



IICA CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME ON BUSINESS & BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

**Registration
Starts from
May
2025**

PROSPECTUS



For more information, please visit: <https://iica.nic.in> or email at sobe@iica.in



ABOUT NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is an autonomous organization established under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC), Government of India, to implement the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 (as amended in 2023). NBA's core responsibility is to regulate access to biological resources and ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization. The authority plays a crucial role in the conservation of biodiversity by advising the government on matters related to the sustainable use of biological resources, ecosystem management, and protection of indigenous knowledge. NBA also works in coordination with international bodies, promoting India's participation in global biodiversity initiatives such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Under the aegis of MOEFCC, NBA also provides guidelines for the preparation of State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (SBSAPs) and engages with stakeholders at national and regional levels to advance biodiversity conservation. The authority's work extends to fostering collaborations with businesses, NGOs, and local communities to integrate biodiversity conservation into development processes. Through various programs, NBA aims to enhance awareness, build capacity, and drive policies that contribute to the conservation of India's rich and diverse biological heritage.

ABOUT IICA



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) is an autonomous institution under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. A unique world-class institution functioning as a think tank, action research, policy advocacy, service delivery, and capacity-building support to the Ministry, corporate sector, professionals, and related stakeholders in the realm of Corporate Affairs. It is a holistic think tank and service delivery institute to help corporate growth, reforms, and regulation through synergized knowledge management, global partnerships and real-time solutions.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

IICA through its dedicated 'School of Business Environment (SBE)' has been focusing on supporting the growth of corporates sector in India especially in the modern forward-looking areas of Environment-Social-Governance (ESG), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Business and Human Rights (BHR). The School has also significantly contributed significantly in the development of key policies and guidelines in these areas, like the National Guidelines for Responsible Business Conduct (NGRBC), Zeroth draft of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, Technical inputs for the High-Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility to mention a few.

ABOUT UNDP BIOFIN

UNDP has been supporting the Government of India in meeting its national and International priorities and commitments for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity including obligations under related multilateral environment agreements.

Under the GoI-UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) programme, UNDP has supported the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC), in identification of innovative and blended finance solutions to reduce the finance gap for implementing the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP). The project has supported the development of the Biodiversity Finance Plan which includes 12 blended finance solutions for financing biodiversity conservation.

BIOFIN recognises the role of the private sector in bringing about nature positive action through conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity. Natural resources create significant economic value through services such as food provisioning, carbon storage, water and air filtration, and forms the basis of major value chains like energy, infrastructure, fashion etc. Under the global flagship programme of BIOFIN, UNDP provides technical support to countries to develop and implement programmes for corporate functionaries on 'Business and Biodiversity Conservation'.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

To cater the needs to promote role of businesses in biodiversity conservation in India, UNDP has engaged with IICA for design, develop and deliver a certificate programme for corporates on Business and Biodiversity Conservation under the global flagship programme of BIOFIN. The IICA Certificate Programme on Business & Biodiversity Conservation is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to integrate biodiversity considerations into business strategies and operations.

This comprehensive program covers key topics such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable business practices, ecosystem services, and regulatory frameworks. Participants will gain insights into corporate-led conservation initiatives, the role of businesses in promoting sustainability, and how to align corporate activities with global biodiversity goals. Through a combination of expert-led sessions, case studies, and field visits, the program aims to build capacity among business leaders to drive impactful biodiversity actions within their organizations, contributing to long-term environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF DG & CEO, IICA



Sh. G. K. Singh, DG & CEO, IICA

At the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, we are committed to fostering sustainable business practices that prioritize both economic growth and environmental stewardship. In line with this vision, I am pleased to introduce our new Certificate Programme on Business and Biodiversity Conservation, a first-of-its-kind initiative in India. This programme is designed to empower professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate biodiversity conservation into corporate strategies, driving meaningful impact and contributing to a more sustainable future. I invite you to explore this unique opportunity and join us in shaping a responsible business ecosystem that values both people and the planet.

MESSAGE FROM COURSE PATRON

I extend my warm wishes to all participants of this Programme on Business & Biodiversity Conservation. As the UNDP BIOFIN proudly supports this pioneering initiative as a sponsor and partner, I am confident that this programme will serve as a significant step forward in mainstreaming biodiversity into India's corporate sustainability agenda.

Through BIOFIN, UNDP India is committed to catalysing strategic partnerships and enabling innovative approaches to finance biodiversity actions, especially through private sector engagement.

We believe that integrating biodiversity conservation into CSR strategies and core business operations is not just a responsibility but an opportunity for businesses to lead transformative change. This capacity-building programme has been designed to equip senior corporate leaders with the knowledge and tools necessary to align their operations with nature-positive pathways, thus contributing to India's national and global biodiversity goals.

As Patron of this programme, I look forward to the collective journey we will undertake – one that bridges business leadership and ecological stewardship for a resilient and sustainable future.

Dr. Ruchi Pant
Head – NRM and Biodiversity, UNDP India

MESSAGE FROM COURSE DIRECTOR

Having had the privilege of witnessing impactful learning across three batches of the IICA Certified ESG Professional Impact Leader Programme, I am thrilled to introduce IICA's newest initiative: IICA Certificate Programme on Business & Biodiversity Conservation. This pioneering programme addresses the critical need for businesses to integrate biodiversity conservation into their strategies, enhancing their contribution to nature-positive outcomes. By combining expertise in environmental sustainability with practical business acumen, this programme equips professionals to drive meaningful change towards ecosystem preservation and conservation.

As we continue to push the boundaries of responsible business practices, I invite you to join MoEFCC, NBA, UNDP BIOFIN & IICA in this important initiative, empowering businesses to thrive while preserving our planet's pristine biodiversity. Together, let's shape a future where business success and environmental stewardship go hand-in-hand.

**Dr. Garima Dadhich, Head, School of
Business Environment, IICA**

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

"BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY ARE DEEPLY INTERCONNECTED. THE PRIVATE SECTOR MUST EMBRACE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION NOT JUST AS A RESPONSIBILITY, BUT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND LONG-TERM RESILIENCE."

- WWF-India, Sustainable Business & Biodiversity Initiatives

This programme aims to familiarize participants with key concepts of biodiversity and its global evolution, providing a strong foundation in understanding the intricate relationship between nature and businesses. Participants will explore how biodiversity underpins sustainable development and why it is crucial for corporate responsibility.

A key focus will be on the role of businesses in biodiversity conservation, helping participants grasp how corporate actions impact ecosystems and how they can contribute to conservation efforts. The programme will also equip delegates with insights into the business risks associated with biodiversity loss, emphasizing how environmental degradation can affect supply chains, regulatory compliance, and long-term business sustainability.



To strengthen their strategic knowledge, participants will be introduced to India's biodiversity regulatory framework, ensuring they understand national policies, compliance requirements, and legal obligations.

Furthermore, they will develop capabilities to navigate international biodiversity agreements and reporting frameworks, such as the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Lastly, the programme will provide a forward-looking perspective on emerging trends and expectations in business and biodiversity conservation.

APRIL 2025

For more information, please visit: <https://iica.nic.in> or email at sobe@iica.in

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Curriculum Conceptualized by Expert Committee:** Designed by international & national stalwarts from academia and industry.
- **Guidance from Industry Leaders:** Learn from experts constituting the esteemed Expert Committee.
- **Certificate by IICA:** Earn a prestigious certification from the Think Tank of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.
- **30 Hours of Rigorous Training:** Comprehensive learning spread across 3 months.
- **Live & Interactive Sessions:** Engage with top academicians and industry professionals.
- **Case Study-Based Approach:** Gain practical insights through real-world corporate scenarios.

- Senior Government Officials
- Members of the Board
- C - Suites (CEOs & CXOs)
- Professionals from Sustainability, CSR, Environment & Biodiversity domains
- Members of NGOs working on Biodiversity Conservation.
- Individuals and students interested in Biodiversity Conservation.

PROGRAMME FEE - STRUCTURE

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

INR 15,000/- + 18% GST

MODULES & ANDRAGOGY



Modules

1. **Introduction to Biodiversity, related Policies & Legislations**
2. **Business Risks and Opportunities Related to Biodiversity, Risk Mapping and Management**
3. **Biodiversity Impact Assessment and Mitigation, Innovation and Technology in Biodiversity Conservation, Valuation & Reporting**
4. **Biodiversity Finance**

Andragogy

The curriculum will be delivered through-

- **Technology-driven Self-paced E-learning.**
- **Instructor-led online live Interactive Sessions through Blackboard Learning Management System.**
- **Live Interactive Master classes.**
- **Collaborative Learning - Case Based Exercise, Policy Analysis, Research Work.**
- **Experiential learning Method.**

ABOUT MODULES

Module 1: Introduction to Biodiversity, Related Policies & Legislations

Gain a foundational understanding of biodiversity, its forms, functions, and vital role in maintaining ecosystem balance. This module explores the diversity of life at genetic, species, and ecosystem levels, alongside an in-depth look at ecosystem services and threats to biodiversity. Learn about global and Indian biodiversity hotspots, conservation techniques (in-situ and ex-situ), and cutting-edge tools like GIS and conservation genetics. The module also covers key international conventions (CBD, CITES, Ramsar, etc.) and national frameworks including the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and India's updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (2024–2030).

Module 2: Business Risks and Opportunities Related to Biodiversity, Risk Mapping and Management

Understand how biodiversity is both a risk and an opportunity for businesses. This module delves into the dependencies and impacts of business on biodiversity and introduces tools for biodiversity risk assessment such as the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). Participants will explore how to integrate biodiversity into risk management frameworks and identify innovative opportunities in sustainable sourcing, green product development, and circular economy models. The module includes real-world case studies on nature-based solutions that enhance business resilience and sustainability across supply chains.



ABOUT MODULES

Module 3: Biodiversity Impact Assessment and Mitigation, Innovation and Technology in Biodiversity Conservation, Valuation & Reportings

This module focuses on assessing and mitigating biodiversity impacts through tools like Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and advanced technologies including AI, GIS, and blockchain. Participants will learn about biodiversity accounting, valuation, and integration into financial and sustainability reporting through global standards such as GRI, SASB, and TNFD. The module also emphasizes reporting under Target 15 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and aligning with India's NBSAPs. Practical insights are provided through corporate case studies demonstrating effective biodiversity reporting and mitigation.

Module 4: Biodiversity Finance

Explore the evolving field of biodiversity finance, including its history, key mechanisms, and innovative instruments such as green/blue bonds, biodiversity offsets, and blended finance. The module also highlights how CSR initiatives, aligned with India's Companies Act and global sustainability goals, can support impactful biodiversity projects. Case studies illustrate successful financing models in ecosystem restoration, community conservation, and urban biodiversity.



CORE PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHT: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

FIELD VISIT TO BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS

Experiential learning is central to this program, providing participants with hands-on experience in understanding the rationale behind preserving ecosystems. Through direct engagement in conservation efforts, participants gain practical insights into the complexities of biodiversity preservation. A key component is the field visit to biodiversity hotspots, where participants actively contribute to and observe conservation practices, deepening their understanding of the critical need for ecosystem protection. This immersive approach ensures that participants connect theoretical knowledge with real-world challenges, equipping them to make informed decisions in the field of biodiversity and sustainability.



As part of the IICA Certificate Programme on Business & Biodiversity Conservation, participants will visit a biodiversity hotspot to experience corporate-led conservation initiatives firsthand. They will explore restored habitats, biodiversity parks, and sustainable corporate campuses, observing practices like native species plantation, habitat restoration, and water conservation. The visit will include interactions with corporate sustainability teams and local partners, offering insights into planning, challenges, and the impact of conservation efforts. Participants will learn how businesses integrate biodiversity into operations and align actions with regulatory and voluntary commitments to support ecosystem services and global biodiversity goals.

LEARN FROM THE BIODIVERSITY EXPERTS AND CHANGEMAKERS

EXPERT SPEAKERS

Shri C. Achalender Reddy, IFS (Retd.)

Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority, Govt. of India

Dr. B. Balaji, IFS

Member Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority, Govt. of India

Dr. Ruchi Pant

Head – NRM and Biodiversity, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Dr. Garima Dadhich

Associate Professor & Head, School of Business Environment, IICA

Smt. Jyotsna Sitling, IFS (Retd.)

Former PCCF (Van Panchayat), Uttarakhand

Dr. Jayashree Vencatesan

Managing Trustee, Care Earth Trust

Shri. Ranganath Krishnan

Secretary, Bamboo society of India

Dr. Ritesh Kumar

Director, Wetlands International South Asia

Dr. Sejal Worah

Program Director, WWF-India and Chair of WWF International's Tiger Advisory Group

Mr. Sidharth Edake

Senior Manager with Sustainable Landscape Restoration Program, WRI India

Dr. Lakshmi Raghupathy

Adjunct Professor, TERI School of Advanced Studies

Mr. Shankar

Venkateswaran

Adjunct Faculty, IICA

Dr. Harini Nagendra

Professor, Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability, Azim Premji University

Dr. Yashveer Bhatnagar

Country representative, IUCN

School of Business Environment

व्यावसायिक पर्यावरण संस्थान: समृद्ध समाज योग:



“At the heart of our mission lies a commitment to research, capacity building, and advocacy. Through these pillars, we aim to catalyze positive and enduring transformations within the corporate world, ultimately contributing to a more responsible, ethical, and sustainable business environment.”

1GI PS PaSGGSS
1 el daRGGSaTPI

School of Business Environment, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs
(An autonomous institute under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate
Affairs, Govt. of India),

P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar, Gurugram, NCR of Delhi - 122052, India

Email: sobe@iica.in,

Website: <https://iica.nic.in/>