

TIC Council Webinar Highlights

TIC Council India ESG Webinar Series

On 25th November 2022, 2nd December 2022 and 9th December 2022, TIC Council India hosted a series of three virtual events exploring the topic of ESG.

Environmental, Social and Governance (or ESG) is an integral part of how businesses operate in the 21st century. Proactively working on ESG goals is, nowadays, directly correlated to the level of performance of a business. It also represents, on the part of an organisation or activity, a commitment for conducting business in an ethical manner, going beyond mere profit-making.

In this regard, **TIC Council India hosted a three-part webinar over the course of November and December 2022.** The panels explored how businesses are facing increasing pressure to deliver prosperity in a sustainable way and also exhibit resilience in their value chains, as well on how ESG can deliver value. Another aim was to highlight the important role that the TIC sector can play in providing building sustainability and carbon services, as well as in sharing expertise when it comes to new and emerging technologies. The event also brought together experts from the industry, among which were policy makers, businesses, academics, and stakeholders. The discussions were centered around the themes of sustainability reporting, carbon resilience, and new technologies such as green hydrogen.

The title of the first webinar was "**Sustainability Reporting: Best Practices**", and was held on Friday, 25th November 2022. The aim of the webinar was to create awareness of the need for sustainability reporting and how businesses today cannot achieve their financial goals without achieving sustainable goals, as well as the importance of standards and regulation in creating a robust sustainability reporting framework.

The webinar included the following speakers:

Dinesh Shetty, Manager of Sustainability Services at Bureau Veritas, who delved into the relationship between ESG reporting and the current ISO standards that help organisations support their ESG performance indicators.

Valerio Recagno, Senior Director of Global ESG and Compliance at RINA, who focused on the EU's Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) as a global best practices legislation, as well as its impact.

Dr M. Muthukrishnan, Head and Vice-President of EHS and Sustainability of Airport Sector at the Delhi International Airport, who highlighted the ESG reporting roadmap which has been laid down in the recently-published reporting format "Business Reporting and Sustainability Responsibility" and the potential it can bring in changing the paradigms of ESG reporting in India.

Shashibhushan Jogani, Chair of TIC Council India, inaugurated the series and emphasised how critical ESG has become, especially in the backdrop of the recent commitments made by the international community during the COP27.

Other speakers included **Amit Ghosh**, Vice Chair of TIC Council India, who provided closing remarks and reiterated the importance of sustainability reporting, and **Sudhir Zutshi**, Chair of the TIC Council India Public Affairs Subcommittee, who moderated the session.

The second webinar, titled **Carbon Resilience**, was held on Friday 2 December 2022. The webinar aimed at driving discussions towards the role that policy and standards can play in making our economies more carbon resilient. We were delighted to welcome as our guest **Rajesh Maheshwari**, CEO of the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) and the Quality Council of India (QCI), who enlightened the participants of the current developments in the accreditation ecosystem towards a more carbon resilient India.

The following speakers provided the latest data and developments on the topic of carbon emissions and on how we can effectively tackle the relevant issues:

Manish Dabkara, CMD & CEO of EKI Energy Services, who brought to the attention of the participants how the necessary policies are currently being implemented, along with providing recommendations on how to make India a more carbon-resilient economy.

Amit Thusu, Senior Director of Climate Actions at the Global Carbon Council, who emphasised the critical role that carbon markets have come to play in fighting climate change.

Manojkumar Borekar, Product Head of Sustainability at TÜV India, who reflected upon the Net Zero Guidelines by IWA 42, noting how these guidelines provide recommendations to enable a common, global approach to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions through the adoption of standards, policies, along with national and international regulations.

The participants also heard from **Martin Michelot**, Executive Director of TIC Council Europe, who delivered introductory remarks and highlighted the expertise that the TIC sector possesses in guiding businesses and economies as they implement sustainable policies. Else, **Madhumita Guha**, sponsor of the TIC Council India ESG subcommittee, moderated the session.

Our second webinar played an important role in conveying to key stakeholders that one of the most effective ways for businesses to fight climate change is through measuring and mitigating their greenhouse emissions, particularly thanks to carbon markets and the adoption of renewable energy.

Our last webinar, on **Green Hydrogen**, was held on Friday 9 December 2022. Green hydrogen is a technology which is currently still in very early development for commercially viable projects; nonetheless, at TIC Council we strongly believe that green hydrogen has the potential to greatly contribute towards decarbonising our economies.

Our speakers provided updates on how green hydrogen will, in the decades to come, occupy a central stage in the renewable energy sector, and highlighted the role of the TIC sector in the safe development of new green hydrogen projects:

Antonio Lucci, Senior Business Development Manager, Carbon Reduction Excellence at RINA, analysed the current regulatory and policy framework in Europe when it comes to facilitating development and production of green hydrogen.

Randeep Singh Saini, Managing Director at Green Economy Initiatives, brought to the participants' attention the reasons why green hydrogen can be the fuel of tomorrow, along with the latest developments of commercially viable projects and safety standards.

Bratin Roy, Senior Vice President of Industry Service & Sustainability at TÜV SÜD-ASEAN, South Asia, Middle East and Africa, raised the topic of green hydrogen certifications in an international landscape.

Marco Ghisu, Profit Centre Manager, Manufacturing Technology at TÜV NORD Italy, reflected upon policy and standards frameworks in green hydrogen in the current global market.

Dr Aravind Kumar Chandiran, Associate Professor for the Department of Chemical Engineering at IIT Madras, emphasised the safety aspects of green hydrogen and the challenges that it brings from an academic's perspective.

Amit Ghosh, Vice Chair of TIC Council India, talked about the need to transition into a green hydrogen economy during his inaugural remarks. **Dr Aparna Dhawan**, Executive Director of TIC Council India, moderated the session.

Green hydrogen has the potential to drastically reduce CO₂ emissions, fight climate change, and put India on a path towards net-zero energy imports. Knowledge was shared on how new standards and certification mechanisms are continuously being developed and implemented in order to guarantee the safe production and usage of green hydrogen and facilitating its transition into the commercially viable fuel of tomorrow.

TIC Council India will continue to raise awareness of the ever-increasing need for businesses to opt for sustainable solutions and the role that the TIC sector can play, via its advocacy campaigns through numerous capacity-building sessions, continuing to build upon the progress achieved through our webinar marathon series.

If you wish to know more, you can take a look at the recordings ([I](#), [II](#) and [III](#)) of the event.

Further, you can find our [list of webinars](#) presenting TIC Council's work in providing thought-provoking presentations on the current market trends and legislative developments around conformity assessment.

Editor's Note About TIC Council

TIC Council is the global trade federation representing the independent third-party Testing, Inspection and Certification (TIC) industry which brings together about 100-member companies and organizations from around the world to speak with one voice. Its members provide services across a wide range of sectors: consumer products, medical devices,

petroleum, mining and metals, food, and agriculture among others. Through provision of these services, TIC Council members assure that not only regulatory requirements are met, but also that reliability, economic value, and sustainability are enhanced. TIC Council's members are present in more than 160 countries and the wider TIC sector currently employs more than 1 million people across the globe.

The Value of TIC Report

To learn more about TIC Council and its member's activities, the landmark report on the Value of the TIC sector, developed jointly by the international law firm Steptoe and the London-based consultancy Europe Economics is now available to read. This report illustrates, by using data and case studies, how the TIC sector benefits a variety of stakeholders and industries around the world. You can find the study [here](#), and we welcome you to share it with anyone who might be interested.

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