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THE ECONOMIC TIMES

ESG
LEADERSHIP
DIALOGUE



04

MARCH
2022

3.00 PM to 4.15 PM

ESG: Paving the way for the future of business in India

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Overview

The United Nations has defined **17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)** to deal with the world's major economic, social, and environmental challenges, which are universally applicable and scalable in context to gauge the impact of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) strategies. These goals are expected to be achieved by all countries in a global partnership by 2030.

There is increasing evidence that the weather events across the globe are being intensified by climate change. The consequences will likely have an impact across food production, infrastructure design and maintenance, energy use, insurance, and challenges to supply chains. This is resulting in more companies around the world taking the UN goals into consideration as they develop their management benchmarks. These major goals are creating frameworks to reduce inequalities and encourage responsible consumption and production that ensure positive climate action.

In turn, the SDGs offer a realistic framework for ESG mapping and can help increase the adoption of sustainable investing, encourage responsible corporate behavior, and integrate sector and business specific ESG factors with broader social and environmental goals.



ESG driving the next wave of business transformation

The imperative to incorporate ESG factors has been growing, with increased focus on the need for change to ensure a sustainable future. As businesses navigate changes brought in by globalization, technology, and society and consumer behavior, companies need to embrace ESG as a strategic business imperative to drive long-term value. ESG has the potential to revamp how successful organizations plan, implement, and operate.

It is important to look at how ESG creates value for companies and their stakeholders, which include communities, employees, governments, investors, regulators, and suppliers. While ESG is gaining importance with the growing focus of the role of global economies on sustainable development, reducing carbon footprint, and meeting beneficial social and environmental goals, investors will closely assess ESG factors in identifying the impact or role of potential investments.

ESG considerations offer a strategic lens to all aspects of business; from credit ratings, employee recruitment to measurement and scoring. ESG metrics are becoming a key business metric for regulators, investors, consumers, and employees when making decisions.

It is critical to assess what does ESG mean for a country like India? How can ESG norms and protocols be applied to such a vast and diverse environment?

The upcoming webinar “**ESG: PAVING THE WAY FOR THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS IN INDIA**” will feature a panel of leaders and experts from different sectors to explore how we can identify and build the right value for business and organizations with ESG as a tool, and how it can be relevant and meaningful to India’s realities and opportunities.



Agenda

Timings (IST)

Webinar: "ESG: Paving the way for the future of business in India"

03:00 - 03:05 **Opening Remarks**

03:05 - 03:20 **In Conversation**

Raj Subramaniam, President and COO
FedEx Corporation

03:20 - 04.05 **Panel Discussion - ESG: Paving the way for the future of business in India**

Key Discussion Points

- *ESG has been described as India's 'new mantra', impacting all aspects of business; from credit ratings to employee recruitment.*
- *ESG scores are fast becoming a key business metric for regulators, investors, consumers, and employees when making decisions.*
- *What do these principles mean in a country as distinct as India; how do (or should) the principles of governance, community, and environmental considerations be applied?*
- *Does a 'one size fits all' approach work in India, or is there a case for an 'Indian ESG', which considers the realities and priorities of the country?*
- *What are the key ESG challenges faced by Indian companies, and what needs to be done to address these?*
- *What are the global learnings that can help Indian companies achieve their ESG goals?*

Moderator: Kami Viswanathan, VP-Marketing
AMEA, FedEx Express

04.10 -04.15 **Closing Remarks**





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