

## Meeting of Chief Sustainability Officers

Thursday, 08<sup>th</sup> February 2024 | 1600 Hrs to 1730 Hrs India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

## **Concept Note**

The magnitude of risks and threats faced by the world today is jeopardizing our collective sustainability. At the same time, the situation is posing an array of unparalleled choices and opportunities – stressing upon the need to charter new and innovative pathways of growth that integrate sustainability into the core strategy. However, there are immense challenges in the realization of the climate and sustainable development goals that the global community and nations world over aspire to achieve. Evaluating and developing new and innovative financing instruments, markets and mechanisms, effective capital re-deployment and reallocation strategies; collaborative models of engagement and public-private partnerships to managing socio-economic and environmental risks will be imperative to advancing the climate and sustainable development agenda and transitioning to a green economy regime. For businesses, leveraging the opportunities presented by the green transition will require them to enhance and accelerate integrating and deeply embedding sustainability in their core.

With increasing number of Indian companies beginning to realize that sustainability issues are a source of both risks and opportunities to their current businesses, the role of Chief Sustainability Officers (CSO) has come closer to what it is now in many companies – that of a strategic thinker, a provider of frameworks and guidance to the CEO on building a sustainability vision for the company and embedding this thinking into core business.

Set up in 2014 by TERI, the Chief Sustainability Officers' (CSO) Forum is a community of India's leading chief sustainability officers and thought leaders working together towards driving sustainable development from the forefront. The CSOs engage with TERI through its Council for Business Sustainability (TERI CBS) aiming to strengthening the business case for sustainability for the corporates.

The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Chief Sustainability Officers' (CSO) Forum will feature participation of CSOs from leading corporates in India along with senior representatives from government ministries and institutions in India.

Being organized from 1600 Hrs to 1730 Hrs on Thursday, 08th of February 2024 at India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi by the TERI Council for Business Sustainability (the Council serves as the interface for TERI's research work to be connected to the corporate world), the Forum will provide insights on integrating sustainability within and beyond corporate boundaries to leverage the array of unparalleled choices and opportunities posed by the climate and sustainability-related risks and threats, which in turn will help Sustainability Officers take proactive steps towards devising and implementing appropriate change strategies and exhibiting thought leadership. The Forum will bring together government outlook and priorities, along with perspectives and experiences from Indian and global industry environment to deliberate on how to achieve business transformations that align with national and global climate and sustainable development goals and priorities.