

RECEIC Global Symposium on Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy
Co-Creating Circular Future: Policy, Partnerships & Implementation Pathways
 20-21 April 2026, Hotel Shangri La, New Delhi

Day 1 – 20 April 2026

09:30-10:00 Registration

10.00- 10:15 Opening Session

- **Welcome Address:** Mr. Manish Sharma, Chair, RECEIC Steering Committee & Former Chairman, Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt. Ltd.
- **Global Outlook:** Ms. Taina Dyckhoff, Head of Climate & Environment Division, German Embassy

10:15- 11:30 Session 1: Material Transition at Scale: Advancing Low-Carbon Chemicals in India

Session format: Panel discussion

Session brief:

The chemicals sector is widely recognized as one among most challenging to decarbonize, given its dependence on energy intensive processes and fossil-based feedstocks. This session will focus on how transitioning to biobased, renewable, and recycled feedstocks can drive the sector's low-carbon transformation.

The discussion will underscore how coalition-led action can drive sector-wide change, enable deep emissions cuts, and position India as a global leader in sustainable chemical manufacturing.

Recognizing material transition as a scale challenge, the session will emphasize the importance of techno-economic feasibility, supply chain readiness, and coordinated industry engagement. Key initiatives of the working group will be shared, including progress on a lighthouse project on Used Cooking Oil (UCO) as a renewable carbon feedstock. A report outlining economic assessments and enabling policy measures will be released and discussed.

- Introductory remarks by Mr. Rajat Arora, RECEIC Material Transition Working Group Chair & Vice President, Head of Home Care R&D, Unilever
- *Knowledge Paper Presentation "Transitioning the Chemical Industry: Used Cooking Oil as a Renewable Feedstock for enabling India's Material Transition" by Mr. Amit Kumar, Partner, EY*

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Venkataraghavan R, Platform Leader, Bright Future, Home Care, Unilever

Speaker:

- Mr. Jonathan Hague, Homecare R&D Head of Bright Future Science and Technology, Unilever
- Mr. Prasanna Desai, Head- Sales, Desmet India
- Mr. Sarvesh Kumar, Executive Director, IOCL
- Dr. Anjan Roy, Investment Partner, Navam Capital

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- Mr. Kalyan Despande, Deputy General Manager, Techknowgreen Solutions Ltd.

Session 2: Built Infrastructure: Materials, Policy & Design for Circularity

Session format: Panel discussion
Session brief:
India's rapid urbanization and infrastructure expansion are reshaping the built environment at a fast pace. As demand for built-up area expands, alongside rising cement and steel consumption and rapidly growing cooling needs, the building sector stands at a critical juncture where growth must be carefully aligned with long-term climate and resource sustainability goals. The central climate challenge is not historical emissions, but the risk of future carbon lock-in embedded in today's material, design, and policy choices.

This session will explore how low-carbon materials, resource-efficient design, and circular construction practices can collectively reduce emissions across the building life cycle. It will also examine how green rating systems, building codes, and the Construction and Demolition Waste framework can evolve to integrate life-cycle carbon thinking more systematically. Bringing together industry leaders, developers, researchers, and policymakers, the discussion will identify industry actions and enabling policy pathways needed to align economic growth with sustainability and accelerate India's transition toward a resilient, low-carbon built environment.

Moderator: Dr. Arvind Bodhankar, Chief Sustainability Officer, AMNS
Speakers:

- Dr. L.P Singh, Director General, National Council for Cement & Building Materials (NCB)
- Dr. Manoj Rustagi, Chief Sustainability Officer, JSW Cement
- Dr. Lav Singh, Program Lead - Building Materials, Environmental & Sustainable Urbanization, Lodha Foundation
- Dr. Jan Suchorzewski, Research and Business Manager, Dep. of Infrastructure and Concrete Technology, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

12:20- 13:30 Inaugural Session

- Welcome Address-** Mr. Manish Sharma, Chair, RECEIC Steering Committee & Former Chairman, Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt. Ltd.
- Theme Address-** Dr. Vibhav R. Sanzgiri, Chief R&D Officer and Executive Director, R&D, Hindustan Unilever Limited
- Special Address 1-** Mr. Thomas Roger McClenaghan, Minister Counsellor & Head of Section Sustainable Modernisation, European Union Delegation to India & Bhutan
- Special Address 2 -**Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Managing Director, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)
- Conference Address-** Shri. Neelesh Sah, Joint Secretary, MoEFCC

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- **Keynote Address by Chief Guest-** Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science & Technology & Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Earth Sciences, GOI

Announcement of winners & felicitation- RECEIC Global Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy Awards

13:30-14:30	NETWORKING LUNCH
14:30- 15:30	<p>Session 3: Transforming India's Used Oil Ecosystem- Strengthening Circularity and Traceability</p> <p>Session format: Panel discussion</p> <p>Session Brief: <i>This session will focus on key priorities for strengthening India's used oil ecosystem, including improving collection efficiency, enabling end-to-end traceability, enhancing confidence in re-refined base oil (RRBO) quality, and promoting regeneration-first pathways.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will discuss approaches to building a more structured and transparent system for used oil recovery, along with perspectives on governance, operational frameworks, and ecosystem coordination. The session will also explore the role of collaboration across PSUs, private industry, and government in advancing circular economy outcomes in the sector.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Varun Joshi, Associate Director, Monitor Deloitte</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ch. Srinivas, Executive Director- Lubes, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) • Mr. Saugata Basuray, Wholetime Director and Interim Chief Executive Officer, Castrol • Mr. Philip Mathew , Managing Director of Mangalam Lubricants (P) Ltd • Mr. Bankim Behari Patra, Country Head (Lubes), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) • Dr. Kalpendra Rajurkar, Head- Technical & Services, Veedol
15:30- 16:20	<p>Session 4: Advancing Eco-labelling in India: Enabling MSMEs for Green Markets</p> <p>Session format: Panel discussion</p> <p>Session brief: <i>Eco-labelling is increasingly being recognized as a key market-based instrument to advance sustainable production and consumption, by enabling informed consumer choice and incentivizing environmentally responsible products. In India, there is a growing policy focus on strengthening eco-labelling frameworks to integrate life cycle thinking, resource efficiency, and environmental performance into product systems. As India moves toward building a</i></p>

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robust eco-labelling ecosystem, it is important that such frameworks are designed to be inclusive, scalable, and aligned with industry, particularly for MSMEs.

This session will bring together policymakers, technical experts, multilateral institutions, and industry leaders to deliberate on pathways for developing a credible and inclusive eco-labelling ecosystem in India. The discussion will focus on enabling MSMEs to demonstrate environmental leadership, while addressing practical considerations related to adoption, compliance, and market access.

The session aims to generate actionable recommendations for an inclusive implementation roadmap and build consensus on a collaborative framework between government and industry to ensure that ecolabeling & other certification schemes evolve as a credible sustainability signal that enhances MSME competitiveness domestically and globally.

Session Chair: Smt. Nameeta Prasad, Joint Secretary, MoEFCC

Moderator: Dr. Nimish Shah, General Manager Regulatory Affairs South Asia, Unilever

Speakers:

- Mr. Alberto Monje Gama, Sustainability Policy Manager, TIC Council
- Mr. Octavian Stamate, International Cooperation Officer, DG Environment, European Commission, Brussels
- Mr. Rijit Sengupta, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Responsible Business (CRB)

16:20- 17:10

Session 5: Circular Packaging at Scale: Bridging Innovation and Market Adoption

Session format: Panel Discussion

Session Brief:

Packaging represents one of the most material-intensive and waste-generating segments of the economy, making it a priority focus for circular transition efforts. While innovations in biopolymers, bio-based materials, and sustainable packaging solutions are advancing rapidly, their large-scale adoption remains constrained by challenges related to cost competitiveness, infrastructure readiness, and policy alignment.

Biomanufacturing presents a transformative opportunity to develop next-generation materials, reduces dependence on fossil-based inputs, and enable more sustainable production systems. However, unlocking this potential requires a coordinated approach integrating technological innovation with enabling policy frameworks, harmonized standards, and strong, consistent market demand.

This panel brings together stakeholders across the value chain including material innovators, manufacturers, brands, and policymakers to deliberate on the key barriers to scaling sustainable packaging, the policy support needed to enable biomanufacturing, and the

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	<p><i>practicality of current standards and certifications in the Indian context, with the aim of identifying actionable pathways to move from innovation to large-scale adoption.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Apurba Mitra, Partner, KPMG India</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jan Pieter van Tilburg, co-founder, Nature’s principles • Mr. Deepten Chatterjee, Head-Corporate Affairs, TetraPak • Ms. Sayali Thakare, Manager- Strategy & Business Development- Bioplastics, Praj Industries • Mr. Saurasanta Biswas, Policy & Regulatory Affairs Officer, ICPA
17:15- 18:00	NETWORKING TEA + CLOSURE DAY 1

Day 2: 21 April 2026

09:30- 10:00	Registration & Welcome Tea
10:00- 10:30	Opening Session

- **Welcome Address**– Dr. Naresh Tyagi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Limited
 - **Global Perspective**- Mr. Mika Sulkinoja, Leading Specialist, Carbon Neutral Circular Economy, SITRA & Coordinator, World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF)
 - **International Address**- Mr. Fahad Vania, Senior Portfolio Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
 - **Special Address:** Mr. Bernd Scholtz, Economic Counsellor, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India
 - **Keynote Address**- Mr. Amit Raj, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC)
- Report release ‘Circularity in Textiles sector’**

10:30- 11:20	<p>Session 6: Accelerating Circularity in India’s Textile & Apparel Sector</p> <p>Session format: Panel discussion</p> <p>Session Brief: <i>India’s textile and apparel sector is one of the country’s largest employers and export engines that sits at a critical inflection point. As global markets tighten sustainability requirements and demand increases for traceable, lower-impact products, circularity is no longer optionality is becoming a competitiveness imperative.</i></p>
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This session marks the release of the RECEIC Textile Circularity Knowledge Paper, which moves beyond high-level ambition to examine why circularity has not yet scaled in India and what must change. Grounded in interviews across the value chain including manufacturers, recyclers, technology providers, waste aggregators, and brands the paper identifies structural bottlenecks and solution pathways.

The discussion will focus on practical, scalable interventions such as standardized grading systems, AI-enabled sorting, viable recycled content integration, predictable offtake mechanisms, and enabling policy frameworks that can unlock circular value chains at scale.

Bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, recyclers, brands, and development partners, the session will aim to move from pilot initiatives to coordinated, system-level action positioning India not just as a textile exporter, but as a global leader in circular textile production and sustainable industrial growth.

Moderator: Mr. Sundeep Singh, Managing Director, Accenture

Speaker:

- Dr. Naresh Tyagi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Limited
- Dr. Rachna Arora, Director, Climate Change & Circular Economy, GIZ
- Mr. Ramakrishnan Sabhari Girish, Chief Sustainability Officer, Sulochana Mills
- Ms. Krishnapriya A., Co-founder, Spreco Recycling Pvt Ltd

11:20- 11:45

NETWORKING TEA/ COFFEE

11:45- 12:35

Session 7: Circular Design in Action: Embedding Resource Efficiency Across Product Value Chains

Session format: Panel discussion

Session Brief:

This session will convene cross-sectoral leaders to examine how circularity is being embedded at the product design stage where up to 80% of environmental impact is determined.

The discussion will bring together speakers from diverse industries to showcase how circular design principles are being operationalized within their organizational functions. This includes designing for durability, repairability, modularity, recyclability, material reduction, and safe chemistry. This will also illustrate how circularity must be engineered collaboratively across the value chain. The dialogue will highlight how design decisions influence downstream recovery, secondary material markets, waste management efficiency & explore the role of policy frameworks, eco-design regulations, and standards in driving accountability and measurable circular outcomes.

Moderator: Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Head- Centre for Sustainability, Mahindra University

Speakers:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Deeksha Vats, Chief Sustainability Officer, Aditya Birla Group • Mr. Hitesh Sharma, South Asia Lead- Sustainable Impact, HP Inc. • Ms. Frida Svärdby, Quality & Sustainability Manager IKEA Services India Pvt Ltd • Mr. Amit Anand, Regulatory Head-Mobile Infrastructure Business, Nokia
<p>12:35-13:25</p>	<p>Session 8: Beyond Landfills: Reimagining India’s Resource Recovery Future</p> <p>Session format: Panel discussion Session brief: <i>The growing strain on landfills makes a shift to circular waste management both urgent and inevitable.</i></p> <p><i>The revised Solid Waste Management Framework, 2026 can accelerate this shift restricting disposal, enforcing remediation, compelling municipalities and industry toward resource recovery. Legacy dumpsites must be scientifically remediated. Waste-to-Energy and RDF must scale.</i></p> <p><i>The panelists will share their perspectives on the existing bottlenecks like Financial, Regulatory, Operational and Skill, the opportunity & how municipalities and industry can collaboratively transition to a financially viable, environmentally compliant, and circular recovery ecosystem under the new regulatory regime. The session aims to identify clear action points to systematically reduce landfill dependency while strengthening material recovery systems.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Ashish Chaturvedi, Head - Action for Climate and Environment, UNDP India Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. G.S Krishnan, Director- External Relations, Novonosis • Mr. Jai Kumar Gaurav, Programme Manager, GIZ • Mr. Priyesh Bhatti, Director, GGEPIL (Luthra Group) • Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, Head -Strategic Business Growth & Transformation at Re Sustainability Limited
<p>13:30- 14:30</p>	<p align="center">NETWORKING LUNCH</p>
<p>14:30- 15:15</p>	<p>Session 9: Critical Minerals Value Chain: The Backbone of a Circular Economy</p> <p>Session Format: Panel Discussion Session Brief: <i>As the global energy transition accelerates, the demand for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and graphite is rising sharply, driven by the rapid growth of electric mobility, energy storage, and digital technologies. However, the current linear model of extraction, use, and disposal is neither sustainable nor sufficient to meet future demand.</i></p>

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	<p><i>For India, this presents both a challenge and a strategic opportunity. With increasing policy focus through the National Critical Minerals Mission and the Battery Waste Management Rules, there is a clear push toward building a circular, recycling-led ecosystem for critical materials. Battery recycling is emerging as a key lever to reduce import dependence, strengthen domestic supply chains, and enable long-term energy and resource security.</i></p> <p><i>This session will bring together industry leaders, recyclers, policymakers, and technology experts to examine the end-to-end battery value chain, from collection and recycling to refining and reintegration into manufacturing. The discussion will focus on key challenges related to supply chain transparency, technology scale-up, regulatory alignment, and investment requirements, while also exploring India’s evolving role in the global critical minerals landscape.</i></p> <p><i>The session aims to identify practical pathways and collaborative approaches to strengthen India’s battery recycling ecosystem, enhance material circularity, and support the country’s transition toward a resilient and sustainable energy future.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Ritu Ghosh, Associate Director, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability at Panasonic Energy India</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Aditya Menon, Head- Public Policy Operation, Vedanta Limited • Mr. Karthik Bansal, Associate Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress • Ms. Pranati Kohli, Head- Public Affairs, Lohum
<p>15:15- 16:45</p>	<p>Session 10: Circular Economy Spotlight – Celebrating Innovation and Impact</p> <p>Session brief: <i>This session will showcase inspiring stories of innovation and impact from the winners of the Awards. Award-winning organizations and innovators will present their case studies, highlighting pioneering projects, scalable solutions, and transformative business models that exemplify circular economy principles.</i></p>
<p>16:45 onwards</p>	<p align="center">NETWORKING TEA + CLOSURE DAY 2</p>

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