

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



**SHAPING INDIA'S SUSTAINABILITY
LANDSCAPE POST G20**

VINAY PANDEY

**ALIGNING PROFIT AND PRINCIPLES: THE POWER OF
IMPACT INVESTING IN UPHOLDING BUSINESS AND
HUMAN RIGHTS**

SHUBHAM TRIVEDI

From the CEO's Desk

The slew of international sustainability/sustainable value chain related legislations developed by the European Union remains the cynosure of international sustainability/sustainable value chain related discussions and events. Not just the EU, a litany of other OECD Member States are crafting similar legislations to address sustainability challenges down value chains, through social and environmental due diligence process. While there is hope and ambition on the side of these 'host' countries, there is considerable apprehension and emerging concerns about implications of these legislations on trade and investment among their developing country partners.

In this context let us review the outcomes of two significant events held this quarter, to see how international policy around sustainable business/sustainable value chains/SDGs is getting aligned. And how the interest of both the above mentioned 'host' countries and their 'developing country partners' could synchronise.

The first event was held in July 2023, when countries came together at the UN Headquarters in New York for the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 2023. This event was marked by a riveting report tabled by the UN Secretary General, entitled, 'Progress towards the SDGs: towards a rescue plan for People and Planet'. The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres raised alarm for the international community to drive bold actions, stressing that business as usual approaches to sustainability is not enough, anymore. He pointed that, "Tepid responses will not suffice for the millions of people living in poverty and hunger, the women and girls with unequal opportunities, the communities facing climate disaster or the families fleeing conflict. We need a full-fledged rescue plan for people and planet". He concluded on an optimistic note asserting that, "There are no excuses not to be ambitious. Never before have we had such an abundance of knowledge, technology and resources to succeed in ending poverty and saving the planet".

The second event happened in September 2023. This was the Leaders' Summit of the Group of 20 held in New Delhi. The preamble of the G20 Leaders Declaration (referred to as the Delhi Declaration) reads, "We, the Leaders of the G20, met in New Delhi on 9-10 September 2023, under the theme 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. We meet at a defining moment in history where the decisions we make now will determine the future of our people and our planet. It is with the philosophy of living in harmony with our surrounding ecosystem that we commit to concrete actions to address global challenges". The Delhi Declaration emphasises on solutions crafted by synchronising national and international policy; driving innovations related to finance, technology and community needs; and enhancing collaboration and partnerships at all levels.

Both these events urged the international community to support sustainable and inclusive global value chains as a means for accelerated action on the Sustainable Development Goals. The renewed attention to the SDGs is refreshing, especially the imperative for bold and ambitious actions.

Given their universality, one wonders if developments around international supply chain sustainability (legislations referred to, in the first para) can pivot around the SDGs? It should be a no brainer that a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals would appeal to both sets of the 'host' countries and their development partners in the 'South'. Hence, recalibrating the legislations vis-à-vis the SDGs, could be a win-win.

Rijit Sengupta
CEO, CENTRE FOR
RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS



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SHAPING INDIA'S SUSTAINABILITY LANDSCAPE POST G20

Vinay Pandey

Senior Programme Manager, Centre for Responsible Business



India's recent successful hosting of the G20 Summit in 2023 has marked a new era for sustainability accountability in the country. With a focus on climate action, sustainable development, and green growth, India has taken the lead in setting a global agenda for a more sustainable future. India's own commitment to sustainability is evident in its ambitious climate targets, including achieving net-zero emissions by the year 2070 and installing 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by the year 2030. The country is also investing heavily in renewable energy, electric mobility, and other sustainable technologies. The G20 summit provided a platform for India to share its experiences and best practices in sustainability with the world. India also used the summit to rally global support for its key sustainability priorities, such as the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. As the summit concluded successfully, India now stands at the threshold of a new era in its pursuit of sustainability. In this article, we explore the path forward for India after successfully hosting the vibrant G20, as it embarks on a journey towards sustainability accountability.

1. Sustainable Energy Transition

India has already made significant strides in the realm of sustainable energy. The nation's commitment to renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, is evident through substantial investments and ambitious targets. Hosting the G20 has placed India on the global stage as a leader in sustainable energy. To move forward, India must build upon this momentum by setting even more ambitious renewable energy targets and expanding clean energy infrastructure. Collaboration with international partners can facilitate technology transfer and financial support, accelerating the transition to clean energy.

2. Sustainable Agriculture Transformation

Agriculture forms the backbone of India's economy, supporting a significant portion of the population. The G20 summit emphasized the importance of sustainable agriculture practices. In the post-G20 era, India should prioritize and promote organic farming, efficient water management, and a reduction in chemical usage. Strengthening supply chains and improving post-harvest processes are essential to ensure food security while minimizing the environmental impact.

3. Urban Sustainability and Air Quality Improvement

India's rapidly growing urban centers face significant challenges related to air quality and congestion. The G20 discussions underscored the urgency of addressing these issues. In the post-G20 phase, India should prioritize sustainable urban planning, green spaces, and reliable public transportation. Investment in smart city initiatives and technology-driven solutions for air quality monitoring will be crucial to creating healthier and more livable cities.

4. Circular Economy Adoption

India has the opportunity to lead in the adoption of circular economy practices. The G20 highlighted the significance of minimizing waste and maximizing resource utilization. Post-G20, India must intensify efforts to reduce single-use plastics, invest in recycling infrastructure, and encourage innovative waste management solutions. Public education and active community participation will be essential for the success of these endeavors.

5. Water Resource Management

Water scarcity poses a looming concern for India. The G20 emphasized the importance of sustainable water management. In the post-G20 phase, India should place water resource management at the forefront of its sustainability agenda. Rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation practices, and the revitalization of traditional water bodies should be key components. Involving local communities in water conservation initiatives and restoration efforts is critical for safeguarding this precious resource.

6. Sustainable Mobility and Transportation

The transportation sector in India contributes significantly to pollution and congestion. The G20 discussions have underlined the urgency of addressing these issues. Post-G20, India must fast-track its transition to electric vehicles (EVs), invest in EV charging infrastructure, and promote public transportation. Sustainable urban planning, cycling infrastructure, and pedestrian-friendly zones should be given priority.

7. Biodiversity Conservation

India's unique biodiversity requires steadfast protection. The G20 emphasized the need for biodiversity conservation. Post-G20, India should rigorously enforce wildlife protection laws, focus on habitat preservation, and engage in ecosystem restoration. Sustainable tourism initiatives and involvement of local communities will contribute to the preservation of India's rich natural heritage.

8. Inclusive and Equitable Sustainability

Sustainability should be synonymous with social equity. India's post-G20 agenda should prioritize inclusive growth, ensuring that the benefits of sustainability reach all strata of society. Policies that address education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for marginalized communities are vital. The drive to bridge socioeconomic gaps is integral to India's sustainability commitment.

THE WAY FORWARD

The momentum generated by the G20 summit offers an unprecedented opportunity for India to showcase its resolve in tackling these challenges. The nation's journey towards sustainability will demand united efforts from the government, industry, civil society, and individual citizens. India's commitment to sustainability is not just a vision; it is a pledge to create a harmonious coexistence of the environment, society, and economy. The post-G20 era signifies a new beginning for India's sustainable future, one that beckons us to work collaboratively and forge a path to a better world.

India can take to advance sustainability accountability in the country by adopting the following specific steps:

- To encourage businesses to adopt a comprehensive sustainability reporting framework on their environmental, social, and governance performance, like, Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) is mandated for the top 1000 listed companies.
- Develop a carbon pricing mechanism to incentivize businesses to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Support the development of sustainable finance instruments, such as green bonds and sustainability-linked loans.
- Promote sustainable procurement practices in the public sector.
- Raise awareness of sustainability issues among consumers and investors.





ALIGNING PROFIT AND PRINCIPLES: THE POWER OF IMPACT INVESTING IN UPHOLDING BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Shubham Trivedi
Programme Officer, Centre for Responsible Business



Throughout history, investment strategies have occasionally been linked to social goals and convictions. The concept of harnessing investment capital to drive social change is not new but has gained significant momentum in recent years. Impact investing, a term first coined by the Rockefeller Foundation in 2007, has emerged as a potent sustainable investment strategy. The Global Impact Investment Network (GIIN) defines impact investments as ‘investments made with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return’.

Investment Rationale

Investors face fiduciary responsibility to ensure that the companies that they engage with respect human rights. Failure to comply with their fiduciary responsibilities can harm investor's reputation, cause financial loss and create legal challenges. The concept of impact investing is rooted in the idea of mobilizing investment capital to create positive social and environmental change. It is also different from traditional philanthropy, impact investments maintain a profit orientation. Investors seek financial returns while actively pursuing social or ecological goals. This unique approach distinguishes impact investments from grant funding or philanthropy.

Impact investments are characterized by three key objectives:

1. **Profit Orientation** : Impact investments aim for benchmark-adequate financial performance, ranging from market-rate returns to below-market-rate earnings, depending on the investor's risk-return expectations. These investments are made in commercially viable business models capable of repaying investors.
2. **Impact Intentionality**: Impact investments are made with predefined goals to bring about positive social or ecological change deliberately. They do not merely aim to mitigate negative externalities but actively invest in social business models.

3. **Impact Measurement:** The intended impact of an investment must be demonstrably achieved and measured.

Challenges in Impact Investing

While impact investing holds tremendous potential, it faces several challenges:

1. **Market Structure and Investment Procedures :** Many impact investments are small, illiquid, and have high transaction costs. Public funding initiatives have been launched to address these issues.
2. **Absorption Capacity of Social Enterprises :** Limited capacity to absorb large investments hinders the development of sustainable fund models.
3. **Lack of Secondary Market :** The absence of a secondary market for impact investments complicates their liquidity.
4. **Greenwashing :** Some funds claim to be impact investors but do not align with the principles of impact investing, leading to concerns of greenwashing.

Impact Investing in Business & Human Rights

Measuring the social and environmental impact of impact investments is a complex endeavor. It presents various challenges, including concerns related to attribution, data quality, and the potential for unforeseen consequences. At present, there is no universally accepted standard for impact measurement, leading to a multitude of methodologies and metrics. Fortunately, tools like the Impact Reporting and Investment Standard (IRIS) have emerged to bring greater transparency to impact investing, encompassing a wide range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from 1 to 16. It's worth noting that SDGs are deeply intertwined with human rights obligations, with more than 90 percent of the goals and targets directly corresponding to these obligations.. In this context, impact investing serves as a valuable financial instrument to address social issues while generating financial returns necessary for sustainability.

In summary, impact investing has emerged as a potent strategy for simultaneously generating positive social and environmental impacts and pursuing financial returns. As businesses increasingly recognize their responsibility to uphold human rights, impact investing assumes a pivotal role in aligning profits with ethical principles. It not only promotes the synergy between business and human rights but also drives sustainable transformation within the global economy. Nevertheless, it is crucial to address challenges such as impact measurement and the issue of greenwashing to fully harness the potential of impact investing in upholding both business and human rights.

CRB ACTIVITIES

CONVENING

MSMEs CAPACITY BUILDING ON RACE TO NET-ZERO

4 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business and SME Climate Hub hosted an event at Nimsme in Hyderabad on August 4th on "MSMEs Capacity Building on Race to Net-Zero"



MULTISTAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE FOR COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS ON SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

22 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business and Indo-German Chamber of Commerce hosted an event, 'Multistakeholder Dialogue for Collaborative Actions on Sustainable Production and Consumption in Maharashtra' on 22 August 2023, from 1400hrs to 1740 hrs. (IST) in Pune.

These roundtable events, were organized across four regions with the support of the Delegation of the European Union to India and Global Gateway, and aimed to provide a valuable platform for stakeholders to deliberate upon the utilization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in shaping and executing sustainability initiatives within the state. The discussions revolved around the collaborative efforts of industry, government, and civil society organizations in the pursuit of sustainable practices.

TOWARDS EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF MISSION LiFE : FROM CONSUMER DUTIES TO CONSUMER RIGHTS

10 August 2023

The Delegation of the European Union to India and the Centre for Responsible Business hosted an event titled 'Towards Effective Implementation of Mission LiFE: From Consumer Duties to Consumer Rights'. The event was held in New Delhi on 10th August 2023, from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm IST.

The event aimed towards bringing together experts, to reflect upon the success of EU and Indian examples of how eco-labels and other market and policy instruments could contribute to the Mission LiFE initiative principles and priorities.



MSMEs CAPCITY BUILDING ON RACE TO NET ZERO

25 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business and SME Climate Hub co-hosted an event titled "MSMEs Capacity Building on Race to Net-Zero" at the Convention Hall, Belgaum Foundry Cluster, Belgaum, Karnataka, India, on Friday, 25th August 2023 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm

MSMES CAPACITY BUILDING ON RACE TO NET ZERO

31 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business, SME Climate Hub and IamSMEofIndia co-hosted an event titled "MSMEs Capacity Building on Race to Net-Zero in Faridabad.

The workshop on MSMEs Capacity Building on Race to Net-Zero aimed to provide a platform for MSMEs, policymakers, and other stakeholders to share experiences, best practices, and challenges in transitioning towards low-carbon business models. The workshop further explored various capacity-building approaches, including training and education, financial incentives, and policy support.



INDIA AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS CURTAIN RAISER : MUMBAI

24 August 2023

The Centre for Responsible Business hosted its very first India and Sustainability Standards Curtain Raiser event, co-hosted by Mahindra Life spaces, titled 'Solutions for Sustainability and Inclusivity: Policy, Innovation, and Collaboration.'

During this seminar, the panelists

- Shed light on various policy reforms and actions taken at different levels to achieve sustainable and inclusive outcomes along value chains.
- Explored how innovations in technology and finance could integrate climate, nature, and equity considerations, and discussed the role of businesses and governments in driving these changes.
- Addressed the significant question of how collaboration could be strengthened in a competitive environment, emphasizing the importance of cultural and pedagogic factors.



STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE ON DIGITALISATION FOR ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN KARNATAKA

14 September 2023

Centre for Responsible Business, Delegation of the European Union to India and Indian Institute of Management Bangalore hosted an event, 'Stakeholder Dialogue on Digitalisation for Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals in Karnataka' on 14 September 2023, from 1:00 PM to 4:45 PM (IST) in Karnataka, Bangalore

The roundtable discussion, delved into how digitalisation strengthens business-state government partnerships for targeted SDGs. The event in Karnataka, highlighted the role technology in overcoming challenges and fostering collaboration in disaster readiness, urban development, agriculture, education, and healthcare.



ENGAGEMENT

MoU WITH ATAL INCUBATION CENTRE , ALEAP WE-HUB (AIC, ALEAP WE-HUB)

31 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business signed an MoU with Atal Incubation Centre, ALEAP WE-Hub (AIC, ALEAP WE-Hub) to exchange knowledge and ideas on sustainable practices and to co-develop new pilots and projects.



REPRESENTATION

SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES & CIRCULAR ECONOMY

23 August 2023

Devyani Hari, Director, Centre for Responsible Business, moderated a session titled 'Sustainable Approaches & Circular Economy' at The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry's annual event Environment & Energy Conclave.

The event brought together businesses, academia, policy actors, innovators, and experts to accelerate India's energy transition.

Centre for Responsible Business was a Knowledge Partner of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 16th Environment and Energy Conclave that took place in New Delhi on August 23, 2023. The theme of this year's event was "Energy Transition towards Net Zero Target." Industry leaders and experts participated in the event, where enlightening discussions on sustainability and innovation took center stage.

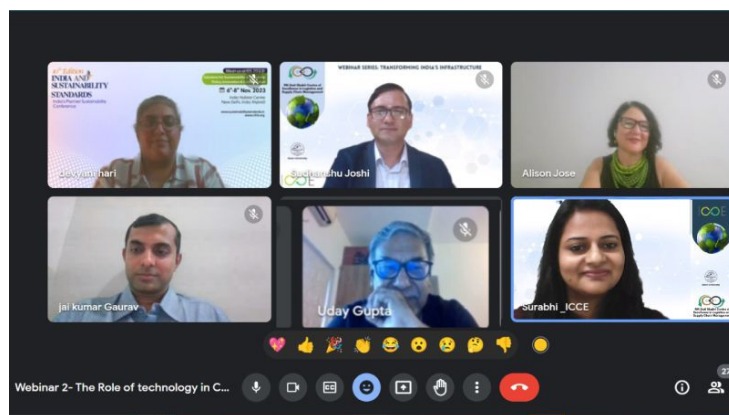


THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

8 September 2023

Devyani Hari, Director, Centre for Responsible Business was part of a panel discussion "The Role of Technology in Circular Economy", organised by the International Council of Circular Economy on September 8th.

The event brought together businesses, academia, policy actors, innovators, and experts to accelerate India's energy transition.



SECOND EDITION OF THE IVPA GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

4- 5 August 2023

Centre for Responsible Business, WWF-India and Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) attended the 2nd edition of the IVPA Global Roundtable Conference held on 4-5 August 2023 at JW Marriot, Aerocity, Delhi.

The two-day event brought together Edible Oil experts, researchers, technologists, and industry players in the field of vegetable oils and oilseeds. The conference featured engaging sessions including roundtable discussions and panel discussions to explore various topics such as market dynamics, supply and demand, consumer trends and self-sufficiency in Veg Oil, oil palm. The discussions also put light on the sustainability issues and the methods through which sustainability could be achieved by the supply chain actors.



FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

CRB AUTHORED BLOG



PODCASTS

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE GERMAN SUPPLY CHAIN ACT, 2023

**LÖNING – HUMAN RIGHTS &
RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS**

Featuring
Markus Löning
Managing Director of Löning – Human Rights &
Responsible Business



FRIEDRICH NAUMANN
FOUNDATION For Freedom



A BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE : BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

JSW GROUP
India

In Conversation with
Prabodha Acharya
Chief Sustainability Officer, JSW



REPORT



INDIA AND
SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

Mumbai
Curtain-Raiser
Event for India &
Sustainability
Standards 2023

Solutions for Sustainability and Inclusivity: Policy, Innovation and Collaboration

24 August, 2023

Mumbai Curtain-Raiser

Post – Event Report



RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS NEWS ROUND UP

14

BY NIDHI CHOUDHARY



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

EU COUNCIL AND PARLIAMENT REACH PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT TO EMPOWER CONSUMERS FOR THE GREEN TRANSITION

The Commission is proposing rules to make producers responsible for the full lifecycle of textile products and to support the sustainable management of textile waste across the EU. This initiative will accelerate the development of the separate collection, sorting, reuse and recycling sector for textiles in the EU, in line with the [EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles](#). [Read More](#)

PRIVATE SECTOR & SDGS

WATER RESILIENCE COALITION ACCELERATES PRIVATE SECTOR PROGRESS TOWARD 2030 100-BASIN AMBITION

The Water Resilience Coalition (WRC) has announced new progress on its 2030 strategy to convene the private sector to build global water resilience. Currently there are, 21 collective action projects are underway to build water resilience in 15 water-stressed river basins across Asia, Africa, South America, and North America. [Read More](#)

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

BIG CHANGES FOR BIG BUSINESS AS EU HUMAN RIGHTS LAW NEARS ENACTMENT

The European Union will soon require thousands of large companies to actively seek out and reduce human rights abuses and environmental damage in their supply chains. While it's an EU law, it will also apply to foreign businesses, including American ones, operating in the region. This EU law would be the most significant attempt yet to legally mandate compliance, with major implications for human rights and businesses worldwide. [Read more](#)



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

THE G20 SUMMIT AND THE BIG PUSH TOWARDS ACHIEVING NET ZERO

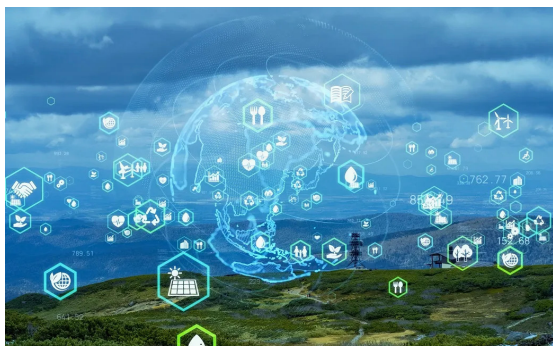
The G20 summit held in New Delhi under India's Presidency was significant for the global fight against climate change. The declaration at the end of the summit underlined the need to make funds available for developing nations struggling to balance their developmental goals and climate challenges, and global leaders also adopted a 'green development pact' to speed up measures to tackle the challenges of environment and climate change. [Read more](#)



VOLUNTARY SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

EU ADOPTS NEW STANDARDS FOR CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

The European Commission has adopted the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) for use by all companies subject to the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). This marks another step forward in the transition to a sustainable European Union (EU) economy, covering the full range of environmental, social, and governance issues, including climate change, biodiversity, and human rights. [Read more](#)



SMEs AND SUSTAINABILITY

WHY INDIAN SMES NEED TO EMBRACE SUSTAINABILITY?

Having an environment-friendly, sustainable operation is no longer an option today; it is almost a norm. With the way climate change is affecting the world, both large and small businesses are looking to invest in sustainability. Therefore, it's imperative that India's small businesses, which contribute 27% to the country's GDP, must pay attention to this agenda. [Read more](#)



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

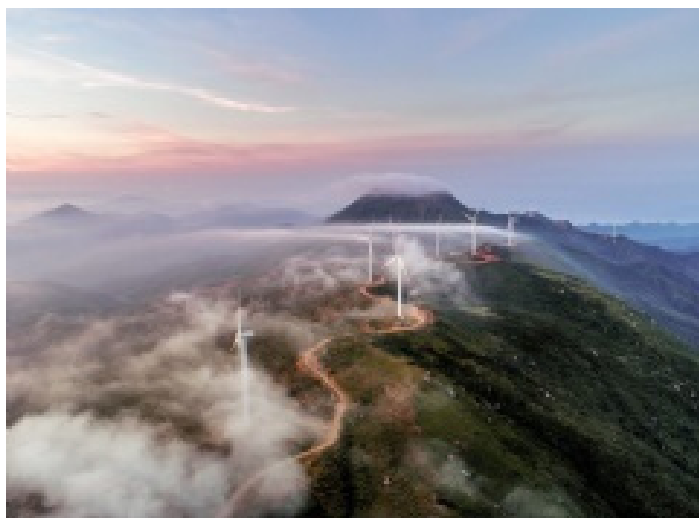
EPR FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN DISCUSSION TO INCENTIVISE RECYCLING: OFFICIAL

Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030 initiative, the Ministry of Mines and the Ministry of Steel have issued recycling frameworks aimed at developing the recycling sector using advanced technology to achieve resource efficiency and carbon neutrality. "The government has issued recycling frameworks intended to develop the recycling sector using advanced technology to achieve resource efficiency and carbon neutrality. Further policy instruments like EPR are under discussion stage, which will incentivize recycling in the country," Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines Upendra C Joshi told PTI. [Read More](#)

PRIVATE SECTOR & SDGS

LENOVO JOINS UN GLOBAL COMPACT FORWARD FASTER INITIATIVE TO ACCELERATE PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION TO REACH SDGS

The UN Global Compact Forward Faster initiative calls on business leaders everywhere to take measurable, credible, and ambitious action in areas that have the power to accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals where the private sector can collectively make the biggest, fastest impact by 2030. Lenovo had joined this initiative to deliver on the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and meet the 2030 Agenda. [Read more](#)



VOLUNTARY SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS

SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING : SCALING NEW FRONTIERS

Sustainability reporting has evolved from being a voluntary practice to a crucial component of corporate governance. It aids in measuring, managing, and communicating an organization's sustainable performance, considering environmental, social, and economic aspects. By providing stakeholders with accurate and comprehensive information, sustainability reports foster better decision-making, boost stakeholder engagement, and enhance trust in businesses. [Read more](#)

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE TO INCREASE FREQUENCY AND SEVERITY OF WET-HOT EXTREMES: STUDY

Scientists say that simultaneous rainfall and heat extremes will become more frequent, severe, and widespread due to climate change, surpassing the occurrence of dry-hot conditions. For every 1 degree Celsius rise in temperature, the air's capacity to hold moisture increases by 6 to 7 percent. [Read more](#)



BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

NETHERLANDS' FAIR WEAR & GOODWEAVE PARTNER TO COMBAT FORCED LABOUR

Fair Wear Foundation and GoodWeave International have joined forces to address child and forced labour in hidden and informal parts of apparel and textile supply chains. With European Union mandatory human rights due diligence legislation under development, the organisations' combined expertise is even more relevant for companies seeking to respect human rights and conduct responsible business.

Fair Wear member companies sourcing from India are encouraged to become GoodWeave licensees and benefit from deep supply chain mapping and inspections for child, forced and bonded labour that reach beyond tier one factories and into sub-contracted and home-based worksites where the majority of exploitation takes place. [Read More](#)



SMEs AND SUSTAINABILITY

SUSTAINABLE FINANCING SOLUTIONS FOR SMEs: A PATH TO NET-ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS

Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) serve as the backbone of our economies, comprising 96% of businesses in Asia and 90% globally, according to data from the World Bank. Banks and financial institutions can collaborate with SMEs to fuel their decarbonisation journeys. [Read more](#)



STAFF CORNER

SWATI RIKHY

Marketing and Communications Officer

Swati, is an alumni of MICA University, with a master's degree in Communication and Digital Marketing. Her journey in the professional world is fueled by a lifelong passion for writing, which she successfully transformed into a fulfilling career.

Over the years, Swati has worked in various sectors, including IT, F&B, Lifestyle and Beauty, as a content writer and digital marketing officer.

Swati's life philosophy 'Viva La Vida,' is a testament to her zest for living life to the fullest and savoring every moment. When not crafting compelling content or working on social media, Swati likes to spend her free time travelling, discovering new cuisines and dancing.

ABOUT CRB

Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) was established in 2011 as think-tank to pursue its vision, 'businesses integrate sustainability into their core business practices'. Given that sustainability is a multi-dimensional problem especially in the context of India and other emerging economies, CRB has adopted a model of engaging multiple stakeholders to develop action plans for promoting sustainable/responsible business, across various sectors in India.

CRB has consolidated its programmatic activities into the following thematic areas:

- Circular Economy
- Business & Human Rights
- Private Sector & SDGs
- Voluntary Sustainability Standards
- SMEs & Sustainability

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