**Company Description**

Nestlé India is a publicly listed company that sells a range of products including chocolate confectionary, noodles, dairy products and table sauces.

**Headquarters** Switzerland; Gurgaon, India

**Employees** 7,495

**Total revenues** *70,844.4 mn INR

* Source: Euromonitor

**Areas of strength**

- Nestlé India ranks number one in the Corporate Profile of the India Index with a score of 7.1.
- Nestlé India implements the global Nutrition, Health, and Wellness (N-H-W) strategy developed by its parent company. Through this strategy, Nestlé India demonstrates a commitment to integrate nutrition into its core business operations and establishes itself as an industry leader on nutrition issues in the food and beverage industry.
- Nestlé India addresses micronutrient deficiencies both through product fortification and non-commercial initiatives. For example, Nestlé India discloses that it had a partnership with the Dristheee Foundation in the past to deliver fortified products to undernourished populations in nutrition awareness camps.
- The company has a Nutrient Profiling System (NPS), developed by its parent company, that applies globally, including its Indian operations. The company discloses that the NPS was established by incorporating recommendations from relevant authorities, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Institute of Medicine in the United States and the European Food Safety Authority. Nestlé SA’s global NPS was published in the European Journal of Nutrition in February 2016. This high degree of transparency allows consumers and other stakeholders to assess the NPS.
- Nestlé India is an industry leader with respect to strategies to make its healthy products accessible to low-income populations. Nestlé India commits to the Popularly Positioned Products (PPP) strategy developed by its parent, PPPs are designed with the explicit intention of being accessible to less affluent populations.
- Nestlé India, like Nestlé SA, is an industry leader with respect to providing facilities that support breastfeeding mothers at work – it offers safe, private rooms to express milk, provides refrigerators to store expressed breast milk, and allows breaks and/or flexible working hours. Nestlé India also has a strong maternity leave policy that allows women to take six months or more of paid maternity leave.

**Areas for improvement**

- As noted, Nestlé India applies the NPS of its parent company. It claims that 94% of the products it sells in India meet its healthy standard. However, Nestlé India ranks seventh on the Product Profile with a score of 2.9 out of ten, and was estimated to derive only 6% of its 2015 food sales from healthy products, i.e. achieve a Health Star Rating of 3.5 stars or more, the threshold for healthy. This implies that the company’s NPS should be strengthened and that the company has many opportunities to improve the healthiness of its portfolio.
- While Nestlé India has an existing range of fortified products for children over 2, it could also look at developing new fortified products for other undernourished groups, such as women of childbearing age.
- Nestlé India is encouraged to move towards exclusively supporting nutrition education and active lifestyle programs developed by independent expert organizations, and commissioning and publishing independent evaluations of such programs.
- Nestlé India could improve its back-of-pack nutritional labeling to bring it fully into line with Codex recommendations. The George Institute found that only 61% of the company’s labels currently comply with such recommendations.
- With respect to BMS marketing, Nestlé India demonstrated a high level of compliance with the Indian IMS Act and The Code in the IGBM-based study conducted in Mumbai over the summer of 2016. Two informational and educational materials produced by the company were found in healthcare facilities, which are prohibited by the IMS Act.

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**Access to Nutrition Index**

**BMS** Assessed against the BMS methodology

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Note

Sustainalytics has produced the scoring and ranking of company performance for the Corporate Profile of the India Access to Nutrition Index. Sustainalytics contributed to the report and company scorecards for the Index, and engaged with food and beverage companies as part of the data collection and analysis process.

The George Institute (TGI) is responsible for the data collection for the Product Profile assessment in India. TGI is also responsible for the analysis of the data related to the Product Profile and the TGI Product Profile final report, the results of which have been incorporated by ATNF into the 2016 India Access to Nutrition report and the scoring of company performance for the same Index.

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