



SDG SUMMIT 2025

AWARENESS
ALIGNMENT
ACTION



COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

Oct 10, 2025, Friday

SIR M V AUDITORIUM, FKCCI
Kempegowda Rd, Bengaluru - 560009



SUMMIT OVERVIEW

Key Highlights from the VKF SDG Summit 2025



350+

Participants

23

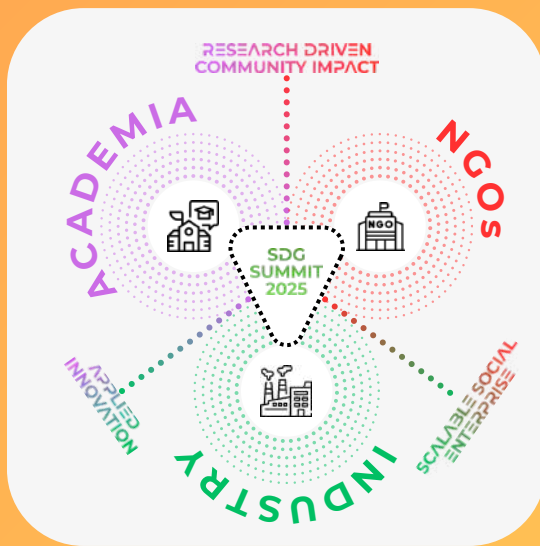
Colleges

15

NGOs

16

Corporates



The VKF Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit 2025 was organized by Vision Karnataka Foundation (VKF) to promote the value of the United Nations SDGs. The summit's core goal was to catalyze commitment to the UNSDGs through a collaborative ecosystem involving Academia, Corporates, and NGOs. VKF, functioning as a global think tank and community of change champions aligned with UNSDGs, primarily focuses on the development of Karnataka state. The summit specifically targeted engineering and management students and faculty to cultivate a deeply committed community of agents of change. A significant focus was placed on SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, which VKF believes acts as a foundation for

holistic and inclusive development. Key activities included the official launch of VKF SDG Youth Clubs, the presentation of top research papers from a Pan-India competition, and panel discussions featuring diverse experts, including an 11-year-old entrepreneur. The event successfully mobilized stakeholders around the mantra of Awareness, Alignment, and Action.



TIMELINE AND SESSION REPORT

Key Events of the SDG Summit 2025



Inaugural Session

The session emphasized VKF's mission to catalyze youth-led SDG action through partnerships. **Ms. Uma Reddy (President, FKCCI)** highlighted FKCCI's support for VKF Youth Clubs, suggesting integration with their Manthan competitions to fund student business plans. **Mr. Abhishek Ranjan (Jt. Secretary, UN GCI)** underscored global SDG progress and proposed institutional partnerships to anchor SDG initiatives. **Ms. Aishwarya DKS Hegde (Trustee Secretary, NEF)** stressed sustainability as a moral imperative, urging academia to train faculty and youth to drive change.



Ms. Uma Reddy
President, FKCCI
Chief Guest



Mr. Abhishek Ranjan
Jt. Secretary, UN GCI
Keynote Speaker



Ms. Aishwarya DKS Hegde
Trustee Secretary, NEF
Guest of Honor



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Technical Session: Strengthening collaboration between industry, academia, and NGOs.

This session chaired by **Dr. K.M. Sharath Kumar**, Professor & Dean, FM&C, Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences saw **Mr. Neeraj Bhatnagar** (The Corporate Group) stress measuring industry success through human well-being metrics, aligning profit with societal impact. **Dr. Saji Varghese** (Christ University) showcased his coconut straw innovation, advocating student-industry-NGO collaboration for scaling eco-solutions. **Mr. V.C. Mohan** (Consultant, Bosch, Schneider) shared his CSR Journey which brought out the importance of multi stakeholder collaboration in SDG Action.

Research Paper Presentation

The session chaired by **Mrs. Lekhashree**, MSME Manager, VKF, **Dr. Bindu Nambiar**, Associate Professor, Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences and **Dr. Satyanandini**, Professor, BMS College of Engineering hosted the presentations from **Top 5 Papers** selected out of a **pan India research paper competition** that attracted **70+ entries**, out of which **36 were selected for an ISBN Publication** which was released during the inaugural session. These presentations addressed critical SDG themes:

1. **Industrial Innovations through ESG Audits** (Authors: Prof. D D Chaturvedi et al., Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, Delhi).
2. **Neurorights and AI's Impact on Work** (Dr. Sruthi Kalyani, MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru).



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3. **FPOs for Sustainable Agriculture** (Dr. Butchi Babu Muvva et al., CARE, Hyderabad).

4. **Sustainability in India's Automobile Sector** (Sandeep N et al., MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru).

5. **Soil Health and FoRod Security** (Priscilla Dency L et al., St. Peter's Institute of Higher Education, Tamil Nadu).

Each paper received a **cash award of INR 10,000/-** along with a certificate of excellence by **Mr. Kishor Jagirdar**, President, VKF.



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Panel Discussion: Inclusive Technologies for Decent Work & Green Future:

Dr. Nandeesh Hiremath, Dean, Indus Business Academy chaired this session which saw an inspiring and spirited participation from Master. Nayan Aditya (11-year-old founder of NGreenTech) who shared his e-waste management journey, inspiring youth entrepreneurship. **Mr. Raghuram** advocated adopting structured systems (e.g., Swiss/European models) for SDG projects in India. **Mr. Nav Kishlay** emphasized systemic approaches to scaling sustainable solutions, while **Mr. Mahesh Chandra Guru**, Director &

Secretary, Vikasana Foundation and President FEVOURD-K, shared his experiences from decades long NGO journey and highlighted how a collaborative eco system such as the one being discussed at the summit could bolster the efforts and boost the progress of the 2030 Agenda.



A highlight of the event was 11-year-old Nayan Aditya Tangutooru, founder of NGreenTech, a startup focused on e-waste management. Along with his team of peers under 14, Nayan raises awareness through community cleanup drives and educational workshops, successfully collecting over 500 kilograms of e-waste. He aims to expand these initiatives nationwide via social media. Nayan's passion for the environment inspires attendees, showcasing the vital role of youth in promoting sustainability.

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In the Valedictory Session,

Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rao from Brigade Group highlighted the importance of institutionalizing SDGs through internships and partnerships with VKF's Youth Clubs. The session concluded with a call for collaboration among academia, industry, and NGOs to meet the SDG 2030 targets, utilizing the summit's research and youth engagement.

Attendees left inspired and eager to implement innovative strategies for sustainable development, with conversations buzzing about ideas and plans, marking a hopeful beginning towards achieving ambitious goals.



Dignitary Contributions and Insights



The dignitaries collectively emphasized the following critical aspects and dimensions:

- **Cross-Sector Collaboration:** The urgent need for partnerships between academia, industry, and NGOs to drive SDG progress, particularly in scaling innovations and addressing systemic challenges.
- **Youth Leadership:** Highlighted youth as catalysts for SDG action, urging institutions to support entrepreneurship, innovation, and grassroots projects while removing barriers to participation.
- **Education and Training:** Stressed the role of education in empowering youth and faculty with SDG-aligned knowledge, tools, and mentorship to translate theory into practice.
- **Industry Responsibility:** Called on corporations to prioritize human and ecological well-being over profit, embedding SDGs into innovation and operational frameworks.
- **NGO Challenges:** Acknowledged resource scarcity and policy gaps hindering NGO effectiveness, with a call for academic and corporate support in advocacy and resource mobilization.
- **Structured Systems:** Advocated adopting rigorous, organized frameworks (e.g., European models) to ensure SDG projects are scalable, accountable, and systemically integrated.
- **Research-to-Action Linkage:** Urged leveraging academic research (e.g., on FPOs, soil health, and ESG audits) to design actionable solutions and policy interventions.
- **Policy Advocacy:** Emphasized academia's role in bridging grassroots needs with policy changes to enable sustainable development.
- **Holistic Metrics:** Proposed measuring success through societal and environmental outcomes, not just economic growth, to align progress with SDG goals.
- **Institutionalization:** Called for embedding SDGs into curricula, internships, and corporate CSR programs to create sustained, measurable impact.

These themes underscored a unified vision: leveraging collaboration, innovation, and systemic thinking to transform SDG advocacy into tangible, inclusive, and equitable action.



OUTCOMES

Key contributions and future directions from the summit



Launch of VKF SDG Youth Clubs:

- A flagship initiative to mobilize youth as changemakers, fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and NGOs.
- Clubs will institutionalize SDG education, drive campus-based projects, and bridge theoretical knowledge with real-world action.

Pan-India Research Contributions:

- 70+ submissions highlighted innovative solutions across critical themes:
 - ESG Audits for industrial sustainability.
 - Neurorights and AI Ethics to protect cognitive freedoms in the age of automation.
 - FPOs as catalysts for sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods.
 - Sustainable practices in the automobile sector and soil health for food security.

Cross-Sector Partnerships:

- Emphasis on academia-industry-NGO collaboration to align SDG goals with innovation, policy, and grassroots implementation.

- Proposals for institutionalizing SDGs through internships, CSR programs, and policy advocacy.

Youth-Led Innovation Showcase:

- Highlighted youth entrepreneurship (e.g., an 11-year-old's e-waste initiative) as a model for scalable SDG solutions.

Importance of VKF SDG Youth Clubs

- **Leadership Development:** Empowers students to become agents of change, driving SDG 2030 targets through actionable projects.
- **Structured Collaboration:** Acts as a bridge between academia, industry, and NGOs, enabling mentorship, resource sharing, and project funding.
- **Scalable Impact:** Provides frameworks to turn research (e.g., FPOs, soil health studies) into grassroots initiatives, ensuring inclusivity and sustainability.
- **Sustained Momentum:** Institutionalizes SDG thinking by integrating it into curricula, internships, and campus activities.

PARTNERS

Key partnerships that made the summit happen

ACADEMIC PARTNERS



CORPORATE PARTNERS



WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE ENTHUSIASTIC AND GENEROUS SPIRIT OF OUR PARTNERS, WHICH HAS MADE THIS SUMMIT POSSIBLE.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS



Vikasana Foundation



NGreenTech

WHAT NEXT?



SDG YOUTH CLUBS AT WORK FOR SDG SUMMIT 2026

KEEP WATCHING THE SPACE

Mr. Kishor Jagirdar
President, VKF

Dr. S. Nagendra
Director, VKF

Mr. CNB. Rajesh
Deputy Director, VKF

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