



HIGHLIGHTS

- Cover Story- Sustainability Standards for Business in the Era of Circularity
- Activities of the month
- Our Events

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESK

As a mission, CRB is striving to promote transformation of the Indian Economy into a Circular Economy. Sustainability Standards play a vital role in this process. Businesses' thrust for standardization in terms of sustainability derive from both the need for being responsive to the environmental threat to our future generations by exploiting resources in irresponsible manner as well as demand from the business multi-stakeholders (investors, buyers, customers, community, and government etc.) to adhere to the sustainable practices and adopting specific sustainability standards. CRB has following initiatives aligned towards this mission:

- 01 Promoting sustainability standards for businesses
- 02 Capacity Building programmes on Circularity, SDGs and rescaling CSR
- 03 Co-creating circular business models embedded with sustainable practices at the core for the businesses
- 04 Research studies and events
- 05 International and National Policy dialogues
- 06 Facilitation to incubate knowledge forums

Your support and involvement in carrying this agenda forward is anticipated to ensure a better future to our next generations.

- DR. BIMAL ARORA

COVER STORY | SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS FOR BUSINESS IN THE ERA OF CIRCULARITY

"Circular economy development path in India could create annual value of Rs 14 lakh crore (USD 218 billion) in 2030 and Rs 40 lakh crore (USD 624 billion) in 2050 compared with the current development scenario," (UNCTAD Report, 2016). This report further says that businesses in India can save on material cost and increase their profits by adopting circular economy approaches.

How to achieve circular economy objectives in India? - Role of Sustainability Standards:

Given the importance of adopting circular economy model in India, the question arises how to achieve mandates and objectives leading towards circular economy? Businesses have to operate according to the needs and demand of multi-stakeholders in an eco-system created by them. For this purpose, various institutions have developed several standards. Sustainability Standards are being aligned as a tool to achieve circular economy objectives. Various new sector specific open source assessment frameworks/standards for circularity are being developed/ in existence, some of them are:

- BS 8001:2017 'Framework for implementing the principles of the circular economy in organisations- guide, BSI Group
- Open Source Assessment Framework for Circularity in Green Building sector, European Union and BASF
- Circularity Facts Programme to help Companies evolve their Sustainability efforts, UL
- Proposed Sustainable Circular Index for Manufacturing Companies
- ISO's Sustainable Procurement Standards
- ISO's Product Use Instruction Guide - enabling circular consumption
- PEF-OEF - Product Environmental Footprint and Organisation Environmental Footprint
- EU Ecolabel - Sustainable products and services
- EMAS - Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
- GPP - Green Public Procurement
- EU Environmental Technology Verification (ETV)



A circular economy is an economy that keeps pollution and waste out of the system, maintains products and materials in use, and regenerates natural resources. It promotes resource and energy efficiency, reduces food waste along the whole supply chain, builds sustainable infrastructure, and provides access to basic services, green and decent jobs, supporting a better quality of life for all (UNECE, 2018). As indicated in the diagram above (Image Source: UNCTAD), the components of the circularity have direct linkages with the relevant sustainability standards listed above. In order to understand further, we need to dip into the core aspects of these standards and how these create a business case for cost reduction, satisfying stakeholders, preserving limited resources, business sustainability, brand reputation and meeting relevant compliances.

SDGs and Circularity:

Industrial and innovation aspects of SDG 9, as well as sustainable consumption and production embodied in SDG 12 promoting recycling and reutilization of materials, energy efficiency, value-chain optimization, and in collaborative economy models are aligned with and promote the Circular Economy. Circular Economy also provides a horizontal approach supporting progress towards several other SDGs, such as SDG 6 on water, SDG 7 on energy, SDG 11 on sustainable cities, SDG 13 on climate change, SDG 15 on sustainable use of natural resources.

Few points to Brainstorm about promoting Circular Economy in India:

- 01 Relevance of reviewing standardization process in India in light of adoption of circular business models
- 02 Putting India specific conditions for business standardization in recycling and circular approach
- 03 Recommendations on need for India specific standards for promoting circularity

ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH



CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN APPAREL AND TEXTILE SECTOR

CRB organised a consultation on Promoting Understanding on Circular Economy in the Apparel & Textile Sector in India' on 7th August 2018. The objective of the consultation was to create understanding about the possibilities of promoting circularity in the Indian apparel and textile industry, based on inputs from key stakeholders such as suppliers, brands, textile associations, government agencies and academia. In reality, circular economy challenges the conventional linear production system of take-make-use-dispose by creating loops to ensure efficient use/conservation of resources and keep such scarce resources in use for long.

SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS FOR UPTAKE OF CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL IN FMCG SECTOR

A project has been initiated in collaboration with Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) to identify and promote Sustainability Ambassadors for uptake of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil in FMCG Sector in India. To understand the possible reasons and better assess how to change this situation and drive demand for sustainable palm oil in the world's largest market, Rainforest Alliance commissioned Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) to analyse the Indian market and identify issues, actors and conditions that can act as 'triggers' for promoting sustainable palm oil uptake in India. A Forum was launched by CRB in this respect in Mumbai in September 2018.



DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATIONS (DMFs) FOR SUSTAINABLE MINING COMMUNITIES IN RAJASTHAN

State level Multi-stakeholders' Consultation on District Mineral Foundations (DMFs) for Sustainable Mining Communities in Rajasthan held on 4th Sept. 2018 in Jaipur. There was participation from the Ministry of Mines, State Government, Districts Administration, Inter-Governmental Organizations, NGOs, Mining Industries, Academia and others. A presentation on the research findings of the study conducted by CRB on DMFs in Rajasthan was presented and Panel discussion was held apart from the addresses by key sectoral dignitaries. As one of the outcomes of this consultation, a State-level Multi-stakeholders' Core Committee was formed to work upon developing an 'Operational Guideline for District Mineral Foundations (DMFs).

ROADMAP FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE MICA SUPPLY CHAIN IN JHARKHAND

An indicative rolling roadmap for the sustainable and inclusive mica sector in Jharkhand was developed based on the on ground progress and development of the sector. It has been prepared to provide guidance for the mica industry in Jharkhand in its journey towards sustainable and inclusive growth. This document can be used as a handbook by the policymakers, industry, NGOs and other stakeholders to set priorities, goals and targets for respective pillars of sustainability for the revival and sustainability of the mica industry.

OUR EVENTS

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EDP): TRANSFORMING TO TRANSFORM - STRATEGIZE CSR TO ALIGN WITH UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

Under CRB's Mission to align Indian Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) with the UN SDGs, and to enable corporate functionaries, implementation agencies and other stakeholders for its up-taking, CRB presents a series of Executive Development Programmes (EDPs) to learn the about the global paradigms, models, approaches, tools and practices of CSR and Sustainable Development. It is also important to understand the theory, benefits and consequences of CSR-SDG alignment and initiatives, and the impact of such an alignment on company's brands and contribution in terms of sustainable development for society, economy and the environment. After attending the EDPs, participants will be able to appreciate:



- Differentiation between global and Indian CSR perspectives and practices
- Understanding of Indian CSR regulations and practices
- Understanding of alignment of CSR with SDGs and national Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- Knowledge for formulating CSR projects and their management aligned with SDGs and NDCs
- Understanding of the methodology for communication for projecting contribution to various SDGs as well as responsible brand promotion.

Who should attend:

- Middle and Junior level CSR Functionaries from public and private companies
- Professionals seeking to enter CSR domain
- Professionals/students of Management, Human Resources, Communication, Accounting & Finance, Social Work, Human Rights, Sustainability, Engineering & cognate fields.

Duration of the EDPs will be for two days, the dates will be announced soon. Hence, we request you to register your interest. Participants will be provided certification from the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB), India and Aston India Centre for Applied Research, Aston University UK. Below are some of the topics covered in the EDPs:

- Conceptual Understanding on global and Indian CSR Models including overall company policies on four priority areas of CSR
- Relevant laws on CSR and Sustainability; Implementation of CSR Projects – prevailing Modes and Approaches (sharing by participants)– leading towards strategic CSR
- Stakeholders' Engagement (Methodologies and Strategies)
- Environment, Human Rights, Anti-corruption, and Labour practices
- Aligning CSR and Sustainable Development Goals (Case Studies)
- CSR Needs Assessment for realigned CSR-SDG/NDC strategy / projects
- CSR Impact Measurement Methodology based on SDG Indicators - leading to developing M& E Frameworks
- Communicating Impacts measurable in terms of contributing to SDGs – leading to establishing Responsible Brands

To register your interest in EDP, please drop an email to ravi.atrey@c4rb.org

MASTERCLASS ON CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) IN EMERGING ECONOMIES: INTEGRATION WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

Centre for Responsible Business (CRB), Schulich School of Business, York University, Toronto; Aston Business School, Aston University, Birmingham; and Center of Excellence in Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CECRAS), O.P. Jindal Global University invite you to an exclusive Masterclass with globally recognised CSR and sustainability experts. Masterclass on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Emerging Economies: Integration with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, 13 November 2018 at O.P. Jindal University, New Delhi Campus.**

For further details please visit: <http://www.sustainabilitystandards.in/masterclass/> or write to Mr. Ravi Raj Atrey (ravi.atrey@c4rb.org)

(Note: As an early bird discount all the registered participants of this masterclass will get complimentary tickets for the International Conference – 'India & Sustainability Standard' themed on 'Collaboration a key to SDGs – leveraging CSR and Voluntary Sustainability Standards' to be held on 14 – 16 November, 2018 at Hotel Eros International, New Delhi.)

WRITING WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS GROUPS AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD IN INDIA – INVITATION OF RESEARCH PAPERS



Writing Workshop on Business Groups and Corporate Responsibility for the Public Good in India is scheduled to be held on **13th November 2018** at **O.P. Jindal University, New Delhi Campus**.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Last date 10th November, 2018

For further details please visit <http://www.sustainabilitystandards.in/workshop-3/>
Questions about paper submission, participation in the workshop and CRB's conference and associated logistics should be emailed to **Dr. Ria Sinha | ria.sinha@c4rb.org** and **Mr. Rijit Sengupta | rijit.sengupta@c4rb.org**, in the first instance.

(Note: As an early bird discount all the registered participants of this workshop will also get complimentary tickets for the International Conference – 'India & Sustainability Standard' themed on 'Collaboration a key to SDGs – leveraging CSR and Voluntary Sustainability Standards' to be held on 14-16 November, 2018 at Hotel Eros International, New Delhi.)

INDIA AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS: INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUES AND CONFERENCE, 2018



INDIA AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS
International Dialogues and Conference
14-16 November 2018 | New Delhi, India

2018

**Collaboration a key to SDGs:
Leveraging CSR &
Voluntary Sustainability Standards**

REGISTER NOW

PICTURE OF THE MONTH

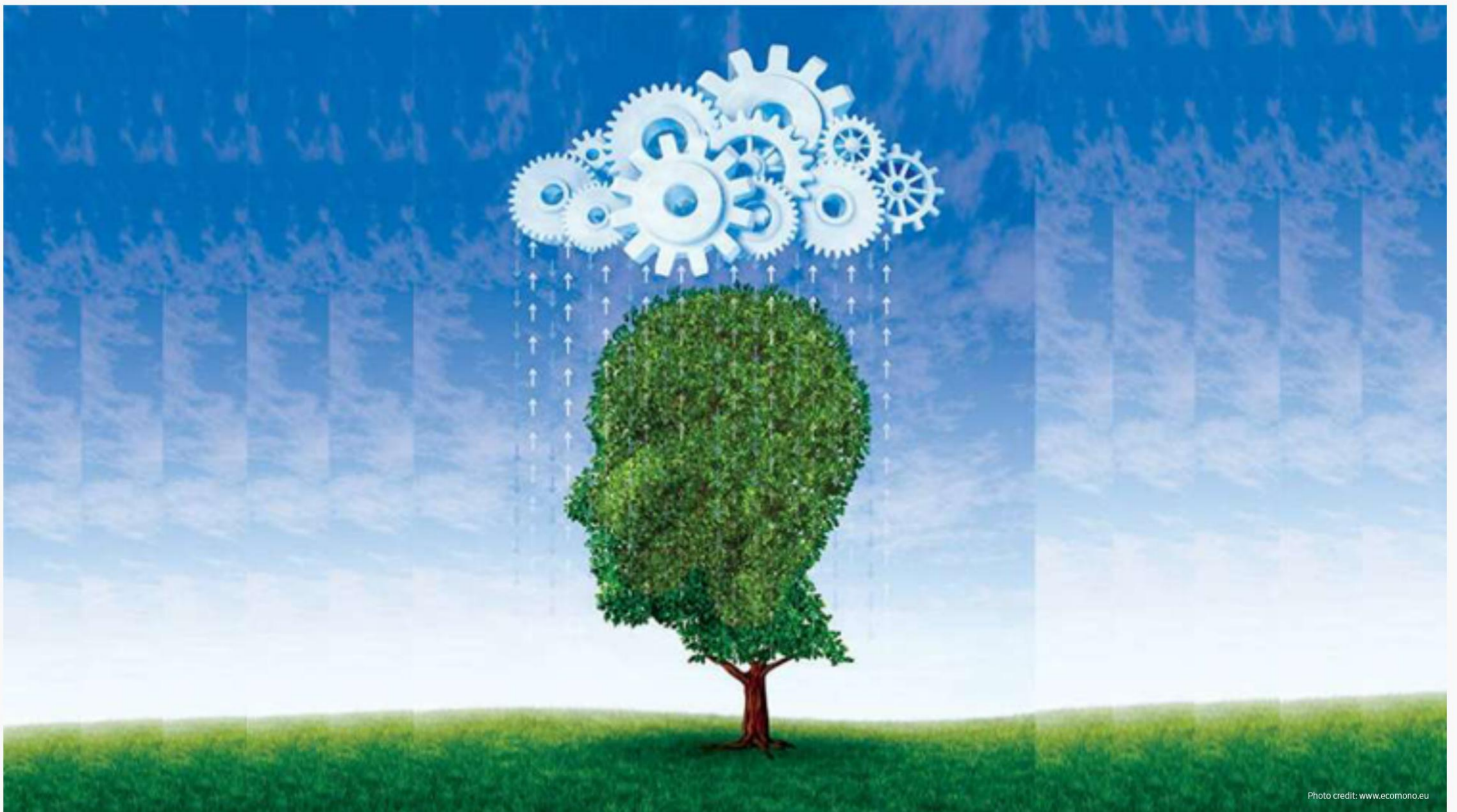


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