

April 2020

NEWSLETTER



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MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

IBBI has formed four working groups under the platform focusing on key areas for policy advocacy and sustainable business development.

The working groups formed are:

1. Greenbelt Guidance Document for Indian Business Development
2. Biodiversity Risk Management by Adopting Cluster Approach
3. Biodiversity Linkages with Other Regulations
4. Revisiting IBBI Reporting Framework



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



Confederation of Indian Industry
125 Years: 1895-2020

VALUE CHAIN MANAGEMENT IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19

Covid-19 has put the world on a tailspin and wrecking havoc on the global economy. The stock market has tumbled, major companies have closed or slowed their operations. Large events, sports, schools and Broadway shows have been cancelled. There is shortage of supplies including high-tech products and pharmaceuticals. The current pandemic has critically impacted the value-chains.

A single species is responsible for Covid-19 pandemic and that is humans. Climate and biodiversity crises, including the current pandemic are direct consequence of human activity – particularly our global financial and economic systems, based on a limited paradigm that value economic growth at any cost.

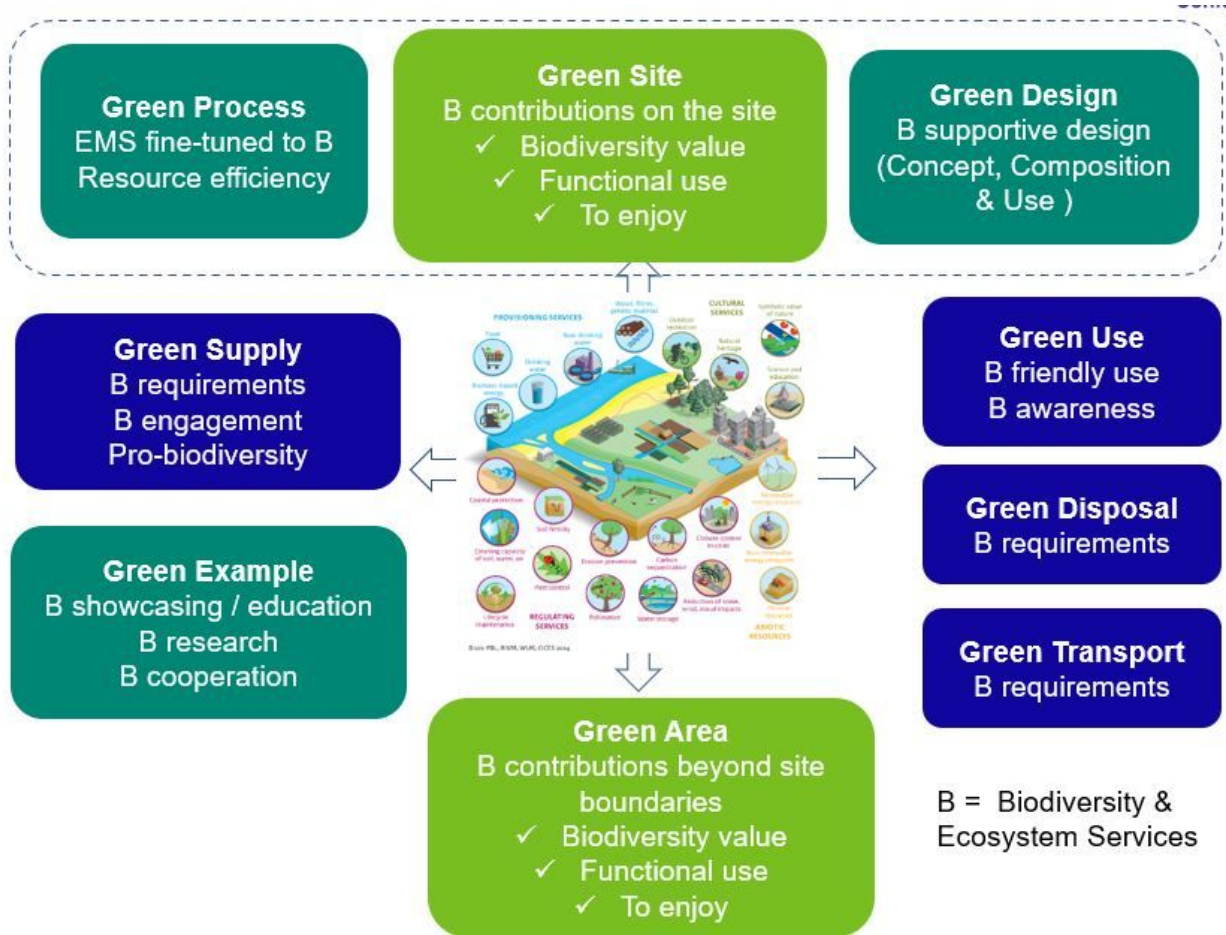


There is a small window of opportunity for businesses to learn and overcome these challenges like the current crises. At the same time it is also essential to ensure that the actions being taken post lockdown don't amplify the risks of climate change and biodiversity loss to a further extent.

What businesses can do?

- Ensure the strengthening and enforcement of environmental and biodiversity regulations across their value chain – and encourage more sustainable and nature-friendly operations
- Adopt a long- term approach for decision-making taking into account livelihoods, community development, species and ecosystem conservation and protection of nature
- Incorporate viable and sustainable alternative solutions for immediate risk areas
- Learn and build future resilience through nature-based solutions and system-wide re-organisation of technology, processes and activities
- Bring in the trans-formative change including goals and targets for promoting biodiversity and nature across all sectors

Ways of B&ES management

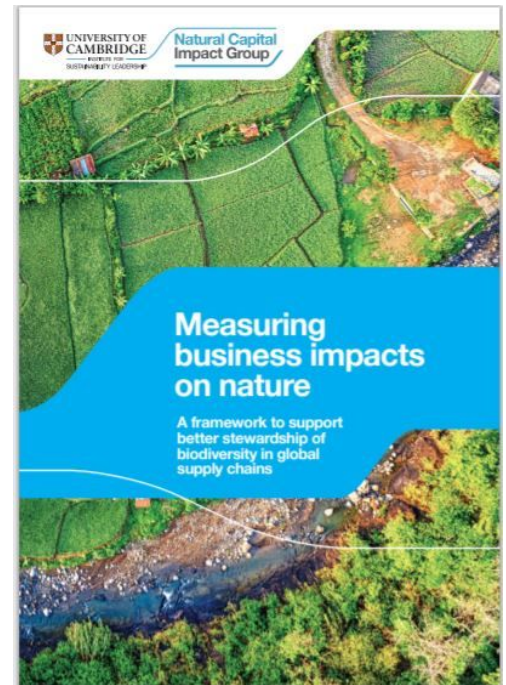


SPECIAL FOCUS

Measuring Business Impacts on Nature : A framework to support better stewardship of biodiversity in the global supply chain

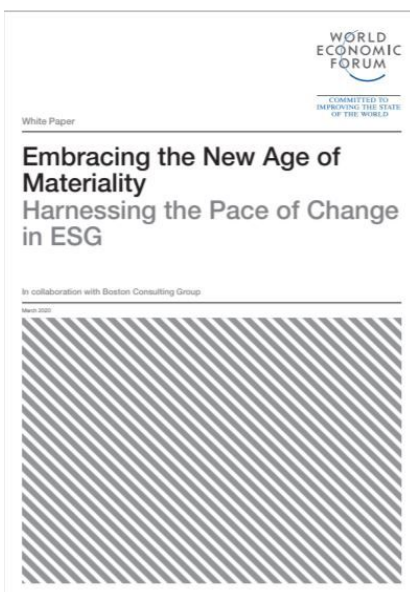
Successful businesses spot opportunities and react quickly. Businesses that understand their dependencies and impacts on nature, and take steps to safeguard and enhance the long-term resilience of nature, are positioning for success in the future.

- Businesses that take a proactive role in addressing their impacts and dependencies on nature and biodiversity will be well placed to succeed in the challenging context of climate and ecological crises.
- Businesses that take a lead on nature-related disclosure and action are well positioned to establish a competitive advantage and increase their market share
- Businesses that account for and restore nature and biodiversity will enhance the resilience of their supply chains and maintain a licence to operate, whilst creating additional benefits for society.



To learn more about supply chain management and monitoring read the full report [here](#).

Embracing the New Age of Materiality



To win in the coming decade, investors and companies must equip themselves with forward-looking and proactive approaches to materiality. Increasingly many Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are becoming financially material. Investors are focusing on creating sustainable investing strategies, spurred by the growing risks and opportunities that sustainability trends present to companies' long-term value. There is a possibility that what is financially immaterial to a company or industry today can become material tomorrow, a process called “dynamic materiality”.

This paper offers a framework that provides investors with guidance on the signals to look for to better identify dynamic ESG issues and to incorporate them into the process of portfolio construction, security selection and stewardship. It provides examples of the kinds of signals investors need to detect and the analyses they should conduct. It also includes a set of questions that will help guide both investors and companies as they work to build their capability in these areas.

Read the full paper to learn more about ESG reporting visit [here](#).

IBBI ACTIVITIES

CII-IBBI Online Certified Training Programme

Nature is the foundation of sustainability of society, businesses and economy. There are direct or indirect linkages of our activities, operations and economic growth with nature and its components. But in the last many years, nature has not been taken into consideration as part of our decision-making process and has been the least priority or ignored. Today we are on the verge of sixth mass extinction, frequent extreme weather events, natural catastrophes and depleting resources. Over the years anthropocentric activities have led to a great extent of biodiversity loss and climate change, causing unrecoverable impacts on nature.

On the path to sustainable development for economy and businesses it is crucial to consider nature in decision-making and incorporate 'Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services' (B&ES) across sectors and value chains. This requires an understanding of inter-linkages of various activities with B&ES; risk mapping and assessment of B&ES and developing specific targets and goals for achieving positive outcomes.

IBBI provides the opportunity to gain awareness on B&ES, adopt tools/metrics for assessment of B&ES and incorporate nature conservation into decision-making. A CII-IBBI online certified training programme is planned in the month of May-June 2020 for business, government, academia and NGOs on aspects of nature and climate change.

Topics to be covered in the training programme:

1. Inter-linkages of business and nature
2. Risk management by businesses due to nature loss
3. Capacity building on tools and metrics for valuing nature and the inter-linked B&ES
5. Development of long-term targets and goals for operating businesses in harmony with nature
6. Exercise for participants on self-assessment of B&ES-mapping, risk identification, valuation & action plan

Takeaway's for participants:

1. Capacity building on self-assessment to identify nature risk
2. Use India specific tools to map, manage and value nature risk across value chain
3. Learn from good practices implemented by leading Indian companies for risk management like adaptation of nature-based solutions
4. Understand the global and national perspective on nature targets and what role businesses can play
5. Become a certified biodiversity champion

Last date for sharing interest: 15 May 2020

Participation fee is applicable (contact team for details on group participation & discounts)

To participate please share your interest to
ibbi@cii.in
and
cc to pravir.deshlukh@cii.in

Scheduled dates of the training programme will be shared with interested participants

Webinar on Business & Nature Action Agenda for Next Decade

IBBI organised a webinar on 'Business & Nature Action Agenda for Next Decade' on 27 April 2020.

Speakers at the webinar:

- a. Dr. Markus Lehmann, Senior Programme Management Officer, CBD
- b. Dr. Vinod Mathur, Chairmen, NBA
- c. Dr. Pravir Deshmukh, Counselor, CII

The objective of the webinar was to create awareness of post 2020 global biodiversity framework and opportunities for businesses. Global and Indian perspectives were shared during the webinar.

A total of 165 national and international representatives from business and other stakeholders participated in the webinar.

Key Highlights:

- - 1) Biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystem services are creating significant risks to humans and businesses. All businesses are directly or indirectly linked to biodiversity for the ecosystem services or for raw material
 - 2) The COVID-19 pandemic shows us how these different risks are linked to each other, which were triggered due to biodiversity loss as a result of wildlife trafficking and led to a global lock down with severe impacts on health, economy and our day to day life
 - 3) Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is built around a theory of change which recognizes that urgent policy action globally, regionally and nationally is required to transform economic, social and financial models so that trends that have exacerbated biodiversity loss will stabilize in the next 10 years (by 2030) and allow for recovery of natural ecosystems in the following 20 years, with net improvements by 2050 to achieve the Convention's vision of "Living in Harmony With Nature by 2050"
 - 4) Business and financial sector can play a fundamental role, alongside governments and civil society, in implementation of the post-2020 GBF, though integrating biodiversity assessment and risk management into processes, greening supply chains and portfolios across the board, increasing funding for biodiversity protection / sustainable use and reporting on impacts
 - 5) India faces challenges like the lack of awareness, misinterpretation of biodiversity related regulations, lack of business involvement in policy development and lack of biodiversity value integration in planning activities
 - 6) Indian businesses can be engaged through collaborative work in areas like greening of value chains, capacity building, environment management through corporate social responsibility and development of green financing models
 - 7) Instruments for biodiversity management like Access and Benefit Sharing should be promoted as tool for sustainable supply chain management

To learn how to adopt 'Living in Harmony with Nature' across your operations, write to us at :
syamala.lingala@cii.in or pravir.deshmukh@cii.in

UPCOMING EVENTS

[IBBI Webinar on Working in Harmony with Nature](#)

Biodiversity Day is celebrated each year on 22 May to raise awareness about the value of biodiversity. This year's theme, "Our Solutions are in Nature", highlights that biodiversity is the key to unlocking a more sustainable future.

As the global community is called to re-examine its relationship with the natural world, one thing is certain: despite all our technological advances we are completely dependent on healthy and vibrant ecosystems for our health, water, food, medicines, clothes, fuel, shelter and energy, just to name a few. The slogan "Our Solutions are in Nature" emphasises hope, solidarity and the importance of working together at all levels to build a future of life in harmony with nature.

The slogan "Our Solutions are in Nature", brings both Nature-based Solutions with biodiversity safeguards and the biodiversity/nature aspect together in a way that is easy to grasp. It also shows that people are part of nature rather than separate from nature. This slogan also pairs well with different calls for action promoted as run up to the International Day for Biological Diversity. This calls for action could include:

- Ecosystem-based solutions for addressing biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation simultaneously;
- Mainstreaming biodiversity in economic sectors.

The theme of the upcoming UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) will be: "Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth". To build that future, we can find solutions in nature.



22 MAY 2020
**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**
Our solutions are in nature

[Click to read more about
International Day for Biological
Diversity!](#)

On the occasion of International Day on Biological Diversity, IBBI is organising a webinar on the theme "WORKING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE" on 22 May 2020

Topics to be covered are:

- Need of adopting science based nature targets
- Learning's from IBBI members and road map for next decade
- Need for policy changes to address future risk related to nature loss

Speakers include leading business members, government and key stakeholders working on nature conservation

To participate write to us at syamala.lingala@cii.in and pravir.deshmukh@cii.in

Virtual Conference on Supply Chain Sustainability: Resurgence Post COVID-19

CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) in association with Sedex is organising a virtual conference on Supply Chain Sustainability: Resurgence Post COVID-19.

The Key focus areas to be covered during the conference are:

- a. Current situation of supply chain and the impact of Covid-19 on geographical spread
- b. How businesses are evolving from the global pandemic
- c. Social responsibility of government and businesses at this time

Speakers:

This conference involves speakers from government, senior management of leading companies and senior representatives from civil societies.

Date of the Conference: 22 May 2020
Time of the Conference: 1300 - 1600 hrs IST

Participation Fee:
INR 1000 per Delegate + taxes

[Click for Online
Registration](#)

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