

**Transformative  
Partnerships  
on SDG2**

**SDGS DRIVERS  
FORUM**

### **About Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) India:**

Established in 1998, we are a not-for-profit organisation working to build a society motivated to give ever more effectively and help transform lives, and communities. In order to achieve this vision, CAF India has been actively engaged with stakeholders across a broad spectrum of areas. We are a member of the CAF Global Alliance that has nine offices internationally and distributes funds to over 100 countries across the world.

### **About United Nation - World Food Programme (UN-WFP):**

Assisting 80 million people in around 80 countries each year, the World Food Programme (WFP) is the leading humanitarian organisation fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. As the international community has committed to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition by 2030, one in nine people worldwide still do not have enough to eat. Food and food-related assistance lies at the heart of struggle to break the cycle of hunger and poverty.



**WE SUPPORT**

**As a United Nations Global Compact signatory, CAF India supports and promotes the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles among its stakeholders through its outreach programmes, sustainability interventions and knowledge resources.**

Designed By: Marketing & Communications (CAF India)

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Email: [contactus@cafindia.org](mailto:contactus@cafindia.org)

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Disclaimer: This publication has been prepared by Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) India for collating outcomes of SDG Drivers Forum First Kick off Meeting. The publication is an outcome of knowledge proceedings and the contents are in reference to the information shared during the meeting by the respective representatives of the organizations.

# TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNERSHIPS ON SDG2 – ACHIEVING ZERO HUNGER

## Outcomes of 1st Kick off Meeting

With an objective to initiate partnerships in leveraging global and national process of Sustainable Development, **Charities Aid Foundation India (CAF) India** and **United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP)** initiated a first of its kind collaboration in addressing the most vital challenge for India **Goal 2 –Zero Hunger**.

**CAF India** as a **United Nations Global Compact** signatory and a data champion for UN Partnerships for Sustainable Development has initiated its engagement in the SDGs processes through its flagship initiative in form of **SDGs Drivers Forum**. The forum will focus on collating good practices of private sector and multi - stakeholders across India on the 17 diverse goals in Indian context. CAF India in capacity of a **technical partner** initiated the first meeting in advancing the SDG2 with a focus on eradicating hunger and achieving food security through sustainable practices.

**UN WFP India** with its wider commitment for global Food and Nutrition development across the world emerged as a significant **thematic advisor on SDG2– Zero Hunger**. Given its extensive expertise in India with a mandate for a Zero Hunger and malnutrition-free India, UN WFP is vital in streamlining the responsible activities of organisations to improve nutrition and quality of life of world's most vulnerable people. They are constantly working towards promoting the self-reliance of poor people and communities.

Both CAF India and UN WFP India in partnership initiated the first kick off meeting on 14th February 2017 on the theme *“Transformative Partnerships to Achieve SDG2”*. The meeting was hosted at headquarters of Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) India, New Delhi. The meeting witnessed the engagement of India Inc. in advancing the agenda of Goal 2 - *'End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition, and Promote Sustainable Agriculture'*.





# Overview of the SDG2 Meeting – Setting the Context and Highlights

## Global Goals and CAF India's Diverse Causes

Meenakshi Batra, CEO, CAF India

The 17 Global Goals are in sync with CAF India's diverse causes and programmatic interventions. CAF India's work of more than a decade has been towards creating solutions to address these issues, development priorities and challenges within the country. SDGs Drivers Forum, extends CAF India's strategy of creating a bridge between the grant differentiators, implementers and beneficiaries in a collaborative manner for attainment of specific objectives. The Forum is meant as an engagement platform, with the first meeting serving as a founding group. The founding group convened will extend inputs in shaping the Forum from hereon, identifying which, and what kind of opportunities can and should be leveraged at different levels. It will nurture a collaborative platform for equitable opportunities and act as a meeting ground for stakeholder to advance the sustainable development agenda in the Indian context.



# Transforming Lives and Empowering Communities

Avijeet Kumar, Director, CAF India

The vision and mission of SDGs and CAF India are synonymous - Transform lives and empower communities in the country. The forum would aim at eliciting thoughts and feedback from participants on the issues at hand, to enable a collective stock taking and developing a strategic roadmap in pursuit of sustainable development, with a distinctive and strategic role for India Inc. In light of SDG2, it is noted that 10-15 per cent of CAF India's partner projects are directly undertaking programmes on hunger, malnutrition and sustainable agriculture, with another 30-35 per cent projects contributing indirectly to the goal. It may also be noted that corporate partners are quite evolved and also conscious of the need to align with the sustainable development framework (with appropriate reporting). At the same time, it would be extremely useful to establish the organic connect.

With respect to SDG2, CAF India also seeks to develop a robust nutrition programme for ending malnutrition. We are also working towards taking such initiatives to the state level. CAF India Partners are already working under this plan, however, there is a need to document, work towards compiling the relevant data, identify and collaborate strategically to address gap areas, etc. The forum would work towards establishing consultative engagements with various stakeholders and incubate effective solutions that would influence policy and institutional frameworks/processes.





# Partnership as Key for Achieving SDGs

Jyotsna Bhatnagar, Private Sector Officer, UN WFP India

Partnership is the key for achieving SDGs, this is also reflected in the underlying idea of this meeting aimed on the convergence of SDG2 (combating hunger) and SDG17 (partnership for achieving the SDGs). UN WFP is leading the action on Sustainable Development Goal 2 - end hunger, improve nutrition and achieve food security. Sadly India bears one fourth of the global burden of food insecurity and hunger, with about 194 million undernourished people - lacking in adequate nutritious food intake – placing the country at a dismal 97 out of 118 in the 2016 Global Hunger Index, below all our neighbours except Pakistan. The figure reflects wide spread and chronic lack of balanced food, with one in every three children below five years of age undernourished and more than 55 % women in the age group of 15 to 49 years anaemic. WFP is closely collaborating with the central and state governments to strengthen the efficiency and nutritional effectiveness of the government's food-based social safety nets in order to ensure access to adequate and nutritious food for the people, especially those below the poverty line. Through our programmes on end to end computerisation of the Targeted Public Distribution System we help the governments, with support from our private sector partners, bring in better access and transparency to enable the most needy segment of the population access basic food. In nutrition we are fortifying the Mid Day Meals provided in government schools to provide necessary nutrition to children to help them grow and learn better. To enhance the contribution of the Government of India to global food and nutrition security through increased knowledge sharing and South-South Cooperation, UN WFP is working closely with the central government towards the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for food and nutrition security. UN WFP India aims to achieve the above priorities through effective collaborations with multi stakeholders especially its private sector partners.



## SDGs as Responsible Business

Radhika Ralhan, Senior Manager Advisory, CAF India

Responsible business is now moving away from a CSR framework to a framework that integrates sustainable development at the core of all business activities. Within this background, SDGs are being perceived as “drivers” or “opportunities” for businesses to revamp corporate sector priorities, encourage investments for sustainable development and create bridge between business - national and global goals. Business leaders need to be aware on the mapping and tracking exercises being undertaken by the respective GOI Ministries that will assess the progress of respective companies within each target assigned for every Goals. Companies need to know that they have to meticulously work on respective indicators and targets under each goal rather than simply stating a specific thematic CSR intervention is being aligned a specific SDG theme. Private sector need to assess their SDGs priorities, identify direct linkages of their ongoing practices with specific targets of SDGs and most importantly evaluate their social impacts of practices and challenges being faced within each sustainability projects across regions. Working against this backdrop the forum would encourage peer learning and knowledge sharing activities for focused partnerships on strategic sustainability activities that would advance India Inc.'s contribution to Indian government's process for achieving the SDGs processes.





# India Inc.'s Engagement with SDGs – Showcasing Good Practices

## ITC Aligning CSR with SDGs

**Girish Mohan, Regional Head North ITC**

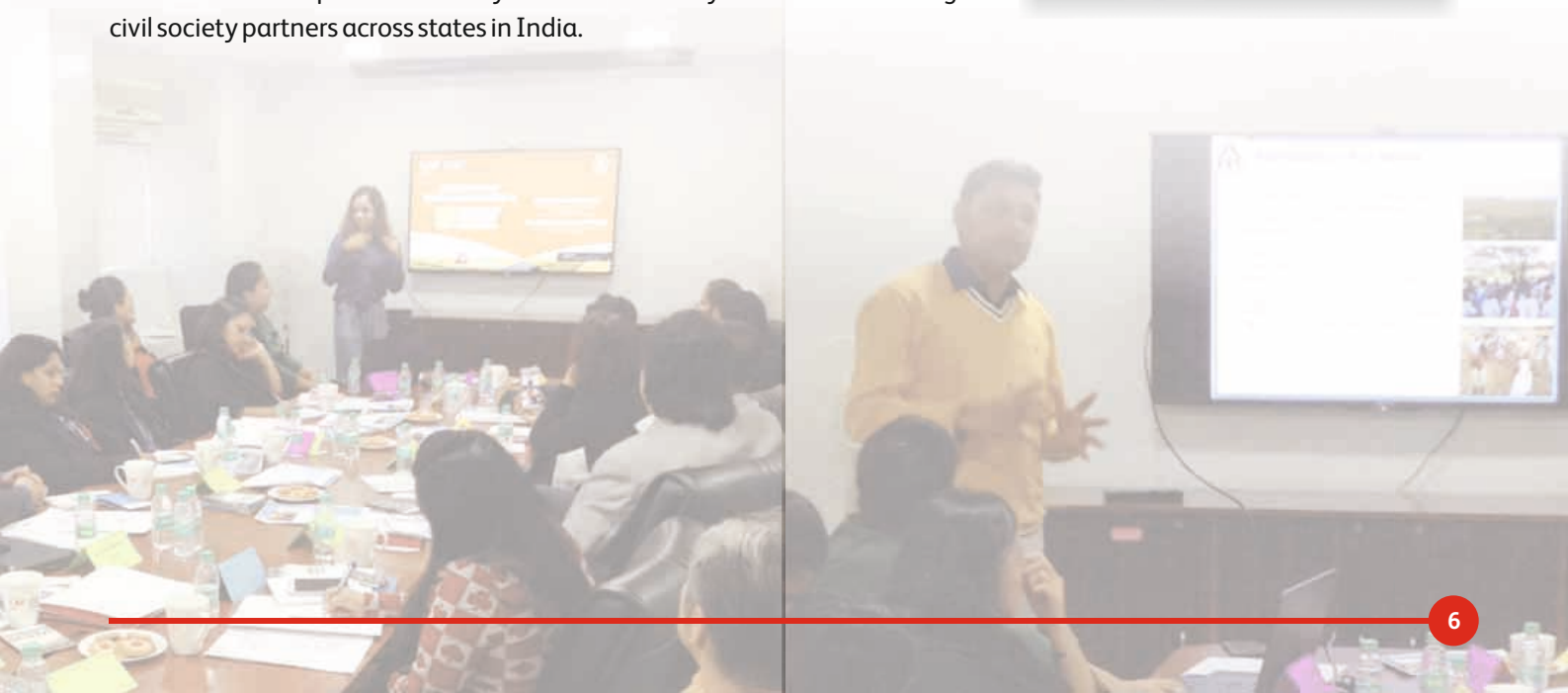
The company has advanced among many Indian counterparts in the alignment of its CSR programmes with global developments, especially in the context of SDGs. Its social investment programme, aimed at fostering community ownership, is a development in this direction. The programme creates an ecosystem approach in natural resource management that delivers sustainable livelihood opportunities by linking value chains with sustainable sources of incomes for stakeholders. ITCs sustainable practices accentuate an integrated approach where food security is observed in context of farmer, health, nutritional and social security. Within the wider ambit diverse community led practices such as capacity building for farmers on climate resilience, integrated animal husbandry, creation of nutritional garden dedicated for women, improvements of community health and most importantly involvement of stakeholders at each level of sustainable project execution.



## Cargill – Responsible Business Meeting the Global Agenda

**Dipanvita Chakraborty, Regional Director – Corporate Responsibility, Asia Pacific Cargill**

The company through its responsible interventions has been working towards nourishing world's population, human and animal. Cargill played an important role in responding to the Somali food crisis in 2011, by drawing on all resources and logistical advantages to provide food by leveraging its farm to food model to this end. In India, the company focuses on 'Nourishing India' both in its commercial operations and through its CSR programmes. The programme is focussed on providing nutritional security through supporting the mid-day meal schemes across schools within diverse states of India. It has also realised the need of state priorities in terms of SDGs as each state has diverse issues and needs. The company is working with women farmers in Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and also providing support to increase farmer incomes and working towards a holistic system of food and nutritional security. Cargill has been extensively driving to achieve the targets within the SDG2 and aims to partner on many such sustainability interventions through its civil society partners across states in India.





## Participants Perspectives and Insights on Advancing Forward in Continuous Manner

1. What are the priorities for India Inc. and how do they seek their contribution in advancing the agenda of SDGs Drivers?
2. How would the members convened like to take the SDGs Drivers and especially SDG2 forward to achieve measurable outcomes and key takeaways?
3. How do you seek your role and participation in the SDGs Drivers in the coming time?



*In aligning the development narrative with business interests the Corporate sector needs to reach out to the lowest common denominator. With respect to SDG2, since food begins from the farm, the interest of the farmers needs to be considered.*

**Sujoy Ojha**, Advisor - Agribusiness & Food Chain NICO Orgo

*Technology upgradation is important for farmers and it is here that the businesses can provide incubation support. There is a need to keep such interventions urgent and people engaged, using ICTs as key drivers.*

**Sunita Prasad**, Sustainability Manager, Ericsson

*The forum could work towards generating awareness on the diverse SDGs and seek business' perspectives on goals in an integrated manner. For this the forum could start with focusing on few SDGs as priority areas for business and seek view points on intervention from respective stakeholders.*

**Chandan Bhavnani**, Executive Vice President, Yes Bank

*Best Practices of stakeholders can be collated and shared to support diverse collaborations. The sharing of knowledge on sustainable practices is vital to form any form of partnerships in the long run. We also need to highlight state food security issues, priorities and challenges faced by the communities at the local levels.*

**Nitin Gupta**, Head Program, GMR Foundation

*The forum should also focus on leveraging partnerships on sustainable agriculture as one of the key elements of the SDG2. Also, the group needs to work on a “national agenda” for generating more nationwide awareness and working with national level organisations. The forum in order to reach out to more areas, needs to explore working partnerships with NABARD and state-level organisations in the forthcoming consultations.*

**Sarita Kapur**, Sr. Exec. CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group

*The forum on SDG2 should focus on identifying synergies to direct collaborations, upscaling and replication of practices, especially with regard to solutions for water related vulnerabilities linked with business operations.*

**Juhi Gupta**, Senior Manager & Head Sustainability, PepsiCo.

*The importance of the supply chain portfolio has emerged immensely that draws clear linkages of SDGs with business. The forum can work towards developing a business case for SDGs and identifying the linkages between the two. This linkage is examined in terms of identifying business risks. There is also a need to come out with clear guidelines across verticals such as CSR and sustainability which the private sector needs to analyse internally.*

**Mohit Dhamija**, Sustainability Lead South Asia, GSK

*The forum could work towards closing the critical gap between aspiration and on-ground realities and work towards linking interventions across the country for SDG for sustained and larger impact. There are issues of scale, the need for replication, partnerships and convergence with the government. In the current scenario, different companies are working in isolated segments. Documentation and ensuring appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems are also essential. This forum, then, too can be developed as a complete chain, bringing together not only different corporate partners but also the range of relevant stakeholders. Also, given the multiplicity of forums it would be important to identify and address gaps as opposed to duplicating efforts.*

**Suhas P. Wani**, Research Program Director – Asia and Director, ICRISAT





# JOURNEY AHEAD

## Advancing the SDG Process

Knowledge awareness on national and global engagement on SDGs. Knowledge Advocacy - as a continuous process of engagement with multi stakeholders and collating perspectives.

1

## SDGs Drivers Forum

Action group of multi stakeholder leaders to re - strengthen their commitment in advancing SDGs - private sector, civil society, academia, research institutions, grass roots.

2

3

## Private Sector and SDGs

Special emphasis on encouraging companies to align ongoing and upcoming CSR projects with SDGs. Creation of dedicated SDG Business Matrix to align sectoral and thematic SDGs along with business case for sustainability.

4

## Sustainable Solutions

Peer learning and cross sharing of innovative business models, scalable projects resulting in more action at local level and scope of replication and scalability.

5

## SDG Opportunities for Collaborations

Co-creative Collaborations on sustainable projects on areas and communities requiring immediate interventions and addressing targets of specific SDGs.

6

## Document SDGs Practices

To collate data, impact leveraged, good practices, case studies conducted with the spirit of addressing SDG 17 on global partnerships.

## Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

- To end hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030.
- Universal access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food at all times of the year.
- Double agricultural productivity and incomes of small scale food producers
- Sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices
- International cooperation on investments in infrastructure and technology to boost agricultural productivity.



## Way Forward: Outlining the Next Steps

Key Objectives that the Forum should focus on:

- *Mapping Ongoing India Inc. SDG2*
- *Aligning CSR interventions with SDG 2*
- *Collating Sustainability Practices for Partnerships*
- *Involving GOI, Think tank and Research Institutions*

**1. SDG2 Action Group** - participants were keen to seek a dedicated action group for gaining key insights, shared perspectives, feedbacks opinions to strengthen the group. Most importantly the action group would be vital in sharing current knowledge on SDGs processes.

**2. Structured Consultation** - The intent is to establish consultative engagements with government representatives, technical experts, community based organisations, etc. Stakeholders extended an observation that there is a need to organize focussed group meetings, with an objective of peer learning and action oriented strategic collaborations that addresses challenges, gaps and solutions through knowledge and sharing of diverse perspectives.

**3. Strengthening GOI process** - The objective is to explore possibilities of this forum being able to provide effective solutions including incubating effective and robust collaborations with the capacity engage with and also influence policy and institutional frameworks/ processes. This will be supported through bringing out compendiums and toolkits by collating perspectives, data, best practices, for knowledge sharing and advocacy.

## NEXT STEPS





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The first #SDGs Business Leaders Meet on SDG2 culminates its first meet on a fruitful note. We thank all the participants. #SDGDriversMeet

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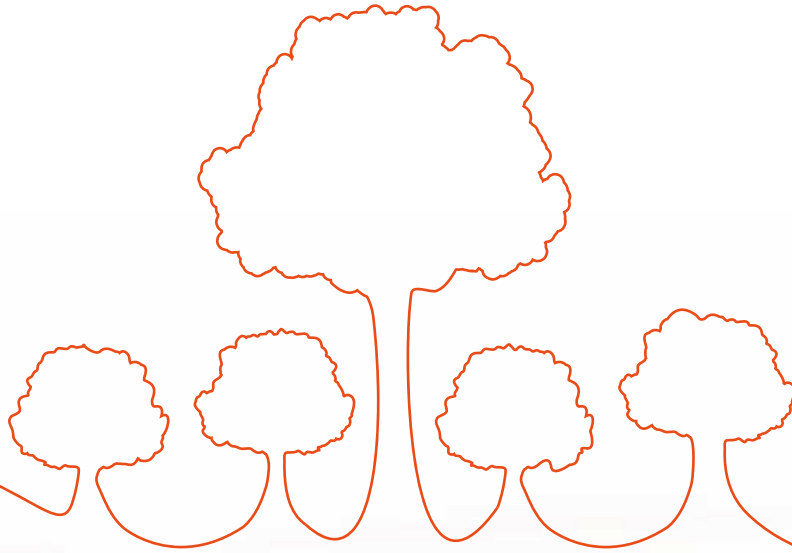
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CAF India in collaboration with UN-WFP organised a meeting to discuss and plan innovative solutions to overcome hunger and malnutrition in line with Sustainable Development Goal 2. The meeting witness...

Product Guide



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