



Corporate Green Leadership: Experiences and Scaling Up

Thematic Track @ WSDS 2018 | February 15, 2018 | 3:30 PM- 5:30 PM | Tamarind Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

Corporate green leadership is a new paradigm which has evolved in the climate change debate. Indian businesses are getting proactive in deploying climate-friendly initiatives as well as accelerating R&D in low carbon solutions - either as a part of voluntary measures, core business operations, CSR, or under various government schemes. Companies are increasingly becoming a part of several platforms and coalitions/alliances that help nurture and showcase business leadership in areas such as renewable energy adoption, energy productivity, electric vehicles, climate-related financial disclosures, building resilient supply chains, and even internal carbon pricing. Such collaborations cut across traditional boundaries of interest, expertise and nationality. They can be either thematic, sector or technology based. The role of business-led alliances/coalitions could be paramount to deliver real impact on GHG emissions. The question, however, is how to scale up these corporate interventions and the role of such business-led coalitions/alliances in doing so.

Businesses successfully engaging in a collaborative process as will not only unlock hidden value in their operations, build a better brand image amongst investors and consumers, but will build real progress, jointly with other relevant players, towards a low-carbon economy. The rise of business-led coalitions is not a substitute for clear long-term national plans, but is rather a means to facilitate their implementation, through private-sector engagement.

Against this backdrop, the British High Commission will convene leading businesses in a roundtable on **“Corporate Green Leadership: Experiences and Scaling Up”** with a **two-fold objective**: first, to examine the state of play of corporate climate action in India - drivers, benefits and barriers; and second, to explore solutions for scale up with a focus on the role of coalitions/alliances in breaking down the barriers for enhanced corporate climate action. The deliberations will focus on the following:

- Drivers and benefits of corporate action on climate change and sustainability (for e.g., RE procurement, climate related financial disclosures, internal carbon pricing, etc)
- Policy/Regulatory, financial, technical challenges in corporate climate action. For e.g., non-conductive rooftop policies in states
- Potential solutions for Scale up of climate-friendly interventions by businesses with a focus on the role of business-led coalitions/alliances/collective approaches in:
 - Nurturing and showcasing corporate green leadership for climate action
 - Motivating and supporting more and more companies to adopt climate positive and sustainable practices
 - Leveraging collective voice of businesses to address policy/regulatory barriers for enhanced corporate climate action