

**FRAMEWORK FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRE OF
EXCELLENCE ON CIRCULARITY IN INDIA**

GUIDANCE MANUAL

**Draft
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1. Overview and Identification of Potential Nodal Host Institutes

The study report proposes an exhaustive pool of services, including a prioritised list of services. Furthermore, it elaborates on the architectural framework of the CoE which is an “apex and nodes” model. The kind of institutions and organisations that will thus be a part of the CoE’s network is evident from the study report.

There are many universities, research institutions, think tanks, consulting organizations, training institutes, civil society organizations, and industry bodies in India which are actively engaged in activities that help foster circularity. Many of them can be further developed as a part of the Centre of Excellence on Circularity by expanding their role, responsibilities as well as their resource base. While many major universities and research institutes have sufficient resources and capabilities to develop into competent nodes of the CoE on Circularity, more work may be required to integrate and develop the others such as think tanks and research organizations.

Table 1 shows a list of institutes at the state, national and international level, from which the nodal host institutes for the proposed CoE on Circularity architecture could be selected. These institutes have been identified based on the landscape matrix that was prepared to capture the key perspectives and focus that the CoE would need to integrate while assessing the market for actual services that the Centre could provide. The matrix highlighted the need for a Life cycle perspective, Sectoral/Cross Sectoral focus, Addressing Emerging Issues and Use of tools.

Table 1: List of Potential Institutes to be considered part of the CoE Network

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
1.	Centre for Digital Circular Economy for Sustainable development Goals (DCE - SDG) at OP Jindal University	Sonipat, Delhi NCR	Academic	Education & Awareness Capacity building	https://jgu.edu.in/jgbs/centre-for-digital-circular-economy-for-sustainable-development-goals/
2.	CII – ITC CESD	New Delhi	Centre of Excellence by an industry association	Circular business models & Investment Policy advocacy Capacity building	https://sustainabledevelopment.in/interventions/circular-economy/
3.	Centre for Responsible Business	New Delhi	Think-tank	Capacity building Policy advocacy	https://c4rb.org/about-crb/
4.	Centre of Excellence in Environmental Economics	Thrissur	Centre of Excellence	Education and Awareness Capacity building including through conduct of training programs	https://ceee.kau.in/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
5.	Centre of Excellence on E-waste Management	Telangana	Centre of Excellence	Capacity building Technology and innovation Circular business model and investment	https://www.coeonewaste.com/index.html
6.	CII – Sohrabji Godrej Green Business centre	Hyderabad	Centre at an industry association	Advisory services Circular business models	http://www.greenbusinesscentre.com/aboutus.php
7.	International Institute of Waste management	Bhopal	Not-for-profit established as a project by Ministry of Science and Technology	Capacity building Training programs through education and awareness	https://www.iiwm.in/
8.	CoE for Waste to Wealth Technologies	IIT Delhi	Centre of Excellence	Implementation of waste to wealth into business Capacity building Technology development and innovation Policy support across sectors	https://www.psa.gov.in/article/centre-excellence-waste-wealth-technologies/235
9.	Centre for Science and Environment	New Delhi	Public interest Research and advocacy organisation	Education and awareness Policy advocacy	https://www.cseindia.org/page/aboutus

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
				Capacity development	
10.	National Solid Waste Association of India	Mumbai	Not-for-profit dedicated to the waste management	Capacity building and consulting Policy advocacy Education & Awareness Technology development and innovation Stakeholder engagement	https://www.nswai.org/index.php
11.	The Centre for Waste Management (CWM)	Chennai	The Centre housed inside a technical institute- Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology	Research and development for a cleaner and greener environment. Public awareness and outreach	https://www.centreforwastemanagement.com/index.htm
12.	Attero	Noida	The largest electronic asset Management company works in the direction of a circular economy through its 'CleanIndia' initiative	Technology Development and Innovation Circular business models and investment The 'CleanIndia' initiative also provides for incubation support.	https://attero.in/about/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
13.	TERI	Delhi, with regional presence across the country	Think Tank, R&D	Integrating Resource efficient Technologies into Businesses Environment Education and Awareness generation Policy Advisory	https://www.teriin.org
14.	Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE)	Centre for Sustainable Business – WRI	Research	Provide Evidence-based research and analysis which can be disseminated to the industry. Policy advocacy	https://www.wri.org/initiatives/platform-accelerating-circular-economy-pace
15.	CSTEP	Bangalore	R&D Think Tank	Research driven policy making Education and awareness generation	https://cstep.in/
16.	CoE for Innovation Entrepreneurship and Start-ups	Telangana	Centre of Excellence	Supporting entrepreneurs with their start-up to solve social and environmental challenges	https://www.cii.in/startup-centre.aspx

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
				Circular business models and investment. Education and capacity building.	
17.	Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM)	Bhopal	Academic	Research and dissemination of research. Education and awareness	https://iifm.ac.in/
18.	FICCI	New Delhi	Industry Association	Networking and consensus building Policy advocacy Research and dissemination of industry knowledge Symposium on Circular Economy Lead and coordinate the India LCA Alliance	https://ficci.in/about-us.asp
19.	ASSOCHAM	New Delhi	Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry in India	Network of industry leaders in the sector of Environment and climate change	https://www.assochem.org/overview-sector.php?name=environment-and-climate-change

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
				Incubation support Research support Policy advocacy Awareness and outreach	
20.	Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME)	New Delhi	Federation of Indian micro, small and medium enterprises focusing on trade and market access issues	Research support Market analysis Dissemination of research through studies across various sectors	https://fisme.org.in/introduction/
21.	Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)	New Delhi	Think Tank	Research support Policy advocacy Capacity building Education and awareness	https://www.ceew.in/
22.	National Institute of Design (NID)	Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar and Bengaluru.	Statutory educational and research institute under the DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry,	Research Design innovation Business innovation Education and awareness	https://www.nid.edu/home

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
23.	International Council for Circular Economy	New Delhi	Council	Research Capacity building Education & Awareness Circular business models	https://ic-ce.com/
24.	All India Plastic Manufacturers Association (AIPMA)	Mumbai	Industry Association	Circular business models and investment Capacity building Technology development and innovation	https://www.aipma.net/about-us.php
25.	Indian Pollution Control Association (IPCA)	New Delhi	Not-for-profit	Capacity building Education & Awareness	https://www.ipcaworld.co.in/about
26.	CSIR-NEERI	Nagpur	Research Institute	R&D Technology development and innovation Capacity building	https://www.neeri.res.in/#googtrars(en en)
27.	Development Alternatives (DA)	New Delhi	Think Tank	Research Entrepreneurship development Provides incubation support	https://www.devalt.org/Home.aspx

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
				Circular business models and investment	
28.	Centre for Environment Education (CEE)	Ahmedabad	Centre of Excellence under Govt. of Gujarat	Education and Awareness Capacity building in the field of Education for Sustainable Education	https://www.cceindia.org/
29.	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay	Mumbai	Academics	Technology development and innovation Capacity building Circular business models and investment Industrial research and consultancy	https://www.iitb.ac.in/
31.	Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE)	Pune	Academics	Capacity Building Research Houses a Centre for Sustainable Development	https://gipe.ac.in/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
30.	TERI School of Advanced Studies (SAS)	New Delhi	Academics	Research Capacity building Innovation Entrepreneurship cell	https://www.terisas.ac.in/index.php
31.	National Productivity Council	Mumbai	Autonomous Council	Consultancy and Training Capacity building Circular business model and investment	https://www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/about
32.	Sanshodhan	Hyderabad	Consultancy	Providing Circular Economy and ESG services to industry Research Capacity building Certification Circular economy model	https://sustainabilityexchange.world/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
33.	MET Institute of Management	Mumbai	Academics	Capacity building Research support Promotion of Circular business models and Investment Entrepreneurship support	https://www.met.edu/
34.	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur	Kharagpur	Academics	Innovation and technology development Capacity building Research	http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/?jsessionid=933D06B6F7407FBB1BA1EE250739D65E
35.	Indian Institute of Sustainable development	New Delhi	Think Tank and research institute	Policy advisory Training and capacity building Campaigns, outreach, and certifications	https://www.iisdindia.in/index.php

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
36.	National Council for Cement and Building materials	Haryana	Premier research body under the Govt. of India	<p>Research and Development</p> <p>Training and capacity building</p> <p>Technology development,</p> <p>Industrial services for cement and construction industries.</p>	https://www.ncbindia.com/about-us.php
37.	SWaCh	Pune	Social Enterprise	<p>Inclusive circular economy</p> <p>Training and capacity building</p>	https://swachcoop.com/
38.	Environmental Management Centre Pvt. Ltd. (EMC)	Mumbai, Ahmedabad	Consultancy organization	<p>Policy advisory</p> <p>Research</p> <p>Capacity Building</p>	https://emcentre.com/
39.	Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad	Academics	<p>Policy research</p> <p>Circular business models and innovation</p> <p>Capacity building</p>	https://iima.ac.in/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
40.	Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu	Jammu	Academics	Research Capacity building Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship	https://www.iimj.ac.in/
41.	Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore	Bangalore	Academics	Centre for Corporate Governance and Citizenship focuses on Circular Economy and triple bottom line Policy Advocacy Research support Incubation and Entrepreneurship cell	https://www.iimb.ac.in/
42.	NIT Warangal	Warangal	Academics	R&D Training and capacity building	https://www.nitw.ac.in/
43.	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	Delhi	Accreditation and standards	Developing standards and certifications Training and capacity building	https://www.bsigroup.com/en-IN/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
44.	Centre for Research in Ecology and Sustainable Technologies (CREST)	North Thathanaicke npatti	Not for profit	Community engagement Training and capacity building Certification	http://anaadicrest.org/index.html
45.	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi	Delhi	Academic	R&D Technology development and innovation Training and capacity building Incubation facilities	https://home.iitd.ac.in/
46.	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati	Guwahati	Academic	R&D Circular Business model Training and capacity building Incubation centre	https://www.iitg.ac.in/

Sr. No.	Institute name	Location	Type	Scope of Services	Link
47.	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras	Madras	Academic	R&D Technological solutions Major focus on water and sustainability Training and capacity building Incubation support	https://www.iitm.ac.in/the-institute/circular-economy
48.	Circulate Capital	Singapore (has operations in India)	Financial Services	Incubation support Impact Investment Circular financing solutions	https://www.circulatecapital.com/
49.	Mahindra TERI (MT CoE) Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Habitat	Gurgaon	Centre of Excellence (with focus on research, innovation and technology)	Research Develop a repository of innovative materials and technologies Knowledge hub	https://mahindratericoe.com/index.php

Table 2 attempts to map the prioritised services identified in the Study Report with the list of some of the potential nodal institutes that could be considered for provision of the prioritized services. Identification of the most fitting institute that can be considered as a “node” in the delivery of each prioritised service can derive guidance from this mapping, but may also explore other institutes and engage in discussion with stakeholders.

Table 2: Mapping Potential Institutes to Prioritized Services

Sr. No.	Name of Prioritised Service	Potential Institute can could provide the service
1.	Coordinate and work with local and state governments to foster circularity at the sub-national level	TERI, EMC, DA
2.	Build regulatory/policy sandboxes for testing policy instruments by working with various line ministries	Sanshodhan, Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE), Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)
3.	Preparing sectoral strategies in reaching the 2070 Net-Zero target through the CE approach	TERI, CEEW, National Council for Cement and Building materials
4.	Design financing models/instruments to foster a transition to a circular economy (such as Green Bonds)	Circulate Capital, EMC,
5.	Measure the nation’s progress on Circular Economy	TERI, EMC
6.	Lead and guide the setting up of industry bodies that will facilitate a focussed and structured approach to key CE aspects, such as a Remanufacturing Council	FICCI, National Productivity Council
7.	Lead and guide the development and delivery of need-based innovative training modules including those for senior government officials	TERI School of Advanced Studies (SAS), IPCA, Centre for Environment Education (CEE)
8.	Technical Guidance to setting up of circular economy parks/ industrial parks integrating circularity and development of their ESG policy	NPC, EMC, TERI, IITs, National Council for Cement and Building materials
9.	Create innovation spaces (IS) like fab labs, makerspaces, hackerspace, living labs, and coworking spaces to strengthen innovation capacities	TERI School of Advanced Studies (SAS); Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, IIMs, CoE for Innovation Entrepreneurship and Start-ups, Centre of Excellence on E-waste Management
10.	Drive and support supply chains to become more circular	FICCI, ASSOCHAM, IIMs
11.	Provide technical assistance for developing and implementing circular economy-based pilot and demonstration projects	National Council for Cement and Building materials, CSTEP, CSIR-NEERI,

Table 3 maps the prioritised sectors identified in the Study Report with the list of potential host institutes. This mapping is in congruence with the sample networks laid out for each of the prioritised sectors in the Study Report. Some of the institutes identified in the table may not be a part of Table 1 due to their sector centric nature.

Table 3: Mapping Potential Institutes to Prioritized Sectors

Sr. No.	Prioritised Sector	Potential Host Institute(s)	Nature of engagement
1.	Plastics	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	Setting standards, providing certification and labels for quality of recycled material
		All India Plastics Manufacturers Association (AIPMA)	Technical Guidance on CE parks; Pushing industry for adoption of industry standards
		Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai	R&D around sustainable material solutions, Circular designs on plastic products
		The Energy Resources Institutes (TERI) & Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)	Policy research, implementation advisory, education and awareness
		Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd (EMC)	LCA to assess alternatives to plastics, waste management options and working with entrepreneurs to develop pilot and demonstration projects for a public/private agency
		Centre for Environment Education (CEE)	Developing and conducting capacity building programs for the informal sector
		Go Massive Earth (Agra Innovation Lab for Prevention of Plastic Leakage)	Entrepreneurship and innovation
2.	Construction	Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)	Developing and promoting standards for building materials, certification for “circular buildings”, Pushing industry for adoption of industry standards
		Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	Expanding the GreenPro Certification; strengthening circular aspects in the existing certification
		Material Recycling Association of India (MRAI)	Policy advocacy, Awareness generation and capacity building programs
		Development Alternatives (DA)	Policy research, circular building material solutions; C&D waste inventorization and material flow

		Concrete and Cement Industry Representation (through CMA, GCCA)	Technical support to industry for utilizing recycled/secondary aggregates and cementitious industrial by-products in concrete and alternative fuels/raw materials in cement kilns
		National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB)	Research and development of innovative technologies
		Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	Setting standards, providing certification and labels for quality of recycled material
3.	Textiles	Ministry of Textiles	Creation of strategy documents and policy brief with the objective of furthering circularity in Indian textiles
		The Energy Resources Institutes (TERI)	Preparation of implementable sector-wide strategy for CE in textiles
		Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Supporting pilot and demonstration projects of innovative circular solutions *This could be done in partnership with government ministries
		Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)	Organisation of large-scale, high-level events on the topic of “circular textiles” for knowledge building and networking
		Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd (EMC)	Development of ESG policy, conduct of LCA for large textile manufacturers to understand impacts across the value chain and suggesting alternative actions to promote circularity
		National Institute of Design (NID) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi	Research on implementable solutions at the upstream (design) stage of textiles (focus on material sciences and textile engineering)
		TARU Leading Edge	Development and conduct of capacity building programs for informal sector workers, understanding social impacts at upstream stages
		Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	Setting standards, providing certification and labels for quality of recycled material

2. Application and Assessment Process

In order to steer the process of identifying and designating institutions as Centres of Excellence, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) will constitute a committee comprising of

officials from MoEFCC, Key Line Ministries, Leading Domain Experts in the field of Circular Economy, NITI Aayog. This committee will evaluate the proposals.

- Call for Letter of Intent and pre-proposals (10 page maximum). The proposal should be accompanied by a cover letter from the CEO of the Organization formed for the establishment of the CoE. In the case of an Educational Institute, the proposal should have an endorsement letter from the Head of the Institution who should forward the proposal.
- Submission of pre-proposals by the interested institutes using the formats provided by MoEFCC. Only one proposal per institute shall be accepted. The submission of multiple proposals per institute shall make the proposals liable to be rejected.
- Assessment of pre-proposals according to set evaluation criteria (described in this guide) resulting in short listing of institutes for development of full proposals.
- Call for full proposal (maximum 50 pages) detailing plans for 5 years of work in line with the prioritized services identified.
- Submission of full proposal
- Evaluation of full proposal according to set evaluation criteria (described in guide)
- Field Visit of suitable proposals, followed by submission of Field Visit Report
- Recommendation by selection committee and communication of the decision

Checklist of documents to be attached with the application

- Pre-proposal application as per Annexure
- Attested copies of the Registration Certificate, Memorandum of Association and By-laws of the Organization in case of non-governmental organization/institute.
- Attested copy of the Audited Statement of Account for the last 3 years.
- A note of activities in the last five years especially those related to research, training and capacity building.
- The list of publications by the applicant Institution in the last five years, if any.
- Documents supporting the previous track record of working in the field of circular economy
- Registration Certificate of the Institute/Organisation One copy
- Memorandum of Association of the JV Partners One copy
- Annual Reports for the last three years of the applicant(s) that is CAG approved One copy each

3. Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria for potential nodal host institutes in the CoE network, a set of minimum eligibility criteria and a set of advanced criteria have been identified. The assessment along the minimum eligibility criteria is binary (Yes/No) and the assessment along the advanced criteria is done using a scale of 0-10 by the evaluation committee.

The two sets of criteria are presented in Figure 1.

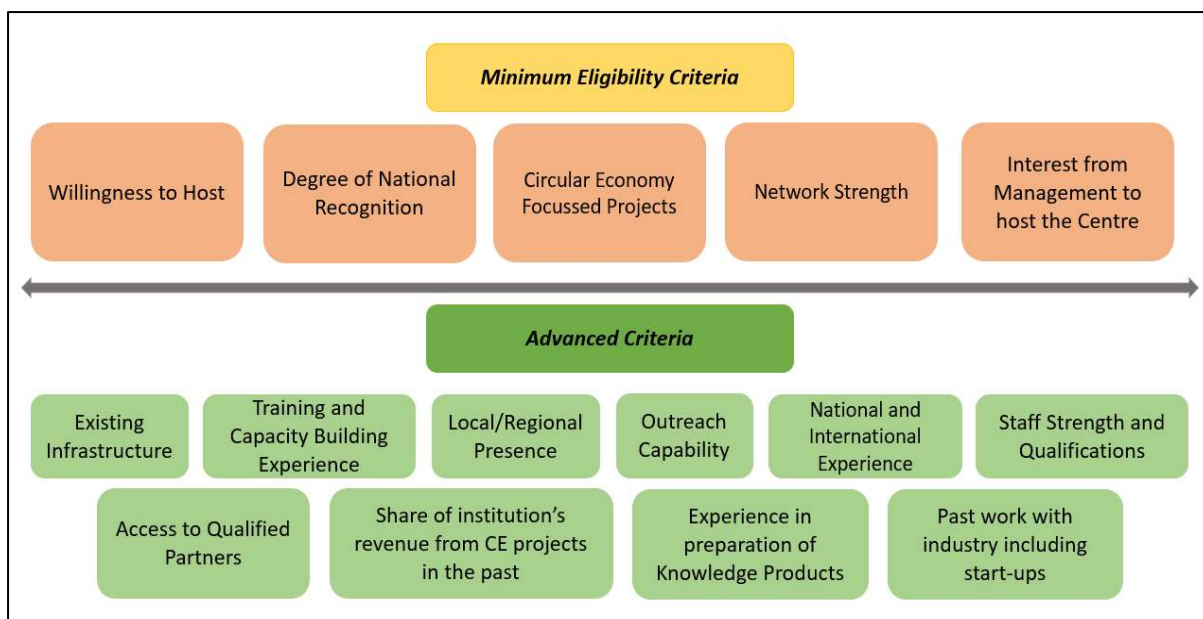


Figure 1: Eligibility criteria and Advanced Criteria for evaluation of potential nodal host institutes

Table 4 below provides an elaboration of the minimum eligibility criteria along with the necessary documentary evidence that the institute will have to present. Table 5 does the same for the advanced criteria. Additionally, the table also gives the distribution of weights on which the institutes will be evaluated for the advanced criterion.

Table 4: Elaboration and documents required for minimum eligibility criteria

Minimum Eligibility Criteria		
Criteria	Elaboration	Necessary Documents
1. Willingness to host	The institute must be willing to take on the responsibility of providing its expertise and personnel through service provision as per the apex Centre's requirement. This commitment must persist in the long run.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A declaration confirming willingness to be a part of the network of institutes under the Centre of Excellence for 10 years should be provided.
2. Degree of National Recognition / National Recognition	The institute must have repute and recognition at the national level. It should carry accreditation labels approved by the UGC or other equivalent and relevant accreditations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All academic institutions should have a NAAC accreditation of A++. A certificate from NAAC regarding the same should be provided. • For the government think tanks/research organizations, affiliation or certification by governing councils, like the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) • For non-governmental think tanks/research organizations, registration

		details as company, a society or as a trust
3. Circular Economy focussed projects	The institute must have initiated or been involved in (through partnership or collaboration) at least 5 circular economy related projects in the span of the last two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract documents indicating involvement in a minimum of 5 circular economy related projects should be provided.
4. Network Strength	The institute should have a strong and well-established network of its own. In this regard, the institute must have collaborative relations with at least 5 other organisations/institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal contracts indicating the scope of each collaboration should be provided <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work done under collaborative agreements can be presented.
5. Interest from Management to host the Centre	The institute's management board should be willing to provide a physical space within the institute's property for the functioning of the nodal agency. Furthermore, the Board should also be willing to assign atleast 2 personnel to work full-time/part-time towards the Centre's service offerings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A letter of consent authorising allotment of physical space and personnel, duly signed by all members of the Board should be provided.

Table 5: Elaboration and documents required for advanced eligibility criteria

Advanced Criteria		
Criteria	Elaboration	Necessary Documents
1. Existing Infrastructure	<p>The institute should be equipped with the physical infrastructure necessary to provide services as a nodal agency of the CoE. The nature of the necessary infrastructure will vary according to the type of institution.</p> <p><u>For academic and educational institutions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A physical space dedicated to the activities of the CoE should be available. Access to digital technology (computers, laptops, printers, etc.) should be available. Access to the internet should be available. Access to physical/online academic libraries should be available. <p><u>For research institutes:</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duly completed form mentioning the details of the available infrastructure should be provided. The format of the form can be shared in the pre-proposal document.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A physical space dedicated to the activities of the CoE should be available. - Access to digital technology (computers, laptops, printers, etc.) should be available. - Access to the internet should be available - Access to the required technical infrastructure (labs, tools, etc.) should be available. <p><u>For industry associations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A physical space dedicated to the activities of the CoE should be available. - Access to digital technology (computers, laptops, printers, etc.) should be available. - Access to the internet should be available 	
<p>2. Experience in Training and Capacity Building</p> <p><i>(*This criterion is applicable only to nodal host institutes who will be delivering training/ capacity building related services for the CoE)</i></p>	<p>The institute should have designed and delivered at least 7 training-based projects. The institute should also have carried out at least 10 capacity building projects. Each project should not be of a duration shorter than 3 months. All the experience in training and capacity building should be in projects centric to circular economy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracts indicating completion of each training-based project should be submitted. ● Contracts indicating completion of each capacity building session should be submitted. ● Photographic evidence of sessions should be submitted.
<p>3. Local/Regional Presence</p>	<p>Institutes with local/regional presence through offices/ staff/networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Details of the presence including the kind of human resources available, stakeholder connect and kind of clients
<p>4. Outreach Capability</p>	<p>The institution should have a strong set of outreach activities to showcase its work. Outreach channels include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Website - Events (online and physical) - Publications - Social media presence - Other collaterals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Details of outreach activities (including photographic evidence) should be provided and sample collateral created to be shared
<p>5. National and International Experience</p>	<p>The institution should have initiated or worked on (through partnerships and/or collaborations) at least 20 projects having India-centric</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracts indicating the completion of projects should be provided.

	outcomes, and 10 projects having international outcomes.	
6. Staff Strength and Qualifications	The institutions should be willing to allocate at least 3 staff members who will work full-time, and 5 staff members who will work part-time towards the fulfilment of the CoE's activities. All staff members should have at least a master's degree. Members having a Ph.D. will be considered a factor enhancing the staff strength	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Letters of acceptance from staff members regarding the position should be provided. ● CVs of all personnel should be provided.
7. Access to Qualified Partners	The institution should have access to at least 5 qualified partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Previous MoUs/Contracts/Partnership details with institutions working on aspects of circular economy
8. Share of institutions' revenue from CE Projects in the past	The institution should indicate the revenue share from the Circular Economy-related projects in the past three years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Official documents indicating the different CE projects, the associated revenue and the share in total revenue in the past three years
9. Experience in preparation of Knowledge Products	The institution should demonstrate their capability in preparation of knowledge products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hard copies of latest 5 Knowledge Products
10. Past work with industries (including start-ups)	The institution should have worked on at least 3 projects involving industries (including start-ups).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contracts indicating the completion details of projects should be provided

Table 6 suggests the scoring/weight that could be assigned to each criterion within the advanced set of criteria.

Table 6: Weights Assigned to Advanced Criteria

Sr. No.	Advanced Criteria	Assigned Score/Weight
1.	Existing Infrastructure	15
2.	Experience in Training and Capacity Building	10
3.	Local/Regional Presence	5
4.	Outreach Capability	10
5.	National and International Experience	15
6.	Staff Strength and Qualifications	10
7.	Access to Qualified Partners	5

8.	Share of institutions' revenue from CE Projects in the past	10
9.	Experience in preparation of Knowledge Products	10
10.	Past work with industries (including start-ups)	10
Total		100

