

Impact assessment report: Waste Management Programme

Prepared for : ITC Limited

About the programme and its components

The ITC Waste Management Programme, implemented under Mission Sunehra Kal, is a large-scale initiative aimed at promoting sustainable, community-driven waste management systems across urban and rural India. Through partnerships with government institutions and local communities, the programme focuses on decentralised waste processing, behaviour change, and livelihood enhancement for waste collectors, while reducing environmental impact and improving public health outcomes.

Component 1: Decentralised Waste Management Initiative – Urban and Rural Waste Management

Focuses on establishing decentralised waste management systems across urban and rural areas by promoting source segregation, door-to-door collection, and local processing. Implemented in partnership with Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats, the model emphasises community ownership, reduced landfill dependency, and financial sustainability through user fees and sale of recyclables and compost.

Location: Bihar, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand

Implementing partner: SBMA, USKSS, FINISH Society, WASH Institute

Component 2: Liquid Waste Management under the Light House Initiative

Aims to address rural sanitation challenges by implementing solutions for safe disposal and treatment of liquid waste, including soak pits and filtration systems. Under the Lighthouse Initiative, the programme strengthens the capacity of Gram Panchayats, promotes behaviour change, and develops model sanitation systems through convergence with government programmes.

Location: Bihar, Punjab, Uttarakhand

Implementing partner: SBMA, WASH Institute, FINISH Society

Component 3: Well – being of waste collectors

Focuses on improving the socio-economic and health conditions of waste collectors and their families through targeted interventions such as health camps, financial literacy, and access to social protection schemes. The programme also supports skill development, education linkages, and livelihood diversification to enhance dignity and long-term well-being.

Location: Bihar, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand

Implementing partner: SBMA, USKSS, FINISH Society, WASH Institute

Component 4: Multi Layered Plastic Waste Management through Community Centric Innovation

Promotes collection and recycling of low-value multi-layered plastic waste through an inclusive, decentralised model involving informal waste workers. The initiative strengthens value chains, enables income generation, and demonstrates scalable solutions for managing MLP while contributing to environmental sustainability.

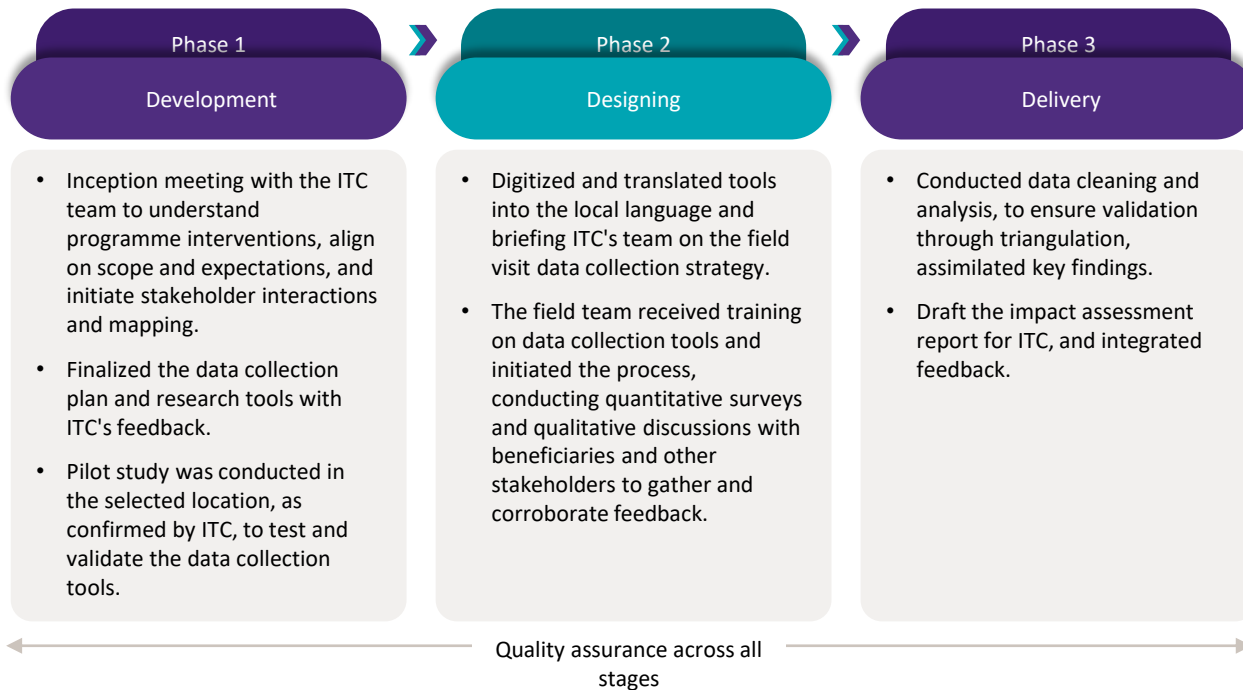
Location: Maharashtra

Implementing partner: Kashtakari Panchayat

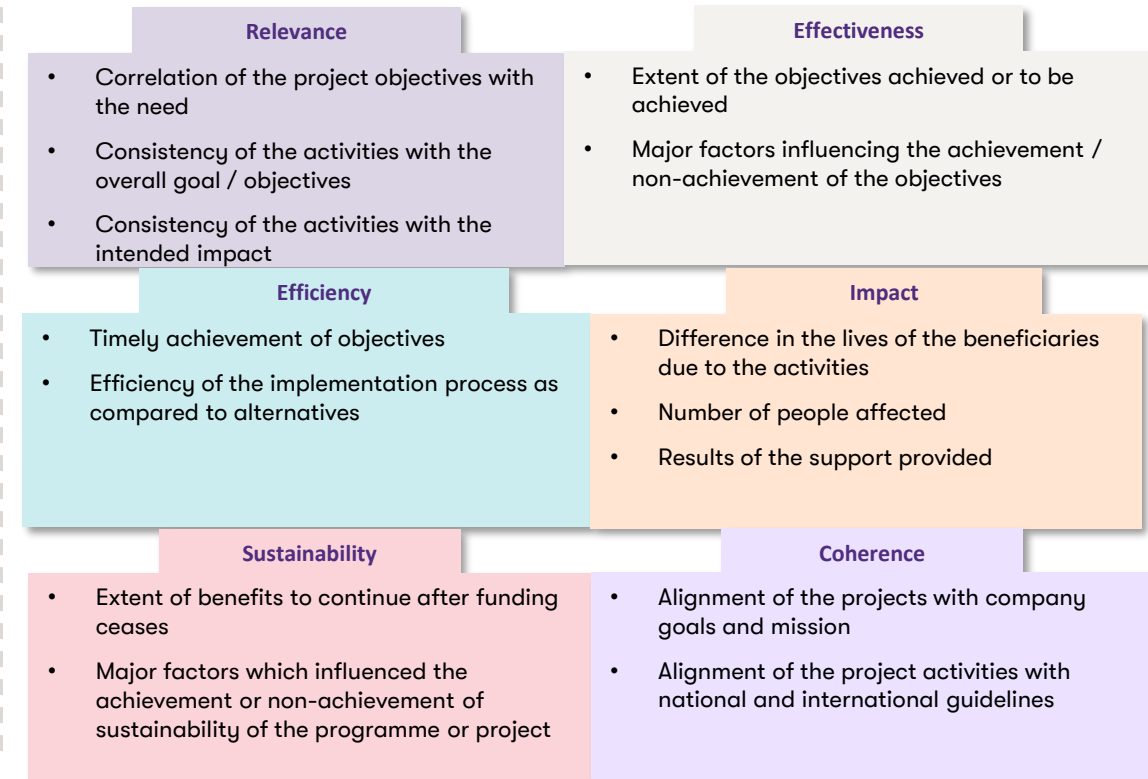
Approach and methodology

ITC Limited engaged GTBLLP to carry out impact assessment of its Waste Management Programmes in **Bihar, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand** for the **financial year 2023 - 2024**. The assessment aimed to evaluate the **effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability** of the programme in achieving its intended **environmental, social, and economic** outcomes across project geographies. The assessment was undertaken using the **quantitative and qualitative** methods to understand the impact of the activities. The scope of work involved conducting the desk review of documents, mapping stakeholders, developing research methodology, pilot study, data collection and analysis, and report writing.

Three – phase study methodology



OECD DAC framework is used for the assessment



Survey details

Mentioned below are the details of the quantitative data collection undertaken for the study

State	District	Target - Proposed	Target - Achieved	Control - Proposed	Control - Achieved
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	384	397	192	206
Maharashtra - WM	Pune	359	360	180	191
MLP	Pune	92	92	47	- *
Bihar	Munger - CAPP	383	397	192	202
Bihar	Munger - Gram Ganga	384	391	192	199
Uttarakhand	Haridwar	357	389	179	186
Punjab	Kapurthala	166	177	83	93

In-person field visits were conducted across all five (05) locations to facilitate qualitative interactions with relevant programme stakeholders.

* Due to the model of implementation, as suggested the implementing partner, it was decided to not include control for MLP

01 Solid and Liquid Waste Management Project

Respondent details

This section illustrates the demographic and socio-economic profile of respondents across the target and control groups for all the five (05) locations combined. Analysis has been done basis the interactions carried out with 2,111 respondents as part of the target group and 1,077 respondents as part of the control group. This data is for Waste Management Programme only.

	Punjab		Haridwar		Lucknow		Pune		Bihar CAPP		Bihar Gangagram	
Gender	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG
Female	43%	29%	75%	72%	38%	52%	79%	61%	80%	37%	76%	34%
Male	57%	71%	25%	28%	62%	48%	21%	39%	20%	63%	24%	66%

	Punjab		Haridwar		Lucknow		Pune		Bihar CAPP		Bihar Gangagram	
Annual family income	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG
Less than 50k	-	-	-	-	6%	-	6%	-	-	-	-	-
Between 50k to 1 lac	-	1%	-	-	42%	16%	49%	34%	1%	4%	2%	6%
Between 1lac to 1.5 lac	6%	3%	6%	10%	47%	15%	27%	40%	59%	59%	33%	41%
Between 1.5 lac to 2 lac	8%	13%	2%	8%	5%	20%	12%	7%	18%	20%	22%	14%
Between 2 lac to 2.5 lac	18%	14%	11%	19%	1%	6%	7%	15%	12%	12%	24%	20%
Between 2.5 lac to 3 lac	11%	10%	5%	6%	-	22%	0%	5%	3%	2%	1%	3%
Above 3 lacs	57%	59%	76%	56%	-	22%	-	-	6%	2%	18%	17%

- Respondents were spread across all major age groups, with the largest share in the 36–45 years range (27–51%), followed by the 26–35 years group (10–39%). Smaller proportions came from 18–25 years (0–31%) and 60+ years (1–12%), giving a well-rounded age profile.
- Gender representation across all study locations, ranged for female respondents between 29–79%, while male respondents formed 21–71% across Target and Control groups. This ensured broad participation from both categories.
- Respondents came from a wide range of income groups. In Punjab and Haridwar, the highest proportion was for above INR 3 lacs for both target and control. In Lucknow the highest proportion was between 1 lac to 1.5 lac for target, while control as spread across the ranges. In Bihar (CAPP and Gangagram) it was between 1 lac to 1.5 lac for both groups. While in Pune, for target it was between INR 50,000 to 1 lac and control between 1 lac to 1.5 lac.

Awareness campaigns

Target Group

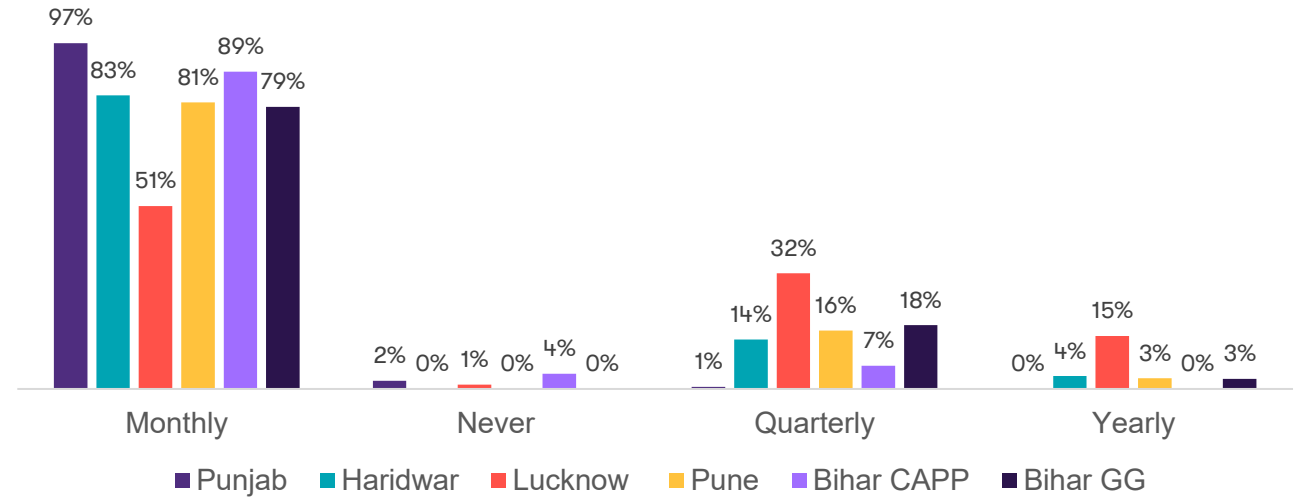
- The primary objective of the programme was to build the capacity of households to segregate waste at the source. Dedicated awareness and training sessions were conducted to help households identify different types of waste and correctly separate them into wet and dry categories, which are then handed over to the waste collector in segregated form.
- Respondents in Punjab, Haridwar, Pune, Bihar (both locations) reported 79% and above for monthly trainings which were conducted near their homes in a common community area.
- Through the awareness sessions, programme focused on educating households about the negative impacts of open dumping and burning of waste and encouraged them to adopt daily waste-segregation practices and ensure proper disposal through waste collector.

~99% respondents mentioned that they are aware how to segregate their waste.

Control Group

- Respondents from the control group shared during qualitative interactions that they were not aware of waste segregation practices and lacked knowledge about different types of waste. They mentioned that, in the absence of a waste collector in their locality, they were compelled to dispose of waste in open areas or, at times, burn it near their homes.
- They also highlighted that the current Gram Panchayat lacked adequate awareness and technical understanding of waste management, leading to no significant efforts from the local administration to address the issue

Participation in awareness camps under the programme (TG)



Types of Training (TG) *	Punjab	Haridwar	Lucknow	Pune	Bihar CAPP	Bihar Gangagram
Proper Segregation of Solid Waste	98%	100%	39%	97%	96%	97%
Process of converting wet waste into nutrient-rich compost	82%	84%	39%	75%	71%	90%
Importance of proper waste management practices	98%	73%	39%	75%	96%	97%
Potential consequences of improper disposal	63%	30%	39%	31%	55%	71%
Comprehensive home composting guidance	12%	33%	39%	35%	10%	12%

*Multiple choice selection question

Waste segregation

Waste disposal by households

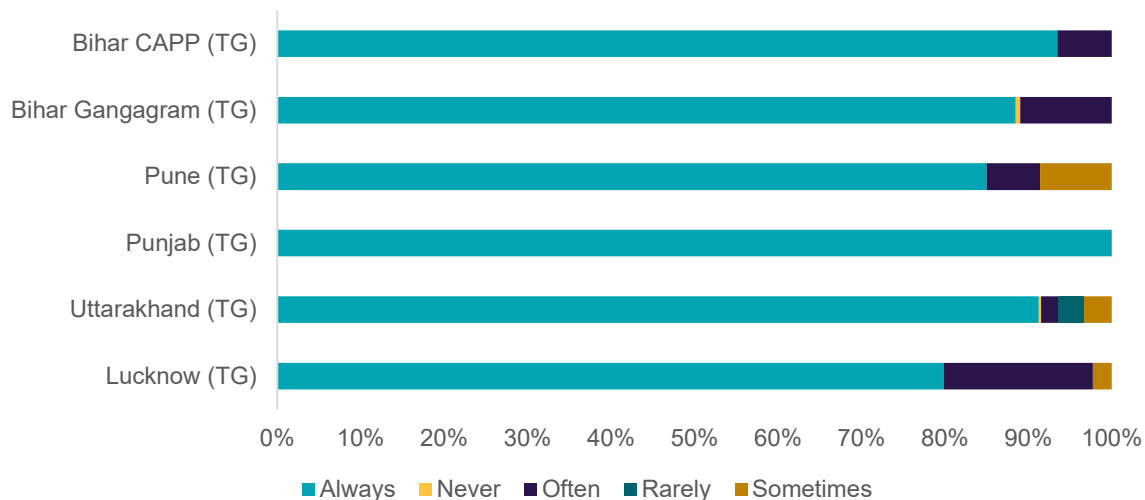
Table: Type of waste disposal by households- Before Vs After Project

% of types of waste disposal by households	Lucknow (TG)		Uttarakhand (TG)		Punjab (TG)		Pune (TG)		Bihar Gangagram (TG)		Bihar CAPP (TG)	
	Before (%)	After (%)	Before (%)	After (%)	Before (%)	After (%)	Before (%)	After (%)	Before (%)	After (%)	Before (%)	After (%)
Waste collector	0%	100%	26%	88%	50%	100%	46%	35%	1%	99%	0%	100%
Community bin / Composting	0%	0%	0%	12%	0%	0%	48%	65%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Open dumping	82%	0%	50%	0%	38%	0%	4%	0%	82%	0%	91%	0%
Burning	18%	0%	11%	0%	12%	0%	2%	0%	17%	0%	9%	0%
Private collector	0%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

- **Formal collection systems:** Most TGs (Lucknow, Punjab, Bihar, Uttarakhand) moved from low or zero baseline coverage to 88–100% reliance on waste collectors post-intervention, indicating effective system adoption.
- **Unsafe disposal largely eliminated:** Complete elimination of open dumping and burning in most project areas. Lucknow, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Bihar Gangagram and Bihar CAPP reduced both open dumping and burning from high pre-intervention levels to negligible, reflecting effective enforcement and adoption of safer disposal practices.
- **Growing acceptance of decentralised waste management practices:** Several regions show encouraging progress in adopting community bins and composting systems. These gains reflect a positive shift toward sustainable, community-driven waste management solutions and indicate strengthening public receptiveness to decentralised approaches.
- **In the control groups,** household waste disposal practices remain mixed and largely informal, with continued reliance on open dumping and burning alongside limited use of community bins and waste collectors, highlighting the absence of a structured waste management system.

Waste segregation: Wet and Dry Waste

State wise waste segregation



- Wet-dry waste segregation is consistently high across all Target Group states, with a range of 80–100% of households always segregating and negligible levels of non-segregation, indicating sustained adoption of segregation practices.
- Wet-dry waste segregation across all Control Group states shows wide inter-state variation, with stronger adoption in Punjab and Pune, while Lucknow and Haridwar exhibit very low and inconsistent segregation practices.

Table: % of TG respondents who segregate waste into two dustbins (wet and dry)

% of respondents	Lucknow (TG)	Uttarakhand (TG)	Punjab (TG)	Pune (TG)	Bihar Gangagram (TG)	Bihar CAPP (TG)
Yes	100%	100%	99%	100%	97%	100%
No	0%	0%	1%	0%	3%	0%

Table: % of CG respondents who segregate waste into two dustbins (wet and dry)

% of respondents	Lucknow (CG)	Uttarakhand (CG)	Punjab (CG)	Pune (CG)	Bihar Gangagram (CG)	Bihar CAPP (CG)
Yes	2%	11%	75%	57%	0%	27%
No	98%	89%	25%	43%	100%	73%

- Household-level waste segregation achieved across TGs:** Between 97% and 100% of respondents in all project locations segregate waste into two dustbins, demonstrating strong compliance with source-segregation practices and effective behaviour change outcomes.
- Waste sorting remains inconsistent and largely low in control groups:** Regular segregation of wet and dry waste is minimal in most CGs—particularly in Lucknow and Bihar Gangagram ($\leq 2\%$), with only Punjab (75%) and Pune (57%) showing moderate uptake.

GHG emission perception

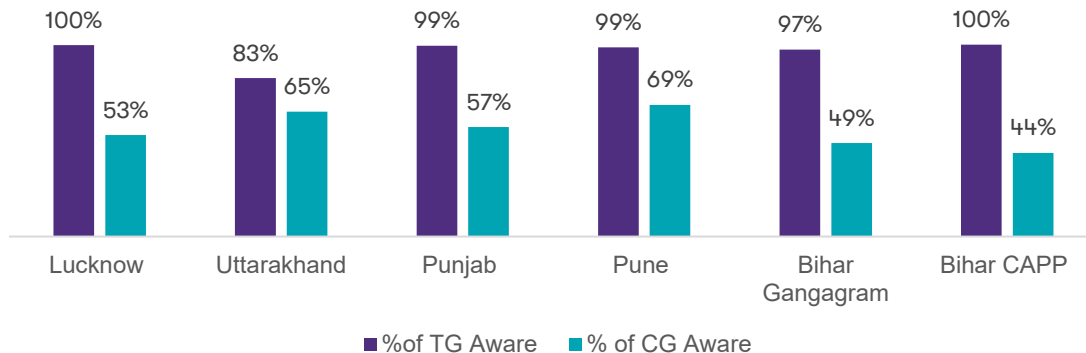
Table: Level of awareness of respondents about the relation between waste management and GHG emissions

% of respondents	Lucknow		Uttarakhand		Punjab		Pune		Bihar Gangagram		Bihar CAPP	
	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG	TG	CG
Highly aware	0%	0%	1%	39%	85%	21%	75%	64%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Moderately aware	13%	0%	17%	26%	0%	36%	24%	5%	12%	0%	5%	0%
Not aware	0%	23%	12%	35%	1%	43%	1%	31%	28%	93%	0%	49%
Slightly aware	87%	77%	70%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	60%	7%	95%	51%

Level of Awareness: Relation between waste management and GHG emissions like methane

- Target Groups demonstrate markedly higher levels of awareness (Pune and Punjab), with a substantial proportion of respondents reporting moderate to high awareness of the link between waste management and methane emissions. Further in Lucknow, Uttarakhand, Bihar (both locations), majority in target group are slightly aware. However, even then their awareness is higher than the respective control groups.
- This highlights that while even in target group there are variations in awareness levels, however, due to the awareness efforts of the programme, there is a significant difference between the target and the control group.

Awareness of impact of segregation and composting on GHG reduction



Level of Awareness: Impact of segregation and composting on reduction of GHG emission

- Awareness levels are consistently higher in the Target Group than in the Control Group across all states, ranging from 83% in Uttarakhand to 100% in Bihar CAPP, demonstrating strong effectiveness of project-led awareness and capacity-building efforts.
- Consistently lower and variable awareness in Control Groups: CG awareness levels are significantly lower across all locations (44%–69%), indicating limited understanding of the waste–climate change linkage in the absence of targeted interventions.

At source composting

Green temple and home composting

Green temple

- Prior to the implementation of the project, flower offerings were simply discarded along with other temple waste. The initiative has now introduced a systematic and environmentally responsible approach to managing this waste.
- Under the Green Temple initiative, temple committee members received awareness sessions and structured training on waste management practices, enabling them to convert temple waste into high-quality compost.
- Temple committee respondents mentioned that all offerings (flowers, fruits etc) are collected in a common box or drum, where they are processed into compost. The composting process typically takes 2–3 months, depending on favorable conditions such as adequate moisture, proper aeration, material size, and temperature.
- In addition to composting, a portion of the flower waste is also provided to local NGO and SHG. They use the dried flowers to produce handmade agarbatti, creating an additional livelihood opportunity within the area.

On average, the temple generates around 1–2 kilograms of dry waste per month. During peak festival periods such as Diwali, Ganesh Chaturthi, the quantity increases significantly, reaching nearly 10 kilograms. This highlights the need for structured waste management, especially during high-footfall events.

Home composting

- Home composting ensures that wet waste is effectively processed at the source itself, leading to more efficient and sustainable waste handling.
- The programme placed special emphasis on households engaged in kitchen gardening. Respondents shared that they previously purchased fertilizers and cattle manure to maintain their gardens. They noted that these inputs were often costly, and the use of chemical fertilizers did not align with their preference for organic gardening practices.
- The programme supported these households by providing training and awareness on various home composting methods, including pit composting, drum composting, and matka (pot) composting.

Respondents shared that, as they now follow waste segregation practices, all their wet waste is utilised in home composting and subsequently used in their kitchen gardens. The composting process typically takes around 40–45 days, and the availability of home-produced compost has eliminated the need to purchase fertilizers or cattle manure from the market.

Liquid Waste Management

- The Light House Initiative (LHI) has helped improve liquid waste management across Bihar, Punjab, Maharashtra, and Uttarakhand.
- Before the intervention, households commonly discharged wastewater from kitchens, bathing, and washing directly into open drains or village ponds and practiced open defecation. This led to foul odour, mosquito breeding, and the contamination of shared water bodies.
- In many Gram Panchayats, village ponds had become heavily polluted with stagnant grey water, posing health risks such as malaria, diarrhea, and skin infections. The need for a sustainable, household-level solution was evident across all locations.
- As part of developing model Gram Panchayats (GPs) under LHI, effective Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) solutions were introduced through public–private partnerships that provided technical support, training, and capacity building.
- Soak pits emerged as a practical and scalable option for grey water management. Following implementation, village ponds across the states became cleaner, mosquito breeding declined substantially, and communities experienced visible improvements in local hygiene conditions.

Respondent feedback

94% respondents in Pune and **63%** respondents in Punjab have mentioned that the wastewater treatment in their village have improved.

95% in Pune, **79%** in Punjab and **51%** in Bihar (CAPP) mentioned that the soak pits helped reduce water logging of dirty water around their houses

“Before receiving support, our family practiced open defecation, and we were unaware of the harmful effects it had on our health and the environment. With guidance from the ITC programme team, we were able to construct an outdoor toilet near our home”

- Rubina, Aurangabad village, Haridwar

OECD-DAC analysis

Parameter	Assessment
Relevance	The programme is aligned with the needs of rural households, Gram Panchayats, and waste collectors, who previously faced unsafe waste disposal practices, lack of awareness, and limited access to formal waste-management systems. Awareness campaigns ensured that ~99% of TG respondents learned correct segregation methods. The intervention is aligned to community-level environmental, health, and sanitation challenges, including polluted ponds, stagnant wastewater, mosquito breeding, and open defecation.
Coherence	The programme aligns with Swachh Bharat goals, Gram Panchayat mandates, and community sanitation efforts. Segregation, composting, and LWM interventions well aligned with existing systems, integrating temple committees, SHGs, and households to reinforce institutional and community-led waste-management initiatives.
Effectiveness	The SLWM programme achieved behaviour-change outcomes across target areas. 97–100% of TG households now segregate wet and dry waste. Unsafe disposal practices (open dumping and burning) were nearly eliminated in TGs—dropping from as high as 90% to 0%. Target groups showed significantly higher awareness of GHG emissions. Home composting and Green Temple initiatives further improved effectiveness by converting organic waste into compost, reducing chemical fertilizer use. Liquid waste management interventions (soak pits, drainage improvement) resulted in cleaner ponds, reduced waterlogging, and reduced mosquito breeding, demonstrating high overall programme effectiveness.
Efficiency	The programme demonstrates strong operational efficiency with simple solutions like household segregation, soak pits, pit/drum composting, and community bins. TGs transitioned from low/zero reliance on waste collectors to 90–100% usage post-intervention, confirming efficient system integration. The adoption of home composting reduced the need for purchasing chemical fertilizers and external inputs. Further, discussion with other stakeholders highlighted the efficient implementation model adopted by the programme team leading to quality delivery of project activities.
Impact	The programme generated significant impact. Environmental improvements include the elimination of open dumping and burning, reduction in stagnant greywater, cleaner village ponds, and increased composting capacity. Social impacts include enhanced dignity and sanitation outcomes, especially for households transitioning away from open defecation. Communities report improved cleanliness, reduced foul odour, less mosquito breeding, and lower exposure to disease-causing conditions. Improved awareness of climate impacts strengthens long-term environmental stewardship. The magnitude of impact is consistently higher among TGs than CGs, validating the programme’s contribution to well-being and resilience.
Sustainability	The model shows strong prospects for sustainability due to high behavioral adoption by beneficiaries and community ownership. Households report complete transition to segregation and regular composting. The involvement of temple committees, SHGs, and households builds institutional sustainability. In LWM, soak pits and improved drainage offer durable benefits with low maintenance requirements. Strong participant satisfaction and adoption of segregation practices by the community indicate that the interventions are likely to be sustained after support is phased out.

02 Multi-Layered Plastic Programme

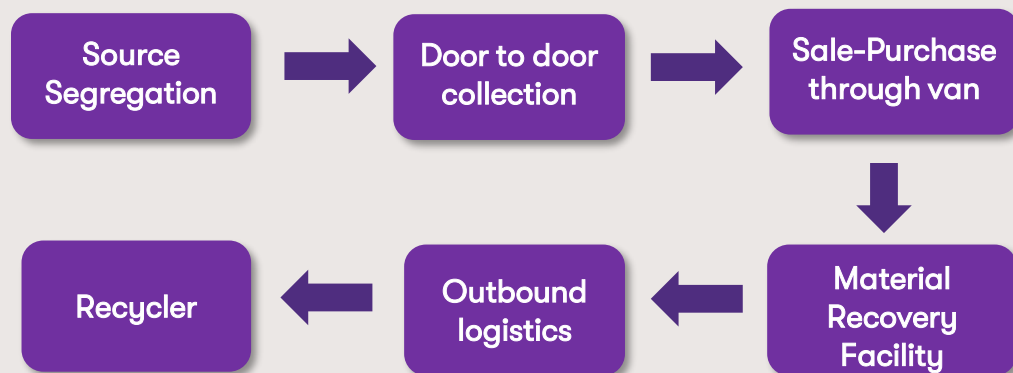
Programme process flow and respondent profile

The programme is a collaborative MLP waste-management model between ITC and Swach that integrates waste pickers into a structured, city-scale system for collecting and recycling multi-layered plastics.

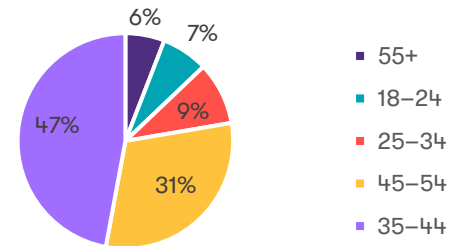
Under this model, MLP is recovered through door-to-door segregated collection, purchased daily from waste pickers, transported via tempos, stored in satellite sheds, then sorted, baled, and finally sent to recyclers for processing into boards or granules.

The approach diverts MLP from landfills, improves waste-picker incomes, and demonstrates a viable, inclusive alternative for managing hard-to-recycle plastics.

Process:

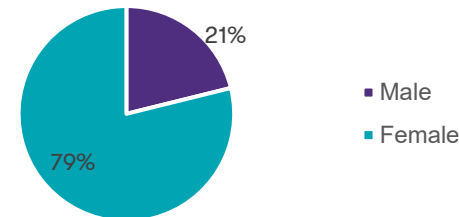


Age of respondents



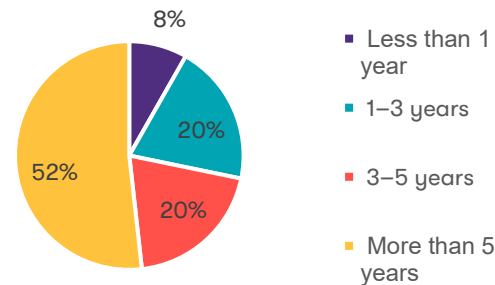
The largest age group was 35–44 years at 47%, followed by 45–54 years at 31%, with smaller shares in the 25–34 (9%), 18–24 (7%), and 55+ (6%) groups.

Gender



Most respondents were female (79%), while males made up 21%.

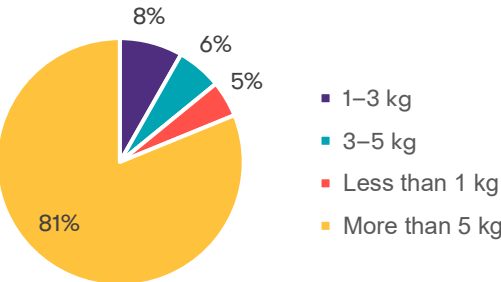
Years working as a waste picker



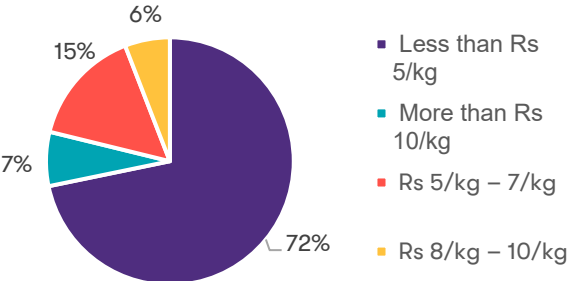
52% respondents had worked as waste pickers for more than five years, while 20% each had worked for 1–3 years and 3–5 years, and 8% had less than one year of experience

Key findings

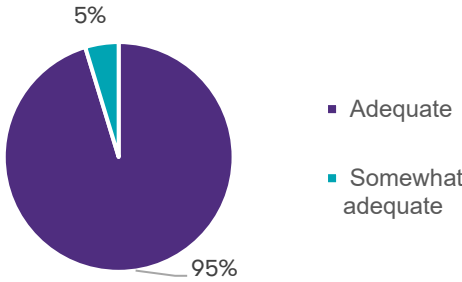
MLP collected per day (kg)



Average price of MLP



Storage availability



- 81% respondents stated that they collected more than 5kg of MLP per day and 8% stated that they collected 1 – 3 kg of MLP per day.
- Waste collectors stated that MLP segregation has increased since the initiation of the programme as before, neither the municipal vehicle nor the scrap dealer would purchase MLP separately. Now, with the programme, the MLP is segregated and purchased.
- Respondents were asked about the average MLP price they received in 2023–24. 72% reported earning less than INR 5/kg. 15% earned INR 5–7/kg and 6% earned INR 8–10/kg, while only 7% earned more than INR 10/kg.
- Waste collectors mentioned that there was a significant increase in the collection of MLP in the programme areas. When asked about the amount of MLP being diverted from the landfill, the programme team mentioned that about 25% of the MLP waste was being diverted from the landfill and recycled.
- 95% respondents stated that had adequate spaces to store their waste material if it was not sold that way.
- Beneficiaries stated that the programme had put in place waste storage areas near several collection points across the city that were shared by 4 – 5 waste collectors that they would use to store the waste collected for 2/3 days if unsold.

Increase in income levels and financial security of waste pickers

The programme adds a new and income stream from MLP collection on top of existing earnings from user fees and high-value recyclables.

Waste pickers earn INR 17,000–22,000 per month from user fees and sale of regular recyclables such as paper, cardboard, PET, HDPE and metals.

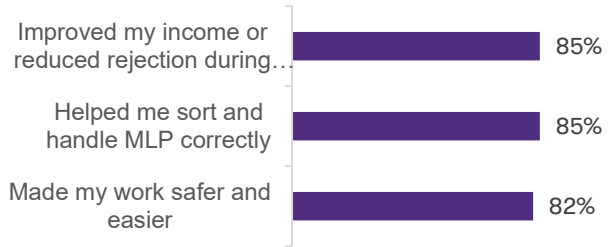
The model ensures direct, guaranteed income from MLP through a fixed floor price of INR 5/kg, making MLP collection financially worthwhile.

Waste pickers earn an additional INR 750 per month by collecting ~5 kg/day leading to an increase in income of 3 – 4%.

Item	Income
Fee and Sale of Recyclables	INR 17,000 to 22,000 (INR 75 – 90 fee collected per HH)
Sale of MLP	INR 5 per kg

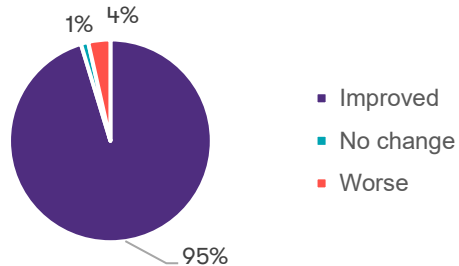
Key findings

Benefit of training



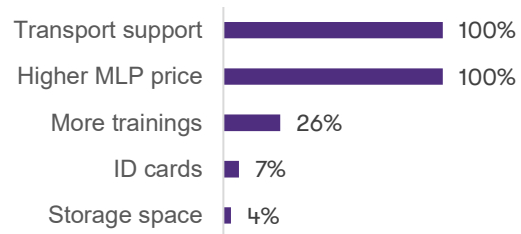
Respondents were asked about the benefits of the trainings provided to waste collectors, and high levels of positive impact were reported across all areas. About 82% said the trainings made their work safer and easier, while 85% stated that the sessions helped them sort and handle MLP correctly. Another 85% noted that the trainings improved their income or reduced rejection during sale.

Environmental changes



Respondents were asked whether they had observed any changes in cleanliness, smell, or littering in the past 1–2 years, and 95% reported that conditions had improved. Only 1% noted no change. Waste collectors mentioned that improvements were visible in multiple neighbourhoods, with reduced litter, better waste separation by households, and fewer overflowing points. They shared that these changes have made their daily tasks smoother and the overall environment significantly more pleasant.

Support required



Respondents were asked about the types of support they would require, and the strongest demand was for higher MLP prices and transport support, both cited by 100% of respondents. Around 26% mentioned the need for more trainings, while smaller shares requested ID cards (7%) and storage space (4%).

Environmental Impact of MLP collection

The programme has generated a clear and measurable environmental impact by preventing large volumes of MLP—a material that is lightweight, easily wind-blown, and typically landfilled—from leaking into streets, drains, and open areas.

Through daily, source-segregated collection and structured logistics, MLP is consistently diverted away from disposal sites and channeled into recycling, contributing to cleaner neighbourhoods.

Waste collectors themselves reported these improvements, with 95% observing better cleanliness, reduced littering, and improved smell in their areas over the past 1–2 years.

The system's ability to recover significant quantities of MLP each month and redirect them into recycling processes has reduced visible waste accumulation and improved the overall environmental quality of the communities where the programme operates.

For the period of the assessment, as per the programme outcome data, the programme has recovered 1055 MT of MLP across 17 wards of Pune.

OECD-DAC analysis

Parameter	Assessment
Relevance	The programme is well aligned with the needs and priorities of waste collectors, who routinely handle MLP and benefit directly from improved systems for its collection. The high volume of MLP collected daily (81% collect more than 5 kg/day) and the strong positive response to training (82–85% reporting benefits) indicate that the intervention addresses a clearly defined problem and responds to the realities of workers' daily operations.
Coherence	The programme is coherent with broader waste-management efforts in the city, complementing existing door-to-door systems and integrating smoothly into ongoing plastic-segregation practices. It aligns with local infrastructure capacity, as shown by 95% reporting adequate storage, and does not duplicate existing mechanisms. The full willingness of participants to continue through the project (100%) reflects that the intervention works in harmony with other institutional and community-level initiatives in the sector.
Effectiveness	The programme has made significant improvements in the waste management practices in target areas, with 93% of respondents feeling more financially secure, 85% reporting improved income or reduced rejection, and 95% observing environmental improvements in cleanliness, smell, or littering. Training effectiveness is high, with most respondents noting safer work practices and better handling of materials.
Efficiency	The project demonstrates strong operational efficiency through streamlined collection processes, adequate storage availability (95% adequate), and effective integration of training that improves daily workflow (85% improved sorting and handling). High levels of satisfaction (71% satisfied) indicate that the project operates smoothly and with minimal operational barriers.
Impact	The programme has generated meaningful economic, social, and environmental impact, including additional income from MLP collection (₹750–₹6,000/month depending on quantity), improved perceptions of financial security (93%), safer working conditions, and significant improvements in local cleanliness and waste-management outcomes (95% reporting environmental improvement).
Sustainability	The intervention shows strong potential for long-term sustainability, supported by universal willingness to continue participating (100%), high satisfaction levels, and clear articulation of ongoing support needs. Requests for higher MLP prices and transport support (100% each) indicate awareness of what is required to sustain the model over time.

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