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SUSTAINABILITY

Kering sponsors academic research on corporate climate strategies

May 13, 2024



Announced May 13 at the Nature in the City forum in Singapore, Kering's support for the initiative furthers its goal of contributing to climate action. Image credit: Kering

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

French luxury conglomerate Kering is partnering with the Center of Governance and Sustainability (CGS) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School.

The group is sponsoring a three-year research study to review the effectiveness of corporate ESG programs across Asia-Pacific. Announced May 13, support for the initiative furthers Kering's goals of addressing sustainability challenges by contributing to climate action.

"At Kering, we believe in the power of collective action as seen through our robust network of partners in several regions around the world," said Marie-Claire Daveu, chief sustainability and institutional affairs officer at Kering, in a statement.

"Today, I am proud to announce our partnership with CGS at NUS Business School, which combines academic rigor, research expertise, and real-world experience key levers for a successful impact," Ms. Daveu said. "The sustainability challenges we face today are complex, and by partnering with an outstanding university renowned for its expertise in sustainability topics, we are exemplifying the group's commitment to collaborate with partners on the Asia-Pacific region's sustainability journey."

Building benchmarks

News broke at the Nature in the City forum, put together by the French National Museum of Natural History and the Embassy of France in Singapore, with support from Kering.

During the event, the partners revealed forthcoming plans to progress green solutions and policies in the private sector. Results from their project will be presented to business leaders, investors and regulators, plus public and nonprofit sector leaders, informing new private-sector climate transition strategies.

CGS will launch three studies in separate phases: the first and third focus on issues concerning nature, while the second emphasizes the climate transition.



The only luxury group recognized, Kering earned a triple-A rating from the Carbon Disclosure Project in 2023. Image credit: Kering

Each involves an examination of the strategies employed by the top 50 listed companies by market cap in APAC's 14 jurisdictions. This includes mainland China, Australia, India, Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, New Zealand, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Vietnam and Thailand.

In the end, the state of current environmental practices will be highlighted, and areas that are ripe for improvement exposed. Kering's partner will also develop biodiversity measurement baselines and new climate transition tracking tools for industry leaders.

The group has helped launch a series of sustainable initiatives with other universities around the world recently, from the London College of Fashion (see story) to Beijing's Tsinghua University in partnership with the Institut Franais de la Mode (see story).

"Nature underpins all economic activities and human well-being," said Lawrence Loh, director of CGS at NUS Business School, in a statement.

"Therefore, the disclosure of nature-related practices and strategies is crucial to provide transparency and accountability for a company's environmental impact and sustainability practices," Mr. Loh said. "Through the partnership with Kering, we are poised to drive meaningful change by developing a baseline for measuring biodiversity tracking and examining climate transition strategies across diverse industries.

"This is a significant step in encouraging the integration of nature-centric approaches into corporate strategies, fostering a more sustainable and resilient future for all."

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