

On behalf of:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

of the Federal Republic of Germany



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Developing Best Available Techniques Reference Documents in India

Background

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is the apex regulatory body in India for prevention and control of pollution. As a part of its mandate, CPCB has developed sector-specific Comprehensive Industry Documents (COINDS). These COINDS documents for the industry sectors provide guidance to the authorities on developing environmental directives and to the industries on how to comply with the directives.

In Europe, environmental legal standards for industrial installations are based on Best Available Techniques (BAT). BAT are identified through an elaborate information exchange process between all relevant stakeholders, including the industry, and are described in the reference documents on BAT (BREF) for each specific industrial sector. The experience with BREFs (Best Available Techniques Reference Documents) shows a very high implementation rate due to the active role played by the industry in developing the standards. This process-oriented approach on BAT with different stakeholders supports its subsequent implementation and is an effective lever for better environmental performance in the sector.

In 2019, CPCB decided to develop a new COINDS document for the textiles sector, paving a way for bringing in the German knowhow on the BAT process to India for this industry sector.

About the Project

Under the Indo-German Development Cooperation, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) has commissioned the project module on "Best Available Techniques for Selected Industry Sectors" to develop a new COINDS document for the textile sector in India using the German experiences and facilitate the exchange of lessons learned and best practices with the Indian partners.

The project module in India is part of the global project "Environmental Protection Worldwide" implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH under the BMUV Export Initiative Environmental Protection (duration of the BAT module: April 2023 – December 2024; budget: EUR 300,000).

The German Environment Agency (UBA) plays the role of sharing knowledge and experiences on the BREF processes from Germany, such as, participatory information exchange among stakeholders for developing the BAT reference document (new COINDS document) and reviewing the customized BREF processes for India.

Joint Declaration of Intent

- Joint Declaration of Intent between UBA, GIZ and Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB): The date of effect of the present JDI is from 01 June 2022 and is valid until 31 December 2025.
- Joint Declaration of Intent between UBA, GIZ and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB): The date of effect of the previous JDI was from 01 May 2019 until 31 May 2022, and the renewal of the JDI with UBA, GIZ and CPCB is envisaged.

Expected Results

- BAT reference document (Comprehensive Industry Document) for the textiles sector at national level through CPCB.
- BAT reference document (Comprehensive Industry Document) for the textiles sector in Gujarat through GPCB.
- Knowledge strengthening and capacity building of CPCB, GPCB and other stakeholders for organizing a participatory information exchange process for preparing BREF documents.
- Environmental directives or guidelines based on BAT for application in the textile sector across India.

The project is expected to also result in internalizing this participatory BREF approach in the selected environmental agencies, viz. CPCB and GPCB so that they are able to put to use the gained knowledge and capacities for strengthening environmental compliance in various industry sectors in India. The stakeholder involvement will ensure higher acceptance of environmental standards by the industry and lead to more sustainable production and better competitiveness of the Indian industry.

The project further aims at enabling the two environmental agencies, CPCB and GPCB, to also use the gained knowledge and experiences on the integrated processes and participatory BREF approaches for environmental compliance in other industry sectors. These BREF documents for the textile sector would serve as a pilot model and the BREF process could be subsequently replicated for other priority industry sectors.



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