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Newsletter

Dear India Plastics Pact Members and Supporters,

As we wrap up the year, we at the India Plastics Pact Secretariat would like to thank all our Members and Supporters for a great 2021! The COVID-19 pandemic turned our world upside down, affecting all aspects of our lives, but we adapted and continued our lives in changed formats. Amidst this, on the 3rd of September 2021, leading businesses made commitments for building a circular system for plastics – **The India Plastics Pact**.

After the launch, the India Plastics Pact Secretariat set forth priority actions for the first 100 days of the Pact which included setting up of the Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi, Director, Sustainability, Tata Consumer Products Limited. The Advisory Committee includes representatives from **nine Pact Member** organizations who will guide the Secretariat on the focus and strategic direction of the Pact. The IPP Secretariat is setting up Collaborative Action Groups (CAGs), which will work on specific areas aligned with the four targets. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for a CAG on **Target #1 "Define a list of unnecessary or problematic plastic packaging and items and take measures to address them through redesign and innovation"** was circulated in November and nominations have been received.

The Secretariat also organized a webinar titled 'The India Plastics Pact: Lessons from the UK's experience'. It provided an opportunity for the Members and Supporters to interact with Ms. Helen Bird, Strategic Engagement Manager at WRAP and Ms. Vikki Scott, Plastics Pact Delivery Manager at WRAP, and learn from the experience of the UK Pact. More on what has been achieved in the First 100-days follows below.

Let's sprint into the Year 2022, knowing that when we work together anything is possible.

India Plastics Pact Team

Update on First 100-Day Plan

In the last three months, the Pact made significant progress towards the interim milestones laid out in the 100-Day plan. Research and co-creation activities helped define the roadmap and trajectory of the India Plastics Pact.

1. Advisory Committee

The inaugural Advisory Committee (2021), appointed by the Secretariat from among Pact Members and Supporters for a duration of 18 months has nine Members and is chaired by Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi, Director – Sustainability, Tata Consumer Products Limited.



The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide oversight and advice to the Secretariat (housed at CII and WWF India) on guiding the delivery of the India Plastics Pact targets.

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee took place on 10th November 2021. The Members and chair of the Advisory Committee unanimously passed the Terms of Reference document for operation of the Committee. Technical projects underway with some external funding made available for the Pact were also discussed. A detailed activity plan for the India Plastics Pact and focus areas for the next Advisory Committee meeting will be shared with the Committee in the coming months. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is proposed to be held on 16th February 2022.

3. Collaborative Action Groups

The IPP Secretariat had initiated the process of setting up the first Collaborative Action Group

(CAG) for *Target #1: Defining a list of unnecessary or problematic plastic packaging items and taking measures to address them through redesign and innovation* and Terms of Reference (TOR) was shared with all Members and Supporters of the India Plastics Pact. This group will help define the criteria for 'problematic and unnecessary' plastics, and review a draft list of target items and components for agreement and prioritization. **Seventeen organizations** had submitted nominations for membership of the CAG 1 and now form the first CAG.

Currently, preparation for a CAG on **Target #3: 50% of plastic packaging to be effectively recycled** is underway and nominations will be sought shortly. Information and invitations for other CAGs will follow in due course.

Note: Members and Supporters can be part of one or more CAG, based on their availability to contribute to the activity of the group. The Members of the CAGs will meet as frequently as monthly to discuss the progress specific to each target.

4. Capacity-building

As part of the programme of engagement within the India Plastics Pact, the first capacity-building session for the Pact signatories was organized. The webinar titled **'The India Plastics Pact: Lessons from the UK's experience'** provided an opportunity for the Members and Supporters organizations to interact with **Ms. Helen Bird, Strategic Engagement Manager at WRAP and Ms. Vikki Scott, Plastics Pact Delivery Manager at WRAP,** who are responsible for the roadmap / strategy development and business engagement for the UK Plastics Pact.



The webinar organized on 11th November, saw a participation of about 25 representatives from the India Plastics Pact Members and provided an insight into the working of the Pacts and the impact UK Plastics Pact has had on the plastics ecosystem of the country. An interactive discussion, followed delving deep into topics such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) compliance in the UK, the UK Plastics Pact's contribution to reducing carbon footprint and the role of regulation in the UK in solving plastic and waste management related problems.

More workshops and webinars delivered by experts from within the Pacts Network are being planned and will be organized in the coming months. Members and Supporters are encouraged to write to the Secretariat with their suggestions on topics for future sessions.

5. Technical Projects

To support the long-term targets of the India Plastics Pact, three technical projects, led by WRAP have commenced. The insights reports, which are the outcome of these projects, will strengthen data and information in the Indian context on different aspects of plastic packaging to better deliver the targets of the Pact. The three projects are:

- Informal Sector Insights Report: Keeping in mind the pivotal role that the informal sector plays in the current waste management scenario, WWF India supported by WRAP, is undertaking an insights paper to assess the present situation of informal sector plastics collection in India. The aim is to facilitate activities to support the formalisation of the informal sector, which in turn will enhance the robustness of the waste collection value chain, ultimately contributing to the achievement of India Plastics Pact targets.
- Small Portions and Sachets Insights Report: The objective of this work is to develop a thoroughly researched, well-structured and actionable insights report that assesses the current situation of the use and disposal of small portion and sachet packaging in India. The insights report will inform a technical options paper that would be developed to reduce the environmental impact of these small formats in India and help with achieving Target 2 of the India Plastics Pact i.e. 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable or recyclable.
- Food Contact rPET in India Insights Report: The objective of this project is to explore building the evidence base for food grade recycled polymer, particularly rPET, in India, by reporting the status of food grade recycled polymer. The findings will inform technical solutions and options analysis papers, which will guide action to progress food contact recycled polymer in India.

The three projects are to be completed by the end of March 2022. Findings from all three projects will feed into corresponding options papers which will, in turn, document best practices and pilot models aimed at improving the situation on ground and allow precise identification of areas for allotting the Pact's resources. A draft of the technical project report will be shared with members who participated in the data collection process for review before the final report is published.

6. Communications

The IPP Secretariat is actively engaging and posting information on the progress of the India Plastics Pact using the social media (LinkedIn) handles of <u>WWF – India</u> and <u>CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development</u>, under the hashtag **#IndiaPlasticsPact #NoPlasticsInNature**.

The Pact has been reaching out to all Members and Supporters through a central email ID <u>takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org</u>. All updates on the Pact will use this email address. We at India Plastics Pact are interested in knowing the exciting projects and initiatives by Members and Supporters of the Pact that support the targets of the India Plastics Pact, Please reach out to us with details on such initiatives as we are looking to build case studies of action.

7. Further Recruitment

The Secretariat will continue engaging and recruiting new Members and Supporters to strengthen the India Plastics Pact. In addition, WRAP, CII, and WWF India will explore further external funding opportunities to strengthen the Pact.

We would also appreciate you spreading a word among your suppliers or partners who would like to join the IPP.

External Opportunity

WRAP and UKRI announced an International Circular Plastics Flagship Competition **worth £1.7 million** for organizations who can demonstrate demand driven innovation to reduce plastic pollution in India, Chile, Kenya and South Africa.

The aim of the funding is to support innovators, investors and key industry stakeholders interested in transforming the global plastic packaging supply chain within these countries. This will open opportunities for UK businesses, innovators, and in-country partners to work collaboratively to address the in-country challenges.

Deadline for the application is 13 January 2022 at 23:45 GMT/17:15 IST. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

India Plastics Pact - Knowledge & Resources

Portuguese Plastics Pact, First Progress Report

The Portuguese Plastics Pact (PPP), launched on 4th February 2020, recently brought out their first progress report. The Portuguese Plastics Pact has five targets concentrating on the entire plastics ecosystem. The Pact has made some progress towards achieving these targets, with some notable points being: The portfolio of identified items to be eliminated would weigh 3,408 tons which is 848 tons more than the value verified in 2019, reusable plastic placed in the market accounted for 7% of total plastic as compared to 6% in the year 2019, 11% of recycled plastic was incorporated into plastic packaging placed on the market by PPP Members which was less than the corresponding value for 2019, 10%. The report can be accessed using this <u>link</u>.

Progress of the UK Plastics Pact

The UK plastics pact, launched in 2018, has been working tremendously towards achieving its

targets and have made enormous progress towards achieving its targets. The Pact has been working towards reducing problematic single-use plastic and Members have reduced problematic items by 46% along with reducing the amount of packaging on supermarket shelves by 10% in the period 2018-2020. The recycled content placed in the market has doubled in two years, saving 140,000 tons of CO2. More information on the progress made by the UK Plastic Pact in the span of 2 years along with the Annual Report video can be accessed using this link.

2020 Baseline Report for the South African Plastics Pact

The South Africa Plastics Pact (SAPP), had recently brought out the 2020 baseline report capturing the activities and outputs of the SA Plastics Pact, sharing actions, achievements and learnings. Below mentioned is the summary of the progress made by the SA Plastics Pact in the year 2020/21:

More information on the report can be found on the following link.

Roadmap to 2025, the Canadian Plastics Pact

The Canadian Plastics Pact had released its roadmap to 2025 on 21st October 2021. **The Roadmap to 2025: A shared action plan to build a circular economy for plastics packaging** represents cross-value collaboration between the stakeholders, uniting key players behind plastics packaging in Canada and a targeted plan to drive tangible change by 2025.

The Roadmap presents a full picture of what actions are needed and what is going to be the Pact's next step towards achieving a circular economy for plastics packaging through three strategic priorities for 2025. More information on the Canadian Plastics Pact Roadmap can be found at the following <u>link</u>.

India Plastics Pact Calendar

As the Pact dives into action, here's what the IPP Secretariat has planned for the next two months. More details for the following will be provided shortly to all the Members and Supporters.

Inbox - Mail - IndiaPlastics Pact - Professional Email



Useful Links and Resources

India Plastics Pact | New Plastics Economy Global Commitment | Chilean Plastics Pact | Plastics Pact NL | Polish Plastics Pact | Portugal Plastics Pact | Canada Plastics Pact | SA Plastics Pact | US Plastics Pact | UK Plastics Pact | UK Plastics Pact: Progress Against Targets | European Plastics Pact | ANZPAC Plastics Pact | WRAP's Blog: Working Together with Partners in India to Tackle Plastic Pollution | WRAP | CII | CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development | WWF India Inbox - Mail - IndiaPlastics Pact - Professional Email



Our central contact is: takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org

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