IKEA® AND SUSTAINABILITY

Jan Gardberg
COUNTRY MANAGER / IKEA AUSTRALIA

From day one, operating a sustainable business has been at the core of IKEA. It was fundamental to the IKEA concept when it all began, and is even more relevant today.

Our population is growing and resources are limited. The decisions we make today are pivotal to how we will live tomorrow, and we all need to work together if we want to live happy and healthy lives.

At IKEA we are proud to walk the talk when it comes to sustainability. Our People & Planet Positive strategy ensures that, as a leading global business, we have clear goals and ambitions to become an even more sustainable organisation.

We are forging the way for other businesses through innovative and proactive sustainable practices. Globally, our stance on climate change is well known, and we will continue to advocate and take action.

As a leading global home furnishing company, we have a responsibility to be socially and environmentally conscious.

Our vision is to create a better everyday life for the many people, and to us that extends beyond our home furnishing solutions – it’s about taking a sustainable approach in our entire supply chain and helping the 915 million customers that we meet each year to live more sustainable lives at home.

As we continue to grow IKEA, in Australia and globally, it is more important than ever that we continue to create a better and more sustainable organisation, and continue to inspire our customers to make sustainable choices.

MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFE AT HOME

Kate Ringvall
SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER / IKEA AUSTRALIA

At IKEA we make products with sustainability at their heart. What’s more, we sell them at a price that puts them within easy reach of the many people.

We call this Democratic Design – a clever combination of form, function, price, quality and processes that help our customers have a better everyday life.

We are continually developing our range to provide products that make sustainable living a little easier.

From bins with built-in recycling sections, to mini-greenhouses to help people grow their own herbs and vegetables at home – our goal is to facilitate an eco-friendly lifestyle.

Through products like our 100% LED lighting range that saves up to 60% on energy, and our water-saving shower heads and taps, we believe you don’t have to compromise on style or comfort to live more sustainably.

And when you’re done with one of our products? We have recycling schemes like our mattress take-back service, so that even at the end of their life, we capture resources and convert them into something useful.
As IKEA® grows, we want to strengthen our positive impact and help meet the needs and aspirations of more families and more households around the world.
According to the UN, 70% of the world’s population will live in cities by 2050. With the world population expected to grow from 7 billion to 9.3 billion people in the next 40 years, this means a lot of new cities. To put it into perspective, that’s around six new cities for six million people every month.

So what does this mean for our living environment?

With urbanisation accelerating, there will be increasing pressure on natural resources like water, air, energy and food. This means the built environment needs to incorporate elements like spaces to grow food, systems to recycle waste and water, natural cooling and heating mechanisms, and design that facilitates all of this.

IKEA recognises that something needs to change. To help accelerate our need to adapt to an urbanised future, last year we opened the doors to SPACE10, a future-living innovation lab based in the heart of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Our purpose is to come up with innovative solutions to address the changing needs of the world’s population – we are on a mission to explore and design new ways of living and we want to enable a better, more meaningful and sustainable life for the many people.

This is just one way that IKEA is contributing to a better tomorrow.
LIVING LAGOM

Rachel White
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER / IKEA AUSTRALIA

Living ‘lagom’ is about understanding the impact our daily choices make on the planet.

The Swedish philosophy of lagom means ‘just the right amount’ – not too much or too little. It is the middle road where we choose balance and simplicity over excess and complication.

SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD

Ivana Frost
FOOD MANAGER / IKEA AUSTRALIA

The power of food to influence people’s wellbeing is indisputable but what about how our food choices affect the environment?

At IKEA, we are committed to offering delicious, healthy food at affordable prices for everyone. We are also committed to providing food that is sustainably produced, with good animal welfare practices, and minimal waste throughout the production process.

Food at IKEA is inspired by Swedish traditions and the Nordic diet, with a focus on ingredients like berries, wholegrains and seafood.

We believe it is what living a rewarding but responsible life is all about – not sacrificing what you love, while not taking more from the planet than what you need.

At IKEA we think it is an idea that has the power to change how we think about sustainability. Together with the community, our aim is to create a future that is both responsible and rewarding for all.

We are one of very few major retailers who sell seafood that is certified by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).

That means the seafood we sell in IKEA restaurants and through our Swedish Food Markets is 100% sustainably sourced, and sold to 600 million food customers globally.

Our chocolate and coffee is UTZ certified, ensuring sustainable farming practices and better opportunities for farmers, their families and our planet.
URBANISATION AND TOMORROW’S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

So what does this mean for our society? According to research by IKEA®, globally there will be a focus on products and services that relate to ease and convenience, peace, stability, independent living, active lifestyles, social engagement and good value.

POPULATION CHANGE

Our population is booming in unprecedented ways. Improvements in healthcare, nutrition and basic living standards mean that the global population is growing – but not in the most obvious way: more babies.

In the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries, there is a declining birth rate. In 1970, the average birth rate was 2.8 children per woman. Today, it’s 1.7 children per woman.

We are an ageing population. By 2050, 22% of the world will be aged over 60, up from 11% in 2012. For the first time in human history, older people will outnumber younger people.

62% of Australians say they aren’t ready for an increased population

68% of Australians believe that as a nation we are not prepared for population growth

While many Australians believe we are not ready to handle population growth, we do consider affordable housing and sustainable living as the most important factors in creating our future community.
EXCESS IS OUT. LAGOM IS IN

There is going to be a mass migration from rural areas to cities – cities that don’t even exist yet. This presents an enormous opportunity to actively create the cities we want, as opposed to inheriting the legacies of previous generations.

Globally, IKEA believes that space in these new communities will be at a premium, so products designed for compact living areas, storage solutions and new multi-purpose spaces will emerge.

Imagine a place where walkways and cycleways take precedence over cars, and the cars that are there, are driverless.

UBIQUITOUS INTERNET

The internet is ubiquitous. You are always connected, except when you choose not to be.

Your home is powered by the internet and you can order groceries, control the temperature and security system, water the garden, play media and order your cleaning robot to get started with the press of a button on your smart device.

Augmented reality will be common place. In the home, you will be able to customise and design products then use augmented reality tools to see exactly how they will look in your home.

All of this will be done in environments that are increasingly green and clean, with a focus on locally cultivated food, carbon neutrality, water, energy capture and new types of business models.
ACCELERATED URBANISATION

OUR WAY OF LIFE IS CHANGING

The Australian way of life is about to undergo a radical shift.

At around 1.5%, Australia’s current population growth rate1 is among the highest in the OECD.

Accelerated urbanisation will see capital cities and nearby regional centres merge into one, with more Australians migrating to urban areas. It’s inevitable that we will have more major cities in Australia.

Globally, 70% of the world’s population will live in cities by 2050 according to the UN. And over the next four decades, the world population is expected to grow from 7 to 9.3 billion.

Most of us were born into a world of countries, but by the time we leave this planet, it will basically be a world made up of 600 rather powerful cities2.

What does this mean for future generations?

For starters, we will live in cities in smaller living spaces. We will walk or ride our bikes, eat more plant-based foods and consume less meat.

Beyond this, scientists and innovation labs are coming up with some obvious – and less obvious – ways to save the planet. They are tweaking existing things to make them more sustainable, like making smaller credit cards that use less plastic.

They are developing super-charged skylights and extra-strength cardboard furniture that you can fold yourself. They are also growing in-vitro burger patties and coming up with nutrition powders that alleviate the need to eat.

These are big ideas. On an everyday level what it means is a move towards smaller living spaces, the desire for more natural ‘green’ environments, a craving for peace and solitude, as well as community connection outside of the home.

At IKEA, we have our own future-living lab, called SPACE10, in Copenhagen, Denmark. This is where we are exploring and experimenting with ideas that will inform future product design.

Some of the projects SPACE10 are currently working on are:

Urban farming
/ How can we use hydroponic systems to grow food indoors without soil in a simple and intuitive way?

Distribution of food
/ How can we localise this and bring more food production into the city?

Housing affordability
/ How can we create a framework for people to use to create sustainable housing using local products and open-source architecture?

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FUTURE COMMUNITY

LIVING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

According to IKEA, globally the future community will be influenced by two megatrends: urbanisation and digitisation.

Xuan Teo, a design student currently completing a residency at SPACE10, says that co-living will be a defining trend.

Teo says, ‘The rise of the so-called sharing economy, coupled with the planet’s rapidly depleting resources and fast-growing population, is forcing us to rethink the concept of ownership and sharing in our everyday lives, including in housing.

‘In the future we may have to get used to living with other people – but what opportunities might cohabitation offer us? And what is it about shared living that could persuade us to give up our privacy and redefine what we mean by home?’

Imagine an apartment building where you pay less rent but you share facilities like bathrooms and laundries. Or where there is a rooftop garden to grow your own food? Or there’s a downstairs bar and kitchen where you can prepare your food and talk to other residents?

Within these newly defined urban spaces, what if we could grow tasty, nutritious food locally and make it affordable for the many people? What if we could reduce food miles and our environmental impact, and educate our children about the importance of nutritious food in more meaningful and playful ways?

In the future we may have to get used to living with other people – but what opportunities might cohabitation offer?

What is it about shared living that could persuade us to give up our privacy and redefine what we mean by home?

XUAN TEO / SPACE10

Australians are divided about living in a shared community, with more than half believing this way of living won’t be common in their lifetime. Although if they were to live in a co-living space, 57% would be happy to share a garden and 65% are open to sharing produce grown.
At IKEA®, we are looking at ways to help create products that will make life better today and in the future.

All this change will be underpinned by technology. Digitisation has already changed how and where we work, how we communicate, how we consume information, how we create, how we study and how we share our experiences.

Consider this…
/ When was the last time you had photographs printed from negatives?
/ Or walked into a bank to withdraw money?
/ What industries are yet to be revolutionised?
/ What technologies will change our everyday lives?

At IKEA we are asking these questions to help create products that will make life better today and in the future.
THE GROWROOM

To spark conversation about how we can bring nature back into our cities, grow our own food and tackle the demand for significantly more food in the future, the team at SPACE10 buddied up with architects Sine Lindholm and Mads-Ulrik Husum to create The Growroom – a spherical greenhouse where plants are stacked in tiers to maximise space and water flow.

**snapshot**

The Growroom spatial footprint

$2.8 \times 2.5$ metres

**BUILD YOUR OWN**

All you need to build your own Growroom is two rubber hammers, 17 sheets of plywood and a visit to a local design house or printer with 3D cutting services available.

Instructions on the SPACE10 website > [https://space10.io](https://space10.io)
DESIGNED FOR CITIES

The Growroom is designed for cities, with a small spatial footprint of 2.8×2.5 metres. It is designed to create a sense of everyday wellbeing by providing a green oasis where people can connect with nature and smell and taste the abundance of herbs and plants.

From Taipei to Helsinki, Rio de Janeiro to San Francisco, the original version of The Growroom has sparked interest everywhere.

The Growroom for everyone
To support the original aim of The Growroom – which is to promote locally grown urban food – IKEA has released the build plans as an open-source design, available free on the internet complete with an easy step-by-step construction guide.

Then all you need to build your own Growroom is two rubber hammers, 17 sheets of plywood and a visit to a local design house or printer with 3D cutting services available.

The design focuses on making the assembly easy and intuitive for anyone to build. Visit the SPACE10 website for instructions > https://space10.io
MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFE AT HOME
DEMONCRATIC DESIGN

GREAT DESIGN FOR THE MANY PEOPLE

At IKEA we want to make great design accessible for the many people. For us it’s about the right combination of form, function, quality and sustainability, all at a low price.

Together, these characteristics form the concept of Democratic Design.

Democratic Design is at the core of every part of IKEA, from product design and development, to how we source our materials and deal with suppliers.

A special partnership
What makes the IKEA design process unique is that our suppliers play a very important role. Very early in the design phase, our product developers and designers work with a diverse team of technicians, manufacturers and specialists – often on the factory floor. This special partnership helps us keep our prices low and find the latest techniques to create products the IKEA way.

From humble beginnings in the early 1950s with the birth of the IKEA flat-pack, Democratic Design has inspired IKEA designers to do more with less for nearly 70 years.

IKEA creates solutions to make people’s home life more functional and fun. Sustainability plays a big part in this process.

Wherever possible, IKEA uses materials that are environmentally friendly – those that are renewable, recyclable and recycled. We always try to make more from less.

For example, water hyacinth is a fast-growing plant that is clogging up waterways in South East Asia. It is both durable and highly renewable, and we use it to make the SOARÉ place mat.

Each place mat is handwoven by skilled weavers, usually women, who have the flexibility to decide how much and how often they work. It is a product that benefits both people and the environment.
PEOPLE & PLANET
POSITIVE AUSTRALIA

At IKEA®, we are committed to sustainability and determined to take the next big step. Through our ‘People & Planet Positive 2020’ (PPP) strategy, we use sustainability to drive innovation, transform our business, shape our investments and unleash new business opportunities.

OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE LEAD

As IKEA grows, we want to strengthen our positive impact and help to meet the needs and aspirations of more families and households around the world.

By 2020, around 500 IKEA Group stores will welcome an estimated 1.5 billion visitors per year and employ more than 200,000 co-workers.

This growth brings opportunities where we can continue to take a leadership approach to how we use natural resources in our design process and across our global operations.

We need to be able to fulfil future customer needs, promote equality and secure sustainable access to resources, while driving down emissions and maintaining our low prices.

By 2020 IKEA Group stores will welcome an estimated 1.5 billion visitors per year.
Since 2015 our entire lighting range is LED or compatible with LED bulbs.

In financial year 2017 we will sell one million LED lights and bulbs in Australia.

On a global scale we sold 79 million LED bulbs last financial year.

Our ambition is to increase this to 500 million bulbs by 2020.

Globally we produced over 3.2TWh of renewable energy (wind/solar photovoltaic/biomass) in financial year 2016, equivalent to 71% of the energy used in our own operations.

Globally by 2020 we will produce as much renewable energy as we consume in our operations.

We phased out oil-based expanded polystyrene (EPS) in IKEA flat-packs, replacing it with fibre-based, fully recyclable materials.

In financial year 2017

50%

of wood used for IKEA products was Forest Stewardship Certified (FSC) or from recycled sources.

More sustainable cotton.

All cotton used for IKEA products comes from more sustainable sources. Through the Better Cotton Initiative we work with farmers and help them use less water, chemical fertilisers and pesticides, while increasing their profits.

IKEA® Foundation

As a result of the Brighter Lives for Refugees and Soft Toys for Education campaigns the IKEA Foundation has donated 142 million euros to improve opportunities for children and families in the world’s poorest communities.

As we strive for 50:50 gender equality

44%

of managers in Australia are women.

We are continuing our efforts to create an inclusive work environment where all our co-workers are able to be themselves.
SUSTAINABILITY AT THE CORE OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Sustainability is integrated into everything we do at IKEA®. From concept, product development and design, right through the supply chain, to how we run our stores and how we engage in the community.

Products
Using the IKEA concept of Democratic Design, our goal is always affordability, but we never compromise on functionality, quality, form or sustainability.

Co-workers
Our co-workers are our most valuable resource. At IKEA we value diversity, offer generous benefits, and invest in each and every one of our talented co-workers.

IKEA® store
We continually invest in and improve our equipment and processes in order to minimise the environmental impact of our store operations.

Materials
At IKEA, we believe in using the least possible resources to make the best possible products.
Community
We are committed to taking the lead in creating a better everyday life for the people and communities in which we operate.

Customers
We are on a mission to inspire and help people to live more sustainable lives. We want to help people do this without the need to spend more, radically change the way they live, or compromise on style or quality.

Transport
We continue to seek out ways to reduce emissions from transport to lower our carbon footprint. From flat-packs to rolled mattresses, we are always looking for innovative ways to reduce the amount of space each product takes up in the trucks and ships that move our products.

Suppliers
Our products are manufactured under our supplier Code of Conduct, known as IWAY. We work with 600,000 suppliers globally to ensure we use the most efficient, cost-effective and sustainable solutions to bring our designs to life.

Food
We continue to transform our business by offering healthier, more sustainable and affordable food in our restaurants, bistro and Swedish Food Markets.
LIVING LAGOM

With simplicity, fairness, contentment and consideration for others at its heart, ‘lagom’ is a Swedish philosophy that means ‘just the right amount’.

At IKEA® we think it’s an idea that will change the way people think about sustainability.

Whether it’s using a reusable coffee cup, turning off the tap while you brush your teeth, switching to LED light bulbs, or walking to work instead of driving, living lagom is about making small changes that minimise your environmental impact and increase your sense of wellbeing.

LIVING LAGOM > KITCHEN

It’s easy to save time, money and resources with a few tweaks to your everyday kitchen routine.

ENERGY

Hot tip
Induction cooktops are extremely energy efficient, fast and precise as the induction technology transfers energy directly into cookware. They are 60% faster and use up to 40% less energy than glass or ceramic cooktops.

Heavy metal
Stainless steel and cast iron cookware absorbs and spreads heat quicker, and retains heat for longer. Save energy by putting a lid on pots and steamers.

WATER

Tap your potential
By installing an IKEA water-saving kitchen tap you can reduce your water consumption by up to 30%. All IKEA taps use a pressure-compensating aerator that reduces the flow of water, but not the pressure.

A kitchen tap will typically use between 15 to 18 litres of water per minute, but our ALESKÅR kitchen mixer tap with hand spray uses just 3.5 litres of water per minute. That’s a 77% decrease – which will reduce both your water use and energy bills.

Running hot and cold
One-fifth of the energy consumed in an average household is used for heating water. When a traditional tap is turned on with the lever pointing forward, both hot and cold water is activated. The hot water rarely makes it out of the tap, meaning that it cools down in the pipes.

IKEA uses ‘cold start’ technology, which means that taps such as our GRANSKÄR mixer tap only supply cold water when the lever is pointing forward.

If you do want to mix in hot water, you have to select it, and it starts flowing as quickly as an ordinary tap. This small change can reduce your hot water use by up to 30%.
WASTE

Recycling and preventing waste are simple ways to save money and the environment. By only using what we need, and recycling materials like paper, plastic, and metal, we can help slow the drain on the earth’s resources.

IKEA integrated sorting systems encourage recycling and waste reduction by making it easier for people to sort waste at home. Because local recycling requirements vary, our flexible systems can be customised to suit your needs.

FOOD

Australian households, on average, throw away $3,800 worth of food a year. According to IKEA Australia’s 2015 Life at Home Report, more than one in five Sydneysiders discover food at home that has gone off every week, and 24% buy food, only to discover they already have it at home.

There are simple ways to avoid food waste – from storing your food correctly, to making preserves, poaching fruit or even growing your own fresh herbs and vegetables.

Five ways to avoid food waste

1 / STACK AND STORE

Put cereal, pasta and other dry goods such as herbs and spices in see-through or marked containers. It will help you see what you have to work with, protect your ingredients from insects, and help keep everything dry. The DROPPAR range has a see-through band at the base so you can easily see what’s inside.

2 / PRESERVE EXCESS PRODUCE

The art of preserving is making a comeback. Whether it’s pickled vegetables, jams, chutneys or relishes, or poached fruit, the glass jars in our KORKEN food storage series have an airtight seal that locks in flavour and aroma.

3 / GROW YOUR OWN

Try regrowing plants from your off-cuts. With parsnips and carrots just place the tops in some water and, after a few days, you should get new leaves appearing. Be sure to keep them watered so that they stay fresh. Carrot greens taste great chopped up in salads or soup.

4 / COOK AND SAVE

Storing your leftovers in glass containers, such as those in the FÖRTROLIG range, makes it simple to take food from fridge/freezer to oven/microwave, and then directly to the table. The leak-proof lid prevents spills and protects the contents.

5 / PUT IT ON DISPLAY

We know that often the food that is visible will be eaten, while hidden food will go to waste. The way you store food impacts how much is eaten and what is left to go out-of-date. You can use our RISATORP kitchen trolley to store fruit and vegetables out where you will see them.

1. 2015-2016 Survey, NSW EPA: Love Food, Hate Waste
By carefully choosing your bedroom furniture, lighting and bedding, you can set yourself up for a good night’s rest, 365 days a year. At IKEA we have clever storage options to help keep your room clutter-free, lamps to read by, and bed textiles to keep you cool or warm, depending on the season.

Our bedrooms are a private sanctuary where we can forget about the rest of the world and turn our thoughts, and dreams, inwards.

Five ways to save energy >

1 / SWITCH TO LED LIGHTING
At IKEA we’ve switched our entire lighting range to energy-saving, long-life LED bulbs. Over an LED bulb’s lifetime (up to 25,000 hours) you will save around 22 traditional bulbs that would otherwise be thrown in the bin. Switching to LED lights doesn’t mean you need to throw out your favourite lamps. We also operate light bulb take-back and free cardboard and battery recycling services in all our stores.

2 / KEEP WARM ... AND COOL
Use the right bed textiles for your climate. Australia is generally a warm country, so breathable fabrics like sustainable cotton and lyocell (a renewable cellulose fibre made from wood pulp) are good choices.

3 / INSULATE WITH TEXTILES
Rugs are the unsung hero of low-cost, quick-fix energy solutions – high-pile rugs help keep a room warmer during winter, while low-pile and woven rugs provide insulation all year around. You can also save energy by using textiles to insulate your windows and door openings. Curtains and blinds block out the summer sun and help retain warmth during winter.

4 / RECYCLE YOUR MATTRESS
IKEA will take your old mattress off your hands for a small fee when we deliver your new bed or mattress. We have partnered with Soft Landing, a mattress recycling social enterprise that provides jobs and traineeships for people who have struggled to find employment. In 2017 we will recycle around 1,700 mattresses that would otherwise have gone to landfill.

5 / DRAUGHT-PROOF ROOMS
Carry out a little DIY in your home, especially for winter, by draught-proofing your rooms. Block cracks in floors and skirting boards, as well as around windows and under doors.
**Living Lagom > Living Room**

At IKEA® we understand that the living room is a place for both ‘on’ and ‘off’ – whether it’s a night on the sofa or a night of entertaining.

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**Four ways to improve your living room >**

1 / SMART LIGHTING

As we move to a connected urban world, Smart Lighting is one way IKEA is using technology to improve life at home. With the touch of a button, Smart Lighting shifts from warm to cold, bright to dim. The range includes LED bulbs, panels and cabinet doors that can all be activated by a remote control or with an app on your phone. Smart Lighting kits will be available in Australia from April 2018.

2 / GREEN YOUR SPACE

Houseplants purify the air and help create a relaxing environment. They can be used to create a living screen near windows for added privacy and, if you don’t have much floor space, hanging planters can be used to add some green life to a small room.

3 / RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

In 2017 we launched a range of rechargeable batteries, with the aim of encouraging consumers to ditch disposables. The range features LADDA batteries, a VINNINGE portable charger with a USB port, and a STORHÖGEN charger that can charge 12 AA or AAA batteries at once. By purchasing just one of these batteries, you can save up to 1500 disposable batteries from landfill.

4 / REMOVAL AND RECYCLE SERVICE

Through our partnership with Soft Landing, the IKEA Australia take-back service will extend to include sofas as well as mattresses from September 2017. These items won’t have to come from IKEA – we will take pieces of furniture from any retailer operating in Australia.
The bathroom is one of the hardest-working rooms in the house – it’s both a beauty hub for hair styling and make-up, as well as a functional space for brushing your teeth and bathing.

RESOURCES
The bathroom needs lots of clever storage to make sure there’s a place for everything, and everyone. RÅGRUND bathroom furniture is designed to save space, and it’s also made from planet-saving renewable bamboo. Bamboo mostly grows in the tropics – a climate similar to a steamy, hot bathroom – which makes it the ideal material for this space.

A good bath mat should catch water, warm up the floor and stop you slipping over. The KARKEN bath mat does all those things and, as a major eco bonus, is made from recycled polyester from PET bottles.

ENERGY
Air-dry your towels rather than putting them in the tumble dryer, and if you have one, open the window rather than turning on the exhaust fan.

WATER
Sixty percent of home water usage occurs in the bathroom, so how can you cut down on using this precious resource? Try taking shorter showers – buy a timer and set a time limit. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth – a running tap uses more than six litres of water a minute. Make sure taps are properly turned off and replace the washer if they start to drip.
One thing Swedes and Australians have in common is their love of the outdoors. Summer or winter, day or night, there are plenty of ways to get some fresh air into your lungs.

**Five ways to ace the outdoors >**

1 / **COMMUNITY LIVING**
Living lagom is all about living in harmony. What better way to do this than by inviting your neighbours over to share a meal?

2 / **CREATE A SOCIAL SPACE**
With more people around the world moving to cities and living in smaller spaces, a balcony is a valuable asset, no matter how small it is. You can use your balcony for eating, socialising, growing plants, hanging laundry and storing things. That’s when it helps to have flexible furniture that can be easily moved or put away.

3 / **WALK OR RIDE**
Switching from car, bus or train commuting to active travel like walking, running or cycling is great for the environment and your health. The IKEA SLADDA bike is a great way to get fit, save money and reduce pollution.

4 / **DECLUTTER**
Use hooks and shelves to help create order. Overhaul messy areas by setting up new storage systems in your outdoor area.

5 / **BUY ACACIA WOOD**
The wood of the acacia tree is known for its strength and durability, and is perfect for outdoor furniture as it is weather-resistant. Our ÄPPLARÖ outdoor furniture range is made from solid acacia wood.
At IKEA®, good design means creating the right combination of form, function, quality, and sustainability at a low price. We call this Democratic Design.

The 10,000 products in the Australian range are constantly reviewed to ensure they live up to our Democratic Design principles, and we use our Sustainability Scorecard to measure the sustainability of all new and existing products.

Some of our great range includes:

1/ODGER chair
The ODGER chair that will hit stores in September 2017 is made from a wood plastic composite, where 30% of the material is renewable wood and at least 55% of the material is recycled plastic.

2/VINTERGATA lamp
The VINTERGATA lamp is one of our latest additions, and will be sold in Australia from February 2018. Each felted lampshade is made from plastic recycled from 24 half-litre PET bottles.

3/PERSISK rugs
IKEA collaborates with skilled artisans who use traditional methods to produce our Persian rugs. Rugs like the PERSISK KELIM GASHGAI are handmade by nomadic tribespeople, and hand-knotted PERSISK HAMADAN rugs are typically made by women in village communities.
4/ IKEA PS 2002 watering can
IKEA product designer Monica Mulder took on the challenge of designing a stackable watering can. She knew that the shape was extra important, as previously IKEA was only able to fit two to three watering cans in a box because of the spout and handle. The final result? A colourful watering can with a conical shape which enables quick and simple production, and is perfectly stackable – meaning we can fit 60 watering cans in a box, which reduces shipping costs and carbon emissions.

5/ KUNGSBACKA doors and drawer fronts
Our KUNGSBACKA range of kitchen doors and drawer fronts was launched in February 2017. These are the first kitchen fronts in the IKEA range to be made from both recycled wood and plastic from recycled PET bottles.

6/ MÄSTERBY step stool
Our MÄSTERBY step stool is made from 100% recycled post-industrial plastic.

7/ KARLBY worktop
Our KARLBY worktop is made with production technology that enables wood worktops to be manufactured using less wood. KARLBY has a top layer of solid wood on particleboard that is resource-efficient.
MATERIALS

We are committed to using materials that are grown and harvested in ways that are renewable, reusable, recyclable and biodegradable.

WOOD

Almost one percent of all commercially harvested wood in the world goes into IKEA products, packaging, and printed materials. That’s a lot of wood, which is why, by August 2020, we aim to source 100% of our wood, paper, and cardboard from more sustainable sources.

Becoming ‘Forest Positive’

Our IWAY Forestry Standard sets clear requirements for all wood used in IKEA products. This includes a ban on wood that has been illegally harvested from sources involved in forest-related social conflicts, or from High Conservation Value forests. All suppliers must comply with this standard.

We also want to ensure that responsible forestry becomes a standard practice, industry-wide.

From July 2017, IKEA will be contributing to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification of 15 million hectares of forest in priority areas. That is more than double the total estimated area needed to supply IKEA. This is in addition to 35 million hectares of FSC forest (an area larger than Victoria and Tasmania combined) which we have already added through a partnership project with World Wildlife Foundation (WWF).

By August 2020, we aim to source 100% of our wood, paper, and cardboard from more sustainable sources.

Read more about the materials we use at IKEA.com.au/sustainability
BAMBOO

Bamboo is a fast-growing plant which grows up to 10 times faster than trees and doesn’t require farming. Our entire RÅGRUND collection is designed using bamboo as it meets all our design and sustainability needs. We took a hands-on approach to producing the collection, working on the factory floor with our supplier in China. This method of development helps us maximise material use, save resources, and ensure surplus materials are used for other products.

CORK

Cork is a natural, heat-resistant and light-weight material that repels dirt and stains. The cork used for IKEA products is harvested during the summer, when the cork tree grows fast, and is extracted by hand so that the trees are not harmed. Cork is a sustainable product that is both renewable and recyclable.

COTTON

IKEA is a founding member of the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) which is working with WWF and other international companies, NGOs and the United Nations Environment Program to promote improvements in cotton cultivation to make it more sustainable.

Globally IKEA uses almost one percent of the world’s yearly supply of cotton, which is why it was important for us to commit to sourcing all of our cotton from more sustainable sources.

Over the past ten years, IKEA has transitioned to using more sustainable cotton in all of its soft furnishings, bed textiles, towels and rugs.

With more than 3,500 products in the range now produced using more sustainable cotton, the next step is to increase consumer understanding about the benefits of choosing these products.

Since 2005, IKEA has invested more than AU$6.6 million (4.5 million euros) in sustainable cotton sources through BCI, and helped around 110,000 farmers learn more sustainable farming methods through hands-on training.

REDUCED IMPACT

Conventional cotton farming techniques require the use of large quantities of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and use large amounts of water – often in farming areas where clean water is scarce.

Using traditional methods many cotton farmers struggle to make a profit, and the situation often results in health risks to the farmer, soil erosion, and water scarcity. In some cases it could involve child labour.

Sustainable cotton is grown using less water, chemical fertilisers and pesticides. While increasing profit margins for farmers and reducing environmental impact, it can also result in greater yields for farmers.

IMPROVED YIELDS

In 2014, farmers in India using more sustainable techniques improved their yields by 14%, compared with those using more conventional techniques. This allowed the farmers to increase profit margins by more than 25%.

They were able to reduce their use of chemical pesticides by almost 50%, fertilisers by 26% and water usage by almost 10%.

Farmers in Pakistan have seen profit margins grow by more than 29%.

They have also reduced chemical pesticide and fertiliser use by more than 18% and water usage by over 20%. Their yields have increased by almost 7%.

What is ‘more sustainable’ cotton?

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We are constantly working with our suppliers to create better products through improved form, function, quality, sustainability and cost.

SUPPLIERS & TRANSPORT

We have a diverse global network of suppliers who work with us to ensure we use the most efficient, cost-effective solutions to bring our products to life.

EFFICIENT SYSTEMS

We are committed to working together with our suppliers to create decent jobs, support human rights and have a positive impact on the lives of the many people in our supply chain.

Our IWAY Code of Conduct outlines and sets minimum requirements for suppliers on environmental, social and working conditions, while supporting the development of good management systems.

In Australia, on average, we sell more than 40,000 cubic tonnes of product across all of our stores each month. That’s a lot of product that needs to make its way from the supplier to the customer.

We know that efficient transport and distribution systems reduce costs – which means lower prices for customers, and better results for the environment – and we are continually looking for innovative ways to be more sustainable.

One way we do this is by reducing the number of stops in every journey, and increasing the number of products by loading and packaging more efficiently.

We were able to create an alternative mattress which can be roll-packed, and takes up to 70% less space in freight and storage than stacked mattresses. This roll-packed mattress also helps reduce consumers’ carbon footprint by cutting out the need for home delivery, and reduces carbon dioxide emissions through more efficient distribution.
The IKEA Living Local Community Grants program is a national program run by IKEA Australia stores. The stores invite applications from local not-for-profit organisations, with the most inspiring proposal receiving goods to the value of $8,000, as well as support to design and implement their makeover.

Brandon Park Children’s Centre Inc.
IKEA Springvale/Victoria

Brandon Park Children’s Centre Inc. is a not-for-profit childcare centre run by the community. The centre provides low-cost childcare that helps parents of young children return to work.

IKEA Springvale Store Manager Julian Pertile says that the team at IKEA Springvale upgraded educational spaces at the centre by replacing out-dated equipment with new furniture and toys, and creating fresh spaces where children could learn and play.

IKEA® supports local and global communities through a number of grant programs.

IKEA® GOOD CAUSE CAMPAIGN

The IKEA Good Cause Campaign ‘Let’s Play for Change’ is a global initiative to support the rights of every child to play as part of their learning and development.

As part of the campaign the IKEA Foundation donated one euro for each soft toy and children’s book sold from 20 November to 24 December 2016. These donations supported projects in some of the world’s poorest communities through Handicap International, Room to Read, Save the Children, Special Olympics, UNICEF and War Child.

IKEA Marsden Park in Sydney got behind the campaign, inviting customers to purchase a toy and leave it in the in-store box. The store’s co-workers gave a further 200 toys which were donated to Kids West, a local charity which supports children in hospital.

Globally, the Good Cause Campaign donated 21.6 million euros to our partners who will help thousands of vulnerable children enjoy their right to play.

IKEA® LIVING LOCAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

Broadmeadows Women’s Community House
IKEA Richmond/Victoria

Broadmeadows Women’s Community House (BWCH) provides a welcoming environment for women and children escaping family violence, and new migrants and asylum seekers as they adapt to a new country.

IKEA Richmond Store Manager Chris Brown says that the team at IKEA Richmond worked with BWCH to upgrade spaces used for childcare, consultations and meetings.

The IKEA Richmond team used their home furnishing expertise to design the space, with IKEA co-workers spending two days building storage units, furniture, and using colourful soft furnishings to make the spaces more child-friendly.

BWCH said that without the help of IKEA they would not have been able to afford the makeover.

IMAGE > Broadmeadows Women’s Community House makeover
IKEA® is one of the largest food-selling companies in the world, and with that comes responsibility. We pay careful attention to the ingredients we use, so our customers can enjoy honest food for people and the planet.

EATING SUSTAINABLY

Our research found that two in every three Australians believe it is very important to eat sustainably at home, with more than half growing their own food at home in some way.

At IKEA, we feed five million Australians, and over 640 million customers globally, every year through our IKEA restaurants, bistro and Swedish Food Markets.

We know that how we source ingredients has an impact on the health of both people and planet, and are in the process of adding more organic product lines.

IKEA Australia supports local farmers by using Aussie-grown vegetables in our restaurants throughout the nation.
Whether it’s in our restaurants, bistros, or Swedish Food Markets, we are committed to ensuring that the food we serve is healthy, safe, and sustainably produced.

We have examined every step of the process in our supply chain, from how we source ingredients through to our waste management, and while we are known for our flat-pack furniture, our Democratic Design principles also govern the way we create our menus and food ranges.

IKEA Food is inspired by Swedish traditions and reflects parts of the Nordic diet through ingredients such as seafood, wholegrains and berries that are known for promoting health and wellbeing.

What is Democratic Design for food?

We define it as something that considers:

FUNCTION
Food inspired by Scandinavian traditions that makes you feel good and live better every day

FORM
Beautiful and appetising food, stimulating to all the senses

QUALITY
Food you can trust, and that is good for you

SUSTAINABILITY
Responsibly-produced food that is people/animal/planet positive

LOW PRICE
Food affordable for the many
MEATBALLS & VEGGIE BALLS

Meatballs sold in Australia and in Asian IKEA® stores are produced right here in Queensland from 100% Australian hormone-free beef and chicken.

NEW VARIETIES

In 2015 IKEA added chicken and vegetable varieties to the range, to complement the traditional meatballs and offer greater choice and healthier, more sustainable options.

In the coming year, 1.5 million plates of IKEA meatballs, including traditional meatballs (KOTTBULLAR), chicken meatballs (KYCKLINGBULLAR) and veggie balls (GRÖNSAKSBULLAR), will be sold throughout Australia.

Facts about IKEA meatballs >

The IKEA meatball recipe used today was developed in 1985

The first IKEA store to sell meatballs was in Aubonne, Switzerland

All IKEA restaurants around the world have sold meatballs since 1994

IKEA added chicken and vegetable varieties in 2015

Meatballs are traditionally served with potatoes, lingonberry jam and cream sauce, and are a Swedish favourite

MSC & ASC SEAFOOD

IKEA® is now one of the largest food service providers of responsibly produced fish in the world.

As of 2014, IKEA committed to only selling seafood that is approved by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).

IKEA restaurants, bistros, and Swedish Food Markets sell sustainable seafood that is responsibly sourced from certified fisheries. With a wide range of ASC (farmed) and MSC (wild-caught) certified fish available to customers through IKEA stores globally, we are inspiring consumer choices and influencing sustainable business practices around the world.

The MSC and ASC certification programs are globally recognised as being the world’s most credible, science-based standards for sustainable and responsible seafood and ensure less water pollution, preservation of diversity of species, and good working conditions.

In Australia, IKEA has a range of certified seafood products available to consumers which include prawns, herring, Alaskan pollock, Atlantic cod and hoki.
IKEA® coffee and chocolate products are UTZ certified. Since 2007, all coffee served and sold in IKEA® stores is UTZ certified.

UTZ is the largest certification program for sustainable coffee and cocoa, with more than 445,000 coffee farmers and workers benefitting from the program.

The UTZ program enables farmers to learn better farming methods, improve working conditions and take better care of their children and the environment. It also traces the origin of commodities to ensure that crops have been produced according to the correct standards.

All IKEA UTZ certified products are traceable – customers can check the origin online at www.utz.org/IKEA

Other organic products in the IKEA Swedish Food Market include jam, chocolate and tea.

CHOKLAD MORK
100% UTZ certified cocoa

Our CHOKLAD MORK 70% dark chocolate bar was added to the range in 2011, and was the world’s first chocolate bar made with 100% UTZ certified cocoa.

RSPCA Australia Good Egg Award
IKEA Australia has been awarded a Good Egg Award from RSPCA Australia. The award recognises our commitment to improving the welfare of hens in Australia by making the switch to source free-range eggs in all of our in-store restaurants.

PÅTÅR coffee range
The new IKEA PÅTÅR coffee range includes five coffee products made from responsibly sourced, high quality 100% Arabica beans – great taste, at affordable prices. The range is both UTZ certified and EU organic.
ZERO FOOD WASTE TO LANDFILL

Our sustainability mission goes beyond the food we sell, and includes our commitment to food waste reduction in our stores.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), about one third of all the food harvested or produced around the world is lost or thrown away. That equals about 1.3 billion tonnes of food wasted per year.

At the same time, one person out of nine in the world goes hungry. One quarter of the food currently lost or wasted globally could feed 870 million hungry people in the world per annum. Being careful with resources is a core value for IKEA and food is considered too precious to be wasted.

Our sustainability mission goes beyond the food we sell and includes our commitment to waste reduction.

We are on our way to achieve our goal of zero food waste to landfill. That means all food waste generated in our stores, through the restaurants, bistros and co-worker restaurants will be recycled.

IKEA has introduced a conveyor belt system in some of our restaurants that transports customer waste to the kitchen for sorting and recycling.

Australians recognise growing their own organic fruit and vegetables as being the most sustainable food practice, followed by buying locally grown meat and produce.

ON-SITE RECYCLING

IKEA Logan and IKEA North Lakes / Queensland

IKEA has a goal to ensure that no food waste ends up in landfill, with the aim of all our stores actively recycling organic food waste from the customer restaurant, bistro and co-worker restaurant.

To meet the ‘zero food waste to landfill goal’, IKEA Logan and IKEA North Lakes both invested around $80,000 to install on-site food organics recycling equipment in 2016.

This equipment converts food waste into a high-grade fertiliser which is donated to local schools for use on their gardens and grass areas.

IKEA® has launched the ‘Food is Precious’ initiative which aims to cut in-store food waste by 50% by 2020.

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In a global movement, IKEA stores around the world will install a Smart Scale Solution to measure and report food waste in IKEA restaurants, bistros and Swedish Food Markets.

The solution is comprised of a touch screen which is connected to a floor scale that holds a waste bin to measure food waste.

The data collected will help identify ways to prevent food being thrown away and enable IKEA co-workers to find ways to prevent food waste at a local level.

IKEA Australia will be installing the Smart Scale Solution in all of its stores in the second half of 2018.
ABOUT SPACE10

The purpose of the SPACE10 lab is to bring creative minds together to come up with solutions to problems in the world’s urban centres, and explore and design new ways of living.

FUTURE INNOVATION LAB

SPACE10 is the IKEA future innovation lab based in Copenhagen, Denmark. The purpose of the lab is to bring creative design minds together to come up with solutions to problems that are emerging in the world’s urban centres.

SPACE10 mission statement
‘To enable a better, more meaningful and sustainable life for the many people. We are on a mission to explore and design new ways of living.’

SPACE10 is where we …
/ Experiment and co-create new ways of designing for a better future.
/ Look into new directions and explore emerging potentials.
/ Work with a global, collaborative network of forward-thinking partners.
/ Test new ideas and solutions in a non-commercial environment.
/ Storytell and share what we do to spark discussions, make ideas stick and move people to action.
/ Create a playground for IKEA to be inspired and connect with new opportunities.
ABOUT IKEA®

The IKEA® vision is to offer a wide range of well-designed and functional home furnishings at prices so low that the many people can afford them.

A BETTER EVERYDAY LIFE FOR THE MANY PEOPLE

Customers around the world have embraced the IKEA concept since its inception over 70 years ago. Today IKEA is the world’s largest home furnishings retailer with over 400 IKEA Group stores in 28 countries, employing more than 183,000 co-workers.

In 2016, there were a total of 915 million IKEA store visits globally, and the IKEA website was visited 2.1 billion times. Last year, the turnover for all IKEA stores was 36.4 billion euros.

Our vision is to create a better everyday life for the many people, and we offer well-designed, functional and affordable, high quality home furnishings, produced with care for people and the environment.

IKEA achieves this through clever product design, cost-effective manufacturing, buying in bulk, transporting in flat-packs and by asking the customer to do some of the work themselves.