

NTPC: INTERNALIZING CORPORATE SDG MONITORING

Photo: NTPC

NTPC Ltd plays a unique role in India’s energy system as the country’s largest power generator and being a state-owned enterprise operating in an open market. The company is a key stakeholder balancing the energy trilemma of security, affordability and climate compatibility.

In recent years, it has emerged as a leader in championing SDG7 and under its Energy Compact, NTPC has pledged to install 60GW of renewable power by 2032. To further mainstream its climate action, NTPC has undertaken an ambitious initiative to internalize tracking SDGs in their operations, which was developed with the following objectives:

1. Track the operational activities, initiatives and investments against its impact on the 17 SDGs
2. Offer granular and highly integrated metrics for public disclosures
3. Increase awareness among employees about SDGs and role of individual actions towards sustainability of organization

Using an internal reporting tool, employees document and seek approval for planned initiatives, new ideas, decisions, and other critical operational activities. This process was well-integrated in their operational practices, resulting in activities being tagged to the most relevant SDGs.

The project implementation team identified over 1,000 day-to-day activities from the internal platform which were streamlined to activity clusters tagged against the 17 SDGs. The outcome was a robust assessment of NTPC’s operations and its impact on the SDGs.

The process followed is represented in Fig 1.

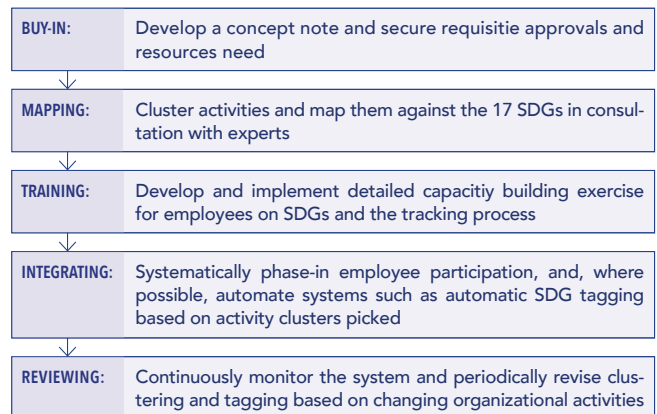


FIGURE 1: Process flow for internalizing corporate SDG monitoring by NTPC. Source: NTPC Ltd., 2024

There were two key enablers in the successful implementation for the initiative- the first is the buy-in from leadership. It validates the critical role of high-level ambition setting. The second enabler was the rigorous training provided to over 10,000 employees on SDGs and the internal tracking system.

In the first three quarters of implementation, over 150,000 documents were tracked against SDGs. The result was a clear visual representation of the most important SDGs enabled by NTPC and how they reflect across various departments and geographies. These findings will empower data-driven ambition setting and higher quality of corporate disclosures.

This initiative is proof-of-concept for other large enterprises both nationally and internationally on corporate sustainability reporting. NTPC’s status as climate leader among state-owned enterprises in the global south and champion of national initiatives such as LiFE and Net-Zero by 2070 is validated through such efforts.