

# INTRODUCTION

**3PS Advisory LLP** is promoted by Dr. Umesh S. Kulkarni who is Managing Partner of 3PS and also Proprietor of Fine Envirotech Engineers (FEE). The purpose of initiating 3PS Team is to bring a distinctive equilibrium of creativeness and innovativeness to each distinguished client. We provide proficiency to assist organisations in accomplishing their journey towards a sustainable future. The expertise of Dr. Umesh Kulkarni and Ms. Sheela Mistry render a strong guiding force for 3PS Advisory LLP in achieving their goals, with the assistance of a team of professionals.

#### Dr. Umesh Kulkarni

Managing Partner – 3PS Advisory LLP He has expertise of 27 years in Environmental and Sustainability Consultancy. He is Certified by GRI - "Training on GRI-G4 guidelines".

#### Ms. Sheela Mistry

Founder - Insight Associates

She brings in over a decade of exposure in the sustainability field and has been one of the exclusive Training Partners, Certified by GRI for 2009–2017 with sound track record and a recognition from GRI as "Leaders in providing GRI Training".

# KEY SERVICES

- Building / enhancing internal capacity and developing sustainability champions
- Hand-holding and supporting organization for their sustainability needs
- Monitoring and evaluating sustainability performance against national/global frameworks and standards
- Mapping and linking sustainability performance with SDGs
- Materiality analysis and writing report
- Help creating sustainability road map
- Blue Flag Program and Beach Nourishment
- Providing solutions for innovative sustainable technologies



# SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

Integrating sustainability, engaging with stakeholder, creating sustainable values and communicating non-financial performance has become a part of business strategy. Businesses have realized that Accountability, Commitments and Transparency (ACT) are three pre-requisites for building a sustainable enterprise.

The companies that have adopted sustainability practices across the organization could successfully translate critical business challenges into opportunities and benefits such as revenue growth, cost reductions, better risk management and stronger brand positioning. Companies are also realizing that communicating sustainability impacts with stakeholders allows them to highlight sustainability goals and accomplishments, build stronger relationships, enhance corporate reputation, build brand loyalty and gather useful data and ideas.

Corporate Responsibility Reporting practices are shifting from voluntary to vital. Amidst national frameworks such as NVG-SEE, SEBI-BRR, CBSE Guidelines (for PSUs), Global standard like Global Reporting Initiative-GRI Standards play an important role in the development of sustainability reporting and performance management and contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals-SDGS.

#### Value of Producing Sustainability Reports

- Enhance reputation, achieve trust and respect
- Transparency and dialogue with stakeholders
- Enable comparability and benchmarking
- Improving public perception and brand image
- Improving processes, culture and sustainability technology
- Demonstrate commitment to sustainability

## **Pathway to Sustainability Reporting**



# **Backdrop**

Sustainability Reporting in India is in an emerging stage. Companies are still grappling with the need for such disclosure. However, with increasing pressure from Stakeholders and the hidden insights that can be attained from conducting an exercise of measuring and reporting sustainability performance, a growing number of companies are starting to report on environmental and social parameters. Government of India is encouraging companies to declare their sustainability performance, which is also known as Triple Bottom Line (TBL/3BL) or Non-Financial Reporting (NFR).

# What is Sustainability Reporting?

Sustainability Reporting can be described as a public disclosure activity through which an organization voluntarily discloses the impact of its operations and products/services on society and environment.

# **Responses from Companies**

In India, the trend of Non-Financial Reporting is relatively new, however, the number of companies releasing their organizational impacts on societal and environmental indicators have tremendously risen in the past few years. In this context, it is apparent that the awareness about paybacks and significance of sustainability reporting is not only benefiting, but also, providing significant insights about company's non-financial performance to the stakeholders, which is an essential part of the sustainability journey. It is also vital as the paradigm is shifting from "Traditional Thinking" to "Sustainable Thinking".

#### TRADITIONAL APPROACH

Compartmentalized thinking focused on parts in isolation.

Environment/social implications addressed by staff specialist after strategic decisions made.

**Forecasting**: where are we today? How do we improve?

Company's position is THE way.

#### SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

**Systems thinking** - focused on inter-dependence of parts and optimizing whole system.

Environmental/social implications considered by decision-makers in designing strategy.

**Back casting**: what would sustainable world look like in 30 years how do we get there?

**Stakeholder engagement** to understand diverse points of view to find a better solution.

### Reporting Frameworks: GRI



Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) has been the driver of the world's most widely used Sustainability Reporting Framework and ensures continuous improvement and application of such reporting worldwide. The framework sets out standards, principles and indicators that organizations can use to measure and report their economic, environmental and social performance. (www.globalreporting.org)

**GRI Reporting Framework** is one of the most recognized standards for sustainability reporting. The flexibility of the standard has enabled companies across the globe of all sizes and sectors to utilize the standard for the creation and presentation of their sustainability stories. That flexibility also enables companies to create their sustainability or Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reports in any format or structure that they may opt, and through a GRI Index providing a mapping from their report to the GRI Reporting standard.

# Significance

Often times, environmental and societal factors are considered as externalities by corporations and therefore not actively managed. The sustainability report is an attempt to capture these impacts with the basic premise that "what gets measured gets managed". Sustainability reporting can also shed light on certain non-economic risks that arise from a changing environmental and societal context. By bringing these risks to light, companies can take actions to mitigate them, thereby enhancing their primary responsibility – thereby maximizing profitability.

In addition to highlighting risks, sustainability reports also positively impact the corporate brand. An organization's disclosure of the impact of its actions on society and environment, highlight the "human" face of an organization, generating tremendous goodwill among its stakeholders.

#### **Benefits**

With growing interest from customers, partners, employees and other stakeholders to understand a company's impact on environment, the company ideally must opt for environmental and social reporting, the benefits of which are:

- ★ Avoidance of penalties or lawsuits by catching risks early and taking action to mitigate them;
- ★ Improving reputation with stakeholders, including investors, credit agencies, customers, employees, and business partners;
- Increasing brand value;
- ★ Improving business performance, operational efficiency, and cost savings;
- Enhancing risk assessment and management capabilities;
- ★ Helps incorporate climate change and stakeholder risks / opportunities into corporate decision-making;
- Measuring the carbon footprint across your facilities to help reduce GHG emissions, identify cost saving opportunities, meet regulatory requirements and demonstrate environmental responsibility.



## **Blue Flag**

The Blue Flag Programme for beaches and marinas is run by FEE (the Foundation for Environmental Education) which is an international, non-governmental and non-profit organisation. **The Blue Flag Programme promotes sustainable development in freshwater and marine areas**. Over the years, Blue Flag has become a highly respected and recognised eco-label working to bring together tourism and environmental sectors at local, regional and national levels. During Blue Flag season, the flag must fly at the beach. The flag is a symbol that the beach participates in the programme and also an indication that it complies with the criterias.

3PS Advisory LLP is associated with CEE India which is a National Operator for Blue Flag Program development in India.

#### **Beach Nourishment**

Beach nourishment also referred to as beach restoration or beach replenishment describes a process by which sediment (usually sand) lost through erosion is replaced from sources outside of the eroding beach. Good beach nourishment practice achieves prevention of coastal erosion (chronic erosion) as well as flooding (safety) & maintaining a wide recreational beach.

3PS Advisory along with Fine Envirotech Engineers, has worked for more than 25 projects under sustainable Beach Nourishment projects in Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and Raigad districts. We promote sustainable beach development projects which is beneficial for human and marine population.

## **Blue Economy**

Blue Economy is a term relating to exploitation and preservation of marine environment or simply refers to any economic activity in the maritime sector, whether sustainable or not. Humans derive numerous "market" and "non-market" benefits through Ocean Economies.

According to the World Bank, Blue Economy is the "sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem." A related term of Blue Economy is Ocean Economy and it simply deals with the use of ocean resources and is strictly aimed at empowering the economic system of an ocean. Blue Economy goes beyond viewing the ocean economy solely as a mechanism for economic growth. Therefore, Blue Economy encompasses ecological aspects of an ocean along with its economic aspects.

3PS Advisory along with Fine Envirotech Engineers, has worked for sustainable Blue Economy for several years through its Marine Projects such as development of ports, marinas, harbours, dredging activities and many other related projects. We thrive at sustainable marine development which is beneficial for human and marine population.

We support the initiative by the National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog, GoI, to promote SDG#06 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG#14 (Life below water) to support Blue Economy and its benefits.

# **3PS APPROACH**

Organisation / Firm Motivated for Sustainability



