

Report on initiatives undertaken by CESD during the year 2020-21

a) **Green Industries Goa (GIG) Initiative:** Under this initiative, CESD is working towards greening of the industries in Goa. Several activities like research projects, webinars, training programmes, liaising with the industrial associations and the relevant Govt. departments will be carried out to achieve the objectives of this campaign.

In the first phase, during the year 2020-21, CESD worked on two pilot projects along with a few PGP-I students (as a part of their GiveGoa projects). The details of these projects are as under:

1. Greening of MSMEs in Goa:

To initiate this project, a comprehensive literature review of available research papers and articles was undertaken. Around 100 research papers from well ranked journals were studied to understand the drivers and motivating factors that made MSMEs invest in eco-friendly or environmental initiatives. This study brought out a stark gap which exists in the current research literature with respect to environmental initiatives of MSMEs specifically in Goa. The Greening of MSMEs in Goa project was designed to address this gap and contribute towards a greener Goa.

The objectives of this project were:

- a) To understand existing environmental sustainability initiatives/practices of MSMEs in Goa
- b) To explore what drives/motivates MSMEs to invest in environment related financial decisions or efforts to reduce their carbon footprint.

For this project CESD reached out to several presidents of the various industrial estate association, officials in the MSME department, office bearers at GCCI and a few others. A questionnaire was developed that was used by the students' team (under the GiveGoa initiative) to collect data. Due to the pandemic, this project had to be done online and resulted into a reduced sample size.

Students collected data from about twenty MSMEs across Goa and CESD is currently in the process of analysing the results. Through this study we hope to understand the drivers of environment related investments for MSMEs and work towards creating an ecosystem to enable them to take these decisions.

2. Registry for Eco-businesses in Goa

The objectives of this project were:

- a) To create an online registry for ecofriendly businesses in Goa
- b) To identify and document management and other challenges faced by a sample of these businesses

For this project the centre initially identified about 30 eco-business in Goa along with the contact information for the students to start the project and take it forward from there.

A total of sixty eco-friendly businesses were identified in Goa and students conducted semi-structured interviews of thirty of these entrepreneurs. A basic structure for the registry is

ready and currently we are working on fine-tuning it. We hope to understand these business better, provide them a platform to showcase their product/service and in the process encourage more such entrepreneurs.

b) Biodiversity Register for GIM:

CESD undertook the task of preparing a biodiversity register for GIM. This was planned to be carried out in two phases. In the first phase we focused on the flora on our campus. This project was undertaken by CESD in January 2021 and completed in April 2021. Since CESD did not have the knowledge or expertise to conduct this project we took help from the Goa Bio-diversity Board. Majority of the flora on the campus were identified, photographed and GPS-tagged. A total of 150 different species were identified. The report was presented to the director on 23rd April 2021.

Currently, CESD is working on the proposal for the faunal biodiversity register for the campus. This is a much larger exercise and will take more than a year to complete. The data collection for this project is planned to be done through various methods like expert surveys, crowd sourcing from faculty, staff and students at GIM.

c) Launch of Newsletter by the centre:

Sustainability Horizon, a quarterly newsletter by CESD was first launched on 13th January 2021 at the hands of the Director, Goa Institute of Management in the presence of Dean (Academics), Dean (Administration) and the CESD team members. This newsletter collates contributions from students, academicians and practitioners in the field of environmental sustainability and attempts to address the changing dynamism in the sector.

The newsletter was uploaded on the GIM website and emailed to the various stakeholders. A few hardcopies of the newsletter were printed on recycled paper to be kept at the reception, library and the centre office.

d) Sustainability Reporting: CESD is working on preparing a formal document, sustainability report for GIM. This report will showcase both social and environmental sustainability initiatives at GIM, enabling the institute to participate in sustainability linked rankings.

A review of the existing relevant frameworks was done to arrive at a structure for the sustainability report for GIM. We are currently in the process of collecting and collating the needed information. This project is likely to be completed by the end of this year.

e) Proposal for E-waste management at GIM: The E-waste management rules 2016 notified by the Government of India specify that electronic and electrical waste should be treated scientifically through authorized recyclers. CESD prepared a comprehensive proposal for streamlining E-waste management on the GIM campus. The proposal included the present status of E waste management, the mandates as per the E waste rules, and an

action plan to implement a robust E waste collection and management system on the campus.

This proposal was accepted by the director and CESD team was asked to guide the maintenance team at GIM in the implementation of the project.

f) Proposal for setting up a Miyawaki forest at GIM: The Centre prepared and submitted a proposal for developing a natural forest using the Miyawaki technique at GIM. This kind of a dense forest is developed using local species of plants and needs maintenance for about 3 to 4 years after which it becomes completely self-sustaining. This forest is likely to attract many more birds, butterflies, and other such fauna to the campus and also impact the local climate positively.

g) Email campaign on behalf of world environment day: The World Environment Day is celebrated on the 5th of June every year with an aim to increase awareness towards environmental conservation. With this aim, CESD designed an email campaign centred around the five *panchamahabhootas* or elements of nature and their conservation, in the week following the World Environment Day. Important facts about the status of the environment and action points for faculty and staff were included in these emails, in addition to further reading material on the topic. The campaign received a good response from the GIM community and helped in creating a unique identity of the Centre. Based on the response obtained to the questionnaire sent out in the emails, a Session on Home Composting was conducted for the faculty and staff to demonstrate methods of undertaking composting and bio-enzyme preparation, which had around 25 participants.

h) Rise Project: CESD is also working on an international project, Responsibility and Innovation via Social and sustainable Entrepreneurship (RISE) funded by Finnish National Agency, EDUFI.

The objective of this Project is to co-develop a curriculum for partner Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) for capacity building in the field of social and sustainable entrepreneurship. The Project aims to identify specific training and capacity building needs in this field in the partnering countries.

Rise project is led by LAB University of Applied Sciences (LAB UAS), Finland and the partnering institutions are from Finland, Denmark, Belgium and India.

At present, the team is working on the designing a survey that aims at understanding the richness of different views, interpretations and experiences about social and sustainable entrepreneurship. The Survey is expected to help understand and map the current situation and recognize gaps to be addressed, especially in education, training, skills to improve social and sustainable entrepreneurship in India.

- i) **Network for Business Sustainability- Community for Sustainable Centres**: In June 2021, CESD became a member of Sustainable Centres Community at Network for Business Sustainability.

The Network for Business Sustainability (NBS) is a Canada-based network involved in advancing sustainable development to assure the prosperity for all, today and into the future. By integrating academic research with practical experience, NBS members are mobilizing businesses to contribute to thriving communities and ecosystems. More than 35,000 business leaders, researchers and students from around the world contribute to and follow their work.

Within NBS, CESD is a member of The Sustainability Centres Community (SCC). SCC is an engaged, virtual community of more than 170 sustainability centres from around the world. Centre leaders share best practices and support one another through virtual collaboration and in-person events.