



12th Regional 3R and Circular
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A Sustainable Future for Bhutan

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Ministry of Agriculture and Forest



Agenda

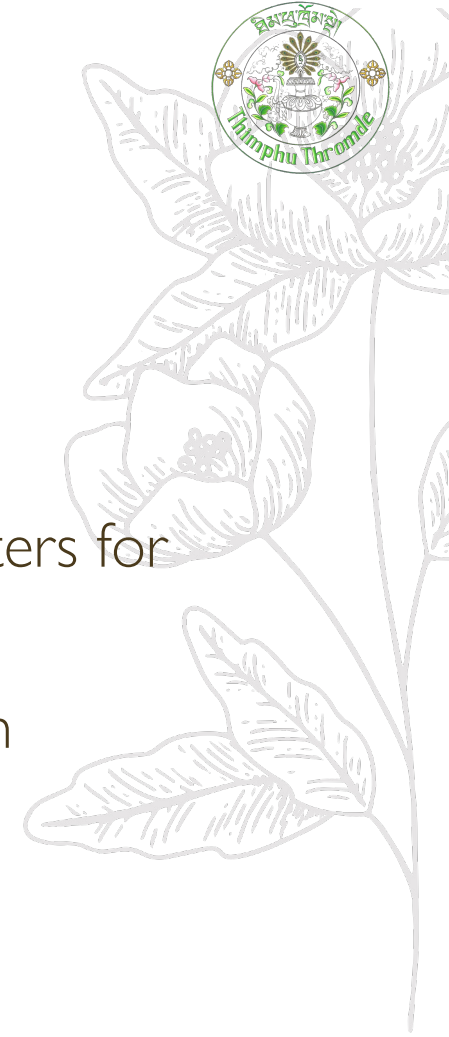


Bhutan At A Glance

Why the 3R Circular Economy Matters for Bhutan?

Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action

Conclusions and Final Thoughts



Bhutan At A Glance



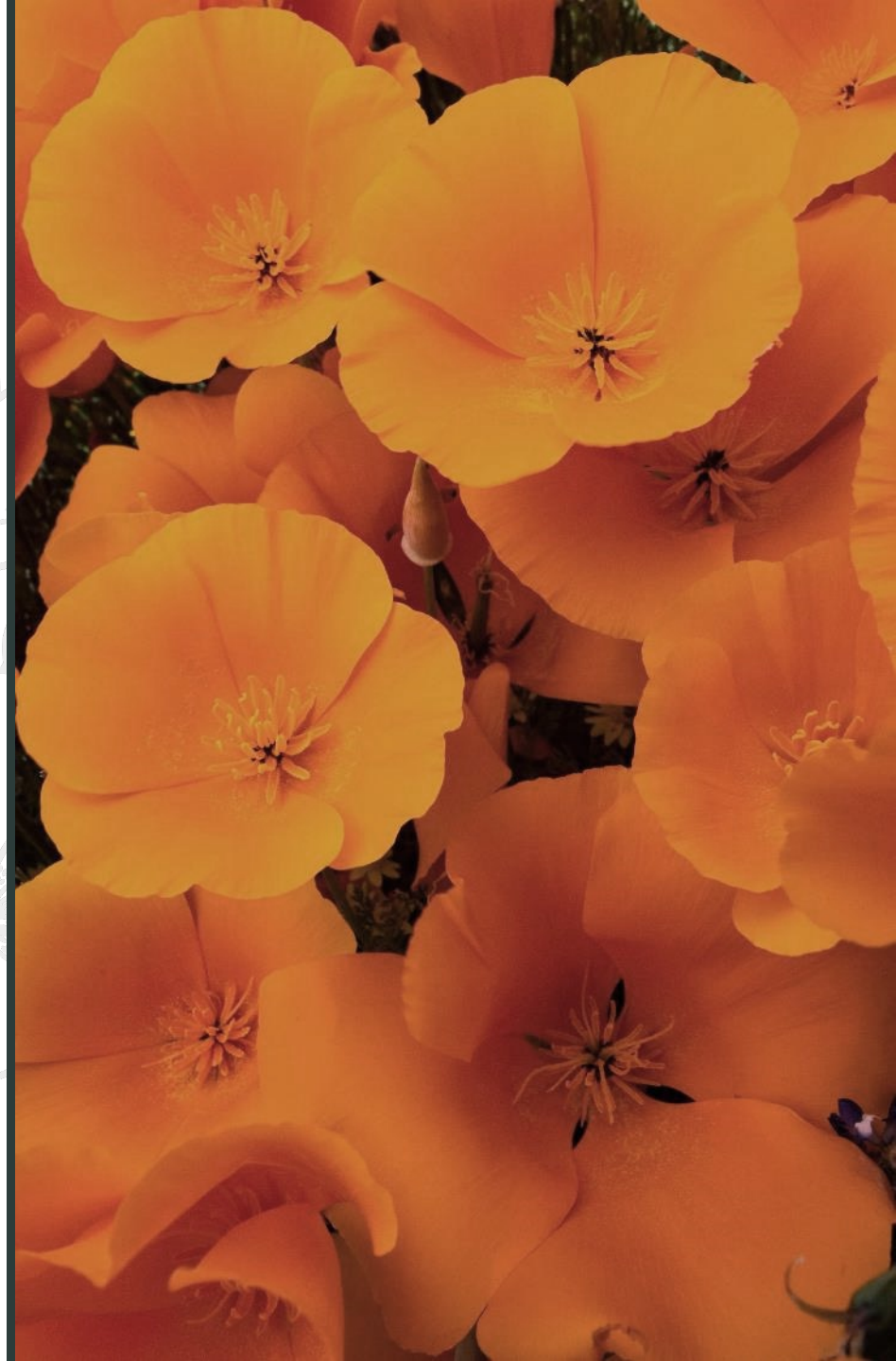
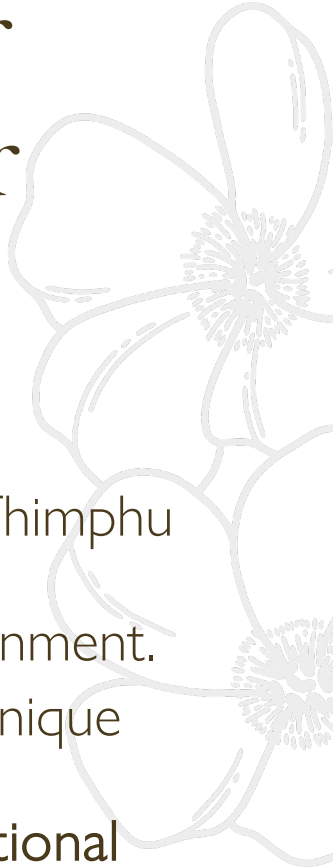
- Total Area: 38394 km²
- Total Population: 750000
- Forest Cover: 69% & carbon (-ve)
- Ratified the Paris Agreement with a pledge to remain carbon neutral for all time.
- Sustainable utilization and development underpinned on Gross National Happiness principles.



Why the 3R Circular Economy Matters for Bhutan?



- Rapid urbanization and waste generation in Thimphu and other urban centers.
- Increasing pressure on landfills and the environment.
- Bhutan, as a carbon-negative country, has a unique opportunity to lead by example.
- Aligns with Bhutan's philosophy of **Gross National Happiness (GNH)** and environmental conservation.





Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action



- **Zero Waste Bhutan:** A national goal to manage waste sustainably.
- **Waste Management Flagship Program:** A government initiative promoting proper waste segregation and recycling.
- **Green Business Support:** Incentives for startups focusing on circular economy models.

Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action



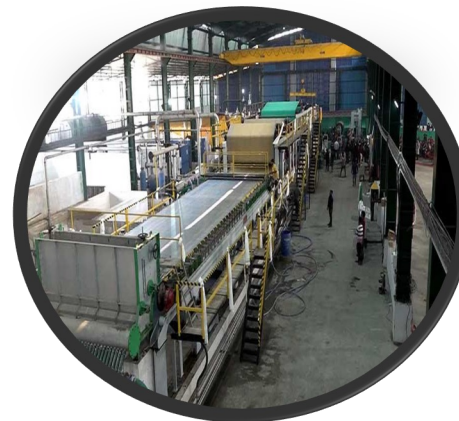
- National Biogas production launched in 2011, producing 5000m³ biogas per day.
- Integrated Woodbased Industries
- Converting wet waste into compost to with financial support from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies based in Japan under the UNEP
- Private sector installed domestic charcoal production units



Charcoal



Biogas



Woodbased Industries



Compost

Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action

Greener way: Bhutan Waste Bank

- The initiative is supported by the World Bank through the Plastic-Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia program, implemented by the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) with assistance from UNOPS.
- The project incentivizes the collection of plastic and other recyclable waste by offering monetary rewards.



Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action



Greener way: Other Initiatives

- Outdoor eco-benches
- Housing eco-panels
- Eco-delineators
- Eco-fencing poles



Eco Lounge



Eco Panel



Delineators



Eco Pole

Bhutan's Circular Economy in Action

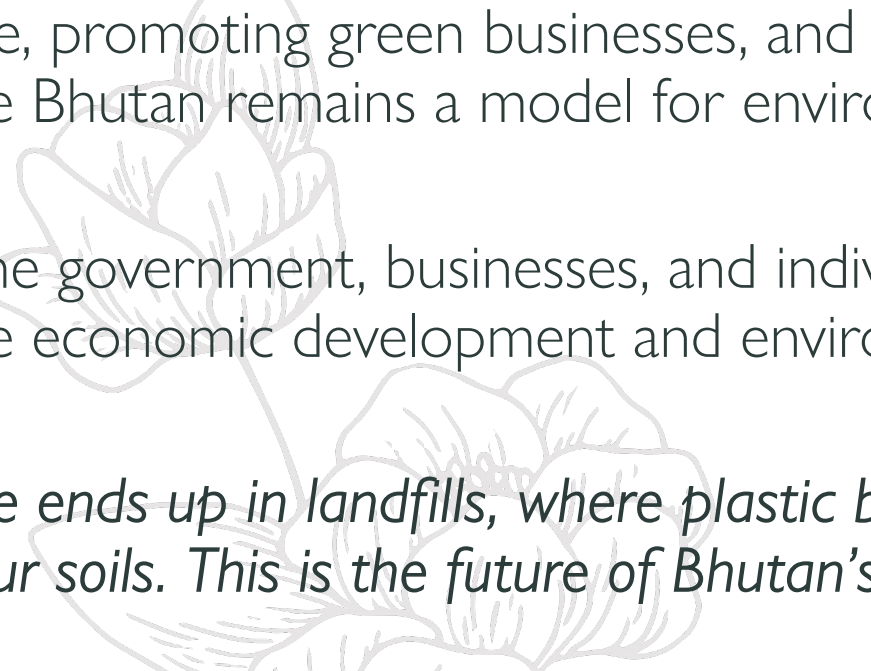
Other Initiatives:

- Green Road
- She-recycle solutions
- Paper recycling factory
- Gola- Gola



Conclusions and Final Thoughts



- Investing in recycling infrastructure, promoting green businesses, and fostering a culture of sustainability will ensure Bhutan remains a model for environmental stewardship.
 - Through collective efforts from the government, businesses, and individuals, we can create a waste-free Bhutan where economic development and environmental conservation go hand in hand.
 - *“Imagine a Bhutan where no waste ends up in landfills, where plastic bottles turn into fences, and food waste enriches our soils. This is the future of Bhutan’s 3R Circular Economy.”*
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Thank you

