



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser  
to the Government of India



**BCKIC**  
Bhubaneswar City  
Knowledge Innovation  
Cluster Foundation

# BCKIC Foundation Newsletter

Connect. Cooperate. Collaborate.

September  
2022

## ABOUT BHUBANESWAR CITY KNOWLEDGE INNOVATION CLUSTER FOUNDATION

Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster (BCKIC) Foundation, is an initiative by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. BCKIC Foundation seamlessly connects academic, industrial, corporate, and start-up ecosystems to create a Hub & Spoke Model, actively facilitating innovation, knowledge creation, and implementation of technologies for socio-economic benefits.

Our major thematic areas include - Biosciences, Polymer-based interventions, Quantum engineered advanced materials, Wetland management, Waste to Value, Food, and nutrition.



### Connect

Connect with multiple stakeholders. Industries, research institutes, incubators/accelerators, and governments to build and strengthen an inclusive regional science and technology ecosystem.



### Co-operate

Creating solutions through close cooperation, leveraging expertise from partner organizations that are reliable, effective, and sustainable for the current and future problems of the region.



### Collaborate

Collaborations for nurturing and driving translational research and innovation in Bhubaneswar that boosts economic and employment growth by creating a market for reliability and replicability across the state.

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### CSR Round Table on "Water Conservation, Quality and Wetland Management"

BCKIC Foundation in partnership with the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and CSRBOX conducted a Round table series: Tech for Impact – Bharat 2022 to foster a dialogue between the CSR fraternity and the innovators to present innovations and implementation models relating to Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The expert presentations touched upon factors such as water conservation and quality associated societal challenges, research-centric solutions, proof of concept with results, scalability and replication methods, and other relevant factors which shed light on the project's applicability in the social space along with the innovation. The outcomes of this round table will culminate in the 9th CSR Summit in India on 15-16th November 2022 in Delhi.

The event was addressed by **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**, Principal Scientific Adviser, to the Govt. of India; **Dr. Sapna Poti**, Director-Strategic Alliances, O/o PSA, to the Govt. of India and **Mr. Bhomik Shah**, Founder & CEO, CSR BOX, highlighting the importance of water conservation and its association with various sustainable development goals.

Dr. Saroj Nayak, IIT Bhubaneswar, talked about his invention in solar-powered irrigation systems. Dr. Abhilasha Maheshwari, IIT Jodhpur, spoke about advanced wastewater treatment towards a circular economy in the Common Effluent Treatment Plant. Dr. Vishakha Raina, KIIT, shared her research on wetland ecosystems including the value addition from raw materials capable of supporting livelihood in Chilika Lake. Dr. Namrata Mishra KIIT- TBI, showcased innovative water quality testing devices of startups supported by the Jal Jeevan Mission. Mr. Joe Fernandes, IIT-IIT, highlighted his work on the rejuvenation and restoration of ponds. Dr. Mrityunjay Sahu, Barifloloabs, with expertise in pond rejuvenation, floating gardens, and vertical aquaculture presented his ongoing work. Ms. Tushara Shankar, CSR head from Lupin Pharmaceuticals also presented various water-related technologies implemented by the Lupin group, highlighting strategies of aligning SSR with CSR.

The discussion was followed by an interaction with the industry leaders in CSR which shall further stimulate potential partnerships. The amalgamation of academic and industry groups shall come together and explore the possibility of deployment of indigenous water-conservation technologies to solve problems in the field.

# IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES: COASTAL CLEANUP DRIVE

## Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar - Clean Coast Safe Sea Campaign in Odisha

The Government of India initiated a 75-day long citizen-driven campaign, “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar - Clean Coast Safe Sea,” spanning from July 5th to September 17th, 2022. The campaign was directed towards improving ocean health through collective action, focusing on educating people about plastic and other pollutants destroying our marine ecosystem.

The community-led beach cleaning drive was an integral part of the campaign making it the world's longest-running coastal clean-up drive.





The coastal cleanup campaign, led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, and supported by the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change and Vigyan Prasar - Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, conducted the program in Bhubaneswar, in association with BCKIC Foundation and KIIT International School. A massive awareness campaign “Swachh Sagar, Surakshit Sagar - Clean Coast Safe Sea” was organized in Odisha on the 2nd and 3rd of September 2022 in Bhubaneswar and Puri, respectively. The campaign included science talks by experts from CSIR-IMMT, BCKIC, Vigyan Prasar, and Kalinga foundation sensitizing the students about the impact of plastics waste and other pollutants on the coastal ecosystem, and the need for minimizing coastal pollution, both for the protection of land and marine ecosystems. Various activities in thematic areas such as elocution and poster-making competitions were conducted as a part of the campaign. The program had participation of over 200 students from different schools and universities.

A coastal cleanup drive was conducted in Puri at Swarg Dwar Beach. Dr. Kinkini Dasgupta Misra, Scientist – F, Vigyan Prasar, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India addressed the participants. Over 100 volunteers, from National Service Scheme (NSS), students from senior schools and colleges, as well as youth and citizens from local communities cleaned up the beach, and collected litter and waste over a two-kilometers stretch. Additionally, volunteers sensitized the public at the beach and in the surrounding area about the importance of a clean coast.

## INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPACT

### The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser and the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), United Kingdom

BCKIC Foundation, along with the leadership of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) visited Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, along with, Dr. Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, and Dr. Arun K Bharadwaj, Scientist at the O/o PSA. The delegation included, Dr. Mrutyunjay Suar, Chairman, BCKIC Foundation, Mr. Paul Lewis, Chief Operating Officer, RSC, UK, Mr. Ajit Sharma, Managing Director, RSC, India, and South Asia, Dr. Sara Bosshart, Head, Open Access, RSC, UK, Mr. Rajesh Parishwad, Head, Public Policy and Engagement, India and South Asia.

The discussion focused on various possibilities of promoting Science, Technology, and innovation-related activities through international partnerships, including cross-country collaborations, faculty exchange programs, creation of a local RSC chapter, awareness drives on various emerging themes in chemistry with added emphasis on women representation.



## Indo-German Science and Technology Partnerships Program

BCKIC Foundation, along with Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and KIIT-TBI hosted Mr. R. Madhan, Director, Indo-German Science, and Technology Centre (IGSTC), and facilitated a round table discussion with scientists, faculties, innovators, startups from various institutions of Bhubaneswar. The main agenda was to bring various avenues to build Indo-German collaborations promoting young researchers and innovators from the region.

Mr. Madan highlighted various ways of establishing collaboration based on STI activities. The discussion focused on opportunities for collaboration with German academia and industry through joint collaborative research and multiple faculty and student exchange programs. Additionally, the discussion also aimed at connecting innovators with German counterparts for R&D and funding opportunities.



## CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES

### Central Agriculture University, Tripura

BCKIC Foundation in collaboration with BIRAC Regional Techno-entrepreneurship Centre, East, and North East Region (BRTC-E & NE), KIIT-Technology Business Incubator organized the “Capacity Building and Training Program” at Central Agriculture University, Tripura. With over 100 participants encompassing research scholars, entrepreneurs, and scientists, the goal of the two-day structured program, was to impart the knowledge and skills for transforming innovative biotech ideas into successful and sustainable ventures. The session also included mentoring and knowledge sharing related to Intellectual Property Rights.



## AN INITIATIVE TOWARDS LIVELIHOOD CREATION

### Minor Forest Produce Value Chain Mapping

BCKIC Foundation with Divisional Forest Officers, Project Monitoring Consultant, Project Monitoring Unit officials, and social enablers visited various multi-product clusters under the Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project (OFSDP-II) project. The focus was on the sal leaves plates and cups manufacturing clusters and Van Suraksha Samiti (VSS) associated with various Non-Forest Timber Products (NFTPs) in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha. The objective of this project is to enhance the livelihood of the forest dwellers through valorization of various NFTPs for economic development of the dependent communities.



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