



Foundation for MSME Clusters (FMC)

PROJECT UPDATES

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2025

European Parliament Delegation Visits Panipat: Advancing India-EU Green Trade Dialogue

A delegation from the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade (INTA) visited Panipat to explore India's textile recycling ecosystem. Hosted by FMC under the EU SWITCH-Asia Green Threads Project, the visit showcased Panipat's contribution to global circular trade. Supported by the European Union, the initiative promotes cleaner, traceable, and climate-resilient production in Panipat, Amroha, and Bhojpur, enhancing India's green competitiveness and aligning MSME practices with global sustainability goals.



Delegation from the European Parliament's INTA Committee visited Panipat under the EU SWITCH-Asia Green Threads Project to witness India's thriving textile recycling ecosystem.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



India's MSME ecosystem stands at the crossroads of transformation, where sustainability, inclusivity, and innovation converge to redefine growth. The recent visit by the European Parliament Delegation to Panipat reflects growing international recognition of India's leadership in textile recycling and circular production. It is a proud moment to see our MSME clusters becoming models of green transition, generating livelihoods while addressing global environmental challenges. FMC's initiatives from Green Threads to Net Positive Panchayats and Aarthik Arogyam Kendras demonstrate how local action can drive systemic change. By connecting micro enterprises, artisans, and panchayats to cleaner technologies, digital tools, and sustainable markets, we are building resilience from the ground up. As we deepen collaborations with partners like the EU, GIZ, SBI Foundation, and WWF India, our collective vision remains clear to make Indian MSMEs globally competitive, environmentally responsible, and socially inclusive. The journey toward a truly circular and climate-resilient economy has begun.

- Mukesh Gulati

From Dialogue to Action: Panipat's Journey to Become India's Hub for Inclusive Textile Recycling

FMC, with support from the H&M Foundation, organised a field visit and discussion in Panipat to advance circular textile recycling and improve working conditions. MSMEs, recyclers, and experts co-created strategies for cleaner production and fair labour practices. The dialogue, enriched by global insights on circularity and just transition, concluded with a shared commitment to make Panipat India's model for inclusive and sustainable textile recycling.



GIZ and FMC Launch 'Net Positive Panchayats' in Goa for Climate-Resilient Governance



In partnership with GIZ India, FMC launched the 'Net Positive Panchayats - Goa' project in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Pramod Sawant. Focused on renewable energy, waste management, and agroecology, the initiative aims to make village panchayats climate-resilient and resource-positive. Implemented across Harvelam, Kavrem Pirla, and Calangute, it contributes to Goa's Energy Vision 2050 and India's climate targets, fostering self-reliant, sustainable local governance.

FMC at SWITCH-Asia Annual Meet: Scaling Circular Economy Solutions from India

At the 7th EU SWITCH-Asia Annual Meeting in Bangkok, FMC shared India's experience in promoting circular textile production under the Green Threads Project. Supported by the European Union's Global Gateway, the event gathered 160 policymakers and experts. FMC showcased how shared infrastructure and cleaner production practices reduce emissions and costs, positioning India as a leader in advancing resource-efficient, circular economies across Asia.



Bamboo for Climate and Livelihoods: FMC Marks World Bamboo Day in Mumbai



On World Bamboo Day, FMC led a dialogue in Mumbai with experts from FRI Dehradun, KFRI Kerala, and MGNREGA Mission Maharashtra on sustainable bamboo cultivation. Discussions focused on species selection, harvesting cycles, and market-aligned cultivation. The initiative supports FMC's broader mission of promoting bamboo as a renewable raw material for livelihood generation and climate resilience.

Financial Health for Micro Entrepreneurs: FMC-HDB Project Aims to Reach 15,000 Units



With support from HDB Financial Services, the Aarthik Aarogyam Kendra initiative, implemented by FMC, has kickstarted in Varanasi to enhance the financial resilience of 15,000 nano and micro enterprises across Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.. By promoting digital literacy and sound financial management, the project helps entrepreneurs access credit, manage finances better, and integrate with formal systems, strengthening India's inclusive financial ecosystem.

Reviving India's Handloom Heritage with HCL Foundation



In partnership with HCL Foundation, FMC is revitalising handloom clusters in Telangana, Odisha, Assam, and Madhya Pradesh. Over 50 artisans and 20 BMOs have been trained in digital marketing and connected to markets through My E-Haat and exhibitions. The initiative promotes fair incomes, cultural preservation, and sustainable livelihoods through heritage-based enterprise development.

FMC and Mahindra Finance Empower Micro Entrepreneurs Through Dhan Samvaad 2.0



As a partner in Mahindra Finance’s Dhan Samvaad 2.0, FMC is advancing financial and digital inclusion for micro and nano entrepreneurs in Haryana, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh. Between September–October, over 6,500 beneficiaries received training, 5,000 activated DigiLockers, and 4,400 linked to government schemes. The initiative strengthens financial access, digital confidence, and small business resilience.

FMC, The Asia Foundation, and Google.org Strengthen MSME Cyber Resilience



Under the APAC Cybersecurity Fund, FMC, in collaboration with The Asia Foundation and supported by Google.org, is helping MSMEs safeguard their digital systems. Over 25,000 MSMEs and 42 BMOs across 10 states have been trained in cybersecurity. Karnataka hosted state Learnshops, while Maharashtra conducted sessions for 1,600 MSMEs. The initiative ensures that India’s digital growth is secure, inclusive, and future-ready.

POLICY UPDATE

Schemes to bolster the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector

- **MSME Green Growth Initiative:** Launched by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India, in September 2025, this initiative aims to promote green technology adoption, energy efficiency, and waste-to-wealth practices among MSMEs.
- **Tamil Nadu MSME Export Readiness Scheme:** Launched by the Department of MSME, Government of Tamil Nadu, in September 2025, this scheme aims to enhance the global competitiveness of export-oriented MSMEs by providing financial incentives for quality certification, participation in trade fairs, and logistical support.
- **Digital Udyam 2.0:** Introduced by the Ministry of MSME, in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), in September 2025, this scheme aims to advance digital transformation of MSMEs through e-commerce tools, AI-based analytics, and simplified compliance systems.

ABOUT US

The Foundation for MSME Clusters (FMC) is a non-government, not-for-profit trust dedicated to promoting and developing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through clusters and value chains. FMC provides cutting-edge policy and research support, comprehensive training, and capacity-building programs. It leads initiatives to generate employment, alleviate poverty, and promote a green economy. FMC supports cluster-specific infrastructure, market linkages, and management support, fostering MSME growth and development. With 35 scholarly publications, FMC is a leading authority on MSME cluster development.

GET INVOLVED



Volunteer

Opportunities:

Contribute your expertise to our ongoing projects and make a tangible impact on MSME development.



Info@msmefoundation.org



Corporate

Partnerships:

Collaborate with us to foster the growth and development of MSMEs across India. Your support can make a significant difference.



Megha@msmefoundation.org

CONTACT US

