

UN GCNI NEWSLETTER

July – December, 2023



Network India



Over the past half-year, the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) has emerged as a guiding force, displaying proactive leadership by spearheading sustainable efforts and nurturing partnerships across various industries. Notably, the UN Global Compact has witnessed a remarkable 60% growth in its global participation since unveiling the 2021–2023 strategy, now encompassing more than 20,000 companies. Within this timeframe, 61 new Indian members have joined the UNGC initiative, highlighting a burgeoning interest and engagement within India towards these impactful endeavors.

Through impactful events like the Regional Convention – South 2023 themed "Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030 and collaborations such as the "Advancing Circular Economy Models" project with BASF, UN GCNI has championed sustainable practices. Organizing focused group discussions across various cities fostered collaboration, knowledge sharing, and regional initiatives, providing crucial platforms for stakeholders to exchange ideas aligned with UNGC's Forward Faster objectives. Beyond physical events, Gender Gap Assessments and virtual sessions broadened engagement, encouraging wider participation in sustainability initiatives.

UN GCNI's engagement in key events like International Anti-Corruption Day 2023, Sustainability Day 2023, and a Transparency Symposium reaffirmed its dedication to ethical practices and global sustainability objectives.

Looking ahead to 2024, UN GCNI's commitment remains unwavering, geared towards continued proactive leadership, fostering collaborations, and spearheading innovative sustainability projects for a brighter, greener future.

Top News

Inauguration of the Kerala local chapter in Kochi, alongside active involvement in discussions focusing on Responsible Business Practices in MSMEs.

Regional Convention – South 2023 charted a vital roadmap for companies toward impactful initiatives before 2030.

Organizing focused group discussions across various cities fostered collaboration, knowledge sharing, and regional initiatives, providing crucial platforms for stakeholders to exchange ideas aligned with sustainability objectives. Beyond physical events, Gender Gap Assessments and virtual sessions broadened engagement, encouraging wider participation in sustainability initiatives.

UN Global Compact Network India welcomed newly elected Governing Council for the term 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2025.

The 11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture held annually to honor the legacy of UN GCNI's Founder-President, the late Mr. Subir Raha, witnessed an address on "Sustainable Energy Transition" by Padma Bhushan Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog and Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).

MAJOR EVENTS

Kerala Regional Conference 2023

Transforming tomorrow: G20: Pathway to Sustainable Excellence

18 December, 2023

UN GCNI focuses on empowering MSMEs by aligning with the UN Global Compact's strategic goals. Through ESG assessments, the organization aims to elevate governance standards (The G in ESG). It recently hosted an event gathering stakeholders to promote ethical business practices and compliance among MSMEs. Mr. Arya Dev from UN GCNI presented the initiative, emphasizing the theme: "Promoting the G in ESG: Integrating Responsible Business Practices in MSMEs."

Regional Convention – South 2023

Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030

15 December, 2023

UN Global Compact Network India recently organized its Regional Convention – South at ITC Gardenia, Bengaluru, aiming to spotlight pressing contemporary issues. Themed "Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030," the convention guided companies on impactful actions before 2030, urging collaborative engagement across various sectors. Focused on Climate Change, Gender Equality, Living Wage, Finance and Investment, and Water Resilience, discussions highlighted these critical areas' potential to accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The event emphasized the imperative role of these goals in individual well-being, collective prosperity, and economic growth, setting clear pathways for sustainable, equitable, and inclusive development models.

National Conclave

Good Governance in Healthcare for Global Welfare: A Call for Action

4 August, 2023

UN GCNI organized a National Conclave on "Good Governance in Healthcare for Global Welfare" in collaboration with Prashanthi Balamandira Trust and Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research in Bengaluru. Esteemed speakers addressed the importance of Healthcare Governance in combating corruption, drawing over 1,000 attendees from healthcare, corporate, and civil society sectors.

11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture: Sustainable Energy Transition

Making leaps towards Sustainable Energy Transition with UN GCNI at the 11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture

4 July, 2023

The 11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture is a prestigious annual event that is held in honor of Late Mr. Subir Raha, to pay rich tributes to his achievements; delivered by experts and luminaries from different walks of life. It is organized every year to honor the legacy and vision of the Late Mr. Subir Raha, former CMD, ONGC, and the Founder-President of the Global Compact Network India. Under his leadership, GCNI was able to establish a firm foundation on which we continue to build our future. To emphasize the need for sustainability in developmental practices, UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized the 11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture at the SCOPE Convention Centre, Lodhi Road. The event, which is held annually to honor the legacy of UN GCNI's Founder-President, the late Mr. Subir Raha, witnessed an address on "Sustainable Energy Transition" by Padma Bhushan Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog and Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).



UN GCNI Kerala Regional Conference 2023



National Conclave on "Good Governance in Healthcare for Global Welfare"



11th Subir Raha Memorial Lecture 2023



Regional Convention – South 2023

FOCUSED – GROUP DISCUSSIONS



UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) hosted two impactful events in Hyderabad. The first, a Focus Group Discussion with Amara Raja Energy & Mobility Ltd, fostered collaborations and discussions among participants, emphasizing sustainable business practices and the Forward Faster agenda. On 13th October a day before this, UN GCNI in partnership with Yara International and Ecociate Consultants, centered on "Private Sector Opportunities in Regenerative Agriculture for a Sustainable India." Attended by stakeholders from various sectors, it focused on strategies and initiatives to scale up regenerative agriculture, outlining a collaborative roadmap for its advancement in the country.

On October 5th, 2023, United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) had the privilege of conducting a special workshop along with our host partners BIAL in the vibrant city of Bengaluru, focusing on building a better, more sustainable future. The "Sustainable Future" theme highlighted key areas such as eco-friendly technologies, Green Landscape, Green Buildings, Renewable energy, waste management and more. Following the workshop, we had the unique opportunity to visit BLR Airport's Terminal 2. This eco-friendly marvel showcases sustainable design and operations, setting the bar high for airports worldwide.



UN Global Compact Network India hosted an interactive FGD with Ehsaas Trust International at Radisson Srinagar on 29th September, 2023. The FGD witnessed the participation of prospects from businesses, non-businesses, academia as well as from the government.

UN GCNI organized a focused group discussion to ignite conversations centered around sustainability in Mumbai on Monday, 25th September, 2023 and it was hosted by the esteemed member participants, BASF India Limited.



UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized an insightful focused group discussion to ignite conversations centered around sustainability on 14th September, 2023 in Kolkata and it was hosted by the esteemed member, Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. Members from different industries such as tea, engineering, hospitality, tourism, education, Information Technology and consultancy attended the roundtable session. In addition, the Indo British Scholars' Association (IBSA) also hosted an interactive roundtable session with members from the UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) at the British Club on 13th September 2023 at Kolkata.

The UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) had an extensive knowledge sharing discussion with its noted Participants from Bengaluru. The FGD was held on 2nd August, 2023 with Novozymes as the Host partner. The meeting was joined by its noted participants from Infosys, Microland Limited, Brillio, CGI, SuperHumanRace, Biocon and TVS Motor Company, etc.



WORK STRATEGIES

FIELD RESEARCH

'Closing the Loop: Creating Circular Economic Models'

As the pilot phase of our 'Closing the Loop: Creating Circular Economic Models' project draws to a close, we're thrilled to unveil the next phase. From December 3rd to 9th 2023, our UN Global Compact Network India team convened pivotal stakeholder meetings across the 8 blocks of Dharashiv district, delving deep into the agricultural and waste-to-wealth landscapes. These conversations deeply enriched our understanding of agricultural patterns, waste recycling and management strategies (covering agriculture, livestock, and dry natural waste), as well as the diverse biomass landscape across Dharashiv's 8 blocks.



'Advancing Circular Economy Models'

As part of the initiative "Advancing Circular Economy Models," the UN Global Compact Network India (GCNI) team, led by Ms. Srishti Gautam, Programme Officer, collaborated with corporate partner BASF to conduct field research in the aspirational districts of Osmanabad, Washim, and Nandurbar in Maharashtra, alongside Dahod and Narmada in Gujarat. This research spanned from 24th July to 9th August 2023.



Visit to TVS Motor's Office, Bengaluru

On August 1st, 2023, Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director of the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), led a purposeful visit to TVS Motors' Bangalore office. This meeting united two influential voices in sustainable business practices. Discussions centered on integrating sustainable initiatives within the automotive sector. TVS Motors' strong commitment to environmental and social responsibility aligns closely with UNGC's goals, fostering the potential for a robust partnership. Both parties left the meeting optimistic about future collaborations, committed to leading in sustainable development. UN GCNI continues its dedication to forging alliances for a more sustainable corporate landscape in India.



Participant Meet to Strengthen Collective Action

The United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) organized a "Participant Meet to Strengthen Collective Action" on 3rd August, 2023. The meeting was hosted by Novozymes, a noted signatory of United Nations Global Compact Network (UNGC). The meeting provided a crucial platform for an engaging dialogue on the role of collective action in advancing sustainable development. It brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including business leaders, sustainability experts, government representatives, and civil society members, to exchange insights and best practices in driving positive change. The UN GCNI Participant Engagement Meet on Collective Action, hosted by Novozymes, a pioneer in industrial biotechnology, aimed to explore the intersection of collective action and governance in the context of sustainable development. With the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a backdrop, the event sought to identify innovative strategies for businesses and governments to collaborate effectively in achieving global goals to promote good governance and collective action across the sectors.

EVENTS, TRAININGS & WEBINARS

Universal Health-Coverage Day 2023

UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) and Voice of Healthcare (VoH), in the pursuit of Universal Health-Coverage Day 2023, organized the 2nd edition of Leaders Roundtable on Universal Health Coverage -Collaborative Action for Health Equity- A series of 4-panel discussions on Healthcare. Dr. Somnath moderated a panel discussion on "Leaders Roundtable: Collaborative Action for Health Equity towards Value-based Healthcare. Ms. Neeta Aggarwal, Officer, UN GCNI also participated as a panelist.

International Anti-Corruption Day 2023

In honor of International Anti-Corruption Day, a Global Symposium on 'Promoting Transparency: Strategies for Driving Multi-Stakeholder Engagement to Fight Corruption' was organized jointly by United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) and Atmiya University celebrated at Atmiya University, Rajkot/Gujrat.

Partners Meet: MACN -India Curtain Raiser Event

The Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN) India hosted a Curtain Raiser Event at the Taj Mahal Palace, Maharashtra, on September 26, 2023. MACN, a global business network striving for a corruption-free maritime industry fostering fair trade, boasts over 190 member companies worldwide. Dr. Somnath Singh, Advisor to MACN and Deputy Director of Anti-Corruption and Sustainability at UN GCNI, alongside Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director at UN GCNI, engaged with key stakeholders of the maritime industry, discussing corruption challenges and issues prevalent within India's maritime sector during this event.



International Anti Corruption Day | 9th December 2023 | Atmiya University



Unlocking the Potential - Renewable Innovations for Business Sustainability

UN Global Compact Network India conducted a workshop of our inaugural Regional Virtual Workshop series titled, "Unlocking the Potential - Renewable Innovations for Business Sustainability" organised in collaboration with our UN Global Compact Network Singapore on 23 November, 2023. The workshop brought together UNGC member companies to share various renewable energy solutions from across Singapore, India and the wider Asia region. Given the crucial role of renewables in the low-carbon transition, the workshop deep-dived into the various renewable energy solutions in Asia.

Special Value Proposition Session

A special virtual session centered around the United Nations Global Compact Value Proposition was convened on 11th September, 2023. The session featured Ms. Simiao You, Participant Engagement Manager for Asia and Oceania, along with the Participant Engagement Team of UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI). During the session, participants were guided through the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Journey, which serves as a roadmap towards fostering a more sustainable, ethical, and responsible world. Ms. Simiao You presented the global value proposition, while Ms. Seerat Tajamul, Membership Officer at UN GCNI, outlined the value proposition specific to the Indian context.

Gender Gap Assessment

UN GCNI carried out a Gender Gap Assessment exercise conducted on 1st September, 2023 for one of our partner companies based out of Gujarat. The assessment was conducted virtually and came out with some very useful insights related to Gender Equality within the organization. It also showed a road map for further gender-related planning for the organization. UN GCNI wishes to conduct more such Gender Gap Assessment exercises for its participants across India.

Training of Trainers: (ToT) Programme in Pune

On 19th September, 2023 UN GCNI team representing Ms. Suman Singh, Deputy Director and Ms. Subha Kowatra, Assistant Program Manager, in partnership with the Education Department of Government of Maharashtra (GDM) and ENPower delivered a Training of Trainers: (ToT) to teachers of grades 6th to 9th standard in Pune, Maharashtra. The successful training of the teachers was on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The teachers will further deliver the program to 44 schools and 3 districts in Maharashtra. This would bring greater awareness among the youth on the 17 SDGs and drive them towards reaching the targets for 2030. The training program aimed to inculcate an entrepreneurial mindset amongst the students and unlock their potential as part of SDG 4 'Quality Education'.

Train The Trainer: (ToT) Workshop in Bengaluru

The UN Global Compact Network India, in collaboration with the Alliance for Integrity, conducted a two-day training program named "Vyapaar Se Vyapaar Ko" on September 21st & 22nd, 2023, in Bengaluru, targeting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). "Vyapaar Se Vyapaar Ko" on 21st & 22nd September 2023 in Bengaluru. The training programme is a part of a larger initiative to work with local companies, typically MSMEs, towards building their competencies in implementing systems and processes within their organization to combat corruption and improve responsible business conduct.

Young SDG Innovators Programme

The UN Global Compact SDG Innovation Accelerator engages young professionals from companies participating in the UN Global Compact around the world to learn how to use the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a catalyst for the development of new products and services. Building on the UN Global Compact's work on Breakthrough Innovation for the SDGs, the accelerator connects mid-level and junior managers - aged 35 and younger - across diverse business units to generate bold yet viable solutions that can have a positive impact on the company and the SDGs. It is now open for Indian companies.

Unlocking the Potential: Renewable Innovations for Business Sustainability

23 November 2023 | 4.30 pm - 6.00 pm (SGT) | Virtual

Organised by:



Network Singapore

In Collaboration With:



Network India

REGIONAL VIRTUAL WORKSHOP SERIES



Kar Tai Koh
Market Development Manager
Neste



Bibhudatta Rout
General Manager (Alternate Energy)
Indian Oil Corporation Limited



Shawn Tan
Director (Engineering & Construction)
EDP Renewables APAC



Abhinav Gupta
Head C&I Business
ReNew

UN GCNI'S INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

Asia and Oceania Regional meeting 2023

UN Global Compact Network India team – Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director, Mr. Deep Chandra Papnoi, Deputy Director and Ms. participating at the Asia and Oceania Regional meeting taking place in Shanghai, China. This four-day event is designed to foster knowledge sharing and enhance collaboration in regional and local programming & planning. Furthermore, local networks in attendance are actively working to define the regional priorities for the year 2024. This meeting acted as a platform for cross sharing and networking, bringing together nations to collectively work towards a unified pursuit of the principles and objectives embodied by the United Nations Global Compact.

Sustainability Day 2023

Dr. Somnath Singh representing UN Global Compact Network India was invited as a speaker along with Esther Yongo Aina Putri Fadilla Farah Kabir Maburur Mujib Chowdhury, at the Sustainability Day 2023: Symposium organized by Global Compact Network Bangladesh on 15 November, 2023. The Panel Discussion, "Collective Action Against Corruption – Regional Perspectives" brought together Representatives from United Nations Global Compact Local Networks (Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Kenya, and Malaysia) to provide unique insights, share lessons learned, and discuss best practices in fostering Integrity and combating Corruption.

Task Force on Inclusive GVCs for Resilient Global Trade and Investment – B20 India 2023

Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director of UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), played a significant role as a member of the GVC Task Force within B20 India 2023 (Task Force on Inclusive Global Value Chains for Resilient Global Trade and Investment). His active involvement and contributions in strategic meetings were instrumental in shaping the Policy Paper.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strengthening Sustainability Education

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been formally executed between the United Nations Global Compact Network India and UPL University, marking the inception of a fresh educational program titled "The Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Compliance & Sustainability" at UPL University. This program has been thoughtfully crafted to equip professionals already engaged in the realms of environment and sustainability with the requisite knowledge and skills necessary to enact meaningful and positive transformations in their respective fields.

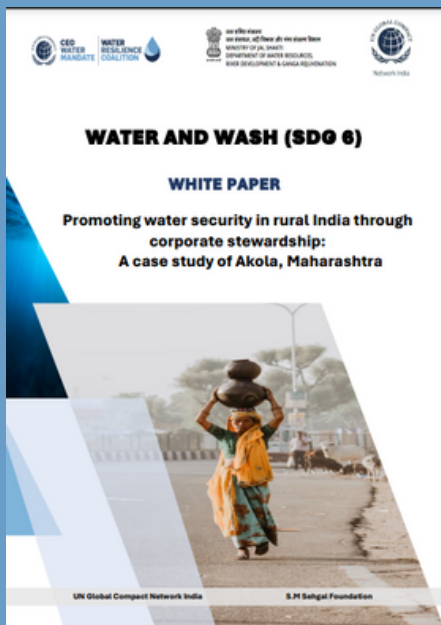
Business with MSMEs: Meeting Bharuch, Gujarat

A business meeting was held with MSMEs and EHS officials in collaboration with Bharuch District Management Association (BDMA) on 1st September, 2023. The meeting was on the theme of 'Promoting the G in ESG: Integrating Responsible Business Practices in MSMEs' under the Golden Stretch Anti-Corruption Project. The meeting was convened with the aim of increasing awareness and exploring opportunities related to the incorporation of the "G" aspect (Governance) within the broader framework of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) considerations. This included discussions on Anti-Corruption measures, Risk Management, Business Ethics, and the adoption of Business Integrity practices.

Partnership Programmes

UN GCNI was a proud partner at The Global Safety Summit 2023 that happened on 22 December, 2023. The 11th National CSR Summit held on 24 November, 2023 was hosted by Shikhar NGO unfolded at the prestigious India International Centre. Business Leaders' Roundtable, titled "Business Leadership for Biodiversity Conservation in India" was organized by the UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) and UNDP on November 22, 2023 at Hotel Oberoi, Gurugram. Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN GCNI was invited for The UN Global Compact Leaders Summit New York, on 19th September 2023 that convened business leaders, UN officials, across the globe to comprehensively review the private sector's contribution to advancing the SDGs. UN GCNI was the SDGs outreach Partner of the 10th Global Safety Summit EHS CSR Awards & ESG Conference held on 29th July 2023.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS



https://globalcompact.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/White_Paper_on_Water_and_WASH.pdf



[Anti-Corruption-Best-Practice-Compendium-for-Healthcare](#)



<https://globalcompact.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Anti-Corruption-brochure-2023.pdf>



https://globalcompact.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Compendium_Best-Practices-Challenge.pdf

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

- MITCON Consultancy & Engineering Services Limited
- Kitemaps Aerial Mapping Services
- Privi Speciality Chemicals Limited
- 20 Microns Limited (Group)
- IBS Software Pvt Ltd
- Suven Pharmaceuticals Limited
- Cohance Lifesciences
- Strides Pharma Science Limited
- Re Sustainability Limited
- KUNAL HOUSEWARES PVT LTD
- Rohstoffe International Private Limited
- J Mechatronic
- Khare Energy Private Limited
- Primus Partners Pvt. Ltd.
- MOJO DESIGN STUDIOS
- Aumsat Technologies LLP
- Katariya Agro Private Limited
- USHA YARNS LIMITED
- VD Global Pvt. Ltd.
- Manjushree Technopack Limited
- ELECTROSTEEL CASTINGS LIMITED (KHARDAH WORKS)
- Hari Krishna Exports Pvt. Ltd.
- AOV International LLP.
- ACWA AUTOMATICS LLP
- Relief Supplier
- Travaneo Info Solutions India Private Limited
- Wanderers Media Works Pvt Ltd
- Prima Chemicals
- Shilpa Pharma Life Sciences Limited
- GRANULES INDIA LIMITED
- Welspun Living Limited
- AG Horizon Private Limited
- MergerWare Corp
- Aqueduct Advisors Private Limited o/a GDi Partners
- HIKAL LIMITED
- Arvind Limited
- Malhari ProjAdani Total Gas Limited
- ects
- Zimetrics Technologies Private Limited
- Jaypee Brothers Medical Publisher Pvt. Ltd.
- Queue Group Private Limited.
- Solon India Private Limited
- Diagonal Consulting LLP
- Technicise Software & Technologies Private Limited
- Solidus Hi Tech Product Pvt. Ltd
- LOGICSERVE DIGITAL PRIVATE LIMITED
- GRP LTD
- LTIMindtree Limited
- Wiz Digital Services
- Pacific Creative Society - NGO
- BRIJWASI GEMS 01
- Nakoda Chemicals Limited
- Machis Events Pvt Ltd
- MSN Laboratories Private Limited
- Vinati Organics Ltd
- SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd
- Tata Communications Ltd.
- NORTH INDIA TRANSXPRESS PRIVATE LIMITED
- Wirecom (India) Pvt Ltd
- GREEN MENTORING AND SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
- MULTIVISTA GLOBAL PVT LTD



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