



### **An MoU between TARA and Agra Nagar Nigam for improving plastic waste management in Agra**

The Integrated Waste Management Project is being implemented in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, to set up new waste collection infrastructure, augment existing waste collection infrastructure, improve data capture and reporting, set up new and upgrade existing waste sorting infrastructure, and undertake behavioural change programs – to address the issue of leakage of plastic waste into the environment. Under the project Nirmal Agra funded by Alliance to End Plastic Waste Inc. (AEPW), an MoU has been signed between Technology for Action and Rural Advancement (TARA), Development Alternatives Group and Agra Nagar Nigam (ANN) on 14 December, 2021.

The purpose of this MoU is to facilitate cooperation and strengthen collaboration between the two agencies. TARA will be responsible to design, finance, construct, operate and maintain the project infrastructure.

**The overall scope of the MOU is to allow collaboration between TARA as project manager, ANN as administrative supporter and guide in the project for:**

- Reducing the plastic waste leakage into Yamuna River by 9 KTA (9000 metric tonnes per annum) and increase the proportion of waste plastic that is mechanically recycled rather than landfilled.
- Developing archetype designs for collection, sorting and digital solutions which may also be applicable to other cities.

**This will be achieved through following measures:**

- Using innovation and technology deployment to augment plastic waste segregation, collection, recovery and recycling, as per multiple plastic grades.
- Creating ecosystem for plastic waste transportation, recycling and treatment for end use processing.
- Improving socio-economic indicators of rag-pickers and integrating them into the mainstream.

- Participation from stakeholders including governments, regulators, NGOs, community, multilateral agencies, start-ups, corporates, and other private service providers.

The project aims to increase plastic capture in Agra City from 50% to nearly 90% by end of 2023. This will considerably help in cleaning up the city, reduce the burden on landfill and bring in social, environmental and economic benefits.