

# Sustainability Standards in Global Value Chains: Challenges and Opportunities for Emerging Economies

## Policy Dialogue

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, Hotel Royal Plaza, Ashoka Road, New Delhi

## Tentative Agenda

The CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (CESD) and the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) in the context of its Managing Global Governance (MGG) programme are hosting a dialogue on social and environmental (“sustainability”) standards in global production and consumption. Such standards go much beyond product safety and quality as, among other criteria, the conditions and impacts of production are taken into account along value chains. Sustainability standards have created new business opportunities and complicated market access at the same time. Many of them are voluntary, especially those defined by non-state coalitions of NGOs and companies; others have taken the shape of mandatory public regulation.

The objective of the dialogue organized by CESD and DIE is to:

- Provide a platform for the creation of joint knowledge on sustainability standards by a variety of high-levels experts and stakeholders, bridging communication gaps;
- Connect the technical debate on standards with broader concerns such as (Southern) ownership, fair global trade relations and the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Discuss best practice examples from business, civil society and politics across countries, generating new ideas for future research and implementation.

09:30 am	Registration
10:00 am	<p><b>Welcome Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shikhar Jain, Principal Counsellor at the CESD</li> <li>• Susanne Dorasil, Counsellor and Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Germany in New Delhi</li> </ul> <p><b>Keynote: Doing Business in the Age of Sustainable Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seema Arora, Executive Director of the CESD</li> </ul>

10:30 am	<p><b>Discussion Round I: Sustainability Standards and Global Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What makes a standard relevant and legitimate across countries and markets?</li> <li>• Can sustainability standards contribute to reducing inequalities both within and between countries globally?</li> <li>• Are sustainability standards a way to align business and trade with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?</li> </ul> <p><b>Introductory Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pooran Chandra Pandey, Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Network India (To be confirmed)</li> <li>• Anil Jauhri, CEO of National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Thomas Fues, Head of Training Department at the DIE</li> </ul>
11:30 am	Coffee & Tea Break
11:45 am	<p><b>Discussion Round II: Best Practices for Cooperation and Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are enablers and disablers at the policy and company level for the implementation of sustainability standards?</li> <li>• What are some of the most tangible benefits that companies can gain from implementing sustainability standards?</li> <li>• How important is it to share experiences among companies and administrations, and what are possible mechanisms for this?</li> </ul> <p><b>Introductory Inputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mani Chinnaswamy, Board Member of the Cotton Association of India and Board Member of Textile Exchange</li> <li>• Prerna Mehrotra, Project Manager at the Centre for Responsible Business</li> <li>• Jyotsna Belliappa, Founder of BlueSkyCSR</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shikhar Jain, Principal Counsellor at the CESD</li> </ul>
01:15 pm	<p><b>Wrap-up by the Co-Directors of the MGG Research Project on Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Johannes Blankenbach, Researcher at the DIE</li> <li>• Prof. Archana Negi, Professor at the School of International Studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)</li> <li>• Prof. Jorge Pérez Pineda, Research Professor at the Instituto Mora, Mexico</li> </ul>
01:30 pm	Networking Lunch