

Roundtable on Mainstreaming Resource Efficiency in Textile Industry in India

Date: Friday, 4th Feb 2022, Time: 14:00 hrs – 16:00 hrs (India Time), Online

Background

SWITCH-Asia is the programme funded by the European Union (EU) to promote sustainable consumption and production (SCP) across the Asian Region. The SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC), implemented by United Nations Environment Programme, is designed to strengthen the dialogue at regional, sub-regional and national policies on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and thereby contributing to green growth and reduction of poverty in Asian countries.

The textile industry is a key sector of Indian economy, a major source of employment for the people. Yet, its rise has resulted in large use of natural resources and causing negative impact on the environment. To make the textile sector more sustainable, there is a need for fundamental changes by mainstreaming resource efficiency and circular economy in the textile manufacturing and processing to minimize/mitigate the detrimental environmental impacts of the textile industry and bring long term sustainability.

Objective

The objectives of the roundtable are:

1. To engage in dialogue with the industry, government, and civil society stakeholders on critical needs and enabling solutions to induce resource efficiency in the textile sector in India
2. To explore systemic changes needed in policies and processes involved in various stages of production to help institutionalize resource efficiency and circular economy in the textile industry.
3. To share best practices, initiatives and lessons learned on implementing resource efficiency and circularity in the textile value chain (policies, programs, economic instruments, voluntary measures, activities etc.)

Expected Outcomes

The roundtable will bring relevant stakeholders from the textile value chain in India to discuss tangible solutions and practical enablers that help institutionalize resource efficiency and good practices in the industry. Policy gaps will be identified and the discussion on life cycle

of textile production will determine urgency to introduce systemic changes in the various processes of textile production. The discussion paper as an outreach document to promote sustainable textile industry in India will be developed.



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CONTACT

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

Resource Efficiency Sub programme Regional Coordinator, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Project Manager, EU SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC).
Email: memon@un.org

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Tentative Agenda

- 14:00-14:05 **Introductory Remarks**
Prof. Prateek Sharma
VC, TERI School of Advanced Studies
- 14:05 – 14:10 **Welcome Address**
Dr. Mushtaq Memon
The EU SWITCH-Asia RPAC
- 14:10 – 14:20 **Opening Address**
EU Strategy for Sustainable Textile
Dr. Michael Bucki
Counsellor at the EU Delegation to India and Bhutan
- 14:20 – 14:35 **Keynote Address**
Sh. Upendra Singh
Secretary – Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
- 14:35 – 14:45 **Presentation 1:**
Findings of the Assessment of Indian Textile RE Policy Landscape
Dr. Ranjana Chaudhuri
TERI SAS
- 14:45 – 14:55 **Presentation 2:**
Sustainable Textiles-Challenges and Benefits
Mr. Naresh Tyagi
Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Group
- 14:55 – 15:05 **Presentation 3:**
Circular Textile and Apparel in India - Policy Intervention Priorities and Ideas
Ms. Devyani Hari
Director, CRB
- 15:05 – 15:15 **Presentation 4:**
A Multi-Stakeholder Participatory Approach for Pollution Prevention, Efficient Water Use and Circular Economy
Mr. Tatheer Zaidi
SOLIDARIDAD

- 15:15 – 15:55 **Roundtable Discussion**
Moderator:
Dr. Fawzia Tarranum
TERI SAS
Conversation outline and Guiding Questions
- *What are the gaps or barriers or challenges to mainstream sustainability into textile sector?*
 - *What actions (policies, regulatory/economic instruments, industry led voluntary targets etc.) are needed to reduce environmental impacts of textile industry as informed by the resource consumption? (focus on areas that have not yet been covered in existing programs and the areas that are most challenging to achieve)*
 - *Priority areas/entry points that should be targeted for immediate adoption of RE measures (e.g. opportunities that will be easiest to implement early in the mainstreaming process)*
 - *What kind of institutional and capacity development arrangement/ needs are required for industry and government stakeholders to operationalising the RE measures?*

- 15:55 – 16:00 **Conclusion and Way Forward**
Dr. Arun Kansal
TERI SAS



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