



Network India

**CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GOVERNANCE, ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY (CEGET)**  
[Promoting Corporate, Urban and Environmental Governance]

## CEGET BULLETIN – JULY 2021

### Scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks Formation and Consultation Meet with ACCA Working Group



The UN Global Compact (UNGC) launched a four-year global project/initiative “scaling up Anti-Corruption Collective Action within Global Compact Local Networks” in December 2019 to support collective actions in Global Compact Local Networks (GCLNs) and promote public-private cooperation in fighting corruption. Global Compact Network India (GCNI) is effectively serving as a Project Local Network (LN) for India under this Anti-Corruption Collective Action (ACCA) Initiative of UNGC and

emphasizing on promoting transparency and accountability in healthcare sector.

Corruption in the healthcare sector is an undeniable reality and arguably the most serious ethical crisis/issue today in India and hence there is a need to address corruption challenges by promoting transparency and accountability across the ecosystem of healthcare through collective action. Therefore, in line with developing a strong mechanism that can help oversight and support ACCA initiative continuously in future, GCNI formed an ACCA Working Group and the top and middle management from different sectors like Healthcare, Pharmaceutical, Practitioners, Businesses (Corporate & PSUs), Civil Society Organizations and Academia have joined hands with GCNI with an intention to take its ACCA agenda forward in India.

GCNI hosted first virtual Consultation Meeting with ACCA Working Group on July 15, 2021 wherein 25 nominated officials from diverse relevant sectors participated and shared their knowledge, capacity and insights to support ACCA initiative of UNGC-GCNI and the meeting was moderated by Dr. Somnath Singh, Programme Lead, GCNI. Being the first of its kind, it introduced certain key concepts pertaining to the ACCA initiative/project, functions of ACCA Working Group and fostered discussion on the way forward. Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui, Executive Director, GCNI welcomed all the participants and set the tone of the meeting by sharing diverse ACCA initiatives taken by UNGC and GCNI under Siemens Integrity Initiative.

The ACCA consultation meeting was conducted as part of the Scaling Up Anti-Corruption Collective Action (ACCA) within the Local Network initiative with support and guidance from UNGC. The meeting ensued coming together of Healthcare, Businesses, CSOs, Pharmaceuticals, Academia /Research Institutes and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the significance, need and possible initiatives to promote transparency and accountability through Collective Action in Healthcare Sector of India. The ACCA Working Group shares a common goal of an ethical and level playing field in the healthcare sector.

#### **The agenda points discussed ...**

- Introduction and Welcome to the Stakeholders/Participants.
- Overview of UNGC-ACCA Project/initiative and purpose of the consultation meeting with Working Group.
- GCNI's ACCA initiatives in India so far.
- Anti-Corruption Collective Action approach.
- Siemens Integrity Initiative
- Call To Action: Need to join ACCA Working Group.

#### **Open Discussion:**

- Why active engagement of working group in ACCA initiative /project is needed?
- What should be the role of ACCA Working Group?
- What should be the governance structure of WG and how will it operate?
- How working group will take ownership and contribute to the sustainability of ACCA initiative to promote transparency and accountability in the healthcare sector in India?

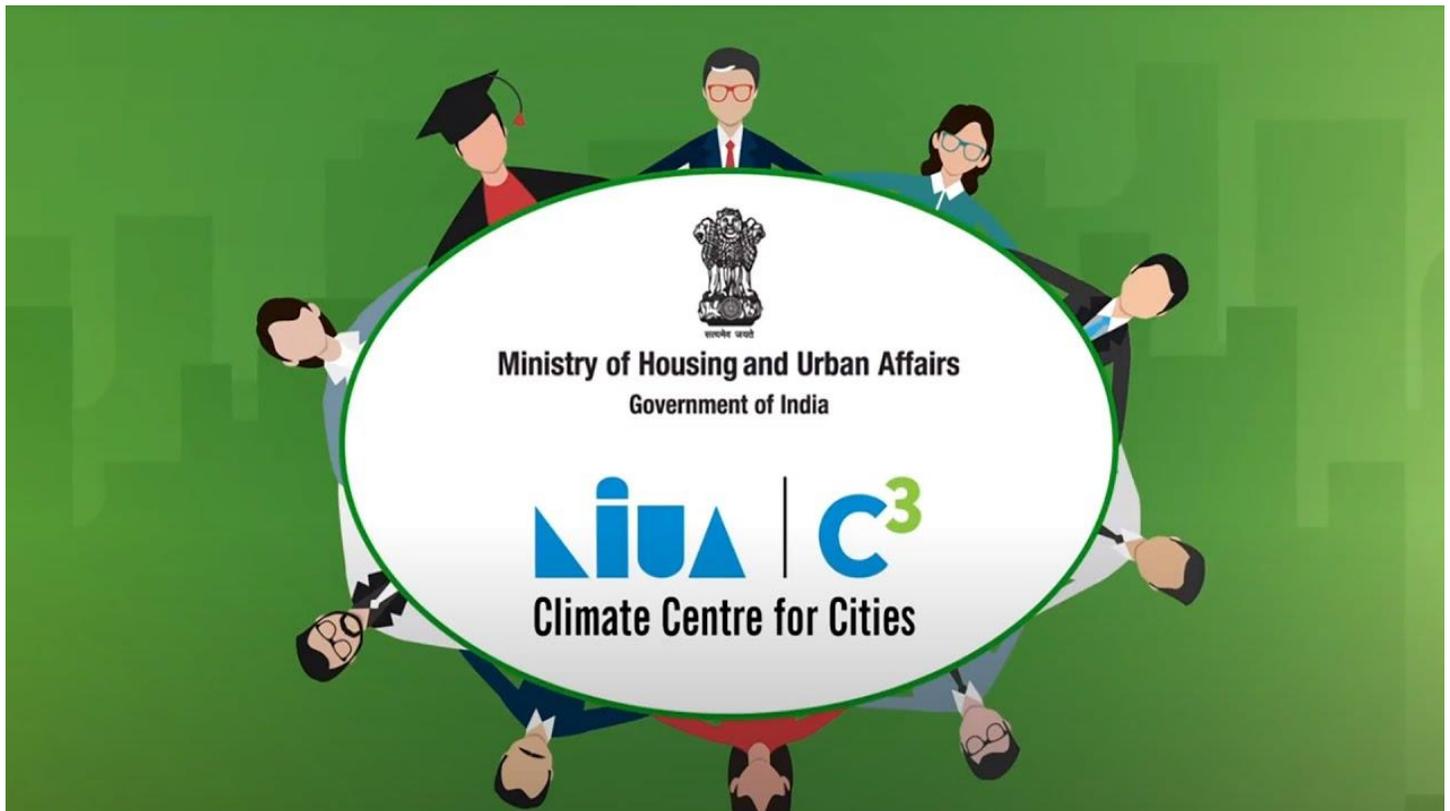
The participants (WG Members) came forward and shared the ways through which they hope to commit to and support ACCA initiative. The functions, roles and responsibilities of participants was deliberated upon and established.

**Further discussion was focused on the following matters of consideration.**

- Developing ACCA Roadmap and execute the suggested initiatives /activities.
- Implementing result-oriented activities through sharing experiences and dialogue.
- Collaborating to develop tools and policies to strengthen ACCA in Healthcare.
- Reviewing performance of the initiative and providing guidance to strengthen ACCA.
- Engagement and participation in diverse activities, events and innovations of the project.
- Contextualizing case-studies for publications and resource materials on ethics and integrity of healthcare.

In conclusion, Mr. Arya Dev, Programme Analyst, GCNI presented the vote of thanks to the participants and encouraged them to share their suggestions for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of ACCA with UNGC in August 2021.

**Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework 2.0: Climate Centre for Cities**



## Understanding the Future: ESG for Corporates



Centre of Excellence for Governance, Ethics and Transparency (CEGET) at Global Compact Network India has been the alliance partner of NIUA to support the implementation of Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) since 2020.

C-Cube has initiated a series of blogs, podcasts & webinars as part of its online campaign - 'Chat4Change' towards advocacy and outreach to build climate action in cities. The Centre further planned to document & disseminate case studies, good practices, and proofs of concept from cities in India and engaged Alliance partners and cities to share stories of change. The C-Cube (CSCAF) initiative of NIUA, in collaboration with its partners like GCNI, built climate actions in the cities leading to improved quality of life.

In order to bring national and international expertise and innovations at the intersection of sustainability, climate change and urban development for providing insights to urban professionals who can become local climate champions that cities can benefit from, Climate Centre for Cities arranged an interview with Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui, Executive Director, UN-GCNI on the theme of "ESG for Corporate" on April 6, 2021 which was released by NIUA on July 20, 2021.

In this podcast episode different components of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) were discussed and emphasis was laid on how it varies for different corporates and how it is different from CSR.

Besides this, Ms. Shabnam Siddiqui talked about and shared insights on the following relevant components of ESG...

- 1) ESG- A need of corporates.
- 2) Quantifying Impact and implementation for Industries.
- 3) Journey of CSR to ESG for corporates.
- 4) Beyond GDP and future metrics under United Nations Mandate.

Talking on the theme of “ESG for Corporates” Ms. Siddiqui shared that essentially as we move ahead and as we come out of covid pandemic, this entire concept of being aware or being cognizant of society both in terms of the impact that corporates have on them as well as the additional efforts that can go into it is where the entire concept of environment and social governance especially corporates came about it.

She said that at GCNI we hold the corporates accountable to the UN guidelines that each country has signed up for; Businesses are the part of society problems and therefore they need to be the part of solutions. She also mentioned that UN Ten Principles in the areas of Environment, Labour, Human Rights and Anti-Corruption provides sector-wise guidelines so that each sector can contribute positively to the achievements of its goals.

Mr. Punit P Gandhi, Senior Associate, Climate Centre for Cities/NIUA who was facilitating interview with Ms. Siddiqui shared that ESG is not mandatory for corporates, only a few companies have taken it up so far. Adding to him, Ms. Siddiqui shared that ESG will be mandatory for businesses once they get back to normal from corona pandemic/crises.

At last, Ms. Siddiqui said that corporates under CSR policy must mainstream ethical values and responsible business practices.

**Podcast Interview can be accessed to:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiRPOnyx77k>

## Launch of E-Learning Series on Climate Change and Cities



### Join us for the Launch of **CLIMATE CHANGE AND CITIES** | Learning Series

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Online

Aligning with the ClimateSmart Cities Assessment Framework 2.0, the Climate Centre for Cities at the National Institute of Urban Affairs in collaboration with the World Resources Institute India is organizing a 10 part learning series on “Climate Change and Cities”. The intent of the series is to equip city officials with the knowledge of technical, governance, and management processes of addressing climate concerns in the cities.

Follow us for regular updates

C-Cube @C3\_NIUA and WRI @WRIIndia

Scan to Register



Register in advance for this webinar:  
<https://bit.ly/3dytNfJ>

#C3LearningSeries

Moving ahead to the implementation of Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework, NIUA launched the E-Learning Series on Climate Change and Cities on July 12, 2021 in the worthy presence of Mr. Kunal Kumar, Joint Secretary, MoHUA, Dr. O.P. Aggarwal, Director, SCM and Mr. Hitesh Vaidya, Director,

NIUA. Dr. Sanjay Kotle, CEO, Pune Smart City and Mr. EH Pathan from Surat Smart City shared city's performance, initiatives and achievements during the launch.

NIUA made an announcement about the E-Learning Series on Climate Change and Cities -an initiative of building capacity of cities in the areas of Urban Resilience, Air Pollution, Nature based solutions, Green Building, Urban Freshwater Ecosystems, Inclusive Climate Action Planning, Electric Mobility Deployment and GHG Assessment to be started from July 15, 2021. Dr. Somnath Singh, Programme Manager attended the launch and represented UN-GCNI as alliance partner of NIUA for strengthening Climate Smart Cities Alliance Framework.