

Reflections

Field to Forum

ecociate

April, 2026

Preserving Moments | Sharing Learnings | Exploring Collaborations

**A monthly
glimpse into our
engagements,
learnings, and
collaborations
with institutions,
partners, and
communities.**

**This month highlights Ecociate's
focus on strengthening the
inclusive business ecosystem
through the launch of the IB
Awards 2026 and the Inclusive
Growth Conference 2026,
creating platforms to recognize
impact-driven enterprises and
foster dialogue for scalable,
sustainable solutions.**

**Field engagements across
regions continued to generate
critical on-ground insights for
our projects and initiatives.**

Inclusive Business Awards 2026

Recognizing Businesses that Create Impact.

We launched the Inclusive Business (IB) Awards 2026 to recognize businesses driving inclusive and sustainable business models in agriculture and Food Systems. The IB Awards aims to support inclusive business and strengthen the ecosystem for inclusive business solutions at scale.

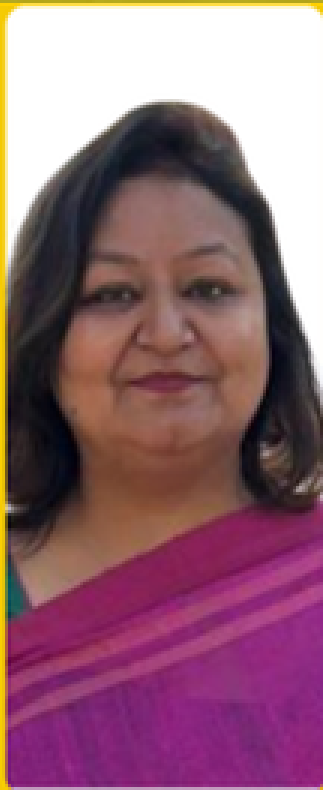
The initiative has received an overwhelming response from the business community, showcasing strong commitment to inclusive growth.

A distinguished jury panel for IB Awards, comprises of national and international experts brings deep sector expertise, strengthening the evaluation process and guiding applicants toward greater impact.

Inclusive Business Award 2026 Jury Members



Ms. Marta Pérez
Cusó



Dr. Sapna
Narula



Mr. Raman
Wadhva



Mr. Rajeev
Ahal



Mr. Rangu
Rao



Mr. Hassan
Hajam



Mr. Subhadeep
Sanyal

Induction of IBFL 3.0 Cohort

Strengthening Future Leaders in Inclusive Business

We welcome the third cohort of Inclusive Business Future Leaders Fellowship, comprising 8 interns representing diverse academic institutions and geographies. The induction, held on 5th April, marked the beginning of an immersive and collaborative learning journey in the domain of inclusive business and sustainable development. The session was also graced by Dr. Sapna Narula, Dean & Director, NIAM Jaipur.

This new cohort brings together fresh perspectives and enthusiasm, strengthening Ecociate's commitment to nurturing young professionals and fostering innovation in the inclusive business ecosystem.



Millets & Local Food Festival at Bhuvneshwar

Transforming Food Systems through Healthy Food & Lifestyle

Our co-founder, Mr Kirti Mishra participated in this event and shared his insights on transforming local food systems, he highlighted the role of Haat Markets in local food systems and need for strengthening these markets. The Millets & Local Foods Festival 2026 in Bhubaneswar brought together key stakeholders to promote sustainable food systems, local markets, and traditional diets. The event highlighted the role of millets, Desi Haats, and community-driven approaches in strengthening livelihoods and building resilient food systems.



Studies on Ground

Field Assessment of Horticulture and Agroforestry Value Chains in Dhule

Field engagements in Dhule district of , Maharashtra explored the scope and opportunities for promoting Agro-forestry and similar opportunities to support NDCs. This visit was undertaken with the support of Lupin Foundation under the RECAP4NDC project. Interactions with farmers, FPOs, and market actors highlighted the dynamics and challenges for shift towards horticulture and agroforestry models.

The study identified emerging direct market linkages and strengthening farmer collectives as key drivers for improving incomes, while also reflecting changing rural dynamics such as labour shortages and migration. It underscored opportunities to scale climate-resilient, livelihood-focused value chains.



Actions on Ground

Preliminary Assessment for Community-Centric Sustainability in Purulia

Field engagements in the Puncha and Manbazar blocks of Purulia, West Bengal, were conducted as part of a preliminary exposure visit under the Asia Science Mission for Sustainability (ASM). Interactions with local stakeholders and partner organizations, including MANT, provided insights into interconnected challenges such as water scarcity, land degradation, fragile livelihoods, and climate stress.

The visit highlighted the importance of integrating systems thinking with local knowledge through collaborative efforts like ASM–Sanjeevan, involving Datamuse LLC, Ecociate Consultants, and MANT, to co-develop community-centric and sustainable solutions.



Shifting Paradigm of Haat Bazaars in the context of Food Systems: A case from Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh

This article highlights the evolving dynamics of rural haat bazaars from the context of food systems. Emerging trends include increased presence of externally sourced produce, concerns around food safety and adulteration, shifting dietary patterns, and infrastructure challenges.

The article also identifies priority areas to strengthen awareness, improve access to safe and nutritious food, and enhance the role of haats in supporting sustainable livelihoods.

To Read more click on the document



Shifting Paradigm of Haat Bazaars in the context of Food Systems: A case from Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh

Markets for Inclusive Growth

This article explores the evolving nature of rural Haat Bazaars in the Chhatarpur landscape, in the context of changing aspirations of local communities. It underlines the shifts in both production and consumption patterns, and analyses how these changes are influencing local food systems.

Inclusive Growth Conference 2026

Driving Inclusive, Resilient & Sustainable Growth

Ecociate Consultants, in collaboration with IBEN and ecosystem partners, announced the Inclusive Growth Conference 2026 – Impacting Agriculture & Food Systems, to be held on 24th June 2026 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The conference will bring together diverse stakeholders to drive conversations and co-create scalable solutions for inclusive, resilient, and sustainable growth, focusing on strengthening food systems, enabling markets, advancing climate technologies, unlocking investments, and building a robust inclusive business ecosystem.

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INCLUSIVE GROWTH CONFERENCE

Impacting the Agriculture and Food Systems

Wednesday
24th June, 2026

India Habitat Centre (IHC)
New Delhi

REGISTER NOW





**Our heartfelt thanks to our partners, well-wishers,
and organizations whose constant support has made
our work impactful.**

The logo for ecociate, with 'eco' in green and 'ciate' in blue, featuring a small upward-pointing triangle above the 'i'.

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