2020 - 2030: A Decisive Decade for the SDGs

With only ten years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), world leaders at the SDG Summit in September 2019 called for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, and pledged to mobilize finance, enhance national implementation and strengthen institutions to achieve the Goals by the target date of 2030.

The year 2020 is the start of the ten-year countdown to the deadline for the Goals. We have a decade to deliver for people and for planet. The actions, policies, and ambition the world embraces today will determine whether we can achieve this bold agenda in the years ahead. In the coming decade, we need to focus on greater SDG adoption and devoted engagement by governments large and small, organizations, businesses, communities, and individuals.

The upcoming ‘Decade of Action’ (2020 – 2030) requires new ways of collective action wherein leaders from civil society organizations need to work alongside CEOs of global companies not just to highlight problems, but to actually develop solutions. This will ensure the inclusive spirit of the goals to see that no one is left behind. Our vision is to create an active community of changemakers committed to accelerating positive change and innovation to achieve the SDGs, supported by cross-sector collaborations.

Finally, we must push to strengthen and build current data to create a more accurate picture of progress and challenges, and to better leverage the SDG framework, focusing on what is most needed. As we embark on the next decade—the ten-year countdown to realize the Global Goals—2020 must serve as a springboard point where our urgent, collective action pushes the world onto the path to success.

Best wishes for the New Year and New Decade,
CEGET TEAM
SDGs Summit is an annual flagship event of Global Compact Network India (GCNI) and this year it was held on 20th December 2019. The Summit deliberated on the theme “Emerging Trends in CSR to achieve SDGs: The Road Ahead”.

Topics discussed were:

- Introducing impact assessment studies for CSR obligation of 5 crores or more, promoting social impact companies, and third-party assessment of major CSR projects.
- Balancing local area preferences with national priorities.
- Developing a CSR exchange portal to connect contributors, beneficiaries and agencies, allowing CSR in social benefit bonds.

For the first time Thane Smart City Limited (TSCL) showcased its urban innovations and best practices and directly interacted with businesses and SDG implementors. A strategic delegation led by Mr. Sameer Unhale, CEO, TSCL ensured cities presence in the deliberation around CSR and SDGs, helping bridge the gap between cities and businesses.

**Graduate Advanced Program-Growing representation and opportunities for women**
Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui, Director, CEGET-GCNI Interacted with GAP (Graduate Advanced Program) and GROW (Growing Representation and Opportunities for Women) members of Flour Daniel Pvt Limited on the topic of Gender Sensitivity and Unconsciousness Bias on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

**National Convention on Universal Health Coverage Day**

AIHMS (Arsul India Health & Management Services), a member signatory of Global Compact Network India (GCNI), organized **National Convention on Universal Health Coverage Day: Keep The Promise** on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in Delhi. Mr. Somnath Singh, Programme Manager, in his Special Address said that there in need of collective action of different stakeholders and Public-Private partnership strengthening for achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Goals in India.

**MoU signing for strengthening SDGs**
Mr. Somnath Singh attended a MoU signing ceremony of Nagrik Foundation and UN HABITAT at Dainik Bhaskar, under the leadership of GCNI Governing Council member Mr. Deepak Dwivedi, Chief, Editor Dainik Bhaskar (Media), NOIDA/U.P. on 21st December 2019.

**Launch of SDG India Index**

On 30th December 2019, NITI Aayog launched SDG India Index and SDG Dashboard that have been designed to provide an aggregate assessment of the performance of all Indian States and Union Territories, and to help leaders and change makers evaluate their performance on social, economic and environmental parameters. It aims to measure India and its States’ progress towards the SDGs for 2030.
The SDG India Index 2019-2020 is large (100 indicators) as compared to SDG India Index 2018 (62 indicators). The SDG Dashboard aims to further assist States in localizing the SDGs. Mr. Somnath Singh, Programme Manager and Mr. Arya Dev, Programme Analyst, CEGET-GCNI participated in the SDG Index launching ceremony and shared the progress of CEGET SDG assessment of Smart Cities of India.