

ABOUT THE PROJECT

- **Duration:** 8 months of comprehensive planning and implementation, extendable
 - **Focus:** Seven priority sectors including Water, Plastic, Electronics, Textiles, Aluminum, Steel & Infrastructure
 - **Innovation:** First district-level circular economy roadmap in India
 - **Impact:** waste diverted, jobs created, people trained, engagement and networking for circularity strengthened
 - **Sustainability:** Establishment of Centre of Excellence on Circularity for long-term impact on ecological protection, cultural heritage, and human development
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- Angul district in Odisha is an industrial hub for the thermal power, steel, and aluminium industries. The district, on the path of continuous growth with significant investments and government initiatives, is also grappling with the challenges of pollution, resource depletion, and the direct environmental impacts of rapid industrialization.
 - Angul district is adopting circular economy principles to reduce the environmental impacts of industrialization. These principles emphasize waste elimination, resource efficiency, reutilization, and natural system regeneration. This shift from a linear to a sustainable, closed-loop model will enhance resource efficiency and lower ecological impacts, making Angul a benchmark for sustainable development and industrial cooperation. To promote resource efficiency and circular economy practices in Angul, the District Administration launched the "Circular Angul" project in partnership with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). In line with national priorities and the State's Vision 2023, this initiative seeks to reduce waste through reuse and recycling, establishing a scalable model for circular economic growth. The project was initiated in 2021 with a stakeholder workshop, which led to the formation of a task force that identified seven key sectors: steel, aluminum, plastic, textiles, electronics, water, and infrastructure. In 2022, the District Mineral Foundation (DMF) and Angul District Administration introduced the GRACE (Governmental Response for Achieving Circular Economy) initiative to embed circular economy principles into the district's resource management.
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- The technical approach is divided into four phases:
 1. Comprehensive situation analysis and gap assessment
 2. Strategic planning and roadmap development
 3. Pilot project implementation
 4. Capacity building and knowledge management