

India Business and Biodiversity Initiative

Concurrent to India's Presidency of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Indian companies have come together to address the critical issue of biodiversity loss under a national initiative. The India Business & Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI) serves as a national platform for businesses and its stakeholders for dialogue sharing and learning, ultimately leading to mainstreaming sustainable management of biological diversity into businesses.

On invitation by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is hosting IBBI with the support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The initiative was launched on the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity on May 22, 2014.

Indo-German Biodiversity Programme implemented by GIZ, supports IBBI under its project, 'Incentives for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (ISBM)', commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



"It is my privilege to chair the IBBI that has embarked upon a journey to mainstream sustainable management of biodiversity by business. With an estimated 70% of Indian population dependent locally on natural

ecosystems for subsistence means of livelihood, business cannot ignore its impacts on biodiversity, as we head towards sustainable and inclusive economy. The IBBI signatories recognise the enormous value that nature provides and demonstrate commitment to take action in preserving biodiversity."

Vision

To sensitise, guide and mentor Indian business organisations in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use related to their operations, across their value chain and beyond towards conservation of India's biodiversity.

Mission

To lead the Indian industry in:

- Understanding the linkage and impacts of business operations on biodiversity
- Advocacy on the need for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- Identifying and partnering with government, non-governmental organisations and local communities to create synergies in biodiversity conservation
- Documenting and sharing of local and global best practices in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- Adoption of replicable local and global best practices

IBBI Members

Membership to IBBI is open for companies from any sector and size. The business members of IBBI are subject to become signatories to a 10-point IBBI Declaration, demonstrating the organisation's commitment towards biodiversity.

IBBI Declaration

The signatories to the IBBI Declaration endeavour to take action in the following areas:

1. Mapping biodiversity interfaces with business operations
2. Enhancing awareness on biodiversity within the organisation
3. Considering the impacts of business decisions on biodiversity
4. Setting objectives and targets for biodiversity management
5. Designating an individual within the organisation as biodiversity champion
6. Assessing biodiversity risks and opportunities
7. Including the applicable biodiversity aspects in the environmental management systems
8. Encouraging relevant stakeholders to support better biodiversity management
9. Engaging in policy advocacy and dialogue with Government, NGOs and academia on biodiversity concerns
10. Initiating the valuation of relevant biodiversity and eco-system services

