



“3rd International Convention on Sustainable Trade and Standards (ICSTS)”

Opening Plenary: Sustainability Standards as a tool for advancing global sustainability goals

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Slide 1

Agenda

- About Project SESEI
- Introduction
 - Sustainable development, SDGs and Circular Economy
- SDGs related initiatives: EU and India
- Role of Standards in achieving SDGs
- EU-India Partnership
- Conclusion



Project is a permanent presence in India

SESEI (Seconded European Standardization Expert in India) *is a local face for the European standardization community in India: Dinesh Chand Sharma*



Why SESEI: India is a major trade partners for Europe, Increasing role of standards to gain market access and Evolving & complex nature of regulatory and standardization landscapes, sharing best practices, and work together on topics of mutual interest..

Priority Sectors/topics:

Digitization: Strategic technologies, digital governance, and digital connectivity

Smart Cities/Urban Development, ITS, Quantum Technologies, **Smart Grid/Meter**, Artificial Intelligence, 5G/6G, Open RAN, M2M/IoT (Cyber-Physical Systems), DECT, Data Privacy, Satellite Communication, Blockchain, Digital Signature, Smart Manufacturing, e-Accessibility, cybersecurity, digital skills, digital platforms including Research and Innovation etc.

Green & Clean technologies : Clean Energy, Energy Efficiency (Green ICT), Environment, Circular Economy including Resource Efficiency, Waste Management, Energy storage technologies, Electric mobility, Green Hydrogen, Advanced biofuels including R&I etc.

Other topics of mutual interests such as Rail, Ropeways, Machinery Safety etc.

www.sesei.eu , www.sesei.in , www.eustandards.in

Introduction

What is Sustainable Development?

Sustainable development = development that **meets the needs of the present without compromising the** ability of **future** generations to meet their own **needs**

To achieve this, it is crucial to harmonize **three core elements**:

- ✓ economic development,
- ✓ social inclusion and
- ✓ environmental protection.



What are the SDGs?

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** were adopted by all United Nations Members in 2015
 - ✓ A universal **call to action** to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity **by 2030**
 - **Includes 17 Goals => 169 targets**
 - ✓ It's a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all,
 - ✓ It also address the global challenges we all as a humanity face: poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice
- Implementation and success will rely on all stakeholders including the **standardization communities**.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



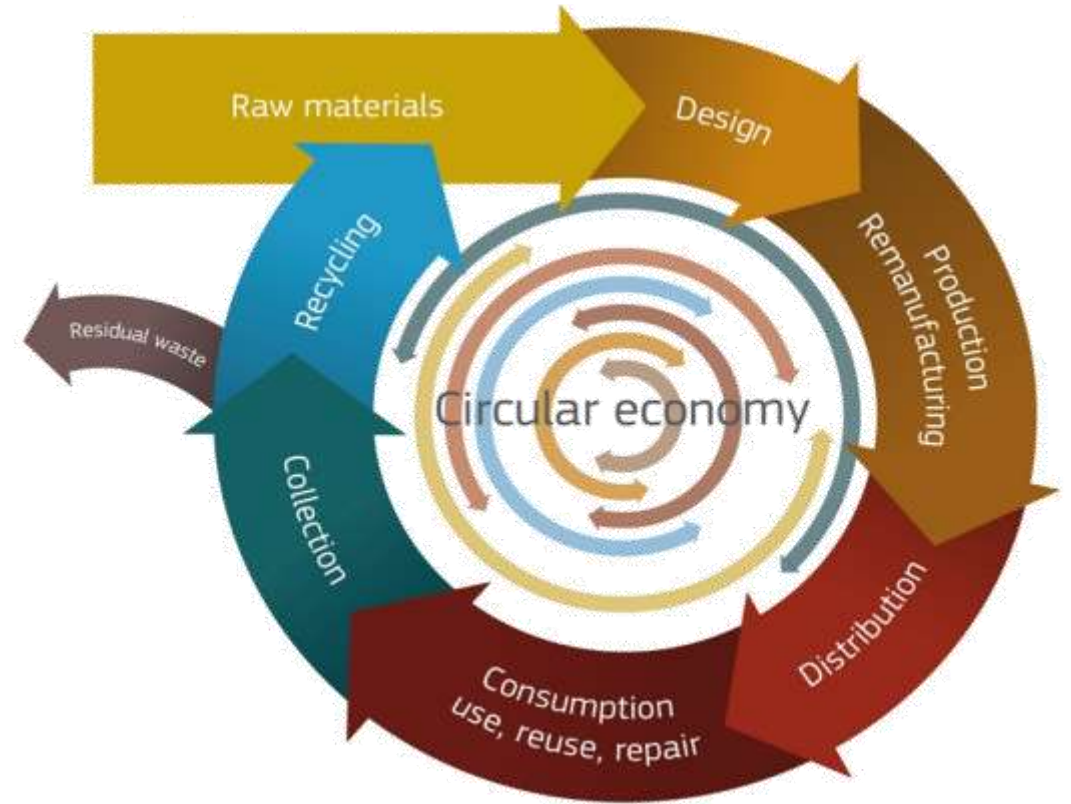
Circular Economy & its benefits?

Circular Economy is a model of production and consumption:

- ✓ involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible.
- ✓ In this way, the life cycle of products is also extended.

Why do we need to switch to a circular economy: benefits?

- ✓ To protect the environment
- ✓ To reduce raw material dependence
- ✓ To create jobs and save cost - consumers money



SDGs related initiatives (Europe and India)

EU & India initiatives

European Green Deal 2019:

- ✓ [European Green Deal \(EGD\)](#), an ambitious plan to transform the economy into a fair, sustainable, and prosperous one.
- ✓ It provides an action plan, to boost efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy and to restore biodiversity and cut pollution. It covers all sectors of the economy, notably **transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals.**

Circular Economy Action Plan:

new [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) (CEAP) in support of European Green Deal on 11th March 2020.

- ✓ One of main building blocks of [European Green Deal](#) for setting Europe's new agenda for sustainable growth. 35 actions during the entire life cycle of products:
- ✓ make **sustainable products** the norm
- ✓ **focus on key product value chains:** electronics and ICT, batteries and vehicles, packaging, plastics, textiles, construction and buildings, food, water and nutrients
- ✓ ensure **minimal waste** and make circularity work for **people, cities and regions** and **lead global efforts** on circular economy

Green Claims Directive proposal:

[Green Claims Directive](#) together with [proposal on common rules promoting the repair of goods](#) make up the third package of circular policies that deliver on the Commission's commitments in the Circular Economy Action Plan.

- ✓ The first package included the [proposal for Eco-design for Sustainable Products Regulation \(ESPR\)](#), the [EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles](#), and the [proposal for Empowering consumers for the green transition](#).
- ✓ The second package included the proposals for the [Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation](#), the [communication on biodegradable, bio based and compostable plastics](#) and the proposed [EU Certification for Carbon Removals Regulation](#).

NITI Aayog is the nodal institution for achieving SDGs in India

- ✓ SDG India Index based on [National Indicator Framework \(NIF\) of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation \(MoSPI\)](#). monitoring framework covering all the 17 Goals and more than 100 indicators across the country.

Strategy paper on Resource Efficiency 2017:

- ✓ Prepared by Govt. think tank NITI Aayog along with EU Delegation to India
- ✓ A status paper titled "[Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy – Current status and Way forward](#)" which brings out **30 recommendations**

National Resource Efficiency Policy 2019 (draft) prepared by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change:

- ✓ To drive the country towards circular economy through efficient use of available material resources, and is based on principle of 6R (reduce, reuse, recycle, redesign, re-manufacture and refurbish) and 'green public procurement'.

Government has formed 11 committees for 11 focus areas headed by the concerned line ministries, officials from MoEFCC, NITI Aayog, domain experts, academics and industry representatives

- ✓ Municipal Solid Waste and Liquid Waste, Scrap Metal (Ferrous and Non-Ferrous), Electronic Waste, Lithium Ion (Li-ion) Batteries, Solar Panels, Gypsum, Toxic and Hazardous Industrial Waste, Used Oil Waste, Agriculture Waste, Tyre and Rubber Recycling, End-of-life Vehicles (ELVs)

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) policy paper that intends to replace the current linear system of 'take-make-dispose' to become circular: focuses on the life cycle in the electrical and electronics manufacturing sector.



Role of Standards in achieving SDGs

Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS)

Voluntary sustainability standards (VSS):

- Private standards that require products to meet specific economic, social and environmental sustainability metrics.
- emerged as a tools to address key sustainability challenges such as biodiversity, climate change, and human rights.
- VSS help countries grow economically while contributing positively to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Voluntary sustainability standards can:

- Help governments fill data gaps
- Build coherence among different actors
- Provide examples of how they have helped advancing the SDGs



<https://www.iisd.org/ssi/publications/standards-and-the-sustainable-development-goals/>

EC adopted first set of Sustainability Reporting Standards

On 31 July 2023, the European Commission [adopted the Delegated Act on the first set of European Sustainability Reporting Standards](#) (ESRS).

- ✓ CEN and CENELEC welcome its adoption and the changes made to include reference to standards developed by CEN, CENELEC, ISO and IEC.
- ✓ An important step in providing transparency on the ESG impact of business practices:
 - ✓ the new Sustainability Reporting Standards will assist in encouraging the sustainable investment needed for Europe to meet its green transition goals.

CEN and CENELEC, in cooperation with ISO and IEC has develop several standards that help companies improve their sustainability by providing comparable metrics and clear guidance for the implementation of sustainability procedures such as:

- ✓ [EN ISO 14090:2019 'Adaptation to climate change - Principles, requirements and guidelines'](#);
- ✓ [EN ISO 14064-1:2019 'Greenhouse gases - Part 1: Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals'](#);
- ✓ [EN ISO 26000:2020 'Guidance on social responsibility'](#).



CEN and CENELEC activities: Sectors' Approach to Circularity and Sustainability supporting the UN SDGs

- [CEN/TC 467 'Climate Change'](#), the objective will be to develop European standards to mitigate and adapt to climate change, including related social and economic aspects (this work will support [SDG 13](#))
- [CEN/TC 466 'Circularity and recyclability of fishing gear and aquaculture equipment'](#), the standard(s) for circular design of fishing gear should provide the level playing field for the industry to develop a higher quality and environmentally friendly fishing gear that is easily reused or recycled at the end of life and will provide the industry the opportunity to act sustainably for a healthier planet. (this work will support [SDG 14](#))
- [CEN/TC 248 WG 39 'Circular Economy for textile products and the textile chain'](#), this work will describe categories of circular textile products. It will set requirements for input flows and the circular strategies applied to be able to report on categories of circular textile products. This will contribute to the EU Circular Economy Action Plan and should help defining environmental and circular criteria for this sector (this work will support [SDG 12](#))
- [CLC/TC 59X](#) created a **new Working Group: [CLC/TC59X WG 23 'Material efficiency of household and similar electrical appliances'](#)** to prepare deliverables for material efficiency on aspects such as durability, reparability, reusability, recyclability and recycled content (this work will support [SDG 7](#), [SDG 12](#)).
- [CEN/TC 248 WG 37 'Microplastics from textile sources'](#), the work is related to the prevention of micro-plastic release from textile sources in cooperation with ISO. The results obtained by using the first part of the standards series will enable manufacturers of textile articles to make an informed choice about the type of fabric to use to reduce/minimise shedding of microplastics into the aquatic environment after washing. This work will contribute to the EU strategy for sustainable textiles. (this work will support [SDG 12](#))
- [CEN/TC 350/SC 1 'Circular economy in the construction sector'](#). The purpose is to develop deliverables enabling the transition from a linear to a circular economy of the construction sector to support a climate neutral and resource efficient sector (this work will support [SDG 7](#), [SDG 9](#))
- [CEN/TC 261/SC 4 'Packaging and Environment'](#), the work will contribute to reduce the plastic pollution of beverage containers caps & lids on beaches and in oceans by specifying requirements and test methods to demonstrate that plastic caps and lids of single-use beverage containers remain attached to the containers during the product's intended use stage. M/569 supporting the Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment (this work will support [SDG 12](#) + [SDG 14](#))
- [More information>>](#)



BIS Standardization in support of CE/RE

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standard Organization is addressing the subject of CE/RE through its various Technical Committees:

- **ETD 43: Standardization of Environmental Aspects for Electrical and Electronic Products**

- ✓ IS 16584: 2017 & IEC/TR 62635 : 2012 Guidelines for End-of-Life Information Provided by Manufacturers and Recyclers and for Recyclable and for Recyclability Rate Calculation of Electrical and Electronic Equipment

- **CHD 33: Solid Waste Management Sectional Committee**

- ✓ (a) Specifications, Terminology, methods of sampling and characterization of solid waste (Excluding Bio- Medical & Nuclear Waste), (b) Codes of Practices on reduction, recycling, reuse and treatment of Solid wastes (Excluding Bio-Medical & Nuclear Waste), (C) Guidelines and codes of practice for Solid waste disposal (Excluding Bio-Medical)

- **PCD 12: Plastics**

- ✓ (1) IS 14534: 1998: Guidelines for the recovery and recycling of plastic waste, (2) IS 14535: 1998: Indian Standard for Recycled plastics for the manufacturing of products – Designation

- **LITD 31: Cloud Computing, IT & Data Centres**

- ✓ Assessment methods, design practices, operation and management aspects to support **resource efficiency, resilience and environmental sustainability** for and by information, data centres and other facilities and infrastructure necessary for service provisioning.



EU-INDIA Partnership

EU & India Partnership

EU-India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership (CECP): 2016

- promotes access and dissemination of clean energy and climate-friendly technologies and encourages research and the development of innovative solutions. Current areas of collaboration include activities in offshore wind energy, rooftop solar and solar parks, integration of renewable energy and storage, smart grids, biofuels and energy efficiency in buildings.

"EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025": a common roadmap to guide joint actions and further strengthen the EU-India Strategic Partnership.

- Strengthen cooperation on environmental matters through JWG on **Environment** as well as Environmental Forum, establish an [EU-India Partnership on RE and CE](#) , Enhance cooperation on **standardization** and sharing of best practices in fostering an efficient and sustainable use of natural resources, Implement Partnership for **Smart and Sustainable Urbanisation etc.**

EU Project on Resource Efficiency Initiatives (EU-REI) for India

- Supporting India in the implementation of **United Nations global Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)**: Primary sectors of interest are mobility, buildings and construction, renewable energy (photovoltaics), and resource recovery from waste (e-waste and plastics and packaging).

EU-India Trade Technology Council (TTC): Prime Minister of India and EU Chairman agreed to set up Trade and Technology Council (TTC) in February 2023: Twin Digital & Green transitions, where digital/smart supports green / sustainability

- **WG-1 on Digital & Strategic Technologies** : Global interoperable standards - 5G/6G, IoT/M2M, AI, quantum communications, network security, O-RAN, Microelectronics & supply chain resilience, Digital Skills, Digital Public Infrastructure, High-Performance Computing & Quantum Technology etc.
- **WG-2 on Green & Clean Energy Technologies**: Waste-water management, Recycling of Batteries for Electrical Vehicles, Standards in the Research Domain
 - WG-2 meeting with MNRE, PSA and DST held on 10th and 11th October covering R&D and Standards around the topics of Waste to Green Hydrogen, Marine Plastic Litter and Wastewater, E-Mobility – Circularity aspects of batteries & interoperability of Charging Infrastructure. |
- **WG-3 on Trade Investment and Resilient Value Chains**: Resilient Value Chains, resolve bilateral market access issues, address global and multilateral trade issues
- Ministerial meetings of the TTC at least once a year, with the venue alternating between the EU and India.
 - ✓ 1st [EU-India ministerial meeting](#) took place in Brussels on 16 May 2023. The next ministerial meeting is planned for early 2024 in India.



Conclusion

- Circular economy has the potential to contribute significantly to SDGs
- Standards play an important role in:
 - implementing the sustainable use of resources and energy while protecting consumers, workers and the environment.
- Common Objectives , Common Goals: EU & India are partners in:
 - Taking necessary actions in achieving SDGs to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all.



Thank you!

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