

Fostering Societal Demand for Inclusive Green & Circular Economy in India – A Workshop



Group picture of the participants of the IIED Green and Circular Economy workshop held on September 24th, 2024

Pathways for a just and inclusive transition to a green economy were charted in a workshop on, “Fostering Societal Demand for a Green and Circular Economy in India” organised by the [Society for Technology and Action for Rural Advancement \(TARA\)](#), funded by the [European Union](#) and supported by the [Green Economy Coalition \(GEC\)](#) and [International Institute for Environment and Development \(IIED\)](#) Europe on September 24 in New Delhi. It witnessed participation from a diverse group of social enterprises, civil society actors, industry representatives, research and academic institutions and other key stakeholders who discussed and delineated on the challenges, risks, good practices for the green economic transition and lastly, who will be the driver or the “critical actors” for this change.

India has adopted the target of achieving net zero carbon emissions by the year 2070¹. Among its key transitional strategies is promoting economy-wide decoupling of growth from emissions and developing an effective and innovative low emission industrial system. While a vast set of actors, including Development Alternatives and TARA work towards achieving this, they realised that only so much can be done without the society demanding transition to an inclusive, green and circular economy, and holding the stakeholders accountable. This could involve civil society organisations urging policymakers to create incentives for green production, policymakers enforcing regulations to hold businesses accountable, and financiers shifting their portfolios toward greener investments.

In this context, the workshop recognised that influencing these groups requires tailored strategies, and a one-size-fits-all approach will not be effective. Two group exercises were conducted to effectively engage the participants.

¹ [India Is Committed to Achieve the Net Zero Emissions Target by 2070](#). PIB India, Ministry of Science and Technology. 2023.

Workshop Participation Images



Participants introducing themselves and highlighting their work towards a sustainable, green future.



Discussions on identifying challenges and best practices in the green economy, with team moderators capturing participants' insights.



Participants outlining and presenting the opportunities, risks, and a vision for the future of a just and equitable transition to the green economy, while also identifying key actors to engage with for this.



Participants engaging in a mentimeter exercise to identify their top three challenges and best practices to amplify for a transition towards a green economy. Additionally, they also took part in a poll to highlight the key actors to engage with for this transition, results of which are highlighted in the Digest article.