

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

ClimateNXT – World Environment Day and Launch of LowCarbon.Earth 2025

05th June 2025

Venue: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Registration: <https://forms.massivefoundation.org/ClimateNXT2025>

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

To commemorate World Environment Day, the ClimateNXT event will be co-organized by the Asia Pacific Organization (APO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the National Productivity Council (NPC), and the Massive Earth Foundation (MEF). This event aims to develop a comprehensive roadmap to eliminate plastic pollution by 2030.

Bringing together influential voices from industry, investment, academia, government, and startups, ClimateNXT will provide a collaborative platform for exploring the future of plastic recycling, discovering innovative solutions to combat plastic waste, and identifying alternatives to single-use plastics. The event will also address strategies to minimize plastic littering, thereby mitigating the growing issue of microplastics.

The event will bring together investors, founders, and ecosystem enablers to explore investment opportunities, discuss innovative financing mechanisms, and showcase successful business models in the plastic pollution space, highlighting the key trends, challenges, and solutions that can drive impactful change.

Additionally, during the event, we will launch the 5th edition of the LowCarbon.Earth Accelerator, focusing on supporting early-stage climate tech startups from across Asia Pacific and empowering them to scale innovative solutions that contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future.

OBJECTIVES

- **Foster Ecosystem Collaboration:** Encourage dialogue and partnership between investors, founders, corporates, and policymakers to strengthen the support ecosystem for circular economy innovations.
- **Drive Collective Action to Eliminate Plastic Pollution:** Convene stakeholders from across the value chain to co-create a roadmap aimed at eliminating plastic pollution by 2030, through innovation, policy support, and behavioral change.
- **Spotlight Early-Stage Innovation:** Showcase high-potential climate-tech startups from across Asia Pacific working on sustainable materials, circular economy, and waste-to-value solutions
- **Launch of National Reports on Plastic Waste:** Official release and insight presentations from two national-level reports - “Single-Use Plastic Ban Effectiveness” by UNEP and NPC, and “State of Plastic Recycling” by the Massive Earth Foundation. These reports will spotlight current trends, innovations, and critical gaps in plastic waste management and recycling, offering a roadmap for more effective policy and business interventions.
- **Launch the 5th Edition of LowCarbon.Earth Accelerator:** Building on the success of its previous edition, the LowCarbon.Earth Accelerator—a joint initiative by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Massive Earth Foundation—will officially launch its 5th cohort at ClimateNXT. The last edition attracted over 500 applications from early-stage climate-tech

startups across Asia Pacific, of which 86 were shortlisted for a 3-month virtual bootcamp focused on capacity building and investment readiness. The program culminated in a 2-day virtual Demo Day, where 34 top-performing startups pitched to over 50 leading investors from the region, with each startup receiving an average of 6–7 expressions of interest. The upcoming edition will continue to identify and support high-potential climate innovators from across APAC, accelerating their journey toward scalable impact.

AGENDA – 05th June 2025

Time	Agenda
2.30 PM – 3.00 PM	Registration
3.00 PM – 3.10 PM	<p><u>Welcome Address & Opening Remarks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Neerja Sekhar, IAS, Director General, National Productivity Council (NPC) <p>NPC's Mission has been to contribute to the sustainable, inclusive socioeconomic development of the country by enhancing productivity. Mitigating air pollution to achieve net-zero carbon emissions through sustainable development involves adopting renewable energy, enhancing energy efficiency, promoting green infrastructure, and implementing circular economy practices. These measures reduce emissions, improve air quality, and support sustainable economic growth, balancing environmental protection with societal needs.</p>
3.10 PM – 3.20 PM	<p><u>Special Remarks</u></p> <p>Balakrishna Pisupati, UNEP India Head</p> <p>UNEP India (United Nations Environment Programme India Office) supports environmental action across a range of sectors. It assists the Indian government in developing and implementing policies on air quality, plastic pollution, including single-use plastics, biodiversity conservation, sustainable cooling, circular economy, and climate action. It conducts workshops, training programs, and technical support for national and state agencies on environmental governance, green economy, and sustainable development. UNEP has led and supported public campaigns like Beat Plastic Pollution, World Environment Day, and Clean Air India Movement to raise environmental awareness.</p>
3.20 PM- 3.30 PM	<p><u>Special Address</u></p> <p>Dr. Indra Singawinata, Secretary General, Asian Productivity Organization, Tokyo (online)</p> <p>In 2024, APO introduced Green Productivity 2.0, a roadmap aimed at driving sustainability through actionable strategies and technological interventions. This initiative focuses on creating a low-carbon, resource-efficient society by incorporating practices such as eco-innovation, green procurement, and promotion of eco-products. To support these efforts, APO established the Center of Excellence on Green Productivity in Taipei, which serves as a hub for promoting and implementing GP-related activities across the Asia-Pacific region. Through these comprehensive efforts, APO aims to harmonize economic growth with environmental protection, contributing to sustainable development in the region</p>
3.30 PM – 3.45 PM	<p><u>Address by Chief Guest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India (GoI) – (TBC) <p>India's action plan includes the National Clean Air Programme, expanding renewable energy, promoting electric vehicles, enhancing energy efficiency, afforestation, waste management, and stringent industry regulations. Committed to reducing emissions intensity by 45% by 2030, India aims for net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.</p>
3.45 PM – 4.30 PM	<u>Panel Discussion: Deep Dive into Chemical-Based Plastic Recycling</u>

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	<p>Moderator: Mr. Shailesh Vickram Singh, Founder and Director, Massive Earth Foundation</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Amit Tandon, Founder, Polycycl 2. Investor 3. Policymaker or subject-matter expert specializing in plastic waste management, circular economy, or plastic pollution policy. 4. Corporate sustainability leader from an FMCG or packaging company exploring chemical recycling as part of their circular economy strategy <p>Chemical recycling offers a promising approach to address the limitations of conventional plastic recycling. Unlike mechanical recycling, which degrades material quality over time, chemical recycling breaks down plastic waste into its original monomers, enabling the production of virgin-quality plastic. This panel will explore the current technologies, economic feasibility, policy frameworks, and real-world applications of chemical recycling, and discuss how to scale these innovations sustainably across India and the Asia-Pacific region.</p>
4.30 PM – 4.45 PM	<p><u>Report Launch: “Single-Use Plastic Ban Effectiveness” (UNEP/NPC) & “State of Plastic Recycling” (Massive Earth Foundation)</u></p> <p>Official release and presentation of key findings from two national-level reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Single-Use Plastic Ban Effectiveness” by UNEP and the National Productivity Council (NPC), which evaluates the impact, enforcement, and effectiveness of current policy measures. • “State of Plastic Recycling” by the Massive Earth Foundation, which captures emerging trends, innovations, and critical gaps in India’s plastic recycling ecosystem. <p>These insights aim to inform policy, innovation, and investment strategies for accelerating a plastic-free future.</p>
4.45 PM – 5.05 PM	Tea Break
5.05 PM – 5.35 PM	<p><u>Startup Showcase</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitches by the top climate-tech startups across the Asia-Pacific region, selected from the LowCarbon.Earth Accelerator Program, developing innovative solutions to combat air and plastic pollution. Will feature five standout startups, each presenting for five minutes explaining their transformative solutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Praan (Climate Angels Portfolio) ○ Ambiator (LCE’23) ○ Strawcture (LCE’24) ○ Angirus (LCE’24) ○ CarbonCraft (LCE’23)
5.35 PM – 6.20 PM	<p><u>Panel Discussion: Minimize Micro Plastics: Present Status, Issues, Challenges, Measuring and Controlling Micro Plastics</u></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Monoranjan Mohanty, Adviser/Scientist 'G' FNAAS, PSA Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sh. Amit Jain, Managing Director, IRGSSA 2. Mr. Amit Love, Scientist, MOEFCC 3. Director, Ministry of Earth Science (Tbc) 4. KD Bhardwaj / Dr. Shukla Pal, Director, NPC <p>Microplastics – fragments smaller than 5mm – are an invisible yet widespread pollutant threatening ecosystems and public health. This panel will explore the current state of microplastic pollution in India and Asia-Pacific, discuss its sources (from cosmetics to textiles), and highlight the challenges</p>

Time	Agenda
	in detection, monitoring, and control. Panelists will also examine the policy gaps, research needs, and technological innovations required to mitigate this emerging crisis.
6.20 PM – 6.35 PM	<p><u>Launch of LowCarbon.Earth 2025</u></p> <p>Launch by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mushtaq Memon, Regional Coordinator, Chemicals and Pollution Action Subprogramme, UNEP • Ms. Kaye Patdu, Associate Programme Officer, UNEP <p>Following the overwhelming success of the previous edition, the 5th edition of the LowCarbon.Earth Accelerator will be officially launched at ClimateNXT. A joint initiative by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Massive Earth Foundation (MEF), this accelerator aims to empower early-stage climate-tech startups across Asia Pacific to build scalable solutions for climate action.</p> <p>The 2024 edition received over 500 applications, with 86 startups selected for a capacity-building bootcamp, and 34 finalists presenting at a high-impact investor demo day attended by over 50 investors. With most startups receiving multiple expressions of interest, the program demonstrated the region's growing appetite for climate innovation.</p> <p>LowCarbon.Earth 2025 will continue to build on this momentum—supporting promising founders, catalyzing investment, and unlocking impactful innovations across Asia Pacific.</p>
6.35 PM – 7.00 PM	<p><u>Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shirish Paliwal, DDG, NPC • UN Representative • Mr. Shailesh Vickram Singh, Founder and Director, Massive Earth Foundation
7.00 PM Onwards	<u>Networking Dinner and Cocktails</u>