

**SHORT  
& LONG**  
OF SUSTAINABILITY



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# Decoding Sustainability

Like sustainability, abbreviations do more with less. For those who know what the abbreviation stands for, it's more communication in lesser time and space. But for those who don't, it's more confusion and alienation.

The 'Short & Long of Sustainability' aims to demystify oft-used abbreviations and make sustainability conversations more meaningful for a larger section of society. The goal is to encourage more voices, more perspectives and more participation.

# AQI

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## Air Quality Index

An index that reports air quality based on the level of 5 major pollutants - ground-level ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. Higher the AQI value, greater the level of air pollution and greater the health concern.



# BEE

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## Bureau of Energy Efficiency

A statutory body under Ministry of Power, Government of India. BEE's mission is to assist in developing policies and strategies that help reduce the energy intensity of the Indian economy through self-regulation and market principles.



# CDM

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## Clean Development Mechanism

Defined in Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol, CDM allows a country with an emission-reduction or emission-limitation commitment under the Protocol (Annex B Party) to implement an emission-reduction project in a developing country.



# DJSI

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## Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes

The Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes were launched in 1999 to track the financial performance of leading sustainability-driven companies.



# ESG

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## Environment, Social and Governance

Together these three factors help determine the quality of governance and risk management processes prevalent in an organization. They provide insight into the long-term prospects of companies and are used by investors to make informed decisions.



# FR

## Frequency Rate

Number of reportable accidents  
per million man-hours worked.



# GRI

## Global Reporting Initiative

A non-profit organization that produces one of the world's most prevalent standards for sustainability reporting. More than 3,000 organizations from 60 countries use the guidelines to produce their sustainability reports.



# HSE

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## Health, Safety & Environment

A department responsible for the safety, health and welfare of people at work. Efficient performance by this department helps raise productivity and morale of the workforce and protects the most valuable of all business assets - the human assets.



# IGBC

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## Indian Green Building Council

Formed in 2001 by Confederation of Indian Industry with a vision to usher in a green building movement in India and facilitate India to become one of the global leaders in green buildings.



# JNNSM

## Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission

JNNSM is one of the major initiatives of Govt. of India to be implemented in 3 stages leading to an installed capacity of 20,000 MW of grid power, 2,000 MW of off-grid solar applications, 20 million sq.m. solar thermal collector area and solar lighting for 20 million households by the end of the 13th Five Year Plan in 2022.



# KPI

## Key Performance Indicators

KPI are quantifiable parameters whose periodic measurement helps monitor an organization's sustainability performance over time.

Social Performance  
Product Responsibility  
Stakeholder Engagement  
Corporate Governance  
Environmental Performance  
Management Disclosures

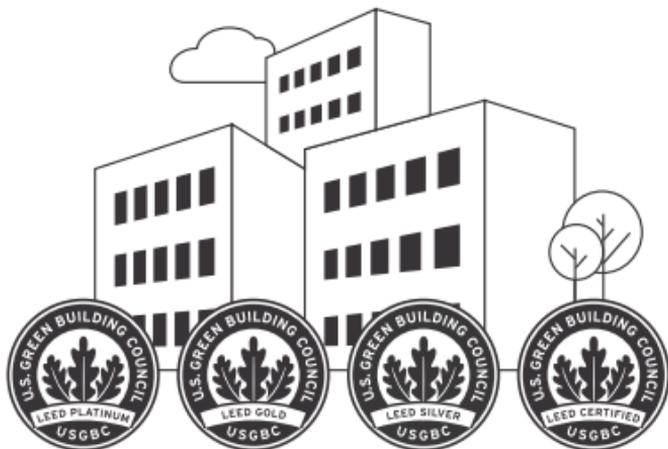


# LEED

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## Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design

A suite of rating systems for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings, homes and neighbourhoods.



# MDG

## Millenium Development Goals

Eight international development goals that all 193 United Nations member states and at least 23 international organizations have agreed to achieve by the year 2015.



# NAPCC

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## National Action Plan on Climate Change

India's first National Action Plan on Climate Change was released in June 2008. It outlines existing and future policies and programs which shall help address climate mitigation and adaptation. It comprises 8 missions.



# OHSAS

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## Occupational Health and Safety Assessment System

OHSAS is a standard that provides organizations with the elements required to institutionalize an effective occupational health and safety management system which in turn helps organizations achieve and sustain their economic objectives.

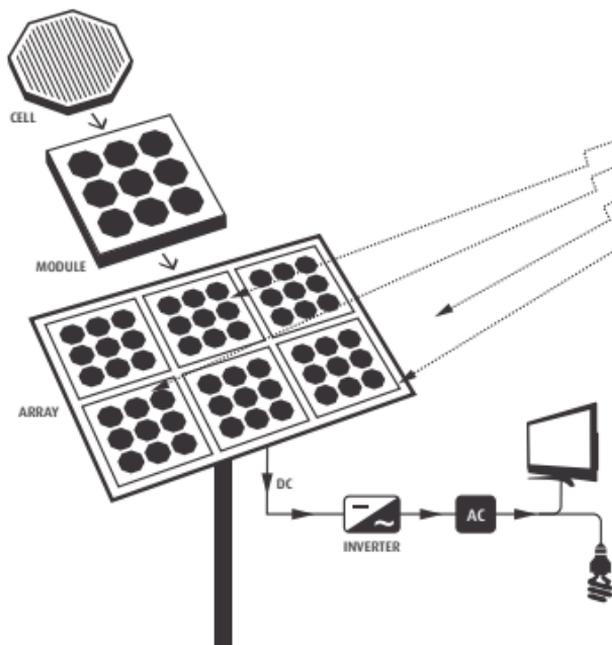


# PV

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## Photovoltaic Cell

A photovoltaic cell is a solid state device that converts sunlight into electricity.



# QBC

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## Quadruple Bottom Line

The TBL comprises People, Planet and Profit. The QBL adds a fourth component - 'Purpose or Principles'. Cause without an inspiring purpose, strategy often fades from active consideration. It also brings a sharper focus on governance and respect for culture.

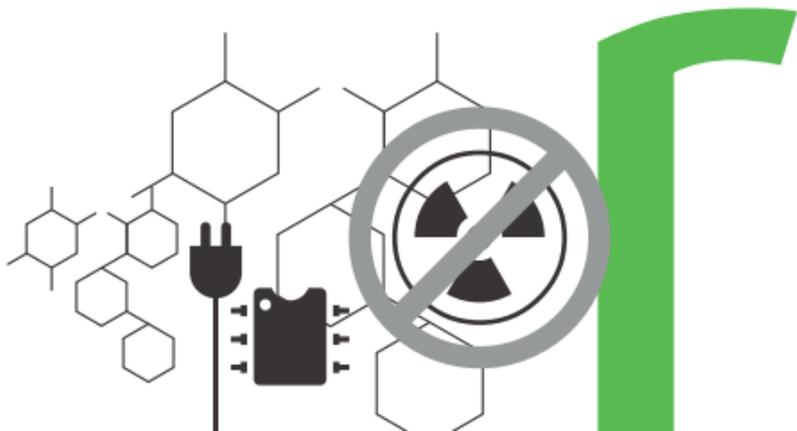


# RoHS

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## Restriction of Hazardous Substances

This directive restricts the use of six hazardous materials - Lead, Mercury, Cadmium, Hexavalent Chromium, Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBB), and Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether (PBDE) in the manufacture of electronic and electrical equipment.



# SHG

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## Self Help Groups

An assemblage of individuals with a common problem who collectively aid one another through personal and group support.

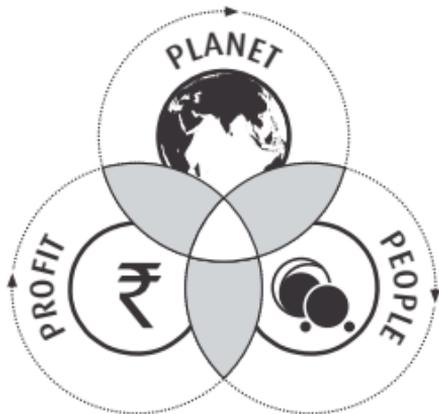


# TBL

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## Triple Bottom Line

The framework to measure holistic business performance. It gives equal weightage to financial, environmental and social performance.



# UNFCCC

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## United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

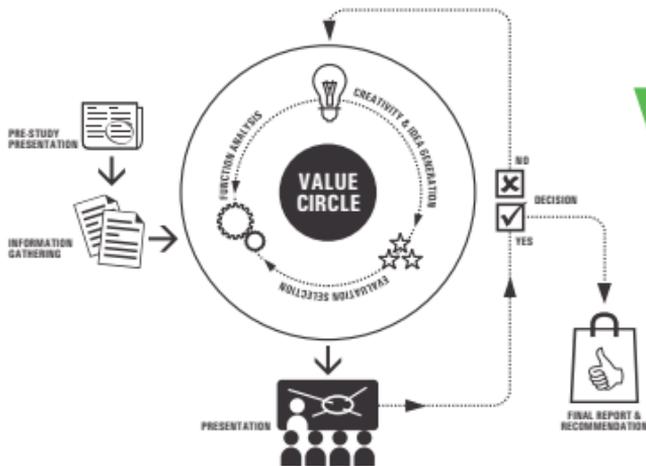
The Convention on Climate Change sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. It recognizes that the climate system is a shared resource whose stability can be affected by industrial and other emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.



# VAVE

## Value Analysis Value Engineering

A systematic and function-based approach to improving the value of products, projects and processes. The objective is to optimize resources, reduce life cycle cost, enhance safety and avert negative impacts on society and environment.

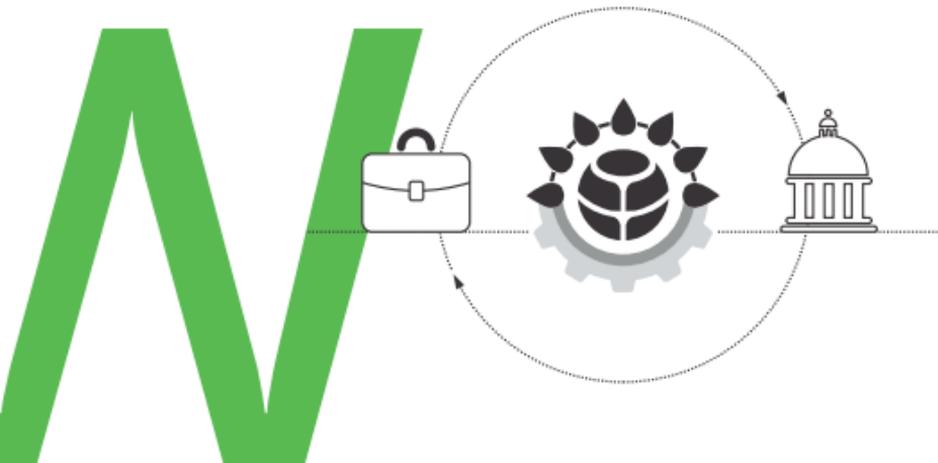


# WBCSD

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## World Business Council for Sustainable Development

An organization of transnational corporations who advocate cooperation between business and government to balance economic and environmental interests.

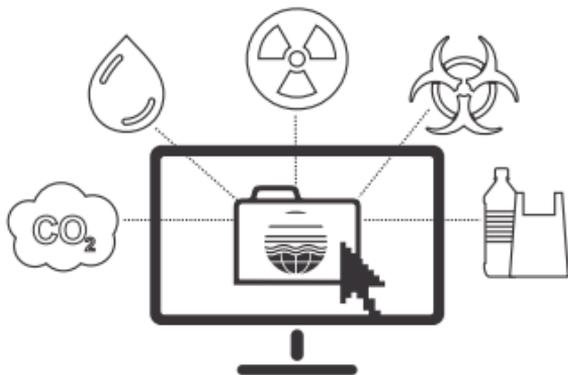


# XGN

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## Xtended Green Node

XGN is an e-governance program for effective implementation of Pollution Control Board Act, Rules & Notifications. Acts covered are air, water, hazardous & biomedical waste and plastics. Average daily users include a technical staff of 75, 70 scientists and 652 industries.



# YES

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## Youth for Environmental Sanity

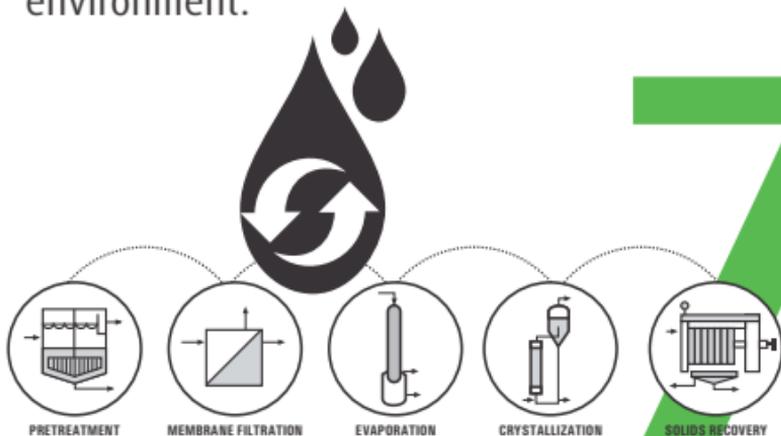
YES is a non-profit organization that connects, inspires and collaborates with change-makers to join forces for thriving, just and sustainable ways of life for all. It works at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal, and systemic transformation.



# ZLD

## Zero Liquid Discharge

Industrial processes designed to prevent release of any harmful or toxic material to the environment. Any liquid if discharged should not contain any substance at a concentration higher than that found normally in the local environment.



## New abbreviations that I learnt

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*cognito is a sustainability communication advisory, which helps organizations internalize sustainability, report on their triple bottom-line performance and in due course leverage sustainability for competitive advantage.*

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