SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH OUR TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

The tax we pay is a critical part of our commitment to grow in a sustainable, responsible and socially inclusive way for the benefit of all stakeholders.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are the established global framework for the economic and social transformations needed to help create a world that is socially fair, environmentally secure, economically prosperous and more inclusive. Taxes are a critical financial resource to help reach these goals.

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Corporate Tax Paid by Region

Showing the three largest tax payers per region

DURING 2017, WE MADE GLOBAL TAX PAYMENTS OF €3.9 BILLION

Our total tax contribution — including taxes collected by Unilever is €8.3 BILLION

8% sales tax
7% customs duties
17% employment taxes
11% other taxes
57% corporation tax

Governments use taxes to incentivise investment in critical infrastructure, research and development, employment and training. They can also use taxes to encourage positive social or environmental outcomes, such as encouraging healthy eating or the adoption of more sustainable technologies, or as a means to redistribute resources.

‘Other taxes’ includes sustainability taxes which represent 3% of our total taxes paid, (€107million), such as: environmental, packaging, energy and green taxes. It also includes food & beverage taxes and excise duties levied on specific products such as sugar, ice-cream and soft drinks.

Endorse

We endorse the B-Team Responsible tax principles which were developed by leading companies (including Unilever), civil society, investors and representatives from international institutions.

Support

We support the OECD international tax reform work on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) which urges tax policy makers to implement international tax reform in a coherent, co-ordinated way.

Act

We are transparent about our approach to tax. We help tax authorities develop expertise and understanding of our industry and in partnership with the OECD Tax & Development team have run business sector knowledge sessions for tax authorities in Africa and Latin America.