



# WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2022

**TOWARDS A RESILIENT PLANET:  
ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE FUTURE**

February 16-18, 2022



**THE BEST RUN**



Industry Charter for  
**Near ZER**  
**Emission** by 2050

**CEO Roundtable:**

**Holistic Sustainability as an Industry Growth Agenda to Shape India's Climate Ambition**

**Thursday, 17 February 2022, 10:00 Hrs - 11:30 Hrs | Virtual Hall - Chinnar**

***Concept Note***

The world today is witnessing a paradigm shift on how the future will shape. The adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), covering economic, social development, and environmental protection, provide an opportunity for engagement and a new type of partnership to address the global challenges. One of the key challenges of sustainable development is that it demands new and innovative choices and ways of thinking. While developments in knowledge and technology are contributing to economic development, they also have the potential to help resolve the risks and threats to the sustainability of our social relations, environment, and economies. New knowledge and innovations in technology, management, and public policy are challenging organizations to make new choices in the way their operations, products, services, and activities impact the earth, people, and economies.

To support this expectation, and to communicate clearly and openly about sustainability, a globally shared framework of concepts, consistent language, and metrics is required. Businesses play a vital role by understanding the opportunities and challenges on one hand, and by mobilizing resources and offering know-how and solutions, on the other. Private sector investments and market-based solutions will be needed to achieve scalable and sustained impact in many sectors, while aligning with <math>2^{\circ}\text{C}</math> pathways to reduce exposure to climate risks. The UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development offer a compelling growth strategy, opening up an economic prize of at least US\$ 1 trillion by 2030 for the Indian private sector.

Herein, collaborative approaches assume significant importance. Such collaborations should leverage capabilities of non-state actors to accomplish the goals of a sustainable and resilient planet. One such effort is illustrated by the fact that leading market players from Indian Industry have come together to sign an 'Industry Charter for near zero emissions Ambition by 2050'. Under this voluntary pledge, companies have committed to pursue a set of vigorous decarbonisation measures, both at the company level and collectively, to set an example for industry peers to contribute in meeting the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The corporate climate actions to collaboratively achieve near-zero emissions by 2050 shall pave the pathway to realize the vision for India to become net-zero by 2070. This discourse of collaborative

actions shall present an opportunity for the Indian businesses to unlock their full potential and integrate low carbon pathways in their operations.

Individual challenges such as de-carbonisation are not standalone but are part of dynamic and complex organisational processes and systems that are intertwined with each other. For years now, companies have been working on implementing environmental, social, and governance measures to promote a better world. But some leaders are going beyond checkboxes and charity, reconfiguring their products and services to make sustainability the core of their business itself.

This track on “holistic sustainability as an industry growth agenda to shape India’s climate ambition” at WSDS 2022 will discuss the role of industry transition in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement with a focus on initiatives that CEOs from various organisations across industries are planning or are already implementing now.

### **Key Questions for discussion**

1. What does "Achieving Net Zero" mean to you, is it a drag or a growth driver for your organisation?
2. What are you doing or are planning to do to make your organisation and your industry achieve Net-Zero? What are the challenges you foresee in this journey?
3. What role you envisage for digital technologies to shape your sustainability roadmap in your industry?
4. What support do you need from government in driving this transition?