THANE SMART CITY TO BE THE 1ST SDG CITY OF INDIA

Global Compact Network India (GCNI) signed MoU with Thane Smart City Limited (TSCL)

GCNI CEGET signed a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advisory MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Thane Smart City Limited on 31st May, 2019. Under the MoU CEGET will provide Thane Smart City Limited (TSCL) its assessment on SDG parameters and SDG advisory.

CEGET shall provide advisory services with respect to any of the chosen individual SDG/ SDGs that shall be prioritized after due process in the evaluation phase by TSCL. CEGET shall evaluate the city’s progress in meeting the SDGs at the city level through an internal assessment that would highlight strengths and areas of improvements for Thane. These would then become future reference points for the city in refining its approach to smart and sustainable development. The final output of the SDG Assessment shall be development of a Sustainability Framework for the city, based on the customized Key Performance Indicators and an amalgamation of international and local know-how and best practices. It shall serve as a policy tool to support TSCL in collecting and integrating data, and using those data sets to define a vision, set targets, monitor progress, and forecast trends—all while being able to compare themselves with peer cities.

Dr. Ashutosh Karnatak, Chairman, CEGET Committee, asserted that “A sound strategy for any organization should not be limited to commercial growth only and must include sustainable practices. He emphasized that sustainability of an organisation depends on PHP (performance, health and perception) and the unimpaired balance of these three elements is what keeps the organization growing. He asserted that our 65% population of India lives in villages so along with smart cities we should have more work on Sustainable Villages too”.

Mr. Sameer Unhale, Chief Executive Officer, Thane Smart City Limited, noted that “Thane Smart City Ltd is consistently aspiring to be sustainably smart. With the SDG Sustainability Framework coming out of our association with GCNI, we could inspire and impact 35 thousand odd cities and towns of the world. It is an exceptional opportunity for both parties to do something for posterity”.

Relaying the quintessential idea behind the MoU, Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui, Director CEGET said “SDG Assessment is meant to be a planning and advocacy tool that will prove to be a great asset in policy decisions and interventions for the city. Through this partnership SDGs will transcend from their current monitoring and reporting format to setting the ambitious roadmap that they were meant to do. While we at CEGET have been in discussion with multiple cities about the SDG Assessment idea for the last six months, Thane committed to being the SDG Champion by commissioning a voluntary SDG Assessment and setting a new benchmark for both cities and corporates. This will definitely be a game changer”.

CEGET BULLETIN – MAY 2019
CEGET organised its 2\textsuperscript{nd} Deliberation Workshop: Accelerating Social Impact Solutions Through Collective Action Between Industry & Start-Ups at Bombay Chambers of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), Mumbai on May 29, 2019. The event was curated in partnership with Chalk Talk.

With participation by over 40 business leaders, some of the key CEOs, CXOs, were present in the workshop, including the CEO of Thane Smart City, Mr Sameer Unhale. Deliberations were focused around SDG 6 (Water); SDG 12 (Consumption); SDG 11 (Cities) SDG 13 (Climate Action); SDG 17 (Partnerships).
Several great ideas and innovations were shared by both speakers and audience. The challenge that came out of the deliberation was of replicability and scaling of innovations – two factors CEGET intends to explore in subsequent deliberations.
GCNI 14th National Convention on Sustainable Development Goals: Pioneering Solutions for India

14th National Convention of GCNI was held at Grand Hyatt, Mumbai on Friday, May 31, 2019. The theme for this year’s GCNI Annual convention was ‘Sustainable Development Goals: Pioneering Solutions for India’, laying emphasis on real, on-ground actions that businesses need to take to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and create core economic value for India. Through this Convention, the GCNI showcased the respective ideologies, methodologies and most importantly, case studies depicting the wide implementation of sustainable innovations and leadership stance taken up by the various organizations in India.

Around 600 participants, senior representatives from various sectors and geographies, in the country and around the world, participated actively during the event which was led by Mr. Rajeev Dubey, Group President- (HR & Corporate Services) & Chief Executive Officer (After-Market & Corporate Services) Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, Convenor of the Convention.
Reception to celebrate Remarkable Indian Women

Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui had the honour and privilege to share CEGET's work with Her Royal Highness the Countess of Wessex GCVO and Vice-Patron of The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust at a special occasion to celebrate remarkable Indian women at the British High Commissioner's residence on May 3, 2019.

Welcome to our interns from the University of Notre Dame, United States

Two interns, graduate students from the University of Notre Dame, are spending 6 weeks at CEGET to work on SDGs and Innovation in the context of Urban Transformation.
Jamie Zhang is a Computer Engineering student passionate about using technology to create good impacts to the society.

Joanna Zhang, is a rising Junior at University of Notre Dame studying Business Analytics and Global Affairs.