

Superlist Environment Europe 2026



Promising climate roadmaps, but
no strong emission reductions

UK Edition 1, January 2026

SUPER
LIST 

Contents

Foreword	4
Introduction	6
European overview	8
Findings	10
European recommendations	13
The United Kingdom	14
UK findings	15
Comparison with European counterparts	16
Supermarket specific recommendations	17
Glossary	18
References	20
Colophon	22

Foreword



Charlotte Linnebank
General Director
Questionmark

Questionmark

Supermarkets hold tremendous influence over what ends up on our plates and, ultimately, the health of our planet. With Superlist, we at Questionmark want to help ensure that this influence is used for good: by measuring, comparing, and motivating supermarkets to accelerate the transition toward a more sustainable and plant-rich food system. This first-of-its-kind European benchmark spans eight countries and assesses 27 major supermarkets. With it, we aim to build momentum in each country and spark a healthy sense of competition across borders - that drives supermarkets to take meaningful, transparent action.

I'm deeply grateful to our partners - WWF Netherlands, ProVeg International, and Madre Brava - for sharing this mission and for their trust and collaboration. I also want to thank the members of our Scientific Council for their guidance and expertise, and the supermarkets involved for their contributions. Thanks to all of them, our team was able to deliver an evidence-based assessment of where supermarkets stand today, and what it will take to close the gap between ambition and real-world impact.

It's inspiring to see more and more supermarkets stepping up on climate and protein. Still, the gaps between ambition and action remain wide, and tangible emission reductions are yet to come. My hope is that in the near future, Europe's supermarkets will turn their commitments into visible progress – and lead the way toward a food system that truly sustains people and the planet.



Sophie Bauer
Head of Food
Transformation
WWF-UK

WWF-UK

WWF is committed to healthy eating in harmony with nature. But nature and climate are under pressure. Our food system is the biggest driver of the disturbance of the ecological boundaries.

Supermarkets in Europe play a vital role in the food chain as well as in the sustainability transition of the food system. They account for the largest share of purchasing and sales of animal-based products within the food environment. Their choices in product offer, promotions and pricing shape consumer demand and the carbon footprint of their diet. A number of European supermarkets have set targets on greenhouse gas emissions and protein shift to more plant-based diets.

This report contributes to transparency about those targets and the steps made to reach them. By showing this transparency and positive examples, we hope and expect that this will inspire others in the market and keep the frontrunners on track to reach the 2030 targets on climate and protein shift.



Sara Ayech
UK Director
Madre Brava

Madre Brava

The latest Planetary Health Diet from the EAT-Lancet Commission is clear: we must eat more fruit, vegetables, nuts and legumes.

In the UK, where unhealthy diets cost the NHS and economy an estimated £268bn a year, supermarkets have the power to create and fulfil the demand for healthy, sustainable, affordable food.

But UK supermarkets are falling behind their Dutch and German counterparts. Those supermarkets are setting targets to increase plant proteins as a proportion of overall protein sales, offering healthier options for consumers and the planet, while reducing costs.

The Superlist Environment Europe highlights this gap, and the growing possibility of a multi-speed Europe when it comes to supermarket sustainability.

German-HQ'd budget supermarket Lidl (not featured in the UK section because it is not one of the top three by market share) is pioneering the approach of increasing plant-based proteins in the UK. The big three should beware of being left behind.



Sophia Millar
Co-Executive
Director of
ProVeg UK

ProVeg UK

Many UK supermarkets have set bold sustainability goals, but this crucial new report shows that our retail sector is falling behind the rest of Europe. Targets alone are insufficient. We need clear, quantified roadmaps for delivery.

There is scientific consensus that for the food sector to meet its net zero ambitions, increasing the proportion of our diet made up of fibre-rich plant-based proteins is not only desirable, it's essential. It is imperative that supermarkets' net zero roadmaps spell this out and present clear plans for achieving this transition.

Crucially, this shift is about more than the environment. As the UK faces increasing costs from diet-related ill-health, shifting towards a plant-rich diet will result in significantly improved population health.

The three UK supermarkets included in this first European Superlist represent over half of our food retail sector, so their leadership on rebalancing protein sales, with clear targets and strategies, is critical. The rest of the sector must follow.

Introduction

Supermarkets play a crucial role in our daily lives and are an indispensable part of society. European consumers purchase about 70 per cent of their daily food from supermarkets (1). Supermarkets also have a major influence on how their suppliers produce food and what their customers buy. This gives supermarkets the opportunity to demand more sustainable farming methods from suppliers and to promote sustainable diets among their customers. The powerful market position of supermarkets, along with their concentration in a few, often multinational companies in each country, gives them exceptional leverage within the food system.

What is Superlist?

Superlist is an ongoing international research and advocacy programme initiated by Questionmark. Questionmark is a think tank committed to creating a healthier, more sustainable and fairer food system. Through fact-based research, we encourage retailers, food brands and governments to drive change, foster collaboration and implement appropriate regulations.

Superlist aims to reveal the extent to which supermarkets contribute to a healthy, sustainable and fair food system, and to enable supermarkets to compare their sustainability efforts with competitors' and learn from best practices and recommendations. The programme is carried out in national-level projects that alternate between three themes: health, environment and human rights. Within Superlist Environment, the specific topics are typically climate, sustainable agriculture and aquaculture, and packaging.

About Superlist Environment Europe

[Superlist Environment Europe](#) is a Questionmark project in collaboration with civil society partners WWF Netherlands, Madre

Brava and ProVeg International, and with the support of ambassadors Changing Markets, Climate Action Network France, RoślinnieJemy, Spanish Vegetarian Union and The Food Foundation.

The Superlist Environment Europe project is the first to deliver benchmarks for eight countries and an overview benchmark simultaneously. This edition covers the 20 largest European supermarkets, along with their main competitors in their home markets, for a total of 27 supermarkets across eight European countries (see appendix for the full list). This edition of Superlist Environment focuses on climate plans and the protein shift.

The [methodology](#) for this research was published on 22 May 2025 after consultation with Questionmark's Scientific Council and civil society partners WWF Netherlands, Madre Brava and ProVeg International. Supermarkets within scope were informed about the methodology, and some were consulted on earlier versions. Data for this research was collected by Questionmark between 16 June and 25 July 2025.

The [background report](#) provides a complete overview of the underlying data.

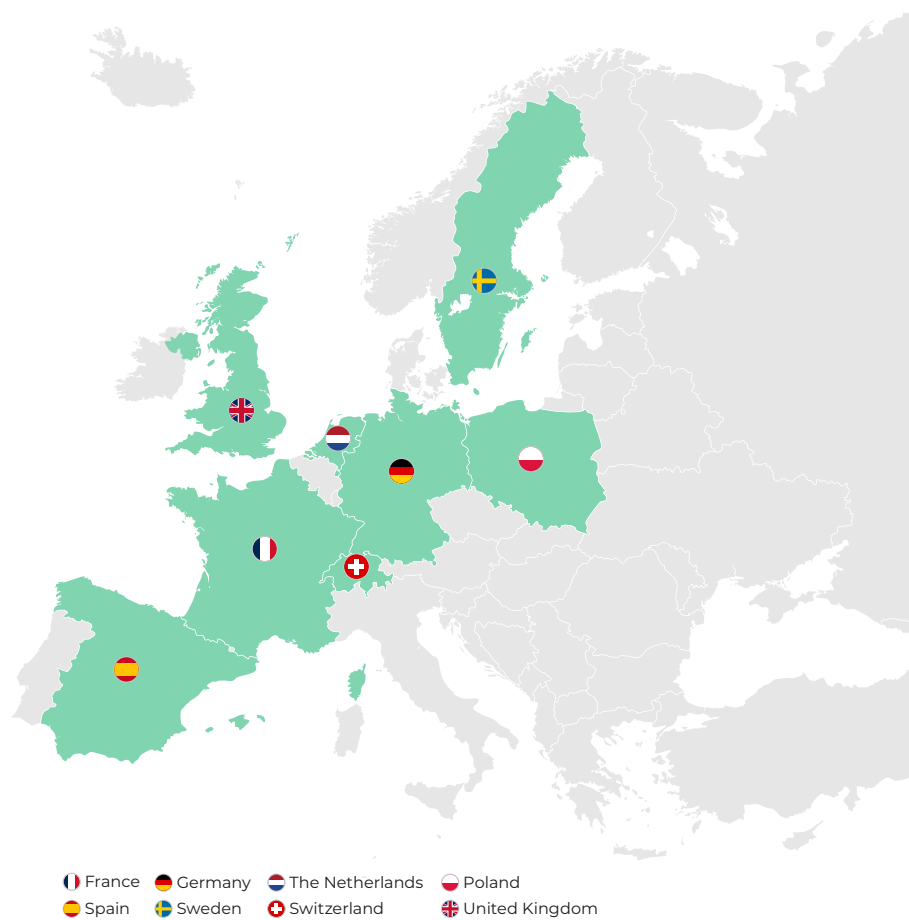
Reading guide

Supermarkets that perform well on a specific research indicator are marked with the **this counts** icon in the margin.

Not all supermarkets' measures are extensive enough to count in the ranking. Small steps in the right direction are also worth noting and are therefore marked with the **good step** icon.



Countries assessed in Superlist Environment Europe 2026



Promising roadmaps, but no strong emission reductions

Supermarkets' engagement in climate action is essential, as over a quarter of human-caused emissions come from the food system (2). Among food products, animal-based products contribute the most to global warming (3). Therefore, rebalancing the proportion of protein in supermarkets' sales is a key element in developing a robust climate strategy.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

→ It is crucial that supermarkets publish detailed roadmaps outlining how they intend to meet the Paris Agreement. **Seven supermarkets have developed detailed roadmaps to reduce emissions in the near term:** Albert Heijn (NL), Carrefour (ES and FR), and Lidl (DE, ES, NL and PL). This reflects meaningful progress, though more clarity is needed to verify whether the targets in their plans are fully aligned with the Paris Agreement's ambition of limiting further global warming to 1.5°C. Most importantly, the remaining 20 supermarkets must still develop and publish detailed climate roadmaps.

→ Achieving emission reductions and reporting progress towards targets are key to contributing to the Paris Agreement. Five supermarkets have already reduced their total emissions since they began reporting. **However, the emissions of many other European supermarkets are still rising or do not show a clear decline yet over the past few years.** For some, it is impossible to assess whether their emissions are rising or falling, as they do not report their full emissions annually in a complete and comprehensive manner.

→ Rebalancing protein consumption is essential to reduce indirect emissions from Scope 3. **Two-thirds of supermarkets acknowledge their role in shifting towards more plant-rich diets by including the reduction of animal-protein sales in their climate plans.** Half of them are leading the protein transition by setting measurable and near-term targets to increase the share of plant-based protein sales¹. However, nine supermarkets make no mention of the shift towards plant-rich diets as a means of reducing emissions.

¹ The share of protein sales represents the proportion of total food sales (by weight, in kilograms) that comes from plant-based or animal protein products.

EUROPEAN OVERVIEW

Ranking Superlist Environment Europe 2026

Which supermarkets are aligning their climate plans with the Paris Agreement and rebalancing protein sales towards more plant-rich diets?

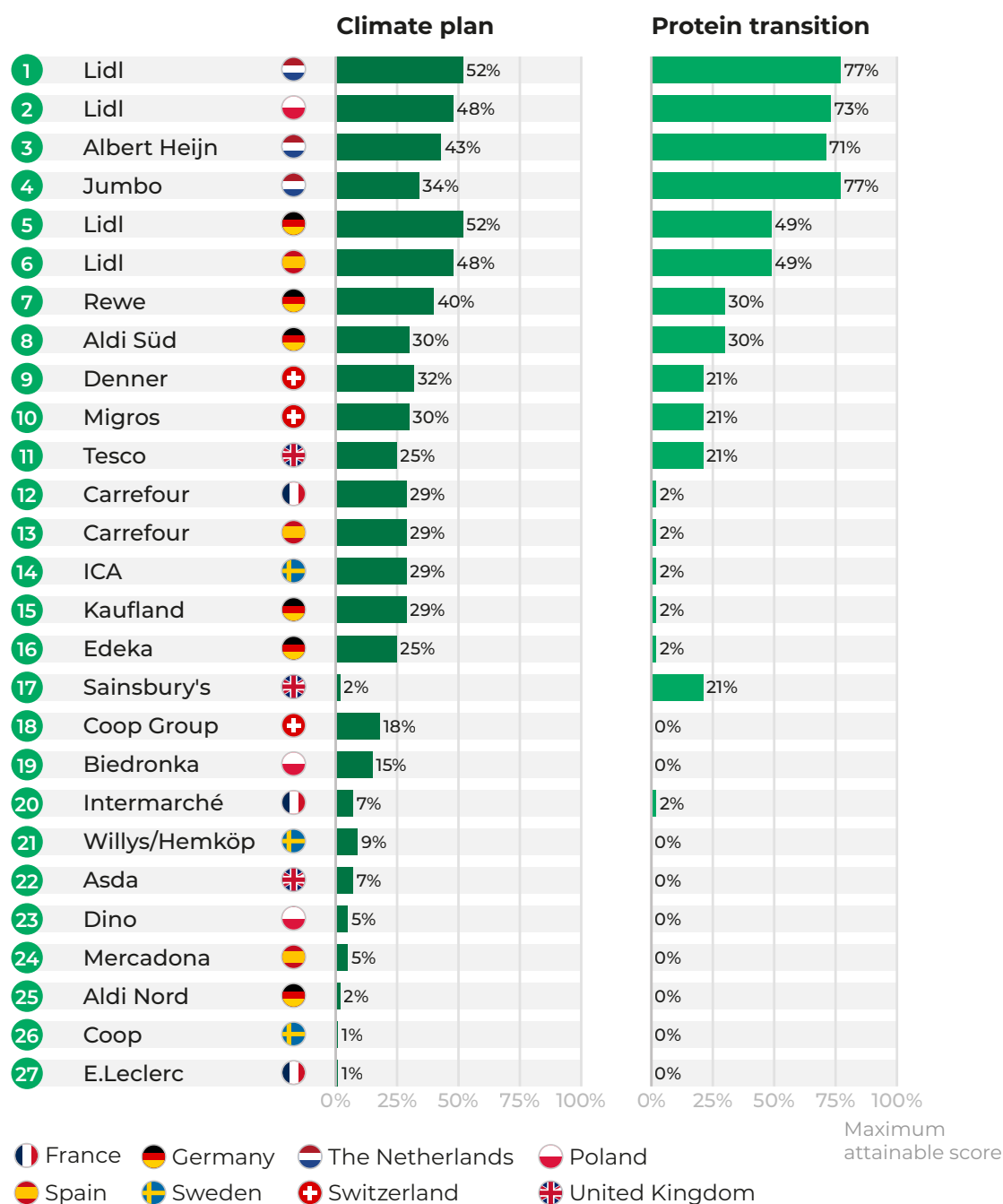


Figure 1 Ranking of 27 leading supermarkets in Europe.^{2,3}

² Scoring is based on the Superlist Environment methodology published [here](#).

³ Due to the lack of published data at national level, some supermarkets' assessments are based on the policies of their group companies.

Findings

CLIMATE PLAN

First roadmaps are promising

Seven supermarkets have publicly disclosed a detailed climate roadmap.



Albert Heijn (NL), Carrefour (ES & FR), as well as **Lidl (DE, ES, NL and PL)** are the first supermarkets in Europe to publish a detailed and actionable roadmap to achieve their near-term reduction targets (see 'near-term target' in the Glossary). These roadmaps include concrete measures aimed at achieving their target, each with a quantified contribution to the overall reduction target. Most importantly, the remaining 20 other supermarkets need to develop and publish detailed roadmaps that translate their Scope 3 targets into quantified emission reduction measures (see 'Direct and indirect emissions' in the [Glossary](#)). These roadmaps should align with the Paris Agreement.

A total of 19 supermarkets have set near-term reduction targets.

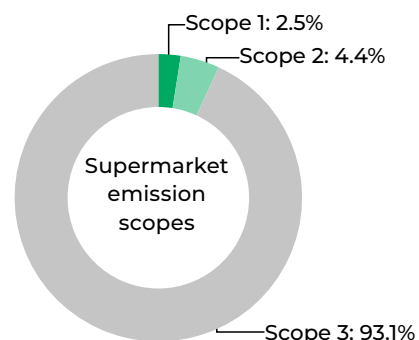
Setting a near-term target is an important first step towards developing a detailed climate roadmap aligned with the Paris Agreement. Eighteen supermarkets with near-term targets to reduce FLAG emissions are aligned with the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit global warming to 1.5°C (see 'Direct and indirect emissions' and 'Target validation by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)' in the [Glossary](#)). However, seven supermarkets have not yet set near-term targets to reduce Scope 3 emissions. Prioritising target-setting to reduce Scope 3 emissions is crucial, as these emissions make up approximately 90 per cent of a supermarket's carbon footprint

Seven supermarkets explicitly integrate financial support to suppliers in their climate plan to address indirect (Scope 3) emissions.

While most supermarkets offer support to suppliers through training and online learning tools, direct investment in supply chains and financial support for implementing sustainable practices are even more important to achieve reductions in total emissions. The first supermarkets to integrate such measures into their climate plans are **Albert Heijn (NL), Jumbo (NL), Lidl (NL and DE), Migros (CH), Rewe (DE) and Tesco (UK)**. Tackling indirect Scope 3 emissions is particularly important, as they account for approximately 90 per cent of the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of supermarkets. Ensuring a just transition towards a sustainable food system requires sharing the financial burden of this transition across the entire value chain.



Supermarkets: scope 3 accounts for the majority of emissions



- Scope 1** Direct emissions from supermarkets' operations.
- Scope 2** Emissions from the generation of electricity and heat that supermarkets purchase.
- Scope 3** Emissions from, for example, agriculture, food processing, waste, and transport upstream, as well as transport, consumption, and waste downstream.

Source: McKinsey, 2022

PROGRESS

Emissions reductions weak, despite promising individual efforts

More than ten supermarkets have reported an increase in total emissions compared to their respective baselines.

Reporting progress towards targets and realising actual emission reductions are key to contributing to the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Five supermarkets have achieved a reduction in their total emissions over the past couple of years:



ICA (SE), Jumbo (NL), Kaufland (DE), Migros (CH) and Rewe (DE). Despite this encouraging observation, the significance of these reductions remains uncertain, as none of the supermarkets report a decrease greater than

11 per cent, their baseline years differ, and none provide detailed explanations of how the reductions were achieved. Remarkably, none of these supermarkets has published a detailed climate roadmap. Moreover, emission reductions from previous years are often recalculated based on new insights, definitions, and scope. Sometimes, supermarkets need to correct their previously reported emissions in later disclosures. As a result, conclusions about increases or decreases in emissions may need to be revised over time. What is clear, however, is that the sector as a whole has not yet demonstrated a consistent downward trend in emissions.

EMISSIONS REPORTING

Most supermarkets report emissions, though the level of detail varies

Almost all supermarkets report their current carbon footprint in some form.

However, the level of detail varies significantly. A total of 22 supermarkets break down their emissions into scopes, with indirect emissions from Scope 3 accounting for approximately 90 per cent or more of the total emissions of supermarkets (see 'Direct and indirect emissions' in the [Glossary](#)). Half of the supermarkets provide further insight into their indirect Scope 3 emissions by distinguishing between agriculture- and industry-related emissions. Notably, **Albert Heijn (NL)** is the first supermarket to report methane emissions and to have set a specific reduction target, an important development given that methane is the second most harmful greenhouse gas (4,5). In contrast, E.Leclerc (FR) and Mercadona (ES) report only their total emissions without distinguishing at the scope level, while Aldi Nord

(DE), Coop (SE) and Sainsbury's (UK) report only a portion of their emissions. These supermarkets must begin reporting all emissions in detail to ensure transparency about their progress against targets, their emission sources, and thus the levers for reduction.

Eight supermarkets publish their agriculture-related emissions by food category.

Quantifying and reporting these emission sources is a crucial step in developing a concrete emission-reduction plan. Supermarkets that already provide this level of detail include **Albert Heijn (NL), Denner (CH), ICA (SE), Lidl (DE, ES, NL, PL) and Migros (CH)**. The reported data confirm that animal proteins have the largest carbon footprint of all food categories, highlighting the need for a transition to more plant-rich diets.



PLANT-RICH DIETS

Few supermarkets are leveraging plant-based foods to reduce emissions

A third of the supermarkets do not address the sales of animal protein.

This is remarkable, given that animal protein is the primary source of agriculture-related greenhouse gas emissions in supermarkets. It is essential for these supermarkets to integrate the rebalancing of protein sales into their climate plans to reduce indirect Scope 3 emissions. To help keep the food system within planetary boundaries, the average diet would need to consist of 74 per cent plant-based foods and 26 per cent animal-based foods by 2050 across all food groups (see 'Rebalancing protein sales to tackle climate change' in the [Glossary](#)) (6,7). This split would be 60:40 when considering only protein-rich food groups (see 'Measuring the Protein Split' in the [Glossary](#)). Nine supermarkets either do not mention this shift towards plant-rich diets as a means of reducing emissions or do not yet consider it their responsibility to support this transition through their sales: Aldi Nord (DE), Asda (UK), Biedronka (PL), Coop (CH and SE), Dino (PL), E.Leclerc (FR), Mercadona (ES) and Willys/Hemköp (SE).

Twelve supermarkets have begun reporting their protein split.

Eight of the 12 supermarkets report their split across total sales. Four of the 12 supermarkets report their split only in two specific categories: 'protein-rich' and 'dairy and dairy alternatives'. Five of the 12 supermarkets report both in total sales and in protein-rich categories. The protein split is the ratio of plant-based versus animal-based proteins or foods in the sales volume (see 'Measuring the Protein Split' in the [Glossary](#)). It is the key metric for supermarkets to monitor this source of indirect Scope 3 emissions. Nevertheless, it is essential for the 15 other supermarkets to start reporting their protein split across total sales, and in the protein-rich food groups.

Eight supermarkets have published a protein target, and another four have set targets in line with planetary boundaries.⁴

The supermarkets that set targets in line with the Planetary Health Diet (PHD) are **Albert Heijn (NL)**, **Lidl (NL and PL)** and **Jumbo (NL)**. The three Dutch supermarkets aim for a share of 60 per cent plant-based proteins in total sales by 2030. **Lidl (DE, ES and PL)** has also set targets to increase the share of plant-based products in its total sales by 20 per cent by 2030. **Rewe (DE)** aims for 60 per cent by 2035 and **Denner (CH)** aims for 50 per cent by 2040. The baseline for these targets at Lidl (DE and ES) has not been published, making it impossible to confirm whether they are in line with the PHD. Nevertheless, based on their respective 2024 protein split, **Lidl (DE and ES)** is expected to reach a protein split within the planetary boundaries as set by the PHD by 2050.

Three supermarkets have set targets to grow the sales of plant-based proteins. These

are **Carrefour (ES and FR)** and **Tesco (UK)**, but they do not appear to have the ambition to reduce the sales of animal protein. For an effective protein transition, supermarkets should not only increase the sales of plant-based foods; the goal is to decrease the sales of animal proteins.



⁴ It is important to note that the protein splits and targets are not directly comparable because of the use of two different methodologies, see 'Rebalancing protein sales to address climate change' in the glossary for the explanation about the protein split needed to meet the Planetary Health Diet.

European recommendations

This chapter presents sector-wide recommendations, in addition to the supermarket-specific recommendations in each country chapter, to support supermarkets in contributing to a more sustainable food system. The recommendations below apply to all supermarkets assessed in *Superlist Environment Europe 2026*.

CLIMATE PLAN

→ Set near-term reduction targets covering the total carbon footprint, as well as a separate target for Scope 3 emissions.

A Scope 3 target is essential because it represents the vast majority of supermarkets' emissions. Targets should be set for 2035 at the latest to tackle current emissions and ensure accountability towards achieving net zero by 2050, as determined by the European Union, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The target should be aligned with the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit further global warming to 1.5°C. Then develop and publish a roadmap to reach the near-term targets. The roadmap should outline specific reduction measures, each with a quantified contribution to the target. This ensures a robust and transparent roadmap for meeting targets.

→ Give priority to emission reduction measures with the highest expected effect on the short term to achieve a reduction in total emissions.

Key areas include rebalancing proteins, as well as transport in supply chains, the use of sold products and the end-of-life treatment of sold products (e.g via reducing product packaging). In addition to offering supplier support through training and online tools, supermarkets need to invest directly in their supply chains and provide financial support to enable sustainable practices.

→ Report indirect Scope 3 emissions

annually in detail. The emissions should be broken down by FLAG and non-FLAG sources at the food-category level (eg meat, dairy, fruit and vegetables, drinks). This level of granularity enables the transparent tracking of progress towards near-term reduction targets and facilitates comparison between supermarkets.

PROTEIN TRANSITION

→ Include the protein transition in the climate plan as a key lever to reduce indirect Scope 3 emissions.

This strategy is particularly important for lowering FLAG-related Scope 3 emissions, as animal products account for half of emissions across all food products.

→ Measure and disclose protein splits annually.

- The share of plant-based proteins or products in total sales volume or total volume of purchased goods, as defined in The Protein Tracker and WWF Planet-Based Diets retail methodology (7, 8).
- The share of plant-based proteins or products in the protein-rich categories. By reporting the split in the 'Plant-based Core' and 'Animal Core' as defined in The Protein Tracker, or reporting the split in the 'protein-rich' category and the 'dairy and dairy alternatives' category, as defined in the WWF Planet-Based Diets retail methodology.

→ Set measurable, time-bound targets to increase the share of plant-based protein sales and decrease animal protein sales.

The targets should, at a minimum, cover protein-rich categories, and ideally also cover total sales volume across all food categories. All targets should be aligned with the Planetary Health Diet as defined by the EAT-Lancet framework.



UNITED KINGDOM

Tesco and Sainsbury's lag behind the European trend, with Asda trailing further behind its peers

KEY FINDINGS

→ Climate roadmap

Sainsbury's and Tesco have set near-term reduction targets, while Asda is revising its climate plan and has not yet set a new target.

→ Progress

None of the supermarkets show clear progress in reducing total emissions; meeting the Paris Agreement is not yet in sight. Sainsbury's progress is unknown, as it has not reported Scope 3 emissions since its baseline.

→ Protein transition

Sainsbury's and Tesco report their protein split in protein-rich food groups, but neither has published specific protein-split targets.

Superlist Environment Europe 2026 – United Kingdom

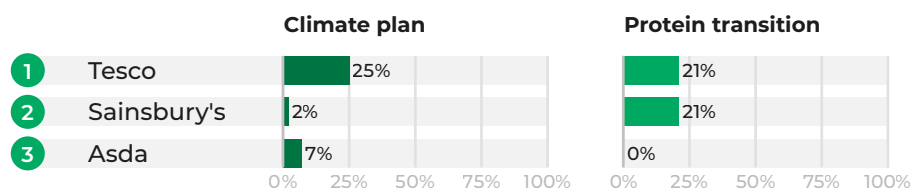


Figure 9 Ranking of three supermarkets in the United Kingdom, according to their policies on greenhouse gas emissions and plant-rich diets.

THE BRITISH MARKET

Market size

Second largest among the eight markets assessed in this report (9, 11).

Supermarkets included

Asda
Sainsbury's
Tesco

Total market share

60%

CLIMATE PLAN

Roadmaps

None of the three UK supermarkets has published a detailed roadmap describing how they will achieve their near-term targets. **Sainsbury's** and **Tesco** have set



near-term emission-reduction targets across all scopes, including FLAG and non-FLAG emissions within Scope 3. Their near-term targets to reduce FLAG emissions are aligned with the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit global warming to 1.5°C. By contrast, Asda has not yet publicly set a reduction target for 2030 and is currently revising its climate plan due to rapid growth. The supermarket is working on developing an updated climate plan aligned with the Paris Agreement.

Sainsbury's and Tesco are committed to becoming net-zero companies by 2050. Asda acknowledges the need to



reduce its emissions, taking into account the commitment of the EU and the UK government to reach net zero by 2050. It is essential that Asda formally commits to becoming a net-zero company by 2050 to align its climate plan with the goals of the UK. This is needed to ensure coordinated transition.

Progress

None of the supermarkets show clear progress in reducing total emissions. No clear trend has yet emerged in Tesco's total emissions due to inconsistencies in reporting: emissions reported in 2024 cover all Scope 3 categories, whereas data from previous years are incomplete. Asda has increased its total GHG emissions since its 2015 baseline, although it has reduced emissions since 2022. Consequently, there is no clear trend yet in Asda's progress in reducing total emissions. Sainsbury's progress in reducing total emissions is unknown, as the supermarket has not reported its Scope 3 emissions since its 2018/2019

baseline. With near-term target deadlines approaching, reporting progress towards targets and achieving actual emission reductions are crucial to contributing to the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

Tesco provides financial support to its suppliers to help reduce their environmental impact.



The supermarket offers financial packages for farmers and has developed a sustainability-linked supply-chain finance programme to support suppliers in implementing strategies that reduce their environmental impact. In contrast, Asda and Sainsbury's do not include financial support for suppliers as a strategy to reduce indirect Scope 3 emissions in their climate plans. Direct investment in supply chains and financial support for implementing sustainable practices are essential for reducing total emissions.

Asda and Tesco report emissions across all scopes, while Sainsbury's has not disclosed its Scope 3 emissions since its 2018/2019

baseline. None of the supermarkets provides further detail on the composition of their current emissions, such as a breakdown of FLAG and non-FLAG emissions within Scope 3. Annual reporting on emission-reduction progress is essential to improve transparency and enable accountability in meeting climate targets.

PROTEIN TRANSITION



Sainsbury's and Tesco report their protein split in protein-rich food groups. They have reported this annually since 2022 and 2020 respectively, using the WWF method. Sainsbury's reported 13 per cent plant-based proteins in the protein-rich food group and seven per cent in the dairy alternatives group. Tesco reported nine per cent in the protein-rich food group and seven per cent in the dairy alternatives group.

ambition to increase the share of plant-based proteins in its sales as part of its sustainable and healthy diets plan. However, it has not yet set a quantitative target and does not explicitly state the need to reduce sales of animal-based proteins. Due to the absence of quantitative targets, it is not possible to confirm whether their progress and ambitions are in line with the Planetary Health Diet.

None of the supermarkets in the UK in this report has set a specific target to increase the share of plant-based proteins in their sales.



Tesco has set a goal to increase sales of plant-based meat alternatives by 300 per cent by 2025 but does not explicitly aim to reduce sales of animal proteins. **Asda** expresses the

How do UK supermarkets perform compared to other European supermarkets?

Sainsbury's and Tesco have set near-term reduction targets, with their FLAG emission-reduction targets aligned with the Paris Agreement. However, like the majority of European supermarkets, none of the UK supermarkets has disclosed a roadmap outlining how they will achieve their near-term targets.

Similar to most of their European counterparts, Asda and Tesco report their total GHG emissions and provide a breakdown by scope but offer limited additional transparency. Sainsbury's is among the few European supermarkets that have not published their Scope 3 emissions in recent years. In fact, Sainsbury's is one of only three lagging European supermarkets that disclose only part of their total emissions.

Regarding the protein shift, Sainsbury's and Tesco are among the frontrunners in Europe, as they disclose their protein split. However, none of the supermarkets in the UK has set a target to rebalance protein sales in line with the Planetary Health Diet by 2050.

Supermarket-specific recommendations

Asda

In European ranking: 22/27



- Set a near-term target for 2035 at the latest to reduce Scope 3 emissions in line with the Paris Agreement. Develop and publish a roadmap in line with the Paris Agreement, translating the Scope 3 near-term target into quantified emission-reduction measures.
- Report Scope 3 emissions annually, by scope and source (ie FLAG and non-FLAG). This is essential for establishing a concrete climate plan and tracking and reporting progress towards the near-term target.
- Include the protein transition in the climate plan to reduce indirect Scope 3 emissions.
 - Disclose the protein split based on total sales and within protein-rich food groups, according to the method most commonly used by supermarkets in the UK.
 - Set a target to increase the share of plant-based proteins and decrease the share of animal proteins in total sales and protein-rich foods. The target should align with the Planetary Health Diet and be set for the near term to support immediate implementation and action.

Scope 3 near-term target into quantified emission-reduction measures.

- Set a target to increase the share of plant-based proteins and decrease the share of animal proteins in total sales and protein-rich foods. The target should be aligned with the Planetary Health Diet and set for the near term to support immediate implementation and action.

Tesco

In European ranking: 11/27



- Develop and publish a roadmap in line with the Paris Agreement, translating the Scope 3 near-term target into quantified emission-reduction measures.
- Report FLAG and non-FLAG emissions per category annually to identify the largest sources of emissions and align the roadmap accordingly. This is essential for establishing a concrete climate plan and tracking and reporting progress towards the near-term target.
- Set a target to increase the share of plant-based proteins and decrease the share of animal proteins in total sales and protein-rich foods. The target should be aligned with the Planetary Health Diet and set for the near term to support immediate implementation and action.

Sainsbury's

In European ranking: 17/27



- Report Scope 3 emissions annually and by source (ie FLAG and non-FLAG). This is essential for establishing a concrete climate plan and tracking and reporting progress towards the near-term target.
- Develop and publish a roadmap in line with the Paris Agreement, translating the

Glossary

Near-term target

A near-term target is an emission-reduction target for 2035 or earlier. It is a key element in building a detailed climate roadmap. A near-term target is necessary for supermarkets to tackle emission reductions now and to be held accountable for reaching net zero by 2050, as determined by the European Union, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Setting a near-term target is the starting point for drafting a detailed climate plan in line with the Paris Agreement.

Direct and indirect emissions

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol defines three categories of emissions based on their origin and the extent of a company's control over them. Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by the supermarket, such as exhaust gases from vehicles or refrigerant gases. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy, such as electricity. Scope 3 emissions are all other indirect emissions (not included in Scope 2) occurring in the supermarket's supply chain, including upstream emissions (for instance, from agriculture or deforestation) and downstream emissions (for instance, from processing waste after consumption). For supermarkets, scope 3 emissions should be broken down into agriculture-related emissions (FLAG, for Forestry, Land Use and Agriculture) and industry-related emissions (non-FLAG).

1.5°C vs 'well below 2°C'

The Paris Agreement, signed in 2015, legally binds signatories to 'hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels' (18). However, scientists stress the importance of limiting global

warming to 1.5°C instead of 2 °C because of the irreversible consequences (19,20). Moreover, COP28 strengthened the case for limiting further global temperature rise to 1.5°C rather than 'well below 2 °C' (21,22). Therefore, this Superlist defines a supermarket's near-term target as being in line with the Paris Agreement's ambition to limit further global warming to 1.5°C.

Target validation by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) is a global collaboration that offers practical tools to help companies translate the scientific requirements of the Paris Agreement into credible reduction targets in line with its ambition. Many supermarkets submit their climate plans to the SBTi for validation. The validation status of supermarkets' climate plans can be found in the SBTi Target Dashboard (23). Validation of supermarkets' targets in line with 1.5°C covers reduction targets for emissions in Scopes 1 and 2, and for Forestry, Land Use and Agriculture (FLAG) emissions in Scope 3. The organisation has developed a model that requires a baseline of 2015 or later. Moreover, the model cannot yet verify whether reduction targets for non-FLAG emissions in Scope 3 are in line with 1.5°C. The organisation is working on a solution (24). In the meantime, the SBTi validates a Scope 3 target against the 'well below 2 °C' scenario (25).

Common base year

The year 2019 is the base year commonly used to measure progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement. Not all companies have disclosed their 2019 baseline emissions yet. It is never too late to start reporting, but without comparison to the same baseline, it is much harder to assess if the reductions that the supermarket has achieved are sufficient to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement.

using the IPCC pathway of 1.5°C “no or limited overshoot”.

In almost all cases, companies can still calculate their 2019 emissions retrospectively. If a company has undergone structural changes – for instance, through mergers or acquisitions – the Greenhouse Gas Protocol provides guidelines for ‘rebaselining’. Rebaselining and reducing emissions can be done simultaneously.

Rebalancing protein sales to address climate change

Animal products account for half of all emissions from food production (23). This makes rebalancing protein sales a key element in supermarkets’ emission-reduction strategies. Therefore, the Planetary Health Diet translates into a diet in which protein-rich food groups are composed of 60 per cent plant-based proteins and 40 per cent animal proteins, helping to keep the food system within planetary boundaries. When looking at the whole diet, this translates into 74 per cent plant-based foods and 26 per cent animal-based foods (6, 7). The goal is not to replace all animal-based protein sources with plant-based alternatives, as the average European diet already provides more protein than is sustainable within planetary boundaries (27). The protein transition should be seen as part of a broader shift towards a more balanced and sustainable diet.

Measuring the protein split

The protein split is a metric that indicates the share of plant-based protein sold in either the total sales volume or the volume of protein-rich foods sold. Protein-rich foods are for example meat, fish, eggs, dairy, legumes, nuts, hummus, plant-based meat substitutes, and dairy plant-based alternatives. There are two main published methodologies supermarkets can use to measure this ratio: the Planet-Based Diets retail methodology developed by WWF (7) and The Protein Tracker developed by the Green Protein Alliance and ProVeg International (8). Both organisations call on food companies to track the ratio of plant- and animal-based

protein foods and to set goals for rebalancing food sales in line with the Planetary Health Diet. They work closely together to increase alignment, but a fair comparison of protein splits between the two methods is currently not possible because of differences in measurement units. The protein split in this diet is 60 per cent plant to 40 per cent animal foods when focusing on the protein-rich food group, as in the WWF method, and around 70 per cent plant to 30 per cent animal proteins when all food groups are included, as in The Protein Tracker (6). For comparability between supermarkets, the consistent use of a single methodology within a country is essential.

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