

A warm hello from Team EMC and Ekonnnect!

Welcome to the ninth issue of EMC Ekonnnect joint e-newsletter. We hope our previous issues have helped to keep you updated on our latest news, courses, projects, job openings and a whole lot more. Feel free to send us a feedback on the content we share through our newsletter, by clicking [here](#).

Click on the image on the right to download calendar for the month of September.



**September 2021  
Theme- Mindful Gifting**

### Exciting Ongoing Projects at EMC!

- EMC is working in partnership with **Social, Environmental and Economic Solutions Ltd (SONECS)** for conducting a rigorous stakeholder engagement exercise to increase understanding of specific barriers to reducing plastic waste within the plastic packaging supply chain in India. This project has been funded by **UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)**. EMC has been engaged by **UNIDO** to conduct a global study to investigate the **impact of COVID-19 on green SMEs**, to what extent the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered SMEs business and what would be a sustainable mechanism for SMEs to recover and transform. The study will focus on India, Ghana and Uruguay. EMC has been contracted by **Packfora LLP**, to review the **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Policy** that is being drafted by them for **Rwanda**. EMC will conduct the review and provide necessary suggestions and recommendations for the same.
- EMC has been appointed by **NITCO**, a ceramic wall and floor tile manufacturing company, for developing a sustainability blueprint at organizational level. The project involves conducting a situation analysis, compliance check, and top-level material and energy flow analysis. EMC will provide advice on Environment Social and Governance Management System (ESGMS), Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) and disclosures and reporting requirements.
- EMC has been appointed by **BanyanTree Finance Pvt Ltd**, a private equity fund, to conduct Environmental and Social Due Diligences (ESDD) prior to investments, post investment monitoring and conducting Impact Assessments of the Fund's Portfolio. EMC has been commissioned by a large Indian Infrastructure Fund to perform an Environmental and Social Due Diligence (ESDD) of a Fin-tech-based financial service company. EMC has been appointed by an Agri-tech, food, and rural business focused Indian venture growth equity fund, to conduct an ESDD for a Rural Distribution Platform for *Kirana* stores. EMC has been appointed by an Impact-focused investment management firm, to conduct ESDD of a company providing innovative battery recycling technology services.
- EMC continues to be engaged with **SBICAP Ventures** to conduct ESDD for investments under the SWAMIH Investment Fund and for potential investments by **Omnivore Fund II**.

### Launching Certificate Program on Sustainable Finance, ESG, and Non-Financial Reporting

We are excited to announce the launch of **Certificate Program on Sustainable Finance, ESG and Non-Financing Reporting** in partnership with [auctusESG](#). The objective of this course is to equip participants with an introduction to Climate Change Risks and Opportunities, Sustainable Finance, Environment, Social and Governance practices, and Sustainability Reporting.

**Date:** 04 October 2021 – 08 October 2021

#### Course highlights:

- The course will engage participants in 12+ hours of online learning offered through 10 sessions.
- Lectures and panel discussions will include prominent speakers representing multinational corporations, consulting firms, and financial institutions.
- Participant interactions will be facilitated through group work and interactive tools such as Google Jam Boards and Mentimeter. In addition, live Q&A will be conducted at the end of each session.
- Participants will be awarded certificates after successfully attending all sessions and submitting the assignment.

Click [here](#) to learn more and register for the program. We hope to see you there!



**Certificate Program on Sustainable Finance, ESG & Non-Financial Reporting**

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> October – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
Time: 3PM – 6PM

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE AND REGISTER](#)

Program Overview	
Total Sessions	10 (including panel discussions)
Contact time	12 hours
Assignments	1
Engagement	through use of interactive tools
Certification	Certificate of Completion upon attending all sessions and submission of assignment
Registration and payment deadline	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Dr. Prasad Modak delivers a talk for MBA students at SIIB

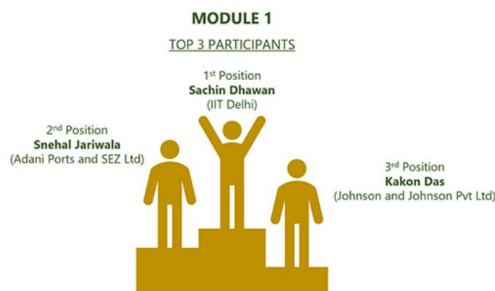
- Dr. Prasad Modak was invited as a guest speaker at Symbiosis Institute of International Business (SIIB), on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to deliver a talk on **Circular Economy**.

### Updates on Certificate Program on Sustainability

Module 1 on **Essentials of Environmental Compliance** of Certificate Program on Sustainability, organized by National Institute of Industrial Engineering, in partnership with Ekonnnect Knowledge Foundation and EMC LLP was a success. A total of 43 participants were engaged in 8+ hours of online learning comprising of insightful presentations from industry experts, panel discussion, and Q&A from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> August, followed by offline home assignments. An online examination was conducted on 14<sup>th</sup> August.

Based on final exam scores, assignment quality and grades, timeliness in submission of assignments, session attendance and participation/interaction during live sessions (live questions as well as chat box interaction), the following top three participants were awarded:

- Sachin Dhawan**, IIT Delhi (Prize amount: 5,000 INR)
- Snehal Jariwala**, Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd (Prize amount: 3,000 INR)
- Kakon Das**, Johnson and Johnson Pvt Ltd (Prize amount: 2,000 INR)



Certificate Program on Sustainability is a year-long program divided into 6 modules. Module 2 on **Sustainability: Going Beyond Compliance** will be conducted between **18-23 October 2021**. For more details, you can visit our [website](#) or follow us on our social media. **You can register for Module 2 or can still avail the opportunity to join the full program and secure a Certificate of Competence in Sustainability.** For more details and corporate discounts write to us at [prashant.kokil@emcentre.com](mailto:prashant.kokil@emcentre.com) and [vishwa.trivedi@ekonnnect.net](mailto:vishwa.trivedi@ekonnnect.net).

### We are Hiring!

- EHS specialist** to assist in conducting **Environmental & Social Due Diligence**. Should have experience of at least 3 years in an industry or a consulting company. Familiarity with Indian legislation on environment, health & safety including social welfare is essential. Familiarity with IFC Performance Standard will be desirable. Note that this is an entry or middle-level position.
- Climate Change and Low Carbon Specialist** with knowledge of Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis, Climate Risk Assessment, and Climate Adaptation Plans. Well versed with GHG Emission calculations for various sectors including ISO14064 and GHG Protocol, understanding of CDP as well as TCFD requirements.

Kindly write to us with your CV to [sivaranjani@emcentre.com](mailto:sivaranjani@emcentre.com)

### Announcement of Fulbright – Kalam Climate Fellowship

United States-India Educational Foundation ([USIEF](#)) has announced its annual competition for the Fulbright-Nehru and other Fulbright Fellowships for Indian citizens for the 2022-2023 academic year. USIEF administers the Fulbright-Kalam Climate Fellowships to build the long-term capacity of India and the United States to address climate change-related issues. The fellowships aim to promote exchange of knowledge and professional talents in the United States and India through partnerships that bring together scientific and technical research scholars engaged in climate research and education.

The Fulbright-Kalam Climate Fellowship fields of research include, but are not limited to, Energy Studies, Earth Sciences, Geology, Environmental Sciences, Renewable Energy, Smart Cities, Agriculture, Public Policy, Environmental Engineering, and Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

The application deadline is September 15, 2021. Click [here](#) to visit their website and learn more.

### EkoCalendar theme for September- Mindful Gifting

Festive season is here and so is your long list of family and friends whom you wish to send gifts this season! Gifting your loved ones on several occasions is an old tradition that humans have been following to show their affections. Be it weddings, social occasions or any other festivities, 'Hamper gifting' has become the go-to solution. The Global gifting market is estimated to be USD 475 billion and India is expected to be one of the strongest contributors by 2024. For an industry as big as this, it only fits that we advocate the importance of mindful gifting.

Mindful or Sustainable gifts are eco-friendly, have real lasting value, use minimal resources to reach end-user, are made from local and ethically sourced material, and are packaged with environment friendly material. If you think it is difficult to select a 'Sustainable Gift' then, here's a hand-picked list of things (or experiences) you can gift your loved ones:

- [Zero waste gift hampers](#)
- [Gift an experience](#)
- [Upcycled bags and wallets](#)
- [Sustainable clothing](#)
- [Eco-friendly products and merchandise](#)



Let us know if you have some interesting gifting suggestions for our readers by writing to [sakshi.gore@ekonnnect.net](mailto:sakshi.gore@ekonnnect.net)

For more highlights and details on past projects, you can access the previous issues of our e-newsletter, [here](#)

Thank you for your time! Click [here](#) to subscribe to EMC Ekonnnect joint e-newsletter!

Join us on our journey. For latest news and updates, follow us on our social media