



# ESG सारथी

## ON-GROUND SUPPLIER ESG TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

*A Practical, Scalable Programme to alleviate Supplier ESG Risk & Improve Performance*



# All About ESG सारथी

From ESG Intent to On-Ground Impact



Build Trust



Enable Progress



Deliver Evidence

From Compliance Pressure to Competitive Advantage



The Flagship Supplier ESG Programme Guiding MSMEs  
from ESG Intent to On-Ground Impact



# What is ESG सारथी ? Supplier Transformation Programme

→ Supplier Capability Handholding

→ Evidence-Led, Improvement-Focused

ESG Saarthi is a supplier engagement & capability-building programme designed to help companies enable-not audit-their suppliers on ESG.

Unlike traditional compliance-led supplier audits, ESG Saarthi™ works as a guide, companion, & handholder for suppliers-especially MSMEs-helping them understand, implement, & sustain ESG practices in a practical, & business-friendly way.

## Supplier Awareness & Confidence

Suppliers clearly understand ESG in their own context & day-to-day operations.

## On-Ground Capability Building

Practical systems across safety, environment, labour, & ethics; not just policies & paperwork.

## Visible Shop-Floor Improvement

Safer workplaces, better housekeeping, waste management, & operational discipline

## Audit-Ready Evidence

Clear, structured ESG documentation ready for BRSR, EcoVadis, and customer audits.

## Stronger Buyer-Supplier Trust

ESG is seen as support & partnership, not surveillance or one-time compliance pressure.

What We Deliver

# Why ESG सारथी Now?



## What Buyers Face

ESG audits identify gaps but do not drive closure

Limited credible supplier-level evidence for disclosures

High ESG risk concentration in MSME suppliers

Repeated findings with little sustained improvement

Increasing supplier fatigue and resistance

## What Suppliers Experience

ESG feels complex, costly, and unclear

Low awareness and weak systems on safety, environment, & labour

Fear of audits, penalties, and potential business loss

Compliance pressure without practical guidance

Uncertainty on how to translate requirements into action

Traditional audit-first approaches create **tension, not transformation.**

Suppliers need **partners who enable improvement** — not inspectors who only assess compliance.



# Why choose ESG सारथी ?

## Traditional ESG Programmes

### Audit-Centric Approach

Supplier ESG is driven primarily through audits and compliance checks..

### Compliance-Led Engagement

Engagement is triggered by regulatory or customer reporting requirements.

### Point-in-Time Assessment

Supplier performance is assessed periodically with limited follow-up.

### Binary Outcome Focus

Results are viewed through pass/fail outcomes rather than improvement pathways.



## ESG सारथी

### Enablement-Centric Approach

Suppliers are supported to understand and implement ESG requirements in practice.

### Improvement-Led Engagement

Suppliers receive structured guidance and support beyond initial assessment.

### Ongoing Handholding

Supplier performance is assessed periodically with limited follow-up.

### Capability & Maturity Focus

Outcomes are measured through capability build-up, on-ground change, & evidence over time.



# How ESG सारथी Works?

## A Structured – Scalable Solution



**Modular Phases**  
(Designed to Scale Across Supplier Bases)



**Because Improvement happens with Guidance, not avoidance.**



# What Sets ESG सारथी Apart ?

Practical execution, supplier trust, & evidence-led outcomes



## Practical, On-Ground ESG Transformation

Hands-on supplier engagement driving real shop-floor improvement.



## Led from the Ground, Not Just Designed on Paper

Built ESG capability side-by-side with suppliers in real operating environments.



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## Balanced Buyer–Supplier Approach

Reduces ESG risk while remaining practical for MSME realities.



## Aligned with BRSR & EcoVadis

Verifiable actions mapped to regulatory and rating requirements.

# ESG सारथी - Supplier ESG Roadmap

A phased journey from intent to integrated ESG performance



01

## Sensitise

ESG orientation with clear expectations, intent declaration, & foundational ESG policies.

02

## Assess

Supplier self-assessment, site walkthroughs, baseline ESG scoring, & risk-criticality analysis.

03

## Prioritise

Supplier segmentation, material risk identification, & tailored ESG improvement roadmap.

04

## Plan

Joint action planning, tools, templates, SOPs, & training calendar finalisation.

05

## Build Capability

Lessons learned guide stronger campaigns in future marketing initiatives



# ESG सारथी - Supplier ESG Roadmap

A phased journey from intent to integrated ESG performance



06

## Implement

ESG orientation with clear expectations, intent declaration, & foundational ESG policies.

07

## Monitor & Support

Supplier self-assessment, site walkthroughs, baseline ESG scoring, & risk-criticality analysis.

08

## Evidence & Integrate

Supplier segmentation, material risk identification, & tailored ESG improvement roadmap.



# Behind the Lens



## Mr. Nilesh Mehta

- A sustainability leader with over 20 years of cross-sectoral experience, driving ESG transformation across FMCG, cement, pharma, automotive, and consulting sectors in 10+ countries.
- Formerly the Regional Sustainability Head (DvM) at Reckitt, where I steered ESG strategy and execution across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.
- Passionate about connecting boardroom ambition with real-world execution, enabling organizations to embed sustainability into their core operations.
- Bringing in experience to integrate Sustainability within overall Business Strategy –with a strong grasp of evolving global trends.



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**25 Years. 4 Continents.**

*Engineering Roots, Global Sustainability Impact.*