

[*|India Plastics Pact|*]View this email in your browser



February 2022 | Issue No. 3

Newsletter

Dear India Plastics Pact Members and Supporters,

As we put 2021 in the rearview and look ahead to better things in 2022, we at the India Plastics Pact Secretariat would like to take a moment to say “Thank You” for your support. We are honored to have shared the last year with you and look forward to a new year and a new season as we initiate action towards the collective targets.

After the Launch, the Pact Secretariat prepared an ambitious first-100 days plan. We achieved significant milestones such as setting up the Advisory Committee, chaired by Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi, Director, Sustainability, Tata Consumer Products Limited. The IPP Secretariat had also initiated the formation of Collaborative Action Groups (CAGs) to help identify challenges encountered by Members in attaining the targets. **CAG 1: Defining a list of problematic plastic items**, and **CAG 3: Increasing the quantity of effectively recycled plastics packaging** have been launched. Two other CAGs launching this year will concentrate on **Target 2: 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable and recyclable**, focusing on designing each system, service, product, or packaging item to fit a circular economy approach, and **Target 4: 25% average recycled content across all plastic packaging**, working towards maximizing the use of recycled content in the packaging in industries with requirements for high-quality materials.

An annual reporting template was developed and is currently being tested with a few Member organizations. The Secretariat has also commissioned three technical projects, led by WRAP, to deliver insights on major challenges to meet the targets of the Pact. The first phase (Insights Paper) is coming to a conclusion, and work is currently underway on the next phases, which expands on the

learnings from phase 1.

To ensure regular communication on the important work that is underway and an effective engagement with all stakeholders, the IPP Secretariat created a new [LinkedIn](#) page. Follow us and share within your networks to know more about the Pact's activities and bring together stakeholders from across the plastics value chain to create a circular plastics economy in India.

We are also pleased to inform you that the India Plastics Pact family has grown and now has 22 Members and 11 Supporter organizations. More on what has been achieved in the year 2021 follows below.

This New Year is all about exploring the possibilities to create a way for a more sustainable future where we co-develop solutions to effectively transition to circularity in how we manage and handle plastics.

India Plastics Pact Team

Update on Activities of The India Plastics Pact

1. 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.

The Roadmap for the India Plastics Pact is under preparation, and the first draft has been shared with the Advisory Committee for input. After inputs from Advisory Committee Members are incorporated, the Secretariat plans to conduct expert interviews (with relevant external and government bodies) and share the revised Roadmap with the IPP membership to get feedback through virtual consultations. The final version of the Roadmap will be shared externally later this year.

The Roadmap is a living document and will evolve in the future as we make progress towards the targets. To see examples of what the final Roadmap of the India Plastics Pact might look like, please refer to the published Roadmaps of the following **four** Pacts:



[European Plastics Pact](#)



[South African Plastics Pact](#)



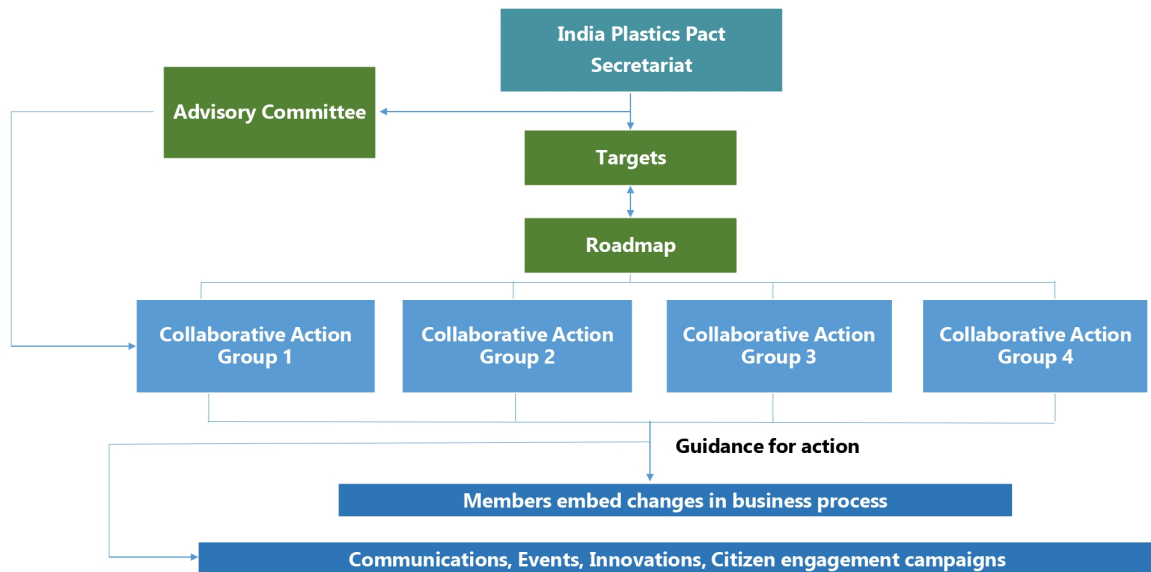
[UK Plastics Pact](#)

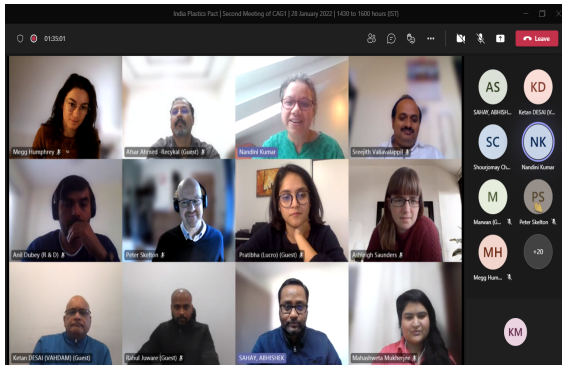


[US Plastics Pact](#)

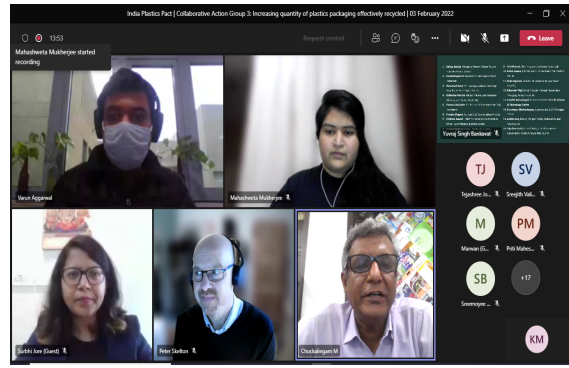
2. Collaborative Action Groups

The Collaborative Action Groups (CAGs) form the core of the action to the targets. Representatives from Member and Supporter organisations are invited to join the CAGs of their choice.





CAG 1 Meeting, January 28, 2022



CAG 3 Meeting, February 3, 2022

The first CAG to be established was **Collaborative Action Group 1: Defining a list of problematic plastic items** working towards achieving **Target #1: Defining a list of unnecessary or problematic plastic packaging items and taking measures to address them through redesign and innovation**. A total of seventeen Member and Supporter organizations participated in the first meeting scheduled in December followed by the second meeting in January. The CAG 1 is chaired by Abhishek Sahay, Lead, Government Affairs, Mondelez India Foods Private Limited. During the second meeting, the members agreed on the definition of 'problematic and unnecessary plastic items-

- Whose use is avoidable or for which reusable options are available
- That are not recyclable or hamper the recycling process, or
- That pollute our environment

Based on this definition, the CAG has begun drafting the list of items to be eliminated.

Progressing further, the IPP Secretariat invited nominations for **Collaborative Action Group 3: Increasing quantity of plastics packaging effectively recycled**, working towards achieving **Target #3: 50% of plastic packaging to be effectively recycled**. The CAG 3 saw the participation of **sixteen** Member and Supporter organizations for their first meeting which convened in February. Two other CAGs for Target #2: 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable or recyclable and Target #4: 25% average recycled content across all plastic packaging will be launched in the coming months. We will be reaching out to all the Member and Supporter organizations with more details and seeking nominations.

Note: *Members and Supporters can be part of one or more CAGs, based on their availability to contribute to the group's activity. The CAGs will meet as frequently as monthly to discuss the progress specific to each target. If your organization has not signed up for CAG 1 and 3 and is interested, please feel free to reach out to Shourjomay Chattopadhyay (shourjomay.c@cii.in) or Mahashweta Mukherjee (mmukherjee@wwfindia.net).*

3. Advisory Committee

The inaugural Advisory Committee (2021) appointed by the Secretariat from among Pact Member and Supporter organizations for 18 months has nine members and is chaired by Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi, Director – Sustainability, Tata Consumer Products Limited.

For the upcoming Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for 16th February 2022, the IPP Secretariat intends to discuss the first draft of the India Plastics Pact Roadmap. Based on the

Committee's recommendation, the proposed Roadmap will provide structure to the Pact, and suggested activities will guide the Pact forward as per the Indian context.

4. Reporting template

Data reporting is crucial to measure the progress made against each target. All Plastics Pacts develop a reporting process appropriate for the national context to gather quantitative packaging data and contextual qualitative case studies to measure and evaluate progress.

The India Plastics Pact Secretariat has developed an annual reporting template along with a guidance document for the Pact Members. The draft reporting template is being sense-checked with a few Members of the India Plastics Pact.

The final draft of the reporting template will be shared with all Member organizations in March 2022 to collect baseline data for the year 2021. The reporting process will be fully supported by India Plastics Pact Secretariat and we will conduct workshops and training for all members who need to report.

5. Technical Projects

The India Plastics Pact Secretariat launched three technical projects, led by WRAP, to support the long-term targets of the India Plastics Pact on the crucial areas of Informal Sector, Small Format and Sachet Packaging, and Food Contact rPET in India. We are happy to announce that the first phase (Insights Paper) of the three technical projects is coming to a conclusion and we are taking the findings forward to the next phase.

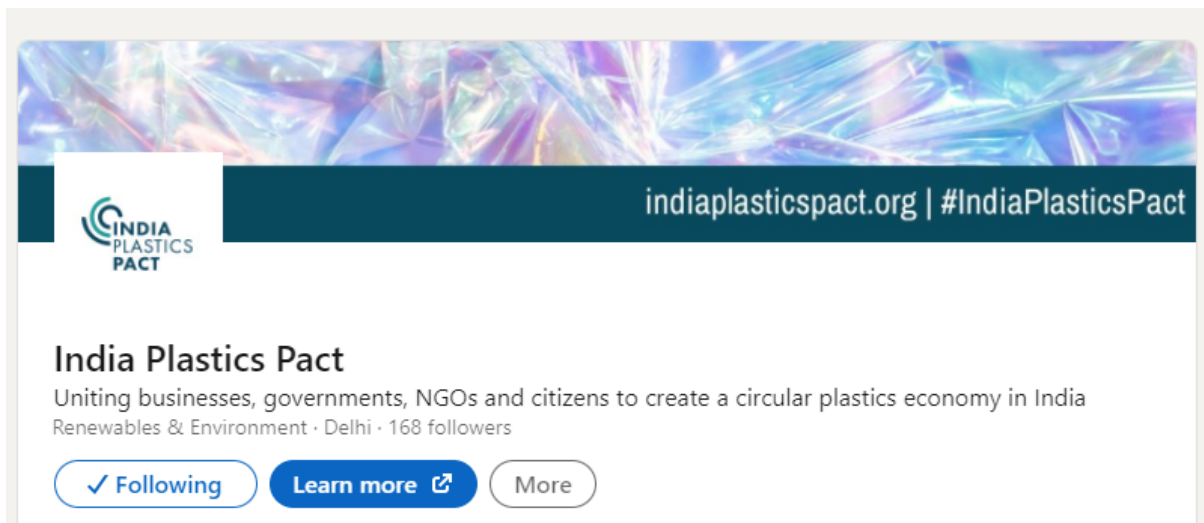
- **Informal Sector Report:** The informal sector plays a pivotal role in the waste management supply chain. WWF India, supported by WRAP, undertook a landscape assessment to assess the present situation of informal sector plastic collection in India. The next phase of work will build on the findings of the insights paper, and help to build a high level strategy to increase the amount and quality of plastics collected. It will dive deeper into the recommendations and what actions can be taken by IPP members and other stakeholders to meet the desired outcomes.
- **Small Format and Sachets Report:** The objective of the insights paper was to provide an overview of where plastic sachets and small plastic packaging products are primarily utilized, drivers of their use in both rural and urban areas, how they are introduced into the market, and their post-consumer waste management. The follow-on phases will seek to build a better picture of the current situation through analysis of more robust, up-to-date data. With this evaluation, technical solutions and requirements for innovation can be highlighted and appraised.
- **Food Contact rPET in India Report:** The objective of this report was to explore building the evidence base for food-grade recycled polymer, particularly rPET, in India. The next phase of the technical paper, led by CII, will look at preparing a business case document

for rPET, design recommendations for food contact PET, and preparation of a material flow for PET in India.

The three projects are to be completed by the end of March 2022. The findings from all three projects will be shared with the members and will feed into relevant work packages within the IPP and help to inform further action.

6. Communications

As we enter this new year, the IPP Secretariat has created a new LinkedIn page for the India Plastics Pact. This page will share regular updates regarding the Pact's activities and will help ensure effective engagement with all stakeholders.



To increase the footprint of the page, we request you to please follow the page and share it within your networks. Use the hashtags #IndiaPlasticsPact and #NoPlasticsInNature while posting about this page.

Please find the link to the Pact's LinkedIn page [here](#).

7. Capacity-building

The India Plastics Pact Secretariat will be conducting a webinar on 21st March 2022. Details for the same will be shared shortly.

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

New Member

We are thrilled to introduce the new Member organizations that have recently joined the India Plastics Pact.



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

India Plastics Pact Calendar

As the India Plastics Pact dives into the Year 2022, here's what the IPP Secretariat has planned for February and March 2022. More details for the following will be provided shortly to all the Members and Supporters.

Activities	Feb 22	Mar 22
Roadmap	First draft to be reviewed by Members and Supporters	Final draft of the Roadmap
Target #1		Third CAG 1 meeting on 02 nd Mar
Target #3	First CAG 3 meeting on 03 rd Feb	Second CAG 3 meeting on 09 th Mar
Governance	Second Advisory Committee meeting on 16 th Feb	
Webinar		Member and Supporter Webinar/Workshop
Communications	Release of bi-monthly newsletter	
Monitoring and reporting		Reporting for progress data commence

India Plastics Pact - Knowledge & Resources

U.S. Plastics Pact | Report on Problematic and Unnecessary Materials

The U.S. Plastics Pact released its Problematic and Unnecessary Materials List on 25th January 2022. The Pact identified a list of eleven hard and unnecessary resins, components, and formats to be eliminated by 2025 to accelerate progress toward a circular economy for plastic packaging in the United States.

The list was developed over 16 months by U.S. Pact Activators, representing the expertise and experience of more than 100 organizations across the plastics packaging value chain. The materials on the list were evaluated as per the criteria and definitions using the most comprehensive publicly available data from federal and state agencies, nonprofits, and trade associations.

The detailed list and the report can be found on the following [link](#).

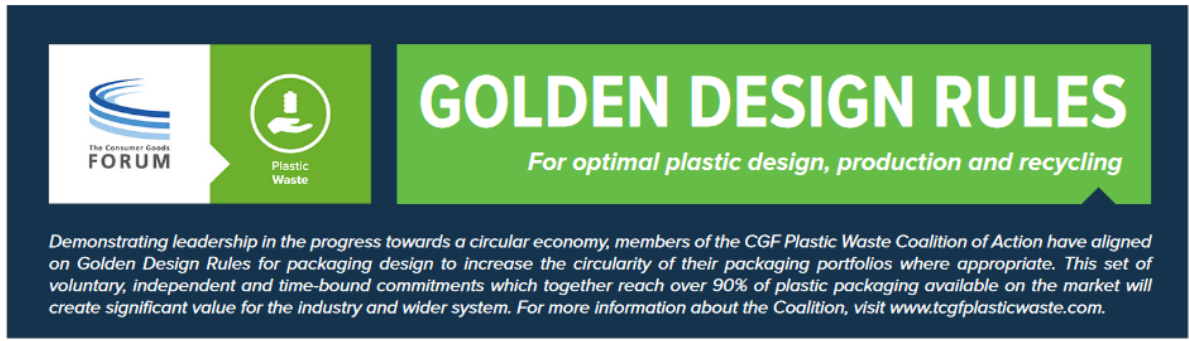
The U.S. Pact's Problematic and Unnecessary Materials List

U.S. Pact Activators will take measures to eliminate these items by 2025:

- Cutlery*
- Intentionally added¹ Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)²
- Non-Detectable Pigments such as Carbon Black
- Opaque or Pigmented PET – Polyethylene Terephthalate bottles (any color other than transparent blue or green)
- Oxo-Degradable Additives, including oxo-biodegradable additives
- PETG – Polyethylene Terephthalate Glycol in rigid packaging
- Problematic Label Constructions – This includes adhesives, inks, materials (e.g., PETG, PVC, PLA, paper). Avoid formats/materials/features that render a package detrimental or non-recyclable per the [APR Design® Guide](#). Labels should meet APR Preferred Guidance for coverage and compatibility and be tested in any areas where this is unclear.
- PS – Polystyrene, including EPS (Expanded Polystyrene)
- PVC – Polyvinyl Chloride, including PVDC (Polyvinylidene Chloride)
- Stirrers*
- Straws*

Plastics Pacts Network Session | Introducing the Golden Design Rules

A Plastics Pact Network session was organised on 25th January 2022 by SystemIQ, The Consumer Goods Forum, and the Canada Plastics Pact for learning and exchanging on how Pacts could benefit from the [Golden Design Rules](#).



The rules focus on eliminating unnecessary plastic packaging, by reducing headspace and plastic overwraps, as well as increasing recycling value in various types of plastic, including PET thermoformed packaging, flexible consumer packaging, and rigid HDPE and PP. The rules also cover the use of clear and accurate on-pack recycling instructions, which will help consumers to ensure that packaging is sorted for the appropriate end-of-life solution.

Research Report by Tearfund | Safety first: Recovering value from plastic waste in low- and middle-income countries

Tearfund charity and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) released a report comparing plastic waste disposal options in LMICs (Low and Middle-Income Countries). As part of the report, they undertook an independent academic assessment of eight different approaches – ranging from conventional recycling to incineration – according to their impact on the environment; public and occupational health; and commercial prevalence and maturity. It also includes further assessment of the suitability of these approaches in low- and middle-income countries, including the risk that they may be operated below safety standards.

	Approach 1 Conventional mechanical processing for extrusion	Approach 2 Bottle-to-fibre mechanical reprocessing for extrusion	Approach 3 Mineral-polymer composites: road surfacing	Approach 3 Mineral-polymer composites: brick and tile production	Approach 4 Solvent-based purification	Approach 5 Chemical depolymerisation (chemolysis)	Approach 6 Gasification for feedstock	Approach 6 Pyrolysis for feedstock	Approach 6 Pyrolysis and gasification for fuel	Approach 7 Co-processing in cement kilns	Approach 8 Incineration and gasification for direct energy recovery
	Recycling						Energy recovery				
HICs: Environment	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Orange	Orange	Orange
HICs: Health	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green
LMICs: Environment	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Orange	Orange	Red
LMICs: Health	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Red	Red	Red
Appropriateness (risk of operating below standards in LMICs)	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
Technology maturity	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Green	Green
	Group 1a Technologically mature approaches with strong evidence to suggest they reduce life cycle emissions. High potential to be managed safely in LMICs given sufficient oversight supported with enabling interventions.		Group 1b Less mature than conventional mechanical processing (Group 1a) but with similar potential for safe management. Implementation should proceed with caution until potential health implications have been assessed.		Group 2 Nascent technologies for which commercial viability is unproven. Limited commercial process data mean that evidence for environmental performance and health risks are absent. The use of solvents, thermal and pressurised processing are likely to result in high risk to the environment and human health if process emissions are not controlled.			Group 3 Technologically mature in general with proven potential to operate safely in HICs. Higher life cycle emissions when used to treat post-consumer plastic packaging in comparison to all other approaches assessed. High risk of harm to human health without effective, well-resourced and independent environmental regulation.			

The report, Safety First: safely recovering value from plastic waste in low and middle-income countries, is a 20-page summary of a more extended version which can be found [here](#).

UNDP India | Baseline Analysis of the Socio-Economic Situation of Safai Sathis

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India released a baseline analysis of the socio-economic situation of Safai Sathis or waste pickers. The analysis is one of the first large-scale assessments conducted in India, covering 9,300 Safai Sathis in 14 cities to understand their demographic, work, income, financial and housing conditions, enrolment levels, and access to social protection measures.

The Baseline was undertaken as part of Project 'Utthaan – Rise with Resilience' under UNDP's Plastic Waste Management Programme. Utthaan is UNDP India's COVID-19 response enabling Safai Sathis to access government schemes and build more resilient communities.



The survey findings reflect the progress that has been already made, which is also being currently effected, to improve the living standards of Safai Sathis across the country. At the same time, the results also underscore the need to address the economic and social exclusions this community faces, particularly by the most vulnerable sections, such as women and the socially disadvantaged. The report can be found [here](#).

WWF | Chemical Recycling Implementation Principles

As part of the No Plastic in Nature vision, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) released Chemical Recycling Implementation Principles. These principles aim to help decision-makers determine if and how chemical recycling should be pursued as a plastic waste mitigation tactic.

Alix Grabowski, director of plastic and material science at WWF said: "Even as technologies

advance, we can't recycle our way out of the growing plastic waste crisis. Instead of just focusing on recycling, we should prioritize strategies like reducing our overall single-use plastic consumption and scaling up reuse, which offer the best opportunity to achieve the wide-scale change we need. For a technology like chemical recycling to be part of a sustainable material management system, we must carefully look at how it's designed and implemented and whether or not it offers environmental benefits over the status quo, adheres to strong social safeguards, and truly contributes to advancing our circular economy. These principles are designed to do exactly that.



The complete position report can be found at the following [link](#).

India Plastics Pact in the News

Mongabay-India recently published an article titled Tackling the integrated challenge of plastic pollution and climate change. The article overall reflects the problem of plastic and establishes a link between plastic pollution and climate change while also mentioning the India Plastics Pact as one of the industry-led solutions. The complete article can be found [here](#).

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](#)



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