

## **Launch of TERI's Consortium on Waste-Proofing the Future**

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018**

TERI's Consortium on Waste-Proofing the Future aims to serve as a matchmaking platform to build the supply chain for environmentally sound management of various waste streams, and identify the technological, institutional and policy interventions that are required to sustain it.

India generates an estimated 32 million metric tons of packaging waste each year, of which plastic constitutes 16 %. The unorganized collection of waste leads to cherry-picking of wastes with only positive value. As a result, only 14% of plastic packaging is collected for recycling, and another 14% is sent to incineration and/or energy recovery process, mostly through incineration in mixed solid waste incinerators, but also through the combustion of refuse-derived fuel in industrial processes such as cement kilns, and pyrolysis.

Effective collection and recycling could lead to an overall reduction of waste, cost, and energy consumption effectively reducing GHG (Green House Gas) emissions and an overall low carbon footprint for the industry. It is estimated that mixed plastic waste could potentially replace 1.69 MT of coal consumption during clinker production in cement kilns in India. If we utilize entire plastic waste, Alternate Fuel and Raw Material (AFR) rate in India would be 7.4%, than the current rate of 4%. This could result in GHG savings of 0.85 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e. While a clear case of such co-benefits exist, supply chain linkages that connect stakeholders and establish symbiotic relationships are often the critical missing link.

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