



MU GAMMA
Consultants Pvt. Ltd



SRM
Institute of Science and Technology

INOPOL Final Dissemination Event

Date: 17th October 2022 in New Delhi

Venue: Juniper Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Supported by
Royal Norwegian Embassy in New Delhi

Background

'India's plastic waste generation has more than doubled in the last five years with an average annual increase of 21.8 per cent' according to the Central Government of India. The continued increase in plastic waste generation aggravates the problem of land-based sources of plastic pollution in the marine environment. The challenges related to **macroplastics**, **microplastics**, and **chemical pollution** are closely interlinked, as plastics may contain chemical additives and contaminants, and thus are carriers for **persistent organic pollutants (POPs)**.

In the wake of the recently introduced ban on single-use plastics (SUPs) and the introduction of extended-producer-responsibility (EPR) rules, the issues of improper plastic waste handling are expected to reduce substantially. However, the plastic waste which is already in circulation and the pollution caused by hazardous chemicals (including POPs) requires a different strategy.

In this context, the Indo-Norwegian collaborative project titled '**India-Norway cooperation project on capacity building for reducing plastic and chemical pollution in India**' (INOPOL) has been involved in building the knowledge and capacity of different groups of stakeholders such as the **Scientists and Experts at the State Pollution Control Board, research & academic organizations and civil society organizations** to help reduce the releases and impacts of plastic pollution and the 'new' POPs listed under the Stockholm Convention, which India has recently ratified. The project has also generated coherent data on the levels of macro-plastics, micro-plastics, and POPs in different matrices such as: water, soil, sediment, and biota in the riverine and marine environments of Tapi and Daman Ganga rivers in the Surat and Vapi Districts of Gujarat. This project is being implemented by a team of international experts from Norway (NIVA), and leading institutions in India (TERI, CIPET, Mu Gamma, SRMIST, Toxics Link)

The objective of the event:

- To disseminate the findings from this project through an event to be held in New Delhi in October 2022. This will provide a more detailed understanding of the issue of plastic and chemical pollution in Gujarat and in India.
- To launch the Plastic Waste Management Strategy Report for Gujarat and the POPs Action Plan for Gujarat developed under the project.

Key questions:

1. How can monitoring and management tools be utilized to effectively reduce the releases and impacts of plastic pollution?
2. How can the implementation of the Stockholm Convention in India be better supported?
3. What are the most critical data gaps and research needs that continue to exacerbate unresolved issues in regards to managing and reducing plastic pollution and POPs?

Agenda

17 th October 2022	
Venue-Juniper Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi	
Inaugural Session	10.30-11.30 Hrs
Welcome address by NIVA	5 mins
Introduction to the project and its findings (film)	5 mins
Special address by H E Ambassador of Norway to India	10 mins
Special address by Smt Leena Nandan, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change*, Government of India	10 mins
Keynote Address by Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change*, Government of India	15 mins
Release of the Plastic Waste Strategy Report for Gujarat and Persistent Organic Pollutants' Action Plan for Gujarat	2 min
The Way Forward for the INOPOL Project	10 mins
Vote of Thanks	3 mins
Tea/Coffee Break	11.30-11.45 Hrs
Panel Discussion on PWM and POPs pollution	11.45 -12.45 Hrs
Q & A session	10 mins
Summary of the session	5 mins
Lunch '	13.00-14.00 Hrs
* To be confirmed	

About the partners

Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), <https://www.niva.no/en>, is Norway's leading institute for fundamental and applied research on marine and freshwaters. Their research comprises a wide array of environmental, climatic, and resource-related fields. NIVA's world-class expertise is multidisciplinary, and combine research, monitoring, evaluation, problem-solving and advisory services at international, national, and local levels.

Mu Gamma, <https://www.mugammaconsultants.com/>, works towards environmental-friendly solutions in promoting green development across India. Mu Gamma's work entails research, advocacy, consultancy, and capacity building on waste management (hazardous chemicals, POPs, plastics, marine litter, emerging contaminants), water resources management in rural and urban areas (water & sanitation, chemical pollution control), public health and environment, climate change, corporate social responsibility, sustainable governance, and education for sustainable development.

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), <https://www.teriin.org/>, is a not-for-profit, multi-dimensional, policy research organization - working in the fields of energy, environment, and sustainable development for over four decades, with capabilities in research, policy, consultancy, and implementation. TERI believes that resource efficiency and waste management are the keys to smart, sustainable, and inclusive development, and hence focusses on promoting efficient use of resources, increasing access to sustainable practices, and reducing environmental and climatic impacts.

Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET), <https://www.cipet.gov.in/#>, is a premier academic institution for higher and technical education, works in all the domains of plastics, and caters to the needs of the polymer and allied industries. CIPET's 'Centre for Plastic Waste Management' helps build capacities on plastics recycling technology, promotes cost-effective recycled plastics for varied end-use applications, creates employment opportunities on plastics waste disposal, and intends to act as a 'Centre of Excellence' for plastic waste management in India.

SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRM), <https://www.srmist.edu.in/>, is a private deemed university at the forefront of breakthrough research and innovation in environmental sciences and other areas. It is one of the top-ranking universities in India offering undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in six major faculties. SRM Research Institute hosts the 'Environmental Science and Technology Laboratory' that specializes in research on the fate, transport, and remediation of organic contaminants, apart from addressing other issues of environmental concern.

Toxics Link (TL), <http://toxicslink.org/>, is an environmental NGO that brings toxics-related information into the public domain with unique expertise in the areas of municipal, hazardous, and medical waste management, food safety, international waste trade, and on managing emerging issues of pesticides and POPs. Working in networks, utilising community outreach and education, policy analysis, research, training, and program development, TL functions at the state and central levels to help create solutions, driven by the needs of people at the grassroots level.