

**Summary of the National Training Programme on
“Environment Impact Assessment Frameworks, Climate Finance Strategies and ESG Regulations”
05.01.2026 to 09.01.2026**

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED) organised a National Training Programme on “Environment Impact Assessment Frameworks, Climate Finance Strategies and ESG Regulations” from 05.01.2026 to 09.01.2026 at its own campus. A total of 22 participants from 15 field offices including 08 Group officers participated in the training programme.



**Group photo of NTP on “Environment Impact Assessment Frameworks,
Climate Finance Strategies and ESG Regulations”**

Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED acknowledged the distinguished presence of the trainees in his opening remarks. In his inaugural speech, he highlighted that recently development thinking has shifted beyond economic growth to focus on environmental sustainability, social equity and governance accountability. He stated that Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) plays a crucial role in ensuring responsible development, while climate finance has become central to climate action, demanding greater transparency and accountability in public spending. At the same time, the growing importance of ESG regulations has reshaped regulatory and audit frameworks, requiring alignment with evolving global best practices

During this five-day training programme, experts from IA&AD and other reputed organizations and ministries like Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), New Delhi, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi, Birla Institute of Scientific Research, Jaipur, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, Financial Reporting Review Board (FRRG), The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), New Delhi and Ministry of Finance (MoF), New Delhi delivered the sessions during this training programme.

Further, study visit to Jindal Waste-to-Energy Plant, Jaipur facilitated through the Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Rajasthan, aimed at providing participants with practical exposure to waste management practices, energy recovery processes, environmental safeguards, and regulatory compliance mechanisms.

The discussions underscored the critical role of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) frameworks in promoting environmentally responsible decision-making, ensuring compliance with statutory requirements, and mitigating adverse impacts. Sessions on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks enriched understanding of how sustainability considerations are being embedded into governance structures, risk management processes, and performance assessments across both public and private sectors. Equally significant were the deliberations on climate finance particularly green bonds which highlighted the importance of transparency, accountability and assurance in the allocation and utilization of funds for climate initiatives. From an audit perspective, these discussions reinforced the need for rigorous methodologies to assess compliance and effectiveness ensuring that sustainability commitments yield tangible, verifiable, and impactful outcomes.

The session-wise details are outlined as follows:

S. No	Resource Person	Session/s
1.	Shri Sundar Ramanathan, Scientist-F, MoEF&CC, New Delhi	Overview of Environment Impact Assessment Frameworks
2.	Shri Gautam Gahlaut, SAO, O/o the DGACE (E&SD), New Delhi	Audit of EIA: Environment Clearance & Post Clearance Monitoring
3.	Ms. Suruchi Bhadwal, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI, New Delhi	Climate Risk Assessment
4.	Shri Manikant Barik, Assistant Manager, SIDBI, New Delhi	Climate Change & Green Finance and Auditing Climate Change Strategies
5.	Shri M. P Punia, Scientist, Biral Institute of Scientific Research, Jaipur	Use of emerging Technologies such as Remote Sensing/GIS in EIA
6.	Dr. Mukesh Sharma, Professor, IIT, Kanpur	Overview of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Framework with special reference to Climate Change
7.	CA Kuldeep Kothari, Dy. Convener at Financial Reporting Review Board (FRRG), ICAI	BRSR Reporting and Audit Perspectives/ Methodologies: SEBI Regulations, Disclosures, Data Reliability, Emerging Issues and Public Assurance
8.	Shri Saket Kumar, Deputy General Manager, Sustainable Finance Group, RBI, Mumbai	Climate Finance in India-Initiatives, Regulatory Framework, Risks and Challenges
9.	Ms. Chandani Raina, IES, Advisor, Climate Change Finance Unit, DoEA, MoF, New Delhi	Overview of Climate Finance Policies in India

Comprehensive feedback on course designing, duration of training program and sessions, content, knowledge and its delivery by the resource persons and facilities available at iCED was provided by the participants on the SAI Training Portal. The average feedback of the participants is 8.93 out of 10, which is very encouraging. Session on “Overview of Climate Finance Policies in India” delivered virtually by Ms. Chandni Raina, IES, Advisor, Climate Change Finance Unit, DoEA, MoF, New Delhi was rated as the best session with an outstanding score of 9.26 out of 10.

The group presentations were presided over by Dr. Abhishek Gupta, Director General, iCED, along with Ms. Narmadha R, Principal Director, RCB&KI, Chennai. Four teams, each comprising five participants, presented their insights and shared their experiences on the topics assigned to them.



Facilitation of Group Presentations

In his valedictory address, Director General, iCED extended his heartfelt thanks to all the participants and faculty members for their participation and invaluable contributions to the programme.