

UFlex Partners with UNGCNI to Empower Waste Workers in NCR

A three-year initiative to support 3,500 waste workers, strengthen sustainable plastic waste management, and improve livelihoods across Noida and Greater Noida.

Delhi-NCR, July 1, 2026: UFlex Limited, India's largest multinational flexible packaging and solutions company, has partnered with UN Global Compact Network India (UNGCI) to launch a three-year initiative aimed at empowering waste workers in Noida and Greater Noida. The programme seeks to improve the lives of informal waste workers while promoting sustainable plastic waste management through a community-centric and inclusive approach.



Mr. Jeevaraj Pillai, Director – Sustainability, UFlex, and Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director, UNGCNI, exchanging the signed agreement.

The initiative aims to enable nearly 3,500 informal waste pickers and waste workers to access improved livelihood opportunities, occupational safety measures, capacity-building programmes, and greater social recognition, while strengthening plastic waste collection, segregation, and recycling systems across selected high-impact clusters in the region. It is also expected to significantly increase worker

incomes while improving financial stability, access to safer working conditions, skill development opportunities, and dignity and inclusion within the formal waste management ecosystem. In addition, the initiative will extend awareness outreach to more than 30,000 households and institutions, demonstrating how environmental responsibility can create meaningful social and economic opportunities.

The project adopts a community-centric approach by strengthening existing waste management systems through partnerships with municipalities, recyclers, community institutions, and civil society organisations, instead of creating new large-scale infrastructure.

The initiative will organise waste workers into structured groups and cooperatives, provide training in scientific waste handling and occupational safety, establish decentralised plastic waste aggregation centres, and operationalise a recycling hub in collaboration with ecosystem partners. It will also undertake awareness campaigns on responsible plastic consumption and source segregation, deploy digital waste-flow monitoring systems to improve traceability, and facilitate stakeholder collaboration to enhance the overall efficiency of the recycling ecosystem.

The project is expected to contribute to a 30–40% reduction in unmanaged plastic waste across the identified intervention areas through improved segregation and recycling mechanisms by the end of the project.

Commenting on the partnership, **Mr. Jeevaraj Pillai, Director-Sustainability, UFlex Limited**, said, “At UFlex, we believe that sustainability is about creating opportunities that improve lives while protecting the environment. Every day, thousands of waste workers perform an invaluable service by keeping our cities cleaner, yet many continue to work without

recognition, security, or access to better opportunities. Through our partnership with UN Global Compact Network India, we aspire to change that by empowering waste workers, enhancing their livelihoods, improving workplace safety, and restoring the dignity and recognition they deserve. The initiative reflects our belief that lasting change begins with empowering people, supporting communities, and working together towards a cleaner and more sustainable future.”

Mr. Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network India, added, “Building a sustainable economy requires collaboration across industry, communities, governments and the informal workforce. This initiative demonstrates how partnerships can transform environmental challenges into opportunities for social inclusion and sustainable development. By empowering waste workers and strengthening local recycling ecosystems, we hope to create a model that can inspire similar interventions across the country.”

The initiative aligns with national priorities under the Swachh Bharat Mission, India’s circular economy agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).



About UFlex Limited

UFlex is India's largest multinational flexible packaging and solutions company. Since its inception in 1985, UFlex has grown from strength to strength and has built a strong presence across all verticals of the packaging value chain — packaging films, chemicals, aseptic liquid packaging, holography, flexible packaging, printing cylinders, and engineering. With a 12,000+ strong multicultural workforce across global regions that work toward developing innovative, value-added, and sustainable packaging solutions, the company has earned an irreproachable reputation for defining the contours of the 'Packaging Industry' in India and overseas. It provides end-to-end solutions to numerous Fortune 500 clients across various sectors such as FMCG, consumer product goods, pharmaceuticals, building materials, automobiles, and more, in more than 150 countries. Headquartered in Noida, the National Capital Region, India, UFlex enjoys a global reach with advanced manufacturing facilities in India, UAE, Mexico, Egypt, USA, Poland, CIS, Nigeria, and Hungary. A winner of various marquee global awards for product excellence, innovation, and sustainability, UFlex is the first company in the world to earn recognition at the Davos Recycle Forum in 1995 for conceptualizing the recycling of mixed plastic waste. For more details, please visit: www.uflexltd.com

About UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI)

UN Global Compact Network India is the Indian Country Network of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative. UN GCNI brings together businesses, civil society organisations, academic institutions, and public agencies to advance responsible business practices and sustainable development through collective action, capacity building, and strategic partnerships. <https://globalcompact.in/>