



**Responsible
Glass**

Sustainability standards

RESPONSIBLEGLASS VISION & MISSION

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ResponsibleGlass

ResponsibleGlass is a not-for-profit company established in England in 2025 to maximise the contribution of glass to a sustainable society. Our vision is of a world where glass is made, used, and reused responsibly — protecting people and the planet. This is our ‘north star’.

Vision and Mission

Glass is an extraordinary material. It lets light into our homes and offices, keeps them warm, reflects, refracts, insulates and protects. Car windscreens, windows and mirrors are made with it. We use it to contain and transport our food and drink, in the generation of renewable energy, in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, waste management and the transmission of information. Glass makes lives better. The modern world, and the transition to a sustainable future would be impossible without it.

But, as for other materials, the production of glass can also have significant negative impacts: glassmaking emits greenhouse gases, consumes precious water, and the extraction of its input materials and processing into end products can be associated with deaths, injuries, and social and environmental damage. Glass is endlessly recyclable, and yet more than half of it may currently go to waste after use. To promote glass as a truly responsible material and to maximise its contribution to a sustainable society we need to recognise and address these impacts.

Our vision is that:

- All input materials for glassmaking, whether mined, extracted or synthesised, are responsibly produced
- No one dies or is injured in order to make, recover or recycle glass
- Glassmaking and manufacturing, including its supply chain:
 - Respects neighbouring communities, workers’ rights and other human rights
 - Protects and maintains biodiversity
 - Implements water stewardship
 - Has no environmentally harmful emissions or effluents
 - Has both ‘near zero’ and ‘net zero’ greenhouse gas emissions
- No glass sector manufacturing waste is sent to landfill
- Glass products are designed for sustainability and circularity
- All glass is recovered after use and is responsibly recycled or re-used.

We understand as we set out to achieve this vision that the journey will not be quick or easy, and that we cannot achieve our goals alone.

Aspirational goals need to be translated into specific and practical commitments and actions. New technologies, processes, policies and partnerships will be needed. That is our mission. It will take time, creativity and commitment to succeed.

We will achieve our mission by:

- creating value for responsible businesses of all kinds involved in the production, processing, transportation, use, recovery and recycling of glass, including aspects associated with the production, processing and supply of the raw materials used for glassmaking
- working with affected stakeholders and rightsholders, representatives of workers, recyclers, policy makers, consumers and civil society organisations, providing a multi-stakeholder forum to build trust and achieve consensus
- defining sustainability metrics and creating transparency in relation to sustainability performance in glassmaking
- developing international standards and certification and related tools where required, and by making use of existing standards and tools where they serve our goals
- driving positive change through the recognition and use of ‘responsible glass’
- acting as a forum to exchange information and experience between multiple stakeholders
- collaborating with national and international associations and standards setting organisations to promote responsible glass.

We look forward to working with our business and civil society Members, our Supporters and all of our stakeholders to achieve our shared goals in the years ahead.