

# Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI)

for the implementation of the



**EU-Resource Efficiency Initiative (REI) project in India**  
- hereinafter referred to as "EU-REI" -

between



**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)**  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi 110 003, India

- hereinafter referred to as "MoEFCC" -

and the



**EUROPEAN UNION, Delegation to India**  
5/5, Shanti Niketan, New Delhi 110 021, India

[through the implementing consortium led by GIZ, along with TERI, CII and Adelphi.]

- hereinafter referred to as "EU" -

**DESIRING** to support the implementation of the EU Resource Efficiency Initiative (EU-REI) Project in India, which fosters the improvement of Resource Efficiency (RE) and Management of Secondary Raw Materials (SRM) thereby making important contribution towards circular economy and implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**HAVE REACHED** the following understanding:





## 1. Executive summary

Over the last two decades, India has witnessed dynamic transformation with rapid economic growth, an expanding industrial and service related production, rise in average income, a thriving middle class, rapid urbanisation and a growing population. These have been underpinned by increased scale and intensity of resource use. In 2010, India's material demand was the third largest in the world, after China and the United States. India consumed about 7.2% of globally extracted raw materials in that year. Against this background, concerns regarding resource depletion and future availability of primary raw materials have become more pronounced. Ensuring resource security requires an integrated, concerted and collaborative approach to address the challenge of reconciling increasing demands to fulfil the needs of a vast & growing population with the finite supply of abiotic resources. Additionally, it's imperative to address the environmental burdens emanating due to resource extraction, utilisation and disposal, including land degradation, biodiversity loss, as well as air and water pollution. Considering the trend of increasing resource consumption to sustain economic growth it is imperative to promote RE & SRM so that resource security in India can be enhanced.

The potential trade-off between growth and environmental well-being can be minimized by enhancing resource efficiency (RE) and promoting the use of secondary raw materials (SRM) as a strategy. The lessons from e.g. the European Union, Japan as well as, recently, China demonstrate that an enabling policy framework is necessary to mainstreaming RE across sectors through all stages of the lifecycle. The 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also recognize the potential of resource efficiency in resolving the short-term trade-offs between growth and environmental sustainability towards enhancing the overall security of human beings.

Resource efficiency is gaining traction as a potential strategy in India and in order to foster its spread, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) Government of India has set up the Indian Resource Panel (InRP) on RE in November 2015) as one of the outcome of the Indo-German Bilateral Project named Fostering Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Management of Secondary Raw Materials (RE Project). The InRP was established with the aim of supporting the Government of India to elaborate an evidence-based strategy and policy framework on resource efficiency and circular economy. The recommendations of the Indian Resource Panel have been accepted by the Niti Aayog (GoI) in formulating the RE strategy for India. Looking at the importance of this topic, MoEF&CC has constituted a Resource Efficiency Cell recently launched in February, 2018 wherein InRP will also be integrated with revised function and modalities. Within this context, the European Union's Resource Efficiency Initiative (EU REI) for India is highly relevant in the priority focus areas of the Government of India.

As a large and diverse country, India displays a complex institutional structure – both at national and regional levels. This renders the effectiveness in design and implementation of a strategy on resource efficiency a challenge. While the present project's success significantly hinges on the mobilization of stakeholders across relevant institutions and organizations, doing so effectively will equally depend on the ability to raise awareness.





## 2. Objective

The objective of the JDI is to strengthen technological, scientific and management capacities of MoEFCC, the EU and other relevant partners from private and public sector along with the implementing partners in the field of Resource Efficiency and its implementation on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit for which the EU-REI Project is envisaged. The overall objective of EU-REI project is to support India in the implementation of the UN Goal 12- global sustainable consumption and production (SCP) agenda by way of adapting international standards and business best-practices on RE. The specific objective is to foster the efficient and sustainable use of natural resources in India

## 3. Areas of Cooperation

The MoEFCC & EU through implementing partners endeavour to promote cooperation in following area:

- 3.1 Sectoral assessment studies as proposed in the concept note of the EU-REI project to be conducted with the consortium partners viz. GIZ, TERI, Adelphi and CII.
- 3.2 Dissemination and awareness creation on the recommendations of the study findings.
- 3.3 Support the Eco-labelling scheme of MoEFCC/CPCB for enhancing the promotion of products made from secondary resources and promotion of RE.
- 3.4 Support in recommending recycling standards for selected sectors (e-waste, plastics waste, C&D wastes)
- 3.5 Promotion of R&D and technology development on RE specifically for Green Mining, recycling facilities & common facilities for complex metal rich wastes like End-of-life-Vehicles (ELVs), e-waste/plastic wastes.
- 3.6 Development of Sectoral Sustainable Public Procurement Guidelines (SPP) and its implementation plan.
- 3.7 Support in the development of the Waste Exchange Platform with CII, as a marketplace for utilization of by-products and industrial wastes.
- 3.8 Policy paper on the use of Secondary Raw Materials and support in targeted awareness on waste Rules notified by the MoEFCC in 2016.
- 3.9 Capacity building of state governments, Urban Local Bodies (ULB) and relevant stakeholders and to jointly organise national and international workshops/ conferences on RE
- 3.10 Provision of input to the recently formed G-20 RE dialogue group and other multilateral initiatives and programmes with a direct link to RE (e.g. SDG, IRP)

## 4. Forms of Cooperation and Implementation

The Resource Efficiency Cell (RE Cell) constituted at MoEFCC shall be formal partner of EU-REI project and beside accompanying finalization of four sectoral studies — which is one of the project objective as stated at Result 1 [(R1): Assessment of India's current and future use of resources] of the **Project Summary Note** (enclosed as Annexure 01 as part of JDI) — the RE Cell and EU-REI project team shall also exchange technical knowledge/views, best practices, solutions and innovation opportunities on a regular basis under the province of Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

- 4.1 **Project Advisory Committee (PAC):** to be constituted which will be the apex body to guide, steer and oversee all activities under the project and suggest ways and means to optimise the project strategies to achieve project goals. PAC will be chaired by Joint Secretary, IC&SD Division (who heads the RE-Cell too)





and PAC shall meet at least twice a year (or as deemed necessary). The composition of PAC shall be mutually decided by MoEFCC and EU-REI

- 4.2 Future work programs shall be jointly planned based on previous assessments (study reports) conducted by this Ministry and based on available additional funding. RE cell at MoEFCC shall also be linked to the EU India Joint Working Group on Environment for its national as well as global visibility.

## 5. Monitoring & Reporting:

The EU-REI shall regularly monitor and document the progress of project implementation. The project team shall prepare a bi-annual progress reports which will be shared with MoEF&CC and the EU. The Department of Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Finance shall be informed about project achievements once a year.

## 6. Financial Arrangements

India and the EU will bear their own expenses arising from the cooperation activities carried out under this Joint Declaration of Intent.

## 7. Project Budget, Duration and Non-Binding character

The overall budget of the REI project is 2.5 million euros and the duration is 42 months (January 15, 2017 to July 15, 2020) but **current JDI will take effect upon signature by both sides for a period of 2.5 years only (June 02, 2018 – July 15, 2020). This budget will support all activities foreseen under the EU-REI at national, state and international level (e.g. exposure visits).** This JDI is not intended to create any legal or financial obligations under domestic or international law in respect of either side.

## 8. JDI entry into force and copies

This Joint Declaration of Intent shall enter into force on the date it is signed by the two parties hereto. The JDI shall be drawn up in two original copies.

Place: NEW DELHI

Date: 02.06.2018

[Henriette Faergemann],

Counsellor

Environment, Energy, Climate Change, EU  
Delegation to India

[Nikunja Kishore Sundaray]

Joint Secretary

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate  
Change (MoEF&CC), Gol.