



CII-ITC Centre of Excellence  
for Sustainable Development



Confederation of Indian Industry



# Building together a Sustainable future

Annual Report 2021



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## Mission

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



## Vision

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

The Centre has created an ecosystem that brings sustainability issues to center stage and created platforms to dynamically work in the areas of climate action, biodiversity, air pollution, circular economy & resource efficiency and mobilize collaborative industry action.



# Messages



## Mr Sanjiv Puri

Chairman, Advisory Council, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, Vice President, CII, and Chairman & Managing Director ITC Ltd

While the Glasgow Climate Pact (GCP) at COP26 witnessed heightened commitments by nations, it is amply clear that we have reached a tipping point. The latest IPCC report warned that in the absence of speedy interventions at scale, 1.5°C would be breached by 2040 under all scenarios, or even earlier.

The world that we live in today is being buffeted by successive, high intensity shocks. Even as nations start emerging from the trauma of the pandemic, we are confronted with geo-political tensions, economic stress and inflationary headwinds, bringing back to the fore concerns over livelihood generation and environmental degradation. Compounding these issues are daunting sustainability challenges, with climate change emerging as an existential threat.

While the Glasgow Climate Pact (GCP) at COP26 witnessed heightened commitments by nations, it is amply clear that we have reached a tipping point. The latest IPCC report warned that in the absence of speedy interventions at scale, 1.5°C would be breached by 2040 under all scenarios, or even earlier. This sombre assessment was mirrored in WEF's latest Global Risks Perception Survey: while climate change continues to be perceived as the "gravest threat to humanity", the respondents, crucially, rated climate action failure as the risk with potential to "inflict the most damage at a global scale over the next decade".

The past year has indeed sounded a forewarning of things to come. The year alone witnessed the world being rocked by a series of extreme weather events unique in recorded history. Exceptional heatwaves in North America and the Mediterranean region, major wildfires in many parts of the world, extreme rainfall in China and Western Europe, and acute drought in parts of South America for the second successive year, while some of the driest months on record were witnessed in the United States. India has not been spared either—over 478 extreme weather events were

recorded between 1970-2019, with most of them occurring after 2005.

In addition to environmental havoc, these episodes devastate lives on an equally distressing scale. The UN Office on Disaster Risk Reduction, for instance, estimated that 1.23 million have died and 4.2 billion have been affected by droughts, floods and wildfires since 2000. Humanitarian crises have unfolded with large-scale, weather-induced population displacement. According to Oxfam International, 20 million people every year were forced from their homes by weather-related disasters since 2010. While such events cause suffering for everyone in the affected areas, it hits the poor and vulnerable the hardest in the wake of loss of livelihoods and erosion in their resilience to bounce back from recurrent weather shocks.

It is clear that greater ambition with accelerated action in synchrony with every segment of society is the only way that the GCP objectives can be met. Businesses as trustees of societal resources can play a pivotal role in climate change mitigation and adaptation, given their innovative and entrepreneurial capacity, managerial expertise and access to talent. Enterprises will need to heighten focus on exploring and embracing future-ready growth models that will synergise business competitiveness with transition to a net zero economy. Decarbonization efforts through greater use of renewable energy, promotion of nature-based solutions, adoption of principles of circular economy, and de-risking agriculture through climate smart practices will be some of the pillars of a low carbon strategy. Adopting low-carbon



technologies such as Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS) in hard-to-abate sectors and setting ambitious emissions reductions targets would be imperative. However, in order for industry to adopt low-carbon technologies, it is equally important to ensure availability and access to green finance. Support mechanisms such as development of a National Carbon Market will act as a great push to drive simultaneous demand across sectors for decarbonization.

It is in this context that the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development's role assumes great importance. The Centre has been leading sustainable value creation through drivers of growth, inclusion and conservation of nature. These are realised through key interventions based on four pillars - Low Carbon Economy, Circularity, Balanced Ecosystems and ESG. Its key enablers include capacity building of industry, collaborations and alliances with relevant institutions and agencies and policy advocacy.

In line with these imperatives, a critical task taken up by the Centre during the year was drafting a CII Vision 2030 on Climate Change and Sustainability. The purpose is to create a blueprint for collaborative action across value chains & sectors of the industry and stakeholder groups including policy, regulation, finance, and technology.

The CII Climate Action Charter (CCAC), developed by the Centre, provides a platform for Indian businesses to map climate change as a material risk across value chains and develop long-term actions to build

resilience. Premised on four critical principles, it aims to accelerate climate action by developing measurable short-term and long-term targets for GHG emission reductions, supporting value chains in climate transition, building resilience for future impacts, and mobilizing green finance.

The India Plastics Pact (IPP), launched at the 16th Sustainability Summit, envisions 'a world where plastic is valued and does not pollute the environment'. IPP brings together businesses, NGOs and citizens to create a circular plastics economy in India. So far, 22 members and 11 supporters are a part of this Pact, which is the first of its kind in Asia.

Through the Cleaner Air Better Life Initiative and the India Business and Biodiversity Initiative, the Centre is working towards promoting clean air, sustainable agriculture, water positivity and biodiversity.

Based on feedback received from members, the Centre has been attempting to align various frameworks to create indices that would enable comparisons between companies regardless of their industry or region. Towards this end, interactive sessions were organized with SEBI and CII-National level committees on Corporate Governance, Financial Reporting & Regulatory affairs. A central objective of these consultations was to mainstream ESG into the boardroom agenda. The Centre has also developed ESG disclosure metrics and Sustainability Reports for companies focusing on the company's risks and opportunities with enough potential to impact the company's long-term operational and financial performance. Keeping in line with SEBI's new

requirements for sustainability reporting by listed entities, new training and capacity building programmes on Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting was also introduced during the year.

The Centre recognizes and awards companies that have demonstrated excellence in implementing measures that make their businesses sustainable and inclusive through the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards. It identifies enterprises that deliver high shareholder value simultaneously with environmental enrichment and social inclusiveness. Since its inception in 2006, the Awards has recognised 347 large, medium, small, and micro enterprises across manufacturing and services sectors. With the assessment being done by trained and experienced Sustainability Assessors, the Awards have enabled organisations improve their overall sustainability performance.

As the voice of Indian business in global and international fora, the Centre's role is critical in driving sustainable and inclusive development and providing ample pathways to critical environmental, social, and governmental issues. It has grown from strength to strength and will continue to leverage its role of an all-inclusive ecosystem player by partnering with industry, government, and civil society to address the most important global macro challenges with respect to Climate, Change, Biodiversity, Air pollution and Resource Efficiency.

I hope you will find the third edition of our Annual Report useful and informative.





## Chandrajit Banerjee

Director General  
Confederation of Indian Industry

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CII had developed a comprehensive vision for India@75 in 2008 through a people-centric visioning exercise with the participation of over 5,000 people from all walks of life. The vision has been actioned over the years with industry as a central player in inclusive growth and societal development.

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As India marks the milestone of 75 years of Independence this year, achieving economic growth with environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation has emerged as a key challenge. The environmental impact of economic growth includes the increased consumption of natural resources, higher levels of pollution, and the potential loss of ecological habitats

CII had developed a comprehensive vision for India@75 in 2008 through a people-centric visioning exercise with the participation of over 5,000 people from all walks of life. The vision has been actioned over the years with industry as a central player in inclusive growth and societal development. This will be the foundation for CII's coming actions over the year and will act as a guide towards India@100, a nation that is internally strong and externally engaged.

CII as the nation's premier industry association, recognizes the criticality of sustainable and inclusive growth as central to economic growth. Sustainability is one area that the CII has been engaged in deeply, as we have helped industry adopt sustainable business operations, be it in energy efficiency and conservation, nature-based solutions, water conservation, waste management, and inclusiveness along the value chain, as well as social value creation.

The CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) through its various initiatives is committed to the areas of promoting clean air, environment conservation and forest protection, reducing CO2 emissions, supporting biodiversity,

ensuring sustainable procurement, boosting resource efficiency and circular economy, spreading corporate reporting, and recognizing excellence in various domains.

This year too, owing to the pandemic, all activities were undertaken in the virtual mode. The virtual learning environment has created new avenues for professionals to participate in various activities online. With many real-time training sessions and webinars, the online programmes facilitated professional development and helped stakeholders in expanding the scope of opportunities in the areas of environmental sustainability and climate change.

To equip corporate practitioners across industries to benchmark their organisational performance with respect to norms, codes, and performance standards and demonstrate commitment to sustainable development, the Centre successfully concluded its first in-house and virtual training on Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) in December 2021 and February 2022 respectively.

The Centre has been working on plastics for about three years now, covering scientific and circular economy aspects, policy, and regulatory issues, and most importantly, action by member companies representing all points along the plastics value chain. Our members have taken steps beyond regulatory requirements to involve communities, waste management organisations and their own design and R&D departments to bring about changes in the way plastics are used and disposed.



As part of the portfolio, the India Plastics Pact, the first of its kind in Asia, aims to bring together leading businesses at a national level to make commitments for building a circular system for plastics. This is indeed a positive step in keeping plastic in the economy and out of the natural environment, and to empower businesses, governments, and the entire plastics value chain to transition towards a circular economy for plastics in India.

The Centre is on a relentless pursuit of embedding sustainability into governance, operations, and strategy by assisting industry clients to successfully manage Environmental performance and ESG (Environment, Social and Corporate Governance) disclosures. It has supported companies to deliver long-term sustainable value to their stakeholders. In addition, during COVID-19, CESD has helped clients with best practice mapping; assessing business-related risks and opportunities; and developing sound and responsible corporate business strategies.

The IPCC Climate Report released in February 2022 showed that unless there are immediate and deep emissions reductions across all sectors, 1.5°C is beyond reach. However, there are options available now in all sectors to halve emissions by 2030. The goals of climate action demand universal strategies from all nations and the growth path must increasingly include sustainability as a concomitant objective.

Drawing upon a systematic approach, the Centre has been supporting Indian Industry to combat climate

change and building climate resilience through multiple endeavours. Along with inventorising greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for small and large companies alike, carbon sequestration studies, setting science-based targets, and working with supply chains for reducing their GHG impacts, the Centre also conducts sector-wise sensitization and awareness sessions on global climate policies and specifically, challenges facing India.

The CII Climate Action Charter launched recently will facilitate businesses to lead their sectoral climate actions and showcase best practices for addressing climate risks.

In the Indian context, the agriculture sector is key to economic development and livelihoods, and is also facing challenges of climate change and sustainability. CII, through interventions on climate, nature and sustainability aspects, has been supporting the agriculture sector to build resilience.

In this regard, the Centre has been engaging extensively with farmers with respect to Sustainable Agriculture Practices for Crop Residue Management. The pilot programme on Crop Residue Management was initiated in 2018 in 19 villages of Ludhiana and Patiala districts to demonstrate actionable in-situ solutions at scale. This has been scaled to 233 villages (from 172 in 2020) across 10 districts of Punjab and Haryana with behaviour change at community-level (>80% farmers adoption of sustainable practice), supported by pooled CSR from 15 corporates.

Sustainability is most certainly a journey, not a destination. It is a process, it is a strategy, it is a framework; and it continues to evolve and become more comprehensive. This evolution reflects the state of our world and the scale of efforts required to put our house back in order.

As we build India for a new world, we cannot return to 'business as usual' and it is important that global environmental emergencies such as climate change and biodiversity loss are factored in every walk of life and every decision taken. 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

The work showcased in the present edition of the CESD Annual Report thus assumes great importance in the present conditions to aid the revival of India's economy and above all, Mother Nature.

I am sure that all stakeholders will gain insights about the Centre's work on sustainability, which chronicles the CESD journey through 2021, and thereby further accelerate India's sustainability endeavours.



# Highlights



Asia's first Pact, the  
**India Plastics Pact**  
launched

**32 Members**  
and Supporters from  
across the plastics  
value chain



## CII Climate Action Charter (CCAC)

a platform for Indian  
Businesses to map  
Climate Change as a  
material risk across  
value chains and develop  
long term actions to  
build resilience



## Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

60 businesses participated in consultations to  
propagate Indian businesses towards achieving the  
CBD's 2050 vision of "Living in Harmony with  
Nature" and strengthen CBD's Post 2020 GBF



CEO forum on  
Clean Air has  
**70 members**

Crop Residue  
Management  
Programme (CRM)  
Scaled to  
**233 villages**  
in 10 districts of Punjab  
and Haryana

Awarded 1st prize by  
**Global Development  
Network** in 2021 for  
creating a community-scale  
actionable model to solve  
crop residue burning

Carbon storage of  
**1,69,512 tonnes**  
of CO<sub>2</sub>e/year developed through  
sustainable agriculture practices  
under Unique project  
'Clean Air & Healthy Soil'

## Cleaner Air Better life





Industry members developed the Ask for global climate actions for **COP 26** focusing on financing, technology transfer and adaptation



**13 Companies/ 61 sites** adopted the **Plastic Use Protocol**. Sensitization/ Awareness training to more than 1200 professionals



**CII -ITC Sustainability Awards**  
**16** years  
**1042** Businesses applied  
**347** Recognized  
**2021**  
**51** Applications  
**22** Recognitions



**Webinar series on Race to Zero**  
EP100  
SME Climate Hub  
RE100  
EV 100  
Technology Transfer



**16th Sustainability Summit**  
**107** Speakers  
**25%** International  
**27%** Female Speakers  
**800** Participants



**Training Programmes**  
**36** Programmes  
**1040** Industry Professionals  
**5** Key areas of sustainability  
**In-house and Virtual** BRSR training undertaken for the first time





# Sustainable Initiatives

Climate Action

Circular economy and Resource Efficiency

Biodiversity and Nature

Resilient Business and Society



# Climate Action

The Centre, through structured interventions has been constantly geared to mainstream climate action by spreading awareness about the potential risks of climate change; helping businesses adopt new strategies with more evidence-based research and services and build resilience, enabling Indian Industry maintain competitiveness.

## Working Group on Driving Accelerated Climate Action by Indian Businesses

India is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts and considering the urgency, the Centre has established a 10-CEO lead working group on “Driving Accelerated Climate Action by Indian Businesses” with an objective to develop and drive a compelling strategy and action plan to enable Indian businesses adopt aggressive sustainability commitments for building a climate-resilient future.

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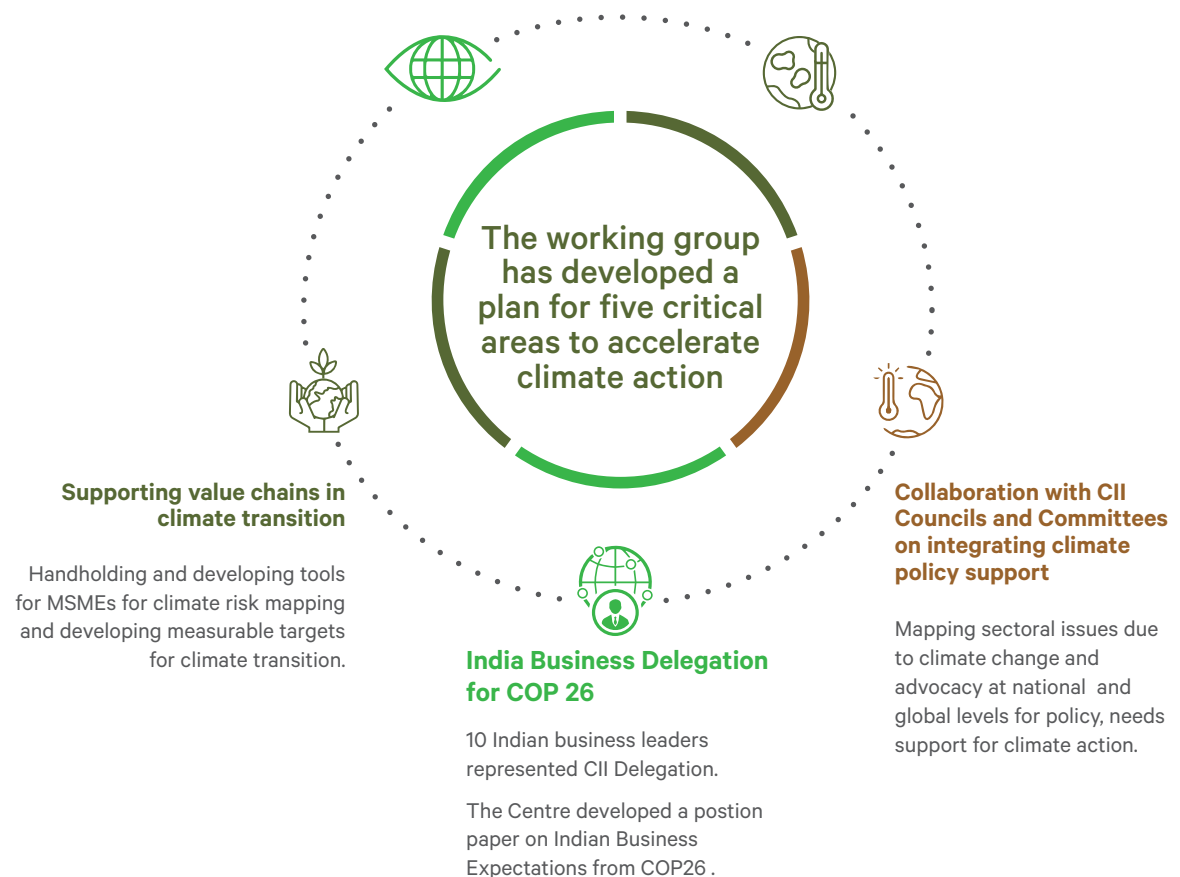
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### CII Climate Action Charter

The CII Climate Action Charter has been designed to provide impetus to collective action by Indian businesses to drive solutions for a just, equitable and resilient transition.

### CII Vision 2030 on Climate Change and Sustainability

Vision envisages creating an ecosystem to drive towards low-carbon transition to enable Indian industry to become a leader in climate action.





## The Centre at COP26

### Session on Greening India's Power Grids

The Centre in collaboration with World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) successfully organised the session on Greening India's Power Grids at the World Leaders Summit of COP26.



Launch of Green Grids, One Sun One World One Grid and IRIS at COP26



Dr. Varun Sivaram, Senior Director for Clean Energy and Innovation, US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry met with the Delegation



The Delegation met Lord Adair Turner, UK House of Lords, Chair of the Energy Transitions Commission



Lord Karan Bilimoria, President, Confederation of British Industry met with the Delegation



## Key Expectations from COP26

The Centre has been constantly geared to mainstream Climate Action by spreading awareness about the potential risks of Climate Change; building capacity of businesses to build resilience and integrating Climate Change in the business ecosystem.

As momentum was built at national and global levels, the Centre put forward the following expectations from a business perspective on each of the 4 key areas deliberated in Glasgow:



### Setting Common Time frames for Nationally Determined Commitments (NDCs)

Carbon pricing is one of the most promising tools for meeting the Paris Agreement commitments and driving investment for carbon-neutral technologies, carbon capture and carbon sequestration. To drive climate action, the Centre had recommended setting a global floor price for carbon.



### Prioritising Adaptation

It is important to recognise the crucial role played by nature for climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Centre suggested that it is important to include an explicit reference to nature-based solutions, the selection of focus being marine, coastal, freshwater and land ecosystems.



### Financing Climate Transition

The Centre recommended that COP26 should leverage private finance by embedding climate-aware sustainable approaches into risk management activities.



### Technology Transfer

The Centre recommended developing alternative modalities such as enterprise-driven R&D for technology options and innovation fund for low-carbon technologies.

## Pre-COP26 Conclave

To foster impactful dialogue from stakeholders on workable means of cutting down emissions and accelerating climate action, the Centre hosted the Pre-COP26 Conclave organised virtually as run up to COP26 in collaboration with CGI, with two main objectives:

→ To address the challenges and opportunities for companies in adopting clean and renewable energy

→ To understand the role of information technology sector in combating climate crisis







The CII Climate Action Charter (CCAC) is designed to provide a platform for Indian Businesses to map Climate Change as a material risk across value chains and develop long term actions to build resilience. This platform will facilitate businesses to lead their sectoral climate actions and showcase best practices for addressing climate risks.

The CCAC is based on four principles which will support businesses in addressing climate change risks in their operations. The principles are based on four critical areas :

- GHG Emission Reductions by developing measurable short term (5 years) and long term targets for GHG (Greenhouse Gasses) emission reduction
- Transition in Value Chain by providing support to the value chain in climate transition, ie. pivoting existing assets, operations and business models to align with climate science recommendations
- Building Resilience by helping businesses adapt to climate-forward disruptions and build resilience for future climate change impacts
- Mobilizing Green Finance by facilitating the acceleration of green finance to aid climate transition

The Centre invites large corporations and MSMEs alike, to join the charter, access scale, flexibility, resources, and expertise to achieve ambitious climate goals, and fortify their commitment to a Net-Zero India.

## Webinar on Adopting Clean Energy for Climate Change

The webinar on Adopting Clean Energy for Climate Change depicted how businesses today are adapting to the energy transition and diversifying into renewable and low carbon energy in response to growing concerns over climate change.

## Webinar on Information Technology Sector: Tackling Climate Crisis

Information technology plays an important role in combatting climate change by applying technology products and services across value chains. Tech-enabled efficiency and decarbonization solutions can provide carbon reduction opportunities to different sectors of the economy.

In this context, the webinar on Information Technology Sector: Tackling Climate Crisis was organised to deliberate on the initiatives of the IT sector in combating climate change and mitigating its effects.

## Publication



The Centre with support from Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation undertook Phase II of the recently concluded study, 'Reducing GHG Emissions in the Automobile Sector Supply Chain by Involving Suppliers through Green Procurement', which provides a thorough assessment of the green procurement guidelines adopted by some of the top performing Indian and Global automobile OEMs.

With the ultimate goal of decarbonising automobile companies' (OEMs) supply chain by systematically evolving low carbon pathways, here are some of the key takeaways worth noting from the study:

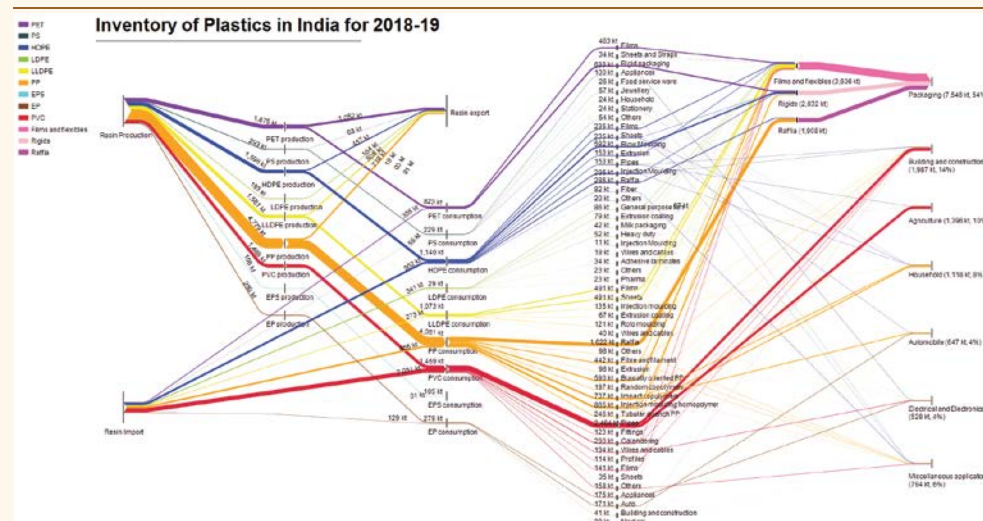
- » The MSME supply chain is challenged due to the knowledge, human and financial resource gap. Channelizing support to MSMEs in climate action, could make climate action more business-friendly
- » There is a need to prioritize suppliers who demonstrate greater inclusion of recycled or remanufactured material in their processes. Collaboration with suppliers is important so as to integrate circular economy principles and close the gap in the recycling of auto parts
- » Adequate allocation of finance is required to enable the sustainability and green supply chain teams to implement the green supply chain programme



# Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency

The Centre supports governments, businesses and civil society in integrating circular economy interventions into their practices.

## Plastics inventory Phase I



The Centre took on the task of developing an economy-wide material flow of major plastic resins in India. This material flow will provide accurate and reliable data which will support better management of plastics in the country.

## European Union Resource Efficiency Initiative Phase II



The Centre is a consortium partner in the European Union's Resource Efficiency Initiative along with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) and adelphi Consult GmbH. The initiative, whose Phase II was initiated in 2021, aims to facilitate partnerships between Indian and European businesses and stakeholders on resource efficiency (RE) in selected sectors. As part of this initiative, the Centre organized a session called 'Circular Economy: Building Partnerships for the Transition' during the 16th CII Sustainability Summit.



## Cement sector Resource Efficiency and Climate Change

The Centre is carrying out a study to identify greenhouse gas mitigation strategies through Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy across the cement value chain. The study aims to demonstrate a quantification of potential resource efficiency and climate change benefits for a hard-to-abate sector such as cement. Such a study can help demonstrate the importance of replicating similar work in other hard-to-abate sectors while helping the country achieve its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets.

As part of this study, the Centre is developing an economy-wide material flow for cement for the year 2018-19, which will act as a baseline for assessing the abatement potential arising from integrating resource efficiency and circular economy measures across the value chain.

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The study aims to demonstrate a quantification of potential resource efficiency and climate change benefits for a hard-to-abate sector such as cement.

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### Impact

- Started a systemic change in packaging design, use and post- consumer aspects of different plastic resins across the country
- 32 organisations across the plastics value chain committed
- Interventions identified for meeting climate mitigation targets designed using quantitative scenarios
- Data for scale of investment in plastics recycling infrastructure estimated and made available
- Executives trained to implement circular economy interventions



# Biodiversity and Nature



Biodiversity conservation has been recognised as a critical issue after climate change impacts. At the global level, deliberations are going on to develop a measurable framework for biodiversity conservation as Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Considering the urgency to the call, the UN has adopted a theme for this decade as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. It aims to prevent, halt, and reverse the degradation of ecosystems on every continent and in every ocean and can help to end poverty, combat climate change, and prevent mass extinction.



India Business and Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI) members recognised the criticality and developed an action plan for the year focusing on collaboration for awareness creation and enabling business engagement in biodiversity management.

## Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Consultations

The Centre has undertaken follow-up consultations to propel Indian businesses towards achieving the CBD's 2050 vision of "Living in Harmony with Nature" and strengthen CBD's Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted in COP17 in 2022.

Indian businesses prioritise top four commitments as listed below based on a roadmap (elaborated in a specific session in the paper) for biodiversity conservation, reversing nature loss and living in harmony with nature:

- » Mainstreaming Post- 2020 targets to reduce footprint on nature and promote biodiversity conservation across value chain by 2025
- » Avoid or limit disturbances of natural spaces and promote No Net Loss or Net Positive approach among all operations by 2030
- » Partner with local authorities and communities for sustainable consumption and production
- » Take initiatives for monetary and non - monetary benefit sharing to local stakeholders and tribal communities

Indian businesses have also reflected on certain aspects of the draft framework, with respect to the Indian perspective and provided the following feedback on the Post 2020 GBF:

- » Include specific biodiversity quantifying metrics for monitoring and measuring performance toward achieving the targets
- » Prioritise targets for immediate action towards restoration of degraded and ecologically fragile habitats and species
- » Adopt targets for biodiversity aligning with climate change and land degradation
- » Promote trackability to reduce Illegal wildlife trade and limit over extraction/ exploitation of wild species



## Awareness Training Programmes

The Centre, UNDP and NBA developed a Certified Training Programme on Building Resilience to Climate Change & Biodiversity Loss. The training provided:

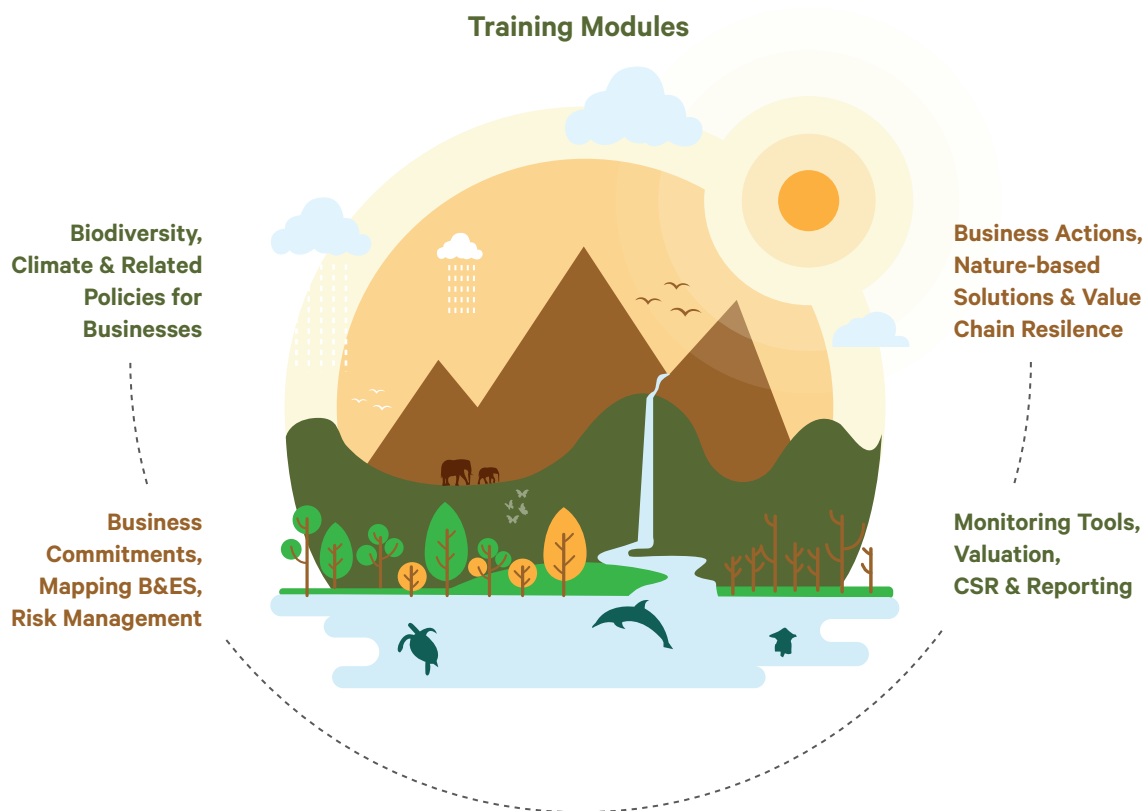
- Opportunity to businesses and stakeholders to enhance awareness and build capacity on nature and climate aspects and supported in adopting a roadmap to monitor and manage the risks
- Hands-on training on tools for mapping, self-assessing and developing appropriate action plans for avoidance, mitigation and reduction of nature loss and climate change
- Focus on developing a strategy for site-specific operations and identifying solutions for addressing the challenges of biodiversity management



**Two Sessions  
Completed in 2021**



**50 Participants from  
30 Organisations**



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The training provided opportunity to businesses and stakeholders to enhance awareness and build capacity on nature and climate aspects and supported in adopting a roadmap to monitor and manage risks.

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## Ecosystem Conservation

Under the India Business and Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI), the Centre has developed India Mangrove Coalition to drive mangrove conservation by businesses in India through a holistic approach. It has brought together key stakeholders from across the board like businesses, government ministries and departments, NGOs and citizens to implement practical solutions by setting targets to:

- » Recognise mangroves as a critical ecosystem for conservation in India
- » Engage businesses for mangrove conservation and afforestation
- » Policy intervention linking to mangrove conservation
- » Driving finance/investments in this area of conservation
- » Create awareness and increase stakeholder & citizen-level participation in mangrove conservation

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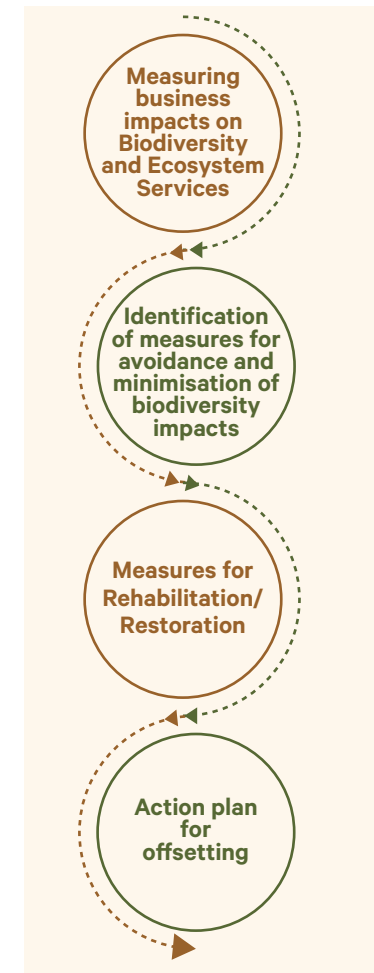
IBBI conducted two consultations with businesses, stakeholder organisations and the state government to develop the action plan for India Mangrove Coalition. The coalition will drive the Ecosystem Restoration Agenda in collaboration with business members.

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## Adopting No Net Loss of Biodiversity

Indian businesses are developing commitments for meeting the No Net Loss or Net Positive policy. The concept of no net biodiversity loss lies at the heart of biodiversity offsetting. No net loss, in essence, refers to the point where biodiversity gains from targeted conservation activities match the losses of biodiversity due to the impacts of a specific development project, so that there is no net reduction in the type, amount and condition (or quality) of biodiversity over space and time.

Following 'No Net Loss of Biodiversity' will minimise the business externalities, reducing pollution and conserving biodiversity. IBBI is supporting members through the following principles to meet the No Net Loss Commitment.





# Resilient Business and Society

The Centre helps companies assess and mitigate the risks associated with communities where they operate. Our services facilitate multi-dimensional insights into legal compliance, CSR implementation best practices, and impact measurement of projects.

These studies highlight community needs, qualitative and quantitative impacts, based on the scientific approach, feedback and social value created for stakeholders.

## CSR Consulting Assignments

The Centre conducted 5 CSR consulting assignments in 2021 for animal care, natural resources, cement, sugar, chemicals and power sector companies.

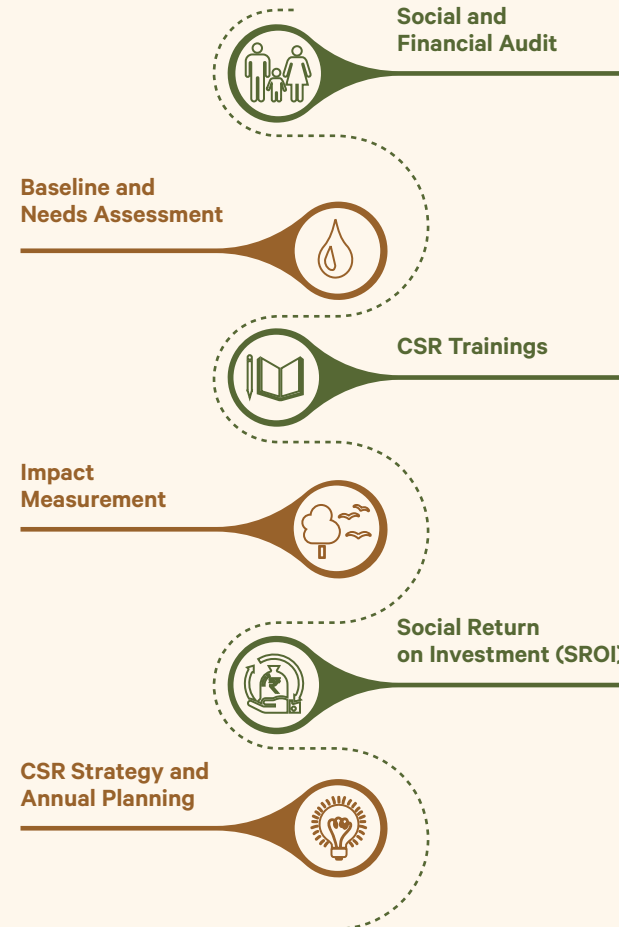
- Impact assessment and SROI study outcomes have helped companies to understand stakeholder perception and community feedback.
- The study recommendations have helped companies to make informed decisions about the replication, scalability and sustainability of the projects.
- Study recommendations assisted companies to review current CSR implementation process, monitoring mechanisms and exit strategy.

The team interacted with project stakeholders and gathered data using impact questionnaires customised for each project

Online tool used to collect the data through beneficiaries and key resource persons

On-site and virtual visits carried out to validate project impacts

## CSR Services of the Centre



Visit our website at <https://lnkd.in/dzGBK-7y>  
or write to us at [takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org](mailto:takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org)







## Outcomes of impact measurement and SROI studies

### Consulting Assignment 1

- Farmers mentioned that hydroponic fodder improved their animal's health and productivity and at the same time proved cost-effective
- The medicinal plant cultivation initiative increased the average farmers' income by Rs 8,250 per acre. 90 percent of farmers mentioned that the cultivation of medicinal plants is beneficial as they require low maintenance, less water and are chemical-free
- The organic farming initiative doubled farm income, reduced water consumption, and agriculture input costs in three years. 45 percent of beneficiaries adopted organic farming after becoming aware of the ill effects of chemicals on food
- The Crop Residue Management project has reduced pollution by 80% in the project villages of Sonipat and Panipat. Stubble burning was substantially reduced and led to better air quality in project areas
- The average income of youths after the Animal Health and Entrepreneurship training programme was estimated at Rs. 10,000 per month



Use of hydroponics technology, conserved water, maximised space and required lesser time



Medicinal plant cultivation initiative increased the average farmers' income by Rs 8,250 per acre



45 percent of beneficiaries adopted organic farming



CRM project has reduced the pollution by 80%



## Consulting Assignment 2

- Project Jeevan Amrit provided safe drinking water to rural communities, and empowered women by providing employment
- Women cooperative engaged 250 women in income-generating activities. Women have made an income of Rs 34 lakh from spice grinding unit, sanitary pad unit and white phenyl production unit from 2018 to 2021
- The education initiative has improved the physical, cognitive, and social abilities of students by providing a conducive environment for learning



Indicators like safe drinking water, reduced water borne diseases, convenience for women, employment and women empowerment

## Consulting Assignment 3

- Agro-based livelihood initiative increased the income of farmers and built their capacity on use of modern agricultural tools. 889 farmers earned Rs 1.45 crore through vegetable cultivation from 2019-2021
- Health initiative led to 1279 institutional deliveries, 79 NCD camps and 1324 awareness sessions on CD and NCD
- The water resource management initiative has increased total water storage capacity of 60,000 cum and groundwater recharge over 37,080 through artificial tube well, pond deepening and check dam construction



The overall SROI value of five programmes is 9.75



Social value of Rs 49 crore generated for direct and indirect beneficiaries



The company invested Rs 5.02 crore in the last three year



Key success factors are Government collaboration, community engagement and ownership and sustainability







# Sustainable Alliances

Cleaner Air-Better Life

India Plastics Pact





Cleaner Air  
Better Life

# Cleaner Air-Better Life

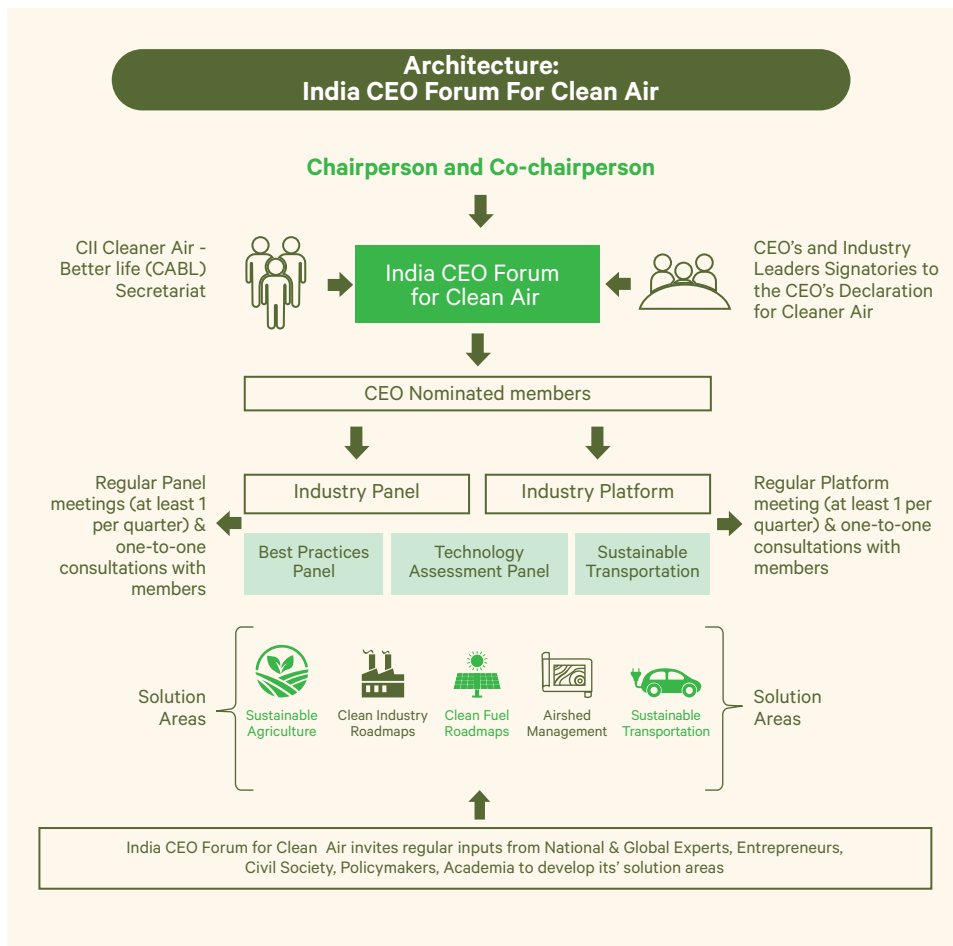




# Cleaner Air-Better Life

## India CEO Forum for Clean Air

India CEO Forum for Clean Air is a national alliance of businesses to actively engage on air pollution and implement proactive solutions in partnership with Government & Society.



- » The CEO Forum expanded from 35 to 70 industry members in 2021 comprising some of India's leading business houses and corporations.
- » One Clean Air Conference and two bi-annual meetings of India CEO Forum for Clean Air, held in 2021 to showcase and take forward the solutions from industry.
- » **Two Reports Launched:**

- The report on “Air pollution in India and The Impact on Business” prepared by Dalberg in support with CII and Clean Air Fund was launched at the Forum's meeting in March 2021 with a dedicated media campaign. The report highlighted the economic loss incurred by various businesses, other relevant sectors in India and its impact on the Indian workforce.
- The report on “Clean and Green Economy for Air Pollution” highlights the economic, technological and policy barriers for scaling green solutions which utilise excess biomass in northern agrarian states.





- Periodic interactions of the Forum with 'Parliamentarians Group for Clean Air' formalised. India CEO forum for Clean Air shared inputs for industry outlook on COP-26 commitments with the 'Group of Parliamentarians for Clean Air' on 19 December 2021



## Partner agencies



## Testimonials



**Mr. R K Shenoy**

Member, India CEO Forum for Clean Air & Member of Executive Leadership Team, Senior VP – Mobility Engineering Bosch Global Software Technologies

*“Contribution towards improved framework for delivering smart urban mobility and promoting sustainable transportation is the pre-requisite for clean and green cities. We need a enabling ecosystem between the Government bodies and Industry including start-ups and innovators to bring impactful changes towards an Clean Air”*



**Ms. Bhairavi Jani**

Member, India CEO Forum for Clean Air; Chairperson & Founder, IEF Entrepreneurship Foundation & Executive Director, SCA Group

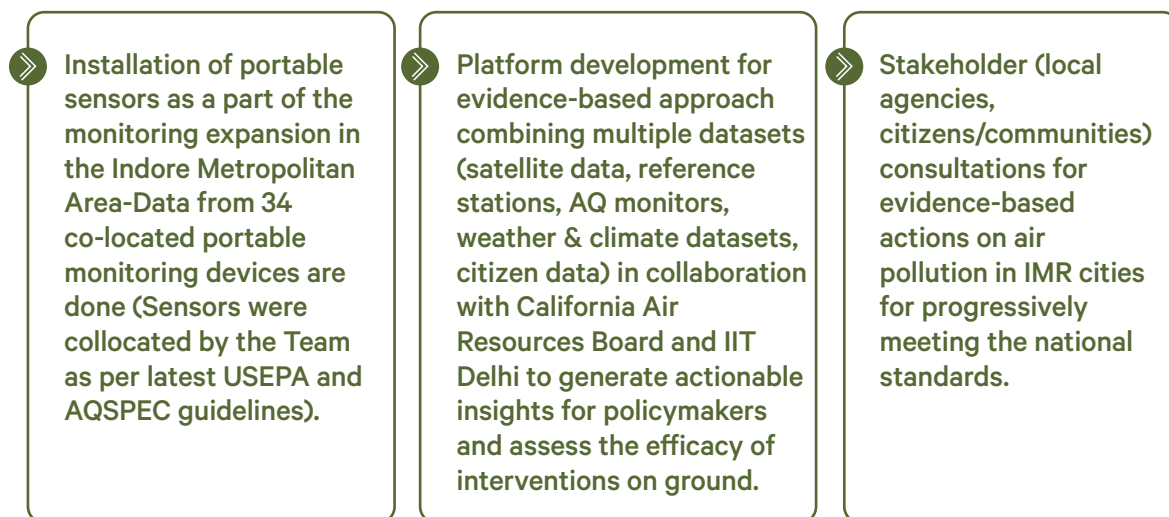
*“There are several contributing factors to air pollution, all of them caused by human activities, yet all of them preventable. Businesses, communities, government bodies, technical experts, and all of us, as individuals, have an important role to identify actionable solutions to key challenges facing cleaner air at the national & sub-national levels.*

*The India CEO Forum for Clean Air is one such platform that demonstrates collective leadership across diverse sectors in India for scaling sustainable delivery models, to address air pollution at the source. I call on my peers, and strongly urge them to join the Forum for making a difference”*



## Clean Air Better Life- Indore Metropolitan Region

Cleaner Air Better Life (CABL) anchors the clean air programme across the Indore Metropolitan Region (IMR) with an aim to demonstrate airshed management & planning approach and create a replicable model for other metropolitan regions. The project started with the development of a comprehensive deployment plan to install low-cost monitoring sensors across Indore city in consultation with local business leaders, policymakers, technical institution, and ground team.



### Donor Agencies



### Partner Agencies

### Nodal Ministries and Government Department



## Crop Residue Management

Crop residue burning, an age-old practice, is not only impacting the environment, but also affecting the soil health. The Crop Residue Management Programme is initiative to promote sustainable practices of straw management among farming community and work across sectors with varied industries and govt. to bring system level changes to address this issue of stubble burning.

### Cleaner Air Better Life - Crop Residue

**Management Programme:** Scaled to 233 villages (from 172 in 2020) across 10 districts of Punjab and Haryana with behaviour change at community-level (>80% farmers adoption of sustainable practice), supported by pooled CSR from 15 corporates so far.

### Key impact Figures across 172 villages:



Sustainable agricultural practices were adopted by **85% farmers**



Study finds that yield under improved crop residue management practices in intervened area showed improvement compared to burning-

- (1) **6.93%** under mulching
- (2) **5.94%** under straw incorporation
- (3) **6.43%** under partial straw management



For area intervened in 2018 (16 villages), significant decline of complete burning is seen with three years of intervention from 97% of total farmland in 2017 (baseline year) to **15% in 2020**.



## » Awards and Recognition

- The initiative received the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) Action Award by UNDP in partnership with the Government of Punjab under the category 'Integration, Convergence, Joint Action and Holistic Solution Approach – Industry'. The SDG Action Awards recognise efforts of change makers who are working towards making the world a better place
- Awarded 1st prize by Global Development Network in 2021 for creating a community-scale actionable model to solve crop residue burning.
- Case Study on CABL Crop Residue Management by IIM Bangalore for teaching MBA students, published in Harvard Business Review in 2021 <https://store.hbr.org/product/ecofriendly-solution-to-crop-residue-burning/imb893?sku=IMB893-PDF-ENG>



## » Unique project 'Clean Air & Healthy Soil'

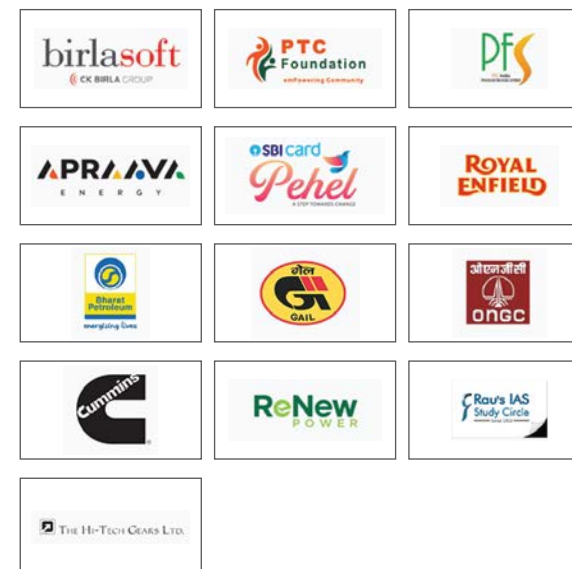
Listed on Voluntary Carbon Market VERRA in 2021 for 1,69,512 tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e per year accounting for adoption of sustainable rice straw management practice across 172 villages: with stakeholder consultations done in Punjab & Haryana

## » Policy advocacy

- The most cost-effective solution, biomass co-firing in existing coal power plants, evaluated and suggested by CABL was taken up by the Government in 2021 for a dedicated National Mission & proposal under Union Budget 2022-23
- Punjab State Government took up the recommendation regarding permitting certain categories of industries to install paddy straw-fired boilers and claim fiscal incentives
- State Government took up the recommendation to expand straw collection and promote rural straw banks. Cabinet approved non-fiscal incentives for selected industries in terms of availability of Panchayat land for storage of paddy straw with a lease agreement upto 33 years

- Promotion of natural fertilizer over chemical fertiliser is picked by the national govt. by amending National fertiliser control policy on 2nd August from NPK for yield to bio-stimulants for quality food for a step towards promotion of bio manure in agriculture as recommended

## Donor Organisations

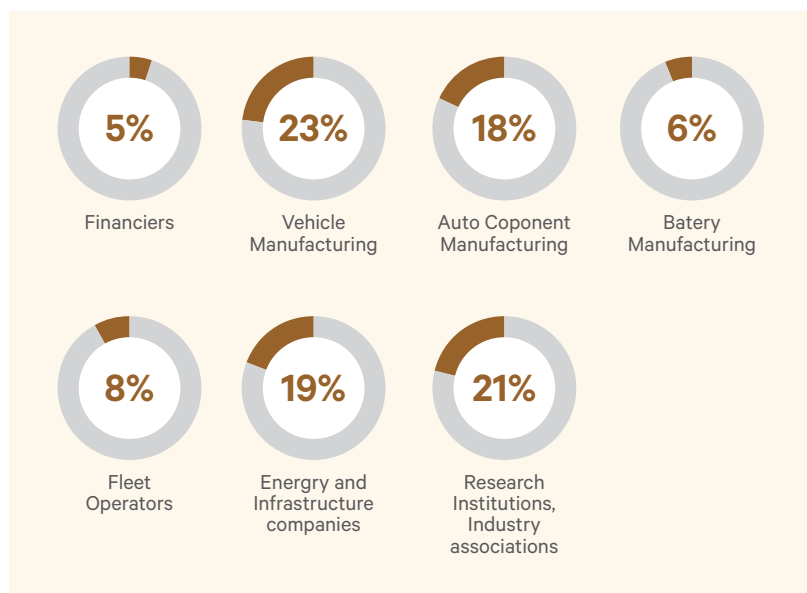




## Industry Platform on Sustainable Transportation

The intent of the platform is to scale Electric Vehicle (EV) supply chain in India by mapping the barriers faced on the ground and building a common understanding amongst EV players on emerging solutions. The platform also aims to foster new knowledge and understanding of opportunities and challenges faced by the EV supply chain in India to enable faster adoption of new technologies.

- Industry Platform on Sustainable Transportation set-up in March 2021 with 20 members has grown to 68 members from across the EV value chain including EV OEMs, charging infrastructure developers, component manufacturers, software developers, battery swapping solutions providers, financiers, auto skill development institutions, fleet operators etc.



- Two platform meetings and more than 30 bilateral consultations with members held throughout 2021 and a draft map of barriers on ground and potential solutions to scale EV manufacturing has been developed to be circulated among the members for their feedback.
- Key solutions emerging at platform include- **low/zero emission zones, battery swapping, second life to EV batteries, energy integration among various policy, technology and fiscal solutions.**

## Key Industry Members



## Key Institutional Members





The logo for the India Plastics Pact, featuring a stylized green and blue circular graphic to the left of the text "INDIA PLASTICS PACT" in a bold, sans-serif font.

# India Plastics Pact



The Centre launched the **India Plastics Pact**, in partnership with WWF-India at the 16th CII Sustainability Summit in the presence of Mr. Alexander Ellis, British High Commissioner to India.

The Pact is a business-led initiative which aims to unite businesses, governments, NGOs and citizens to create a circular economy for plastics in India. The initiative is supported by WRAP, a global NGO based in the UK. The India Plastics Pact is the **first in Asia** and joins a **global network of 13 Plastic Pacts**.



32 Members and Supporters from across the plastics value chain are currently part of the India Plastics Pact. All signatories will work collaboratively in support of four ambitious 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 targets are envisaged to be achieved by 2030 with interim milestones outlined in a Roadmap to be published within the first year of the Pact. Delivering the targets will drive circularity of plastics and help tackle pollution but will also deliver significant GHG reduction through the reduction in fossil-derived plastics, greater use of recycled plastics and increase in recycling.



Figure 1: IPP Members and Supporters in 2021



Since the Launch, a number of activities have been taken up under the aegis of the Pact. Some of the major activities have been mentioned below:

An Advisory Committee was set up to provide oversight, advice and insights to the Secretariat (housed at CII and WWF India) on guiding the successful delivery of the India Plastics Pact targets.

Collaborative Action Groups (CAGs), a crucial and important element of every Plastics Pact, are being set up to work on specific areas of interest aligned with the four targets of the Pact. The CAGs will help identify challenges encountered by members in attaining the targets and will also identify solutions specific to the Indian. Two CAGs have already been formed and regular monthly meetings are underway.

To report and measure the progress against each target a reporting template for the Pact is being developed. It will be shared with few member companies for trial.

Three technical projects have been initiated to strengthen the data and information on various aspects of plastic packaging. The three technical projects, led by WRAP, are in key areas of

- informal waste sector,
- small format sachet packaging, and
- food grade recycled PET (rPET) in packaging

## IPP Partner Organisations

Developed by



Supported by



Funded in part by

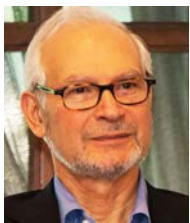


EUREI Consortium:





## Testimonials



**Jamshyd N Godrej**

Chairman  
CII Climate Change Council 2021-22  
and Chairman & Managing Director,  
Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing  
Company Limited

*“Innovation, collaboration and voluntary commitments contextualised for India and led by Indian companies will help the transition to a circular economy for plastics. The Plastics Pact model offers this solution. While this pact is already active in a number of other countries, I commend CII and WWF India for bringing this initiative to India.”*



**Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi**

Chair, Advisory Committee  
India Plastics Pact and  
Director – Sustainability,  
Tata Consumer  
Products Limited

*“We recognize that when we bring our international Plastics Pact experience to India there are challenges in the ecosystem of resources, availability of materials, technology, financing, etc. This is the right, collaborative approach where we have all the industries.”*



**Mr. Vimal Sharma**

Country HSE Manager  
ABB India

*“At ABB, we embed sustainability in everything we do. One of our key areas under the 2030 sustainability commitment is Resource efficiency and preservation. Towards this, we plan to turn all our campuses Single use Plastic (SuP) free. CII’s Plastics-use Protocol: Verification & Certification has helped us to adopt a proper methodology for monitoring the use of single-use plastics and further eliminating its usage with the identified scope at our facility. With their help, we have been able to make ABB-Peenya facility SuP free and are now working on similar initiatives across other facilities too. We look forward for more such partnerships with CII, and similar collaborative efforts towards a more sustainable future.”*



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## Sustainability Awards

## Sustainability Summit





**16<sup>th</sup> CII-ITC  
SUSTAINABILITY  
AWARDS 2021**

Excellence in Sustainable Business

# Sustainability Awards





Instituted in 2006, the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards recognise and reward excellence in businesses that are going the distance to embed sustainable practices in their operations. Winners of the Awards are role models that inspire others to follow suit. The Awards are a part of the continued efforts of CESD to create awareness on sustainability practices and to create capacities in business. More than recognition, the Awards measure performance and provide detailed feedback for opportunities to excel.

CII-ITC Sustainability Awards define the science of sustainability performance. Excellence in sustainability is a journey of continuous improvement in processes and results.

In the past 16 years, cumulatively, 1042 businesses have applied, of which 347 have been recognised. Limited number of applications are accepted to maintain strong competition and high standards of excellence.

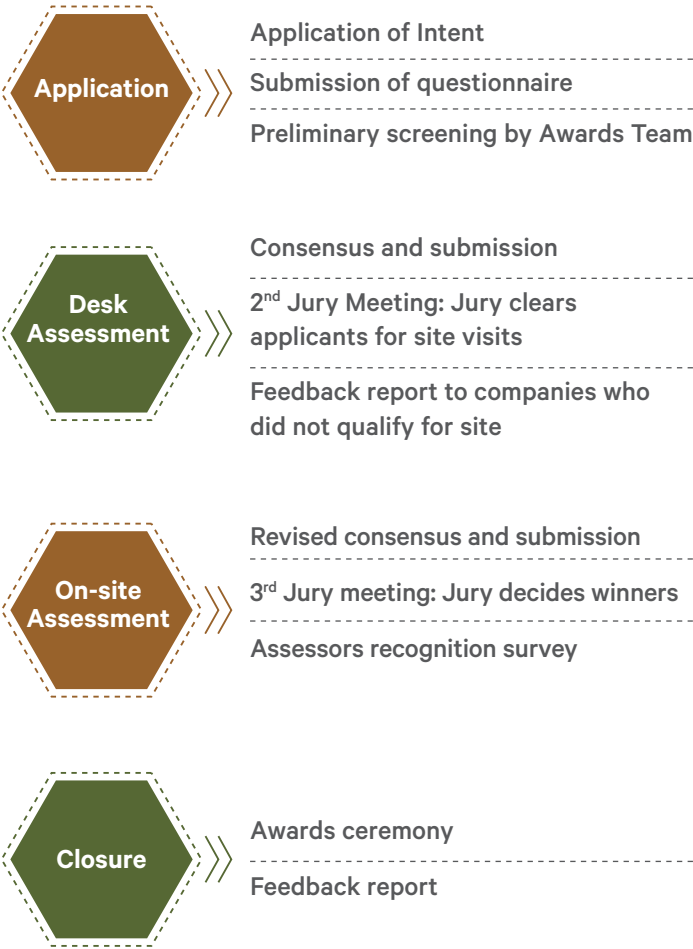
In the past 16 years, cumulatively, 1042 businesses applied and 347 recognised. Limited number of applications accepted to maintain strong competition and high standards of excellence.

### Methodology

USP of the Awards: CII-ITC Sustainability Awards are the only third-party assured Awards in terms of technology, governance, methodology and process. Uniquely based on EFQM Excellence Framework, the Awards are designed for those who strive effortlessly to make sustainability their business. Companies can apply for the Corporate Excellence category or domain category (Environment Management, Biodiversity, Corporate Social Responsibility).

Each year, the participating companies undergo a rigorous evaluation process that includes preliminary screening, desk analysis and on-site assessment by a team of CII-certified sustainability assessors, who spent approximately 1,000 man-hours per application over a period of six months. The process is validated and supported by a pre-eminent jury which meets after each stage, to ascertain the qualification of the companies to the next round. This uniquely credible Award celebrates the exemplary contribution of businesses in scaling up sustainable practices.

### Awards Process





## Awards Ceremony

Winners are recognised at a presentation Ceremony. The ceremony not only recognises the participant companies but also, the assessors who diligently participate and contribute their expertise, throughout the Awards cycle. The ceremony is attended by some of the most illustrious and distinguished Jury, CEOs, and Assessors who come to receive the Awards under various categories. This year too, the Awards ceremony was conducted virtually

Ceremony attended by some of the most illustrious and distinguished Jury, CEOs, and Assessors who come to receive Awards under various categories.

**CHAMPIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY HONoured**  
16th CII-ITC SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2021  
Excellence in Sustainable Business

**Corporate Excellence**  
Outstanding Accomplishment

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Genpact India Pvt Ltd.                         | Wipro Ltd.                             | NTPC Ltd., Sipat Super Thermal Power Station  |
| NTPC Ltd., Talcher Super Thermal Power Station | NTPC Ltd., Tamsa Thermal Power Station | NTPC Ltd., Rihand Super Thermal Power Station |

**Commendation for Significant Achievement**

|              |   |   |                                       |
|--------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Infosys Ltd. | Tata Steel Ltd. (Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Haryana) | NTPC Ltd., Rihand Super Thermal Power Station | Tata AutoComp, QV Batteries Pvt. Ltd. |
|--------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|

**Domain Excellence**  
Environment Management

**Excellence in Environment Management**

|   |                                     |  |                 |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| APRI JV, Zigar Power Ltd. (Hydrex Energy) | Grain Industries Ltd., Bika Culture | Wipro Ltd., Rihand Super Thermal Power Station | JSW Cement Ltd. |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------|

**Commendation for Significant Achievement**

|                   |                                |   |  |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| JSW Steel, Bhilai | ONGC Tropic Power Company Ltd. | Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Ltd. | Bella Municipal Solid Waste Solutions Ltd. |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|

**Corporate Social Responsibility**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility | Commendation for Significant Achievement |
| NTPC Ltd.                                     | AkzoNobel, AkzoNobel India               |

**Biodiversity**

**Commendation for Significant Achievement**

|   |
|---|
| TATA STEEL MINING, Mining for a Better Tomorrow |
|---|

www.sustainabledevelopment.in | Download Winner Booklet

Applications for CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2022 will be announced in March 2022

## Outcomes

### Winners Booklet

Winners Booklet, demonstrates the systems and practices embedded in the functions of the winner companies. By providing a brief on each winner company, it compiles the practices which led to their recognition, highlighting the innovations introduced and benefits derived.

### Awards Yearbook

Yearbook is released to illustrate the best practices in different domains, to be circulated and adopted across the industry. It maps on the overall performance of the companies in various aspects and attributes and demonstrates the recommended processes and practices from all the companies, winners and non-winners, to be adopted for improvement.

### Feedback Report

Detailed Feedback report is provided to each company that applies for Awards. It is handed out in two phases: after desk assessment to the disqualified and after site assessment to both winners and non-winners. The feedback report highlights the strengths and the opportunities to excel based on the assessment conducted by the CII-certified Sustainability Assessors. These reports help the company to improve the sustainability performance year-on-year.



The background of the image is a soft-focus photograph of a sky with light, wispy clouds. In the center, there is a composite graphic. The lower portion of this graphic is a cross-section of a nautilus shell, showing its characteristic spiral pattern in shades of teal and blue. The upper portion is a lotus flower with several petals, colored in a warm, peachy-orange hue. The text 'SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT' is overlaid on the left side of the nautilus shell.

# **SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT**



Sustainability Summit, the annual flagship event, was launched in 2006 to raise the bar of dialogue, practice and performance of sustainable business. Since its inception, the Sustainability Summit has become the melting pot of thought and action leaders particularly from business and governments in the country. The Summit brings businesses, governments, and civil society (thinkers and practitioners) together to convert deliberations into action and is considered as a valued sustainability event across the world. It has provided a platform to forge partnerships to competitiveness and strategies to inclusive growth, by over 5600 participants and 700 thought-and-action leaders.

The Centre successfully organised the 16th Sustainability Summit with the theme Building a Resilient Future: Leveraging Science, Technology and Finance on 2-3 September 2021.

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The Summit has provided a platform to forge partnerships to competitiveness and strategies to inclusive growth, by over 5600 participants and 700 thought-and-action leaders.

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**There were 21 Sessions in total, of which 5 were high-level sessions, Building a Resilient Future, Climate Change, India Plastics Pact, Building Resilience through Technology and Agenda for a Sustainable Future.**

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**The India Plastics Pact was launched at the Summit, which is the first of its kind in Asia. There were 107 speakers with 25% international and 27% female speakers, with a total of 800 participants.**



## In run-up to the 16th Sustainability Summit, the Centre organized



### Virtual conference on Business Action in Achieving SDGs

Virtual conference on Business Action in Achieving SDGs was organized on 12 May 2021. It was organised in partnership with British High Commission, Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) and Embassy of Sweden. The session focused on how industry is integrating and implementing climate change adaptation measures. It highlighted the benefits of building effective adaptation solutions and collaborations required for a climate resilient future and race to zero. There were 3 global speakers and 15 national speakers.



The number of national and global delegates who participated at this virtual conference is 266 with 72% male and 28% female delegates.



### Webinar series on Race to Zero

The Centre, in partnership with Hindustan Zinc Ltd. organised a series of six webinars on Race to Zero with focus on topics like EP100, SME Climate Hub, RE100, EV 100, Technology Transfer including a CEOs session. The CEOs session was held as a part of the 16th Sustainability Summit. The webinars were organised as a run-up to COP26 to generate awareness. There were 2 global speakers and 25 national speakers.

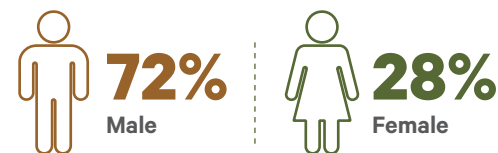


The number of national and global delegates who participated in the webinar series is 443 with 76% male and 24% female participation.



### Clean and Green Planet

A virtual conclave on Clean and Green Planet was organised on 27 September 2021, that focused on the collective effort of stakeholders in building a sustainable future. The 3 sessions at the virtual event saw enriching deliberations from 11 eminent speakers, including 1 minister Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Labour and Employment and 2 secretaries: Shri Rameshwar Prasad Gupta, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Shri Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.



The number of national and global delegates who participated in the conclave was 400 with 72% male and 28% female participation.



## Dignitaries' Speak



*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



*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



*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



*I believe that the conclave is a great platform for knowledge exchange on environment challenges and possible solutions*



**Shri Bhupender Yadav**  
The Union Minister of Environment Forest and Climate Change & Labour and Employment



*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



*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



## Partners





[illegible]



## National Environment Committee

The Centre is the secretariat for the CII National Committee on Environment. Among other deliberations, a significant update discussed was on representation to the Ministry of Finance highlighting key procedural issues associated with respect to Environment Clearances in India:

- » Expand the business operations under PLI (Public Linked Incentives) schemes, we would need to deploy effective & transparent e-governance models which would reduce the project appraisal timelines substantially without reducing the environmental scrutiny of the project
- » MoEF&CC is in the process to launch a “Centralized Processing Centre” (CPC-Green), a Single Window System for all clearances relating to forest, environment, wildlife, and coastal regulation zones, and has also directed Industries, mining companies and infrastructure projects to upload digitized records of past clearances. It is surely a welcome step, and the Centre is part of on-going consultations and shall pilot test the process

## CESD-CSIR-NEERI Consultations for harmonized EC/FC conditions

The Centre has been approached by CSIR- NEERI for conducting various sector specific consultation meeting with the industry member for harmonized EC/FC conditions. Between October to December 2021, the sectors covered included cement and sugar & distilleries. The inputs received have been noted down and will be considered while making the final document to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change.

## CESD Engagements with BIS

The Centre, a member of the 4 committees listed below has been providing inputs to the following technical committees of BIS:

| Committee | Subject                        |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| CHD 8     | Occupational health and safety |
| CHD 33    | Solid Waste Management         |
| CHD 34    | Environment Management         |
| CHD 36    | Water quality                  |

## CESD Engagements with DPIIT

- » Single-Use Plastics (SUPs) Ban: Through the National Environment Committee, the Centre has submitted concerns on Single-Use Plastic (SUP) to MoEFCC. The new notification of Plastic Waste Management Rules has listed types of prohibited single-use plastic & their phase-out schedule
- » National Biodiversity Act: The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2021 was introduced in Lok Sabha in the month of December 2021 and has been referred to the Joint Committee of Parliament for examination. A representation has been submitted to the committee for consideration

## EPR Implementation, as per Plastic Waste Management Rules Draft Guidelines on EPR

With an objective to bring in role clarity for all concerned stakeholders and to ensure effective implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as mandated under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2018, the Centre partnered with MoEFCC and conducted workshops with concerned stakeholders. Basis the deliberations, a draft Framework on EPR implementation was developed and submitted to the ministry for its consideration.

## Implementation and registration of Plastic EPR of PIBOs & PWP

- » MoEF&CC has issued 'Guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility for Plastic Packaging'. Accordingly, CPCB is in the process of developing a centralized portal for the registration of Producers, Importers, and Brand Owners (PIBOs) and Plastic Waste Processors (PWPs). A Mock Run of the portal was organized by CPCB earlier in 2022
- » The Centre along with industry members participated in the trial run of the online registration portal for EPR and shared observations with CPCB



## The image features a large, stylized graphic composed of two overlapping green triangles that meet at their vertices, creating a central diamond-shaped negative space. The entire composition is set against a light cream-colored background. Scattered throughout the background are numerous small, hand-drawn black line-art icons. These icons represent various themes of environmental sustainability and eco-friendliness. Recognizable symbols include: a leafy branch, a recycling symbol (three chasing arrows), a solar panel, a wind turbine, a water drop containing a globe, a person's profile with leaves for hair, a globe with a plant growing from it, a car, a hand holding a seedling, a heart shape made of leaves, a plug, a bee, a potted plant, a shopping bag with a leaf logo, a flower, a single leaf, a sun, an apple, a fan, a stack of coins, a bottle, a bird, a faucet with a drop, a trash can, a calculator, a USB cable, a globe with a plant, and several different types of leaves and flowers. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and environmentally conscious.

## SuP-Certification


## Corporate Reporting and Management Systems

## Zero Waste to Landfill

## Virtual Training Programmes



Process Improvement



Implementing Changes



Organisational Effectiveness



Diagnostics





# SuP-free Certification





Plastics-use Protocol: Verification and Certification (1.0) made specifically to cater needs of industry/ businesses for reduction in their plastic consumption (specifically single-use plastic) has entered 2nd year since its development and launch in 2020. The Protocol has been able to gain wider audiences in the industry that wants to manage their plastic consumption and has been adopted by some of the industries/businesses that are leaders in their domain. The Protocol sets out steps that are to be followed allowing an organisation to move beyond regulatory requirements by committing to plastic waste reduction (via reduce, reuse and replace) and reporting of plastic consumption. Currently, the scope of certificate under the Protocol is limited to Single-use Plastics.

The Protocol is regularly updated keeping in mind the best international practices in plastic usage management, Indian Central Rules/ Regulations on plastics use & waste management and considers the State specific Rules/ Regulations during the process of implementation.

The most unique feature of the Protocol is that compliance to Rules/ regulations is itself imbibed in the process of Protocol implementation and therefore helps the industries/ businesses to be compliant.

#### Salient features:

**13 companies/ 61 sites adopted the Protocol**

**Sensitization/ Awareness training to ~1200 professionals across organisations**

### Single-use Plastics (SuP) free certification touch base



#### PuP: in 2021

##### Value addition

Compliance to Central Plastic Waste Management Regulations and applicable State Plastic Regulations included as criteria for certification

##### Adoption & Verification

Assistance to ~13 companies/ ~61 sites for attaining SuP free status

##### Knowledge

Sensitization/ awareness training ~1200 professionals across organisations

##### Impact Creation

SuP eliminated/ phased out by SuP free certified organisations  
 .....  
 Increased awareness about central and state regulations on plastics  
 .....  
 Integration of plastics as one of the aspects in the IMS of companies  
 .....  
 Entry of plastic management/plastic waste management regulations in legal compliance register of companies

#### PuP: Way forward in 2022

##### Value addition

Inclusion of plastics other than SuP in the protocol  
 .....  
 Expansion of scope of SuP certification

##### Adoption & Verification

Protocol implementation consultancy depending on organisation's requirement  
 .....  
 Recertification of already certified companies

##### Knowledge

Creation of a compendium of the case studies  
 .....  
 Forum/workshops on PuP  
 .....  
 Creation of data bank for analysis and development of new solution-based products in domain of plastics  
 .....  
 Integration of SuP training with existing certified trainings

##### Impact Creation

Quantification of the avoided SuP consumption



# Corporate Reporting and Management Systems





The Centre has helped industry clients to successfully manage environmental performance and ESG (Environment, Social and Corporate Governance) disclosures. The team has been supporting companies to deliver long-term sustainable value to its stakeholders. In addition, during COVID-19, the experts at the Centre have helped clients with best practice mapping; assessing business-related risks and opportunities; and helping develop sound and responsible corporate business strategies.

#### » Diagnostics

Optimum tool to enable organisations to identify areas for improvements (gaps) risks and priorities.

#### » Process Improvement

Build capabilities required to achieve operational excellence across their entire value chain, and design broad-based programmes that drive sustainable improvements.

#### » Implementing Changes

Implement solutions required to achieve operational excellence across their entire value chain

#### » Organisational Effectiveness

Embed sustainability principles in the core of their strategy, operations and culture to make sustainability a source of ongoing and increasing value.

#### » Sustainability Disclosures

Report their ESG performance that enables improved access to capital, assured credibility and enhanced value. The services place focus on the clientele looking to give a revamp to their sustainability reporting structures and advising the clients on new developments pertaining to the reporting requirements and improving their disclosure capabilities



**1500+**  
Professionals Trained



**20+**  
Clients Serviced



**100+**  
Audit Man-days  
Invested

## Impact

Exhaustive checklists and reviews have been prepared by the Centre so as to ensure that the quality of deliverable is optimized.

Assured Sustainability Reports have been released, where linkages & gaps with ESG Frameworks & upcoming BRSR standards have been communicated to the clients for further improvement

The Centre has been assisting many organisations align their disclosures with ESG ratings & some global perspective/concerns have been shared by investors

Through the intervention of the Centre, there has been an improvement in CDP scores for clients as well as the DJSI in Global corporate sustainability assessment

## Way Forward

Reporting assignments will continue to be the mainstay. Bigger possibilities are emerging in the areas of Sustainability Business transformation, wherein we work with the clients not just to report but to advise on system improvements. The Centre, therefore, is aiming for a more specialized reporting work within the overall umbrella of sustainability, which includes climate change action, supplier sustainability programmes etc.





# Zero Waste to Landfill

The Centre is actively working with several organisations in their journey of extracting the maximum value out of their waste and diverting it away from being landfilled.

All manufactured products have a point in their life cycle after which no further use can be derived from them, and it is deemed as waste and thrown away. This waste generally ends up in a landfill wherein it leads to a leakage of material in the value chain and environmental pollution. The flow of materials, therefore, is linear which is not sustainable.

The Centre is actively working with several organisations in their journey of extracting the maximum value out of their waste and diverting it away from being landfilled.

The Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) has the target to achieve zero waste to landfills for all the ports by the year 2025. It is one of the Environment goals taken up by the Company under the Natural Resource Conservation program. The CESD guided the zero waste to landfill achievement of the Mundra Port (Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited) for the year 2020-21.

The landfill diversion rates were estimated for each type of waste of total waste that is going away from the landfills. The outcome quantitative indicates the waste goes for another treatment process instead of ending up at the landfill site.

The CESD ZWL assessment drove the Port for effective implementation of the 5R (Reduce, Reprocess, Reuse, Recycle & Recover) principles of waste management, aligned with all national rules & regulations. It supported sustainable procurement and the designing of services in a way that supports circularity as well.

**Diversion of various categories of waste from landfills at Mundra Port (2020-21)**



\*Disposed of according to the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 by the authorized agency

<sup>1</sup>8 Ports and 4 Terminals



# **Virtual Training Programmes**





The virtual learning environment has created new avenues for professionals to participate in various sessions from the comfort of their homes.

Given how the narrative of upskilling was inescapably transformed after the Covid-19 pandemic, many e-learning portals have been established ever since, to meet the increasing market demand for courses relevant to sustainable development. The e-learning structures are premised on expertise in ESG disclosures, circular economy, energy management systems, waste management, biodiversity management and corporate reporting activities of the Centre.

## New Online Session Conducted in 2021-22

### In-house and Virtual Training Sessions on Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting

We are at a key moment in the evolution of sustainability, where transparency is fast becoming the new paradigm for conducting business. BRSR is an ESG Disclosure that encompasses corporate strategy, risk management, broad oversight, performance and communication, of companies and also helps to address reputational and regulatory risk. The underlying intent of this disclosure can be said to be seamless alignment of the various regulatory frameworks with the long-term objectives and sustainability goals of the company, which are key requisites for the decision-making process of various stakeholders.

BRSR has covered the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and Sustainability aspects. It will replace the existing Business Responsibility Report (BRR) and the move is expected to bring in greater transparency and enable market participants to identify and assess sustainability-related risks and opportunities.

To equip corporate practitioners across industries to benchmark their organisational performance with respect to norms, codes, performance standards and demonstrate commitment to sustainable development, the Centre successfully concluded its first in-house and virtual training on Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) in December and February respectively.

## Drawing participation from stakeholders across diverse sectors, the training programme placed focus on

Basics of reporting requirements under BRSR

The 3R (Research, Recalibrate, Report) approach to transition from BRR to BRSR

ESG framework and the associated risk management and materiality assessment

## Key learnings

- Establishing systems of monitoring / performance evaluation with sustainability indicators through internal audits, reviewing grievance mechanisms etc.
- Integrating ESG into decision making in business processes
- Building a systematic approach to identify, assess and respond to Environment and Social risks in business operations and supply chain
- Identifying, prioritising and validating the most material issues that the company should focus on



## Online Training on ESG Framework & Metrics

Climate change impacts have brought to light, the value of embedding Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) parameters in core business models and strategy.

To equip corporate practitioners with the necessary and practical steps to include ESG framework in their decision-making process, this session apprises the participants of the key elements of ESG. It encompasses ESG metrics covers key ESG Indicators, Environmental Concerns and Trends, Social Concerns and Trends and Governance Concerns and Trends, ESG Framework, and why an ESG framework is necessary.

## CII-Certified Internal Auditor EHSMS Training

The 2-day session has been designed to provide insights of the environmental aspects and impacts, hazards, risk assessments and key compliances. The training programme is designed to equip participants with the auditing skills to organize, manage and conduct Environment, Health & Safety management systems audit as per international standards (ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018).

## Advanced Course on Climate Change

The 4-day live and interactive course is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge of climate change risks and opportunities; setting science-based

targets, internal carbon pricing mechanisms and corporate GHG accounting as per ISO 14064-1 and GHG protocol. This online course is divided into 4 modules conducted over 4 days, having 4 hours of class each day, and divided into comfortable slots. Exercises and case studies along with interaction-like physical classes help to clear doubts.

## CII-Certified Training on SHE Statutory Compliance

To enable capacity building of participants with safety audit requirements and statutory compliance related to SHE, the session trains professionals to effectively manage SHE regulations and issues specific to their organisations. Key aspects include understanding environmental acts, wastemanagement rules, as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India.

## CII-Certified Training on Sustainability Reporting

This certified programme accelerates the adoption of Sustainability reporting skills of senior executives. Delivered in 4 modules, it covers introduction to GRI standards and disclosures in a global context; cracking materiality assessment and stakeholder concern; GRI standards and its cross alignment with other ESG reporting frameworks and developing Sustainability Report as per GRI standards and best cases.

## NBQP Accredited Lead Auditor Training on Energy Management Systems: ISO 50001: 2018

This training programme helped participants to understand the basics of energy, EnMS requirements and introduction to EnMS auditing and effectively manage the EnMS legislation and related issues.

## Other Regular Trainings

- CII-Certified Internal Auditor EnMS Training
- Waste Management Rules (and their amendments) Training
- CAP 2.0 ° Assessor Training
- NBQP Accredited Lead Auditor EnMS Training
- GRI-certified Training on Sustainability Reporting



**36 Training Programmes**



**1040 Participants**





# Communications

**Social Media**

**Media Coverage of 16th Sustainability Summit and  
16<sup>th</sup> CII-ITC Sustainability Awards**

**Nodal Ministries and Partner Organisations**



# Social Media

In order to give the Centre's path-breaking initiatives a stronger media push and engage on issues pertaining to sustainability, social media pages for the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development came into being in 2011.



## 10k+

Total Followers Impressions



## 800,000+

Organic

## Highlights

Date for 4/7/2021 - 4/6/2022

### 6,520

Reactions

▲ 1,912.3%

### 160

Comments

▲ 1,354.5%

### 634

Shares

▲ 1,220.8%

Follower highlights ⓘ

### 9,301

Total followers

### 307 ▲ 20%

New follower in the last 30 days Mar 7, 2022 - Ap 6, 2022

Follower metrics ⓘ

Time range: Mar 31, 2021 - Mar 30, 2022 ▼

Aggregate organic and sponsored



Follower Demographics ⓘ

Date for: Job function ▼

Top job functions

|                                | Followers | % of Followers |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Business Development           | 1,275     | 18.36%         |
| Operations                     | 1,121     | 16.15%         |
| Community and Social Services  | 483       | 6.96%          |
| Engineering                    | 483       | 6.96%          |
| Research                       | 430       | 6.19%          |
| Consulting                     | 351       | 5.06%          |
| Education                      | 329       | 4.74%          |
| Sales                          | 312       | 4.49%          |
| Program and Project Management | 286       | 4.12%          |
| Information Technology         | 270       | 3.89%          |



# Media Coverage of 16<sup>th</sup> Sustainability Summit and 16<sup>th</sup> CII-ITC Sustainability Awards

**ANI**  
South Asia's Leading Multimedia News Agency

Thurs, Sep 23, 2021 | Updated 12:15 IST

National World Business Sports Lifestyle Entertainment Health Science



Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar (Photo/PTI)

## Centre developing infrastructure near farms for benefit of small, medium farmers: Narendra Singh Tomar

ANI | Updated: Sep 02, 2021 19:01 IST

New Delhi [India], September 2 (ANI): The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar on Thursday said the central government is developing infrastructure near farms for the benefit of small and medium farmers.

Tomar was addressing the 16th Sustainability Summit 2021 of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the Chief Guest on Thursday.

Speaking at the occasion, the Union Minister said, "Due to severe climate imbalance, some regions are facing droughts while others are struggling to control floods. The government is serious about such adverse climatic conditions and our scientists are also working very diligently to develop innovative seed varieties, which are compatible with such climatic conditions."

He said despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Indian farmers with their hard work could

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NEWS / INDIA NEWS / Govt Serious in Dealing With Farm Sector Challenges, Says Narendra Singh Tomar

## Govt serious in dealing with farm sector challenges, says Narendra Singh Tomar

PTI / Sep 2, 2021 18:19 IST



Agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar. (File photo)

NEW DELHI: 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.

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

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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



The 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.

The India Plastics Pact (IPP) has launched as a collaboration between:

WWF India

the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).



GaonConnection  
YOUR CONNECTION WITH RURAL INDIA

September 28, 2021 Home Reportage Positive Stories By Sentiments The Story Interview GaonConnection Survey

## 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.

BusinessLine Diligently tracks the underlying benchmark with regular rebalancing

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## 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 promote a circular system for plastics. The new platform called,

## NTPC Conferred CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2021: NTPC's 6 Power Stations also awarded

BY PSU CONNECT | DATE: 31-01-22

Shri Dilip Kumar Patel, Director (HR) received this coveted Award on 31st January 2022 in an online ceremony for NTPC

Corporate Social Responsibility  
Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility

एनटीपीसी NTPC

## Hindustan Zinc wins the Prestigious 16th CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2021

By UdaipurTimes Team Mon, 31 Jan 2022

## Tata Steel Meramandali bags CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2021

31/01/2022 at 9:23 PM

Corporate Excellence  
Commendation for Significant Achievement

TATA STEEL

TATA Steel Ltd. (Meramandali, Sahibabad, Khopoli and Housar)

## Tata Steel Mining Limited Bags CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2021

By Haraprasad Das On Jan 31, 2022

Biodiversity  
Commendation for Significant Achievement

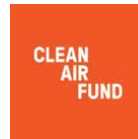
TATA STEEL MINING

MiningForABetterTomorrow

Tata Steel Mining Ltd.



# Nodal Ministries and Partner Organisations





# Advisory Council



**Mr Sanjiv Puri**

Chairman, Advisory Council,  
CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for  
Sustainable Development and  
Chairman & Managing Director, ITC Ltd



**Mr Ajay Shriram**

Senior Managing Director  
DCM Shriram Limited



**Mr Chandrajit Banerjee**

Director General  
Confederation of Indian Industry



**Mr C.K. Mishra**

Former Secretary, Ministry of  
Environment, Forest & Climate  
Change, Government of India



**Mr Peter Bakker**

President  
World Business Council for  
Sustainable Development (WBCSD)



**Mr Vineet Mittal**

Chairman  
Avaada Group



**Mr R Mukundan**

Managing Director and CEO  
Tata Chemicals Ltd.



**Ms Rumjhum Chatterjee**

Co-Chair, CII National  
Committee on CSR



**Mr Tejpreet Chopra**

Founder and CEO  
Bharat Light and Power  
Private Ltd. (BLP)





**Mr Deep Kapuria**

Chairman and Managing Director  
Hi- Tech Gears Ltd.



**Dr Ajit Ranade**

Senior President and  
Group Chief Economist  
Aditya Birla Group



**Mr B Rajagopal**

President  
DSM India Pvt. Ltd.



**Mr George Rajkumar**

Country President  
Grundfos India



**Mr Ravi Singh**

Secretary General and CEO  
WWF India



**Mr Eisenhower Ike Swaminathan**

Managing Director-Glass  
Solutions and Strategic Projects  
Saint-Gobain India Private Ltd.



**Dr O.P. Agarwal**

CEO  
WRI India



**Ms Vaishali Sinha**

Chief Sustainability Officer  
ReNew Power and Founding Chair,  
ReNew Foundation



**Mr TK Arun**

Consulting Editor  
The Economic Times



# Staff Profile

## Aarti Maurya

Consultant

## Abhinav Singh

Counsellor

## Aditya Raghwa

Counsellor

## Ananya Das

Consultant

## Anjali

Associate Counsellor

## Aparna Gupta

Associate Counsellor

## Asha Joseph

Consultant

## Asprit Kaur

Project Associate

## Banajyotsna Baruah

Senior Manager

## Diksha Gairola

Associate Counsellor

## Eti Drolia

Executive

## Jayashree Singha

Senior Counsellor

## Kavita Kathait

Counsellor

## Khyati Mynam

Project Associate

## Lakshmi Iyengar

Senior Consultant

## Mohit Sharma

Senior Counsellor

## Nandini Kumar

Consultant

## Neeraj Kumar

Senior Manager

## Neha Kaul

Associate Counsellor

## Neha Kaushik

Executive

## Pawan Kumar

Administration

## Pravir Deshmukh

Senior Counsellor

## Priyanka Choudhary

Associate Counsellor

## Priyanka Yadav

Associate Counsellor

## Saif Khan

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## Santosh Yadav

Counsellor

## Saurabh Kumar

Associate Counsellor

## Seema Arora

Deputy Director General, CII

## Sherry Pande

Executive

## Shikhar Jain

Deputy Head, CESD

## Shourjomay Chattopadhyay

Consultant

## Shourya Shashwat

Counsellor

## Shubham Mishra

Associate Counsellor

## Sonia Dhamija

Consultant

## Surabhi Pathak

Executive Officer

## Swati Pandey

Senior Counsellor

## Vandana Pal

Associate Counsellor





















## CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development

CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) is one of CII's 9 centres of excellence. The Centre 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. Its 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.

The Centre leverages its role of all-inclusive ecosystem player, partnering industry, government, and civil society. It has been a pioneer of Climate Change, 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, the Centre 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.

CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development  
3rd Floor, Andhra Association, 24/25 Institutional Area,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003

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Thapar House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 124, Janpath New Delhi

**W: [www.sustainabledevelopment.in](http://www.sustainabledevelopment.in)**

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