

August-September 2021

NEWSLETTER



Cover Story

IBBI Activities

Upcoming Programme

Highlights of Member Disclosures

- Biodiversity is of core material value to 43% members
- 38% have dedicated biodiversity policy
- Upto 40% have adopted No Net Loss approach to achieve a net zero impact
- 50% members are committed to Science-based Targets (SBTis)
- 50% members have adopted Nature-based Solutions
- 77% members are contributing to SDGs through various initiatives & programmes
- 60% members are creating non-monetary benefits at the supply chain and community level



CII-ITC Centre of Excellence
for Sustainable Development



Confederation of Indian Industry

COVER STORY

Indian Industry Performance Towards Biodiversity

Private sector engagement has been recognised as crucial for conservation and sustainable management of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (B&Es). It is of paramount importance to prioritise actions to achieve the 2050 Vision. It is crucial to scale up the extent of and effectiveness of conservation measures & large scale restoration activities to reduce footprint on biodiversity and keep climate change well below 2 degree Celsius.

Businesses have started recognising that companies' activities not only lead to financial and economic outcomes but also involve non-financial aspects like environmental and social impacts. With growing concerns of degradation of natural resources, climate change and nature loss, it is vital for businesses to reduce their impacts on nature.

IBBI member companies, as a voluntary commitment submit a biennial biodiversity disclosure, based on the IBBI reporting framework, which showcases the efforts made by them towards acting and achieving conservation and sustainable development. The findings and key aspects reported by 30 IBBI member companies towards the 2020 reporting cycle are presented in a consolidated report- [IBBI Consolidated Disclosure Report 2021](#).

Key observations from the disclosure reports:

Member Implementation of Biodiversity across their Value Chain

- ✚ Top critical ecosystems mapped- Forests, Freshwater and Greenbelt
- ✚ Awareness creation among internal stakeholders is core to 43% of the members, while others link it to environment and climate aspects
- ✚ There is increased engagement of external stakeholders like government, technical experts, supply chain and community
- ✚ Top three risks identified are physical, reputational and supply chain related

Progress made by Businesses

- ✚ There are 84 Biodiversity Champions working towards mainstreaming biodiversity at corporate and site level among the member companies
- ✚ 60% of the members address risk through a mitigation pathway
- ✚ The members have a long-term commitment towards nature & climate through Science-based Targets or Nature-based Solutions
- ✚ Non-monetary benefit sharing pathways for sustainable supply chain management has helped businesses to create value across the community

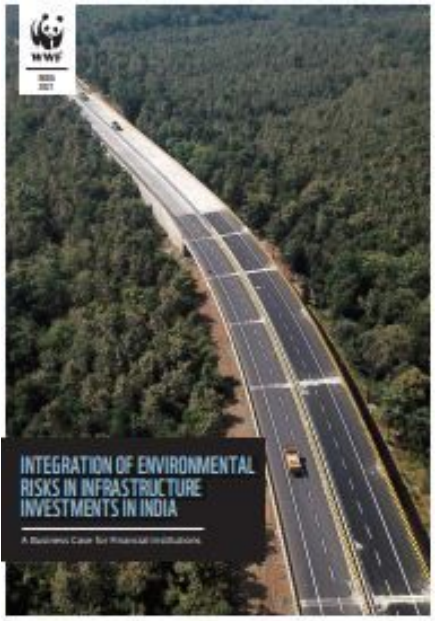
Achieving Nature & Climate 2030 Targets

- ✚ The members in collaboration with stakeholders are widely adopting No Net Loss Approach for meeting the Net Zero Commitment
- ✚ Carbon sequestration is being used as a synergetic solution by businesses to address biodiversity loss & climate change
- ✚ Valuation provides a promising tool to help businesses measure the monetary and non-monetary benefits created through their interventions

The detailed report can be viewed at [IBBI Consolidated Disclosure Report 2021](#)

SPECIAL REPORTS

INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS IN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS IN INDIA



Infrastructure is fundamental for the effective functioning of an economy and society. The physical structures and services provide access to a broad range of vital resources, such as water, energy, transportation, and telecommunication- underpinning economic activities and directly affecting the quality of life of people. The report focuses on four sectors – road, hydropower, port, and mining – vital for India's economic growth but have potentially high ecological impacts, if not managed responsibly.

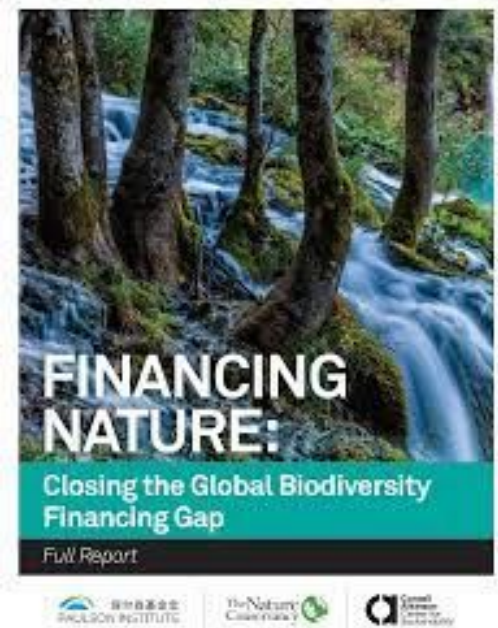
The report also provides an ambitious, yet actionable pathway for financial institutions to ensure that their capital positively contributes to environment protection and conservation.

[Read The Complete Report Here](#)

FINANCING NATURE: CLOSING THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FINANCING GAP

To slow and stop the global loss of biodiversity, we must fundamentally rethink our relationship with nature and transform our economic models and market systems. The policy and economic actions needed to achieve this require considerable political will, broad public support, and substantial investment. This will not happen overnight and, in the short to medium term, there is an urgent need to scale up finance for nature.

The Financing Nature report addresses two important challenges: firstly, the report lays out broad economic case for protecting nature, including an examination of the many known economic and social values of biodiversity and secondly, focuses on a critical element related to protecting biodiversity, namely the biodiversity financing gap.



[Read The Complete Report Here](#)

IBBI ACTIVITIES

First Draft of Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

CII and WWF India organised a joint virtual session on First Draft of Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework on 17 August 2021. This session was organised to create awareness on First draft of the framework and gaps related to the Indian Business Position Paper.

The World Economic Forum's 2020 Global Risks Report ranks biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse as one of the top five threats humanity will face in the next ten years. The research associated with this report shows that \$44 trillion of economic value generation – over half the world's total GDP – is moderately or highly dependent on nature and its services. This calls for an urgent mainstreaming of risk management strategies across the business value chain and prioritising nature conservation.

The Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has released the [First Draft of the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#), to guide actions worldwide through 2030, to preserve and protect nature and its essential services to people.

Session Proceedings:

The session was attended by 40 participants from industry, government, and stakeholder organisations.

The speakers in the session included Mr. Anirban Ghosh, CSO, Mahindra Group; Dr. Vinod B Mathur, Chairperson, NBA; Ms. Vishaish Uppal, Director, Governance, Law & Policy, WWF India; Ms. Syamala Lingala, Associate Counsellor, CII.

Key Discussion Points:

- Guidance on goals & targets of Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework- There is a need to identify effective measures for implementation of biodiversity, mechanisms for monitoring progress, knowledge sharing on scientific & technical aspects and supporting policy instruments
- Developing modules & mechanisms for biodiversity conservation- Aligning indicators for implementation of the framework are important in achieving the targets. It is crucial for businesses to identify area-based solutions and financial instruments for successful implementation
- Building partnerships and collaborations- Recognising pathways for collaborations engaging stakeholders, community and government will help in effective management of biodiversity. Modules for MSME collaboration and a stronger roadmap for conservation will help in driving stronger commitments at all levels

CII in consultation with its members has developed an Indian Business Position Paper on Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. In collaboration with WWF India, CII & business members are working to identify the gaps in the position paper based on the First Draft of Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

To share your views and learn how businesses can contribute towards Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, write to us at pravir.deshmukh@cii.in

IBBI Certified Training Programme

CII & UNDP collaboratively under the BIOFIN India project organised the CII & UNDP Virtual Certified Training Programme for businesses and relevant stakeholders. The training programme focuses on building capacity to identify strategic opportunities, adopt tools for risk mitigation and sustainable management across the business value chain through cost-efficient and revenue generating modules. The programme is beneficial for businesses from all sectors (including senior, middle & site level teams), development organisations, government/local authorities, research, and other key industry stakeholders.

Second batch of the CII & UNDP Certified Training Programme on 'Building Resilience to Climate Change & Biodiversity Loss' was organised from 9-12 August 2021

The training involves strategy & governance for biodiversity integration into development, production, operations, and supply chains. The mechanisms and instruments to adopt sustainable management and tools for risk mitigation and identification of opportunities across business value chain are covered. Various approaches for cost-efficient and revenue generating modules are introduced. Thus, leading participants to become experts **to drive their business on the path of 'Race to Zero' & achieve 'Net Zero' by 2030!**



Participation

The 2nd Batch of the training programme was conducted from 9-12 August involving business participants from senior, middle & site level management representatives. The programme was attended by 36 participants from the sectors- Manufacturing (3 companies), Automobile (3 companies), Agriculture (3 company), Energy/Power Industry (2 company) and 1 from the Service Industry.

Outcome

- Each participant was guided to inter-link the learnings of each day of the training programme with their own operations
- Group exercises helped the participants to identify risks linked to their operations and challenges in implementing biodiversity
- Participants were able to build their own strategy for risk management and action plan for sustainable management
- Participants got hands-on training on tools for monitoring & valuation, and a roadmap for self-analysis was developed specific to each participant's operation

To participate, please share your interest to [Ms. Aarti Maurya](#) or [Dr. Pravir Deshmukh](#)

Action for Preservation

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 such 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 hosted eminent national and international speakers, who shared their diverse perspectives and domain knowledge at this platform.

This year, **23 different organisations** came together to partner the Summit and **about 800 participants** attended the summit.

The virtual session on Action for Preserving Biodiversity was organised on Day 2, Friday, 3 September 2021. The session focused on the approaches and pathways by which businesses are driving the transformation towards a resilient and nature-positive future and in this journey, how partnerships with key stakeholder-government are essential for successful transformation.

The key speakers of the session included **Dr V.B. Mathur, Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority; Mr Kavinder Singh, Chairman IBBI, CEO & MD, Club Mahindra; 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.; Dr. Pravir Deshmukh, Counsellor, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development.**



Session Highlights:

- Biodiversity is the foundation for building a resilient future and it supports leveraging science, technology, and finance
- The world needs a shift not only to Net Zero but it is also crucial to become Nature Positive for the well being of people and planet. This calls for partnerships among businesses, government, and stakeholders to work beyond damage control
- Becoming nature positive ensures fast-paced action by enriching biodiversity, storing carbon, purifying water, and building resilience
- Global governance and economy depend on the foundation of nature and scaling up preventive and remedial action is the need of the hour
- Biodiversity needs to be at the core of all decision-making. The green deal is an innovative, systematic approach, synchronizing climate and nature, which will effectively transform the economy to a green economy
- UN Decade of Ecological Restoration is an opportunity to drive biological diversity, ecological restoration and nature conservation. Businesses need to come forward, build partnerships with local authorities and stakeholders and drive a stronger action towards business biodiversity programmes for a resilient future

Upcoming Programme



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ONLINE CII CERTIFIED INTERNAL AUDITOR TRAINING ON SAFETY, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTORY COMPLIANCE



CII Certified Training on Sustainable Reporting

The benefits of sustainability reporting go beyond relating firm financial risk and opportunity to performance along ESG dimensions and establishing license to operate. Sustainability disclosure can serve as a differentiator in competitive industries and foster investor confidence. In today's world it's not good enough to simply make claims about your level of sustainability. Now, organizations need to provide tangible, credible demonstrations of their level of sustainability, by following proper guidelines for sustainability reporting. This way organizations build trust among customers and all stakeholders, which in turn directly impacts the bottom lines. As per the business axiom you can't manage what you can't measure; transparency is a currency that builds trust, which build businesses.

Write to us to know more and participate in these upcoming training programmes
at
aarti.maurya@cii.in and asha.joseph@cii.in