

INDO-GERMAN SUSTAINABLE TRADE: Protecting Human Rights and Supporting Businesses

11 January 2021

15:30 – 17:30 IST / 11:00 – 13:00 CET

Recognition and application of sustainable development and human rights protection have expanded rapidly in recent years. Countries globally are moving toward mandatory compliance for responsible business conduct. These developments require companies of all sizes to have a mechanism through which they can assess how and when their activities could impact human rights, mitigate these risks, and take remedial steps to address human rights abuse.

To support German and Indian SMEs and MNC's in India, the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with amfori, is implementing training on the topic of business and human rights, including the German and Indian National Action Plans (NAP). The training will provide companies with workable knowledge and the means to create a good monitoring system geared toward business continuity.

The training is conducted within the framework of the NAP Project implemented by the IGCC in cooperation with the ExperTS program which is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Germany adopted its national strategy on business and human rights in 2016 while India is poised to finalise its national strategy. This national strategy called the National Action Plan (NAP) on Business and Human Rights is being discussed to be made mandatory in Germany. At the same time, India continues to strengthen its legislature with the proposed Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR).

Modern consumers are drawn to association with companies that react to issues such as climate change, workers' well-being, environmental degradation, etc. In a recent report, around 80% of global consumers between the ages of 15 to 64 years old have placed high importance on companies to implement corporate sustainability programs. The Covid-19 pandemic further highlights the importance of responsible business conduct and Human Right Protection in business activities.

This event will bring together the Indo-German business community and partnerships in sustainable trade and make available a platform for businesses to navigate the implementation of business and human rights. Speakers will highlight:

- The unveiling of IGCC's flagship training programme to be delivered in partnership with amfori on Business and Human Rights,
- Understanding the linkages between sustainability, responsible business conduct, and human rights protection in business and trade.
- Realising National Strategy on Human Rights through trainings based on National Action Plans (NAPs) organised by IGCC and amfori.
- How can businesses in India move forward amidst the rising influence of Business and Human Rights?

AGENDA

TIME	TOPIC
15:30 - 15:40	Welcome Note Mr. Stefan Halusa – Director General Designate - IGCC
15:40 – 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official Unveiling of Training on Business and Human Rights, • Launch of IGCC’s Publication on Business and Human Rights, • Screening of E-Learning <p>Special Guests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shabnam Siddiqui – Officiating Executive Director, UN – Global Contact Network India 2. Stefan Halusa – Director-General Designate, Indo-German Chamber of Commerce 3. Christian Ewert – President, amfori

PANEL DISCUSSION

TIME	TOPIC
16:00 – 16:10	UNGP: Blueprint to Economic Recovery Shabnam Siddiqui – Officiating Executive Director, UN – Global Contact Network India
16:10 - 16:20	Promoting Good Industrial Relations Through Effective Policies Nathalie Gminder – Industry Attaché at German Embassy in New Delhi
16:20 – 16:30	Impact and Opportunities of Business and Human Rights on Exporters Chandrima Chatterjee - Advisor Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)
16:30 – 16:40	Implementing Business and Human Rights – Strategic Planning for Business Continuity Christian Ewert – President, amfori
16:40 – 16:50	Customer-Driven Demand for Responsible Business Conduct – Creating Opportunities Markus Loening - German Federal Human Rights Commissioner (2010 - 2013) Managing Director & Senior Strategy Adviser, Löning – Human Rights and Responsible Business
16:50 – 17:00	Sustainability in Supply Chains – Challenges and Opportunities Markus Loetzsch, CEO Nuremberg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
17:00 – 17:30	Charting the Way Forward: Q & A and Closing Remarks Stefan Halusa – Director-General Designate Indo-German Chamber of Commerce