

# MNCs, think-tanks come together to make SMEs energy-efficient

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TO make it viable for small and medium enterprises to adopt environmental standards, a range of government, multilateral organisations and think tanks have decided to band themselves on a common platform.

The plan involves promoting the concept of green economy among these enterprises. The venture is backed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency with support from the European Union and will be implemented by a clutch of organisations including Foundation for MSME Clusters, UNIDO, SIDBI, Indian Institute for Corporate Affairs, GIZ India, and GRI,

the Netherlands within the next three and half years.

One of the pilot projects of the group aims to reduce carbon emission by about 70,000 tonnes in 500 micro and small foundries in Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

“EU Switch Asia is one of our flagship initiatives. There are over 70 programmes that are ongoing in this area covering issues like governance, sustainable development and climate change” said Arno Schaefer, Minister Counsellor, EU.

Ajay Mathur, Director General, of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency announced several areas of cooperation with the EU-funded project.