

Khyati Mynam

From: India Plastics Pact <takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org>
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To: Khyati Mynam
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Dear Members and Supporters,

This month marks **eight** months after the India Plastics Pact (IPP) was launched. During this period, the Advisory Committee and Collaborative Action Groups (CAGs) have worked to shape and establish the Pact platform, mindful of the evolving regulatory landscape in India. This is being done by bringing out technical reports and holding capacity-building sessions on topics such as biodegradable and compostable plastic packaging.

The IPP is considering adding **compostable plastic packaging** to the scope of Target 2: this addition does not mean that the IPP endorses compostable plastics, but merely reflects the need to include it 'in the mix' and help businesses navigate this complex area.

Read on to learn about the progress so far and the journey ahead!

India Plastics Pact team

May was an exciting month for us!

Our colleagues from WRAP, IPP's supporting partner, visited India in May. This visit was a great opportunity for us to sit together with Peter Skelton and Megg Humphrey as also for us to meet our Advisory Committee members and some of our Members, Supporters.

The teams from WRAP, WWF and CII made a series of field visits to get an insight into the plastic packaging value chain in India. We visited plastic waste aggregation and segregation sites, retail stores and a beverage bottler. One of our visits helped understand how milk refill systems work at scale in India. We even followed a waste collector on his door-to-door waste collection journey!



India Plastics Pact Conference

The first **India Plastics Pact Conference** was held on **9th May 2022**. The virtual event provided attendees an update on the Pact's work so far and an insight into the plan for the next six months. During the Conference, the Secretariat presented the draft Roadmap, the Pact's guiding document that outlines the outcomes and activities required to meet the 2030 targets.

Missed out on the Conference? Reach out to us over takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org so that the information can be shared with you.



Advisory Committee

The third Advisory Committee meeting was held on **9th May 2022** in New Delhi. This was the first time the members of the Committee convened in person and the Secretariat was delighted to host them. The Advisory Committee members provided their inputs on:

- the ongoing technical projects,
- a video on the informal waste sector,
- the data reporting template, and
- messages for a citizen engagements campaign

Another major area of discussion was the inclusion of **compostable plastics** in the new EPR guidelines. The Advisory Committee and the Secretariat have reached the conclusion that Target 2 of the Pact should be revised to include compostable plastics in scope. Please

note, this addition does not mean that the IPP endorses compostable plastics, but merely reflects the need to include it 'in the mix' and help businesses navigate this complex area. There has not been an increase in the adoption of compostable packaging in Pacts which have included compostables in their Target 2 scope (e.g. UK, Australia, SA). The revised targets and a supporting position statement will be circulated in the coming months.



Collaborative Action Groups

Our CAGs are where all the action towards the targets takes place – and they have been buzzing with action!

CAG 1 'Defining list of problematic plastic items.'

Members of CAG 1 convened for the 3rd and 4th CAG 1 meetings to

- decide the scope of Target 1,
- agree on the definition of 'problematic or unnecessary' plastic items, and
- prepare the draft list of items to be addressed.

In these meetings, it was decided that the final list will cover items banned by the Government of India (through the PWM notification dated 12 August 2021) and additional items part of the *IPP Ambition List*. The *IPP Ambition List* consists of additional plastic items identified by the CAG members as problematic or unnecessary. The final Target 1 list will be published after inputs from all Members and Supporters in the next few months.



CAG 2 'Designing plastic packaging to be 100% reusable and recyclable.'

The first meeting for CAG 2 was held on 01st June 2022. During this meeting, the Secretariat set the context for the action group and initiated discussions on possible definitions for the terms 'recyclable', 'reusable' and 'compostable'.



CAG 3 'Increasing quantity of plastics packaging effectively recycled.'

Members of CAG 3 held their 2nd and 3rd meetings, where they identified the key challenges towards achieving Target 3. To address these challenges, 'Sprint Groups' have been formed which are focused on:

- Citizen engagement, working towards identifying opportunities for engaging with the informal waste sector and suggesting pilots for implementation

- Informal Waste Sector, working towards creating a strategy for citizen awareness and engagement campaigns that can be disseminated through the India Plastics Pact platform

Nominations for these Sprint Groups are open now.

The wider CAG 3 group will also work together to develop a landscape assessment report on plastics recycling in India.



During this period, the Secretariat also requested nominations for CAG 4 for *Target #4: 25% average recycled content across all plastic packaging*. The Secretariat will soon announce the date for the first CAG 4 meeting.

Note: Members and Supporters can be part of one or more CAGs, based on their availability to contribute to the group's activity. If your organization has not signed up for any of the CAGs and is interested, please feel free to reach out to Shourjomay Chattopadhyay (shourjomay.c@cii.in) or Mahashweta Mukherjee (mmukherjee@wwfindia.net).

Roadmap

The Roadmap is the Pact's guiding document illustrating its vision, outcomes, and activities. It aims to inspire action amongst the stakeholders across the plastics value

chain and among businesses who are yet to sign on to the Pact.

After incorporating the Advisory Committee's inputs, the Secretariat presented the revised draft to all Members and Supporters at the Member Conference on 9th May. The Secretariat aims to publish the detailed Roadmap in June/July 2022.

Data reporting

Tracking progress towards the 2030 targets is crucial to ensure the India Plastics Pact has a positive impact and has external credibility. The India Plastics Pact Secretariat has developed an annual data reporting template to gather quantitative packaging data to measure and evaluate progress.

This template was presented to all reporting Members at a training workshop on 31st May 2022. The final reporting template will be shared with all Member organizations in June 2022 to collect baseline data for the year 2021.

Technical projects

The technical projects, launched in October 2021, are now in their 2nd Phase. The projects aim to strengthen data and information in the Indian context and focus on the following areas:

- **Informal waste sector:** develop business actions that support the informal waste sector, pilot models for implementation, and guidelines for engagement with the informal waste sector.
- **rPET in food packaging:** to develop a material flow of PET in India, a business case document on food-grade rPET for brand owners, and a design recommendation document for PET bottles.
- **Small-format packaging:** to identify interventions for the plastics value chain businesses to better manage this category of packaging waste and outline market opportunities for adopting new solutions.

The outputs of these technical projects will be published in the form of technical reports by July 2022.

Extended Producer Responsibility

The notification of the new EPR guidelines generated great interest among Pact Members. We hosted a roundtable in March 2022 to understand

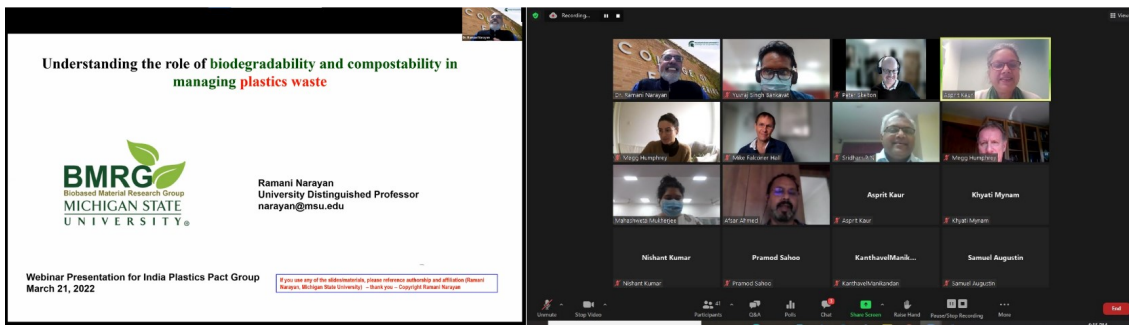
- the complementarity between the India Plastics Pact and the EPR guidelines,
- the nature of support needed by members of the India Plastics Pact to achieve their EPR obligations, and
- if changes are needed to the Pact targets to better align with the EPR guidelines.

We also published a blog recently titled ***'India Plastics Pact: supporting policy and beyond'***, which describes how the Pact supports the waste management policies in India, especially the EPR regulations. Read it [here](#) now!



Capacity-building

The Secretariat is constantly working to organize knowledge-sharing and capacity-building sessions on critical topics of interest for Members and Supporters. In March, a webinar titled ***'Understanding the role of biodegradability and composability in managing plastic waste'*** was organized to help Members and Supporters understand the use and considerations of biodegradable and compostable plastics. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#).



More workshops and webinars delivered by experts from within the Pact Network are being planned for the coming months. Members and Supporters are encouraged to write to us on takeaction@indiaplasticspact.org with their suggestions on topics for future sessions.

Communications

The Secretariat is filming a testimonial video showcasing support from the IPP Members and Supporters to share on our website and social media platforms. We believe that this video will help show the benefits of the Pact model to businesses across the value chain.

Recruitment

The Secretariat hosted a webinar in April for prospective Members and Supporters, providing an insight into the activities taking place under the aegis of the Pact. The webinar also saw a few Members and Supporters of the Pact take the stage to speak about the benefits they have received by joining the Pact. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#). We would appreciate it if you circulated it among your network.



The Secretariat will continue engaging and recruiting new Member and Supporter organizations to strengthen the India Plastics Pact. We would also appreciate you spreading the word among your suppliers or partners who would like to join the IPP.

India Plastics Pact calendar

Here is 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.

Activities	May 22	Jun 22	Jul 22
Advisory Committee	3 rd Advisory Committee meeting		
Collaborative Action Groups (CAG) Formation	Launch of CAG #2	Launch of CAG #4 and CAG #3 Sprint groups	CAG 1 - Publish list of items to be phased out
Capacity-building Session	First IPP conference and Reporting webinar	Webinar/Workshop on reuse/refill	Webinar on behaviour change
Roadmap	Final draft of roadmap	Publish Roadmap	
Reporting Process	Final reporting template	Reporting for progress data	
Technical Projects	Phase 2 of the technical projects led by WRAP: 1. Informal Sector 2. Small format & Sachet Packaging 3. Food grade rPET		Publish technical papers and launch videos

Member recruitment process continues throughout

Knowledge and resources

Publication - Flexible packaging: 21 urgent actions needed to deliver circular economy solutions

Ellen Macarthur Foundation's latest publication provides an overarching strategy for delivering circular economy solutions for flexible packaging. The report identifies 21

specific and urgent actions that are to be commenced immediately by businesses and policymakers to make significant progress toward the 2025 Global Commitment targets.

Read the report [here](#).

Useful links

[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](#)



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