



SUSTAINABILITY ROUND-UP

APRIL – JUNE 2021



FROM THE GROUP CSO'S DESK



Siddharth Sharma,
Group Chief Sustainability Officer, Tata
Sons Private Limited

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to share the quarterly sustainability round-up. The past almost two years have seen moments of great pain and hope, and also a lifetime of learning. The message that the pandemic underlined in a stark and uncompromising manner is for all humanity to respect nature and our ecosystems. Tata Sustainability Month 2021, celebrated across the group the whole of June, sought to build on this theme and to catalyse restoration of ecosystems through collaborative partnerships as well as individual efforts. The awareness and behaviour change campaign reached out to more than 6 lakh employees from 100 Tata companies.

In June, we also offered more than 400 skill-based projects to our employees, family members and retired Tata colleagues. This was through our flagship ProEngage program which enables volunteers to use their skills and expertise to build capacity of non-profits. Over 700 Tata volunteers will embark on their ProEngage projects beginning 31st July.

I hope you will enjoy reading this volume of the round-up, aimed at bringing to you, sustainability highlights from the Tata group and from across the globe. Please feel free to write to us with your feedback at tatasustainabilitygroup@tata.com.

TATA NEWS

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has partnered with LACChain, an initiative led by IDB Lab, **to drive the development of a blockchain ecosystem across Latin America and the Caribbean.** The alliance collaborates with technology partners and ecosystem actors to create blockchain platforms, standards and marketplaces to innovate and co-create life-changing solutions for people who are vulnerable and affected by economic, social or environmental factors. [READ MORE>](#)

Tata Power and Social Alpha have announced investment in industrial IoT startup 'URJA' - an innovative solution consisting of smart sensors and an analytics platform. URJA sensors are manufactured in-house and enable small and medium businesses to save on their electricity consumption by detecting energy losses and predicting maintenance of production machinery. With this offering, Tata Power aims to be a fully integrated energy-as-a-service solution provider with niche smart energy management offerings. [READ MORE>](#)

To ensure that learning never stops, **Tata Community Initiatives Trust (TCIT) together with Tata Sustainability Group committed to rebuild schools in villages affected by Cyclone Fani, Odisha.** The ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of four schools in Puri district was organised as a part of the Tata Cyclone Fani Response Programme. [READ MORE>](#)

In its endeavour to stay ahead of the curve and bolster gender equality at the workplace, **Tata Power Delhi Distribution (Tata Power- DDL), participated in USAID's Engendering Utilities Program to strengthen gender equality at the workplace.** The program teaches participants to analyse existing company policies and practices that address gender disparities and improve company performance. [READ MORE>](#)

Tata Communications announced the launch of 'School of Hope and Empowerment' (S.H.E.) at the 2021 UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. S.H.E., a multi-media, multi-stakeholder impact communications initiative is designed in collaboration with The Better India, to support and educate women from small towns in India to overcome key barriers to entrepreneurship. [READ MORE>](#)

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) announced it plans to leverage its Vision 25x25, renewable energy and digital technology to reduce carbon emissions by 70 percent by 2025 and become a net zero emitter by 2030. This new goal has been set after having achieved the previous target of reducing its specific carbon footprint by half by 2020 (versus baseline year FY2008), ahead of schedule. [READ MORE>](#)

Jaguar Land Rover is going to develop a prototype hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) based on the new Land Rover Defender. The FCEV concept is part of Jaguar Land Rover's aim to achieve zero tailpipe emissions by 2036, and net zero carbon emissions across its supply chain, products and operations by 2039, in line with the Reimagine strategy announced last month. [READ MORE>](#)

Tata Tiscon became the first rebar brand in India to receive GreenPro Certification. The CII Green Business Centre for Building Materials conferred GreenPro Certification enables the end-users to make an informed choice about buying steel having the lowest environmental impact. With Green buildings becoming critical for future growth and development, the GreenPro-certified rebars will have a notable impact in reducing the environment footprint. [READ MORE>](#)

The Tata group celebrated **Tata Sustainability Month** in June with the theme of **"Ecosystem Restoration"**. The communication and behaviour change campaign reached out to **6.2 lakh Tata employees from 100 Tata companies** and helped demystify the various types of ecosystems, the urgency for ecosystem restoration and what companies and individuals can do.

The 14th edition of ProEngage, the skill-based volunteering format, inspired volunteers to be Skillanthropists and share their talent to build capacity and capability of partner organisations. The initiative offered over 400 virtual projects from 100+ partners. The response was overwhelming as 1,500+ Tata employees, their family members and retired Tata colleagues from 15 countries applied for projects. 700 volunteers from 54 companies have been shortlisted to volunteer for 323 projects, beginning 31st July 2021. The volunteers will work with non-profits on a part-time basis on Saturdays and holidays for a tenure of 1-6 months.

RECOGNITIONS



**ENGINEERING
& INNOVATION
EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2021**

Tata Elxsi has been conferred with the

1. Social Impact Solution of the Year: Gazelle award
2. Next-gen Product of the Year: Connected vehicle IoT platform, Tether and
3. Engineered in India Product of the Year: FalconEye QoEtient at the NASSCOM Engineering & Innovation Excellence Awards 2021. [READ MORE>](#)



**POINTS
OF LIGHT**

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been recognised as the national leader in community engagement by Points of Light – and named in Civic 50, a list of America's most community-minded companies, for fifth consecutive year for its commitment to drive social impact. [READ MORE>](#)

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Carbon offset prices set to increase tenfold by 2030: The cost of offsetting corporate carbon emissions is expected to surge tenfold over the next decade as growing numbers of businesses adopt net zero targets, with carbon credit prices tipped to reach between \$20 and \$50 a metric ton of CO2 by 2030, according to new research. [READ MORE>](#)

The startup Circular is helping Volvo trace EV battery materials. Circular's work on mapping materials related to companies working on electric vehicles is particularly extensive — for both recovered scrap and freshly mined materials. The automaker originally deployed Circular's system to trace the cobalt in batteries for the XC40 Recharge P8, its first fully electric car. [READ MORE>](#)

A major breakthrough for the clean steel industry - A pioneering green steelmaking plant in Sweden has successfully demonstrated the feasibility of using fossil fuel-free hydrogen gas rather than coking coal for production processes, marking a "critical milestone" on the road to decarbonizing the steel industry. [READ MORE>](#)

Three innovations in green steel - Making steel is a fossil fuel intensive process, but there are ways to decarbonize on the horizon. The green steel industry is at the beginning of an S curve - Who's making moves towards a greener steel economy? Here are three companies and approaches that will get us to the S curve's inflection point. [READ MORE>](#)

Salesforce's bold supply-chain play: In April, the cloud-based software company Salesforce notified its thousands of suppliers that it will include language in all future procurement contracts requiring them, among other things, to set science-based targets to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions - and it set financial penalties for those that don't. An unprecedented and bold move that, if emulated by others and aggressively enforced, could transform companies and markets far faster than any regulation ever could. [READ MORE>](#)

The landmark ruling by a three-judge panel in the Netherlands ordered Royal Dutch Shell to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 45% compared to 2019 levels by the end of 2030. For the first time in history, a court ordered a private company, rather than a government, to curb its planet-warming pollution. This suggests that the fate of the world's largest polluters may no longer be in the hands of their executives, board or investors - rather, it may now be in the hands of activists, litigants, and their judicial allies. [READ MORE>](#)

GreenBiz Insights: Circular Economy Trends – Across industries, roles and regions, the circular economy is moving from buzz to business strategy. But how can your company leverage circular economy initiatives to address resource scarcity and climate risk, respond to consumer and societal pressure to reduce waste, and claim its share of a \$4.5 trillion circular economy opportunity? To transition to circularity, you'll need proof points. [READ THE REPORT>](#)

Plastic-free Packaging – Stretching the Limits of Sustainable Possibility. Packaging is everywhere - It serves to contain, protect, preserve and sustain the quality of products over prolonged periods without losing quality, thus reducing losses. Nevertheless, packaging, particularly plastic packaging, has developed a bad reputation when it comes to its environmental impact. [READ THE REPORT>](#)

How a circular economy can make India resilient? The pandemic has exposed gaps in the notion of development across global markets. India now needs to rely on a circular economy, by laying emphasis on people, planet, and profits. [READ MORE>](#)

DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIA

Flipkart eliminates use of single-use plastic packaging across its own supply chain. In a recent press release, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, Flipkart has claimed that it has successfully eliminated all single-use plastic packaging used across its fulfilment centres in India. The company claims that it has its public commitment to move to plastic-free packaging in its own supply chain by 2021. [READ MORE>](#)

Niti Aayog Releases Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25. This World Environment Day 2021, PM Modi released the "Report of the Expert Committee on Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-2025". He also launched the ambitious E-100 pilot project in Pune for the production and distribution of ethanol across the country. The theme for this year's event is 'promotion of biofuels for a better environment'. Government of India has resolved to meet the target of 20 percent ethanol blending in petrol by 2025. [READ THE REPORT>](#)

The Security & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued a Circular on Disclosure Requirements under Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR). These new disclosure requirements under BRSR covering environmental, social and governance perspectives will be applicable on the top 1,000 listed entities by market capitalisation with effect from the financial year 2022-2023. However, in order to give time to companies to adapt to the new requirements for the financial year 2021-22, filing of BRSR is voluntary. The new report of Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR) will replace the existing Business Responsibility Report (BRR). [READ THE CIRCULAR>](#)

On 17th April 2021, DST Secretary Professor Ashutosh Sharma released "**The National Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report**", which identifies the most vulnerable states and districts in India with respect to current climate risk and key drivers of vulnerability. The report titled 'Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework', has identified Jharkhand, Mizoram, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal as states highly vulnerable to climate change. These states, mostly in the eastern part of the country, require prioritization of adaptation interventions, the report pointed out. [READ THE REPORT>](#)

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in her budget 2021 speech announced that India will launch its National Hydrogen Energy Mission (NHEM) in 2021-22. Hydrogen energy technologies across the world have still not become commercially viable, but the energy source is seen as the next big thing as its usage would lead to zero emissions. With the announcement, India has officially joined the race for producing the next big energy source. [READ MORE>](#)

WHAT ARE WE WATCHING

New Red Cross and Land Rover short films show the future of emergency response is local.



British Red Cross On the ground [WATCH HERE>](#)

Italian Red Cross On the ground [WATCH HERE>](#)

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Land Rover launched a series of short films showing how local teams are the future of emergency response efforts. The first-of-its-kind four-part series, On the ground: Humanitarians in Action, uses GoPro cameras to capture Red Cross volunteers and local teams helping vulnerable communities around the world in a year of huge challenges.

Mexico Red Cross On the ground [WATCH HERE>](#)

Australian Red Cross On the ground [WATCH HERE>](#)

Tata Uttarakhand Programme | Relief and Rehabilitation



[Watch this video](#) to get a glimpse of the impact created by the programme.

Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) - keeping the roots alive in Varanasi



[Watch this video](#) to see the splendour of Varanasi and IHCL's contributions towards keeping it alive.

PUBLICATION BY TSG



Touching Lives - Select CSR stories from the Tata group

Touching Lives showcases a selection of the work the Tata group does with the communities it serves. **It highlights the large-scale, transformational impact of the unique collaborations by Tata companies & Trusts in this space, the global reach and impacts of our CSR programmes** and the need to go beyond the regulatory mandate in the Indian context.

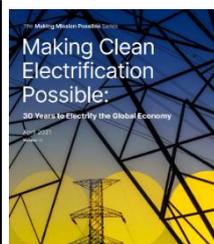
[READ HERE>](#)

RESOURCES



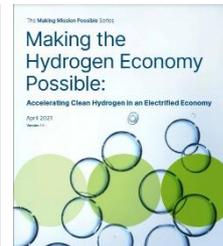
Bioresources Within a Net-Zero Emissions Economy – An ETC report

[READ HERE>](#)



Making Clean Electrification Possible – An ETC Report

[READ HERE>](#)



Making the Hydrogen Economy possible – An ETC report

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Vaccine Lo. Let's Go!

#JaanBhiJahaanBhi

Always wear a mask Wash hands regularly Maintain social distancing



Tata Sustainability Group
Tata Sons Private Limited
Email: tatasustainabilitygroup@tata.com
Website: www.tatasustainability.com