



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
to the Government of India



INDIA CIRCULAR ECONOMY FORUM (ICEF2025)

MITIGATING RISKS AND EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES

RECOMMENDATIONS

30-31 JULY, 2025

HOTEL RADISSON

UDYOG VIHAR, GURGAON, INDIA



Organized by

International Council for Circular Economy
3rd Floor, Avanta Business Centre
Ambadeep building, KG Marg
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Policy Partner

Policy Advocacy Research Centre (PARC)
208, Shilpin Centre, 2nd Floor
40 G. D. Ambekar Road
Dadar East, Wadala
Mumbai 400031



Index

• What is ICEF?	2
• Focus at ICEF2025	4
• Opening Remarks – Day 1	6–11
• Opening Remarks – Day 2	13–14
• Circular Mobility	17–18
• Circular Electronics	19–20
• Circular Workforce	21–22
• Circular Construction	23–24
• Renewable Energy	25–26
• Urban Waste Management	27–28
• Circular Cities	29–30
• Circular Textiles	31–32
• Circular Food Practices	33–34
• Awards at ICEF2025	35
• Publications at ICEF2025	36
• High Profile Speakers at ICEF	37
• ICEF2025 in News	38

Mitigating Risks and Exploring Opportunities for Businesses

**8+ Embassies | 800+ Delegates | 100+ Industries |
8+ International Entities | 75 speakers |
14+ Sessions | 7+ Government Entities |**

ACE Awards

What is ICEF?

Where bright minds meet

Almost 80 speakers came to the dias to share their experience and knowledge

A platform for collaborations

More than 800+ delegates from several states and countries came under one roof, giving an ample opportunity to collaborate.

Industry leads a transition

More than 100 industry experts showcased their work and how they are making a circular transition

Awards in Circular Economy (ACE)

2 schools, 3 Higher Education Institutes and 6 companies were recognized at ICEF

Innovation and technology comes hand-in-hand

20+ startups showcased their innovation and technology at ICEF

Policymakers get evidence based recommendations

A set of 8 recommendations given to NITI Aayog and several ministries in their specific areas.





ICEF 2025

India's rapid industrial growth has brought with it both economic advantages and environmental challenges. As the global focus on climate change intensifies, businesses are encountering increased pressure to reduce their carbon footprint, manage resource scarcity, and comply with stringent environmental regulations. Non-compliance with these standards poses significant risks to business continuity, financial performance, and global competitiveness.

The forum's theme, "Mitigating Risks and Exploring Opportunities for Businesses," addresses these critical concerns, ensuring businesses understand the transition from a linear to a circular economy. This is a timely dialogue as India is at a pivotal stage in its economic journey, aligning its goals with global sustainability mandates and policies like the European Green Deal, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The forum aims to:

Focus at ICEF

Emerging
technologies
& innovations

Driving
circularity
in the Indian
economy

Risks from
Business-
as-usual
scenarios

Global policies
and their
implications

**Opening Remarks at
the
India Circular Economy Forum
(ICEF2025)**

Shalini Goyal Bhalla
Managing Director
International Council for Circular Economy



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the fourth edition of India's Circular Economy Forum. We were expecting senior officers from the Haryana government, but an urgent meeting with the Chief Minister has kept them away. I would like to acknowledge their strong support for this forum and the circular economy movement. Their commitment continues to inspire us.

As I reflect on the journey of the International Council for Circular Economy, I am proud of how a small initiative five years ago has grown into a national movement. Together, we have published 21 research outputs, submitted 15 expert recommendations to the government, and built a network of over 1,200 members—the largest such community in India. We have launched India's first certified courses on the circular economy, the country's first innovation lab, and public campaigns, including 'I Am Circular Chef'. Each milestone shows how ideas can become real action.

I extend my gratitude to our collaborators, partners, and advisors. Your support has built momentum nationwide. Haryana deserves special recognition for leadership in creating green zones, supporting startups, and implementing urban waste segregation—demonstrating practical circular solutions.

Globally, the challenge is stark. The 2025 Circularity Gap Report indicates that circularity has declined from 9.1% in 2018 to 6.9% today. Resource use has tripled over the past 50 years, and geopolitical tensions are straining material flows. Clearly, circularity is no longer a choice but a necessity.

For India, the stakes are even higher. With 1.4 billion people and rising demand, resources could nearly double by 2030. Without action, waste and pollution will escalate. Yet, I remain optimistic. Cities are adopting circular models, and states like Haryana can lead with sustainable industries.

India's circular transition requires bold, collective action. If we work together, we can transform waste into wealth, challenges into opportunities, and ensure sustainable, resilient growth.



Mr. Masood Malik
CEO
Resustainability

India faces an urgent waste challenge. Cities generate 250,000 tons of waste daily, rising to nearly 370,000 tons by 2030. E-waste has jumped from 1.6 million tons in 2022 to 3.5 million tons today, projected to reach 13 million tons soon — growing over 30% annually. With only 2.5% of global land but 18% of its people, India cannot rely on landfills. Recycling is just 20%, mostly by the informal sector, with major gaps in safety, efficiency, and scale.

The paradox is stark: our bins contain valuable plastics, metals, and electronics, yet we import most of these resources — cobalt, lithium, copper, even crude oil for plastics. Every ton wasted is a loss of economic and strategic value.

Another challenge is embodied carbon. By 2050, emissions from materials will equal those from operations. In India, the share is already 40% and growing. Renewable energy alone will not achieve climate goals; we must decarbonize materials and reduce material intensity.

The National Circular Economy Framework (2024) identifies 16 materials and highlights opportunities in construction waste and e-waste, which remain largely untapped. From my experience, recycling cannot succeed as a standalone commodity business. It requires industrial-scale operations, traceability, and partnerships across the value chain.

EPR is a step forward, but without mandatory recycled content targets and enforcement, it risks becoming a paper exercise. Global innovations are inspiring, but Indian solutions must fit Indian realities.

Circularity in India is a \$500 billion opportunity by 2030 — spanning recycling, repair, refurbishment, life extension, and new models like product virtualization. For us, circularity is not optional — it is essential for resource security, climate resilience, and sustainable growth.

Mr. Puneet Anand
AVP & Vertical Head
Hyundai Motors India Ltd



It is an honor to be here at the India Circular Economy Forum 2025. I want to begin by acknowledging the insights shared by the speakers before me and by emphasizing the vision that unites us — Viksit Bharat 2047.

This forum is more than a conference. It is a platform for innovation, collaboration, and shared responsibility. India's growth story cannot be defined by GDP alone — it must also be regenerative, inclusive, and environmentally secure.

Circularity is not new to India. From our recycling networks to frugal innovation and indigenous systems, sustainability has always been in our DNA. The challenge today is to scale these principles for a modern economy. From the perspective of the automotive sector, which I represent, this responsibility is critical. India is the world's third-largest automotive market, and mobility demand is rising rapidly. Growth must be matched with circular practices: designing, manufacturing, operating, and retiring vehicles sustainably.

Globally, remanufactured auto parts conserve resources and reduce costs. India too can lead. EVs and hydrogen technologies open transformative opportunities. Spent EV batteries, for example, can be repurposed for energy storage. At Hyundai, our EVs — like the Ioniq 5 and Creta Electric — already use recycled and bio-based materials, showing that sustainability strengthens both business and the planet.

At our Chennai plant, 64% of energy comes from renewables, and we will reach 100% by 2025. In Gurugram, our Ekogram waste management centre converts waste into biogas and electricity, proving circularity at a community level. We are also advancing hydrogen research through our H₂O Innovation Centre at IIT Madras, aligned with India's 2070 net zero goal. True circularity goes beyond industry — to communities, livelihoods, and everyday choices. It is not only an environmental imperative but also an economic strategy and social responsibility.

Let us act with urgency and optimism — building partnerships, systems, and innovations to make circularity real for India.



Mr. Sanjay Khajuria
President

Confederation of Indian Food Trade and Industry

Each morning in Gurugram, I pass piles of construction waste — a reminder of the larger challenge before us: how we respond to mounting environmental pressures. My focus today is on agriculture and food processing — sectors vital to our economy, livelihoods, and food security.

Climate change is no longer abstract. Rising temperatures and erratic weather are reducing yields, disrupting supply chains, and driving food price volatility. Agriculture contributes nearly 20% of GDP and supports millions of people, yet by mid-century grain production could fall by 20%, while nutrition in cereals may also decline. This threatens farmer incomes, consumer health, and economic stability.

Water is the most urgent concern. Agriculture consumes 80% of India's freshwater, yet two-thirds of districts face groundwater decline. Haryana and Gurugram exemplify this crisis. Efficiency is now a survival imperative. Disruptions also create opportunities. Food processors can build resilience through better forecasting, diversified sourcing, and farmer engagement. Circular economy practices already show promise — from converting stubble into biofuel to cow dung into renewable energy, creating multiple benefits.

Promising solutions exist: climate-resilient crops like millets, corporate water-positive commitments, and regenerative practices. But small farmers cannot make this transition alone. They need financial and institutional support. I propose two pilots:

1. Water-positive agricultural clusters using micro-irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and recycling, aiming to cut water footprints by 20% in two years.
2. Biodigesters in the dairy sector to reduce emissions, boost incomes, and build rural resilience.

These require enabling policies — incentives for renewable energy, water efficiency, and digital platforms for accountability.

Friends, the choices we make now will define the resilience of India's food systems. Only through collaboration — government, industry, academia, and civil society — can we secure agricultural prosperity and sustainability.

Mr. Sanjay Singh
Director, Strategy & External Relations
Jindal Steel



India is the world's second-largest steel producer, with annual output of 155 million tons and capacity nearing 200 million tons. By 2030, this could reach 300 million, and by 2047, 500–600 million tons. Yet, for every ton of steel, we emit 2.5 to 3 tons of CO₂. The challenge is clear: how to meet rising demand while cutting emissions.

Steel is infinitely recyclable, but in India only 20% comes from scrap, since much of it remains locked in long-term infrastructure. Dependence on iron ore and imported coking coal keeps the industry energy-intensive. The way forward must include greater efficiency in raw material use and energy, supported by innovation.

Decarbonization pathways are emerging: scrap-based electric arc furnaces powered by renewables, integration of green hydrogen in Direct Reduced Iron, and carbon capture. Yet costs are high — retrofitting alone could require \$250 billion — and blast furnaces still dominate production.

Even so, opportunities exist. Circular economy measures already add value: steel's recyclability, slag use in roads, cement, and agriculture, and waste heat recovery for energy savings. Emerging technologies like molten oxide electrolysis and enzymatic ore reduction offer promise, with sustained R&D.

Policy support will be critical — from carbon credit trading and green hydrogen missions to green steel taxonomy and procurement policies. But industry too must step up, supporting small and medium producers with finance and technology.

Friends, sustainable steel is not optional — it is essential. With innovation, policy, and collective will, India can become not only the largest steel producer but also a global leader in green steel.



Mr. Mika Sulkinoja
Coordinator

World Circular Economy Forum

Namaskar, and warm greetings from Finland to all participants at the India Circular Economy Forum. It is a privilege to be here, and I want to begin by recognizing India's proactive role in advancing the global circular economy transition. I represent the Finnish Innovation Fund, Sitra, and also serve as coordinator of the World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF).

The circular economy is not only an environmental necessity but also a strategic response to our greatest challenges: climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and resource scarcity. At the same time, it represents a tremendous opportunity—driving innovation, creating jobs, building resilience, and fostering sustainable growth.

Since 2017, the WCEF has convened leaders across the world—in Helsinki, Yokohama, Toronto, Kigali, Brussels, and this year, São Paulo. Each forum has deepened cooperation and accelerated the adoption of circular solutions. Today, I am delighted to share some important news: in 2026, the World Circular Economy Forum will be hosted in India. It will be jointly organized by Sitra and the Central Pollution Control Board under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

India is the perfect host for this landmark event. Its innovation capacity, entrepreneurial energy, and digital infrastructure position it as a global leader in shaping the future of circularity. But success will depend on strong partnerships, shared vision, and coordinated action across borders and sectors.

I look forward to working closely with Indian stakeholders and global partners to make WCEF 2026 a resounding success. Let us carry forward the spirit of collaboration and innovation that this forum represents.

I commend your commitment to the India Circular Economy Forum, and I look forward to welcoming you all again in 2026, when together we write the next chapter in the story of the circular economy.

**Opening Remarks on
Day 2
at the
India Circular Economy Forum
(ICEF2025)**

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Circular Economy Forum

#ICE25

for Circular Economy



INDIA CIRCULAR
ICE



Shalini Goyal Bhalla
Managing Director
International Council for Circular Economy

Dr. Gulshan Sachdeva,
Chief Coordinator
DAKSHIN at RIS

On Day 2 of the India Circular Economy Forum 2025, a plenary session brought together Shalini Goyal Bhalla and Dr. Gulshan Sachdeva, Chief Coordinator of DAKSHIN at RIS, to highlight the importance and relevance of this new initiative.

Shalini opened by framing DAKSHIN as a pivotal platform for advancing South-South cooperation and sustainable development, noting its potential to bring fresh perspectives and collaborative energy to the circular economy discourse.

Dr. Sachdeva elaborated on the origins of DAKSHIN — the Development and Knowledge Sharing Initiative, announced at the Voice of Global South Summit in 2023 and launched in November that year as a Global South Centre of Excellence housed at RIS. He explained that DAKSHIN's mission is to identify scalable solutions, accelerate localization of the SDGs, and create avenues for peer learning across agriculture, health, digital public goods, and other critical sectors. Examples such as India Stack — Aadhaar, UPI, DigiLocker, and eSanjeevani — were highlighted as innovations with replication potential across developing economies.

The discussion also highlighted DAKSHIN's efforts in forging international partnerships, including agreements with ERIA on resilient supply chains and with think tanks such as Geocase for joint research and capacity building. Sector-specific dialogues, such as agro-ecological resilience and traditional medicine exchanges, further reflect its interdisciplinary scope. Both speakers emphasized that for the Global South, circularity and sustainability are not abstract ideas but immediate imperatives requiring collaboration, robust policy frameworks, and capacity building.

Shalini and Dr. Sachdeva concluded that DAKSHIN symbolizes India's leadership in connecting knowledge and practice, and that its convening of conferences, workshops, and policy dialogues will help shape solutions grounded in the realities of the South. The session underlined that through DAKSHIN, India and its partners can transform local innovations into global public goods, ensuring a resilient and inclusive development path for the Global South.

**Panel Discussions
and
Recommendations
from
India Circular Economy Forum
(ICEF2025)**

Circular Mobility: Designing Clean & Connected Transport Systems

Objectives of the Panel:

- Explore how the circular economy can reduce lifecycle emissions and material dependency in transport
- Identify financing and policy levers to scale clean mobility models
- Promote stakeholder collaboration for infrastructure development and behavioural change

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Mr. Shirish Mahendru, Technical Advisor - Sustainable Mobility - Clean fuels- SUM-ACA GIZ India
Mr. Chetan Pathak, Director- Strategy and Growth, India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA)
Mr. Snehalkumar Suryawanshi, Head of Cleantech - India Alfalaval
Mr. Pranay Kumar Chief Energy Officer, Asma Energy
Mr. Ajay Bhatt, Head of Corporate, Product and Sustainability Strategy Skoda Auto Volkswagen
Mr. Amit Sharma, Head Mobility, Noida International Airport

Policy Recommendations

1. Regulatory & Policy Reform

- *Notify Uniform Battery Second-Life Safety Standards (MoRTH + BIS, 2025).*
- *Mandate traceability & digital passports for EV batteries (MoEFCC + CPCB, by 2026).*
- *Expand EPR norms from batteries to include EV components (MoEFCC, by 2026).*

2. Institutional & Governance Actions

- *Establish a National Circular Mobility Mission led by NITI Aayog, converging EV, waste, & industry policies.*
- *State Govts to set up Reverse Logistics Zones for EV parts & battery collection.*
- *Integrate ULBs in collection & safe disposal of retired EVs.*

3. Market & Industry Interventions

- *Introduce production incentives linked to recyclability & reusability of components.*
- *Promote cluster development for EV recycling & remanufacturing hubs (SIDBI/MSME Ministry).*
- *Public procurement mandates for buses & fleet vehicles to include recycled content.*

4. Technology, Skills & Finance

- *Dedicated R&D grants for battery recycling, second-life storage, & lightweight materials.*
- *Expand skilling under Skill India & ASDC to include EV repair, dismantling, & recycling.*
- *Enable blended finance & green bonds for reverse logistics infrastructure.*

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
MoRTH, DHI, MoEFCC	Lead regulatory reforms, safety standards, EPR expansion
NITI Aayog	Coordinate National Circular Mobility Mission
State EV Cells, ULBs	Implement local collection & reverse logistics systems
Industry (OEMs, recyclers)	Invest in design for recyclability & traceability
MSMEs & startups	Innovate in repair, reuse, remanufacturing
Academia & R&D labs	Support testing & innovation in materials & recycling
Civil society & consumer groups	Awareness campaigns on reuse & responsible disposal

Circular Electronics: Tackling E-Waste & Driving Innovation

Objectives of the Panel:

- Highlight design innovations that enhance product longevity and recyclability
- Examine the policy and technology ecosystem needed to support e-waste circularity.
- Identify regulatory and business models that support reuse, repair, and material recovery.
- Discuss global trends and how India can align with or lead emerging standards

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 3, SDG 9, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Dr Reva Prakash, Environmental Policy & Resources Efficiency Advisor, GIZ India
Mr Srinivas Moturi, Head R&D Centre, Voltas Limited - a TATA Enterprise
Mr Gaurav Dolwani CEO, Lico Materials
Ms Ritu Ghosh, Associate Director, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability, Panasonic
Mr. Pawandeep Singh Bawa, VP-BD Attero

Policy Recommendations

1. Regulatory & Policy Reform

- *Introduce Right to Repair legislation covering mobiles, appliances, and IT equipment (MeitY, by 2026).*
- *Expand EPR scope to include component-level collection & reuse targets (CPCB, 2025).*
- *Mandate eco-design standards for durability & recyclability (BIS, by 2026).*

2. Institutional & Governance Actions

- *Establish a National E-Waste Management Authority to streamline EPR enforcement.*
- *State-level collection centres under ULBs to integrate informal aggregators into formal systems.*
- *Annual compliance scorecards for top producers & importers.*

3. Market & Industry Interventions

- *Provide tax rebates for companies integrating recycled content in new electronics.*
- *Encourage public procurement of refurbished electronics in government offices.*
- *Create Green Electronics Clusters with shared recycling & material recovery facilities.*

4. Technology, Skills & Finance

- *R&D funding for advanced material recovery (rare earths, lithium, gold, silver).*
- *Upskilling programmes for informal workers on safe dismantling & repair.*
- *Dedicated financing lines for startups in repair-as-a-service, leasing, and refurbishment models.*

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
MeitY, MoEFCC, CPCB	Regulatory reform, EPR enforcement, eco-design standards
State PCBs & ULBs	Collection infrastructure, integration of informal sector
Electronics OEMs	Circular design, reverse logistics, financing recycling
MSMEs & startups	Repair, refurbishment, recycling innovation
Academia & R&D institutions	Recovery tech development, eco-design testing
Consumers & civil society	Demand generation for repair & refurbished goods

Building Circular Workforce: Skills, Training & Capacity Development

Objectives of the Panel:

- Promote integration of circular economy in existing vocational and academic programs
- Identify gaps and opportunities in India's skilling ecosystem related to circular economy transition.
- Explore strategies for formalising and upgrading the informal workforce, especially in reuse, repair, and waste value chains.
- Discuss cross-sectoral models and institutional partnerships to scale circular workforce development.

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 12

Speakers:



Dr Srinivas Vadapalli, HoD SMET, Indian Maritime University (IMU)

Prof Anupam Ahuja, NCERT, Professor & Head, International Relations Division

Dr Amit Dutta, Director, Policy & Academic Planning Bureau (Technical), AICTE

Dr Amarendra Pani, Joint Director & Head, Research Division, Association of Indian Universities (AIU)

Dr Rimika Kapoor, Green Loop Technologies, Founder

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Regulatory Measures

- *Integrate circular skills modules into PMKVY, NAPS, and NSQF by 2026.*
- *Create a National Occupation Standard (NOS) for repair, reuse, and resource recovery jobs.*
- *Extend social security schemes (ESI, PF, insurance) to informal sector workers engaged in waste and recycling.*

2. Institutional Actions

- *Establish a Circular Skills Council under NSDC with representation from industry, ULBs, and informal worker unions.*
- *Mandate ULBs to provide formal ID and recognition to waste pickers and integrate them into municipal solid waste systems.*
- *Launch an annual Circular Workforce Survey to track labour demand and emerging skill gaps.*

3. Industry & Market Interventions

- *Incentivise companies that invest in upskilling their workers for reverse logistics & repair services.*
- *Facilitate green entrepreneurship incubators in circular sectors such as e-waste repair, bio-economy, and C&D waste recovery.*
- *Create industry-led certification programmes to improve employability of trained workers.*

4. Financing & Partnerships

- *Use CSR & ESG-linked funds to support skill development in circular sectors.*
- *Leverage multilateral funding (World Bank, ILO, UNDP) for just transition and reskilling programmes.*
- *Public-private partnerships for setting up training labs in industrial clusters.*

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
Ministry of Skill Development (MSDE)	Policy integration, standards development
NSDC & SSCs	Training, certification, industry alignment
ULBs	Worker recognition, integration into waste systems
Industry & MSMEs	On-the-job training, green jobs, certification support
Informal sector unions & NGOs	Worker mobilisation, awareness, <u>social</u> protection
Academic & training institutions	Curriculum design, systems thinking training

Circular Construction: Transforming the Built Environment

Objectives of the Panel:

- Explore scalable policy and technology options for integrating recycled materials and C&D waste into mainstream construction.
- Identify design, finance, and regulatory levers to enable modular, adaptive, and circular construction models.
- Recommend strategies for city-level implementation of circular construction through planning codes, ULB mandates, and procurement norms.

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Mr Vaibhav Rathi, Senior Technical Advisor - Climate Change & Circular Economy, GIZ India
Dr Ajay Kumar Singhal, Sr DGM- Water and Effluent Treatment IC, L&T
Mr Nasrulla Mohammed, Head Business Development, C&D, Resustainability
Dr Namya Sharma, Project Research Scientist, IIT Mumbai
Ms Shyny Sam, India Sr Program Associate, Energy Program, WRI

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Regulatory Measures

- Mandate segregation of C&D waste at project sites under Building Bye-Laws.
- Enforce minimum recycled content requirements in government construction projects.
- Update National Building Code to integrate modular design & circularity principles.
- Establish national quality standards for recycled aggregates, tiles, and precast products.

2. Institutional Actions

- Empower ULBs to contract C&D waste operators with clear accountability.
- Establish Material Recovery Hubs in every major urban cluster by 2030.
- Include C&D waste targets in State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs).

3. Industry & Market Interventions

- Incentivise developers who adopt green certifications with circular construction benchmarks.
- Promote secondary markets for recovered construction materials via digital marketplaces.
- Encourage PPP models for operating recycling facilities.

4. Financing & Partnerships

- Use Green Finance & Infrastructure Bonds to fund recycling plants and recovery hubs.
- Mobilise CSR & ESG funds for piloting circular design in housing projects.
- Collaborate with multilateral agencies for technology transfer in modular construction.

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
MoHUA	Policy framework, urban guidelines, financing incentives
CPCB & SPCBs	Waste management rules, compliance enforcement
BIS & Bureau of Energy Efficiency	Standards for recycled materials, green building codes
State Urban Development Departments	Execution through ULBs, PPP facilitation
Private developers & contractors	On-site segregation, adoption of circular design
Informal sector & MSMEs	Collection, dismantling, resale of materials
Academia & R&D institutions	Innovation in modular design, alternative low-carbon materials

Renewable Energy Meets Circularity: A Resilient Energy Future

Objectives of the Panel:

- Identify policy and infrastructure needs for managing renewable energy waste streams.
- Explore circular business models and materials recovery strategies in RE systems.
- Facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration between energy, environment, and industry stakeholders.

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Dr Gurleen Kaur, Technology and Solar Specialist, ISA

Ms Priyanka Singh Programme Lead CEEW

Dr T Bangar Raju Dean SMM IMU

Dr Piyush Choudhary General Manager (Electrical), ONGC Green Limited (OGL), ONGC

Mr Anshu Dewan, Founder, Director, IX Energy Private Limited, DS Group

Mr Archana Chauhan ,Head of Energy Sector Reforms, British High Commission

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Regulatory Measures

- *Notify EPR regulations for solar PV, wind blades & batteries with phased recovery targets.*
- *Embed circularity criteria in renewable energy tenders (eco-design, durability, recyclability).*
- *Introduce standards for recycling & refurbished components under BIS.*
- *Mandate decommissioning & recycling plans in power purchase agreements (PPAs).*

2. Institutional Actions

- *Establish a National Renewable Energy Circularity Taskforce (MNRE, MoEFCC, NITI Aayog).*
- *Integrate renewable waste management into CPCB guidelines & state action plans.*
- *Establish regional recycling hubs in conjunction with renewable energy parks.*

3. Industry & Market Interventions

- *Incentivise domestic recycling enterprises for PV modules & wind blades.*
- *Promote battery second-life applications (stationary storage, rural electrification).*
- *Develop a digital registry for tracking renewable energy components across the lifecycle.*

4. Financing & Partnerships

- *Leverage green bonds & climate finance for circular energy infrastructure.*
- *Mobilise CSR funds for R&D in recycling technologies.*
- *Partner with international agencies for technology transfer in PV & wind recycling.*

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
MNRE	Policy framework, urban guidelines, financing incentives
CPCB & SPCBs	Waste management rules, compliance enforcement
BIS & Bureau of Energy Efficiency	Standards for recycled materials, green building codes
State Urban Development Departments	Execution through ULBs, PPP facilitation
Private developers & contractors	On-site segregation, adoption of circular design
Informal sector & MSMEs	Collection, dismantling, resale of materials
Academia & R&D institutions	Innovation in modular design, alternative low-carbon materials

Urban Waste Management: Local Loops for Local Problems

Objectives of the Panel:

- Assess the effectiveness and challenges of decentralised waste systems across Indian cities.
- Showcase scalable, community-based and enterprise-led waste circularity models.
- Recommend policy and financing approaches to mainstream local loops in urban governance.

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 8, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Mr Prabhjot Sodhi, Sr Program Director (Circular Economy), CEE

Mr Shekar Prabhakar, Co-founder & CEO Hasiru Dala Innovations Private Limited

Mr Ashish Jain, Director, IPCA Enviro Pvt Ltd

Mr Nikhil Panchal, Founder & CEO, Green Aadhar

Ms Savitha K L Research and Information System for Developing Countries, IBSA Fellow

Mr K Ganesh, Director, Sustainability and Corporate Affairs, Bisleri International Pvt. Ltd.

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Governance

- Enforce 100% source segregation with penalties & incentives.
- Mandate ward-level decentralised composting & recycling hubs.
- Integrate plastics, textiles & e-waste through city-level EPR systems.
- Create dedicated Urban Circular Economy Cells in ULBs.

2. Infrastructure & Technology

- Scale neighbourhood-level MRFs & biomethanation units.
- Promote low-cost decentralised composting solutions.
- Deploy digital platforms to monitor waste flows & incentivise segregation.

3. Economic & Market Interventions

- Reform user fees to reward compliance.
- Introduce buy-back schemes for compost & recyclables.
- Support waste-based MSMEs & startups with concessional financing.

4. Social & Institutional Inclusion

- Recognise & formalise waste-picker cooperatives with contracts & social protection.
- Embed waste literacy in schools & community campaigns.
- Incentivise citizen-led repair, reuse, & low-waste initiatives.

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
ULBs	Enforce segregation, develop decentralised systems
State Urban Departments	Oversight, funding, convergence
CPCB/SPCBs	Monitoring & compliance
Waste-picker cooperatives/NGOs	Collection, segregation, and citizen engagement
Private sector/startups	Recycling, technology, logistics
Citizens & RWAs	Compliance with segregation & reuse
Academia/Think Tanks	Data, innovation, behaviour change
International partners (UN-Habitat, UNEP)	Best practices, funding, policy support
Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
ULBs	Enforce segregation, develop decentralised systems

Circular Cities: Integrating Urban Planning and Circular Economy

Objectives of the Panel:

- Assess the effectiveness and challenges of decentralised waste systems across Indian cities.
- Showcase scalable, community-based and enterprise-led waste circularity models.
- Recommend policy and financing approaches to mainstream local loops in urban governance.

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 8, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13

Speakers:



Ms Gigi Mathews, Director- Partnerships, Asia, Enviu
Mr Tarak Nandan Sahay, Founder & CEO, ZWC Solutions Private Limited
Ms Neha Vyas, Senior Environment Specialist, The World Bank
Mr N Chandrasekhar, Founder, Jivoule Biofuels Pvt Ltd
Mr Ritik Sinha, Associate partner, Xynteo

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Regulatory Measures

- Mandate integration of circularity principles in city master plans and zoning regulations.
- Align Smart Cities 2.0 and AMRUT with explicit circular targets (resource recovery, reuse rates).
- Develop city-level material flow accounts to guide planning and investment.

2. Governance & Institutional Strengthening

- Establish urban circular economy cells within ULBs for coordination and monitoring.
- Integrate informal sector through formal recognition, contracts, and skilling programs.
- Encourage state-level circular economy policies to guide ULB action.

3. Financing & Partnerships

- Create green municipal bonds and blended finance mechanisms to fund circular infrastructure.
- Build partnerships with private sector for district-level recycling, renewable energy, and shared mobility.
- Support urban innovation hubs to incubate circular startups and social enterprises.

4. Citizen & Community Engagement

- Launch behavioural campaigns on reuse, repair, segregation, and responsible consumption.
- Enable neighbourhood-scale pilots (e.g., local composting, shared mobility nodes) as proof of concept.
- Promote community co-operatives for resource recovery and local green jobs.

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs	Policy, schemes (Smart Cities, AMRUT) integration of circularity
State Urban Development Departments	Framework guidance, capacity-building for ULBs
Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)	Implementation, citizen engagement, service delivery
Informal sector (waste pickers, MSMEs)	Material recovery, repair, recycling, employment generation
Private developers & builders	Adoption of circular construction, material reuse
Civil society & academia	Research, awareness, citizen mobilisation
Financial institutions	Financing instruments, impact bonds
Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs	Policy, schemes (Smart Cities, AMRUT) integration of circularity

Reimagining Textiles: Circular Fashion and Responsible Production

Objectives of the Panel:

- Examine supply chain interventions to minimise waste and promote transparency
- Promote design innovation, recycling, and resale models
- Align industry actions with emerging circular economy policies and EPR frameworks

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 12

Speakers:



Ms Rachna Arora Director- Climate Change & Circular Economy GIZ India

Mr Abrar Ahmad Founder Syaahi Uniforms

Mr Karan K. Programme Manager, Fashion Laudes India

Mr Somatish Banerji Partner Intellectap

Ms Jhumki Dutta Lead Programmes Partners in Change

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Regulation

- *Introduce a Textile EPR Framework with phased collection & recycling targets.*
- *Make circularity criteria mandatory in PLI schemes & export incentives.*
- *Draft a National Circular Textiles Mission, anchored in Ministry of Textiles with MoEFCC & CPCB.*

2. Infrastructure & Innovation

- *Establish textile recovery hubs in clusters like Panipat, Surat, and Tirupur with common sorting & recycling facilities.*
- *Provide R&D grants for biodegradable fibres, eco-design, and digital traceability.*
- *Set up textile innovation labs under PM-MITRA Parks for pilots in circular design.*

3. Financing & Market Mechanisms

- *Launch Green Export Zones for textiles, offering customs facilitation for circular products.*
- *Mobilise blended finance & concessional credit for MSME recyclers.*
- *Link ESG disclosures of large textile firms with access to export benefits.*

4. Social Inclusion & Consumer Engagement

- *Formalise & skill waste-picker groups for textile waste recovery.*
- *Embed repair & upcycling into SAMARTH skilling programs.*
- *Promote consumer awareness campaigns to reduce stigma around reuse and resale.*

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
Ministry of Textiles	Anchor policies, oversee Circular Textiles Mission
CPCB & MoEFCC	Develop & enforce EPR guidelines for textiles
Export Councils (AEPC, TEXPROCIL)	Align exporters with EU/US sustainability requirements
MSME textile producers	Innovate & adopt eco-design, repair & recycling models
Recycling enterprises (formal/informal)	Collect, sort, reprocess pre- & post-consumer textile waste
Global buyers & brands	Set compliance & traceability requirements
Financial institutions	Fund innovation, infrastructure, and green exports
NGOs & social enterprises	Inclusion of waste workers, awareness building, and consumer engagement

Agriculture and Food Waste: Reducing Losses to Ensure Food Security and Achieve Circularity

Objectives of the Panel:

- Assess the scale and root causes of food loss and waste across India's agricultural value chain.
- Highlight how reducing food waste can enhance national food security and contribute to SDG 2.
- Review current policies and schemes addressing post-harvest losses and food waste management in India.
- Identify technological, institutional, and behavioural interventions that promote circularity in food systems including reducing wastage at farm and household level.
- Recommend actionable pathways and cross-sectoral partnerships involving government, industry, farmers, and civil society

Aligned SDGs:

SDG 2, SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 15

Speakers:



Mr. Sanjay Khajuria, President, Confederation of Indian Food Trade and Industry

Ms Vandana Singh, Director, India Food Banking Network

Mr Deepten Chatterjee, Head of Corporate Affairs, TetraPak

Ms Divya Gaur, Programme Lead, CEEW

Dr Bhavna Sharma, Head- Nutrition & Innovation Sensory Insights (Nestle R&D), Nestle

Policy Recommendations

1. Policy & Governance

- Launch a National Food Loss & Waste Reduction Strategy.
- Harmonise regulations to enable safe food donation & redistribution.
- Ensure convergence across agriculture, food processing, & waste management policies.

2. Infrastructure & Technology

- Expand cold chains & rural packhouses under Agri Infrastructure Fund.
- Promote decentralised technologies for food recovery, composting, & bio-CNG.
- Use digital traceability platforms for supply chain transparency.

3. Economic & Market Interventions

- Provide tax incentives for food donation to NGOs & food banks.
- Develop markets for compost, bio-fertilisers & value-added secondary products.
- Support FPOs & MSMEs in building circular food economies.

4. Social & Institutional Inclusion

- Consumer education campaigns on responsible consumption.
- Scale-up food bank networks with structured surplus recovery.
- Skilling programs for farmers & entrepreneurs in food recovery & processing.

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder	Role & Responsibility
Ministry of Agriculture	Lead strategy & FPO mobilisation
MoFPI	Cold chain, storage, MSME support
FSSAI	Guidelines for food donation & awareness
NABARD/SIDBI	Financing for infrastructure & MSMEs
FPOs	Aggregation, processing, market linkages
NGOs & food banks	Food redistribution
Private logistics providers	Cold chain & tech services
Consumers	Awareness & behavioural change
FAO, WFP, UNEP	Best practices, technical support

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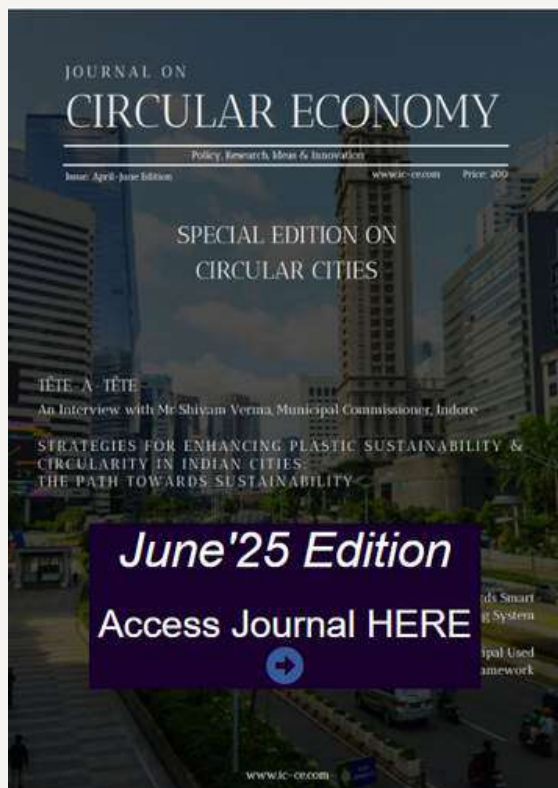


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ICEF2025 in News

पंजाब केसरी 30-7-2025 गुरुग्राम

आज आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025

गुरुग्राम में आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

गुरुग्राम में आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025

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A step towards sustainable biz: Gurgaon to host 2-day circular economy meet

Bagish Jha - City
29th Jul, 25 01:01 IST

Gurgaon: The state govt, along with the Haryana

दैनिक भास्कर 30-7-2025 गुरुग्राम

हरित भारत की ओर अग्रसर

गुरुग्राम में आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025, शुभारम्भ आज

गुरुग्राम में आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025, शुभारम्भ आज। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

नवोदय टाइम्स 31-7-2025 गुरुग्राम

गुरुग्राम में इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम के चौथे संस्करण का किया शुभारम्भ

गुरुग्राम में इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम के चौथे संस्करण का किया शुभारम्भ। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

नवभारत टाइम्स 31-7-2025 गुरुग्राम

गुरुग्राम में पर्यावरण के अनुकूल यातायात व्यवस्था होना जरूरी

गुरुग्राम में पर्यावरण के अनुकूल यातायात व्यवस्था होना जरूरी। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

दैनिक जागरण 1-8-2025 गुरुग्राम

चक्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए साझा रास्ता तय करने के उद्देश्य से की गई चर्चा

चक्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए साझा रास्ता तय करने के उद्देश्य से की गई चर्चा। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

नवभारत टाइम्स 1-8-2025 गुरुग्राम

हरित ऊर्जा और संसाधनों के दोबारा इस्तेमाल को लेकर सरकार प्रतिबद्ध

हरित ऊर्जा और संसाधनों के दोबारा इस्तेमाल को लेकर सरकार प्रतिबद्ध। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

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प्रादेशिक

गुरुग्राम मिलेनियम सिटी होने के साथ हरियाणा की लाइफलाइन भी: शालिनी

एएससीपी के सहयोग से गुरुग्राम में इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम के चौथे संस्करण का हुआ शुभारम्भ

गुरुग्राम में आयोजित होगा इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम 2025, शुभारम्भ आज। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।

स्वच्छ और हरित शहरों की दिशा में एक बड़ा कदम : इंडिया सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी फोरम के चौथे संस्करण का हुआ शुभारम्भ

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अमर उजाला 1-8-2025 गुरुग्राम

विकासशील देशों के लिए ज्ञान और तकनीक के साझे उपयोग की जरूरत

विकासशील देशों के लिए ज्ञान और तकनीक के साझे उपयोग की जरूरत। इस कार्यक्रम में देश के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के उद्योग, शोध संस्थानों और सरकारी निकायों के प्रतिनिधियों का भाग लेना शामिल है।



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