

Saurabh Gupta

Founder & CEO | ESG & Sustainability Advisor | Climate-Tech Entrepreneur

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Professional Summary

Sustainability leader and climate-tech entrepreneur with 15+ years of experience advising corporates, governments, and financial institutions on ESG, decarbonization, and regenerative business models. Founder of Earth5R, a globally recognized platform awarded by **Google Play (Best App 2023)** and UNESCO. Experienced in scaling grassroots impact into data-driven ESG systems, with advisory roles spanning real estate, agriculture, and banking. Skilled at creating frameworks that deliver measurable impact, strengthen corporate ESG compliance, and unlock carbon finance opportunities.

Advisory & Consulting Expertise

- ESG strategy development and sustainability reporting aligned with global standards
- Carbon credit frameworks, net-zero pathways, and decarbonization projects
- Sustainable redevelopment advisory for real estate and infrastructure projects
- Transition models for regenerative organic agriculture and supply chain traceability
- Banking and finance-linked sustainability initiatives and livelihood programs
- Circular economy solutions, waste management, and zero-waste systems
- Technology platforms for climate action, ESG dashboards, and impact measurement
- Stakeholder engagement with governments, NGOs, and global institutions
- Training, capacity building, and board-level sustainability workshops
- Reputation enhancement through sustainability storytelling and impact branding

Professional Experience

Founder & CEO

Earth5R Environmental Services Pvt. Ltd. | Mumbai, India | 2014 – Present

- Built Earth5R into a global climate-tech and ESG platform active in 65+ countries with 1.3M community members and 60,000+ active users.
- Designed and launched the Earth5R App and SaaS ESG dashboard, enabling businesses to track carbon, waste, and sustainability KPIs.
- Spearheaded the Organic Transition & Sustainability Enablement Program, aiming to transition 10M farmers to regenerative agriculture in partnership with Amul, RichPlus, NABARD, and Indian Overseas Bank.

- Achieved measurable outcomes: 954,000 tons CO₂ offset, 87,000 trees planted, 7.8M volunteering hours, and 83,000 sustainability projects documented.
- Raised \$300,000 in seed funding (2022) to expand Earth5R's technology and international reach.

Advisor & Sustainability Consultant Independent

- **Adani Group:** Guided ESG-linked riverfront cleanup and sustainable redevelopment strategies.
- **Lodha Group:** Supported ESG compliance, waterbody restoration, and sustainable design for real estate projects.
- **ICICI & SBI:** Designed financial literacy and sustainability-linked livelihood training for marginalized communities in 15 states.
- **Amul & RichPlus:** Created farmer transition blueprint to organic farming with carbon credit monetization.
- **United Nations Technology Innovation Labs:** Advised on the Mithi River Cleanup Project in Mumbai, shaping strategies for community engagement, waste management, and sustainable urban river restoration. Played a strategic role in project management, stakeholder coordination, and deployment of infrastructure solutions, ensuring alignment with global sustainability goals. Supported the integration of technology-driven approaches to monitor waste flows and enhance long-term river governance.
- **National Geographic Roundtable (Ganges River Plastic Pollution):** Contributed expertise on circular economy, data frameworks, and community engagement, highlighting pathways for multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Core Competencies

- ESG Strategy & Corporate Sustainability
- Regenerative Agriculture & Organic Transition
- Climate Tech Platforms & SaaS Solutions
- Waste Management & Recycling
- Decarbonization & Carbon Credit Frameworks
- Circular Economy & Waste Management
- Grassroots Community Mobilization
- Stakeholder Engagement & Public Policy
- Global Partnerships & Investor Relations
- HR, CSR, and EHS Strategy
- Keynote Speaking & Academic Lectures

Professional Experience

Founder & CEO

Earth5R Environmental Services Pvt. Ltd. | Mumbai, India | Nov 2014 – Present

- Founded **Earth5R** in 2014 as a citizen-led sustainability platform, later scaling it into a climate-tech company with an AI-enabled app and SaaS dashboard.
- Grew Earth5R's global footprint to **65 countries**, with **60,000+ users** and a **community of 1.3 million** citizens.
- Designed and executed the **Organic Transition & Sustainability Enablement Program**, targeting **10 million farmers** with regenerative agriculture, carbon credit integration, and digital onboarding.
- Partnered with **MIT, NYU, UNESCO, UNDP, NABARD, Amul, and Indian Overseas Bank** for sustainability projects.
- Achievements include:
 - **7.8 million volunteering hours** globally.
 - **954,000 tons CO₂ offset** and **87,000 trees planted**.
 - **19,800 tons CO₂ sequestered** through citizen action.
 - **83,000 impact stories** documented on Earth5R App.
- Raised **\$300,000 in seed funding** (2022) to scale technology and outreach.
- Recognition: **Google Play Best App 2023** (Apps for Good), **UNESCO Awards**, **French President Emmanuel Macron Young Leader Award**.

Regional Head – HR & EHS

Cafe Coffee Day | Mumbai, India | Nov 2008 – Jan 2012

- Led HR, employee engagement, and leadership development for the region.
- Implemented **CSR and sustainability programs** aligned with corporate goals.
- Developed and executed **EHS strategies** to improve workplace safety and sustainability.

Cyclist & Adventurer

Asia, Africa, Europe | Feb 2012 – Mar 2014

- Cycled **50,000 km across 3 continents** to study climate challenges and grassroots sustainability responses.
- Provided **pro bono sustainability consulting** to local organizations during the journey.
- Inspired the founding of **Earth5R** as a citizen-driven climate action movement.

Speaking & Academic Engagements

- **TEDx Speaker** – Paris (2018) and Mumbai (2018).
- **Guest Lecturer** – New York University (2017–2019), IIT Bombay E-Cell (2017–2019).
- **Panelist** – Sciences Po (2018–2019).
- **Speaker** – University of Cambridge Climate & Sustainability Forum (2021).

Advisory & Consulting Expertise

Organizations can approach me for national-scale and international-scale advisory in areas such as:

- **ESG Frameworks & Governance:** Designing ESG strategies, compliance systems, and governance models aligned with BRSR (India), GRI, SASB, TCFD, and EU CSRD.
- **Establishing ESG Departments & Teams:** Setting up sustainability divisions inside corporates, including structure, SOPs, staffing, and accountability systems.
- **Board-Level ESG Guidance:** Advising boards and leadership on disclosure readiness, net-zero roadmaps, and long-term ESG value creation.
- **Carbon Accounting & Net-Zero Pathways:** Building scalable carbon accounting systems, decarbonization roadmaps, and science-based targets for corporates and industries.
- **Carbon Credit Development:** Creating carbon credit monetization models through regenerative agriculture, forestry, and renewable energy projects that meet both voluntary and compliance markets.
- **Sustainability SaaS & Digital Tools:** Deploying enterprise-level dashboards and SaaS platforms for carbon tracking, ESG monitoring, and impact reporting across multinational operations.
- **CSR Strategy & Execution:** Transforming CSR from compliance-driven to **impact-driven**, with large-scale social programs tied to SDGs and national priorities.
- **Sustainable Urban Redevelopment:** Advising real estate groups and city projects on IGBC/LEED certifications, waterbody restoration, tree offsets, and low-carbon planning.
- **Waste Management & Circular Economy:** Designing city- and industry-level zero-waste models, recycling ecosystems, and circular economy roadmaps.
- **Agriculture & Food Systems Transition:** Supporting the shift of millions of farmers toward regenerative agriculture and traceability systems, enabling premium export markets and carbon credits.
- **Sustainable Finance & Banking Advisory:** Guiding banks and financial institutions on ESG integration, climate-linked lending, green bonds, and farmer financing.
- **Climate Risk & Nature Intelligence:** Developing frameworks for climate risk assessment, biodiversity metrics, and nature-positive strategies for corporates and governments.
- **Green Supply Chain Advisory:** Supporting suppliers and corporates in building low-carbon, resource-efficient supply chains at scale.
- **Training & Capacity Building:** Conducting executive workshops, board training, and community programs on ESG, sustainability, and carbon literacy.
- **Policy & SDG Alignment:** Aligning projects with UN SDGs, COP commitments, and India's national sustainability missions.
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Partnerships:** Building coalitions with governments, multilaterals, corporates, and NGOs for systemic sustainability impact.
- **Marketing & Green Branding:** Positioning companies as authentic sustainability leaders through impact storytelling, ESG-linked campaigns, and green branding strategies that resonate with global investors and consumers.

- **Reputation & Investor Positioning:** Supporting organizations to craft credible sustainability narratives, enhancing investor confidence and stakeholder trust.
- **Renewable Energy & Biodiversity Projects:** Guiding adoption of renewable energy and biodiversity programs that strengthen compliance and create long-term ESG value.

Education

Bachelor of Science – DDU University

Awards & Recognition

- **Google Play Best Apps 2023** – Apps for Good Category
- **UNESCO Award** – Citizen Science & Sustainability Action
- **French President Emmanuel Macron – Young Leader Award**
- **UN Recognition** for Global Sustainability Impact

Sustainability | ESG | Climate Tech | Regenerative Agriculture | Organic Farming | Carbon Credits | Circular Economy | Renewable Energy | Environmental Consulting | Grassroots Mobilization | Climate Change Solutions | UN SDGs | Impact Measurement | Corporate Social Responsibility | Sustainable Finance | Tech for Climate