



Development Alternatives at COP24, Katowice, Poland

This year at the 24th Conference of Parties on Climate Change organised by UNFCC, held from the 3rd to 14th December, 2018 in Katowice, Poland, Development Alternatives (DA) was one of the harbinger of green and affordable construction technologies, especially advocating for south-south transfer of technologies.

From the 3rd to 7th of December 2018, DA exhibited two construction technologies which were not only cleaner technologies, but overall ensured sustainable livelihood opportunities for the communities engaged in the activities. The two technologies were the Eco-Kiln technology and the Limestone Calcined Clay Cement (LC³).

Continuing our stand on mainstreaming of green and affordable construction technologies through a circular economy approach, Dr. Soumen Maity (Assistant Vice President, DA) participated in a panel at an event titled, 'Circular Economy in the Built Environment' at the Nordic Pavilion, on 5th December, 2018. He spoke of some of the good practices within the Indian construction sector, one of these being the construction and demolition waste management as well as building material product manufacturing plant in Ahmedabad (Gujarat). Citing this example he emphasised that finance needs to be generated within the system itself to ensure circular approaches in the sustainable cities agenda.

DA also organised a side event in collaboration with Chatham House, on 5th December, 2018, titled, 'Circularity for a Sustainable Future, Case Studies: Solid Waste Management and Low-Carbon Construction'. The panel consisted of vibrant and diverse speakers, namely, Ms. Tawonga Mbale (Luka, Director Environment Affairs, Malawi), Mr. Mohammed Chaibi (President of Morocco Coalition of Waste Valorization), Guillaume de Laboulaye (Program Manager, Energies 2050), Dr. Soumen Maity (Assistant Vice President), Dr. Ashish Chaturvedi (Director, Climate Change, GIZ-India) and Luca de Giovanetti (WBCSD). Mr. Felix Preston (Programme Director, Chatham House) moderated the event, where the speakers shared their views and experiences on the challenges and drivers towards achieving targeted emission reductions through the circularity approach in their respective fields of work.