



CII-ITC Centre of Excellence  
for Sustainable Development



Confederation of Indian Industry

16th

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**SUMMIT 2021**



**Building a Resilient Future**

Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance

2-3 September 2021

**OUTCOME REPORT**



**CII-ITC Centre of Excellence  
for Sustainable Development**

## VISION

Be a global leader, in thought and action, to drive transformation, towards sustainable development.

## MISSION

To catalyse innovative ideas and solutions in India, and globally, to enable business, and its stakeholders, in sustainable value creation.

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# Programme

Date & Time (IST)	11-12 noon	12-1 pm		1:10-2:10 pm	2:10-3:10 pm		3:20-4:20 pm	4:20-5:20 pm		5:30-6:30 pm	6:30-7 pm									
2 September (Thursday)	Inaugural: Building a Resilient Future	Building Resilience through Technology	B R E A K	Building a Sustainable Enterprise	Responsible Recruitment: Critical Role in Sustainable Development	B R E A K	Women Leading in Sustainable Development	Finance for Sustainable Growth	B R E A K	Climate Change: Road to COP26										
					Sustainable Value Chain		Roadmap for Building Deforestation Free Supply Chains													
					Virtual Exhibitions															
					Virtual B2B meetings															
3 September (Friday)	India Plastics Pact (IPP) Launch	Race to Zero	B R E A K	Transition to Renewable Energy – Policy and Implementation Approaches for 2030	Water Security	B R E A K	Action for Preserving Biodiversity	Protecting Marine Ecosystem	B R E A K	Circular Economy: Building Partnerships for the Transition	Concluding Session									
					Reporting and Disclosures		Accelerating Markets-based Measures and Sustainable Business Models for Clean Air					Clean Transport	Mainstreaming ESG							
					Virtual Exhibitions															
					Virtual B2B meetings															

Plenary

Panel discussion

Exhibitions

B2B



## Executive Summary

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The unprecedented global crisis caused by the pandemic is a wake-up call that has demonstrated nature's ultimate power over lives and societies; the urgent need to respect and safeguard the environment. Global environmental emergencies such as climate change and biodiversity loss could cause social and economic damages far larger than those caused by the pandemic.

The **16th Sustainability Summit**, with the theme of **Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology and Finance**, was designed to bring to fore captivating deliberations and intellectual insights to deliver ambitious actions for a resilient future. Emphasizing the interconnectedness between elements of physical, social, natural, financial, and human capital, the 2-day flagship event, was attended by 800 participants, of which 31% were female participants. Given the remote nature of the flagship event this year, out of all the speakers, 25% were international & 27% female speakers.

The virtual event hosted eminent national and international speakers, who shared their diverse perspectives and domain knowledge on this platform. Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India; H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto, Ambassador, European Union to India; Ms. Lea Wermelin, Minister of Environment, Government of Denmark; Shri Suresh Prabhu, Member of Parliament; H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis, High Commissioner to India, British High Commission; H.E. Freddy Svane, Danish Ambassador to India; Mr. Sanjiv Puri, Chairman, Advisory Council, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited; Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry; Mr. Jamshyd Godrej, Chairman, CII Climate Change Council and Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited; Mr. Nigel Topping, High Level Champion for Climate Action, COP26; Ms. Tanya Steele, CEO, WWF UK; Ms. Priya Subbaraman, Chief Regulatory Officer, National Stock Exchange and Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Executive Director, SEBI; were among the key dignitaries to grace the occasion.

The Summit also marked the high-profile launch of the India Plastics Pact, the first in Asia and 12th worldwide. A joint initiative between the Confederation of Indian Industry and WWF India, this Pact is supported by WRAP, a global NGO based in the UK. 17 businesses including major FMCG brands, manufacturers, retailers, and recyclers committed to the India Plastics Pact as founding members, and 10 joined as supporting organisations at the Summit on 3rd September.

This year, 23 different organisations came together to partner the Summit.



Some highlights from the dynamic discussions:

- Climate change, sustainable finance, carbon pricing, sectoral Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), incentivizing investment in green technology, ESG and nature-based solutions have emerged as key issues from the 16th Sustainability Summit
- The immediate imperative is to adopt solutions that finance sustainability agenda, facilitate transition to a carbon-neutral future, slow biodiversity loss, and increase circularity and inclusivity. This was reflected in sessions such as Building Resilience through Technology, Sustainable Value Chain, Building a Sustainable Enterprise, Race to Zero, Protecting Marine Ecosystem among others
- Sustainability has become one of the most critical agendas in boardrooms everywhere across the world, as it should be. No longer seen as a checkbox effort that is confined to a corporate social responsibility committee, businesses are realizing its importance and constantly gearing up to get it right. The sessions on Mainstreaming ESG, Reporting and Disclosures, Women Leading in Sustainable Development; and Responsible Recruitment: Critical Role in Sustainable Development, brought forth deliberations on the same
- Despite effects of covid pandemic, environmental issues continue to be a significant part of the global agenda and India is also taking serious efforts to develop a robust SDG localization model centered on adoption, implementation, and monitoring at state and central level
- Subsidies on adapting newer technologies like hydrogen & carbon capture, consistency on internal carbon price, investments in R&D, disclosures on emissions, working with value chains, setting targets around reducing plastic packaging, increasing recycling, adaptation of technologies from developed nations, nature-based solutions etc., can help achieve a resilient and sustainable future at a faster pace. The launch of the India Plastics Pact along with sessions on Circular Economy: Building Partnerships for Transition; Roadmap for Building Deforestation Free Supply Chains; Accelerating Markets-based Measures and Sustainable Business Models for Clean Air and Transition to Renewable Energy: Policy and Implementation Approaches for 2030 addressed such issues
- India and EU are working together on a variety of topics related to sustainable development including EU-India water partnership. As also highlighted in the sessions, Climate Change: Road to COP26 and Agenda for a Sustainable Future, the EU-India climate and energy partnership shall work together in view of critical international landmark events in the months ahead, starting with COP26

Deliberations at the Summit are summarised as the outcome report. The report highlights the challenges and solutions discussed in all the sessions. It is a compendium of perspectives from different stakeholders on driving innovation by leveraging science, technology, and finance.



## Dignitaries' Speak

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*“Contribution of agriculture to Indian economy is important. The present agricultural policies are striving to increase farmer incomes & reduce the impact of climate change”*

**Shri Narendra Singh Tomar**, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India



*“The one-of-its-kind Green Strategic Partnership b/w India & Denmark will bring green growth and ensure job creation. Denmark is committed to work with India to make future green and resilient”*

**Ms. Lea Wermelin**, Minister of Environment, Government of Denmark



*“Building Resilience through Technology is important, but each technology should pass at least one ethical collective test, that addresses environmental and sustainability issues”*

**Shri Suresh Prabhu**, Six Times Member of Parliament



## Dignitaries' Speak

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*“As we reset the economy to bring back jobs and growth post Covid, we need to put the economy on a sustainable & circular growth path”*

**H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto**, Ambassador, European Union to India



*“Collaborative efforts by both public and private sectors are required for achieving ambitious NDCs by nations. 4000 businesses have already committed to race to zero, making up for about 70% of the world”*

**Mr. Nigel Topping**, High Level Champion for Climate Action, COP26



*“Plastics problem is a global one & we have to deal with it together. Through joint efforts by CII, WWF India, the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), UK Research and Innovation, and members of the India Plastics Pact, this first of its kind initiative in Asia will complement India’s other bold initiatives in the renewables sector and efforts to limit single-use plastics”*

**H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis**, High Commissioner to India, British High Commission



## Key Speaker Comments

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*“Understanding links between Agriculture and Climate Change can bring positive solutions. Urgent, purposive and large-scale action is required now to tackle climate crisis”*

**Mr. Sanjiv Puri**, Chairman, Advisory Council, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited



*“Indian Industry has shown its mettle in adapting and reconfiguring in a severe crisis situation. A competitive and sustainable industry must now assume a lead role for a green and resilient future”*

**Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee**, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry



*“Effects of climate change are going to be devastating. India has done quite a bit but more needs to be done in the power sector. Technologies with the right policies are the need of the hour”*

**Mr. Jamshyd Godrej**, Chairman, CII Climate Change Council and Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited



*“There is a multiplicity of sustainability disclosures globally. This is a challenge, but we are moving towards a convergence of different frameworks. There is a need to have a global standard and India’s legislative intent is ahead of the curve, w.r.t Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report”*

**Mr Amarjeet Singh**, Executive Director, SEBI



*“Corporates and their boards have started pushing companies towards adoption of better ESG metrics. With better returns, the Nifty100 ESG index has outperformed Nifty 50 and Nifty 100, reflecting that stakeholders are in favour of better disclosures”*

**Ms Priya Subbaraman**, Chief Regulatory Officer, National Stock Exchange



*“EV policies are not just for environment, but to attract investors as well. With the initial inhibition melting down in the electric mobility space, our next step is directed towards building charging”*

**Mr Sudhendu J Sinha**, Adviser, Infrastructure Connectivity & Electric Mobility, NITI Aayog



*“Much more is expected from industry side to control emissions in a holistic way. Adoption & effective implementation of strategies of circular economy by more & more businesses will be the solution”*

**Mr Avinash Mishra**, Adviser Natural Resources & Environment, NITI Aayog



*“The India Plastics Pact is about action on one of the world’s most pressing environmental issues and WRAP is delighted to be able to share our expertise with CII and WWF-India. This important new programme will drive forward coordinated action to deliver ambitious targets”*

**Mr. Marcus Gover**, CEO, WRAP



*“There is a need to shift more and more businesses to commit to SBTi targets,if we want to reach the 2030 goals in the coming decade. We need India to bring their very best game at COP26”*

**Ms Tanya Steele**, Chief Executive, WWF UK



*“Challenge of dealing with plastics is going to be considerably difficult because of its ubiquity. Coherent action on circularisation of plastics, innovation & research are critical”*

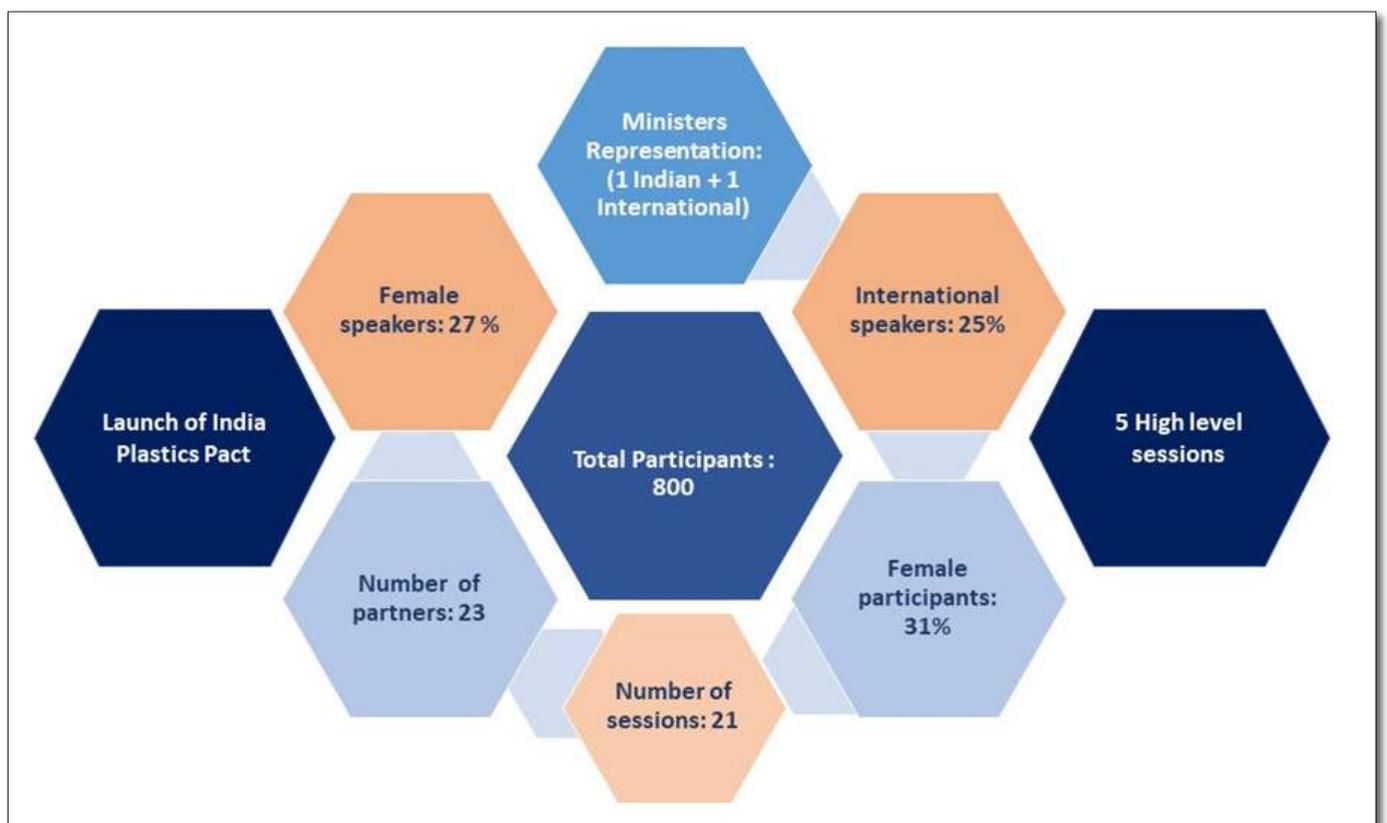
**Professor Sir Duncan Wingham**, Executive Chair of the Natural Environment Research Council



## Summit Overview

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- 107 speakers were a part of the Summit
- 1 Indian and 1 International Minister
- 27% female speakers
- 19 CEOs and MDs at the Summit
- 800 participants attended the Summit
- Launch of the India Plastics Pact
- 23 Partners
- 21 thought provoking sessions

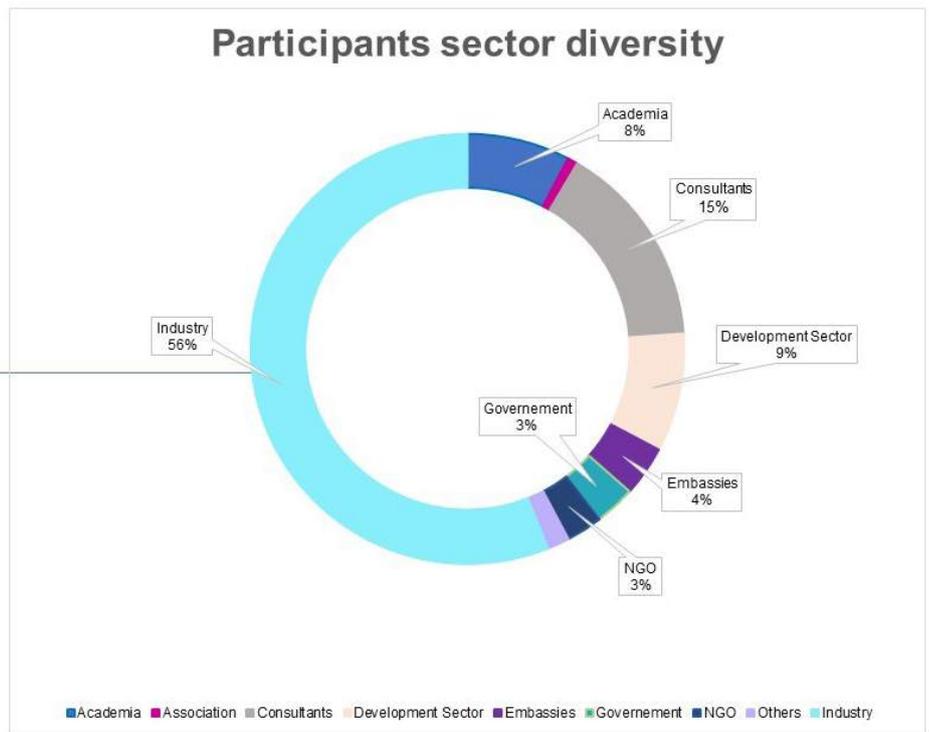




# Participants Overview

- 800 participants attended the Summit
- 31% female participants at the Summit

Industry Sectors
Agriculture
Automotive
Cement
Chemicals
Conglomerate
Construction
E-commerce
Electronics & Technology
Energy
Food & Beverage
FMCG
Health
Information Technology
Logistics & Supply Chain
Metal & Mining
Oil & Gas
Packaging





# Press Release Imagery



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**News**

**India to be the first Asian Country to launch a plastics pact**

Our Bureau | New Delhi | Updated on September 03, 2021

India generates 9.46 million tonnes of plastic waste annually - REUTERS

WWF India, CII join hands to develop platform to promote a circular system for plastics

World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have joined hands to develop a platform to



**DT NEXT**  
FOR THE NEW AGE READER  
Wed, Sep 22, 2021

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## Govt serious in dealing with farm sector challenges: Tomar

Published: Sep 02, 2021 06:04 PM by PTI

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*Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Thursday said the government is serious in tackling all the challenges faced by India's farm sector, including the impact of climate change.*



Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar (File Photo)

**New Delhi:** Addressing the 16th Sustainability Summit of industry body CII, the minister said along with climate change, there are other challenges in the agriculture sector.

**THE FINANCIAL**

MARKETS

## India to become first Asian country to launch a Plastics Pact

by The FINANCIAL · September 3, 2021  
9 mins read



**T**he FINANCIAL — UK partners with India to deliver a circular plastics economy. India has become the first Asian country to develop a plastics pact, launching a ground-breaking new initiative to bring together leading businesses at a national level to make commitments for building a circular system for plastics, UKRI notes.

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## India launches 'Plastics Pact' to limit single-use plastics



India has launched Plastics Pact, the first-of-its-kind initiative in Asia, to ensure effective recycling of plastic packaging with the support of stakeholders. By 2030, this pact aims for 100 per cent plastic packaging to be reusable or recyclable in India. Details here.



16th

**SUSTAINABILITY**  
SUMMIT 2021

**DAY 1**

2 September 2021



## Inaugural Session

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**The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar** said that “along with climate change, there are other challenges in the agriculture sector, to deal with which the Government of India is playing its role seriously. Due to the imbalance in weather, there is either drought somewhere or flood, in view of such adverse conditions, the government is completely serious. Our scientists are working very diligently for proper seeds etc”.

Union Minister Shri Tomar said this while addressing the 16th Sustainability Summit of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the Chief Guest. Shri Tomar said that the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence is being celebrated in the whole country on the call of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji to mark the completion of 75 years of independence. Shri Tomar said that even in the times of COVID crisis, India on its part has extended all possible cooperation to other countries. On the call of the Prime Minister, the campaign of vaccination is also in full swing in the country, and it is a matter of satisfaction that so far that 66 crore doses have been administered. Even during the COVID crisis, the farmers of India have worked hard, and there was a bumper production. India being an agricultural country, the agriculture sector has contributed significantly to the GDP. Shri Tomar said that under the important scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi, so far about one lakh fifty-seven thousand crore rupees have been deposited in the bank accounts of more than 11 crore farmers of the country.

He said that the Prime Minister has started the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, which will prove beneficial for other industries including food processing. To make agriculture profitable for small and medium farmers, infrastructure is being developed near the farms as part of the concrete steps of the government. In this regard, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of one lakh crore rupees has been created, through which projects are being sanctioned. Projects worth more 4000 crores have been approved. 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) will be formed in the country under the new scheme of the Center, the work of which has started. This will help the farmers a lot in terms of getting better markets and increase in incomes. It is a matter of pride for the country that we have joined the top ten in the world in terms of agricultural exports, and we want to do better. For the benefit of the farmers, the agriculture sector is being connected with state-of-the-art technology. Along with more than seventy Kisan Rails in the country, farmers are also being benefited through the Udaan Yojana.

Shri Tomar said that the Central Government, which is determined towards the upliftment of the farmers, has brought the Agriculture Reform Act, which is going to bring about a radical change in the field of agriculture. With new agricultural laws, the whole country will be an open market for farmers. In view of this, the private sector can also now invest in modern agri-business platforms, set up post-harvest facilities like godowns, cold storages, etc. This will pave the way for better facilities for the farmers



at lower charges and very important for the development of agriculture sector. These reforms have created substantial investment opportunities and have tried to bridge the gaps.

Shri Tomar said that India has a very good relationship with Denmark and it has been the constant endeavour of P M Shri Modi ji that both the countries use knowledge and technology for each other.

**Ms Lea Wermelin, Minister of Environment, Government of Denmark**, in her keynote address, said that India and Denmark have begun a new era in the form of a far reaching “Green Strategic Partnership” that will give the country a special place in delivering sustainable solutions to India. Highlighting the recently launched agreement between India and Denmark in September 2020, Ms Wermelin expressed that the high-level visits and discussions between the two nations are showing opportunities for mutual collaborations and benefits in the area of green growth and finance. Quoting Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, she said that “Denmark has the skills, India has the scale.”

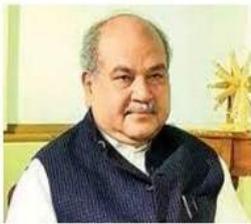
She also mentioned that in the area of providing drinking water to all households in a sustainable manner, especially catering to SDG 6, there is a partnership between Denmark and India-the Indo-Danish Water Tech Alliance.

Bringing to light the critical need of addressing sustainability challenges for a resilient future, **Mr Sanjiv Puri, Chairman and Managing Director, ITC Limited, and Chairman, Advisory Council of CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development**, stated that “climate crisis is not in the future, it is here right now and an urgent, purposive as well as large-scale action is required immediately. Corporations, as large organs of society, can play a leadership role and our responsibility is to find solutions”.

He also said that, as witnessed during the pandemic, there was quick action within a year to develop multiple vaccines where the power of science and technology was evidenced. Climate crisis also needs to be addressed in the same way.

**Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry**, in his opening remarks, said that the Indian Industry has shown its mettle in adapting and reconfiguring in a severe crisis situation. A competitive and sustainable industry must now assume a lead role in India’s future development as well as play a key role in the emerging shape of the global economy.

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/lvDfG2ONu5w>



Shri Narendra Singh Tomar  
Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
Government of India



Ms Lea Wermelin  
Minister of Environment  
Government of Denmark



Mr Sanjiv Puri  
Chairman, Advisory Council of  
CI-ITC CESD  
Chairman & MD, ITC Limited



Mr Chandrajit Banerjee  
Director General  
Confederation of Indian Industry

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India



## 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021



Ms. Lea Wermelin, Minister of Environment, Government of Denmark



Mr. Sanjiv Puri, Chairman, Advisory Council, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development and Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Limited



Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry



# Building Resilience through Technology

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## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Paul Marriott, President, SAP Asia Pacific Japan

## Keynote address

- Shri Suresh Prabhu, Six Times Member of Parliament

## Panellists

- Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Managing Director, Apraava Energy
- Shri Nagesh Shastri, Deputy Director General (Scientist-G), National Informatics Centre (NIC)
- Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Chief Sustainability Officer, Mahindra Group

The world is facing an unprecedented time. From time to time, people around the world have faced issues around economic crises, health emergencies, social conflicts, and natural disasters. It is important to understand transformations required to conserve the environment and help communities whose lives are being affected by the pandemic or climate emergency. The application of new, innovative, and disruptive technologies can be one such transformation as they are wide ranging and can help scale up solutions rather quickly. Technologies which address and offer solutions to issues of climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity loss, ocean health, water resource management, air pollution, disaster risk, waste management, energy usage, agriculture, food security, education, and livelihoods are important.

Businesses play a key role in developing and using technologies and it has become integral to connect businesses with society and laboratories to witness on-ground impact. For businesses, it is not only about profits but instead the proclivity which has shifted towards the 'triple bottom line' that refers to the planet, people, and profits. It is important to look at the possibility of technology acting as a catalyst to improve efficiency. An example can be the adoption of technologies like IoT which would further drive energy efficiency. Technology must be adopted for the 'triple bottom line' to be achieved and it is a matter of survival for businesses. Businesses that do not adopt technologies fast enough, can end up perishing.

## Challenges

### *Environmental*

- Decarbonization is seen as one of the biggest challenges in the energy sector as coal power plants and other sources of electricity production have resulted in carbon dioxide emissions
- Since the beginning of time, new technologies have been brought in which have resulted in emissions. Most technologies invented, have resulted in carbon emissions, and led to emergence



of the climate crisis and the accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

### *Technological*

- While hydrogen-based fuel technology has a lot of potential in the harder-to-abate sectors, it is yet to reach scale, to help in the production of cleaner steel, cleaner iron, and greener cement

### **Solutions**

- Applications like 'One Nation, One Ration Card', 'E-way bill' and 'E-invoice' have been successful in reducing the amount of paper usage. 'E-vahan' which is a group of electronic services for transport related tasks has reduced an individual's visits to transport offices which further helps in reducing vehicular emission. Recently, the 'Aarogya Setu' app was introduced by the government during the pandemic to help in COVID management. Further, there have been technological developments in the agriculture sector such as 'Soil Health Card' scheme along with 'e-Urvarak' (management of fertilizers) for the assistance of farmers
- As data centres spread across the country, government services are becoming available 24/7 for all citizens. The Government of India is further looking at making these data centers more energy efficient
- Electrification can be seen as a solution in several sectors like cooking and automobiles. Electric mobility has proven to be cheaper than using fossil fuels in the automobile sector. As an example, electric three-wheelers have achieved an economic advantage over fossil fuel driven three-wheelers as it much cheaper to use
- A simple mantra suggested by experts is 'electrify everything and decarbonize electricity'. Digitization and improving efficiency are seen as further improvements which can be brought about in the electrification space
- Hydrogen-based fuel technology is expected play a key role in providing solutions for the harder-to-abate sectors. The government has also introduced a 'National Mission on Hydrogen'. The usage of hydrogen in hard-to-abate sectors can help decarbonize the steel, aluminum, and cement sectors
- Business model innovations like solar films should be encouraged as they are not land-intensive in their usage as compared to solar panels
- Several offices are moving towards a set-up where they reduce their reliance on paper. This would reduce the demand for manufacturing paper which would result in lesser cutting of trees. Such small steps help businesses to build resilience through technology
- Low carbon technology would be the way forward to counter the aftermath of carbon dioxide emitting technologies which were invented in the past. As an example, Green buildings consume

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/aF-eToHfltA>



Shri Suresh Prabhu  
Six Times Member of Parliament



Mr Paul Marriott  
President  
SAP  
Asia Pacific Japan



Shri Nagesh Shastri,  
Deputy Director General  
(Scientist-G), National  
Informatics Centre (NIC)



Mr Rajiv Ranjan Mishra  
Managing Director  
CLP India



Mr Anirban Ghosh  
Chief Sustainability Officer  
Mahindra Group



Mr. Paul Marriott, President, SAP Asia Pacific Japan



Shri Suresh Prabhu, Six Times Member of Parliament



# 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021



Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Managing Director, Apraava Energy (Formerly known as CLP India)



Shri Nagesh Shastri, Deputy Director General at National Informatics Centre - India



Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Chief Sustainability Officer, Mahindra Group



# Building a Sustainable Enterprise

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## Session Moderator

Mr. Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

## Panellists

- Mr. Nandkumar Kulkarni, Director, Integrated Supply Chain, Mondelez India
- Mr. Ajit Ranade, Group Executive President and Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group
- Mr. Nitin Desai, Former Under-Secretary General, United Nations
- Mr. Anand Diwanji, Vice President - Strategy and Business Development, Materials Cluster, DSM India
- Mr. Amit Kumar, Head - Inclusive Growth, UNDP India

Sustainability has become a business imperative for any business to have ambitions and commitment to sustainability goals. Companies have set up visible action plans and have strong sustainability frameworks to deliver better and long-term financial performance. This exhibits a linkage between sustainability performance and long-term business performance of an organisation. Over the last few years, sustainability has cascaded from boardroom discussion into the KPIs of individuals and that has created an inclusive approach in organisations.

There is a focus in terms of building internal capabilities and impacts a larger ecosystem which involves suppliers, distributors, business partners as well as policy makers. Organisations are focusing on ESG, internalising sustainability in supply chains, alignment of SDGs with business strategy, and creating sustainable jobs. Sustainable finance and capacity building of MSMEs have also emerged as key themes for building a sustainable enterprise.

## Challenges

- There is a growing concern in the world, of what companies choose to invest in and how it will affect their long-term viability. There is no long-term growth prospect for coal or energy intensive industries due to the sustainability movement in the coming years
- A company's supply chain creates far greater social and environmental costs than its own operations and impacts its overall carbon footprint. Therefore, integration of sustainability becomes pertinent into supply chains, but companies are facing issues like increased costs and lack of alignment in sustainability frameworks across supply chains
- Micro, small and medium enterprises are the key contributors of economic growth. They contribute to almost half of the manufacturing output and a major number of employment opportunities but to adopt and up-scale their businesses without damaging the environment requires the most attention



- Companies have recognized SDGs as a strategic opportunity; however, challenges remain regarding internal engagement on the SDGs such as addressing negative impacts of business, understanding of the business case and engaging with the value chains
- There is growing consumer interest in sustainable products. Consumers are willing to pay more for products from a sustainable company/brand over a non-sustainable brand which is a threat for companies manufacturing unsustainable products
- Young people today, want to work with a company that has sound environmental standards and practices as well as a social conscience. Companies without a focus on sustainability may find difficulty in employee retention and recruitment in the future
- Companies need to recognise that global competitiveness will come with sustainable products and services only. A lack of ESG focus can impact several measures, including profitability, growth, regulatory and legal interventions

### Solutions

- Energy intensive companies need to consider ESG risks while making investment decisions to mobilise sustainable finance in the future
- Companies need to incorporate sustainability initiatives across their value chain to reduce environmental impact. Manufacturers must look at both upstream and downstream in the supply chain to ensure sustainable product development and taking into consideration long-term benefits, must reassess their supply chains, deploy resources, monitor complexity and bring alignment in responsibility and sustainability frameworks
- To ensure that MSMEs adopt sustainable production, there is a need to enable capital, government-industry partnership, technology and market innovations so that without compromising on profitability they turn business models into sustainable models
- Companies have already undertaken an analysis to identify priority SDGs and challenges in integration. However, there is scope to broaden the depth of analysis for effective integration of the SDGs. A detailed examination of the SDGs at a target-level is required due to their interconnected nature. Companies need to identify and take account of synergies and trade-offs between positive and negative impacts of various SDGs on their business
- Witnessing the negative impacts of unsustainable products, consumers have an increased inclination towards green products. Every corporation is going to face sustainability scrutiny while connecting and engaging with customers, suppliers or distributors in the future. Therefore, companies need to focus on responsible manufacturing and an Extended Producer Responsibility approach for customers' and other stakeholders' satisfaction
- Young people do not want to join companies which are known to be polluting and do not have sound environmental standards. Companies need to focus on sustainable products, processes and higher standards on ESG, to be rewarded by job seekers, investors and consumers in the long run
- It is important to pursue the environment, social and economic agenda along with the business agenda and finding a balance between sustainable finance, innovation, and technology. Natural and human capital investments will be critical to become sustainable and a global competitor

Session Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mcsp1-TJG9Q-&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP\\_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=17](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mcsp1-TJG9Q-&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=17)



IoT



Mr Ajit Ranade  
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Mr Nandkumar Kulkarni  
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Mr Amit Kumar  
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Mr Nitin Desai  
Former Under-Secretary  
General  
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Mr Shikhar Jain  
Deputy Head  
CII-ITC  
CESD



Mr. Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



Mr. Nandkumar Kulkarni, Director, Integrated Supply Chain, Mondelez India



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Mr. Ajit Ranade, Group Executive President and Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group

Mr. Nitin Desai, Former Under-Secretary General, United Nations



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Mr. Amit Kumar, Head - Inclusive Growth, UNDP India



# Responsible Recruitment: Critical Role in Sustainable Development

---

## Session Chairperson & Moderator

Ms. Isobel Archer, Gulf Programme Manager, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

## Panellists

- Mr. Insaf Nizam, Regional Specialist for South Asia, ILO
- Mr. Guna Subramaniam, Southeast Asia Regional Advisor, Migrant Workers Programme, IHRB
- Dr. B. Vidyadhar Ishwar, Senior Lecturer in HRM, Work and Organisation Department, Aston Business School, UK
- Ms. Shubha Sekhar, Director Human & Workplace Rights, Coca Cola

Modern slavery and exploitation of human rights have been a significant issues in India and abroad especially for migrant workers which have worsened due to COVID-19 they have been laid off by companies. Global and local supply chains are fraught with exploitative labour practices including labour trafficking, child labour as well as bonded labour. Corporate India has come a long way in terms of its seriousness, commitment, and strategic approach in addressing human rights issues while recruiting. But, there is still a lot of work required specially in the internal markets of India in the form of localization through businesses and corporate sector to identify what goes wrong while recruiting labour in their facilities and supply chains and how these specific problems can be addressed.

The ecosystem that can help encourage and sustain healthy employment practices needs participation of government, corporations and the community. Identifying discrepancies, implementation of rule of law, ensuring increased scrutiny by corporations in their supply chains and providing systemic socio-legal support to vulnerable labourers must work hand in hand to remove unfair practices.

## Challenges

- Informal, deceptive and abusive employment practices remain the key challenge wherein information on wages, working conditions and working locations is being hidden from labourers. They are forced to pay penalties and fines and are made to work in a given set of conditions with the fear of losing opportunities
- Lack of consumer pressure is another challenge where Indian consumers specifically, are less concerned about fulfilment of human rights at workplace
- Knowledge gap is adding to the plight of labourers and migrant workers. For example, we are still using 2011 census data on child labour
- Lack of strong policies on addressing issues of human rights
- Major drivers of exploitation of forced labor in global supply chains are the charging of recruitment fees from migrant workers to secure employment, passport retention and contract substitution
- Countries with high poverty and vulnerability issues have more risks of exploitation of human rights, as a result of which global supply chains end up having forced, bonded and exploited labour



## Solutions

- It is important to focus a lot on prevention while also identifying, addressing, and remediating issues
- Knowledge of recruitment practices should flow throughout organisations and supply chains, and not just in the hiring department. Good practices need to be mainstreamed throughout businesses and companies and a culture towards responsible recruitment needs to be developed
- Recruitment has to be hinged with solid migration policies and updated data on hired labour
- Mapping of the supply chains is required to be done by companies. Many leadership companies have started mapping labourers in the supply chain to check where labour is coming from and how they are recruited. Examples:
  - Pepsico has incorporated employer pays principle into their contractual agreements of their labour suppliers and recruitment agents and are monitoring compliance with their manufacturing sites through their global human rights assessment and sustainable sourcing program
  - Nestle has started a partnership with the Fair Hiring Initiative to conduct capacity building for recruitment agencies and employees. Nestle's aim in this partnership is to increase number of recruitment agents and in turn increase more responsibly recruited workers in the industry
  - Coca Cola had a responsible recruitment policy in place in 2003 and human rights policy in 2007 which was way ahead of time to focus on these areas
- Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) report contains guidance for Indian companies to adopt best practices for hiring migrant workers, guidance on work environment safety, wages to be paid regularly, basic social protection including their legal and contractual obligations
- Capacity building needs to be done in supply chains as well as internally within organisations
- Awareness needs to be raised amongst HR departments about anti-slavery practices and laws
- Corporates should make sure that not just tier 1 suppliers, but all downstream suppliers are compliant with responsible recruitment practices
- The Employer Pays Principle shall be followed where no worker should pay for a job

## Quotes

*"It is absolutely important to get the recruitment right as it is the beginning of the process of work. While there is so much focus and effort on cleaning up supply chains, if the recruitment process is faulty and flawed, then the efforts to clean up the supply chain afterwards becomes very difficult, complicated and often impossible."*

**Mr Insaf Nizam**, Regional Specialist for South Asia, ILO

*"Many of the human rights issues have their roots in poverty and inequality and this has been widened by COVID-19 pandemic which has driven home the criticality of responsible and sustainable business."*

**Ms Shubha Sekhar**, Director Human & Workplace Rights, Coca Cola

Session Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXoviNoW-B40&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP\\_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXoviNoW-B40&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=7)



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Ms. Shubha Sekhar, Regional Director Human Rights, South Asia, Middle East and Eurasia, & Global Ventures, The Coca-Cola Company



# Sustainable Value Chain

---

## Session Moderator

Ms. Swati Pandey, Senior Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

## Panellists

- Mr. Vishal Londhe, Head of Office – India, Sedex
- Mr. Sanjeev Ganesh, Executive Vice President- Procurement, Diageo
- Mr. Naresh Tyagi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd.
- Mr. Nihal Kaul, General Manager, Hero Motocorp Ltd.

Sustainability and supply chains are subjects that are well understood in themselves but connecting the dots between the two subjects is at a very nascent stage in India. Today, growing consumer awareness, investor needs, resource scarcity and changing nature of the environment are driving businesses towards seeking ways to stay sustainable and competitive. Companies are increasingly looking beyond their operations and considering opportunities to reduce environment footprint, increase resource efficiency and decrease human rights violations across the value chain.

## Challenges

### *Regulatory*

- Current sustainability related legislations predominantly focus on environmental initiatives. It is crucial that legislations also address social and governance issues
- companies should be encouraged to not just comply but go beyond compliance

### *Financial*

- Businesses feel that if their sustainability issues are publicised, their earnings will be affected

### *Social*

- In industries such as the apparel industry, most of the supply chain is based in developing and under-developed countries where there are higher forced labour and child labour risks as well as lower wages



### *Environmental*

- Many supply chains are not resource efficient and hence lead to increased resource consumption which can have adverse effects on the environment
- Scope 3 emissions of a business are often nearly 5 times larger than its Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. This shows that the extended value chain can have severe environmental impacts

### *Technological*

- One of the challenges that businesses face is supplier mapping. Businesses that do not have the resources to do a thorough mapping of suppliers tend to focus only on tier 1 suppliers. Subcontracting also makes it difficult to map suppliers
- Businesses may not have the resource base required to integrate sustainability into their value chains. There is a lack of platforms for capacity building

### **Solutions**

- In May 2021, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a circular containing the format of the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR), covering disclosure requirements from environmental, social and governance perspectives. Such regulations provide a key push for businesses to integrate sustainability into their value chains
- Several businesses have taken initiatives to integrate sustainability into their value chains. Hero MotoCorp's Green Vendor Development Programme has resulted in the company saving around 270 lakh units of energy, 500 million liters of water and 184 MT of waste
- Companies can use risk assessment tools such as Sedex's Radar to assess risks across their value chain and work towards addressing them
- Engagement with all stakeholders, especially suppliers, is crucial to build sustainable value chains. Businesses should move beyond focusing on tier 1 suppliers and use their leverage to integrate sustainability into the entire value chain
- Suppliers that are compliant with various sustainability requirements should be incentivized by businesses
- Ensuring sustainability targets are met is not something that can be done by a single team in a company. Cross-collaboration between the various factions of a company is also required
- Consumers are increasingly willing to spend more money on products that are produced sustainably. It is important to engage with consumers to enhance sustainability by closing the loop
- More awareness and capacity building are required to progress towards meeting sustainability targets and making value chains more sustainable

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/dAPRRPuF6j4>



Mr Vishal Londhe  
Head of office-India  
Sedex



Mr Naresh Tyagi  
Chief Sustainability Officer  
Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail  
Ltd |



Mr Sanjeev Ganesh  
Executive Vice President- Procurement  
Diageo India



Mr Nihal Kaul  
General Manager  
Hero Motocorp Ltd



Ms Swati Pandey  
Senior Counsellor  
CI-ITC CESD

Ms. Swati Pandey, Senior Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



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Mr. Naresh Tyagi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd

Mr. Nihal Kaul, General Manager, Hero Motocorp Ltd



# Women Leading in Sustainable Development

---

## Session Chairperson & Moderator

Ms. Madhulika Sharma, Chief Corporate Sustainability, Tata Steel India

## Panellists

- Ms Alka Talwar, Chief CSR & Sustainability Officer, Tata Chemicals Limited
- Ms Rumjhum Chatterjee, Group Managing Director & Head - Human Capital, Feedback Infra Group
- Ms Preet Dhupar, Chief Financial Officer, IKEA Group India
- Ms Anju Mary K, Head - India Corporate Communications, CSR and Sustainability, Danfoss India

Over the years women have proven to be leaders and have been transforming lives and livelihoods for building resilience and the well-being of society. Therefore, women will play a vital role in achieving the targets of sustainability and gender equality. Women have the power of inclusion and innovation and they can influence effective changes.

Research shows that especially in the COVID 19 pandemic, women have led better programmes as well as management of critical situations. It is also seen that women in leading positions have driven effective, strong, and long-term action plans for sustainability. Today women leaders are the catalysts of change in shaping sustainable and resilient solutions. Decision-making at the level of Boards has improved qualitatively by women participation and the diversity is leading to better outcomes. Thus, women bring in quantitative and qualitative improvements among decision makers.

Sustainability comes naturally to women and they have a natural tendency towards nature and climate consciousness. Circular economy has been an age-old practice with women and their participation has always proven to bring effective measures and solutions to multiple issues. Climate change needs to include women leading w.r.t integration of sustainable practices, identification of traditional solutions, and transfer of knowledge to the next generation. Women from farming, construction, education, and the health sector can bring in improved performance across these sectors.

## Challenges

- Women participation in lead roles has been a constant challenge. Stringent approaches are needed to enable more women to compete for leadership roles
- Grassroot level awareness and enabling ecosystems are important to bring gender equality across society and businesses
- The three pillars of sustainability- climate, nature, and social equality play an important role. Bringing in equality for women, at the social level is a critical challenge



- Managing diversity at the corporate level alone is not enough, human capital of women makes a big contribution and given that 65% of the population resides in villages, the gap in social equality is huge
- In India there are sector specific challenges (especially in the unorganized sectors and in sectors like agriculture) with respect to unequal pays, lack of infrastructure and instruments/mechanisms to overcome gender inequality/social inequities
- Gender equality requires influencing behavioral, and mindset change. Awareness among youth is important to address the issues of social equality

### Solutions

- SDGs are core to sustainability and based on Gender Equality, all other SDGs need focus through the same lens
- Providing a fair chance of education and empowerment will support equal competence among work force
- Solutions for education and health for women need to include perspectives of both women and men to ensure a holistic approach and create awareness that it is not an only a woman-centric issue but needs equal efforts for a better future
- For more women to come at the forefront and lead, there is need for bringing in an understanding about the strengths, capabilities and roles women can play to drive strong changes. They need to be given opportunities to share their voices and views equally
- When it comes to decision making, and boardroom discussions, women have proven to navigate long-term vision and effective initiatives/programmes
- There is a need to develop individual & community ownership programmes leading to job creation, livelihood enhancement, grassroot level interventions and better living standards
- Curating specific programmes at the corporate level and for community level engagement will provide opportunities for women participation
- Collaboration with government and local authorities is required create self-help groups to motivate and move women forward
- Policy interventions for continuation of education and women returning to employment will bring in a huge change at social level
- Job creation with involvement of women leaders and encouraging them based on their capability, beyond education qualification will improve women empowerment
- Identifying community level challenges and involving youth and women driven start-ups will support in addressing many issues

Session Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRc96c8snGo>



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Ms Madhulika Sharma  
Chief Corporate Sustainability  
Tata Steel Limited



Ms Rumjhum Chatterjee  
Group Managing Director &  
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Feedback Infra Group



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Chief CSR & Sustainability  
Officer  
Tata Chemicals Limited



Ms Anju Mary K  
Head India Corporate  
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The screenshot shows a live stream interface for the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021. At the top, it features the event title '16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021' and the theme 'Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance' for the dates 2-3 September 2021. Logos for CIH-TC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development and CII Confederation of Indian Industry are present. The interface is divided into several sections: 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH' (listing UN, UK Government, etc.), 'SUPPORTED BY' (NSE), 'PARTNERS' (Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Team Sweden, UK Research and Innovation, wrap), 'PLATINUM PARTNERS' (Tata, Hindustan Zinc, Mondelez, SAP), 'DIAMOND PARTNERS' (EU, Grundfos, Rio Tinto, Tata Steel, WWF), 'GOLD PARTNERS' (giz, etc.), and 'SILVER PARTNERS' (Danfoss, Fincham, SBI, Sedex). A 'LIVE' indicator is visible in the top left of the video frame. At the bottom, a row of logos for Danfoss, Fincham, Sedex, SBI, Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Team Sweden, UK Research and Innovation, wrap, and NS is displayed.

Ms. Madhulika Sharma, Chief Corporate Sustainability, Tata Steel India



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# Roadmap for Building Deforestation Free Supply Chains

---

## Session Chairperson & Moderator

Ms. Karishma Vohra, Senior Expert – Commodities and Sustainable Supply Chain, WWF India

## Panellists

- Ms. Vidya Soundarajan, Director – Footprints, WWF India
- Mr. S N Venkataraman, Executive VP – Marketing and Commercial, ITC PSPD
- Mr. Girish Deshpande, Sustainability Director, P&G
- Ms. Lilian Wang, Impact and Engagement Director, Arisaig Partners
- Mr. Ramnath Vaidyanathan, Head – Environmental Sustainability, Godrej Group

Forests are essential for human survival with their carbon sequestration benefits. 30 million people are directly dependent on forests for their jobs, but we are still losing 13 million hectares of forest every year. 80% of the earth's original forests have already been destroyed and clearing of forests opens us up to millions of zoonotic diseases. India is one of the fastest growing consumer markets in the world, and the growing demand is responsible for an increasing rate of deforestation across commodities such as soya bean oil, palm oil, timber, pulp and paper, and natural rubber. Growing consumption is outstripping domestic production leading to a significant reliance on imports. Thus, India holds a critical position in the forest product chain with growing potential to influence forest management in a wide range of countries.

## Challenges

- Last minute traceability is a biggest challenge for companies who use forest-based products in their supply chain. They are able to get refinery level data for about 100% of the suppliers, up to 85% at the mill level, but when it comes to actual plantation available data reduces to 30-35%. Unless that is available there is no way of knowing that the product is transparently 100% certified sustainable
- For companies producing palm oil, climate change is a huge risk. Severe temperature results in much smaller palm fruit, which affects the productivity. This leads to a price fluctuation of around 20-40%
- We need policies that incentivise sustainable production, as any loss in productivity due to external factors (such as climate change) results in a big hit to businesses
- There is no incentive from the government for businesses to be sustainable other than that it is tying in with their internal targets
- Consumer awareness is a huge challenge. How do we drive consumer awareness to ensure that they know some of the materials have been responsibly sourced, and it creates a benefit for them and their future?



## Solutions

- Reversing deforestation requires efforts from stakeholders across the value chain including policy makers, companies, financial institutions, and consumers
- P&G has a Palm Forest Positive programme, that has three components:
  - Responsible sourcing: laid down expectations for all suppliers on how they will meet their RSPO criteria
  - Compliance monitoring: a monitoring programme not only for environment but for social aspects as well
  - Partnership and Force for Good: a comprehensive policy programme that not only encompasses the supply chain, but goes beyond. They are working on how to create a positive impact for communities, climate protection, biodiversity and species
- Arisaig Partners, an investment management firm as a part of their due diligence before investing in a company, consider a company's strategy, policies, disclosures and performances w.r.t what they consider to be material environmental, social and governance issues
- ITC's paperboard and speciality paper division has a successful agroforestry programme. They get all their wood from agroforestry plantations which are grown from small and medium scale farmers. They grow short cycle species of wood which are farmed on marginal lands of farmers where they don't grow cash or cereal crops with a four-year rotation period
- Standards and certificates will help create a sustainable supply chain
- In order to have a deforestation free supply chains we need to:
  - Make commitments and set targets for nature
  - Take action for nature
  - Monitor the actions and report progress

## Quotes

*“Cheap free imports are no longer the alternative, there are lots of disruption to supply chains, and people are going to depend more and more on more sustainable, viable, local supply chains.”*

**Mr. S N Venkataraman**, Executive VP – Marketing and Commercial, ITC PSPD

*“With increasing pressure on governance from climate change perspective as well as biodiversity perspective, to hold deforestation we think there will be increase in regulations in this space, and as a result companies that manage this risk perfectly and act early, we believe will have a competitive advantage in future.”*

**Ms. Lilian Wang**, Impact and Engagement Director, Arisaig Partners

*“Our intention here is to join forces with other industry partners to drive positive impact in the world.”*

**Mr. Girish Deshpande**, Sustainability Director, P&G

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/TR7X1RPorNc>



Ms Karishma Vohra  
Senior Expert –  
Commodities and  
Sustainable Supply  
Chain, WWF India



Ms Vidya Soundarajan,  
Director – Footprints  
WWF India



Mr S N Venkataraman  
Executive VP –  
Marketing and Commercial  
ITC PSPD



Mr Grish Deshpande  
Sustainability Director  
P&G



Ms Lilian Wang  
Impact & Engagement Director  
Arsaig Partners



Mr Ramnath Vaidyanathan  
Head Environmental  
Sustainability, Godrej  
Group

Ms. Karishma Vohra, Senior Expert – Commodities and Sustainable Supply Chain, WWF India



16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021

Participants are encouraged to visit the Exhibition Hall and the B2B Lounge

Ms. Vidya Soundarajan, Director – Footprints, WWF India

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Mr. S N Venkataraman, Executive VP – Marketing and Commercial, ITC PSPD



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**GOLD PARTNERS**  
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**SILVER PARTNERS**  
 FINCHAM, SBI, Sedex

Mr. Girish Deshpande, Sustainability Director, P&G

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Ms. Lilian Wang, Impact and Engagement Director, Arisaig Partners



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Mr. Ramnath Vaidyanathan, Head – Environmental Sustainability, Godrej Group



# Finance for Sustainable Growth

---

## Session Chairperson & Moderator

Mr. Abhay Laijawala, Managing Director and Fund Manager, Avendus India ESG Strategy

## Panellists

- Mr. Rajat Verma, Managing Director and Head - Commercial Banking, HSBC India
- Mr. Kim Waage Cook, Commercial Sector Counsellor for Investment, Embassy of Denmark, India
- Mr. B Sankar, Chief General Manager – SME, State Bank of India

In today's sustainable business thinking, sustainable finance is a disruptive force. At one time, people may have thought of it as marketing or story telling but today, leaders in this space are demonstrating that thinking differently about environmental and social performance can drive change that delivers more business value while harnessing the power of enterprise to deliver better outcomes for people and the planet. The future of finance is shareholder capitalism. It is an evolving area where many financial institutions and corporates are finding their way through and trying to understand implications. ESG evaluation during the credit risk assessment of a company is starting to become a factor. Adopting sustainability is not just sensible or doing good but it is also economical. Renewable energy, electrification and water are important areas for India to focus on from the sustainability perspective. In the growth of manufacturing sector, SMEs must play a vital role. The technologies SMEs are using include energy management, water conservation, waste management and disposal of hazardous waste in product manufacturing. SMEs are aware of the compulsions for adopting sustainable practices. The whole idea of sustainability is larger than renewable energy where quicker results in de-carbonization can be achieved in the corporate supply chain.

## Challenges

- Sustainable financing is majorly thought to be green energy financing
- The level of awareness about sustainability needs significant uptake in the corporate world and financial sector at a very fast pace
- It is big business risk not to have sustainable business
- There is a strong need for a regulatory framework for assurance of investors



## Solutions

- Government's role is to set up the regulatory framework that gives investors certainty of returns- a framework where they can invest and have a reasonable certainty of cashflow. It is important to remove barriers to investors and financiers and give long term certainty to investors. It is necessary to set up risk mitigating facilities financed wholly or partly by government funds, not necessarily to be used but to assure investors
- CII can conduct online workshops for SMEs to create awareness on sustainability. Financial institutions have to support the idea of a circular economy
- Banks need to focus and make sure that the corporate supply chain is incentivized or disincentivized on the basis of performance in de-carbonization
- Investment in sustainability should not be seen as CSR but a business opportunity to do the right thing

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/Kw7WiDumTqQ>



Mr Abhay Lajawala  
Managing Director & Fund Manager  
Aventus India ESG Strategy



Mr Rajat Vema  
Managing Director and  
Head- Commercial Banking  
HSBC India



Mr B Sankar  
Chief General Manager – SME  
State Bank of India



Mr Kim Waage Cook  
Commercial Sector Counsellor for  
Investment  
Embassy of Denmark, India

The screenshot shows the live stream interface for the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021. At the top, it features the event title and theme: "16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021 Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance 2-3 September 2021". The central video feed shows Mr. Abhay Lajawala speaking, with a "LIVE" indicator in the top left corner. Below the video, there are icons for different regions: DV, SA, AS, ET, CS. The interface is flanked by several partner categories:

- IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:** Includes logos for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the UK Government, and the ITC Centre of Excellence.
- SUPPORTED BY:** Features the NSE logo.
- PARTNERS:** Lists the Embassy of Denmark, Team Sweden, UK Research and Innovation, and WRAP.
- PLATINUM PARTNERS:** Includes Ashok Leyland, Hindustan Zinc, and Mondelez.
- DIAMOND PARTNERS:** Includes SAP, Grundfos, and Tata Steel.
- GOLD PARTNERS:** Includes GIZ, SBI, and Sedex.
- SILVER PARTNERS:** Includes various other industry partners.

Mr. Abhay Lajawala, Managing Director and Fund Manager, Aventus India ESG Strategy



# 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021

Mr. Rajat Verma, Managing Director and Head - Commercial Banking, HSBC India

Mr. Kim Waage Cook, Commercial Sector Counsellor for Investment, Embassy of Denmark, India



The screenshot displays a live video stream from the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021. The central video frame shows a man in a suit and glasses speaking. The interface is surrounded by logos and text:

- Top Left:** CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development.
- Top Center:** 16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021. Building a Resilient Future. Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance. 2-3 September 2021.
- Top Right:** CII Confederation of Indian Industry.
- Left Side (Partnership and Support):**
  - IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, IN CLIMATE PACTS CONFERENCE 2021, UK Government.
  - SUPPORTED BY: NSE.
  - PARTNERS: EMBASSY OF DENMARK New Delhi, Sweden Sverige TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, wrap.
- Right Side (Partner Tiers):**
  - PLATINUM PARTNERS: ABB, HINDUSTAN ZINC, Mondelez International.
  - THE BEST RUN: SAP.
  - DIAMOND PARTNERS: European Union, GRUNDIG, Roto-Topo.
  - GOLD PARTNERS: giz, TATA STEEL, WWF.
  - SILVER PARTNERS: SBI, Sedex.
- Bottom:** A row of logos including BMW, wipro, Danfoss, FINCHAM, Sedex, SBI, Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Sverige TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, and wrap.

Mr. B Sankar, Chief General Manager – SME, State Bank of India



# Climate Change: Road to COP26

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## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Jamshed Godrej, Chairman, CII Climate Change Council and Chairman & Managing Director, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited

## Panellists

- Mr. Nigel Topping, High Level Champion for Climate Action, COP26
- Mr. Nitin Prasad, Chairman, CII Cleaner Air-Better Life, Chairman, Shell India
- Ms. Tanya Steele, CEO, WWF-UK

2021 is a crucial year to confront the global climate emergency. The evidence of climate change is compelling as sea levels are rising, glaciers are receding, precipitation patterns are changing, and the world is getting warmer. Recent evidence suggests even more rapid change, which will greatly and irreversibly, affect not only people, but also species and eco- systems. In order to limit temperature rise to 1.50°, global emissions should be cut down by 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels.

UK is hosting the Conference of Parties (COP) 26 of UNFCCC in November this year, with the objective of building a Global Coalition for Carbon Neutrality. COP26 also hopes to enable and encourage countries affected by climate change through adaptative measures to protect communities and natural habitats such as: protect and restore ecosystems; and build defences, warning systems and resilient agriculture and infrastructure to avoid loss of homes, livelihoods and lives.

## Challenges

- Increasing frequency of climate disasters resulting in social and economic challenges
- Climate transition is critical for hard-to-abate sectors such as cement, steel and chemicals considering their high dependency on coal
- MSMEs are important sectors for economic growth and lack financial and technical support for adapting to climate change
- The energy requirement in India will triple in future considering the increasing consumption pattern and related industrial growth
- Availability of climate friendly technologies and climate finance in India for energy and power intensive sectors
- GHG emission is high due to unsustainable agriculture practices and climate risks are high in the agriculture sector



- Businesses have adopted Internal Carbon Pricing to address climate change, but the range is broad and requires synchronisation
- Climate vulnerability risk is very high w.r.t India and there is a need to seriously consider low carbon development pathways for the economy

### **Solutions**

- India has made substantial progress with respect to renewable energy and reaching one of the lowest tariffs in the world. In July 2020, India's solar tariffs dropped to INR 2.36 (\$0.0316)/kwh which is 20% to 30% lower than thermal power tariffs
- The Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme is a market-based energy efficiency trading mechanism targeted at energy-intensive sectors. The scheme has resulted in savings of 6.3 Mt of energy and 25.2Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the manufacturing sector
- COP26 will be an opportunity to develop a stronger decade action plan for the world to address climate change risks
- Developing action areas for removing CO<sub>2</sub> from atmosphere through afforestation and cost-effective carbon capture technologies
- Development of short term and long-term targets at an India level on climate action will mobilise climate finance in India
- Energy requirement will increase in future in India considering population growth. There is a need to develop more efficient technologies to minimise the energy requirements along with increasing the share of renewable energy in the grid
- Climate change and nature loss are the two major risks and adapting nature-based solutions will build resilience

Session Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ju0T009tZtg>





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2-3 September 2021

Confederation of Indian Industry

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SUPPORTED BY: NSE

PARTNERS: EMBASSY OF DENMARK, Sweden Sverige TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, wrap

PLATINUM PARTNERS: Enduring Value, HINDUSTAN ZINC, Mondelez International, THE BEST RUN, SAP

DIAMOND PARTNERS: EU-REI, GRUNDFOS, Rio Tinto, TATA STEEL, WWF

GOLD PARTNERS: giz, wipro

SILVER PARTNERS: SBI, Sedex

Participants are encouraged to visit the...

EU-REI, GRUNDFOS, Rio Tinto, TATA STEEL, WWF, giz, wipro, SBI, Sedex

Mr. Nigel Topping, High Level Champion for Climate Action, COP26

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EUROPEAN UNION, EU-REI, GRUNDFOS, Rio Tinto, TATA STEEL, WWF, giz, wipro, SBI, Sedex

Ms. Tanya Steele, Chief Executive, WWF UK



# 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021

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Confederation of Indian Industry

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Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, India  
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GRUNDFOS  
TATA STEEL  
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**GOLD PARTNERS**  
giz  
SBI  
Sedex

**SILVER PARTNERS**  
FINCHAM  
SBI  
Sedex

**Mr. Nitin Prasad**

**TEAM SWEDEN**  
UK Research and Innovation  
wrap  
ATA  
HINDUSTAN ZINC  
Mondelēz  
THE BEST RUN SAP  
EUROPEAN UNION

Mr. Nitin Prasad, Chairman, CII-Cleaner Air Better Life, Chairman, Shell India



16th

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**SUMMIT 2021**

**DAY 2**

**3 September 2021**



# India Plastics Pact Launch

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## Opening Remarks

Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry

## Special Address

H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis, High Commissioner to India, British High Commission

## Remarks

- Mr. Arvind Wable, President, WWF India
- Sir Duncan Wingham, Executive Chair, Natural Environment Research Council, UKRI
- Mr. Marcus Gover, CEO, WRAP

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and WWF India partnered to launch the 'India Plastics Pact' at the flagship event of CII, the 16th Sustainability Summit. The initiative is anchored at the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, within CII. The Pact is developed with the support of WRAP, UK and is funded by UK Research and Innovation. The India Plastics Pact is the first of its kind in Asia, joining a growing global network of Plastics Pacts. All the Pacts share a common vision, a world where plastics is valued and doesn't pollute the environment.

Speaking at the launch, H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis, the British High Commissioner to India, stated that "The UK is proud to be India's biggest European research partner, with £400 million of joint investment in research and innovation since 2008. Through joint efforts by CII, WWF India, the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), UK Research and Innovation, and members of the India Plastics Pact, this first of its kind initiative in Asia will complement India's other bold initiatives in the renewables sector and efforts to limit single-use plastics."

The India Plastics pact provides a platform for businesses to collaboratively address the challenges associated with plastics:

- Plastics are a global problem, and they have entered our food chain. Studies show that we consume around 21 grams of plastics every week, equivalent to the size of a credit card
- We are currently putting 10 MT of plastics into the oceans every year and this amount is doubling every 15 years over the last 30 years. If we continue this way, we might end up with more plastics in the oceans than there are fish
- Challenges of dealing with the plastics waste problem in the environment is going to be considerably more difficult because of the ubiquity of plastics and their incredible usefulness



- Informal sector plays a critical role in collecting, segregating and hence the recycling of plastics. Even though this sector has been doing its work, because of its inefficiencies we are not able to realize its full potential
- Along with long sighted leadership, knowledge, and deliverables we need public support as well. While it is obvious that we need innovation and research, a great deal can also be done by changing behaviours

Mr. Arvind Wable, President, WWF India, stated that these challenges need to be “tackled with urgency, creativity and sensitivity.” Sir Duncan Wingham, Executive Chair, Natural Environment Research Council, UKRI, noted that “plastics are simply too useful to us and so we have to recognise that the solution to this problem must be circularising the plastics economy.” The India Plastics Pact aims to do just that by bringing about a systemic shift in the way plastics are designed, manufactured, used and disposed by bringing together stakeholders from across the plastics value chain to achieve the following targets:

- Define a list of unnecessary or problematic plastic packaging and items and take measures to address them through redesign and innovation
- 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable or recyclable
- 50% of plastic packaging to be effectively recycled
- 25% average recycled content across all plastic packaging

The Pact was commended by the speakers who noted that it was encouraging to see India take leadership and tackle plastic pollution. Mr. Marcus Gover, CEO, WRAP, stated that “To have a superpower with the influence of India part of this endeavor is very significant and really is a game changing moment in the growth of the global network of Plastic Pacts.” Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said, “Innovation, collaboration and voluntary commitments contextualised for India and led by Indian companies will help the transition to a circular economy for plastics.”

At the Launch the names of businesses that have signed up to the India Plastics Pact and committed to achieve the targets were revealed. At the time of the launch, 17 Members and 10 Supporters had signed up to the Pact, including packaging producers, brand owners, recyclers, PROs and NGOs. The businesses will now work towards building a circular economy for plastics which will reimagine the way plastic packaging is designed, used, discarded and reintroduced. Activities immediately after the launch will focus on collectively identifying projects that can deliver the most significant impact in the long and short term. This could include identification of barriers to incorporation of recycled content in packaging, design of reusable packaging and removal/elimination of unnecessary plastics packaging.

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/g5IL1JeQHvI>



# 16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021



H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis  
High Commissioner to  
India, British High  
Commission



Professor Sir Duncan Wingham  
Executive Chair of the Natural  
Environment Research Council,  
UKRI



Mr. Marcus Gover  
CEO  
WRAP



Mr. Arvind Wable  
President  
WWF India



Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee  
Director General  
Confederation of Indian Industry

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting for the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021. The top banner features the event title, logos for CI-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, CII Confederation of Indian Industry, and the tagline 'Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance' dated 2-3 September 2021. The left sidebar lists 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH' (Ministry of Environment, Government of India, UK Government), 'SUPPORTED BY' (NSE), and 'PARTNERS' (Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Sverige TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, wrap). The right sidebar lists 'PLATINUM PARTNERS' (Aptiv, Hindustan Zinc, Mondelez), 'THE BEST RUN' (SAP), 'DIAMOND PARTNERS' (EU, GRUNDFOS, Rio Tinto, TATA STEEL, WWF), 'GOLD PARTNERS' (giz, SBI, Sedex), and 'SILVER PARTNERS' (SBI, Sedex). The bottom of the screen shows a row of logos for Sedex, SBI, Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Sverige TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, wrap, Ministry of Environment, Government of India, and NSE.

H.E. Mr. Alexander Ellis, High Commissioner to India, British High Commission



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SBI  
Sedex  
wipro  
Danfoss  
SB

Participants: **VA Cisco Webex**, **wrap**

Professor Sir Duncan Wingham, Executive Chair of the Natural Environment Research Council, UKRI

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Participants: **VA Cisco Webex**, **wrap**

Mr. Marcus Gover, CEO, WRAP



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Mr. Arvind Wable, President, WWF India

Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry



# Race to Zero

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## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Ravichandran Purushothaman, President, Danfoss India

## Panellists

- Mr. Mahendra Singhi, MD & CEO, Dalmia Cement
- Mr. Pradheepam (Ram) Ottikkutti, Executive Director – India Engineering, Cummins India
- Mr. Mark Griffiths, Global Climate Business Leader, WWF

The UN climate champions have launched Race to Zero breakthroughs that aim to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonized economy and strengthen contributions to the Paris Agreement. It is a global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions as well as investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth.

For India's journey to net zero it is not just enough for industries to act. There is a very strong nexus between food, water, and energy in the country. The agriculture and food sector are major contributors to GHG emissions and play an important role in the net zero transition of India. Technology does play an important role, but it alone cannot achieve net zero transition. We need to remodel our agricultural practices and rethink on current consumption patterns.

## Challenges

- Hard-to-abate sectors such as cement, steel and chemicals are the biggest polluters of greenhouse gases and the cement sector is known for emitting 7-8 % of total global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Indian entrepreneurs have great ideas, but the challenge is lack of funds for innovation and technology adoption
- Globally the transport sector is responsible for 25% of total carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from fuel combustion according to the EIA 2020 report. In India, it is the third most CO<sub>2</sub> emitting sector, and within the transport sector, road transport is the major contributor to total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Crisis of biodiversity loss - we have lost 60% of biodiversity in the last 40 years according to the latest WWF report
- Agriculture and food sector are major contributors to GHG emissions and play an important role in net zero transition of India. Over 600 million people live on agriculture and its transformation to net zero will be a humongous task
- To achieve net zero in hard-to-abate sectors, the biggest challenge we face is changing the mindsets



## Solutions

- Decarbonization of the transport sector is crucial for sustainable development of the nation. With initiatives like electrification of the transport sector, adoption of renewables, and new policies to support clean transport and mobility in India such as Vehicle Scrappage Policy, Bharat Stage-VI emission norms and Electric Vehicle Policy, India is now on par with EU and US emissions in various forms of transport and mobility
- To achieve the net zero transition, we bank on technology and Science-based Targets (SBTi). It is not just companies who need SBTi, but countries too
- In achieving net zero in hard-to-abate sectors, mindset, and leadership play an important role. Dalmia Cement took a leadership role and has set an example in reducing its carbon footprint of around 40% lower than global average in the cement industry by adopting different measures such as carbon capture and utilization, water efficiency and renewable energy in its operations
- The government needs to take calibrated steps to reduce emissions while taking care of economic growth of the country. There is a cost of doing everything but there is a need to look at the benefits; we may pay for clean transport and mobility but save in health care and better fuel economy
- Soil, forest, fresh water, mangroves, and coral reefs protect our natural environment and enable us to manage the fluxes in our climate
- To transform the agriculture sector and make it climate resilient, there is a need to relook at farming practices - how we manage soil is important, good practices like crop rotation over monoculture is a good idea
- There is a need to educate consumers about new ways of consuming and living. Both government and business have a role to play in the shift to how we make purchases and consume food.

## Quotes

*“To win the race we need to create awareness about carbon, how it will be impacting not only the industry, not only the government but the individual. For that purpose, it is important to understand, first, what role organisations like CII will play, second how we can sensitize people at large particularly students to bring the change in current consumption and living patterns because when it comes to change, the biggest challenge we face is to change our mindset. Mindset and leadership are important to race to zero.”*

**Mr Mahendra Singhi**, MD & CEO, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited

*“According to the International Energy Agency 2020 report, our GHG emissions went down by a magical 7% because of the contraction of our economy due to the pandemic, now we understand what it feels like to reduce by 7%, so the challenge for us now is, how we can further limit our GHG emissions. To achieve net zero by 2050 we have to fundamentally reconstruct, how we do business, and this is why the Race to Zero issue is so fundamental for businesses, who are now starting to understand this challenge and ready to act, which is exactly the right approach.”*

**Mr Mark Griffiths**, Global Climate Business Leader, WWF

Session Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrD7IPgDb3I>



Mr Ravichandran Purushothaman  
President  
Danfoss India



Mr Mahendra Singhi  
MD & CEO  
Dalmia Cement  
(Bharat) Ltd.



Mr Pradheepam (Ram) Ottikkutti  
Executive Director – India Engineering  
Cummins India



Mr Mark Griffiths  
Global Climate  
Business Leader  
WWF

The screenshot displays a virtual summit interface. At the top, it features the event title '16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021' and the tagline 'Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance' for the dates 2-3 September 2021. The CIITC and CII logos are prominently displayed. The interface is divided into several sections: 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH' (including CIITC, UN Climate Change Conference 2021, and UK Government), 'SUPPORTED BY' (NSE), 'PARTNERS' (Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Team, UK Research and Innovation, wrap), 'PLATINUM PARTNERS' (Aegion, Hindustan Zinc, Mondelez), 'THE BEST RUN' (SAP), 'DIAMOND PARTNERS' (European Union, Grundfos, Rio Tinto, Tata Steel, WWF), 'GOLD PARTNERS' (giz, SBI, Sedex), and 'SILVER PARTNERS' (SBI, Fincham, SBI, Sedex). The central video feed shows Mr. Ravichandran Purushothaman speaking, with a 'LIVE' indicator and a 'Danfoss' logo in the background. Below the main video are smaller thumbnails for other participants.

Mr. Ravichandran Purushothaman, President, Danfoss India Pvt Ltd



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Mr. Mahendra Singhi, MD & CEO, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited

Dr. Pradheepam (Ram) Ottikkutti, Executive Director – India Engineering, Cummins India



Mr. Mark Griffiths, Global Climate Business Leader, WWF



# Transition to Renewable Energy – Policy and Implementation Approaches for 2030

---

## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Prabodha Acharya, Chief Sustainability Officer, JSW Group

## Panellists

- Mr. JP Chalasani, Strategic Advisor, Suzlon Energy
- Mr. Sanjeev Aggarwal, Founder & CEO, Amplus Solar Solutions Pvt Ltd
- Mr. Venkatesh R, Managing Director & Director Energy Business, Wartsila, India
- Ms. Divya Sharma, Executive Director, Climate Group India

This is a decade of action and India's journey to de-carbonising its economy depends on how it successfully implements energy transition. In the last decade, renewable energy has been mainstay for India. The amount of time taken by renewable energy to get to 100 GW has been the fastest. On the commercial side, in one decade there has been a shift from regulated tariff to competitive bidding. Today, a large amount of FDI is flowing into the sector and the pool of players coming into this sector has increased compared to conventional power. Today demand is variable, and supply is constant. But by 2030, the demand and supply both shall become variable on account of renewable energy being 55% of the installed capacity and 40% plus becomes the generation share. Therefore, a situation shall be reached when the demand of electricity continues to be variable, and supply also becomes variable. The world is moving from large, centralized power plants to a world of decentralized power plants. The onslaught of technology is creeping into the energy space faster than imagined. We need the optimal mix of power generation to unlock a net-zero future for India. Indian private sector is rising to the climate challenge while seizing market opportunities.

## Challenges

- When power supply and demand both become variable is the most difficult situation to find a match
- It imperative for renewable energy sector to adopt the newer technologies, frame policies and regulations. Currently, there is lack of a long-term strategy, beyond 2030, in place as Indian power generation transitions from fossil fuel to renewable energy-based generation
- Every customer that wants green power from the generator is a cross-subsidizing customer in distribution parlance



- There are fundamental structural issues actually holding up expanding the connect between the producer and customer directly

### **Solutions**

- It is necessary to work on the demand side of electricity in terms of time-of-day tariffs and start moving demand towards the duration when more and cheaper generation is going to be available
- All policies should be towards making variable supply and variable demand match each other
- There is need to bring in policy flexibility with emerging technologies
- A right policy framework is needed for helping and supporting the renewable energy producers
- Key drivers for energy transition that are to be actioned upon are:
  - Decrease in electricity cost
  - Cut down reliance on imported fuel
- There is a need to set long terms targets, drive renewable consumption across sectors, strengthen supply side flexibility
- It is necessary to shift the agricultural sector to renewable energy and decentralized generation concept

Session Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE6v9C-Q1ssY&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP\\_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE6v9C-Q1ssY&list=PLMT86qyK-nWX9D1sqBhP_1WT7C8OcqSo-&index=1)



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Mr Sanjeev Aggarwal  
MD & CEO  
Amplus Solar Solutions Pvt. Ltd.



Mr Venkatesh R  
Managing Director &  
Director Energy Business  
Wartsila India



Ms Divya Sharma  
Executive Director  
Climate Group  
India



Mr JP Chalasani  
Strategic Advisor  
Suzlon Energy



Mr Prabodha Acharya  
Chief Sustainability  
Officer  
JSW Group

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Mr. Venkatesh R, Managing Director & Director Energy Business, Wartsila, India



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Ms. Divya Sharma, Executive Director, Climate Group India

Mr. JP Chalasani, Strategic Advisor, Suzlon Energy



# Water Security

---

## Session Chairman & Moderator

Dr. Ashok Khosla, OBE, Chairman, Development Alternatives

## Panellists

- Prof. Asit K Biswas, Academician & Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Glasgow, UK
- Mr. George Rajkumar, Country President, Grundfos
- Mr. Hans Peter Kyk, Commercial Sector Counsellor for Water Danish Embassy, New Delhi
- Mr. Vijay Vardhan, Operations Manager, ITC Limited

The panellists focused on identifying ways to preserve and manage water resources. The session highlighted the evident fact that India faces acute shortage of clean and drinkable water hence we need to rethink water efficiency and consumption.

## Challenges

### *Regulatory*

- Initiatives by the legislative authorities to develop solutions through smart agricultural techniques, urban planning inclusive with water mapping.

### *Social*

- A strong drive required to preserve water considering severe water scarcity and high demand in rural as well as urban cities

### *Environmental*

- Water resources are exploited as little to no strategies are in place to reuse water, recycle contaminated water and control wastage. There is excessive extraction of water and no solutions aligned to restore water bodies

## Solutions

- Changes in regulations are small yet making way for better mandates to ensure ethical practices
- Regulating water usage through water meters and stringent rules around wastage
- Promoting and encouraging societies to increase awareness around rainwater harvesting
- Collaborative efforts in place to create awareness. Industries are working to map sectors that are untapped and ignored to advocate the precedence of building strategies around water and waste management and building sustainability into the DNA and design of the business

Session Video: [https://youtu.be/Y43Q\\_6na1QM](https://youtu.be/Y43Q_6na1QM)



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Dr. Ashok Khosla  
OBE, Chairman  
Development Alternatives



Mr. George Rajkumar  
Country President  
Grundfos



Prof. Asit K. Biswas  
Academician & Distinguished  
Visiting Professor  
University of Glasgow, UK



Mr. Hans Peter Kyk  
Commercial Sector  
Counsellor for Water  
Danish Embassy, New Delhi



Mr. Vijay Vardhan  
Operations Manager  
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Dr. Ashok Khosla, OBE, Chairman, Development Alternatives



Mr. George Rajkumar, Country President, Grundfos India

Prof. Asit K. Biswas, Academician and Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Glasgow



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**EMERGING TOMORROW**

Mr. Hans Peter Kyk, Commercial Sector Counsellor for Water, Danish Embassy, New Delhi

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Mr. Vijay Vardhan, Operations Manager, ITC Limited



# Reporting & Disclosures

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## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Narayan PS, Global Head – Sustainability and Social Initiatives, Wipro Limited

## Panellists

- Ms. Aditi Haldar, Director, GRI South Asia
- Mr. Dharmendra Raavi, Senior Advisor, HSE, Rio Tinto India Pvt. Ltd.
- Ms. Rinika Grover, Head Sustainability and CSR, Apollo Tyres Ltd
- Dr. R. K. Srivastava, Ex. CGM I/c & Head ESMD, Powergrid & Consultant, World Bank

Corporate Reporting has made great strides in the last two decades, with pioneering early movers like GRI, crystallising the foundation of non-financial disclosures based on Environment, Social & Governance (ESG) parameters. India, too, is ahead in the process of reporting sustainability information, following SEBI's new ESG reporting requirements in the form of Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR), which replaces the existing and partly voluntary, partly mandatory Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR). The change is intended to bring greater transparency and facilitate identification of ESG-related risks and opportunities. In this regard, two trends have been observed: 1) An accelerated interest from investors in sustainable companies and 2) Regulatory demand for comprehensive and better-quality disclosures. As for companies, giving systemic priority to reporting is now a full-time occupation. While this process is a constant source of encouragement and optimism to propel sustainability strategies and actions, the frameworks and standards also carry their own set of challenges.

## Challenges

- Availability of differential standards poses a challenge of duplication of efforts for investors and independent analysts. Multiple disclosures can be perplexing in the absence of consistent taxonomies, standards, and matrices. There is a need of convergence of multiple standards into a more unified or sector-specific structure
- Transparency in the reporting process is an area of concern
- Challenges exist with the present practices of reporting consistent, comparable, decision-useful information on social issues, particularly for material social issues in the mainstream report



## Solutions

- Government has a role to play in bringing new guidelines and reporting frameworks from time to time. These can help in pushing individual companies to excel in ESG disclosures
- As investors', regulators', and other stakeholders' demand for corporate ESG responsiveness continues to grow, ESG performance can be linked with incentives given to CEOs and Executives. Binding the same with all internal stakeholders can help in communicating a strong tone of compliance, all the way from top to bottom within the organisation
- While companies are putting muscle in the process of Reporting and Disclosures, they should also shift their focus towards framework development and innovate for creating and maintaining an ESG culture among employers, thereby bringing in long-term sustainability
- GRI has been developing standards to promote global transparency. They have been delivering standards freely as a public good for sustainability reporting. Following a robust multi-stakeholder approach by including the participation of diverse stakeholders in the formation of GRI standards, the company assures to deliver a more comprehensive framework for reporting. An increasing trend has been observed in sustainability reporting and more than 40,000 reports are available on their platform
- Apollo started its disclosure process in 2010. They believe that reporting and disclosure not only help in assessing the actual position of a company, but also play an important role in setting benchmarks for various environmental goals. By adopting ISO 26000, Apollo has developed its own Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for five of the pillars of ISO 26000. Being a supplier to the automobile sector, even for their original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) to consider Apollo in the supply chain, the organisation is required to comply to set standards to qualify for the Response- For-Quotation (RFQ) process

## Quotes

*“Reporting and disclosures are not an end in the process but the starting points of innovation to boost overall performance.”*

**Mr. Narayan PS**, Global Head – Sustainability and Social Initiatives, Wipro Limited

*“Reporting and disclosures not only make an entity accountable to its own employees, but also to the external world. Information is power: what goes into the enterprise comes out as disclosure.”*

**Ms. Aditi Haldar**, Director, GRI South Asia

Session Video: [https://youtu.be/n1\\_LiJo72oI](https://youtu.be/n1_LiJo72oI)



Mr Narayan PS  
Global Head – Sustainability and Social Initiatives  
Wipro Ltd.



Ms Aditi Haldar  
Director  
GRI South Asia



Ms Rinika Grover  
Head Sustainability and CSR  
Apollo Tyres Ltd.



Mr Dharmendra Raavi  
Senior Advisor, HSE  
Rio Tinto India Pvt. Ltd.



Dr R K Srivastava  
Ex. CGM I/c & Head ESMD,  
Powergrid & Consultant,  
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Mr. Narayan PS, Global Head – Sustainability and Social Initiatives, Wipro Limited



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Dr. R. K. Srivastava, Ex. CGM I/c & Head ESMD, Powergrid & Consultant, World Bank



# Action for Preserving Biodiversity

---

## Session Moderator

Dr. Pravir Deshmukh, Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

## Panellists

- Mr. Kavinder Singh, Chairman, IBBI, MD & CEO, Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Limited (MHRIL).
- Dr. Vinod B. Mathur, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority
- Dr Michael Bucki, Counsellor, Head of Section, Delegation of the European Union to India
- Ms. Eva Zabey, Executive Director, Business for Nature
- Ms. Nyrika Holkar, Executive Director, Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd

Human activities are currently destroying nature at a rate much faster than the rate it can be restored. Many ecosystems like coral reefs and tropical forests are heading towards tipping points and one million species are now threatened with extinction. Nature loss is increasing the risk of pandemics, accelerating climate change, undermining food, and water security, and costing livelihoods of millions. There is need to secure an ambitious biodiversity action that helps in restoring the balance with nature and deliver a nature-positive future.

Along with the ambition, it is required to galvanise urgent and focused action by governments, society and businesses including local communities, women, and all relevant stakeholders to bring about a transformational change. This transformation can be driven by adopting the theory of change, delivery of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the 2050 Vision of “Living in Harmony with Nature”. This calls for a collaborative approach and strong partnerships to build a healthy, resilient, and sustainable future.

## Challenges

- Biodiversity loss is linked with the climate change risk resulting in critical challenges to human health
- Non availability of comprehensive reporting frameworks on biodiversity to showcase business' work on its sustainable management
- Lack of valuation methodologies for biodiversity linkages with businesses resulting into mismanagement of biodiversity



- There is a gap in recognizing the business externalities on biodiversity and timely investment in restoration or conservation of natural ecosystems

### **Solutions**

- Developing partnership for biodiversity conservation with multi stakeholder approach is required to meet the 2050 vision of CBD - “Living in Harmony with Nature’
- Developing transformative solutions for sustainable agriculture, human wellbeing, afforestation and restoration of degraded ecosystems
- Biodiversity conservation and restoration is important methodology to address the climate change risk and also building resilience. Business must work towards restoration of the natural ecosystem with multi stakeholder collaboration and this will support in building resilience to climate change issues
- Adopting nature-based solutions over technological solutions will minimise the cost and enhance a company’s adaptability to changing climate and regulatory requirements
- Businesses must consider biodiversity at the heart of business decision making, developing long term targets to operate in harmony with nature
- Businesses need to adapt the 3Cs of biodiversity conservation which are Conservation of Natural Resources, Continuous Improvement Towards Rejuvenation and Comprehensive Disclosures
- Businesses need to develop a joint plan for addressing climate change and biodiversity loss by adopting nature-based solutions and collaborating with stakeholders for sustainable extraction and use

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/laV5cnW5GkU>



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Mr Kavinder Singh  
Chairman IBBI  
CEO & MD, Club  
Mahindra



Dr. V.B. Mathur  
Chairperson  
National Biodiversity Authority



Dr. Michael Bucki  
Counsellor, Head of Section  
Delegation of the European  
Union to India



Ms Nyrika Holkar  
Executive Director  
Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd.



Ms Eva Zabey  
Executive Director  
Business for Nature



Dr Pravir Deshmukh  
Counsellor  
CII-ITC CESD

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Dr. Pravir Deshmukh, Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



Dr. V.B. Mathur, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority

Mr. Kavinder Singh, Chairman IBBI, CEO & MD, Club Mahindra



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Dr. Michael Bucki, Counsellor, Head of Section, Delegation of the European Union to India



Ms. Eva Zabey, Executive Director, Business for Nature



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Ms. Nyrika Holkar, Executive Director, Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co Ltd.



# Accelerating Markets-based Measures and Sustainable Business Models for Clean Air

---

## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr. Nitin Prasad, Chairman, CII Cleaner Air-Better Life, Chairman, Shell India

## Keynote Address

Mr. Avinash Mishra, Adviser, Natural Resources & Environment, NITI Aayog

## Panellists

- Mr. Tejpreet Singh Chopra, Co-Chairman, CII Cleaner Air - Better Life Initiative and CEO & President, Bharat Light & Power
- Ms. Neera Van Der Geest, Director, Fair Climate Fund
- Mr. Sidhartha Vermani, Executive Director, EPIC-India
- Mr. Tarun Jami, Founder, GreenJams
- Mr. Michael Bengsch, Manager-Corporate Strategy (Sustainability & Mobility), BMW Group

Studies have indicated that just a 5-point increase in PM 2.5 results in close to 1.1% impact on GDP in India and overall air pollution impacts approx. 7% of GDP every year. Government and private sector are taking innovative steps to address this and the session delved deeper into what Industries can do. From the perspective of mitigating and managing air pollution, it is important that the impact of air pollution, choices made across the industry supply chain to address it, and the impact these choices create are well understood. This means, business approaches in the form of circular economy catering to both production and operations cycle of the businesses are required.

To holistically address air pollution, it is also important that the entire business sector comes together and works otherwise it will lead to discontinuity and inconsistency in actions. While Government of India devises policies and regulatory frameworks for improving ambient air quality at the national level, catalyzing action in the private sector and leveraging market-based instruments to tackle air pollution are highly complementary to these efforts and would ultimately hold the key to large-scale change. There is a need to find ways to scale and replicate sustainable solutions while making them economical at the same time.

## Challenges

### *Regulatory*

- Overall regulatory goals/objectives are required to nudge businesses to move in a specific direction. This is not necessarily happening across all sectors



### *Financial*

- Availability of capital and return on capital in energy decarbonisation strategies is a challenge
- Level playing field is not always provided / available to sustainable businesses for them to scale

### *Social*

- We do not consider nontangible and invisible threats. Air pollution can reduce the life expectancy of Indians by 9 years on an average. This is serious and needs to be addressed

### *Environmental*

- Few sectors including waste management is not particularly being addressed and needs immediate attention
- In the transportation sector, availability of raw material for transition to zero carbon options will be an issue

### *Technological*

- Technological innovations from industries in managing crop residue waste and utilising them in green products are not available to the scale required

## **Solutions**

- **Holistic approach across themes:** Air pollution, sustainability, net zero emission, climate change are all part of the same coin, they are all interlinked so we need a holistic approach. The holistic approach needs to be in the use phase as well as the supply chain
- **Key interventions:** A roadmap integrating biofuels, hydrogen along with Lithium Ion batteries needs to be closely looked at. There is a need for biofuel based transportation to drive clean energy and clean air. The use of an alternative fuel as a transition method can support lowering of carbon emissions. Higher integration of renewable energy, hydrogen, natural gas as part of energy transition is required
- **Agriculture sector:** We need to support start-ups working on biomass management and train them to bring sustainable technologies in the industry. For instance, GreenJams uses crop residue to create bricks and blocks which reduced the cost of construction by 50% and improved energy efficiency by 25%
- Given the carbon co-benefit of air pollution actions, carbon market can bring tremendous opportunity for private sector to contribute by joining in & contributing to the trading of carbon credits
- An air pollution **market-based mechanism** can provide and create solutions which are effective in reducing emissions. EPIC India has come up with a trading emission scheme and saw the reduction in air pollution by 20% in Surat

Session Video: [https://youtu.be/idWvjeLw7\\_o](https://youtu.be/idWvjeLw7_o)



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Mr Nitin Prasad  
Chairman, CII-  
'Cleaner  
Air Better  
Life Initiative' &  
Chairman, Shell India



Mr Avinash Mishra  
Adviser  
Natural Resources &  
Environment  
NITI Aayog



Mr Tejpreet Singh Chopra  
Co-Chairman, CII  
'Cleaner Air - Better life' Initiative  
CEO & President,  
Bharat Light & Power



Mr Sidhartha Vermani  
Executive Director  
&  
EPIC-India



Mr Tarun Jami  
Founder  
GreenJams



Ms Neera Van Der  
Geest  
Director  
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Mr Michael Bengsch  
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Mr. Nitin Prasad, Chairman, CII-Cleaner Air Better Life, Chairman, Shell India

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Mr. Avinash Mishra, Adviser, Natural Resources & Environment, NITI Aayog

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Mr. Tejpreet Singh Chopra, Co-Chairman, CII Cleaner Air - Better Life Initiative and CEO & President, Bharat Light & Power



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Mr. Michael Bengsch, Manager-Corporate Strategy (Sustainability & Mobility), BMW Group

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Mr. Tarun Jami, Founder, GreenJams



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Ms. Neera Van Der Geest, Director, Fair Climate Fund

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Mr. Sidhartha Vermani, Executive Director, EPIC-India



# Protecting Marine Ecosystem

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## Session Chairman & Moderator

Mr R. Mukundan, Chairman, CII National Committee on Environment and Managing Director & CEO, Tata Chemicals Limited

## Panellists

- Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board
- Ms. Jenny Herzman, Senior Analyst, Department for Water Resources Management, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)
- Mr. Andreas Bohnhoff, Managing Director, European Recycling Platform
- Mr. Gautam Mehra, Deputy Team Leader, Circular Economy Solutions Preventing Marine Litter

Marine litter is a global challenge and has an impact on both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Everyone easily relates to terrestrial ecosystems, and marine ecosystems gets attention only in case of incidents of oil spills in oceans. For addressing this, businesses, government and stakeholders need to work together to identify innovative solutions and make stringent policies and strategies. Measures for effective action and monitoring systems need to be established.

Plastic patches of the size of Texas are of concern that are interfering with marine ecosystems and aquatic species' well-being. Frameworks supporting in effective management and protection of marine ecosystems are being built to address the challenges and improve the quality of oceans/seas.

Marine littering ends up in the seas through various sources like waste abandoned by consumers on beaches, carried by waterways, waste from ships or fishing gears directly disposed of. There are many initiatives and programmes like beach cleaning campaigns, but the root cause- waste input sources need to be addressed.

## Challenges

- Plastic waste has been the biggest all-time challenge that needs a shift across the entire life cycle of products or processes
- Rivers are an important source for carrying and distributing waste inland and into seas/oceans, it's important to focus on this aspect and take up initiatives to reduce and avoid this flow of especially, plastic waste through rivers systems
- Packaging plastics, majorly PET is a huge part of the problem in India and 40% of this kind of plastic waste remains uncollected



- Timely waste collection & at source segregation at urban or cities level has been a critical challenge faced in India by CPCB or SPCBs
- There are policies and guidelines in place but there is a gap in implementation and adopting sustainable practices
- Lack of knowledge on recycling of plastic waste as well as innovative solutions and new technologies
- Integrating practices of proper management, safe disposal and recycling of waste, plastic, e-waste, and other materials
- Lack of awareness on marine ecosystems, marine species, and their role in reducing negative footprint on earth and climate change mitigation
- No knowledge on climate and marine ecosystem inter-linkages and the connectivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems
- There is growing pressure at the national and state levels to ensure meeting the commitment of phasing out SUPs by 2022

### Solutions

- Making commitments with ground level interventions, aggressive actions, and concrete plans are important and the global nature & climate agreements and SDGs will have a huge positive impact on ecosystem restoration
- Working towards the Sustainable Development Goals like SDG 14 'Life Below Water' and linking to activities like sustainable management of marine resources provide opportunities for community well-being and improving livelihoods
- Building capacity is critical for management and protection of oceans and reducing waste input into the seas
- Awareness creation on policies, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and recycling solutions across industry and society is required
- The Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management introduced a promising framework for effective management of marine ecosystem, calling for protecting and maintaining marine ecosystems and reducing or eliminating negative footprint. This can be scaled up and adopted at multiple regional and national levels
- EPR plays an important role in material take back, recycling, and safe disposal of waste especially plastic and e-waste. Through EPR, effective recycling rates are being implemented and this helps in providing financial solutions for reducing waste like marine litter
- There is a need to take forward learnings from the EU SUP Directive implemented for Plastic Pollution. This directive is extended to fishing gears, which is widely found in plastic waste along the seashore and abandoned in the sea
- Circular economy and resource efficiency integrated in a synergetic manner will play a key role in driving recycling and phasing out SUP

Session Video: [https://youtu.be/Zxs76lkwP\\_k](https://youtu.be/Zxs76lkwP_k)



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Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board



# Clean Transport

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## Session Moderator

Mr. Mohit Sharma, Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

## Opening Remarks and Context Setting

Dr. Daniel Bradley, Team Leader-Energy and Climate, BHC India

## Keynote Address

- Ms. Olivia Wessendorff, Head of COP26 Zero Emission Vehicles Campaign, BEIS
- Mr. Sudhendu J Sinha, Adviser (Infrastructure Connectivity – Transport and Electric Mobility), NITI Aayog

## Panellists

- Mr. Ankit Kumar, CEO, UK's GOZero Mobility
- Mr. Awadhesh Jha, Vice President – Charge & Drive, Fortum Charge & Drive India
- Mr. Rajat Verma, Founder & CEO, Lohum Cleantech Pvt Ltd

## Concluding

- Ms. Haimanti Poddar, Senior Regional Adviser-Climate Change and Energy, British High Commission

The clean transport sector represents a huge opportunity to follow a green path that can take care of India's development needs while improving the state of the economy, people and the environment but investment is a prerequisite in improving the infrastructure of this sector. The growth of this sector would result in more economic opportunities, creation of green jobs, development of more livable cities and healthier communities. The transport sector is the second largest and fastest growing sector in terms of energy consumption after industry, also there are around 122 cities in India which fail to meet ambient air quality standards and the transportation sector is a major contributor to this. E-mobility, on the other hand, is seen as the biggest weapon to tackle concerns arising due to the transportation sector and several innovations are taking place in the e-mobility sector with each passing day. Despite innovations, there is immense need for collaboration between different stakeholders in order to solve problems of the transportation sector.



## Challenges

### *Financial*

- The e-mobility sector is plagued by high up-front cost which along with public unawareness acts as an obstacle for people to move towards e-vehicles
- Resale value of electric vehicles is much lower than Internal Combustion Engine vehicles (non-electric vehicles)

### *Regulatory*

- There are a lot of legal and regulatory hurdles for early-stage enterprises related to testing and certifications within the e-mobility industry

### *Environmental*

- Despite the fact that many zero-emission vehicles are already on the road and a number of vehicle manufacturers are coming forward to fulfil environmental commitments, the global trajectory of e-vehicle sale still needs to double in order to keep global warming below 1.5 degree Celsius
- Even though the electric mobility sector directly minimizes carbon emissions, the source of electricity is usually fossil-fuel based and this indirectly results in high amount of carbon emissions
- While battery derived power is an integral component of the electric mobility space, rechargeable batteries require critical metals such as lithium, cobalt, graphite and manganese; reserves of these metals in India are much below the demand. This has resulted in an increase in import costs. Another, major issue is the end-of-life challenge of batteries, as recycling of batteries is hard to accomplish

### *Technological*

- The charging infrastructure in India faces the following challenges: difficulty in finding easily available space to set-up an electric charging station, lack of enabling electric infrastructure to set-up an electric charging station and demanding government policies have made it difficult for private agencies to set-up electric charging infrastructure

## Solutions

- Working together in the internationally traded transportation sector towards the transition to zero emission vehicles would bring a number of benefits: it will mobilize faster reallocation of investment in the global car industry which would rapidly reduce cost for consumers and this would also bring forward the benefits of clean air and improvement in public health
- The COP26 has established the 'Zero-Emissions Vehicle Campaign' through which it intends to bring together different automotive markets and key actors to cooperate on the pace of transition. Initiatives like the 'Zero-Emissions Vehicle Transition Council' have been set up under this campaign so that different transport ministers on the global front can be brought together to hasten the pace of the transition



- The 'National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage' is being taken forward by NITI Aayog and a positive development as reported by officials of the mission is that the initial inhibition with the transition to the e-mobility sector is wearing off gradually. 25 states in India have drafted an electric vehicle policy and these policies also cover cutting-edge developments in the battery manufacturing space. These policies rely heavily on economic incentives so that an increasing number of people adopt electric vehicles
- The electric two-wheeler sector has seen massive developments as technology has become more efficient and more cost effective. Now, an electric two-wheeler costs almost as much as an Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) powered vehicle and this is a major improvement as previously the cost of an electric two-wheeler was much higher. The electric two-wheeler space is also seeing a gradual reduction in the high up-front costs
- Another interesting innovation in the two-wheeler electric mobility space is the development of electric bicycles which aim at improving the health of the people by increasing physical activity and also help the environment by reducing vehicular carbon emissions
- Innovative developments have taken place in the rechargeable battery sector as lithium-ion batteries are now being used increasingly as they exhibit better recycling capabilities. Power electronics, robotics, advanced manufacturing and semi-conductors also possess the potential to be explored as innovations in the battery sector
- While the electricity grid in India is predominantly fossil fuel-based, there are promising signs that the national grid is moving towards an increased contribution from renewable energy sources. This exemplifies the idea of 'electrifying everything and de-carbonizing electricity'

Session Video: [https://youtu.be/M\\_JzvPfv\\_XI](https://youtu.be/M_JzvPfv_XI)



# 16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021



Mr Sudhendu J Sinha  
Adviser (Infrastructure  
Connectivity –  
Transport and Electric  
Mobility)  
NITI Aayog



Ms Olivia Wessendorff  
Head of COP26 Zero  
Emission Vehicles  
Campaign  
BEIS



Mr Ankit Kumar  
CEO, UK  
GOZero Mobility



Mr Rajat Verma  
Founder & CEO  
Lohum Cleantech  
Pvt Ltd



Mr Awadhesh Jha  
Vice President –  
Charge & Drive  
Fortum Charge &  
Drive India



Dr Daniel Bradley  
Team Leader-Energy and  
Climate  
BHC India



Ms Haimanti Poddar  
Senior Regional Adviser-  
Climate Change and  
Energy  
British High Commission

The screenshot shows a live video stream of Mr. Mohit Sharma, Counsellor at CII-ITC. The interface includes the following elements:

- Top Header:** CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, 16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021, Building a Resilient Future (Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance, 2-3 September, 2021), and CII Confederation of Indian Industry.
- IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ministry of Climate Change, Government of India, and UK Government.
- SUPPORTED BY:** NSE.
- PARTNERS:** Embassy of Denmark, Sweden Sverige, TEAM SWEDEN, UK Research and Innovation, and wrap.
- PLATINUM PARTNERS:** ABB, Hindustan Zinc, and Mondelez.
- THE BEST RUN:** SAP.
- DIAMOND PARTNERS:** European Union, Grundfos, Apto Bank, Tata Steel, and WWF.
- GOLD PARTNERS:** giz, SBI, and Sedex.
- SILVER PARTNERS:** SBI and Sedex.
- Bottom Row:** A row of logos including TATA STEEL, WWF, giz, SBI, and Sedex.

Mr. Mohit Sharma, Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



Dr. Daniel Bradley, Team Leader-Energy and Climate, BHC India

Ms. Olivia Wessendorff, Head of COP26 Zero Emission Vehicles Campaign, BEIS



# 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021

Mr. Sudhendu J Sinha, Adviser (Infrastructure Connectivity – Transport and Electric Mobility), NITI Aayog

Mr. Ankit Kumar, CEO, UK's GOZero Mobility



The screenshot shows a live presentation slide with the following content:

- Challenges in setting up Public EV Charging Infra in India**
- Key challenges in setting up public EV charging infra:**
  - 1. Lack of standardization in charging infrastructure
  - 2. High cost of charging infrastructure
  - 3. Limited charging infrastructure
  - 4. Limited charging infrastructure
  - 5. Limited charging infrastructure
- Key focus areas in setting up public EV charging infra:**
  - 1. Standardization of charging infrastructure
  - 2. Reducing the cost of charging infrastructure
  - 3. Increasing the charging infrastructure
  - 4. Increasing the charging infrastructure
  - 5. Increasing the charging infrastructure

The slide is part of a video conference interface. The top banner includes the event title '16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021' and the theme 'Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance'. The interface also features various partner logos on the left and right sides, including CII, NSE, SAP, Tata Steel, and SBI.

Mr. Awadhesh Jha, Vice President – Charge & Drive, Fortum Charge & Drive India

The screenshot shows a live video feed of Mr. Rajat Verma, Founder & CEO of Lohum Cleantech Pvt Ltd, speaking during the summit. The video is framed within a larger interface that includes the event banner and partner logos. The banner at the top reads '16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021' and 'Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance'. The interface also features various partner logos on the left and right sides, including CII, NSE, SAP, Tata Steel, and SBI.

Mr. Rajat Verma, Founder & CEO, Lohum Cleantech Pvt Ltd



The screenshot shows a video conference window for the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021. The central video feed displays Ms. Haimanti Poddar, a woman with glasses, speaking. The interface is framed by a banner at the top and sidebars with logos. The top banner includes the following text: '16th SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021', 'Building a Resilient Future: Low-carbon Growth, Technology & Finance', and '6-8 September 2021'. Logos for 'CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development' and 'CII Confederation of Indian Industry' are also present. The sidebars and bottom of the interface are filled with logos of various partners, including Sedex, SBI, NSE, and others.

Ms. Haimanti Poddar, Senior Regional Adviser-Climate Change and Energy, British High Commission



# Circular Economy: Building Partnerships for the Transition

---

## Session Chairman & Moderator

Dr. Michael Bucki, Counsellor, Head of Section, Delegation of the European Union to India

## Panellists

- Dr. Rachna Arora, Team Leader and Coordinator, European Union Resource Efficiency Initiative
- Dr. Sandip Chatterjee, Director/ Scientist F, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- Dr. Shardul Agrawala, Head of the Environment and Economy Integration Division, OECD
- Dr. Saon Ray, Professor, ICRIER
- Mr. Amarnath Munnolimath, Senior Manager, adelphi

A Circular Economy (CE) is based on the principle of retaining value by extending the life of a product in different ways. Globally there is growing consensus on the potential contribution of material resource efficiency and adoption of circular economy principles, to climate change mitigation. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report alerts all countries to the need for urgent action to reduce carbon emissions. The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) concluded that in the industry sector, improvements in GHG emission efficiency and in the efficiency of material use, recycling and reuse of materials and products, and overall reductions in product demand (e.g., through a more intensive use of products) and service demand could, in addition to energy efficiency, help reduce GHG emissions below the baseline level.

The CE approach to e-waste management would improve resource efficiency, reduce pollution and waste, result in longer product-life, increase recovery of precious & rare materials, minimization of occupational and health hazards. It would also help in boosting the recycling industry and in formalization of the recycling sector as well as further job creation. In the e-waste sector, it would also promote an upstream approach which would take care of material security, designing products that are easy to repair and a longer shelf life.

The Circular Economy landscape in India is changing each year with several projects coming up in different parts of the country. For India, the transition to a more resource-efficient and circular economy holds the potential to address both, economic aspects as well as its contribution to the NDCs and the SDGs. Partnerships on Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy (RE&CE) will be key in the transition wherein knowledge-sharing and cooperation on elements such as business models and best practices can accelerate the transition.



## Challenges

### *Environmental*

- The current economic model is linear as resources are extracted, transformed into products, used, and then discarded. As population grows along with an increase in per capita demand due to higher incomes leading to raising the total consumption of resources, there is an immense pressure on the finite number of resources present in nature
- There is enormous growth in the generation of electronic waste in India. Global generation of electronic waste in 2019 was nearly 53.4 million tons out of which India contributed nearly 3.23 million tonnes
- E-waste management in India predominantly follows the downstream approach which is similar to other waste streams. The e-waste sector also faces the challenges of downcycling and thus each time an electronic product is recycled, the product deteriorates in quality and further recycling becomes difficult

### *Financial*

- The recycling sector in India is complex where there are several players, most of who operate in the informal sector. A formal recycling sector requires technology, which is expensive, and hence many recyclers operate in the informal sphere and opt for cheaper mechanisms of recycling which harm the environment
- Illegal trade in waste is a problem which is present in different countries and globally the issue of illegal trade in waste hasn't received the amount of attention deserved

### *Regulatory*

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), which is the global best practice for streamlining secondary resource materials is not popular in the industry and has not been taken up very well in the country
- Standards that act as barriers to trade must be reconsidered. Standards that are not globally accepted would inhibit trade and make it difficult to have a free-flowing circular economy in the country

## Solutions

- Initiatives introduced at the national level
  - Capacity development programme on Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy with MoEFCC and Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India
  - The European Union Resource Efficiency Initiative (EU-REI) provides support in the implementation on Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste, Solar Panel recycling and E-waste
  - The EU- REI project is also involved in policy development work by providing support to sectoral ministries in the design of tools and processes on resource efficiency



- The state of Goa has set initiatives to upcycle discarded fishing nets in collaboration with TERI, state government departments and the local fishermen community. The aim of this initiative is to support Goa in formulating a resource efficiency strategy
- Partnership based projects initiated in the country
  - ECOR which is a Netherlands based organisation is working on the material value chain for crop residue utilization
  - Earth Tatva is working on making products out of fired ceramic waste. EU-REI and adelphi provide support for this project
  - In order to promote the CE landscape in India, a Circular Economy lab is being set-up in partnership with other nations of the European Union
- Work is being conducted by organisations like OECD at the intersection of Circular Economy and international trade. The OECD research suggests that it is important to reduce trade which is bad for Circular Economy and waste management. An example of this is dumping of plastic waste in less developed countries. Further, the research encourages countries to make use of the economic principle of comparative advantage by focusing on activities which they perform well. As an example, countries which are good at recycling should focus on recycling, and trade should be done keeping that in mind. This would further help in increasing Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy
- Some of the high-level recommendations of the OECD on the topic of circular economy are: Improvement in transparency and traceability of products at the global level, establishing standards for material recyclability at the global level, increasing collaboration on regulations of waste trade, closing material loops at the global level, and improving trade facilitation mechanisms which contribute to a circular economy
- The role of MSMEs is very important in further expanding CE globally. Issues like access to finance, supportive regulatory frameworks like EPR standards, certificates etc. must be considered in order to strengthen MSMEs to build a better CE infrastructure
- Work is being conducted to encourage circular economy in the e-waste sector and NITI Aayog has published several reports on this topic. These reports published by NITI Aayog recommend that: Eco-Parks should be established to raise awareness, E-waste inventory should be improved, different stakeholders in the E-waste value chain should be sensitized, capacity building efforts must be ramped up to educate regulators, and product designing for easier dismantling and recycling should be encouraged
- While efforts to improve circular economy at the national and sub-national level have taken place, the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue is looking at creating a common G20 policy on Resource Efficiency amongst the G20 members at a global level. The following recommendations have been put forward in this regard: increasing international coordination and cooperation, supporting



businesses in their value chain management efforts to increase resource efficiency, investing in environmental goods and services, alleviating barriers to trade to ensure diffusion of best technologies across countries, and harmonizing environmental labels and information sources at a global level. Further at the G20/B20 level, the B20 summit in Argentina in 2018 had a task force on Energy, Resource Efficiency and Sustainability which emphasized on promoting resource efficiency and circular economy

- Behavioral change through communication, education and economic incentives will finally lead to the adoption of a Circular Economy culture in society

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/Zxo0hoE1YOQ>



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Dr Saon Ray  
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Dr Rachna Arora  
Team Leader and  
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Senior Manager  
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Dr. Michael Bucki, Counsellor, Head of Section, Delegation of the European Union to India



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Participants are encouraged

Dr. Shardul Agrawala, Head of the Environment and Economy Integration Division, OECD

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Dr. Saon Ray, Professor, ICRIER



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Mr. Amarnath Munnolimath, Senior Manager, Adelphi



# Mainstreaming ESG

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## Session Moderator

Mr. Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

## Keynote Address

Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Executive Director, SEBI

## Panellists

- Ms. Priya Subbaraman, Chief Regulatory Officer, National Stock Exchange
- Mr. Lagnajit Patnaik, Regional Director & Head of S/4HANA Centre of Excellence (COE), SAP Asia Pacific and Japan
- Ms. Anjali Bansal, Founder, Avaana Capital

Since 2015, shift in the overall demand for ESG has been witnessed globally. In 2020, total assets and inflows in sustainability funds, globally, had increased by almost 260% in a little over three years. There are two primary forces driving this shift towards ESG, in the corporate world - 'investors' & 'regulators'. Both policies/regulations and market linked incentives are nudging businesses to factor and mainstream ESG within their operations. While regulatory nudges are in play, it is in companies' own business interest to integrate ESG factors as it will help them manage their ESG related risks better and may also open up new business opportunities in the long run. Besides, it has been witnessed that increasingly, the cost of capital available to businesses are becoming highly dependent on the ESG practices of the company. This to an extent is driving companies to mainstream ESG. In the near term, how we handle ESG, and integrated business models will leverage technology and big data in a very significant way.

## Challenges

### *Regulatory*

- There is multiplicity of ESG frameworks globally (currently more than 20 exist) which leads to overcrowding and confusion. There is a need to have a global standard
- Laws for enforcing compliance within Indian businesses are yet to evolve
- Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) Framework still needs to evolve in consultation with the corporates for strengthening in-country implementation



### *Financial*

- One of the biggest challenges in ESG is that it is not as structured as financial performance data
- Addressing ESG which includes environment, social and governance data becomes a challenge as the data process is manual. There is lack of reliability and trust

### **Solutions**

- There is a trend towards having mandatory requirements for ESG, globally. For instance, UK, European Commission, Canada, Singapore, India and many other countries have come up with Corporate Sustainability Disclosure requirements and are enforcing them on a mandatory basis
- There is a global movement towards convergence of various frameworks of ESG worldwide. Even at the bilateral level, countries are issuing statements endorsing need for having a global standard
- India has an inter-operability framework within its recently launched Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) framework wherein companies who are complying with globally acceptable standards don't have to do it all over again, they can cross refer how a company is complying with the other framework. Perhaps many countries could do the same going forward
- There is increasing demand for sustainability reporting and global investors and shareholders have started insisting on ESG
- How we handle ESG, and integrated business models will leverage technology in a very significant way. There is a need to use large datasets to create valuable inputs for agriculture, water, and other areas in a comprehensive way. This will give an understanding of where real opportunities lie including where to put CAPEX leading to opportunities for start-ups to come in a very significant way

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/8fc78HTWIkA>



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Mr. Shikhar Jain, Deputy Head, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development



# 16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021

Mr. Amarjeet Singh, Executive Director, SEBI

Ms. Priya Subbaraman, Chief Regulatory Officer, National Stock Exchange



Mr. Lagnajit Patnaik, Regional Director & Head of S/4HANA Center of Excellence (COE), SAP Asia Pacific and Japan

Ms. Anjali Bansal, Founder, Avaana Capital



# Closing Plenary: Agenda for a Sustainable Future

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## Panellists

- Ms. Seema Arora, Deputy Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry
- H.E. Mr. Ugo Astuto, Ambassador, European Union to India
- Mr. Vineet Mittal, Chairman, Avaada Group

The Summit had around 107 speakers and nearly 800 participants from different sectors, both national & international, 31% of all attendees were women. 25% of all the speakers were international speakers and 27% of the speakers were women. Dignitaries like Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India; Ms Lea Wermelin, Minister of Environment, Government of Denmark; Shri Suresh Prabhu, Six Times Member of Parliament; Mr Nigel Topping, High Level Champion for Climate Action, COP26; H.E. Mr Alexander Ellis, British High Commissioner to India; H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto, Ambassador, European Union to India came live to give keynote addresses. The India Plastics Pact was launched at the Summit, which is the first of its kind in Asia.

## Salient Points

- In response to the covid pandemic it has become apparent that we all need to come together including the government, companies, and individuals to work towards a green, digital and resilient recovery. It does take science, finance, and technology together to engineer this fundamental shift
- India and EU are working together on a variety of topics related to sustainable development including EU-India water partnership, EU-India climate and energy partnership and shall work together in view of the critical international landmark events in the months ahead, starting with COP26
- Despite effects of covid pandemic, environmental issues continue to be a significant part of global agenda and India is also taking serious efforts to develop a robust SDG localization model centered on adoption, implementation, and monitoring at state and central level
- A lot needs to be done in terms of right and updated policies. Policies around making everything green and obsoleting thermal by 2030 or 2040 shall be formulated. Another policy could be letting the consumer choose who their energy provider could be and what source of electricity they require
- Subsidies on adapting newer technologies like hydrogen & carbon capture, consistency on internal carbon price, investments in R&D, disclosures on emissions, working with value chains, setting



targets around reducing plastic packaging, increasing recycling, adaptation of technologies from developed nations, nature-based solutions etc., can help achieving a resilient and sustainable future at a faster pace

- CII with its initiatives like Climate Action Programme and Climate Action Charter would help India in battling this fight of climate change. We would like to work with the industry and government on setting target date for net zero emissions and adding sectoral NDCs to NDCs that India has already committed.
- CII would continue to work with businesses to see how ESG performance of businesses can be mainstreamed and can be also enhanced. We have also been working on COP15 to give inputs to the global framework around protection of Biodiversity
- CII is making a consistent effort to ensure that its members, citizens and audience are continuously educated on building a resilient future. We will continue to work with its members to build a conducive environment for all-round development in India

Session Video: <https://youtu.be/im3eUUVoD3A>



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H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto  
Ambassador  
European Union to India



Mr Vineet Mittal  
Chairman  
Avaada Group



Ms Seema Arora  
Deputy Director General  
Confederation of Indian Industry

**16<sup>th</sup> SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2021**  
Building a Resilient Future  
Leveraging Science, Technology & Finance  
2-3 September 2021

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 - NSE

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CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development is a not-for-profit, industry-led institution that helps business become sustainable organisations. It is on a mission to catalyse innovative ideas and solutions, in India, and globally, to enable business, and its stakeholders, in sustainable value creation. It's knowledge, action and recognition activities enable companies to be future ready, improve footprints profiles, and advocate policymakers and legislators to improve standards of sustainable business through domestic and global policy interventions.

CESD leverages its role of all-inclusive ecosystem player, partnering industry, government, and civil society. It has been a pioneer of environment management systems, biodiversity mapping, sustainability reporting, integrated reporting, and social & natural capital valuation in India, thus upgrading business in India to sustainable competitiveness. With two locations in India, CESD operates across the country and has also been active in parts of South and South East Asia, Middle East, and Africa. It has held institutional partnerships and memberships of the United Nations Global Compact, Global Reporting Initiative, International Integrated Reporting Council, Carbon Disclosure Project, development agencies of Canada, the USA, the UK, and Germany.

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