

First Materials & Technologies Working Group Consultation for ‘Transforming the Built Environment through Sustainable Materials’



Dr Soumen Maity, Vice President, Development Alternatives speaking at the Working Group Consultation on Materials & Technology

The project ‘Transforming the Built Environment through Sustainable Materials’, coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and supported by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany), is being implemented in four countries (India, Bangladesh, Ghana and Senegal). In India, the Development Alternatives Group is implementing the project in Odisha and Maharashtra state.

To integrate decarbonisation strategies and circular economy principles in affordable housing development in the state of Odisha, the Development Alternatives Group brought together stakeholders from key government departments, academia, and representatives from Odisha’s buildings and construction industry, to discuss the shared vision of the state for steering the sector towards sustainable production and consumption practices in the built environment. This Working Group on Materials & Technologies is one of the three Working Groups, others being Policy Frameworks and Market & Finance that have been set up under the Ashraye Project to lay the foundation for the roadmap development process.



Working Group members at the Working Group Consultation on Materials & Technology in Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Development Alternatives is currently serving as the Technical Consultant for the Odisha State Housing Board (OSHB) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, and the Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Technology Limited (MAHAPREIT) in Mumbai, Maharashtra. We are in the process of signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with both OSHB and MAHAPREIT to develop a roadmap for the implementation of Project Ashraye, with a focus on Sustainable Demand Side Management.

This consultation represents a significant step toward a more sustainable future for The Odisha State Housing Board and Development Alternatives. It showcases their dedication to addressing environmental concerns and advancing the well-being of their residents through innovative solutions. As both cities embark on this transformative journey, the world will be watching their progress with great anticipation.

The Working Group Consultation was attended by Prof. Dinakar Pasla, IIT Bhubaneswar; D Pawan Kumar, National Council for Cement and Building Material; Ms Rasmita Rani Tarasia, Secretary, Odisha State Housing Board; Dr Syed Mohammed Mustakim, CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology; Dr PK Acharaya, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, among others.