

Bachelor of Arts (VS)- Small and Medium Enterprises

Semester VIII

Discipline Specific Elective- 7.3 (DSE-7.3)- Green and Sustainable Business Practices in MSMEs

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Green and Sustainable Business Practices in MSMEs (DSE 7.3)	4	3	1	0	12 TH PASS	NIL

Learning Objectives:

- Introduce the concept and importance of sustainability in business practices for MSMEs
- Enable students to identify and implement green technologies and energy-efficient methods
- Equip learners with knowledge of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) goals and compliance strategies tailored for MSMEs
- Encourage real-world application through activities such as field visits, audits, and case-based learning

Learning Outcome:

- Students will understand sustainability fundamentals and their relevance in the MSME sector.
- Students will gain knowledge of green technologies applicable in MSME settings and government incentives available.
- Students will be able to analyze the sustainability of supply chains and understand carbon footprint reduction strategies.
- Students will understand ESG compliance and financing opportunities in the sustainable MSME ecosystem.

Course Content

(Theory 45 hrs + Tutorial 15 hrs)

Unit 1

10 hours

Introduction to Sustainability and MSMEs: Concept of Sustainable Development – Brundtland Report, SDGs; Triple Bottom Line: People, Planet, Profit; Need for sustainability in MSMEs: risks and opportunities; Environmental impact of small and medium enterprises; Role of MSMEs in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Global trends in sustainable business practices

Unit 2

11 hours

Green Technologies and Energy Efficiency in MSMEs: Introduction to green technologies: solar, wind, bioenergy, and water recycling; Retrofitting and upgradation of machinery for energy efficiency; Green manufacturing techniques; Environmental certifications: ISO 14001, Eco mark, Energy Star; Case studies: Clean energy MSMEs in India (e.g., solar startups, waste-to-energy SMEs); Barriers to adoption and government support schemes (MNRE, SIDBI Green Finance)

Unit 3

12 hours

Sustainable Supply Chains and Carbon Footprint Management :Meaning and importance of sustainable sourcing; Lifecycle thinking and product lifecycle analysis (LCA); Concepts of circular economy and zero-waste models; Packaging, logistics, and inventory management for sustainability; Tools for measuring and managing carbon footprint in MSMEs; Practical exposure: Using carbon calculators (e.g., GHG Protocol Tools)

12 hours

Unit 4

12 hours

ESG Framework and Compliance for MSMEs: ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) principles explained; ESG rating systems and relevance for MSMEs (SEBI ESG Framework, BRSR for SMEs); Integrating social and ethical practices in business (Diversity, Labour Rights, Fair Trade); Green financing, sustainability-linked loans, and climate funds; Compliance and reporting requirements for MSMEs; Case studies: Indian MSMEs with ESG adoption (Tata Power Solar, Graviky Labs, etc.)

Suggested Readings & Resources

Elkington, J. (1999). *Cannibals with forks: The triple bottom line of 21st century business*. Capstone Publishing.

United Nations. (1987). *Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our common future (Brundtland Report)*. Oxford University Press.

Sachs, J. D., Schmidt-Traub, G., Mazzucato, M., Messner, D., Nakicenovic, N., & Rockström, J. (2019). *Six transformations to achieve the sustainable development goals*. *Nature Sustainability*, 2, 805–814. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-019-0352-9>

Rao, P., & Holt, D. (2005). *Do green supply chains lead to competitiveness and economic performance?*. *International Journal of Operations & Production Management*, 25(9), 898–916.

OECD. (2021). *Greening small and medium-sized enterprises: Taking stock of good practices*. OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/5f25f7fd-en>

Singh, A. K., & Singh, S. (2021). *Green finance and sustainable development: Challenges and opportunities in India*. New Century Publications. Sustainability in SMEs:

1. ESG for MSMEs – India SME Forum & FICCI Reports
2. World Bank: Greening SMEs Toolkit
3. UNEP & CII Reports on Green Businesses
4. Government of India (MSME Sustainable ZED Certification Scheme)
5. Portal References:
 - <https://zed.msme.gov.in/>
 - <https://mnre.gov.in/>
 - <https://ghgprotocol.org/>