

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
**WASTE REDUCTION
CIRCULAR ECONOMY
AND ENHANCED LIVELIHOODS**
IDEAS FROM NEAR AND AFAR

MARCH 18 - 19, 2019
NEW DELHI



Why this Conference?

India is finding itself in a crisis similar to many developed countries - there is simply too much waste. Multiple reports point to a massive and growing amount of waste that is being generated in India. According to ASSOCHAM, nearly 100,000 metric tonnes of solid waste is generated each day¹. In addition, 15,000 tons of plastic waste are discarded daily, with only 70 percent being recycled². In terms of electronic waste (e-waste), India is already the fifth largest generator in the world.

Last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi set the tone for waste reduction on World Environment Day by setting a target to eliminate single-use plastic by 2022. Earlier this month, the Government of India banned the import of solid plastic waste into the country. In addition, the Government of India has taken recent actions to address these issues, for instance, introducing major revisions to the Solid Waste Management Rules, Plastic Management Rules, and E-Waste Management Rules in 2016.

Indian policies have primarily focused on the collection and recycling of waste, and increasing the responsibilities placed on corporations. However, waste reduction has the potential to become a more active part of the state approach. Beyond simply banning plastic bags and other items (as in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Sikkim), governments can experiment with alternative approaches and solutions. In addition, by supporting a more circular approach to the economy, there may be an opening to create new demand for business services, such as reverse logistics.

In this conference, we will discuss and share new insights related to several important areas:

1. What is the relationship between a circular economy, waste reduction, and jobs?
2. How can businesses successfully adopt newer models to become more circular and sustainable?
3. What are examples of innovations on the ground that are reducing waste and enhancing livelihoods?
4. What does the data and evidence teach us about India's waste sector?

Thank you for attending this conference. Our goal is to bring together global and domestic stakeholders who can share their work, challenges, and successes in reducing the burden of waste. We hope that by bringing all of these people together, new ideas and knowledge will emerge that will guide policymakers in the years ahead.



¹ India generates 1,00,000 metric tonnes of waste per day
<https://bit.ly/2P5wXW0>

² Assessment & Characterisation of Plastic Waste Generation in 60 Major Cities
<https://bit.ly/2B5TABH>

DAY 1 **Conference Sessions**

Session 1

THE BIG PICTURE: CIRCULAR ECONOMY, WASTE REDUCTION AND JOBS



What are the global perspectives on the circular economy today?



What are the linkages between the circular economy, waste reduction and jobs?



What is likely to work in India?

Session 2

CAN BUSINESSES BECOME CIRCULAR AND SUSTAINABLE?



Can manufacturing be sustainable?



Given the existing business practices, is there scope for the adoption of newer models?



What are the most pressing challenges for the business sector and how can they be addressed?

Session 3

IDEAS AT WORK: REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES



Innovations on the ground



Learning from tradition



DAY 2 **Conference Sessions**

Session 4

WHAT DOES THE DATA AND EVIDENCE TEACH US ABOUT INDIA'S WASTE SECTOR?



Characteristics of the informal e-waste sector in Delhi



Experimental results on incentivizing residential waste segregation in Delhi



Bridging the informal and formal sectors to increase safer recycling and disposal



Perspectives on the various waste management rules and what it will take for the rules to be successful

Session 5

VISION FOR A WASTE-FREE INDIA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



What roadblocks will need to be addressed over the next five years?



What strategic partnerships will be critical in addressing these challenges?



What are the best and most scaleable ideas from the ground?





Speakers



Adarsh Kumar Goel

Adarsh Kumar Goel is a former judge of the Supreme Court of India. He is a former Chief Justice of the Odisha, High Court and the Guwahati High Court, and a former justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. He is currently serving as the chairperson of National Green Tribunal.

Anil Kumar Jain is a member of the Indian Administrative Service of the Government of India. He is presently Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



Anil Kumar Jain



Amita Patil

Amita Patil is the chief officer of Panchgani and Mahabaleshwar hill station municipal councils. In Swachh Survekshan2018, Panchgani was the cleanest city in India below one lakh population cities. She has previously worked as CEO of smart city of solapur municipal corporation.

Amitabh Kant is presently CEO, NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India). NITI Ayog is a Government of India institution whose aim is to foster involvement and participation of state governments in policy making and enhance cooperative federalism.



Amitabh Kant



Ashish Chaturvedi

Ashish Chaturvedi is the Director at GIZ India. He specialises in climate change mitigation and adaptation, waste management, sustainable consumption and production, and environmental policy. His current focus is on policy and knowledge management aspects of climate change.

Ashish Mehta is with Mumbai Sustainability Centre. He is the Founder and Managing Director of Second Nature Sustainable Solutions, a consulting & advisory company that deploys resources & solutions to create sustainable development.



Ashish Mehta



Bharati Chaturvedi

Bharati Chaturvedi is the Founder and Director of Chintan. She also writes on environmental and urban issues widely in the Hindustan Times, via her weekly column Green Piece, Scroll.com, India Today etc. Apart from the work on waste, toxics and air pollution, Bharati is a prolific birder and hopes to bring learnings from the wilderness and conservation to inform Chintan's work on circular economy.

Passionate humanitarian professional with over 15 years' experience in the development sector. Specialized in waste management and sustainable consumption with a deep commitment to environmental and social justice. Currently operating as Head, Advocacy and Policy at Chintan.



Chitra Mukherjee



Frollan Grate

Frollan Grate is the Executive Director of GAIA Asia Pacific based in Manila, Philippines. GAIA, together with Greenpeace and others, is a core member of the global Break Free From Plastic movement.



Speakers



**Henriette
Faergemann**

Henriette Faergemann is the Environment, Climate and Energy Counsellor in the European Union Delegation to India based in New Delhi. She is responsible for cooperation between the EU and India in these areas and in the area of Urbanisation and Smart Cities.

Jayprakash Chaudhary is the founder of Safai Sena. Safai sena is a registered group of waste pickers, doorstep waste collectors, itinerant buyers, small junk dealers and other types of waste recyclers.



**Jayprakash
Chaudhary**



Johann Ivanov

Johann Ivanov is the Deputy Representative & Program Director, Social Justice, Fredrich Ebert Stiftung. He studied political science and political theory at the FU Berlin and the University of Edinburgh.



**Kuldip Singh
Sangwan**

Ken Lee is the Executive Director of EPIC India. He is also a Senior Research Associate at the Department of Economics, University of Chicago. Previously, Ken was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) and the Energy Institute at Haas.



Ken Lee

Kuldip Singh Sangwan is a Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department of BITS Pilani.



Filmmaker, writer and ecologist activist, Laurence Hugues has been elected as deputy mayor of the 3rd district in Paris in 2014. She is implementing global policies with local solutions in terms of climate emergency, circular economy, employment, urban agriculture and nature.



Laurence Hugues



Leni Chaudhuri

Leni Chaudhuri is the Country Director of the Tata Centre for Development (TCD). Previously Leni was the Vice President of Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation, a leading grant making organization in India.

Malati Gadgil is a Sustainability Strategist, HP & Former CEO, SWaCH, Pune. Prior to working with SWaCH, Malati has worked with wastepickers in Delhi after spending 14 years in the US.



Malati Gadgil



Manbir Sodhi

Manbir Sodhi is a Professor in the University of Rhode Island, USA. He has worked on projects funded by the National Science Foundation, Naval Undersea Warfare Center (Newport), EPA, Navy, and other funding agencies.



Speakers



Mahua Saha

Mahua Saha is a Senior Scientist at The National Institute of Oceanography (NIO). She did her Ph.D. in Environmental Science.

P.Madeswaran is a marine biologist and presently working as Scientist at NCCR (formerly as Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management - Project Directorate (ICMAM-PD)), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Chennai.



P.Madeswaran



Ritu Sain

Ritu Sain is the Additional Resident Commissioner, Government of Chhattisgarh. She is a 2003-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer.

S.K.Nigam is the Divisional Head of Urban Pollution Control Board (UJC), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).



S. K. Nigam



Sanjib Bezbaroa

Sanjib Bezbaroa is the Executive Vice President, EHS at ITC Limited. He graduated in Electrical Engineering from NIT Allahabad and later completed a mid-career PG Diploma in Environmental Assessment from Imperial College, University of London.



Saugato Datta is a Managing Director at ideas42, a behavioral economics research and consulting firm. His current work spans public health, violence reduction, financial inclusion, resource conservation, the design of transfer programs, urban governance and sustainability.



Saugato Datta



Shivani Wadehra

Shivani Wadehra is an Assistant Professor in the Economics and Planning unit, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Delhi. Her research interests include environmental economics. Her doctoral research primarily studies the determinants to waste segregation at source.



Sujeet Samaddar is presently Senior Consultant (Industry), NITI Aayog, Government of India. He has been a visiting fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs, Tokyo and at the United Services Institution of India, New Delhi.



Sujeet Samaddar



Vandana Chavan

Vandana Chavan is a member of Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra and member of several committees of Rajya Sabha including Committee on Empowerment of Women, MPLADS, Science, Technology, Environment and Forests and General Purpose Committee. She has taken leading role in several environmental movements in the city of Pune.



Chintan was established in December 1999 as a means of addressing issues of sustainable consumption and environmental and social justice.

Chintan's main approaches involve capacity building for green jobs for the informal sector, inclusion of the urban poor in policy making, research and advocacy on issues of environmental justice and environmental governance, helping children working in recycling to phase out and go to school and education and awareness-raising with diverse groups.



The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) is a non-profit German foundation committed to the values of democracy and social justice. FES has been active in India since the late 1970s and established its official country office in 1983 in New Delhi.

FES India is committed to building platforms of mutual trust for open debate and exchange of new ideas. Through workshops, seminars, exchange programmes, as well as academic papers, it is offering nuanced socio-economic analyses and fostering debates on a national, regional and global level.



EPIC India is working to expand access to reliable and affordable energy while identifying low-cost solutions to reduce pollution and improve human health and productivity. It does so by working hand-in-hand with government and industry partners to identify innovative ideas, pilot them on the ground, and rigorously measure outcomes. This approach ensures the right questions are being answered and results can be scaled up into lasting policy changes.

