, the Kirei Lifestyle Plan in April 2019, which is designed to deliver the vision of a gentler and more sustainable way of living. By 2030, Kao aims to empower at least 1 billion people, to enjoy more beautiful lives and have 100% of its products leave a full lifecycle environmental footprint that science says our natural world can safely absorb.

For more information please, click <https://www.kao.com/global/en/sustainability/>

### **About Kao**

Kao creates high-value-added products that enrich the lives of consumers around the world. Through its portfolio of over 20 leading brands such as *Attack*, *Bioré*, *Goldwell*, *Jergens*, *John Frieda*, *Kanebo*, *Laurier*, *Merries*, and *Molton Brown*, Kao is part of the everyday lives of people in Asia, Oceania, North America, and Europe. Combined with its chemical division, which contributes to a wide range of industries, Kao generates about 1,400 billion yen in annual sales. Kao employs about 33,000 people worldwide and has 130 years of history in innovation. Please visit the Kao Group website for updated information.

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/>

### **Media inquiries should be directed to:**

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<Related Information>

■CDP The full list of companies to achieve a place on the CDP Supplier Engagement Leaderboard

<https://www.cdp.net/en/research/global-reports/engaging-the-chain#supplier-engagement-2021>

■Kao launches new ESG Strategy “Kirei Lifestyle Plan” to support consumer lifestyle changes

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/news/sustainability/2019/20190422-001/>

■Kao’s New Challenges for the Future: Accelerating Purposeful Business Commitment with ESG

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/news/business-finance/2019/20190926-001/>

■Kao Sustainability website

<https://www.kao.com/global/en/sustainability/>