

UN GCNI NEWSLETTER

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TOP NEWS

18TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

UN GCNI hosted the 18th National Convention on Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Action with Forward Faster 2030 on February 23, 2024 at The Ashok, New Delhi.

Continuing the tradition of igniting change and fostering sustainability, this convention witnessed an unparalleled gathering of minds, ideas, and initiatives. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Govt of India & Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs graced the Convention with his inaugural address.

GLOBAL SUMMIT ON ESG ADVANCEMENT

Standing committed to promoting ethical and responsible practices and a culture of integrity across businesses by integrating and ensuring "G" (Governance), "E" (Environment), and "S" (Social) of ESG, UN GCNI & PHDCCI jointly organized a Global Summit on "ESG Advancement: Innovations Driving Sustainability" on March 5th, 2024.



Over the past three months, the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) has embarked on a dynamic journey of progress and collaboration, guided by the overarching theme of "UNGC Forward Faster." This theme encapsulates our collective commitment to accelerate sustainable development efforts and drive transformative change in the corporate sector. Through a series of innovative initiatives, engagements, and partnerships, UN GCNI has fervently pursued its mission to advance the principles of the United Nations Global Compact.

From empowering businesses to embrace responsible practices to fostering impactful dialogues and knowledge-sharing sessions, our activities have been imbued with a spirit of urgency and ambition. As we reflect on the strides taken in the past three months, we are energized by the momentum generated and remain steadfast in our resolve to propel the UNGC agenda forward at an accelerated pace, leaving a lasting imprint on the journey towards a more sustainable and equitable future.

ALNF 2024

The Annual Local Network Forum took place from Tuesday, 19 March - Friday 22 March in Tokyo Japan. Mr Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN GCNI was invited to speak at the Forward Faster Spotlight panel.

18TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030



"IN THE MIDST OF GLOBAL CHALLENGES, INDIA'S APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SHINES BRIGHTLY. WHILE SIGNIFICANT PORTIONS OF THE WORLD STRUGGLE WITH ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION, INDIA HAS MADE REMARKABLE STRIDES IN ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES AND DESPITE THE VAST FINANCING GAP IN ACHIEVING SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, INDIA HAS BEEN PROACTIVE IN MOBILISING RESOURCES AND IMPLEMENTING IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES"

MR. HARDEEP SINGH PURI, HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

On February 23rd, 2024, the United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) hosted its annual flagship event, the 18th National Convention, in New Delhi. The gathering drew over 700 attendees from corporate, academic, governmental, policymaking, and nonprofit sectors. Serving as the convention's Chief Guest was Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Themed "Advancing Sustainable India: Driving Change with Forward Faster 2030," the 18th National Convention aimed to tackle urgent issues and chart a course toward achieving the mid-point targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Decade of Action, specifically for India. The convention exemplified collaboration and broad participation from public, private, nonprofit, and governmental stakeholders. Its primary objective was to provide a platform for stakeholders to present their strategies, aspirations, and, crucially, learnings from case studies to facilitate widespread implementation of sustainable innovations across various industries.

Key Takeaways from the Convention:

1. The correlation between bold action on the faster forward themes and corporate value creation was comprehensively explored, with discussions involving both speakers and the audience.
2. Best practices and innovations, spearheaded by stakeholders, were exchanged to accelerate actions towards global goals. Speakers and disguised guests shared insights and experiences during these exchanges.
3. The Target 2030 lens was enhanced through collaborative efforts, aimed at crafting effective solutions for the benefit of all stakeholders. Various sessions were dedicated to refining this approach.
4. A singular platform was provided to guide companies on identifying areas where they could make the biggest and fastest impact for 2030. Both speakers and attendees engaged in fruitful discussions to pinpoint these opportunities.
5. Collective learning was promoted, and collaborations were fostered to advance Inclusive and Sustainable Development, paving the way for a more sustainable future for all. Through interactive sessions and networking opportunities, participants explored avenues for collective action and shared their commitments to sustainability.

"THE SDGS AREN'T JUST A LIST OF CODES; THEY CARRY THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL."

MS. ISABELLE TSCHAN, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UNDP INDIA

GLOBAL SUMMIT ON ESG ADVANCEMENT: INNOVATIONS DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY “UNITING LEADERS FOR BUSINESS INTEGRITY”

PHDCCI, in collaboration with The UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), the local branch of the United Nations Global Compact India Network, organized the – ‘Global Summit on ESG Advancement’, on March 5, 2024, at PHD House, New Delhi.

Under the theme ‘Innovations Driving Sustainability “Uniting Leaders for Business Integrity”, this summit aimed to tackle current sustainability issues and provide an excellent platform for uniting leaders from across the sectors to learn, share, and discuss their relevant knowledge and innovations to ensure good governance, ethics, and integrity in businesses. The event was also attended by Ms. Cristina Ritter, Head of Anticorruption and Governance at the UN Global Compact.



ANNUAL LOCAL NETWORK FORUM (ALNF) 2024

The Annual Local Network Forum (ALNF), gathering Global Compact Networks from around the world. Hosted by Global Compact Network Japan, the objective of the Forum was Identify New programme priorities and opportunities aligned With the extended strategy and co-create new programme experiences to strengthen our value proposition and to amplify our collective impact. Mr Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN GCNI was invited to speak at the Forward Faster Spotlight panel.



CLOSING THE LOOP: CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMIC MODEL

On March 1, 2024, in Osmanabad district, a group of passionate stakeholders came together for an inspiring discussion on 'Closing the Loop: Creating a Circular Economic Model'. The meeting was a resounding success! Ideas flowed freely, paving the way for transformative solutions. We discussed converting agricultural waste into valuable resources, fostering environmental sustainability, uplifting indigenous farmers, and enhancing community well-being. The meeting was led by Srishthi Gautam, Programme Officer, Subha Kawatra, Assistant Manager and Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network India.



PROMOTING THE G IN ESG: INTEGRATING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS PRACTICES IN MSMEs

All India Management Association (AIMA) organised a Special Programme on- "Promoting the G in ESG: Integrating Responsible Business Practices in MSMEs" on February 29th, 2024. The session aimed to offer practical strategies to participants for incorporating responsible business practices in MSMEs and to underscore the significance of corporate governance within the ESG framework, besides focus on ways of empowering the MSMEs to create positive social and environmental impact while fostering long-term resilience and growth. Mr Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN GCNI was invited as a Speaker for the event.

BUSINESS INTEGRITY SESSION

Recognizing the role of Business associations, Chambers of Commerce, and Business management federations in supporting and promoting integrity and compliance initiatives through collective action, UN Global Compact Network India had partnered with IamSMEofIndia, one of the largest SME networks and a globally recognized institution, on February 16th 2024, for understanding and deep-diving into compliances, regulations, industry best practices and integrity, in conjunction with the governance component of ESG, required to develop responsible business practices in MSMEs.

SDG INNOVATION ACCELERATOR

The SDG Innovation Accelerator for Young Professionals is a unique opportunity offered to participating companies within the UN Global Compact network. It empowers the young talent within these organizations to collaborate and drive business innovation that aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This intensive nine-month programme is designed to activate the potential of future business leaders and changemakers. It focuses on the development and implementation of innovative solutions through cutting-edge technologies, initiatives, and business models that contribute to your company's sustainability objectives.

Running in 17+ countries and engaging high-performing young professionals ('Innovators'), the programme activates future business leaders and creative minds, and challenges them to rethink traditional business models and unlock new business opportunities. Applications are now closed and the programme has commenced with 90+ young professionals as innovators.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS AWAIT !

7TH GENDER EQUALITY SUMMIT 2024

Join us on April 26th, 2024, at the India International Centre in New Delhi for the Gender Equality Summit, an event dedicated to fostering inclusive perspectives under the theme "Inclusive Horizons: Gender Equality across SDGs." This year, we are honored to have Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Co-Founder and Chairperson of Sustainability at ReNew, leading the charge. With her leadership, we're set to propel forward in our mission to advance gender equality for the 7th consecutive year!

Register today: <https://ges2024.grouphink.events/>



CLIMATE ACTION ACCELERATOR

The Climate Ambition Accelerator is a six-month accelerator programme designed to equip companies with the knowledge and skills they need to accelerate progress towards setting science-based emissions reduction targets aligned with the 1.5°C pathway, setting them on a path towards net-zero emissions by 2050.

Through the Global Compact Local Networks around the world, participating companies will gain access to global best practices, peer-to-peer learning opportunities, practical activities, capacity building sessions and on-demand training.

Join Today: <https://lnkd.in/gkKhjAr>

SDG PIONEERS 2024

Every year, UN Global Compact recognizes a group of SDG Pioneers — business professionals operating at various levels within their companies, utilizing business as a positive force to advance the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact. Networks spanning all continents will be hosting country-level SDG Pioneers campaigns to identify business leaders who will then be contenders for the global round to be recognized in September 2024.

Launch of Local Rounds: 3 April 2024 Local Round Submission Period: 3 April 2024 - 15 May 2024

Read more: <https://unglobalcompact.org/sdgs/sdgpioneers>



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

- Mastek Limited
- Mylan Laboratories Ltd
- Manjushree Technopack Limited
- Fluentgrid Ltd.
- Green Yatra Trust
- ICM Logistics Pvt. Ltd.
- Innovassynth Technologies (India) Limited
- Shobikaa Impex Private Limited
- Godrej Properties Limited



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