Stakeholder Consultation on Material Flow Analysis in Construction Sector of Bhubaneswar

Development Alternatives (DA), in partnership with European Union Resource Efficiency Initiative (EU-REI), GIZ, CSIR-IMMT and IFU Hamburg conducted a half-day stakeholder consultation in Bhubaneswar on 17 December 2019, on “Material Flows in the Construction Sector in Bhubaneswar”. The purpose of this workshop was to gather feedback and inputs on the preliminary findings of the Materials Resource Flows study conducted by the DA team members in the city. The participants comprised of the officials from city municipality and development authorities, builders, architects, research institutes, and academia.

Suresh Chandra Dalai, IAS, Mission Director at Odisha Urban Housing Mission, briefed about the current construction scenario of the city and emphasised on the wide acceptance of fly ash bricks in Bhubaneswar. Taraprasad Dhal, an architect, provided inputs on the current construction sector scenario in the city and discussed how the excess industrial waste, red mud and blast furnace slag, need to be tackled. The platform brought together start-ups in the secondary waste construction sector who underscored the need for increased funding to commercialise secondary industrial or construction waste. Santosh Kumar Mishra, Business Development Officer at CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar highlighted the issues of data availability in India, the need for finding alternatives to the virgin resources in the construction sector, the utilisation of waste as alternatives and promoting the culture of entrepreneurship to implement innovative technologies in this field.

The feedback received from the developers, industry and CSIR-IMMT scientists will be examined further by EU-REI and DA team to refine the analysis on material flow and formulate policy recommendations accordingly.