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India GHG Program: WRI, TERI and CII are managing 10% of the country's industrial emissions

The unique initiative has an active membership of about 30 top companies

Mumbai, December 1, 2014: –Key Indian companies have started tracking and managing their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions under a voluntary programme facilitated by the World Resources Institute (WRI), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). With the Aditya Birla Group of Companies coming on board most recently, the programme, known as the India GHG Program, is estimated to be tracking and managing about 268 MT of carbon emissions, i.e., well over 10 per cent of the entire country's industrial emissions.

Launched in July 2013, the programme has an active membership of about 30 companies, ranging from textiles to telecom, automobiles to aviation, and, cement to services. Some of the key companies currently on board include the Aditya Birla Group, Mahindra Group, Infosys, ITC Limited, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited, Jet Airways (India) Limited, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Ford India Private Limited and Yes Bank, to name a few. These companies have expressed commitment to actively participate in efforts such as conducting a GHG inventory of business operations, mapping of the supply chain, and investments in efficiency improvements that would yield quick paybacks and generally correlate to improved overall operations.

“The COP 20 in Lima presents us with an incredible opportunity to showcase what countries like India are already doing to cut carbon emissions. We want more responsible businesses to join this initiative so that we can together sustain a healthy environment – the foundation of economic opportunity and human well-being,” says **Nitin Pandit, Managing Director, WRI India**.

The India GHG Program provides a globally acceptable processes/tool for corporates to measure and manage their greenhouse gas emissions. It gives Indian businesses the tools and technical know-how to measure their emissions, identify reduction opportunities, establish short and long-term reduction goals, and, track their progress based on the GHG Protocol – the most widely used emissions accounting and reporting standard in the world.

Mr Dipankar Sanyal, CEO, TERI-BCSD, says: “Business need to support our government to establish India's position at the negotiation table at COP 21 in Paris 2015. Increasingly, Indian businesses working with India GHG Programme now understand the business case of mitigation and adaptation measures for business continuity

and sustainability. We are happy Indian business houses are supportive and committed to contain and reduce GHG emissions in the country and look forward to more companies joining the programme.”

The India GHG Program aims to achieve the following:

- Measurement and management of GHG emissions become a standard practice, in the pathway towards a more competitive, profitable and sustainable business environment.
- Business sector is adequately engaged with the policymakers, supporting the overall progress and advancement towards national goals.
- Availability of adequately trained and certified pool of GHG practitioners, GHG measurement and management professionals.

“Our target is to replicate the success India has had with the green building movement with the India GHG program. We wish to see more Indian companies measure and manage their emissions. The COP 20 provides an opportunity for us to learn from the carbon management strategies from across the globe and scale-up the India GHG Program ” says **S Raghupathy, Executive Director, CII Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre.**

To find out more about the India GHG Program visit: <http://www.indiaghgp.org>
The GHG protocol provides the foundation for sustainable climate strategies and more efficient, resilient and profitable organisations. See www.ghgprotocol.org

Notes for Editors:

- The twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-20) will take place in Lima, Peru, from December 1- 12. Given the increasing impacts of global warming on health and livelihoods, the United Nations climate negotiations assume great significance. National leaders are expected to advance towards an international agreement on climate change to be signed in Paris next year. COP-20 will see a continuation of the United Nations Climate Summit held earlier this year.
- As India continues to experience changing rainfall patterns, heat waves and coastal flooding, there is an increasing need to mitigate and adapt. A recent study by the World Bank estimates that developing countries like India will need close to \$100 billion a year through (*)2050 to meet current and future adaptation needs. Currently, India’s spending is approximately \$4.4 billion. Another study by the Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) states that climate change has already directly impacted more than 27 per cent of India’s total geographical area.
- India’s National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) is one of the strongest responses to climate change by any developing country. India has already achieved emissions intensity reductions of 17.6 per cent between 1990 and 2005 and has committed to reducing its emissions intensity by 20-25 per cent by 2020 from a 2005 baseline.
- Several regulatory and policy measures have also been put in place. For example, the Perform Achieve Trade (PAT) Scheme is expected to leverage roughly \$5.4 billion in efficiency investments, regulated carbon dioxide emissions in the telecom and aviation sectors, and overall corporate responsibility in mitigating the impacts of climate change. Indian businesses will continue to play a significant role in long-term sustained action on climate change, and it is

important for them to have the right tools and opportunities to comply with regulations and implement operational changes.

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The World Resources Institute (WRI) India The World Resources Institute (WRI) India is a research organisation with experts and staff who work closely with leaders to turn big ideas into action to sustain a healthy environment—the foundation of economic opportunity and human well-being. We envision an equitable and prosperous planet driven by the wise management of natural resources. We aspire to create a world where the actions of government, business, and communities combine to eliminate poverty and sustain the natural environment for all people. WRI India works on a unique three-fold approach highlighted below:

Count It: We start with data. We conduct independent research and draw on the latest technology to develop new insights and recommendations. Our rigorous analysis identifies risks, unveils opportunities, and informs smart strategies.

Change It: We use our research to influence government policies, business strategies and civil society action. We test projects with communities, companies, and government agencies to build a strong evidence base. Then, we work with partners to deliver change on the ground that alleviates poverty and strengthens society. We hold ourselves accountable to ensure our outcomes will be bold and enduring.

Scale It: We don't think small. Once tested, we work with partners to adopt and expand our efforts regionally and globally. We engage with decision makers to carry out our ideas and elevate our impact. We measure success through government and business actions that improve peoples' lives and sustain a healthy environment.

www.wri-india.org

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) is an independent, not-for-profit research organization deeply committed to every aspect of energy, environment, and sustainable development. From providing environment-friendly solutions to rural energy problems, to helping shape the development of the Indian oil and gas sector; from tackling global climate change issues across many continents to enhancing forest conservation efforts among local communities; from advancing solutions to growing urban transportation and air pollution problems to promoting energy efficiency in Indian industries, the emphasis has always been on finding innovative solutions to make the world a better place to live in. All activities at TERI move from formulating local and national-level strategies to suggesting global solutions tackling critical energy and environment related issues.

Headed by Dr R K Pachauri, also the chairperson of the Nobel Peace Prize winning climate change body, IPCC, TERI has emerged as an institution of excellence for its path-breaking research, and is a global brand widely respected by political leaders, policy makers, corporate entities as well as the civil society at large. To engage with the Indian corporate sector, TERI set up TERI-BCSD (Business Council for Sustainable Development), a group of motivated corporate organizations, observing and supporting the aim of sustainable development for India's economy, www.teriin.org/index.php

CII

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry led and managed organization playing a proactive role in India's development process. Founded over 118 years ago, India's premier business association has

over 7,100 members including SMEs and MNCs. Extending its agenda beyond business, CII assists industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programs – along with partnerships with civil society organizations to carry forward integrated and inclusive development.

<http://www.greenbusinesscentre.com/site/ciiqbc/aboutus.jsp>