

ESG BULLETIN



Domestic News

India Unveils Ambitious Green Energy, ESG Initiatives in Budget 2025

- **Significant Investments and Reforms:** The 2025 budget focuses on renewable energy, electric mobility, and domestic production, with large investments in solar power, green hydrogen, and electric vehicle infrastructure. Major reforms are amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and private sector participation in nuclear energy with incentives.

Sebi proposes rules to ERP framework; aims to enhance transparency

- **Subscriber-pays model:** ESG Rating Providers (ERPs) can withdraw a rating if there are no subscribers, but not if the rated entity is part of a subscribed rating package. Withdrawal must apply to all subscribers.
- **Issuer-pays model:** ERPs can withdraw a rating after three years or 50% of the security's tenure, whichever is higher, with approval from 75% of bondholders by value.

SIDBI and AFD sign \$100M agreement to boost green finance for MSMEs

- **\$100 million credit facility:** Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and AFD, France, signed an agreement to provide affordable financing for MSMEs investing in energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy solutions.

International News

Trump's executive orders shape the future of sustainability

- **Trump's Executive Orders:** President Trump has issued several executive orders (EO's) to roll back Biden's climate initiatives, withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement, increase domestic fossil fuel production, and terminate DEI programs.
- **Impact on ESG:** These actions pose significant challenges to ESG and DEI initiatives, but many corporations remain committed to pro-social and environmental policies despite the regulatory changes.

Microsoft Locks in 389MW Clean Energy from EDP Renewables

- **New Solar Projects:** EDP Renewables North America delivered 400 MW of solar power in Illinois and Texas, with Microsoft securing 389 MW through long-term virtual power purchase agreements (VPPAs).
- **Economic and Community Benefits:** The projects generated millions in tax contributions, job creation, and supported environmental justice initiatives, aligning with Microsoft's sustainability goals.

Canada to issue third green bond

- **Third Green Bond Issuance:** Canada plans to issue its third Canadian-dollar-denominated green bond, following successful issuances in 2022 and 2024, to support sustainable finance and clean growth.
- **Updated Green Bond Framework:** The updated framework includes nuclear expenditures, aligning with Canada's commitment to net-zero emissions by 2050 and supporting the development of a stronger sustainable finance market.

Upcoming Events And Conferences

World Sustainable Development Summit 2025

The **World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2025** will be organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), this year's theme is "Partnerships for Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Solutions".

Date : 5th-7th Mar 2025

Location : The India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Did You Know?

Sustainable finance integrates environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors into financial decisions to support economic growth while addressing environmental and social issues. It includes green bonds, social bonds, and sustainable investment funds, aiming for long-term returns, risk mitigation, and positive societal impact.

Things we can do :

Support Ethical Brands: Choose products and services from companies that prioritize sustainability and ethical practices.

Quiz

What does a green bond specifically fund?

- Infrastructure projects
- Projects with positive environmental benefits
- Technology startups

Which of the following is a key challenge in sustainable finance?

- High initial costs
- Immediate high profits
- Low market demand

Thrive Engagements for the month of February

Stress Less, Engage More !

We distributed stress balls to the Controllers and Compliance teams as part of our stress relief and engagement initiative. This effort aims to promote well-being, reduce stress, and encourage team collaboration. Let's stress less and engage more together!