



## CONCEPT NOTE

### ClimateNXT 2025 – Ending Plastic Pollution

### World Environment Day and Launch of LowCarbon.Earth 2025

05th June 2025

Venue: Juniper Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Time: 2:30 PM Onwards

#### 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 Report on Plastic Recycling:** Official release and insight presentation from the National-level report on “State of Plastic Recycling” by the Massive Earth Foundation. This report 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 – 05<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Time	Agenda
2.30 PM – 3.00 PM	Registration
3.00 PM – 3.10 PM	<p><b><u>Welcome Address &amp; Opening Remarks</u></b>  <b>Mrs. Neerja Sekhar</b>, IAS, Director General, National Productivity Council (NPC)</p> <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><b><u>Special Remarks</u></b>  <b>Ms. Rekha Jain</b>, National Project Coordinator, UNIDO          (On behalf of Mr. Cristiano Pasini, UNIDO Representative in India)</p> <p>UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations with a unique mandate to promote and accelerate sustainable industrial and economic development. UNIDO's mandate is to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in its developing country Member States. Accordingly, the Organization's programmatic focus is structured in four strategic priorities: (i) creating shared prosperity, (ii) advancing economic competitiveness, (iii) safeguarding the environment, and (iv) strengthening knowledge and institutions. These programmatic fields of activity contain diverse individual programmes, which are implemented through UNIDO's four functions: (i) technical cooperation; (ii) analytical, research and policy advisory services; (iii) normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and (iv) convening and partnerships for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation.</p>
3.20 PM – 3.30 PM	<p><b><u>Special Address</u></b>  <b>Dr. Indra Singawinata</b>, 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><b><u>Address by Chief Guest</u></b>  <b>Ms. Leena Nandan</b>, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary, MoEF&amp;CC, Government of India (GoI)</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) Government of India is responsible for planning, promoting, and implementing environmental and forestry policies and programs. It oversees conservation of forests and wildlife, prevention and control of pollution, and management of biodiversity. MoEFCC also handles issues related to climate change and</p>

Time	Agenda
	coordinates with international environmental organizations. The ministry plays a key role in formulating environmental laws and ensuring sustainable development in India.
3.45 PM – 3.55 PM	<p><b><u>Report Launch: “State of Plastic Recycling” (Massive Earth Foundation)</u></b></p> <p>Official release and presentation of key findings from national-level report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“State of Plastic Recycling”</b> by the Massive Earth Foundation, which captures emerging trends, innovations, and critical gaps in India’s plastic recycling ecosystem.</li> </ul> <p>These insights aim to inform policy, innovation, and investment strategies for accelerating a plastic-free future.</p>
3.55 PM – 4.40 PM	<p><b><u>Panel Discussion: Opportunities and Challenges in Combatting Plastic Pollution</u></b></p> <p><b>Moderator: Mr. Shailesh Vickram Singh</b>, Founder and Director, Massive Earth Foundation</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Amit Tandon, Founder, Polycycl</li> <li>2. Mr. Ashok Menon, Director, SABIC Research and Technology Centre</li> <li>3. Mr. Harsh Singhal, Managing Partner, Prosperete Growth</li> <li>4. Mr. Ramkumar Venkatramani, Director Impact Investing, AVPN</li> <li>5. Mr. Krishna Thota, Senior Vice President, Re Sustainability Limited</li> </ol> <p>Plastic pollution remains one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time, impacting ecosystems, human health, and economies globally. While global awareness and policy momentum are growing, effective solutions require a multi-stakeholder approach that addresses the full plastic lifecycle from production and consumption to collection and disposal. This panel will delve into emerging innovations, scalable business models, regulatory developments, and grassroots interventions aimed at tackling plastic pollution. Experts will also discuss systemic barriers, financing gaps, and opportunities for regional collaboration to drive impactful change across India and the Asia-Pacific region.</p>
4.40 PM – 4.50 PM	<p><b><u>Presentation by Expert</u></b></p> <p><b>Mr. Hiroshi Tachikawa</b>, Propharm Japan Co., Ltd, Tokyo Japan</p> <p>Propharm Japan Co., Ltd, Tokyo Japan have been providing consulting and sustainability related solutions in environmental, social and business fields and are based in Tokyo, Japan.</p>
4.50 PM – 5.05 PM	Tea Break
5.05 PM – 5.35 PM	<p><b><u>Startup Showcase</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India’s Top Startups leading the fight against Plastic Pollution with game-changing innovations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bambrew</li> <li>○ Ishitva Robotic Systems</li> <li>○ Five Elements Environmental Technologies</li> <li>○ Plastics For Change</li> <li>○ Baeru</li> <li>○ PolyCycl</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5.35 PM – 6.20 PM	<p><b><u>Panel Discussion: Minimize Micro Plastics: Present Status, Issues, Challenges, Measuring and Controlling Micro Plastics</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Dr. Benno Böer</b>, Programme Specialist, Natural Sciences, UNESCO</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Lalit Jain, IAS, Director of Census Operations (DCO) and Director of Citizen Registration (DCR) – (online)</li> <li>2. Mr. Hiroshi Tachikawa, International Expert, Tokyo Japan</li> <li>3. Dr. S.R. Marigoudar, Scientist-E, National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Science, GOI</li> <li>4. Prof Vivek Kumar, Centre for Rural Development and Technology, IIT Delhi</li> <li>5. Sh. Amit Jain, Managing Director, IRGSSA</li> <li>6. Dr. Jatinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, PHDCCI</li> <li>7. Dr. Kalyan De, Scientist, CSIR – National Institute of Oceanography (NIO Goa)</li> <li>8. Dr. Mahua Saha, Principal Scientist, CSIR – National Institute of Oceanography (NIO Goa)</li> </ol> <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 in detection, monitoring, and control. Panelists will also examine the policy gaps, research needs, and technological innovations required to mitigate this emerging crisis.</p>
6.20 PM – 6.35 PM	<p><b><u>Launch of LowCarbon.Earth 2025</u></b></p> <p><b>Launch by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Mushtaq Memon</b>, Regional Coordinator, Chemicals and Pollution Action Subprogramme, UNEP (online)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Kaye Patdu</b>, Associate Programme Officer, UNEP (online)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Hiroshi Tachikawa</b>, Propharm Japan Co., Ltd, Tokyo Japan</li> </ul> <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><b><u>Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Shirish Paliwal</b>, DDG, NPC</li> <li>• <b>UN Representative</b></li> <li>• <b>Mr. Shailesh Vickram Singh</b>, Founder and Director, Massive Earth Foundation</li> </ul>
7.00 PM Onwards	<p><b><u>Networking Dinner and Cocktails</u></b></p>