The European soft drinks industry is committed to helping Europeans manage their intake of added sugars from soft drinks and facilitating moderate consumption by increasing the range of new no- and low-calorie products and small pack sizes. By doing this, the soft drinks industry aims to respond to evolving consumer preferences and societal expectations around creating healthier food and drink environments.

UNESDA health and nutrition commitments are structured around four pillars:
- Sugar reduction
- Responsible marketing and advertising practices to children
- School policies
- Consumer information

**NEW COMMITMENT**
- An additional 10% reduction in average added sugars in soft drinks in the EU27 and the UK between 2019 and 2025
- This will represent an overall reduction of 33% in average added sugars over the past two decades

**Achievements in the EU27 and the UK**
- A 3.6% reduction in average added sugars in soft drinks between 2019 and 2021
- A 17.7% reduction in average added sugars in soft drinks since 2015
- A 13.3% reduction in average added sugars in soft drinks between 2000 and 2015
RESPONSIBLE MARKETING AND ADVERTISING PRACTICES TO CHILDREN

NEW COMMITMENT
- raising the minimum age limit to 13 years old
- lowering the audience threshold of children from 35% to 30% (fewer young children will be directly exposed to advertising for any soft drinks)
- expanding the scope of channels where we will not market or advertise

PAST COMMITMENTS
No marketing communication in these channels:

- **2006**
  - Printed media, websites or during broadcast programmes specifically aimed at children under 12

- **2008**
  - Cinemas

- **Since 2010**
  - Digital world, including company-owned websites
    - No advertising when 35% of the audience or more is under 12 years of age

SCHOOL POLICIES

ENHANCED COMMITMENT
Commitment made in 2006 and subsequently reinforced over the past 15 years

**Primary schools**
- No sales and advertising of ANY soft drinks (through direct distribution)

**Secondary schools**
- Selling ONLY no- and low-calorie soft drinks, and only in non-branded vending machines, without logos or commercial communications (through direct distribution)
TRANSPARENT AND CLEAR CONSUMER INFORMATION

ENHANCED COMMITMENT
Contribute to the establishment of an evidence-based, EU-wide, harmonised and interpretative front-of-pack nutrition system that
- is meaningful for consumers
- encourages food producers to reformulate
- is developed under an EU governance model

POLICY ENABLERS

Promoting a multi-faceted and multi-stakeholder approach to address obesity and overweight
- Taking a multi-faceted approach that acknowledges different lifestyle preferences, diverse food/culinary cultures, overall health and activity levels and age, and encourages an optimal intake of nutrients and calories
- Calling for collective action from all actors in the food value chain to deliver meaningful and positive health impacts

Considering meaningful voluntary approaches to sugar reduction as an efficient alternative to regulation
- Generating critical mass in driving sugar and calorie reduction across all food and drink categories
- Addressing regulatory hurdles that limit opportunities – including reviewing the stipulation that low-calorie sweeteners can only be used to deliver a minimum 30% calorie reduction

Supporting the use of ingredients approved as safe by health authorities
- Developing evidence-based dietary recommendations that treat equally ingredients approved as safe for use by health authorities

Recognising the important role of low-calorie sweeteners in achieving public health objectives, including reducing overweight and obesity, and promoting their proven safety and benefits to enhance consumer confidence

Ensuring regular and reliable pan-European monitoring of food and drink consumption intakes and patterns across Europe
- Improving the collection of dietary data across Europe to ensure up-to-date, consistent and directly comparable data
- Strengthening the evidence base to better understand what interventions work for at-risk population groups to address the rise in obesity and overweight

Adopting an EU-wide, interpretative, front-of-pack nutrition labelling scheme that:
- Is under EU governance and avoids fragmentation of the EU Single Market
- Is in line with existing EU legislation – such as the EU Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation – to ensure clear and consistent information to support consumer choice
- Is based on sound science and evidence, and does not discriminate against any specific food or ingredient
About UNESDA
Soft Drinks Europe

Established in 1958, UNESDA Soft Drinks Europe is the Brussels-based trade association representing the non-alcoholic beverages sector. Its membership comprises of 10 companies and 23 national associations from across Europe. UNESDA members are involved in the production and/or distribution of a wide variety of non-alcoholic beverages including still drinks, carbonates, fruit drinks, energy drinks, iced teas and sports drinks.

UNESDA’s policy priorities are sustainability (e.g. beverage packaging, collection, recycling), responsibility (e.g. sugar reduction, school policies, marketing practices towards children and labelling) and competitiveness (e.g. taxation, market access).

www.unesda.eu