

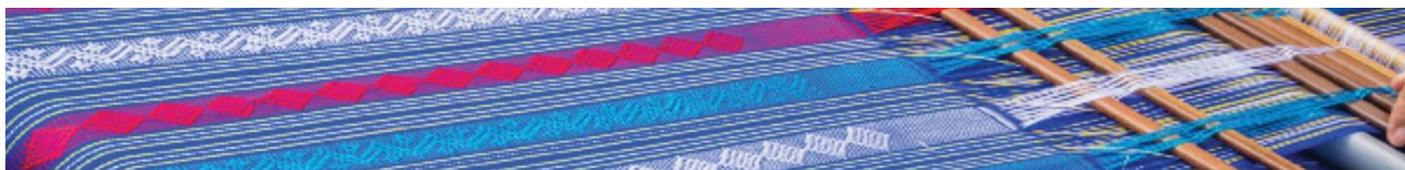


Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030 South Asia

2017 & 2018

Initiative for Business and its key stakeholders





Background

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) embrace a universal approach to the sustainable development agenda. They explicitly call on business to use creativity and innovation to address development challenges and present significant leadership opportunities for companies to develop impactful sustainability strategies. Contributing to the SDGs, positions companies to avoid future risks, take a competitive stance on solving key issues, and meet stakeholder expectations while enhancing their reputations. The interconnectedness of SDGs to business strategies, position companies well to establish and improve resilience and competitiveness.

GRI is the bridge between businesses and governments, enabling them both to make positive contributions to the UN SDGs. Business and government leaders can agree with international principles, but without guidance on how to put them into practice, little can be accomplished. GRI supports decision makers who are committed to achieving the SDGs. At the global level, UN Global Compact and GRI are inviting leading businesses and other key stakeholders to join the Reporting on SDG Action Platform, to help influence a greater multi-stakeholder movement that will play a pivotal role shaping the future of corporate reporting on the SDGs. Following on this, GRI South Asia and CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development are getting together to start a regional ground-breaking initiative, Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030, focused on South Asian countries for the years 2017 & 2018.

The SDG Agenda 2030 South Asia will bring the complimentary strength of CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development to help business become sustainable organisations by enabling businesses to mitigate risks and identify growth opportunities, thus becoming future ready, aligning big picture, principle-based approaches with the reality of data-driven reporting.

Convening Partners

GRI South Asia: GRI is an international independent organization that has pioneered corporate sustainability reporting since 1997. GRI helps businesses, governments, and other organizations understand and communicate the impact of business on critical sustainability issues. GRI South Asia's main focus is to mainstream sustainability and transparency alongside rapid economic growth.

CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development: It is an industry-led institution which helps business become sustainable organisations through its knowledge, action, and recognition portfolio, and its role as an all-inclusive ecosystem player, partnering industry, government, and civil society.

About SDG Agenda 2030 South Asia

The two year regional initiative ties into the global process of GRI that aims to:

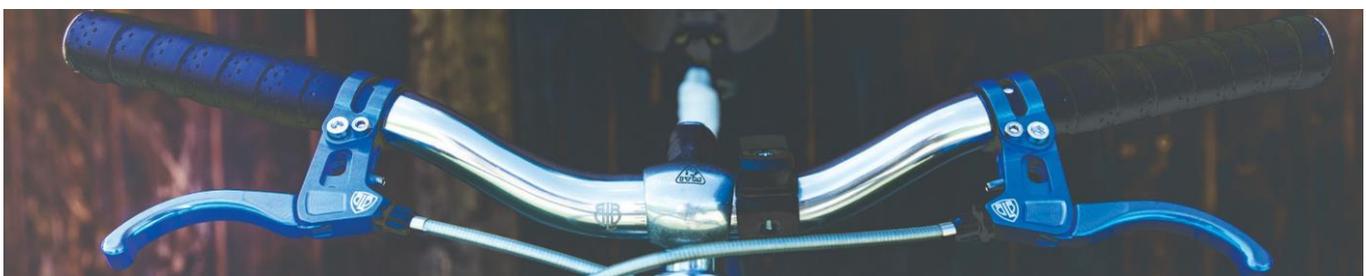
- Define and promote business contribution to SDGs.
- Convene the regional leaders to shape the reporting requirements of SDGs.
- Facilitate businesses leadership on SDGs through periodic dialogue forum.
- Imbibe business stewardship for results embodying innovation, accountability and partnership.

The approach will be based on:

- Structured eight online and face to face interactions with high level global and regional experts.
- Continuous engagement with professional team members of GRI South Asia and CII-ITC Centre Excellence for Sustainable Development.
- Exchange of global developments and regional consultations in periodic manner through two years.
- Sharing of reading materials and publications.

The value proposition

- Understand all 17 SDGs in the business context to South Asian region based on internationally acclaimed content through the exploratory dialogue forum.
- Access to knowledge pool from multi-stakeholder steering committee, regional experts and peers on all 17 SDGs through the two years' initiative.
- Assess the interconnection between SDGs, business risks and opportunities to drive stewardship for delivering high impact results.
- Build capacity for integrating SDGs in sustainability reporting with special focus on mapping.
- Engage with government to share outcomes of exploratory dialogue forum connecting private sector contribution to national agenda on SDGs.
- Contribute to the global list of business disclosures on the SDGs, to be presented during the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- Nomination of best practices of SDG reporting for Handbook publication to be presented at the UN General Assembly.
- Demonstrate leadership to SDG contribution during all the eight dialogue forum and build on summary reports for potential promotion amongst GRI global network.



How to engage

As **Corporate Members** - leading companies like BSI India, GAIL (India) Limited, ITC Limited, JSW Steel, Jubilant Lifesciences, Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, and TCS are already part of the SDG Agenda. 2030 South Asia initiative.

You can join as:

- Lead Corporate Member
- Corporate Member

Or **Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee Member** - Membership is by invitation only and will be extended to thought leaders representing businesses, governments, civil society organisations, and academia.

Key Milestones & Timelines

Jun –Jul 2017	Dialogue Forum 1- Introduction to SDGs & shaping the list of business disclosure - UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development -Best practice for business on SDG reporting	MSC Interaction	DF 1- Summary Report; Inputs to the list of business disclosures & report on private sector narratives
Aug- Sep 2017	Dialogue Forum 2- Corporate Leadership, Innovation & action; SDG on poverty & economic growth	MSC & MAC Interaction	DF 2- Summary Report
Oct 2017	Dialogue Forum 3 - Investor Expectations for SDG & company Self-Assessment; Learnings from UN High Level Political Forum: Expected business disclosures; Learnings from Handbook Publication,		DF 3- Summary Report
Dec 2017	Dialogue Forum 4- SDG on Food Security; Health; Equality; Education	MSC Interaction	DF 4- Summary Report
Apr 2018	Dialogue Forum 5 - Stakeholder Inclusiveness and role for business and civil society leaders.		DF 5- Summary Report
Jun 2018	Dialogue Forum 6-SDG on Management of natural resource.	MSC & MAC Interaction	DF 6- Summary Report
Aug 2018	Dialogue Forum 7 - SDG on Efficiency in the production of goods & services.	MSC Interaction	DF 7- Summary Report
Aug 2018	Dialogue Forum 8 - Reporting on Corporate Performance; The SDGs review of progress	MSC & MAC Interaction	SDG Agenda 2030 SA- Final Report

*Venue: Mumbai/Delhi/Online



Benefits of Corporate Members

We would like to invite your organization to steer and collaborate with GRI South Asia and CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development for the success of the ground breaking two year initiative 'SDG Agenda 2030 South Asia' as the Corporate Member. The benefits that can be accrued to support this two year initiative are the following:

Position your company at the forefront of SDG action and innovation in the global stage of the UN towards addressing key sustainable development challenges of the region:

- Opportunity to shape the global list of business disclosures on the SDGs, to be presented during the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- Potential nomination of best practices of SDG reporting from your organization for Handbook publication to be presented at the UN General Assembly.
- Membership to Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee (MSC).
- Logo positioning in all the regional events, MSC meetings, 8 Exploratory Dialogue Forums.
- Logo positioning in all outreach and technical publications of the South Asian region that will evolve from the initiative.
- Represent the business community and engage with policy makers and capital market institution through close group discussion.

Inspire & Demonstrate commitments to SDGs as the regional/ national leader amongst business and governmental sector:

- Potential opportunity to showcase examples of actions by your organization in environmental, social dimensions, financial inclusion through presentations in all the 8 exploratory dialogue forums of the initiative for two years.
- Engage with government to share outcomes of exploratory dialogue forums connecting private sector contribution to national agenda on SDGs in collaboration with GRI South Asia and CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development.

Access to Knowledge from GRI, an international organization of global repute and the premiere business association of India CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development to apply creativity and innovation towards addressing key sustainable development challenges in the region:

- Access to knowledge pool from multi-stakeholder steering committee, regional experts and peers on all 17 SDGs and reporting through the two years initiative.
- Nominate two staff to participate and engage in the eight exploratory dialogue forums spread over two years of the initiative.

- Nominate two staff to participate in Transformational Leadership workshop series which will help your organization receive learning tools and techniques that will help develop leaders who are committed to transforming their organizations, institutions and societies by meaningful action that can alter societal systems and structures - thereby generating sustainable solutions for the most pressing challenges.

Recognised Learning, Brand building and Networking opportunities:

- Access to closed group meeting with a member of GRI's Executive Management Team during his/her visit to India.
- One complimentary seat in all paid events and workshops of GRI South Asia on GRI Standards.
- Potential speaking opportunity in major Indian and South Asian forums.

For Further Information Contact

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