IICA - Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development (IICA-CESD) organised its 1st Indo-Belgium Joint Management Development Program (MDP) from May 24th to June 2nd, 2018 - first week (3 days) was held in IICA, India and the second week was held in Belgium. It was 19th MDP overall and the new captioned international program of CESD, was jointly organised in association with the Antwerp Management School (AMS), Belgium. The 10 days international-MDP was designed to provide national & global perspectives to corporate delegates on Eco-innovation technologies, Sustainable design and Business solutions for transformative CSR and sustainability. A total of 18 participants from 10 leading corporates pan India attended the program.

Shri A B Chakraborty, Programme Director welcomed the program participants and briefed about the program.

While outlining the programme contents, he emphasised upon all to make informed decisions and the way forward while dealing with various implementation issues related to mandates, understanding national & global scenario. He further mentioned that to make things realistic, three studies in the areas of Sustainability strategies, sustainability practices and sustainability technologies across 12 industry sectors were undertaken before designing the programs. Most of the participants are now aware that there are serious challenges both at the national and global level that calls for a prudent approach to sustainability. Accordingly, this interdisciplinary program has been designed & developed to provide information, knowhow, hands on project designing and the follow up interactive sessions on CSR & Sustainable Development.
Thereafter Dr. Navneet Sharma, Associate Professor – School of Competition Law &
Market Regulation, Head Academic Committee addressed the participants. He
mentioned that Sustainability issues need utmost attention and this cannot be
postponed any more. It is necessary to align with business decisions that has an
impact on us. The human induced environmental sustainability challenges are
impacting us more. The Sustainability problems and issues have the solution, good
avenues and way forward action.

While touching upon the national CSR award process, it was mentioned that the
award process would not only be more comprehensive but the CSR projects need to
be aligned with the national agenda as well. This calls for strategic thinking and the
passion for the project execution, to have bigger impact. Scaling up the CSR
project execution is critically important. Therefore, Project design must have the
replicability angle and how it can be scaled up.

He wished the participants the very best for the program at IICA and at Antwerp,
Belgium.
**Part 1 - Program at IICA**

The 3-days program at the IICA included the Sustainability issues and Sustainability design of CSR, Sustainability projects, Sustainable Development – the National & Global imperatives, Emerging technology disruptions & Sustainability solutions.


There was session on Climate change issues & Perspectives, National Missions & NAPCC. The Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment – Methods and Tools was covered. A session on Carbon Pricing – Tool for climate change mitigation held before the wrap up of the programme.
**Participants Group at IICA**

**Part 2 - Program at Belgium**

The participants were welcomed by the Dean AMS, Mr. Paul Matteyssens. The first day program included an overview of sustainable transformation by Prof. Wayne Visser. Here he touched upon the systems thinking and the 5 forces of fragmentation in society. In the post lunch session, Prof. Wayne covered the Eco-innovation & Sustainable technologies. The Sustainability issues and different scenarios developed over the period, were explained.

**Prof. Wayne Visser alongwith the participants at AMS, Belgium**
The faculty, Ms. An Cosaert explained the exponential thinking for a sustainable future. How exponential thinking might help to strengthen the sustainable and socially responsible fundamentals of an organisation. The exponential thinking was explained in terms of technologies that are on the edge of breakthrough in different spheres, and the exponential stress being caused by way of technology disruption among companies require most responsive action to change.

Thereafter, the faculty Mr. Remo Lenstra explained about design thinking for sustainable transformation. The design thinking on the UN SDGs requires innovative approach that calls for everyone to contribute in achieving the overall goals. He did a hands on exercise with participants in the design thinking under complex scenario.

**AMS group photograph**

On 2\textsuperscript{nd} day (May 29, Tuesday), the participants were taken to the West flanders site visit. At the Port of Oostende, the Renewable Energy facility, Applications and the Wind mill Park at sea was shown. In the post lunch session, the presentation was at the “Greenbridge Ostend” regarding the incubators of sustainable transformation and the “FVT Blue energy”.

There was a visit to the “Marine Harvest Pieters” to understand the sustainable challenges and the actions at the organisation level keeping in view the SDGs.
Prior to returning at Antwerp, there was a short visit of Bruges – the medieval historic town.

Visit to Marine Harvest Pieters

At Bruges, the blue whale architecture created using waste plastics
On 3rd day (May 30, Wednesday) the visit was to the “Port of Antwerp” wherein the sustainability planning & design at the port was discussed and explained. There were presentations by “APEC and by Qpinch” particularly in respect of chemical heat transformer to reduce the environmental footprint. There was a visit to the pipelines installations of Ecluse, network of pipelines to 6 companies which will draw the steam as needed, allowing them to switch off their own steam boilers, resulting thereby CO2 saving of 100000 tons P.A. In the evening there was visit to the Antwerp world diamond centre regarding the innovations brought in the Global diamond industry at Antwerp, with a focus on eco-innovation, CSR & Sustainability.

Visit at Port of Antwerp, the magnificent building like a ship

Explaining at the Atrium (Part of Antwerp building)
On day 4, there was a visit to the office of “DG Environment at Brussels”. The first presentation was made by Prof. Wayne on the evolution of CSR, Environmental management, design, sustainability and the overall accountability with an integrated value, leading to strategic/transformative CSR. The 5 stages on maturity in CSR (defensive, charitable, promotional, strategic & transformative), was explained. Besides the 5 principles of CSR, the other important aspects of creativity, scalability, responsiveness, glocality & circularity was discussed and explained. Other issues including the Climate disruption and social problems resulting thereon, were explained. The principles underlined for future growth were, the accountability, creativity and circularity. He mentioned that the resource efficiency and circular economy would be extremely important for the overall sustainable development.

Presentation was made on the economic policy and the Eco-Innovation in the EU, including the policies, measures and the related information. There was mention of 100 small projects on Eco-Innovation sponsored by EU. These projects resulted in huge quantitative benefits. Further, the participants were taken to the European Policy Centre wherein sustainability for EU was explained. In the evening, there was reception hosted by Indo-Belgium Chamber of Commerce and Ms. Gaitri I Kumar, the Indian Ambassador to Belgium, Luxenbourg & EU, for the Indian visiting officials.

Indian Ambassador Ms. Gaitri I Kumar with the participants
On 5th day (June 1, 2018), there was a workshop on sustainability issues undertaken by participants in small groups. The group exercise was primarily to discuss a respective sustainability issue and to design project hands on. Each group made a small presentation on the exercise and the learnings.

At the end, the participants were given the certifications and grand bonhomie.