

Chief Sustainability Officers' Forum

Date: 8 February 2024 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM (IST)

Venue: India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

The world has committed to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that calls upon the nations to take bold steps that transform their future choices towards achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals outlined therein. Further, in line with the Paris Agreement of keeping global warming to no more than 1.5°C, more than 140 nations around the world have either announced or are considering net zero emission targets by 2050.

However, there are immense challenges in the realization of these climate and sustainable development goals and targets. The economic transformation required to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 will be massive in scale and complex in execution. Achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals will need us to critically rethink our current approaches to tackle the social, economic and environmental challenges on the road to 2030. Evaluating and developing new and innovative financing instruments, markets and mechanisms, effective capital re-deployment and reallocation strategies; collaborative models of engagement and public-private partnerships to managing socio-economic and environmental risks will be imperative to advancing the climate and sustainable development agenda and transitioning to a green economy regime.

For businesses, leveraging the opportunities presented by the green transition will require them to enhance and accelerate integrating and deeply embedding sustainability in their core. However, for sustainability to mature into an integral part of organizational structure and culture, and for organizations to reap tangible long-term benefits, businesses need to operationalize sustainability across the value chain – both upstream and downstream. Innovative and collaborative models of value chain engagement would be required to tackle the social and environmental challenges, build supply chain resilience and advance the corporate climate and sustainability goals. The transitioning of traditional economy into a green economy and the fast-evolving green jobs landscape will call for significant workforce investments and urgent actions on skilling, reskilling and upskilling of the workforce towards unlocking and realizing the highest possible economic, social and environmental paybacks that this transition can offer.

The urgency and magnitude of the risks and threats to our collective sustainability, alongside increasing choice and opportunities, will make transparency about economic, environmental, and social impacts a fundamental component in effective stakeholder relations, investment decisions, and other market relations. Supporting this expectation, communicating clearly and openly about sustainability, will require globally-shared frameworks of concepts, consistent language, and metrics.

The Meeting speakers shall share their perspectives on:

- What role does quality data play in identifying business critical information and key impact areas to inform decision-making process and drive effective sustainability actions at scale?
- What are the key levers to enabling green skilling and green talent concentration in industries to accelerate green economy transitions?
- What is the significance of voluntary sustainability standards and frameworks in international trade and value chain sustainability?
- How is the ESG ratings landscape evolving in the context of ESG-conscious investment ecosystem in India?
- How can natural capital valuation and environmental accounting help in identifying the key priority and action areas for businesses towards integrating sustainability in business strategy and operations?

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Format of Discussion

The meeting comprises Indian Sustainability Officers; senior representatives from global organizations; senior representatives from government ministries and institutions; non-government institutions in India. To get the most out of the meeting, the Moderator will address targeted questions to the speakers. However, the moderator will encourage speakers to engage and respond to points and issues raised by participating Indian Sustainability Officers.

- The session commences with four speakers Setting the Context
- Thereafter each Indian Sustainability Officer makes a verbal intervention of about **2 minutes** on invitation by the Moderator
- The Moderator organizes an interaction between the participants
- The Moderator then closes the session with concluding remarks

The total length of the Meeting is 90 minutes. Time is of essence, we request you to kindly adhere to the stipulated time limits.

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Agenda Flow

Timings	Particulars
16:00 - 16:05 hrs	Welcome & Introductory Remarks by Mr Arupendra Nath Mullick, Vice President, TERI CBS, TERI
16:05 - 16:45 hrs	<p>Setting the Context: Role of quality data for enhanced sustainability-focused capital deployment</p> <p>Session Chair: Amb Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, TERI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evolving ESG Ratings landscape in the context of ESG-conscious investment ecosystem in India: Ms Rama Patel, Director - CRISIL Ratings, CRISIL Ltd Relevance of Credible Sustainability Disclosures for Indian industries: Mr Ashish Tiwari, Secretary (Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of Uttar Pradesh), and Member Secretary (Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board) Key trends/findings from CDP reporting disclosures on climate and water: Ms Sherry Madera, CEO, CDP Key levers of green skills and jobs to help transition the global workforce to a green economy future: Ms Aditi Jha, Director and Country Lead, Legal & Government Affairs, LinkedIn <p>Moderated discussion - Chairperson: Amb Manjeev Singh Puri, Distinguished Fellow, TERI</p> <p>Participating Indian Sustainability Officers (in alphabetical order by organization name):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Anupam Badola, Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd Mr Rahul Tapariya, Head - Energy & Sustainability (Chemicals), DCM Shriram Limited Ms Ritika Kishore Vaid, Assistant General Manager, Public Policy, DS Group of Companies Mr M K Tiwari, Chief General Manager – Sustainable Development, GAIL (India) Ltd Mr S Virmani, Chief Manager – Sustainable Development, GAIL (India) Ltd Mr Anand Acharya, Senior Manager – Sustainability, GAIL (India) Ltd Mr Krunal Negandhi, Managing Partner, Jurian Sustainability Consultancy and Services LLP Mr Vineet Handa, CEO, Kaizzen Mr Pratap Choudhury, GM(P) - Head Carbon Management, CM&SG, ONGC Mr Rahul Sharma, Lead - Co-Founder's Office, ReNew Power Mr Rohit Chashta, India Sustainability Leader, Schneider Electric Mr Gajendra Pratap Singh, Joint President – Corporate Affairs, Shree Cement Limited Ms Mallika Verma, Lead - Business Sustainability, Syngenta India Ms Tehseen Zaidi, Head - Communications, Syngenta India Mr Himal Tewari, Chief - Human Resources Officer, Head – CSR & Sustainability, Tata Power Ltd Mr Sourabh Mukherjee, Executive Vice President, Clean Energy & Sustainability, Tata Projects Ltd Mr Sagar Kaushik, COO, UPL Ltd Mr Ashish Bhambhani, Lead CSR, UPL Ltd
16:45 - 17:25 hrs	
17:25 – 17:30 hrs	Closing Remarks by Ms Pooja Kumar, Fellow, TERI CBS, TERI