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Theme: "Generating Meaningful Impact. Unlocking Value"

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Dear reader,

In recent years, the nexus between the urgency of sustainable practices between the economy and industry has emerged as a central global topic of discussion. With great excitement, we present the latest issue of iMPACT, "Sustainable Industry and Economy." As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, the pursuit of a sustainable economy and industry is not merely an option but an imperative. It is a pathway toward prosperity that honors the delicate balance between human well-being and planetary health.

Within these pages, our readers will find insights and success stories that illustrate the profound impact of embracing sustainable practices while benefiting from them. We highlight how sustainability is changing the face of business and industry in a number of ways, from creative approaches to balancing economic efficiency and environmental responsibility to forward-thinking business models. We aim to give a spotlight on the several ways sustainability is reshaping the landscape of the economy and industry. The journey towards sustainability can only be made possible in collaboration with policymakers, industry leaders, and consumers alike, as well as commitment to innovative practices aimed at safeguarding our planet while driving economic prosperity.

Looking ahead, we invite you to explore, engage, and join us in creating a society where environmental conservation and economic growth coexist, where industry prospers in balance with the environment, and where sustainability is a way of life rather than merely an objective. With our team's dedication to engaging with experts and visionaries, we explore the fundamental need for democracy in sustaining development and also delve into the growing momentum of the clean energy movement. It's a call to action for all of us to actively participate in shaping a digital future that prioritizes inclusivity.

We look forward to your feedback, suggestions, and recommendations, as the impact of our words and your actions can create a synergy that could transform the world. We hope to have your continued support and patronage. To stay updated, visit our website [here](#) and follow us on our social media accounts: Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn @theimpactmagazine.

Thank you for your valuable time!

Warm regards,
Editorial Team



Sustainable development is the masterful balance of meeting our own needs without jeopardizing future generations' ability to do the same."



John Elkington

EVENTS ROUNDUP

*Click for more details

1 [Digitizing South East Asia](#)

April 4-5

📍 Bangkok, Thailand

👤 Confer Global Private Limited

2 [World Future Energy Summit 2024](#)

April 16-18

📍 ADNEC, Abu Dhabi

👤 Masdar

3 [Asia Sustainable Plastics Summit 2024](#)

April 18-19

📍 Singapore

👤 ECV

4 [ASIAWATER Expo & Forum 2024](#)

April 23-25

📍 Kuala Lumpur Convention Center

👤 Informa

5 [Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development \(DIHAD\) Conference & Exhibition](#)

April 23-25

📍 Dubai World Trade Center

👤 INDEX Conferences and Exhibitions LLC

6 [16th Annual Global CSR & ESG Summit and Awards in 2024](#)

April 25

📍 Hanoi, Vietnam

👤 Pinnacle Group

7 [Lean and Green](#)

April 26

📍 Singapore

👤 SEAS

8 [Cleantech Forum Asia](#)

May 7-8

📍 Singapore

👤 Cleantech Group

9 [Build4Asia](#)

May 8-10

📍 Hongkong Convention Center

👤 Informa Markets

10 [2nd Philippine ESG Investors Summit](#)

May 14

📍 Paranaque, Philippines

11 [Engage for Good 2024](#)

May 14-16

📍 Minneapolis, Minnesota

12 [5th Annual BIM Summit Manila](#)

May 15-16

📍 Shangri-La The Fort, Manila

👤 Trueventus

13 [Future Energy Asia 2024](#)

May 15-17

📍 Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand

👤 Ministry of Energy





14 [Agritechnica Asia 2024](#)

May 22-24

📍 Bangkok, Thailand

👤 VNU Exhibitions Asia Pacific Co., Ltd.

15 [Disability Inclusive Infrastructure & Cities Summit 2024](#)

May 28-29

📍 Dubai, UAE

👤 Verve Management

16 [2nd Annual Chief Risk Officer](#)

May 29-30

📍 Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11, Bangkok, Thailand

👤 Trueventus

17 [Digital CFO Summit](#)

May 29-31

📍 Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11, Bangkok, Thailand

👤 Trueventus

18 [E-Learning Africa](#)

May 29-31

📍 Kigali Convention Center

19 [SiGMA Asia Summit 2024](#)

June 3-5

📍 SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia Complex

20 [Global Sustainable Development 2024](#)

June 10-13

📍 Bangkok, Thailand

👤 Times Higher Education

21 [Reponsible Business Europe 2024](#)

June 11-12

📍 London, UK

👤 Reuters

22 [Singapore International Water Week 2024](#)

June 18-22

📍 Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

👤 Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment

23 [CleanEnviro Summit](#)

June 19-21

📍 Singapore

👤 Experia Events

24 [PhilMarine Expo 2024](#)

June 19-21

📍 SMX Convention Center, Pasay, Philippines

👤 Fireworks Philippines

To include your event in this section, please email details of the event, in the format above to editor@theimpactmagazine.org

NEWS

Asian Development Bank: Indonesia Provided a Loan for their ‘Inclusive Sanitation Project’



The Asian Development Bank has recently approved a substantial \$419.6 million loan for Indonesia’s citywide ‘Inclusive Sanitation Project,’ aimed at establishing a climate-resilient and effectively managed sanitation system in cities like Mataram, Pontianak, and Semarang. Current statistics reveal that only 77% of Indonesian households have access to basic sanitation facilities, with a mere 7% having access to safely managed sanitation services ensuring proper human waste disposal. This initiative seeks to strengthen the infrastructure against climate-related challenges and disasters.

The project targets the enhancement of sanitation systems for approximately 2.5 million residents in these cities, promoting equitable access through the integration of both sewered and non-sewered systems. Moreover, the Asian Development Bank remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient Asia as part of its overarching mission to combat poverty.

Recent studies conducted on March 12, 2024, revealed a concerning trend: continuous exposure to oil and gas pipelines is linked to adverse mental health effects among residents in Virginia, West Virginia, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. Residents in these areas have reported experiencing symptoms such as anxiety, depression, Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (CPTSD), and thoughts of suicide.


The construction of pipelines in urban areas has not only resulted in significant environmental repercussions, but has also generated dangerous living conditions—leading to a depreciation in property values. This highlights the importance of carefully assessing the mental health and environmental impacts of pipeline construction to safeguard affected communities. Moreover, the lack of government response has made residents feel undervalued and ignored.

The Hidden Mental Health Toll: Dishonesty on Oil and Gas Pipeline Development



NEWS

As of February 15, Ghana, being one of the first 3 African countries to introduce a carbon tax, recently introduced an annual carbon levy on vehicles as well as industrial emissions. With this implementation, it can help address the environmental issues related to the carbon emissions released by vehicles. The proposal was first introduced under the Emissions Levy Act, 2023, and was one of the several environmental reform measures the Ghanaian government has made, and thus, hopes to shift the use of their taxes towards lessening potential environmentally damaging pollutants.

However, one of the main objections to the tax proposal was that it is a double taxation, which according to critics, adds to the existing pollution levy. Not to mention that it also adds to many additional taxes that they have, which contributes to their struggling economy. Additionally, many have also urged or suggested to the government to develop environmentally friendly power sources instead, such as nuclear or solar; that way, there could be transparency as to where their taxation money can go once it is collected. 

Vehicle Levy Proposed in Ghana: Imposing Annual Levies for High-engine Vehicles



Tackling Foodborne Illnesses in Kenya through Hygiene



Kenya has announced plans to bolster its food safety regulations and enhance hygiene practices to combat food-related illnesses. This commitment was initially disclosed during the 54th session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. Health Cabinet Secretary, Nakhumicha, underscored the significance of safeguarding food from contaminants, emphasizing Kenya's shift towards preventive healthcare and the implementation of crucial measures to mitigate foodborne diseases.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 600 million cases of food-related illnesses are reported globally each year, impacting 1 in 10 individuals. Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Linturi has reiterated the ministry's unwavering dedication to ensuring that Kenya's food production and handling adhere to international standards and stringent hygiene protocols. In his words, *"it's imperative to ensure that our food production meets standards."*

THIS CAUGHT OUR EYE

Mpondamala Primary School: Educating Young Minds on Environmental Sustainability and Self-Hygiene

The evergreen surroundings of Mpondamala Primary School invented the innovative Living Schools Yard Project, a groundbreaking initiative that not only provides students with essential hand-washing facilities, but also fosters a culture of good hygiene. Students here are actively engaged in planting fruit trees within the school premises, thereby promoting environmental conservation and encouraging a sense of responsibility towards nature.

This opportunity not only empowers students to prioritize environmental sustainability, but also extends crucial support to young girls in need of assistance with their personal health. For instance, it includes valuable training on using reusable pads, equipping them with essential knowledge and resources for better health and well-being. In addition to that, the project has also enabled students to improve their physical health by encouraging them to take on outdoor activities. Overall, it is a project that aims to educate children on personal hygiene and environmental sustainability, introducing them to “healthier” habits at a younger age.



Connection between Trees and Human Health: Ongoing Investigation by American Scientist

In 2018, Aruni Bhatnagar, a cardiology researcher, undertook a study on air pollution in Louisville. Observing the city’s consistent failure in air quality tests by the American Lung Association, he embarked on investigating the relationship between trees and improved heart health through clinical trials. Despite existing studies on urban health and trees being predominantly observational, with assumptions of potential correlations between urban trees and residents’ health, Bhatnagar sought to establish connections through scientific research.

In fact, Bhatnagar has also launched an initiative called the Green Heart Louisville initiative, which succeeded in planting 8,000 trees in a cluster of lower-to-middle-income neighborhoods in southern Louisville, with the help of contractors and volunteers. The significance of this study, or more accurately, this project, lies in its comprehensive examination and in-depth analysis. It allows for future researchers, policymakers, and scholars to further understand the complex issues around how trees can affect human health.



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NUMBERS

The Climate Crisis in the Digital Age

Temperature Rise

Greenhouse gases have altered Earth's atmosphere, leading to a **1°C** temperature rise and an **8-9 inch sea level increase** (Lindsey, 2022).

Earth's temperature has risen by **1.2°C** since pre-industrial times. (Allen et al., 2018).

The world's current path indicates a likely **1.7 - 2.4°C temperature increase by 2100**, with potential for higher rises (Allen et al., 2018).



Production and Disposal

According to Abd El Aziz (2022), over **90% of mobile phone emissions** come from production and disposal.



53.6 million metric tons of e-waste was produced in 2019, expected to rise by 30% by 2030 (Tiseo, 2024).

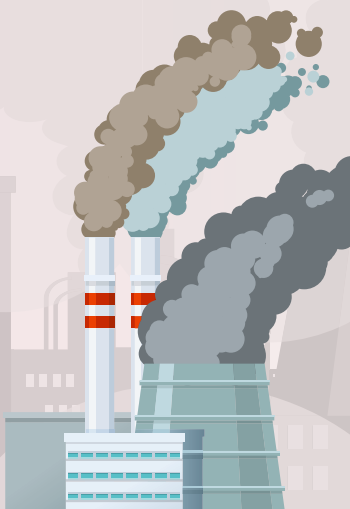
Bauer et al. (2022) study asserts that **plastic film packaging**, primarily made from fossil fuels (up to 90%), drives **packaging emissions**.

Industries

Tech companies targeting emissions reduction may reach a **\$1.4 trillion** market value by 2027 (Trendafilova, 2022).

The ICT industry may account for **14%** of global greenhouse gas emissions by 2040 (Walton, 2024).

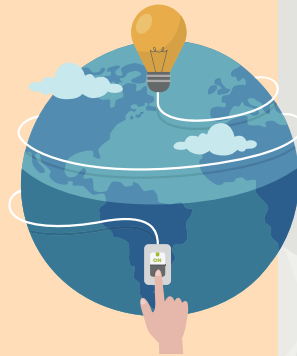
According to Hillyer (2020), this surge in carbon emissions could increase **city commute times by up to 21%**, as estimated by the World Economic Forum.



NUMBERS

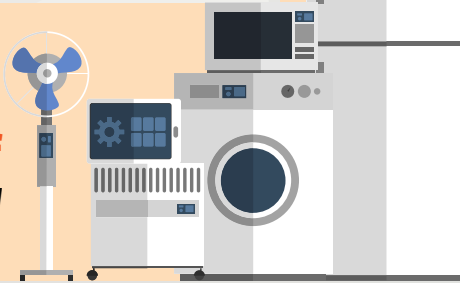
Electricity Consumption

Based on Anders (2017), consumer devices are expected to use **2.8% of global electricity** by 2025, surpassing fixed-access WiFi (0.3%) but falling short of data centers (4.5%).



In both present and projected 2025 scenarios, **processing and displays mainly drive power usage in consumer devices**, with TVs and peripherals comprising about 65% and computers with peripherals about 25% (Freitag et al., 2021).

According to Daft Logic (n.d.), most home electronics remain on standby about **75% of the time**, drawing 0.1 to 30 watts of power.



According to Meier, Huber, and Rosen (1998), if the standby power of home electronics could be reduced to 1 watt, it would cut annual CO₂ emissions by almost **2 megatonnes**, resulting in significant savings.

Digital Emissions



Streaming emitted over **300 million** metric tons of CO₂ in 2018, equal to France's emissions (Carbon Credits, n.d.).

According to Dwivedi et al. (2022), digital tech contributes **3.5%** of greenhouse gas emissions, with a yearly energy consumption increase of 6%.

Social media usage emits **145 kg** of CO₂ annually per user (Walky, 2023).

Derudder's (2021) article proves that if someone spent an average of **151 daily minutes** scrolling TikTok's feed in a year, it would produce 145 kg of CO₂ emissions, equivalent to driving a gasoline car over 370 miles.

According to Fleming (2019), **Streaming three hours of music**, excluding the device, has a footprint equivalent to producing one CD, 40 hours for a vinyl record, and 50 hours for a cassette.



FEATURE

Young Leaders Take Charge to Lead Change

BY ANGELI C. ALBA-PASCUAL



“It is essential that we, as a part of the future generation, are responsible for taking charge to change [for the better the place] we call home.” This is the sentiment that Jerhuy Shen-Puoy, a Cambodian volunteer, shared about his work building alongside less-privileged families and fellow youth leaders through the youth movement Habitat for Humanity Young Leaders Build.

FEATURE

▶ ABOUT ANGELI ALBA-PASCUAL

Angeli C. Alba-Pascual is a Communications Manager in Asia-Pacific for Habitat for Humanity International. With over a decade of international experience in development, humanitarian and corporate communications, she co-leads Young Leaders Build — Habitat’s largest youth movement — and implements activities in support of Home Equals, Habitat’s five-year global advocacy campaign for equitable access to adequate housing in informal settlements.



Deloitte’s 2022 Gen Z and Millennial Survey found that young people are “deeply worried about the state of the world and are fighting to reconcile their desire for change with the demands and constraints of everyday life.”

Now in its 13th year, the Habitat Young Leaders Build movement empowers young people to volunteer and contribute to development and to advocate for the need for adequate housing across the Asia-Pacific region. Launched in 2012, the campaign has mobilized over 17 million supporters. They have raised more than US\$9 million, enabling almost 37,000 families to achieve the strength, stability, and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves.

This level of youth engagement—despite the economic vulnerability that many of them face—inspires hope. About three in 10 Gen Zs and four in five millennials are struggling with the cost of living, including housing. Those surveyed say they are not confident that they can retire comfortably, despite working multiple jobs.

Despite facing challenges, young people powerfully add their voices to highlight the need for adequate housing and sustainable urban communities. They are also calling for and leading community engagement and contributing to innovative solutions.

“Building a safe home means helping build the homeowners’ happiness,” said Sudo Honami, a volunteer from Japan. Through the HYL B campaign, we have seen firsthand what young people can do to learn about and meaningfully contribute to housing and development solutions—truly helping families build strength and self-reliance through shelter.

Through a multitude of volunteer activities carried out locally and internationally, Habitat’s young volunteers have acted on the change they want to see. Since December 2023, young Korean volunteers had been involved in learning sessions that became a platform for them to discuss the issues around urbanization and the housing gap, including the specific needs of an aging population and urban

regeneration. In India, young leaders are tapping into their networks to raise funds in support of projects that will help families repair or build adequate housing.

Volunteers in Japan and Nepal worked with Habitat to respond to earthquakes that struck their respective countries in November 2023 and March 2024. Nepali volunteers worked on removing rubble and helping local families rebuild in Bheri municipality in Jajarkot district. Japanese volunteers, meanwhile, helped clear debris in Wajima City in the Noto peninsula, a much-needed service in addition to the architectural consultation that Habitat Japan provides to affected residents.



FEATURE

Groups of young people are also leading community-based housing solutions. Five such solutions recently won micro-grants each worth US\$2,000 through the 2023 Asia-Pacific Youth Assembly, organized jointly by Habitat for Humanity and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. These solutions include:

- transforming coastal plastic waste into affordable, lightweight ventilation blocks in Indonesia;
- centralizing infrastructure mapping, monitoring, and management system of informal settlements and providing an innovative collapsible structure that can be used for dignified housing for temporary workers in India;

- addressing housing and sanitation challenges faced by floating indigenous populations in the Philippines; and
- organizing workshops on earthquake-resistant retrofitting to address the pressing challenges of ensuring safe, resilient housing in the seismically-active region of Nepal. This will empower communities to fortify their homes against earthquakes, safeguarding lives, minimizing property damage, and increasing community resilience.

Indeed, the HYLB campaign has empowered young people to become volunteers for the development agenda. Pramila, a Habitat homeowner in Nepal who

also became a community-based volunteer for the campaign, says, “The courage I’ve found to navigate the roads and earn a living for myself and my family stems from the security of having a home. My residence now stands as my pillar of strength.”

Learn more about the HYLB campaign at

bit.ly/HabitatYLB24

Follow their social media pages on Twitter and Facebook, or donate at

bit.ly/Give2HabitatAP



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INTERVIEW

EmpowerHer Navigates Societal Expectations in the Economic Landscape

BY ANAMARA BAIG

Q: In your opinion, what role do women play in driving economic growth and development, especially in emerging markets or marginalized communities?

A: “In emerging markets, where investments in education, infrastructure, and healthcare may lag behind those in developed countries, women often play a pivotal role but their contribution to driving economic growth and development is overlooked. Historically, women have predominantly powered the unpaid labor force, whether domestically or through accepting drastic pay cuts in the formal labor market.

Traditionally, women have been the silent force managing households, enabling men to focus on their work without significant concern for domestic responsibilities. However, societal constructs, especially prevalent in emerging markets, tend to be less egalitarian, limiting women’s opportunities to contribute directly to economic development.

Therefore, while women’s contributions may appear invisible, they are indispensable to the functioning of both households and economies. Women can play a pivotal role in the growth of emerging markets if some of the barriers to entry are addressed holistically.”



Source: www.empowerherindia.org

Q: What strategies do you believe are most effective in fostering an enabling environment for women to thrive economically, both at the policy level and within communities?

A: “In the Indian context, fostering an enabling environment for women to thrive economically requires a comprehensive approach that addresses both policy-level interventions and community-driven initiatives. Merely enacting policies without effective implementation and accountability mechanisms yields limited results. Therefore, a dual strategy combining top-down policy changes with bottom-up community involvement is imperative.

Firstly, stringent policy enforcement is essential. Policies aimed at gender equality and

women’s empowerment must be treated as binding, rather than mere suggestions. For instance, the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) law, initially flexible, has gradually evolved to enforce greater accountability among companies. This trend needs to continue and expand across sectors to ensure a meaningful impact.

Secondly, addressing societal attitudes and norms through education and awareness is crucial. Initiatives targeting gender equity should begin at the grassroots level, including schools, to instill values of equality and respect from a young age. Moreover, addressing issues such as menstrual leave, which recently sparked debate in the Indian parliament, requires a nuanced approach to balancing business concerns with women’s rights. Encouraging dialogue and promoting understanding can help mitigate resistance and foster acceptance of such measures.

INTERVIEW

▶ ABOUT ANAMARA BAIG

Anamara Baig is the CEO of empowHER India, a Mumbai based organization that works in rural villages to empower adolescent girls through life skills, health education, gender awareness and financial literacy. Anamara has been part of the social impact sector for the last 15 years.



Thirdly, ensuring physical security is paramount. Investment in infrastructure, including safe transportation and public spaces, is essential to enable women's participation in the workforce. Additionally, combating patriarchal social structures that perpetuate gender-based violence and discrimination is imperative.

Creating an enabling environment for women's economic empowerment in India demands a multifaceted approach encompassing policy reforms, community engagement, and societal transformation."

Q: From your on-field experience so far, what specific challenges do you think women face in accessing economic opportunities, or where is the system failing while addressing the issues of women?

A: "The prevailing system is fundamentally biased, designed to maintain the status quo by depriving women of the chance to thrive economically. Economic prosperity begets empowerment and financial stability for a woman shakes up the dynamic at the household level. If a household is considered to be a microcosm of a society, then a similar result will be seen at a macro level as well.

The system is failing them at every level, in every sector. One must also acknowledge that there have been positive changes but progress is too slow. At the risk of sounding repetitive, with my extensive on-field exposure across India, a patriarchal mindset and lack of infrastructure are at the root of all

problems. Girls are married early due to security concerns, financial scarcity, and most importantly social norms (girls are considered to be "Paraya Dhan" something to be given away), they drop out of school because of lack of Sanitation, and lack of transport for higher studies. All these contribute to poor life outcomes. Their opportunities dry up at a very early age, so access to any kind of economic progress is limited."

Q: As a woman working in a managerial position, can you share your insights on the current status of women's participation in the economy, particularly in sectors such as entrepreneurship, leadership, and employment?

A: "Whether in India or globally, women in leadership positions are more of an exception than a norm. A huge contributing factor is societal expectations that label them as primary caregivers, responsible for managing household affairs alongside professional responsibilities. Despite being equally qualified or capable, this added burden unfairly tips the scales against women in hiring and promotion processes, contributing to the underrepresentation of women in leadership roles.

Moreover, studies consistently show that women tend to be less assertive in the workplace and during salary negotiations compared to their male counterparts. This disparity not only affects individual career trajectories but also perpetuates gender wage gaps and reinforces systemic barriers to women's advancement.

Unless this is not addressed from a sociocultural lens, the contribution of women to the economy will be slow."

Q: Do you think an NGO-Corporate-Government nexus is the way forward for sustainable development?

A: "Yes, in the near future, I think this tripartite cooperation is likely to be the best way forward. Private-sector giving in India is still a fraction of public-sector funding. It has seen steady growth but is unlikely to match public sector funding. Therefore, within this framework, one can look more strategically at the role of each stakeholder. New-gen givers are looking beyond traditional forms of giving, striving to make their contributions more catalytic. On the part of the NGOs, they must look beyond being mere implementers and transition to being knowledge providers to the government for government spending to become more effective.

My final thoughts would be to mention the inexorable tidal wave of digital technology bringing forth unseen pathways to sustainable development that may not require an NGO-Corporate-Government nexus."

You can learn more about the organization on

empowherindia.org

How Businesses Can Flourish by Embracing Sustainability



BY ANGEL LANCE

In the dawn of an era of unprecedented environmental challenges, the concept of sustainability in business has evolved from a ‘nice-to-have’ to a ‘must-have.’ As the chief evangelist of sustainable business practices in the companies I run, and author of a book about it, I firmly believe that integrating Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations into business strategies is not just a moral imperative but a strategic necessity.

The landscape of business is undergoing a significant shift. ESG criteria are increasingly influencing investment decisions, consumer behavior, and regulatory policies. Companies that excel in these areas are finding themselves ahead of the curve, attracting investors and customers alike who are increasingly conscious of the planet’s future. Conversely, those who ignore these

criteria risk not only their reputation but also their financial viability.

Tackling climate change has become a business priority. It’s no longer just about reducing emissions or conserving resources; it’s about rethinking business models and strategies to align with a low-carbon future. This involves a thorough examination of supply chains,

operational processes, and product life cycles to identify areas where sustainability can be seamlessly integrated.

But the legwork and investment in sustainability are not without short-term rewards. Sustainable business practices often lead to increased efficiency, reduced operational costs, and the opening up of new markets,

ARTICLE

▶ ABOUT ANGEL LANCE

Angel Lance (www.motive-power.com/insights) is the founder and CEO of Motive Power Inc. and 10/6 Professional Service, two environmentally-conscious management consulting firms focused on delivering capital projects and advising utility companies. Lance pioneered ESG initiatives at her companies, including training programs at professional consulting firms to more effectively guide clients to make ESG-positive transitions.



which offset costs. Moreover, it helps attract better talent and slows attrition of your employee base. Companies committed to sustainability are not only witnessing an enhancement in their brand value and customer loyalty but also seeing a notable improvement in their bottom line.

Sustainable practices also drive innovation by pushing companies to rethink their products and services, as seen in companies like Tesla and Patagonia. This quest for sustainability leads to the development of new technologies, business models, and processes. Tesla's battery innovations have revolutionized both energy storage and the automotive sector. Patagonia's innovation in sustainable materials and ethical supply chains have enhanced both brand loyalty and increased market share. Companies that harness this power of innovation find themselves at the forefront of their industries, carving out new markets and customer bases. In today's market, sustainability is a powerful brand differentiator. Consumers increasingly align their spending with their values, choosing brands that demonstrate a commitment to environmental stewardship. By embedding sustainability into their core values, businesses not only contribute to a better world but also build stronger, more meaningful relationships with their customers.

Embracing sustainability requires both an outward and inward focus, fueled by a passion for progress. Leadership plays a pivotal role in

driving the sustainability agenda. It requires a vision that goes beyond short-term profits to encompass long-term value creation for the company, society, and the planet. Leaders must inspire, engage, and drive change within their organizations to achieve these goals. Sustainability is an ongoing journey. It requires continuous effort, innovation, and commitment. The good news is that passion is easy to connect with when you understand what the stakes are and that you have the power to make a difference.

Engaging employees in sustainability efforts is crucial. It also leads to a more motivated and productive workforce. Companies that involve their employees in their sustainability goals often see a surge in innovation and loyalty, as employees feel more connected to their work and the impact it has on the world. Businesses that commit to this journey will find themselves better equipped to face the challenges of the future and capitalize on new opportunities.

The flipside of the economic opportunity in embracing sustainability is the tremendous risk in ignoring it. Incorporating ESG factors into risk management is becoming essential. Businesses that overlook these aspects are exposed to a range of risks, from regulatory penalties to natural disasters, and shifts in market demand. Proactively addressing these risks can safeguard companies against future disruptions.

As we stand at the crossroads of a sustainability revolution, the call to action for businesses is clear. It's time to embrace sustainability as a core part of business strategy. The future belongs to those who understand that doing right by the planet is not just ethically imperative but also economically wise.

The transition to a sustainable business model is not without its challenges. It requires a shift in mindset, a reevaluation of priorities, and sometimes, significant upfront investments. However, there is a big reward, businesses that commit to sustainability outperform their peers. They benefit from stronger customer loyalty, higher employee engagement, greater innovation, and improved risk management. In a world increasingly defined by climate change and social inequality, these businesses are not just surviving but thriving. Companies that take the lead in sustainability will be the ones shaping the future.

Integrating ESG considerations into business strategies is no longer an option but a necessity. It's a journey towards profitability, innovation, and a sustainable future. In "Seeing Green," I delve deeper into this topic, providing insights and strategies for businesses ready to embark on this crucial journey. The time to act is now; let's work together to redefine the future of business and create a world where sustainability and profitability go hand in hand.

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Sustainable Supply Chains: Balancing Environmental Responsibility with Economic Efficiency

BY RAGINI K R

With most eyes now trained to look for the word 'sustainable' while purchasing or investing, it comes as no surprise that the entire supply chain, not just the manufacturers and producers, but every unit of the supply chain is aspiring to meet certain sustainability standards. It is probably one of the most difficult tasks for companies to accomplish, especially on a global scale and across all industries; but that has never deterred them from trying.

What is a Sustainable Supply Chain?

In simple words, it is one that integrates socially and environmentally responsible practices into the lifecycle of a product to minimize their negative impact while maximizing economic efficiency. It has now become a strategic business decision that ensures sustainable sourcing, manufacturing/ production, packaging, distribution, and even the end of life disposal or recycling. In addition to considering the implications these processes have on the environment, companies must also cater to ethical and social issues like labor rights, safety, and community welfare. With more awareness and dialogue on sustainable supply chain management, and this becoming a priority for businesses, there are now more standardized benchmarks, compliances, and regulations in place.



Strategies for Achieving Sustainable Supply Chains:

Supplier Engagement: Collaborate with sustainability-conscious suppliers to reduce environmental impacts, and ensure that ethical labor standards are being followed throughout the supply chain.



Material Efficiency: Use environment-friendly raw materials, or recycled material. Optimize material usage and minimize waste generation by implementing lean manufacturing principles. Products should also be designed for long-term use while keeping in mind disassembly and recycling, or other end-of-life disposal strategies.



Energy Management: Invest in energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy sources, and process optimization to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.



Packaging and Transportation Optimization: Consider green packaging options for the products, such that it can be reused or recycled. Consolidate shipments, use eco-friendly transportation modes, and implement route optimization strategies to minimize carbon emissions and transportation costs.



Lifecycle Assessment: Conduct Lifecycle assessments of the product to evaluate the environmental impacts and identify opportunities for improvement at every stage of the supply chain.



Collaboration and Transparency: Foster collaboration among stakeholders, and share best practices to maintain transparency and promote sustainable practices with other businesses. Be transparent and provide environmental performance data like footprint count, material, energy usage, etc., to instill accountability among consumers to carry forward with the right practices till the disposal of the product.





Benefits of Sustainable Supply Chains:

- 1 Environmental Protection:** One of the main aims of sustainable supply chains is to reduce the impact businesses have on the environment like pollutants, emissions, chemical waste, etc.
- 2 Economic Efficiency:** Use of greener materials, resources, and energy, helps in optimizing capital and maximizing profit.
- 3 Risk Mitigation:** By diversifying suppliers and incorporating sustainable practices, businesses can reduce their vulnerability to supply chain disruptions caused by natural disasters, regulatory changes, or social unrest.
- 4 Brand Image:** A sustainable Supply Chain helps build a brand's reputation and image with its sustainable and eco-friendly strategies, attracting more consumers and investors. Moreover, transparency of the firms also helps to build trust and relationships with all the stakeholders.
- 5 Safe Work Environment:** A conducive work environment is a by-product of sustainable supply chains. Since ethics, morals, and principles become pillars of every firm's policy framework, it ensures that every person in the supply chain is treated fairly and can exercise their rights.

Case Studies

Patagonia

An outdoor clothing company, Patagonia is known for its sustainable supply chain, often setting an example for other companies in the fashion industry. The company is also commended for its transparency, as it regularly discloses information about its supply chain to the public. Based on the Lifecycle Assessment (LCA) of Patagonia, 87% of their apparel consists of recycled material. It also believes in the longevity of its products, especially with its 'Worn Wear' program which extends the life of its clothing by 2 years. They also try their best to reuse their textiles and avoid landfills. In the age of fast fashion, Patagonia has surely set an exemplary example for sustainable supply chain management.

Interface

Interface's sustainability journey began 30 years ago in 1994. Their aim was to transform their business to have zero negative impact on the planet by the year 2020. With a firm resolve and interest in innovation and regular experimentation, they achieved the goal of Mission Zero, announcing their success in November 2019, ahead of their 2020 target. They discovered the first-ever cradle-to-gate carbon-negative carbon tile and achieved full carbon neutrality across the full product life cycle for all flooring products that they sell. They have also achieved a closed-loop recycling system whereby they recycle used carpet tiles to make new products. Their innovations have laid the groundwork for all other companies in the industry. They are now on to their next mission **Climate Take Back**, which aims to reverse global warming.

Conclusion

In essence, sustainable supply chains are indisputably one of the biggest challenges companies are aiming to transition into as they create value not only for the company but also for the society and environment. It also promotes collaborations and partnerships to achieve the company or industry's sustainability targets. By adopting sustainable sourcing practices, optimizing resource use, fostering collaboration, and addressing social and ethical issues, companies can build resilient and responsible supply chains that contribute to a more sustainable future while balancing their economic efficiency.



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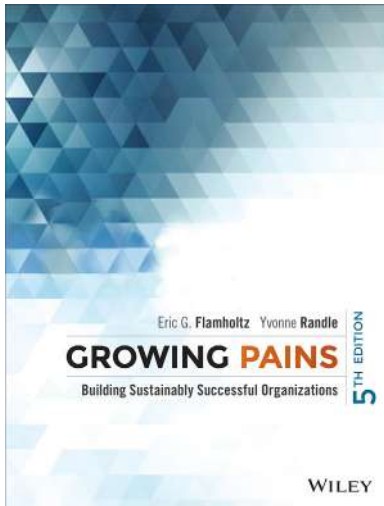


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IN REVIEW



Book

Growing Pains, 5ed: Building Sustainably Successful Organizations

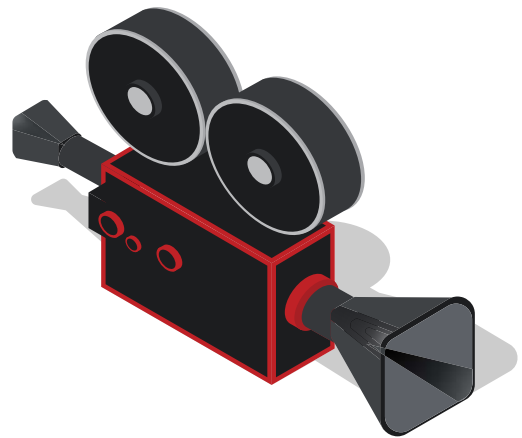
by Eric G. Flamholtz and Yvonne Randle

Written by well-known management experts, this book is your own personal guide to understanding how your organization will grow! It will teach you about the life cycle of an organization and at the same time teach you plans that can contribute to accelerating its growth and making it stronger. Since this book talks about organizations in general, it is important to draw inferences from it in terms of what an NPO should look like if that's the direction you want to go in.

Video/Documentary

Fire in the Blood (2012)

This documentary portrays the struggles of those diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. It talks about the role that big pharma played in limiting access to affordable medication for this illness, which greatly reduced accessibility to healthcare for people with low incomes.



Podcast

Nonprofits Are Messy

by Joan Garry

By not only addressing the various challenges that nonprofits face but also inviting subject matter experts to provide the most practical solutions to said problems, this podcast is the perfect one to tune into if you are someone who wants to/ has committed themselves to public service through not-for-profit organizations!

ARTICLE

Cultivated Meat Slashes Emissions

BY JACK ELLIS, SENIOR ASSOCIATE, AGRICULTURE & FOOD, CLEANTECH GROUP

Animal agriculture is critical to human survival and well-being. The farming of livestock, including land-based animal husbandry, ranching, grazing, and aquaculture, supplies around 26% of humanity's protein needs. But it's also responsible for between 10% - 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions, according to The World Bank.






Cultivated meat - also known as cell-cultured protein or, often pejoratively, as lab-grown meat - is a technology that enables the production of animal proteins without the need to raise, farm, and slaughter animals, by growing edible tissues from isolated animal cells in a bioreactor environment.

Cultivating animal protein in this way rather than by livestock production would slash the emissions profile of meat by as much as 92%, according to one review of life cycle assessments. It would also substantially reduce other negative environmental impacts including air pollution and soil and water degradation.



Estimated Environmental Impact of Cultivated Meat Compared to Conventional Meat

	 Chicken	 Pork	 Beef
Carbon footprint	+3%	-44%	-92%
Land use	-64%	-67%	-90%
Air pollution	-20%	-42%	-94%
Soil acidification	-69%	-78%	-98%
Marine eutrophication	-75%	-87%	-99%

Source: International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment, 2023

Note: Environmental Impact comparison between cultivated meat produced with renewable energy and "optimistic future scenarios" for conventional meat.

ARTICLE

▶ ABOUT JACK ELLIS

Jack Ellis is a Senior Associate and Lead Analyst for Agriculture & Food at Cleantech Group. Featured in Fortune, The Food Institute, Yahoo Finance, and other notable publications, he covers a wide range of article topics including crop robotics, synthetic fertilizers, and technological innovation to combat emissions.



However, cultivated meat production costs remain exceedingly high, and the technology is still largely limited to research laboratories and a handful of pilot facilities; a far cry from the commercial-scale manufacturing that would be required to replace even a small portion of the livestock industry.

Moreover, cultivated meat technologies and products typically fall under the purview of novel food regulations, and must obtain approval before being sold or served to consumers. To date, only two jurisdictions (Singapore and the U.S.) have cleared cultivated meat products for public consumption; these approvals cover products from two companies, Upside Foods and Eat Just, which nevertheless are not on general sale in either territory due to the economic unviability of producing them at such a scale.

Even the most optimistic estimates for cultivated meat end-products put a 9-10x premium on prices for conventional animal-derived equivalents, based on current expectations.

Key cost drivers for cultivated meat and seafood production include:

- **Growth media:** The nutrient-rich input that enables isolated cells to grow and proliferate. The most expensive media components include growth factors and recombinant proteins. Historically, animal serum, which is extracted from the blood of slaughtered animals, has been used here

because it contains all of the required nutrients. However, it is exceedingly expensive – and as a product of the slaughterhouse industry, it kind of goes against the ultimate objective of alternative protein, which is to displace at least part of the animal agriculture industry.

- **Bioreactors/cultivators:** These provide the environment in which cells can proliferate and be differentiated into muscle, fat, etc.
- **Water management and wastewater treatment**

Given the above, much of the innovator and investment activity in this space is focused on bringing down the costs of production. Different approaches include:

- More affordable and more sustainable components for growth media are produced via technologies such as plant molecular farming, precision fermentation, or insect farming (e.g., Tiamat Sciences, Bright Biotech, Future Fields, Integriculture).



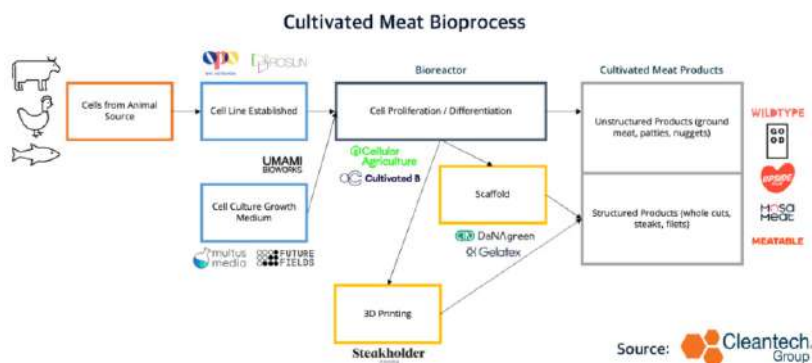
- Using AI/ML to optimize production processes and media formulations for affordability and sustainability (e.g., Multus Media).
- Designing lower-cost cultivators, processes, and infrastructure (e.g., Cellular Agriculture, The Cultivated B).
- Cheaper and more sustainable scaffold materials from algae and plant sources, allow more end-product differentiation in terms of texture and appearance (e.g., Gelatex).
- Alternative approaches to texturization, such as 3D bioprinting (e.g., Steakholder Foods).



ARTICLE

Shifting Upstream Focus

In years gone by, venture funding typically flowed to cultivated meat innovators positioning themselves as vertically integrated companies handling production and consumer-facing brand marketing.



However, given the cost and regulatory constraints, more innovators are emerging that fulfill a B2B role, providing ingredients, consumables, or production technologies to innovators and incumbents focused on making end products.

This has also heralded increased convergence between cultivated meat and other fields within the broader alternative protein sector: plant-based and fermentation-derived products. In many cases, these different technological pathways present cost, production, or quality advantages over each other in specific areas; for example, producing growth factors via precision fermentation, or using cultivated fat cells in a plant-based end-product to enhance consumer experience.

Corporate Involvement

Notably, several of the world's largest meat and dairy companies have engaged in venture investment, M&A, or collaborative activity to secure a foothold in the cultivated meat industry, despite it still being in a pre-commercial stage.

- JBS, the world's largest meat processor, has set itself a net-zero by 2040 target; as well as aiming for a 'no-deforestation' supply chain by 2025. It acquired Spanish cultivated meat innovator BioTech Foods last year for an estimated \$59M, while also committing \$41M to establish a cultivated meat R&D center in Brazil.

- Tyson Foods, the second-largest processor and marketer of beef, chicken, and pork globally, has invested in several cultivated meat start-ups, including Believer Meats, Omeat, and Upside Foods.
- Nestle has typically been more active in the plant-based and fermentation spaces but they partnered with Israel's Believer Meats in July 2021 to "explore the potential of cultivated meat components."

Looking Ahead

We expect to see a continuation of the trend of more funding channeled towards B2B models and technologies that are looking to solve the production bottlenecks in cultivated meat. Investors are taking a longer-term perspective, shifting attention from consumer brands and products further upstream to back fundamental technologies that could help make cultivated meat end-products a reality.

As more breakthroughs are made on production costs and more regulatory approvals are issued across the world, 'big meat and dairy' corporates are likely to continue boosting their presence in the cultivated meat space.



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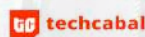
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ARTICLE

The Need for Democracy to Keep Development Sustainable

BY SABYASACHI SAIKIA

Bengaluru is India's 3rd largest city, considered its IT capital, and also one of the fastest-growing cities in the world. It is viewed as a success of India's larger development story. However, it is also an example of unchecked urbanization and infrastructure development, that has hampered its own success.

One major issue is the undemocratic nature of Bengaluru's development, favoring top-down infrastructure development using parastatal agencies like the BDA, BWSSB, and BMRL. The BBMP, the city's municipal corporation, often finds its roles and responsibilities overlapping with such agencies, leading to confusion and error. For instance, earlier BBMP and the BDA master plans for stormwater drains contradicted each other; while miscommunication between the BMRL's construction of the metro and NHAI's construction of the Bengaluru-Mysore expressway led to the Challaghatta Metro Station being accessible to passengers only by crossing the busy highway.

In the winter of 2022, the flooding of the city shed light on how unregulated real estate development has eaten into the city's stormwater drainage and lake system. These are part of a litany of woes, ranging from heavily congested traffic and housing, declining tree cover and increasing temperatures, and poor public infrastructure.

The lack of democratic input from residents leads to counterproductive and at times destructive outcomes. Solomon Benjamin's "Manufacturing Neoliberalism: Lifestyling Indian Urbanity" in Swapna Banerjee's *Accumulation by Dispossession: Transformative Cities in the New Global Order* (2010) shows that development often pits corporate interest against locals, with "mega-projects" hurting the local economy

and environment, and displacing the urban poor. In *The Promise of a Metropolis: Bangalore's Twentieth Century* (2005), Janaki Nair documents the post-1991 economic liberalization frenzy of large ambitious infrastructure projects undemocratically disrupting and displacing local communities. These critiques of Bengaluru's development modus operandi remain relevant to this date.



ARTICLE

▶ ABOUT SABYASACHI SAIKIA

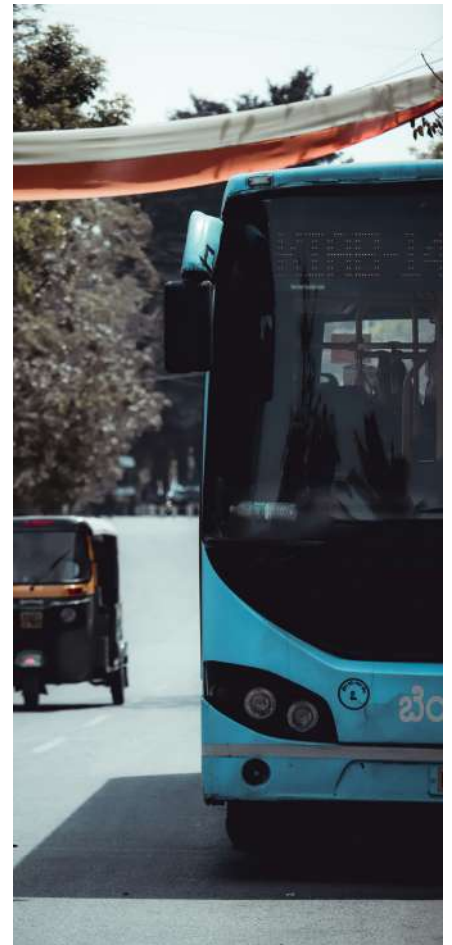
Sabyasachi Saikia is a writer and runs the newsletter *The Trench Dispatch*. He is a regular columnist for *Imperium Publications*. Additionally, he volunteers with the civil society group *Bahutva Karnataka*.



While the situation poses difficult questions about the long-term sustainability of the city's development, in the interim it is the poor who disproportionately suffer the brunt with erratic water access and rocketing prices, as the affluent can lean on their financial capital to get by. A long-term solution lies in a proper representative democratic municipality governance, for sustainable development is only possible if one allows for genuine local participation in civic affairs. Only then can the social, economic, and environmental needs and ambitions be achieved with justice and equity.

Bengaluru's challenge are part of a larger issue faced by urban local bodies across India, where elected municipalities are not truly politically autonomous. The real authority often lies with a commissioner appointed by the state government appointee. While the 74th amendment to the constitution (1992) resolved to empower urban local bodies, there has been little progress in implementation. Elected municipalities across cities, like Mumbai, Delhi, and Hyderabad, are unable to effectively represent their constituents' interests. Bengaluru's BBMP elections have been delayed for four years, with the municipality being run by the state bureaucracy since 2020; with declining ward committee meetings across the city, residents do not know who to turn to with their grievances and demands.

While affluent people can circumvent challenging aspects of life in the city, a large majority of people cannot and require political safeguards to address their needs. Recently, the city has been facing an acute water crisis before the onset of an expectedly hot summer. People have had to line up in long queues to receive portable water or wait for days to get water delivered by private water tanker companies, at times paying as much as INR 2000-2500 for 12,000 liters. The rate was around INR 1,200 a month prior. The city's borewells are running dry, after decades of unregulated drilling and extraction; at the municipal ward level, people do not have the power to ascertain how their resources and space are utilized, having to defer to private players or the state bureaucracy.



EU: Clean Energy Movement Gaining Traction

Citizen energy collectives in five EU member states – Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece and Poland – are making a difference in Europe’s clean energy transition.

The European Union’s citizen energy movement is growing – albeit in fits and starts – particularly in southern and east-central Europe, where clean energy collectives were until recently unknown quantities. The driving force behind this growth is the groundbreaking 2019 EU legislation that stipulates that by 2024, clean energy communities, like the many thousands already scattered across the north of the continent, must be able to operate in every member state.

By the end of this year, every EU country should have adopted legislation that enables collectives of renewable energy activists to own and operate their own energy parks and sell and share the energy they produce. This will contribute in more than one way to the bloc’s drive to become climate neutral by 2050, the primary goal of the European Green Deal.

The **five cooperatives** in DW’s clean energy communities series 2024

- 📍 Siegburg, **Germany**
- 📍 Ladek-Zdroj, **Poland**
- 📍 Spickovina, **Croatia**
- 📍 Belozem, **Bulgaria**
- 📍 Stymfalia, **Greece**

More than just Green Power Generation

But even though turning energy consumers into prosumers (people who produce and consume their own energy) is central to clean energy collectives, these communities are about more than just generating green electricity.

The citizen energy movement was born in Germany and Denmark in the 1980s and is about democratizing energy – long a sector with rigid

hierarchical structures and opaque processes.

In the past, consumers paid energy bills and accessed heat and power at the flip of a switch – no questions asked. The dirty business of mineral extraction and power generation usually happened far away from populations and was often outsourced to other countries. Utilities reaped massive profits – no questions asked there either.

The Cooperative Model in Germany

But air pollution, the risks of nuclear power and then climate change propelled concerned citizens into action.

In Germany, pioneers relied on the 19th century model of “Genossenschaften” (cooperatives) to organize citizens and raise money to buy solar farms, wind parks and even whole electricity grids. In the 1990s, they won the right to sell their product to the utilities, and in 2000 to receive set prices that ensured the repayment of their investment.

The proliferation of cooperatives was a critical, first step in the “Energiewende,” Germany’s clean energy transition, the fruits of which now supply the country with over half its electricity.



▶ ABOUT PAUL HOCKENOS

Paul Hockenos is an award-winning author who specializes in the topics of renewable energy and the climate crisis in Europe. His work has been featured in top publications such as *foreign Policy*, *New York Times*, and *CNN Opinion*, and he has authored five books on European affairs.



Collectives Large and Small

Various types of energy collectives now exist across Europe. Today, however, they don't just focus on zero-carbon solar and wind power, but also on energy efficiency, storage, biomass, sustainable transportation and flexibility.

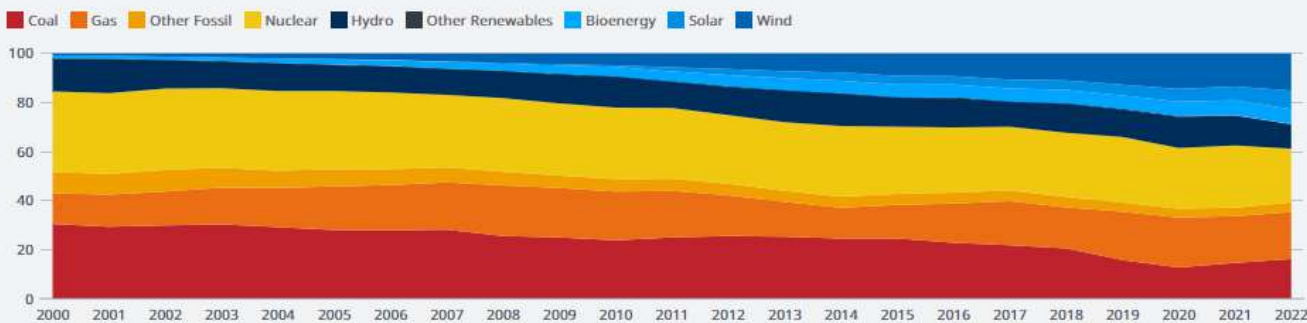
Some are tiny – just a handful of members – but others, such as EWS

Schönau in Germany and Ecopower in Belgium, provide tens of thousands of homes with renewable energy. The Brussels-based NGO Rescoop.eu, a staunch supporter of citizen energy, estimates that there are 2,250 energy cooperatives run by 1.5 million citizens across the continent.

Energy cooperatives are non-profit, grassroots projects that are democratically organized. Members may share in some of the proceeds and can usually purchase their homegrown energy for less than the market price. In many cooperatives, each member has a single vote, regardless of how many shares they own.

EU: electricity generation by source

percentage share



Source: Ember Electricity Data Explorer, ember-climate.org

Uneven Implementation Across Europe

The EU legislation that is part of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package takes the citizen energy phenomenon in Europe to another level, even though in some countries much remains to be done if clean energy collectives are to flourish.

This was the finding of five journalists in Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece and Poland who collaborated on DW's cross-border clean energy communities series 2024.



Source: www.dw.com

ARTICLE

Germany Should Enable Energy Sharing

In Germany, the focus was on the Rhein-Sieg citizen energy cooperative located in Siegburg in western Germany. This co-op of 350 members boasts 14 photovoltaic sites in and around the city as well as an e-car sharing enterprise.

Even though 900 such energy cooperatives exist in Germany, the EU legislation implies that Germany's legal definition of energy cooperatives is not as enabling as it should be.

The Rhein-Sieg co-op wants to start "energy sharing," which means making its clean electricity directly available to other co-op members or interested local consumers at a

reasonable price. Thus far, this has been impossible because the co-op requires cost-effective access to the local grid.

"In Germany, anyone who sells electricity via the grid is automatically considered an electricity trader and has to pay taxes, such as electricity tax, and transmission fees to the grid operators," explained Felix Schäfer, co-founder and co-chair of Bürgerwerke, a cooperative and electricity trader that markets electricity generated by German renewable energy communities. This, he told DW, means that energy-sharing co-ops have to pass the high costs on to customers.

Optimism Despite the Long Road Ahead

In Croatia, for example, prosumer NGOs gripe that the country's citizen energy legislation includes unwarranted restrictions. Croatian authorities limit the output of community parks to 500 kilowatts, which is less than about 1,000 panels, and require communities both to be non-profit and to employ an expert – a tall order for grassroots projects.

In fact, citizen energy communities in Croatia have to fulfill much the same requirements as large wind-farm projects worth hundreds of millions of euros.

But despite the obstacles and setbacks, there's plenty of optimism about the momentum. According to one study, 61% of those questioned around Europe said they could imagine joining a local energy cooperative. What's more, support was highest in those countries that are just beginning to test the waters: Romania (85%), Italy (75%), Bulgaria (75%), Poland (74%), Greece (71%) and Spain (69%).

And now citizen energy trailblazers have the EU squarely behind them.

Woefully Insufficient Legislation in Some Countries

In contrast to Germany, democratic clean energy collectives are new in Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece and Poland.

Pioneers like the Georgiev brothers in Belozem, Bulgaria, and Roman Kaczmarczyk, the mayor of the Polish spa town Ladek-Zdroj, have forged ahead, relying on existing legislation to set up their collectives. They battled the authorities in their respective countries to make any progress at all – as did their contemporaries in Croatia and Greece.

All of these energy pioneers had hoped that their countries' transposition of the EU legislation would be a game-changer, allowing both their collectives to flourish and to entice others to do the same. But grid operators aren't cooperating and the legislation, although now transposed, falls short of actually enabling energy cooperatives to function.

.....

This article is part of a six-part series on energy communities in the European Union conducted with the support of Journalismfund Europe.



DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL IN FOCUS



The Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) branch of Sciences Po teaches its students about the various complexities of the world and how it functions. This is possible through their world-renowned faculty with professors belonging to different corners of the globe, each of whom is a leading practitioner in their respective fields.

One of the programs offered at PSIA is the Masters degree in International Development. This program provides unique international development training based on a new approach to sustainable economic growth and political practises. The PSIA program is intended to prepare the next generation of development professionals—people who not only have a vision but also the motivation to act on it.

The course structure is designed in such a manner that it doesn't seem like a structure at all; it involves constant discussions and debates by drawing from academic analysis as well as the approach used by different practitioners. The study favours critical thinking and makes use of the second-hand experience that professors' possess in order to understand global governance and also take a look at the multidimensional definition of what sustainability, or sustainable development actually is. Through intensive training in a variety of fields such as economics, political science, management, public policy, finance, etc., PSIA aims to make its students well-rounded and well-equipped to deal with any circumstances that they might encounter at any time during their professions.

Beyond these core subjects, the program explores various stakeholders and their roles. These include public corporations, private companies, public-private partnerships, non-governmental organizations, not-for-profit organizations, multinational organizations, etc. The students also get an opportunity to learn about management tools and instruments, including marketing strategies and market analysis.

People pursuing this degree can choose what they want to focus on from a wide array of courses and specializations. These specializations include topics such as agriculture, sustainability, gender, health, etc. Graduates of this degree work in private, public, or multilateral organizations mainly on the formulation and assessment of policies. They can also work as managers and consultants.

Saving the best for last, perhaps the best thing about this course is the Youth and Leaders Summit organized by the Paris School of International Affairs every year. This event is a large and international conference that brings together experts in international affairs from all over the world to interact with PSIA students. The reason this conference is like none other is because instead of having the typical panel discussions format, this involves the youth actually discussing issues with the leaders and challenging them on whatever notions that they might hold. This event is student-centric, and the learnings that students take away from it are completely unfathomable.

MANAGEMENT TOOL IN SIMPLE STEPS

De Bono's Six Thinking Hats

De Bono's Six Thinking Hats is a powerful management analytical tool developed by Edward de Bono. It provides a structured approach to decision-making and problem-solving by encouraging individuals to think from different perspectives. The tool uses the metaphor of different colored hats to represent different modes of thinking. Through this approach, the tool tries to incorporate different points of view which makes decision-making easier and more effective.

The six hats that the process talks about are:

White Hat

This hat represents information and facts. When wearing the White Hat, people should focus on gathering data objectively and think about only what is present right in front of them by stating it clearly. This step should not involve any opinion-based discussions. After information has been laid out, team members should also try and identify gaps in said information to understand what they need to add to the presented facts. This involves logical and data-driven thinking, based entirely on objective evidence.



Yellow Hat

The second hat, which is the yellow hat, symbolizes optimism and positivity. When wearing the Yellow Hat, one should try and think about what the benefits of a particular situation, or their organization as a whole are. They explore the potential value and advantages, promoting a constructive and forward-thinking mindset. This step involves identifying the team's strengths and how they can be put to use in problem-solving going forward.



Black Hat

Representative of critical thinking and caution, this way of thinking involves not only thinking of possible weaknesses of the team, but it also consists of the part where each team member should think about the "worst possible outcome" that could happen and what the causes will be for the same. This part of the process is probably the strongest and also the most important because it helps in figuring out what could go wrong in a certain project which in turn lays the groundwork for a plan to make it better. It is important not to focus extra on this step because it might cause pessimism, lack of motivation, and hopelessness among members of the project.



MANAGEMENT TOOL IN SIMPLE STEPS



Red Hat

This hat represents hunches, feelings, and intuition. During this part, individuals should express any feelings or hunches that they might have about the project without fear of judgment or feeling the need to give justification for what they're feeling. This part involves creating a safe zone for any emotions that a team member might be feeling about the project and giving them the space and opportunity to express them.



Green Hat

Perhaps the most fun hat of all, the green hat is all about new beginnings, possibilities, and alternatives. When a team member is wearing the green hat, they should say out loud any new ideas that they have about making the business better and explore paths that they haven't walked down before. After a teammate has come up with an idea, it should then bounce off of other members of the group who should all give their input to make it better. This process involves a lot of brainstorming and creative thinking which helps the decision-makers break free from conventional thoughts. This process fosters innovation within the organization which is a very good precedent to set because it sets one apart from all the other competitors.



Blue Hat

Lastly, we have the blue hat. This hat is symbolic of rules and regulations, organization, and guidelines. This hat oversees the entire process of thinking itself, making sure that everything goes according to how it needs to be. Through this process, individuals themselves manage their own thinking and even intervene when something is not going according to plan. This hat ensures that the thought process that the person engages in is productive and without any distractions.

The **Six Thinking Hats** tool helps individuals adopt different thinking patterns and multiple-point perspectives by overcoming any dogmatism that they might have. By wearing each hat, decision-makers can explore a problem or decision from various angles, which then fosters a more comprehensive and balanced analysis. This approach minimizes biases, enhances collaboration, and promotes well-rounded decision-making.

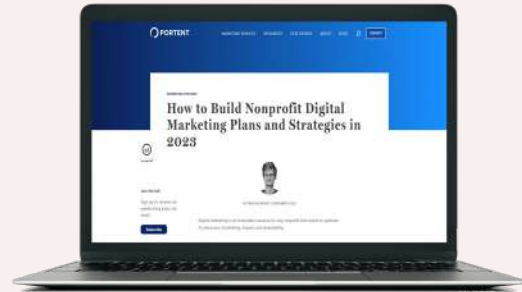
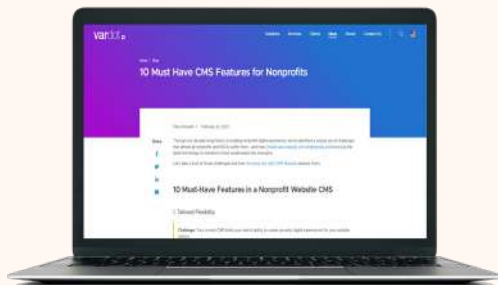
CURATED RESOURCES

10 Must Have CMS Features for Nonprofits

by *Firas Ghunaim*

Excerpt: “Content structure is key to being rewarded by search engines like Google with higher exposure and ranking on their search engine results pages...”

Description: The blog outlines prevalent challenges faced by nonprofits and NGOs during our ten-year tenure in developing digital experiences for the sector. We illustrate Drupal’s unique positioning as an optimal technology for converting these challenges into strengths. The article delves into these challenges and explores how choosing the right CMS features can provide solutions.



Digital Marketing for Nonprofits: A Step-By-Step Guide

by *Travis McKnight*

Excerpt: “With analytics data, you can accurately measure who is visiting your website, what they’re doing, and how effective your marketing efforts are.”

Description: This handbook offers detailed explanations of the principles, procedures, and tools necessary for developing and refining your company’s digital marketing plan, providing solutions for the puzzle. Furthermore, all tools recommended in this manual are either free or offer discounts to 501c(3) organizations.

The Ultimate Guide to Nonprofit Fundraising

by *Allie Decker*

Excerpt: “Donor loyalty is just as important as customer loyalty. Fostering relationships by maintaining transparency can alleviate the pressures of non-stop fundraising.”

Description: This manual offers organizations insights into crafting a concise fundraising strategy, including legal considerations and diverse fundraising methods. To effectively prepare volunteers, alleviate fundraising challenges, and ensure the longevity of the organization, it advocates for the development of a comprehensive nonprofit fundraising plan.





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INTERVIEW



Net4Dev: A Platform for Creating Meaningful Connections

BY CARLA ELIA

Carla Elia sheds light on the Net4Dev platform, a networking hub in the development sector. The discussion engages with the importance of understanding the needs of the stakeholders, seizing networking opportunities, and ultimately, utilizing technology in transitioning to a greener economy.

Q: As an event manager, what strategies do you employ to ensure that Net4Dev remains an interactive and engaging experience for participants worldwide, especially in a dynamic digital environment?

A: “At Assortis, it is vital to stay informed about innovations in the development sector by maintaining direct contact with our members. This allows us to understand the needs of the stakeholders and the broader sectoral landscape. By staying connected with both our members and donors, we can guarantee that our events cater to the collective vision of the organizations, experts, individual consultants,

and donors. Net4Dev session ensures engagement between stakeholders as we have innovated **facilitating peer-to-peer sessions directly between donors and organizations** to deliver tangible value. The Net4Dev is also designed to accommodate participants worldwide. As an online event, **attendees can join from anywhere and schedule meetings according to their availability.** Simply browse participant profiles, select relevant contacts, check mutual availability, and arrange meetings at mutually convenient times. This flexibility ensures that Net4Dev remains an interactive and accessible online event.”

Q: How does Assortis identify and match potential implementers with project opportunities and high-quality expertise across more than 300 sectors and themes?

A: “The sheer number of 300 sectors might seem overwhelming, but our approach is systematic. We engage in discussions with the participants to understand their businesses, goals, and areas of expertise. With this information and our guidance, they can navigate through our extensive sector divisions to determine specific areas of interest and expertise.”

INTERVIEW

▶ ABOUT CARLA ELIA

Carla Elia serves as the International Business Developer at Assortis, an international cooperation platform dedicated to connecting stakeholders within the international development sector and fostering exchange and dialogue. With a degree from the University of Turin, she brings valuable expertise and experience in public relations, project management, and international relations to the sector.



For instance, if an organization specializes in biomass management, it would fit into the broader category of the environment sector. However, the environment sector includes many different fields. **By allowing them to narrow down their focus, we ensure they receive targeted and relevant information, avoiding the overload of irrelevant opportunities.** This personalized approach sets us apart, empowering organizations and experts to stay informed and engage with opportunities that truly match their interests and skills."

Q: Could you discuss the importance of networking opportunities in the development sector and how to facilitate successful partnerships?

A: "Identifying suitable partnerships can be pivotal for the success of development sector projects, and finding the right partner for tenders or business ventures relies heavily on networking. Net4Dev was established to address this need wherein in a world brimming with potential connections, discerning the truly valuable networking opportunities is crucial. While search engines such as Google or LinkedIn can yield potential partners, verifying their relevance and authenticity can be challenging due to the abundance of misleading information online. Net4Dev, being exclusively for development sector actors, provides a structured and reliable platform for engagement.

Through our event, participants can complete detailed profiles, enabling others to quickly assess their relevance and authenticity."

Q: In shifting towards a greener company, how would you recommend to transition towards a more sustainable practice while maintaining economic competitiveness?

A: "If asked to advise businesses shifting towards greener practices while maintaining economic competitiveness, I would emphasize leveraging new technologies. **Evolving innovations offer opportunities to reduce environmental impact.** For instance, opting for online events instead of traditional in-person gatherings can significantly cut down on pollution and carbon emissions associated with travel. In transitioning towards sustainability, my recommendation would be to embrace the capabilities of the internet and online connectivity afforded by modern technology."

Q: How would you simplify the concept of a sustainable industry and economy, and why do you think it's crucial for the long-term welfare of society and the environment, particularly in developing nations where climate action is vital?

A: "Transitioning to a sustainable economy is crucial, particularly for developing countries bearing the brunt of pollution. **Embracing the circular economy model,**

which reduces environmental impact by recycling and reusing materials, is essential. This approach not only benefits developed nations but also aids developing countries with limited resources. Many initiatives by major international donors emphasize sustainable industries and circular economies, expected to become increasingly important in the coming years."

Q: How does Assortis benefit from this beyond serving as a bridge? What other roles does Assortis fulfill?

A: "At Assortis, the organization identifies itself as an International Development platform. **While operating as a paid service, our own organization and our stakeholders subscribed to our services gain access to valuable information about relevant development sector actors.** With over 20 years of industry experience, Assortis aims to serve as a bridge, facilitating collaboration among development sector entities. Beyond their subscription-based offerings such as daily alerts, **Assortis is broadening its scope to include thematic forums for stakeholders to discuss donor policies and address inquiries.** Events such as aa Net4Dev serve to strengthen networks among development sector actors, ultimately enhancing opportunities for growth and effectiveness in the sector."

From Smokestacks to Sunshine: Decarbonizing the Steel Industry in Thailand

BY TRISHA SAM

The steel industry, a cornerstone of modern civilization, faces a stark challenge: decarbonization. Thailand, a key player in Southeast Asia's steel sector, is no exception. With mounting pressure from climate change concerns, carbon border adjustments, and the global shift towards green energy, Thailand must forge a new path - one paved with innovation and sustainability.

Thailand's steel industry, heavily reliant on traditional methods, grapples with significant CO₂ emissions, primarily from the power and industry sectors. But amidst these challenges lie opportunities, waiting to be harnessed. One glimmer of hope lies in Thailand's unique geological endowment: vast subsurface CO₂ storage capacity. This opens doors to Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), a technology that traps emissions from power plants and industrial facilities, preventing them from entering the atmosphere. Imagine capturing the CO₂ bellowing from a steel factory and tucking it away safely underground - that's the promise of CCS.

But CCS isn't the only weapon in Thailand's arsenal. The steel industry itself holds the key to unlocking hidden potential. Consider the mountains of slag, a byproduct of steel production, often discarded as waste. What if, instead of being relegated to landfills, this slag could be transformed into a valuable resource? Recovering energy and reusing materials from slag streams not only reduces waste but also injects valuable resources back into the production cycle, potentially generating revenue to fuel further decarbonization efforts.



INTERN'S CORNER

Furthermore, energy efficiency beckons as a powerful tool. By implementing cutting-edge technologies to optimize energy consumption within steel production processes, Thailand can squeeze more steel out of every unit of energy, reducing its carbon footprint without compromising output.

These are just a few pathways Thailand can explore on its journey towards a decarbonized steel industry. Research studies like the one evaluating CCS opportunities in Thailand offer valuable insights. Imagine a network of six strategically located CCS clusters, efficiently capturing, transporting, and storing CO₂ emissions, creating a cleaner, greener future.

But the journey doesn't end there. Another study delves into the potential of waste stream reuse, proposing nine pathways based on waste properties and technological feasibility. One pathway, with the potential to achieve a staggering 28.5% CO₂ emission reduction by 2050, highlights the immense potential hidden within what was once considered waste.

The path to decarbonization is rarely linear, and Thailand's steel industry is no exception. The effectiveness of various strategies hinges on factors like technological advancements, CO₂ price fluctuations, and global steel demand. However, one thing remains constant: collaboration is key. By fostering partnerships

between different stakeholders - steel producers, government agencies, research institutions, and the community - Thailand can create a synergy that drives innovation and accelerates progress.

Thailand's steel industry stands at a crossroads. The choice is clear: embrace the green imperative or risk being left behind. By harnessing the power of innovation, collaboration, and the hidden potential within its own industry, Thailand can forge a greener future, one where steel production thrives in harmony with the environment, leaving a legacy for generations to come.

There is a global urgency for all industries, including the steel industry, to transition to sustainability. With the emergence of evolving technologies, the potential to foster economic growth while adhering to the green revolution becomes significantly more feasible. To solidify this vision, it is imperative for governments to implement robust measures that compel industry players to align with the green agenda. This entails incentivizing sustainable practices and imposing consequences for non-compliance. Through this, governments can effectively steer industries towards greener practices. Additionally, dialogue platforms can facilitate cooperation and knowledge-sharing, ensuring that all stakeholders are actively engaged in the transition towards a sustainable future.



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Sage is a leading provider of business management software. The software at Sage has been particularly designed to “help business flow”. It helps in making the process of decision making faster and more accurate. It also provides businesses with access to locals who are experts in the particular field that the organization needs help in. Through their community engagement and involvement, Sage strives to overcome the obstacles that everyone faces: economic inequality, digital inequality, etc. The company focuses on the concept of equity as opposed to equality, by recognizing that some businesses/ individuals have a head start in the same field due to them being privileged. Having been deeply involved with the community, they also provide their employees with volunteering opportunities in the areas that need it. For the same, workers are provided with 5 days of paid leave for volunteer work per year. Moreover, Sage also has a mission to fundraise \$5 million for nonprofit organizations by the year 2030.

Through the above mentioned goal of the company, is it easy to come to the conclusion that Sage as a corporation cares about the development sector, in particular NPOs. It recognizes the difficulties

that such organizations have to face, which include limited budgets, lack of cost-saving and efficient technology, etc. Hence, Sage offers cloud-based accounting softwares designed particularly for nonprofits where the organizations can “choose from a range of accounting, payroll, and HR software solutions”.

For these products, Sage offers special discounts to not for profit organizations, keeping in mind their ever-prevalent lack of funds. The products on which discounts are available are categorized into sections for small, medium, and large organizations for easy access. The way to apply for these discounts is to fill out an eligibility form available on Sage’s website, after which someone from their office will get in touch with you regarding your application.

Here is the link to the form and information about the discounts:

<https://www.sage.com/en-gb/company/sage-foundation/products/>

This discount allows nonprofits to allocate their funds towards their initiatives and direct their efforts and resources towards fulfilling what they set out to do, rather than worrying about software and operational costs that they have to deal with to keep the organization running. Through this initiative, Sage is doing its part for the social good and is contributing heavily to what every company needs: proper management softwares and resources.

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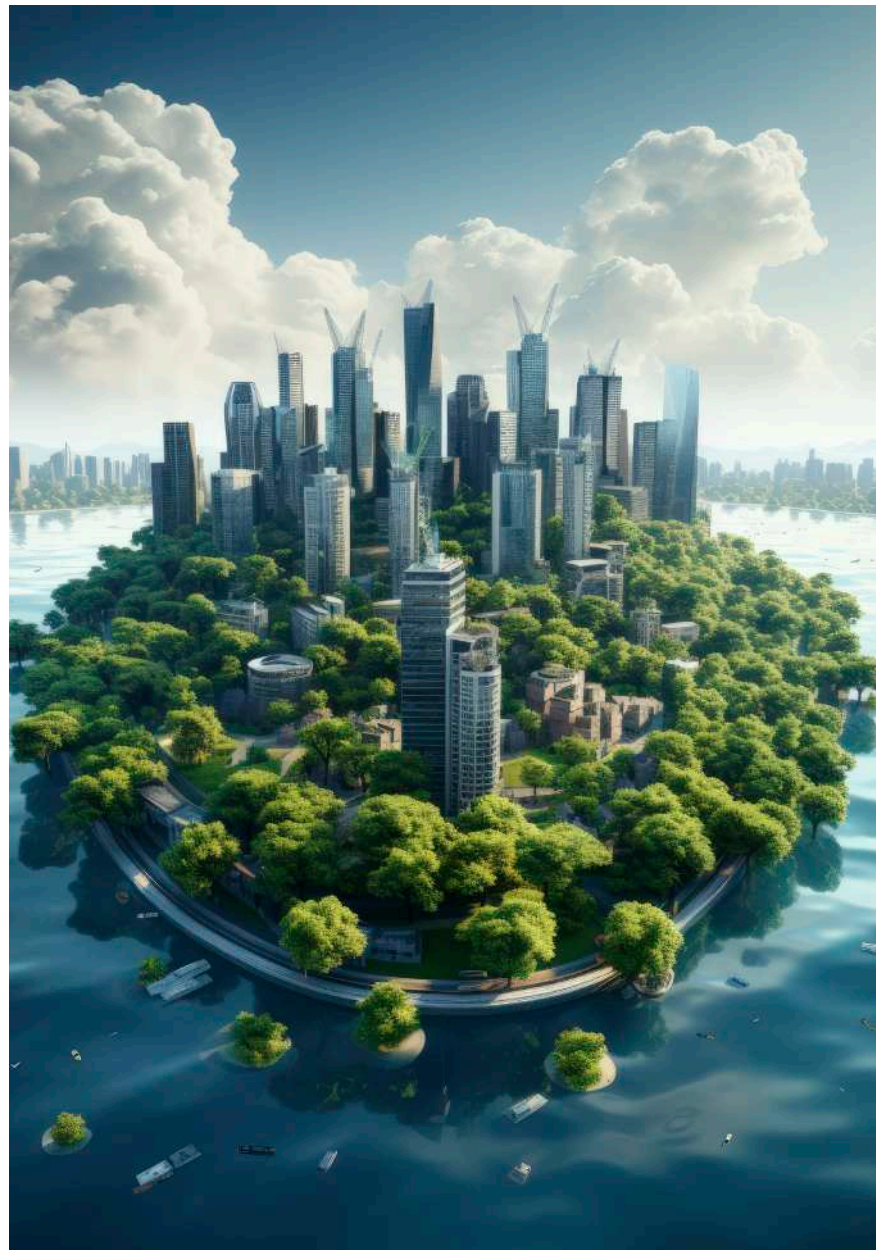
Reaching a higher level of sustainability

On any given day there are hundreds of sustainability events around the world but a new global gathering in Bangkok is set to make a substantial sustainable difference to the sector.

Times Higher Education's (THE) Global Sustainable Development Congress (GSDC), on 10-13 June in Bangkok, is different in so many ways...

Firstly, as a data-led higher education organisation we're passionate about, and have expertise in, higher education and data and so you won't be surprised to find we put those things at heart of the event where our unrivalled convening power in the sector will bring some of the world's greatest minds working on sustainability in higher education together.

We know the incredible potential the sector has, as universities are centres of excellence, expertise and innovations, in sustainable development and the cutting-edge research they produce can provide the creative spark to find new solutions to the world's greatest problems. Universities are drivers of change through their creation of new knowledge to the world's sustainability challenges and through the development of the next generation of sustainability leaders, but they cannot do it alone.



ARTICLE

Indeed, a report we produced in August looked at higher education's role in advancing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the G20 and it found those governments are underutilising higher education institutions, which are in a unique position to help catalyse progress on reaching the goals. It found higher education institutions' role extends far beyond contributing to just SDG 4 - quality education - and that the university sector has the power and influence to significantly impact all 17 of the SDGs.

That is why we created the GSDC to not only advance sustainability in higher education. It's so much more than that. The event uniquely unites business, government and civil society with the higher education sector as all four are the vital components that have to work together to reach the SDGs.

There are six core sustainable tracks at the event: digital revolution; education, gender and inequality; energy decarbonisation and industry; health, well-being and demography; cities and communities; and food, land, water and oceans. All these tracks are dedicated to addressing the transformations critical to achieving the goals.

And there are four major events, which could quite easily be their own stand-

alone events, within the Congress. The Global Sustainability Leaders Summit, is an exclusive gathering of 200 global leaders to address the most pressing challenges in progressing the SDGs. DataLabs empowers sustainability in higher education through data, expert analysis and global best practice. The Business Schools Showcase will address business education's role in shaping the next generation of sustainable leaders and the International Green Skills Summit addresses the impact of net zero on the workforce.

In addition, the live reveal of THE's groundbreaking Impact Rankings 2024, which presents unique data on universities' impact across all 17 UN SDGs, takes place at the summit.

Our initial collection of Impact Rankings data shows the highest ever participation in the ranking with 2,152 higher education institutions from 125 countries/regions submitting data.

And it is pertinent, with the summit taking place in Thailand, that Asia is the biggest player in these rankings with 1,053 universities from the region submitting data. India is the most-represented nation with 105 participating institutions, Turkey is second with 100, Pakistanis third with 96 and Japan is fourth with 88. Some nations have more than doubled their representation including Azerbaijan

- from eight last year to 18 this year - and the country is hosting this year's COP29.

More than 350 speakers will be sharing their expert insights on sustainable development including Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad, minister of natural resources, environment and climate change, Malaysia and member of parliament for Setiawangsa; Samantha Hung, director of gender equality, Asian Development Bank; Dawn Freshwater, vice-chancellor and professor, The University of Auckland and Salinla Seehaphan, corporate affairs director, Nestlé.

We specially chose the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center in Bangkok, which has a huge exhibition hall and the capacity for more than 3,000 attendees, to facilitate the urgent solutions to the sustainability emergency.

The event will highlight initiatives to drive societal change through education, research and innovation and attendees will hear about the best sustainable integration strategies.

Join us along with 3,000 sustainability champions at the Global Sustainable Development Congress in Bangkok, this June.

A **25% discount** is available to readers of this piece by entering the code: **ASSIST25** for THE's GSDC.

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PROFILE - INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

International Organization for Migration

The International organization for Migration (IOM) is an agency of the United Nations. It is responsible for providing policy and other suggestions to countries regarding migration, migrant population residing in their country, and people migrating to other places from that nation. For this, in addition to working with governments directly, they also work with non-governmental organizations, and migrants to come up with the best possible course of action.

This organization was established in 1951 in order to help people who were displaced after World War 2. At that time, it was known as the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM). It eventually became a part of the UN very recently, in 2016. Now, the IOM has 175 member states with offices in a majority of them.

Assisting in the search for workable solutions to migration issues, the organization works to ensure the proper and humane management of migration. It also promotes global cooperation on migration issues and offers humanitarian aid to migrants in need, including refugees, internally displaced people, and other people who have been forcefully uprooted due to certain circumstances. The IOM Constitution expressly recognizes the relationship between migration and economic, social, and cultural development, as well as the right to free movement of persons.

The International organization for Migration works in four key broad areas of the management of migration across the world. These are:

Migration and development

Facilitating migration

Regulating migration

Forced migration

According to its 2021 report, which is the last report on the official website, even during COVID-19, IOM remained one of the most responsive and efficient organizations worldwide. During 2021, the organization mainly focused on ensuring access to vaccination and healthcare for migrants and other displaced people. Moreover, it also tried to put efforts into mitigating any socio-economic impacts that the pandemic had across migrant heavy regions. Over 31.7 million people, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and migrants, either directly or indirectly through community-based projects, were reached by IOM's work in 2021.

The IOM's humanitarian assistance continued to take care of the whole range of needs that a crisis-affected population has. The organization has developed long-term and comprehensive solutions to help migrants and communities cope with the multiple drivers of vulnerability, especially in the face of a worldwide pandemic. The International organization for Migration provided help in areas such as movement assistance, camp coordination and management (CCCM), psychological support, shelter and settlements, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). In order to carry out the task of providing this support, the IOM's health staff was active in around 40 countries that were facing major crises and was available on-field in case of any emergencies in these areas. The organization's workers also conducted webinars in order to spread awareness about sexual health and the prevention of sexual abuse.



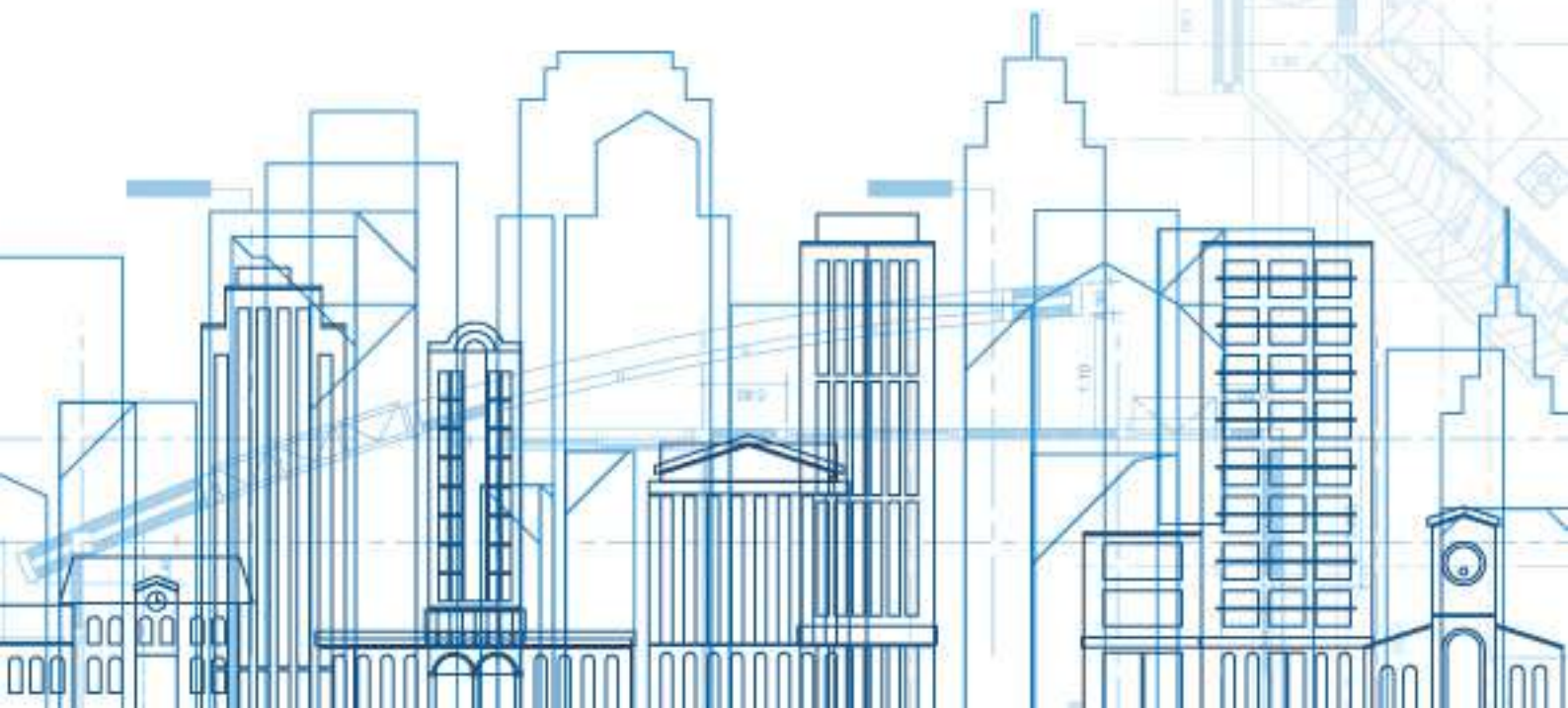


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CHRIS' CORNER

Empowering Young Leaders: The Unstoppable Force of Youth in Sustainable Development

BY CHRIS MORRIS

“
In this magazine’s sustainability spotlight, I’m brimming with enthusiasm. Spring isn’t merely a season—it’s a symphony of renewal and revival, a celebration of nature’s awakening.”



A Today, as I sit in the chilly UK, trying to capture the essence of the Spring Equinox—a day not just like any other with day hours and night hours equal. It’s a moment when the cosmos delicately balances day and night, ushering in the vibrant symphony of spring. With blooms unfolding and bird songs filling the air, I am reminded of the dance of sustainability in our ecosystems.

Youth, the frontline warriors of sustainable development, hold the key to our planet’s future. Once doubted, they now pioneer sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and more. You know I’m an ardent supporter of young

people, hugely optimistic about their contributions to long-term planetary sustainability.

Yet, not all adults share this optimism. Throughout history, and still today, adults have often viewed youth through skeptical lenses. From the 1930s, when youth were seen as threats to public order, to the 1980s, when they were perceived as growing up “too fast” and demanding more meaningful roles and participation, and now, they are criticized for growing up “too slowly” and shirking responsibilities—generational differences persist as barriers to meaningful engagement and youth-adult partnerships.

CHRIS' CORNER

Let's debunk these stereotypes and leverage the power of intergenerational collaboration. As this magazine has highlighted Youth are leading sustainable businesses and driving eco-friendly ventures, for example, in agriculture and tourism. They are embracing innovative farming practices and advocating for sustainability, they are reshaping industries and economies, showcasing prowess in innovation and entrepreneurship. Through education and community awareness, young change makers also promote collaborative efforts towards shared environmental objectives.



Chris Morris
Advisor for ASSIST
and iMPACT

Amidst discussions on aging farming demographics and urban youth migration, a compelling narrative emerges—one of burgeoning interest in agriculture and tourism driven by sustainability and innovation. Eager to spearhead change, young farmers embrace modern technologies and sustainable practices, recognizing agriculture's pivotal role in addressing food security, climate change, and rural development.

Additionally, young entrepreneurs wield their skills to propel sustainability across industries. Collaborating with business and industrial stakeholders, they steer towards and embrace systemic change for the public good. Aspiring leaders, today's youth shape industries towards enhanced sustainability, fostering long-term prosperity.

While some narratives undervalue young people's contributions, their fresh perspectives and innovative approaches stand as catalysts for innovative problem-solving. Technologically astute and impassioned, young entrepreneurs challenge norms and drive transformative innovations. Their interdisciplinary collaboration equips them to address sustainability challenges comprehensively. With a vested interest in sculpting a sustainable future: a planet fit for future generations; young leaders tend to prioritize long-term gains over immediate results.

As torchbearers of today, I urge young people to cultivate fresh perspectives and challenge the status quo. Through collaboration and disruptive thinking, you can pave the way for a brighter, more sustainable future. Bold and driven, I believe you are the change-makers tomorrow needs.

RESOURCES

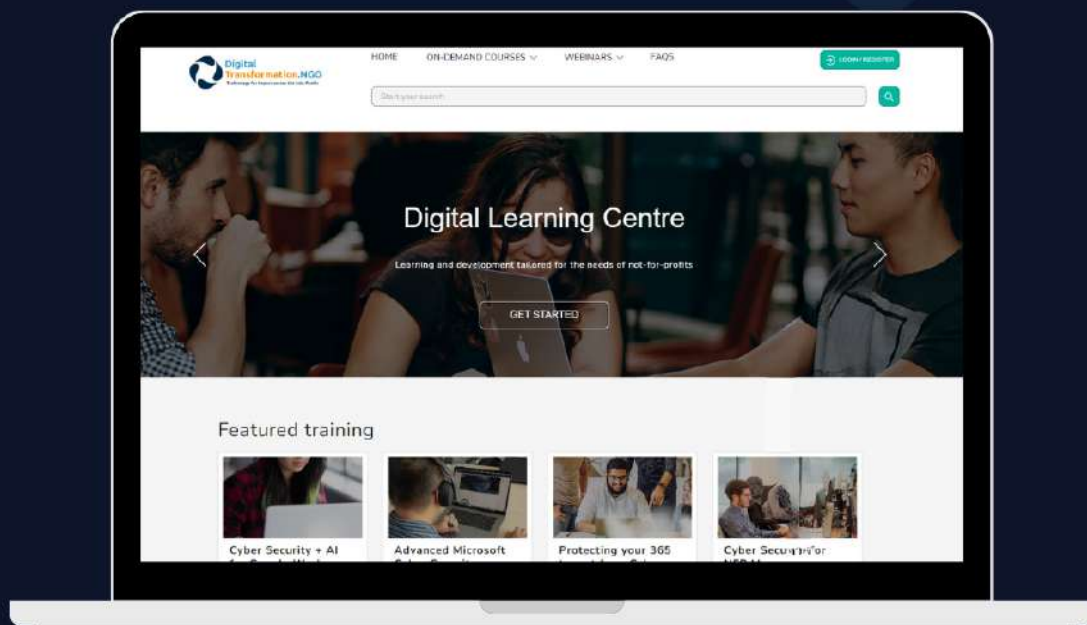
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