

#SWEDENINDIASAMBANDH

# A GREEN JOURNEY

SWEDISH COMPANIES IN MAHARASHTRA & GUJARAT



The Consulate General of Sweden in Mumbai and the Swedish Chamber of Commerce India commissioned a first-of-its-kind 'Environmental Sustainability Mapping Study' with Swedish Companies in Maharashtra and Gujarat moving towards green transition.

The study provides a baseline of where we are in numbers and actions, identifies best practices, challenges, and future recommendations.

The aim is to encourage constructive dialogue and action among relevant stakeholders with the objective of building sustainable, and meaningful, business.

The Study was conducted by the Centre for Environmental Research and Education (CERE).

Research partner




**Anna Lekvall**  
**Consul General of Sweden in Mumbai**

“Climate change is an existential threat to humanity and ecosystems across all countries and regions that requires an urgent collective response. Emissions of greenhouse gases must be reduced to zero and a renewed relationship with our ecosystems is necessary. Through investments in innovation and circular business models, future jobs will be created and the environment protected.”



**Sara Larsson**  
**Head, Swedish Chamber of Commerce India**

“Bringing companies together on the green journey leads to synergies, and accelerates the growth. The Swedish business community is committed to holistic and integrated sustainability. We want this report to high-light where we are today, and where we need to be tomorrow. The journey requires creative thinking, vision, and passion.”



Sustainability and innovation are cornerstones of the Sweden India partnership. The Joint Action Plan signed during Prime Minister Modi's visit to Sweden in 2018 is the key platform for a wide collaboration. Several initiatives and research projects covering energy, water, emissions control and clean air are ongoing. The India Sweden Innovations Accelerator are bringing Swedish start-ups in the clean energy segment to India since 2010.

At the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019, Sweden and India established the Leadership Group on Industry Transition (LeadIT), taking the lead towards a fossil-free future and responsibility to drive transformation in the hard-to-decarbonize and energy-intensive sectors.

During the 5 March 2021 Virtual Summit, the two Prime Ministers reinforced the partnership on sustainable development and climate action, and Sweden announced joining the International Solar Alliance initiated by India.

**SWEDEN AND INDIA  
WORKING TOGETHER**





## **DRIVING GREEN GROWTH**

Swedish companies are committed to green transition across value chains, and demonstrate leadership in several aspects of environmental stewardship, well beyond compliance.

Swedish companies have a long-term perspective. Enabling green growth requires emphasis on life-cycle cost and social impact at all levels.

Swedish companies seek partnership and collaborations to see transition to sustainable technologies and processes accelerated.

## 18 SWEDISH COMPANIES

with significant operations in Maharashtra and Gujarat participated in this study.

70% of these fall within the manufacturing sector.

\*Sandvik Asia and Sandvik Materials Technology are both represented by the Sandvik Logo



## STEPS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

### ENERGY

210,596MWh of  
electricity used  
annually

A majority of the companies are currently making technological or process changes to reduce their energy consumption.

60% of the companies use renewable energy sources. Two have implemented green PPAs. This is an area to give emphasis.

To take this forward, we need to incentivise transition to renewable energy sources, create synergies and increase the effectiveness of PPA.

## CLIMATE DISCLOSURES

**11** companies assess their carbon footprint.

**6** undertake this assessment at the level of their local plant or office.

**All** manufacturing companies in the study make products that are described as 'low carbon'.

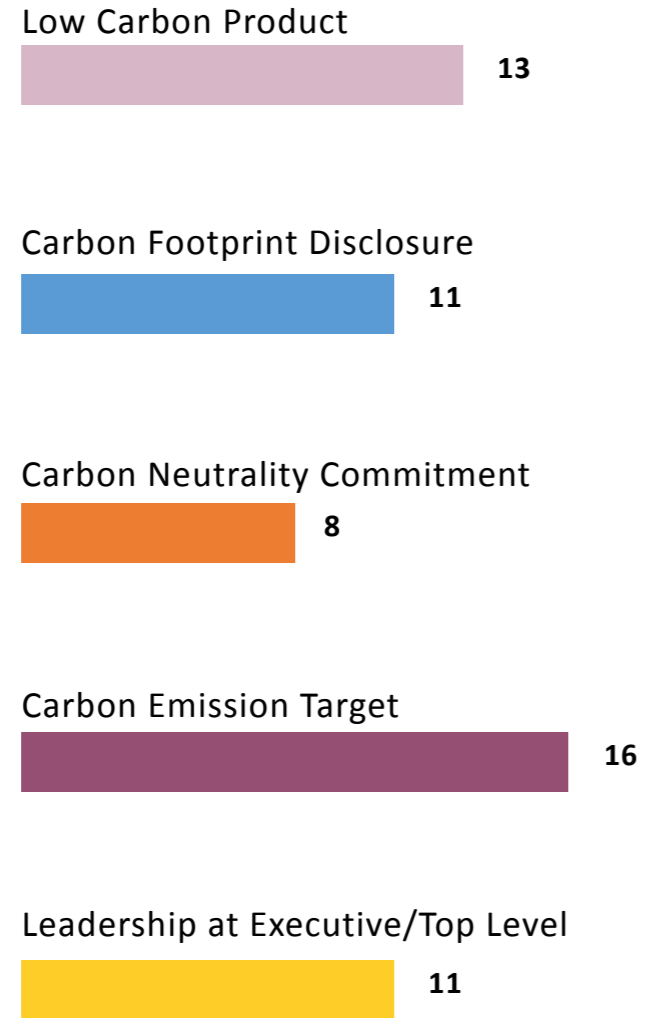


**IKEA** aims to achieve zero emissions across our delivery network including last-mile delivery to our customers.

10% of our delivery fleet is made up of electric vehicles. By 2030 it will be 50%.



**CARBON EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGIES**



**Epiroc** has installed a 155kWp rooftop grid-tied solar system in our production unit in Nasik.

This system delivers approximately 584 units per day, equivalent to a reduction of almost 175 tons of CO2 emissions per year.





Water conservation is important and needs to be prioritised in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Companies have installed Effluent Treatment Plants (ETP) and Sewage Treatment Plants (STP), and measure the amount of water reused and cycled back into their operations.

Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) systems are used to recharge groundwater aquifers and for use in operations.

Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) are strategic wastewater management systems that ensures that there will be no discharge of industrial wastewater into the environment.

In **Sandvik Asia** and **Sandvik Materials Technology (SMT)** we reduce freshwater consumption by substituting it with harvested rainwater. We collect run-off water and use it in our operations.

Sandvik Asia collects surface run-off through a furrat system located near our STP and ETP. Rainwater is collected from roof tops. The filtered water is stored in a process tank and used in the manufacturing process.

We can run our plant on harvested rainwater for seven days.

SMT's rainwater harvesting system does not just benefit the company. Overflow from the recharge well goes to a reservoir or pond. The water from the pond is used by local villages.

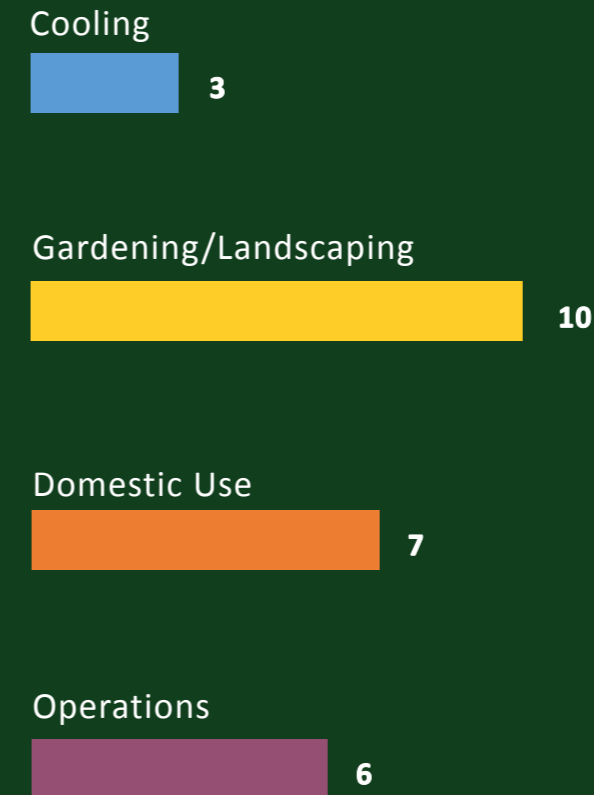
Many water conservation initiatives have been implemented in facilities and auxiliary areas, such as:

- Sensor-based taps
- Sprinkler nozzles and low flow water taps
- No flush urinals
- Installation of aerators
- Drip irrigation for gardening

Six companies measure the amount of water recycled, in the last year a total of 61,708 kl.

Companies want to see strengthened regulations on water management.

## USES OF TREATED/RECYCLED WATER



Höganäs has installed RWH systems within their premises and use the water to replenish the groundwater table.

Our RWH system was commissioned in 2019 and has a capacity of 6700 kl/annum.



## MATERIALS



Circularity is an important objective for the companies and ambitious goals are set, this includes the complete value chain.

For example, companies procure recycled materials to manufacture their products or for use in their operations. They have also put in place buyback policies for their products.

66% of dry waste and 95% of wet waste generated by the companies are diverted from landfills.

Companies want to see a strengthened and unified regulatory framework for waste management , including developing vendors for recycling and reuse.

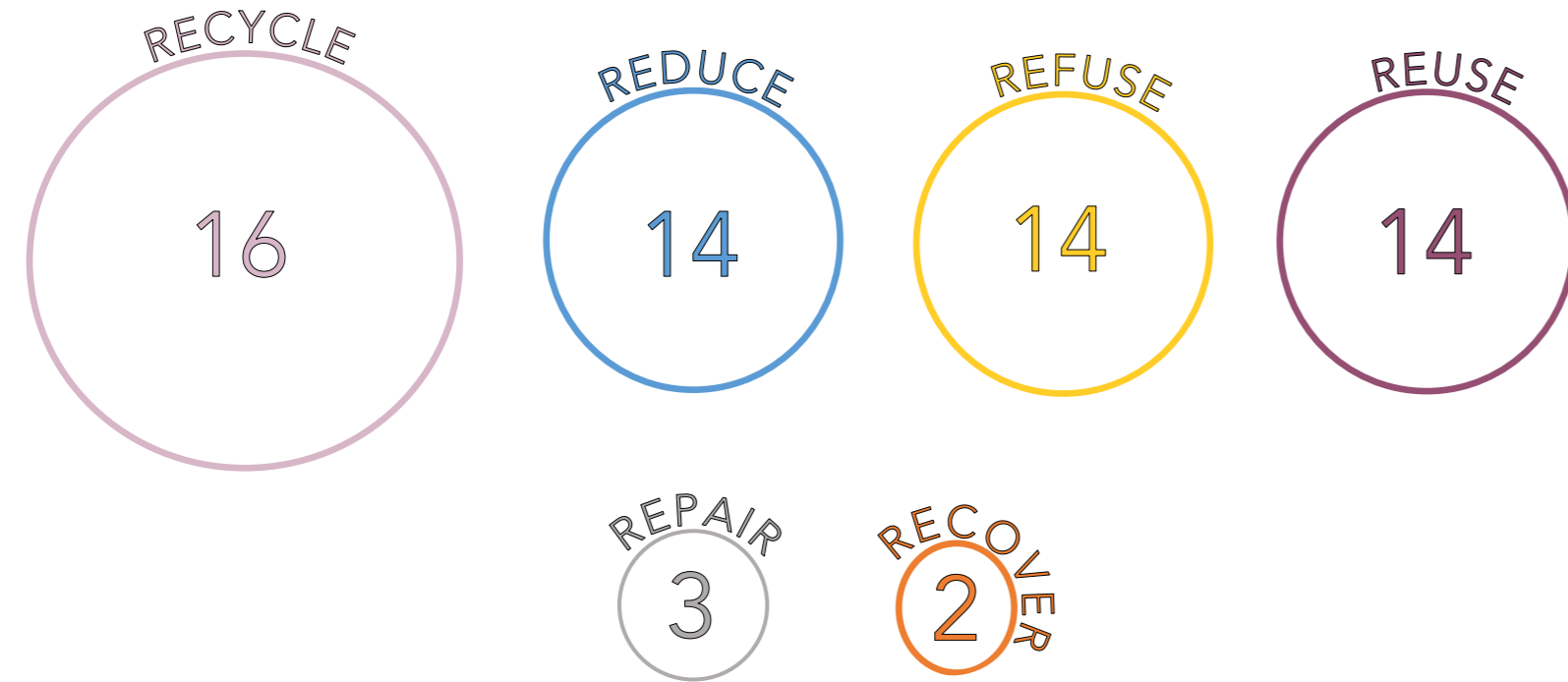


**Tetra Pak** collects and recycles over 40% of the 12 billion packages we produce every year in India. We hope to double this recycling rate and have partnered with various stakeholders from collection agencies to waste recyclers.

To scale up our recycling program we also need industry and government collaboration. To this end we have started ARC an industry alliance supported by Coca-Cola, Dabur and Parle on recycled carton collection.

## CIRCULARITY

The number of companies strategically focusing on the different R's embedded in circularity of material and waste.



**Nefab Expak** - a 6mm plywood box, can replace traditional 20 mm thick wooden boxes, thus reducing the use of materials.

Our innovatively designed collapsible boxes save logistics cost, space and associated transportation emissions. While traditional boxes are usually opened by destructive methods, Nefab's boxes can be opened and closed without difficulty and thus can be reused.





## BIODIVERSITY

This is an area we need to work more with; develop bio-diversity management plans and long-term afforestation commitments.

However, 80% of the companies already undertake afforestation activities.

**SKF India** has developed an Eco Impact park in the area surrounding their factory in Pune. We have undertaken efforts to preserve local flora and have planted native trees in the area, particularly along the periphery of the lake.

We have also worked on reducing pollution and soil erosion.

We at **Atlas Copco** include biodiversity as part of our sustainability efforts. We undertake afforestation and habitat restoration projects around the world.

In Maharashtra, we have planted **106,195 trees** of indigenous species through their watershed development programme.





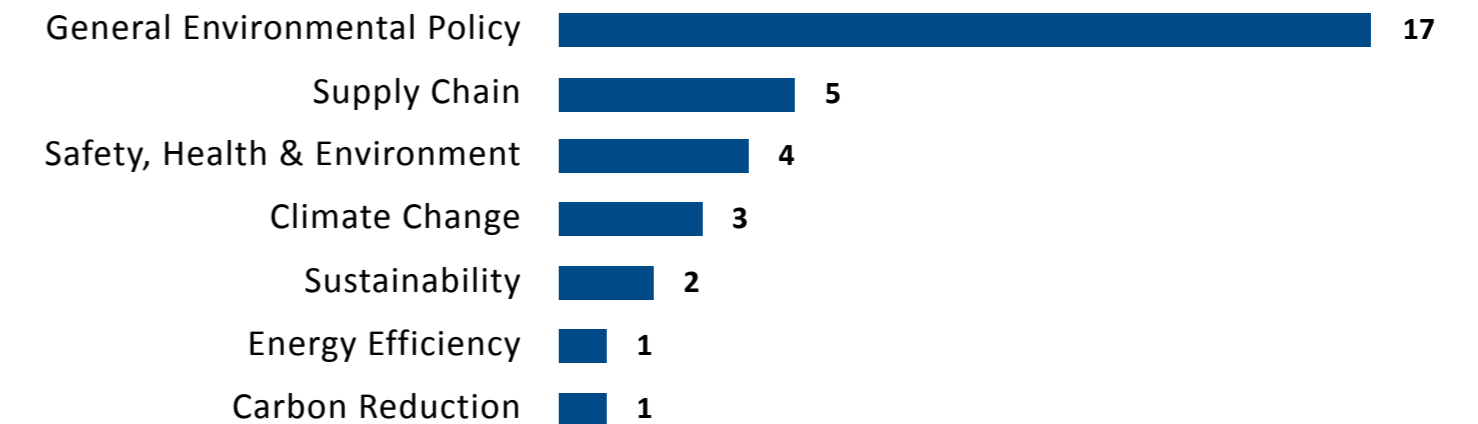


# GOVERNANCE

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Defining environmental policies ensures a seamless implementation of sustainability efforts across a company's operations and value chain.

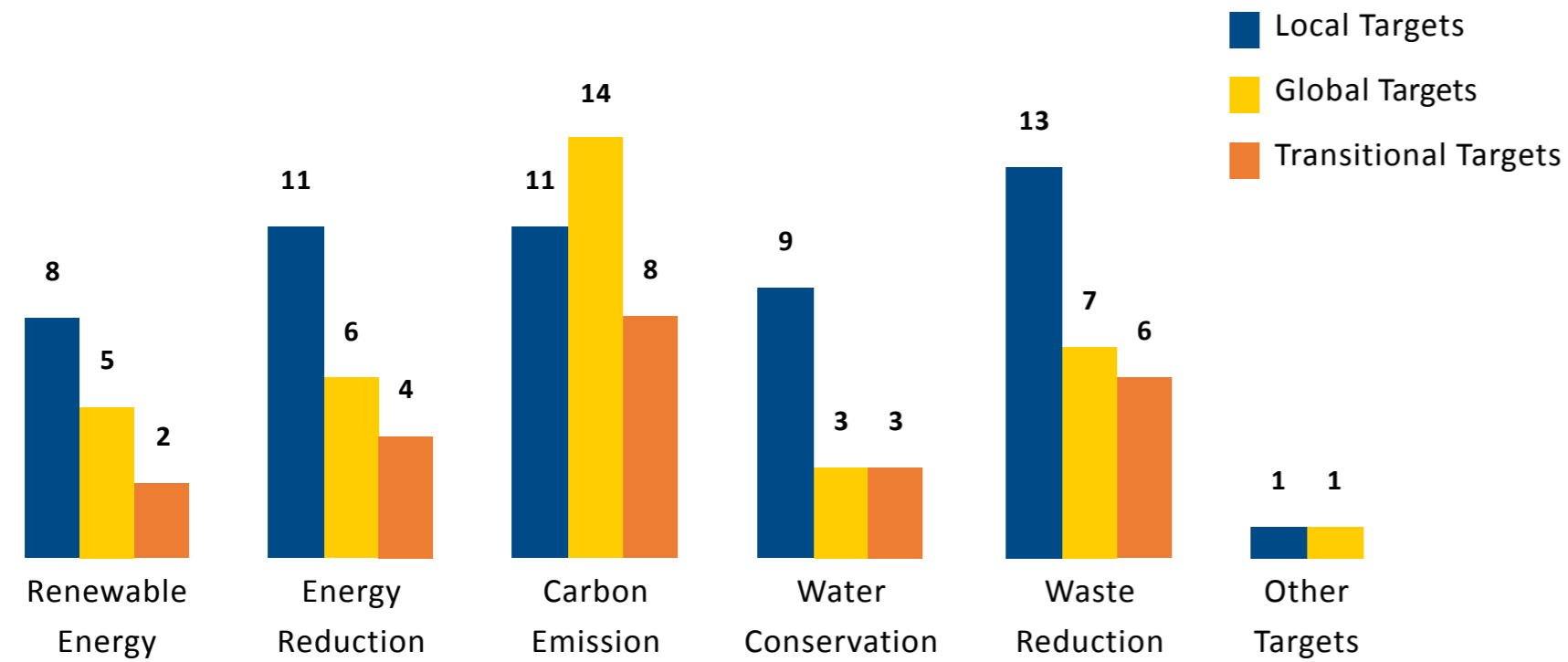
Almost all the companies have defined and adopted a 'General Environmental Policy'. Moreover, companies have extended their commitment to environmental sustainability by articulating their policies at several implementation levels.





## TO REACH FOR MORE

Beyond applying global goals the companies set local targets in areas that are important for the Indian context.



We at **Absortech** have designed the first carbon neutral desiccant in the market called the Absorpole. Made from sustainable materials like recycled plastics and low CO2 footprint calcium chloride.

## A BASELINE TO BENCH-MARK

For the first time data pertaining to the companies energy and water consumption, waste management practices and other indicators was collected.

We want to measure over time and bench-mark with other groups.

**210,596MWh**  
of electricity used

**911,650 kl**  
of water consumed

**30,192 tonnes**  
of dry waste generated

**1,858 tonnes**  
of wet waste generated



**16,962 MWh**  
of renewable energy generated

**188,759 trees**  
planted over the last few years

**61,708 kl**  
of water recycled

**27,305 kl**  
of rainwater harvested

**Haldex** has transitioned from using hexavalent coating technology to trivalent coating to reduce our environmental impact; this technology is less hazardous, reduces air and water pollution and thus also leads to less water consumption.



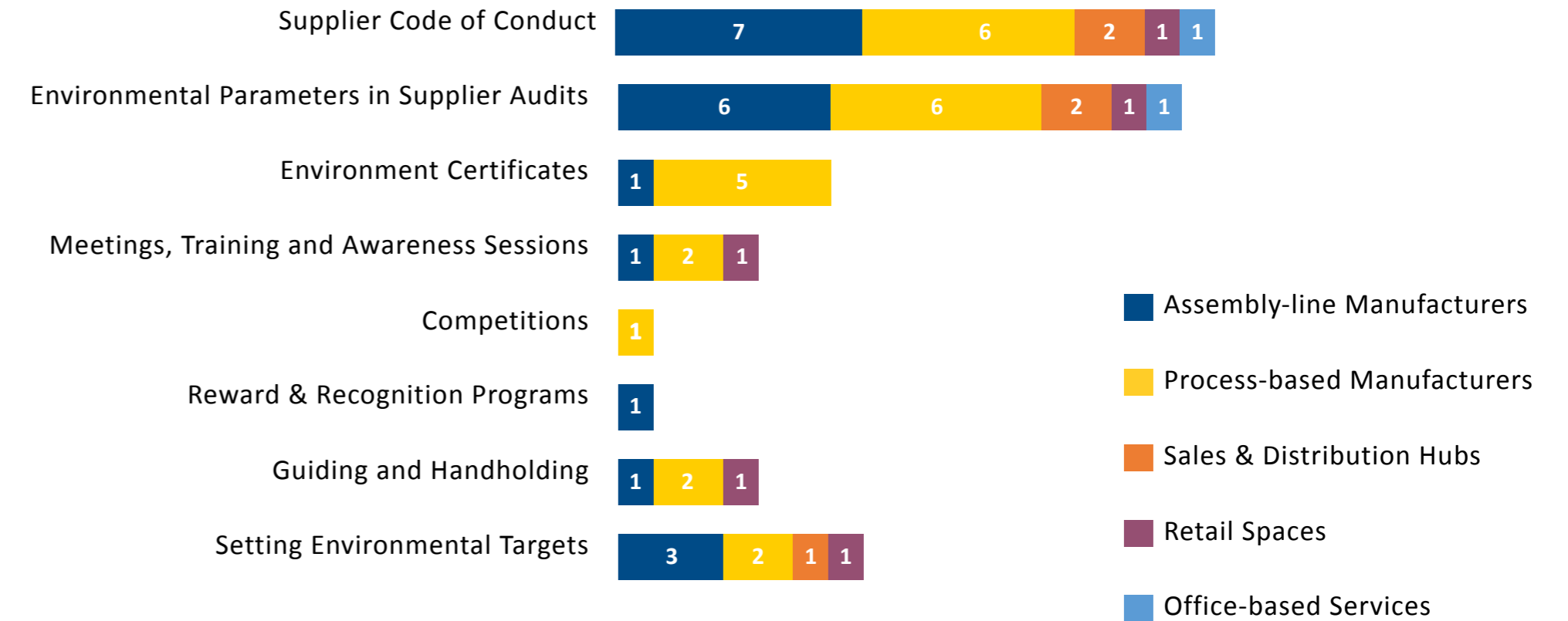
# ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS

At **TietoEVRY** we have implemented measures to boost energy efficiency in our offices and data centres.

We have reduced energy consumption from UPS systems by 50% and have replaced old desktops with energy-efficient laptops.



# SUPPLIERS

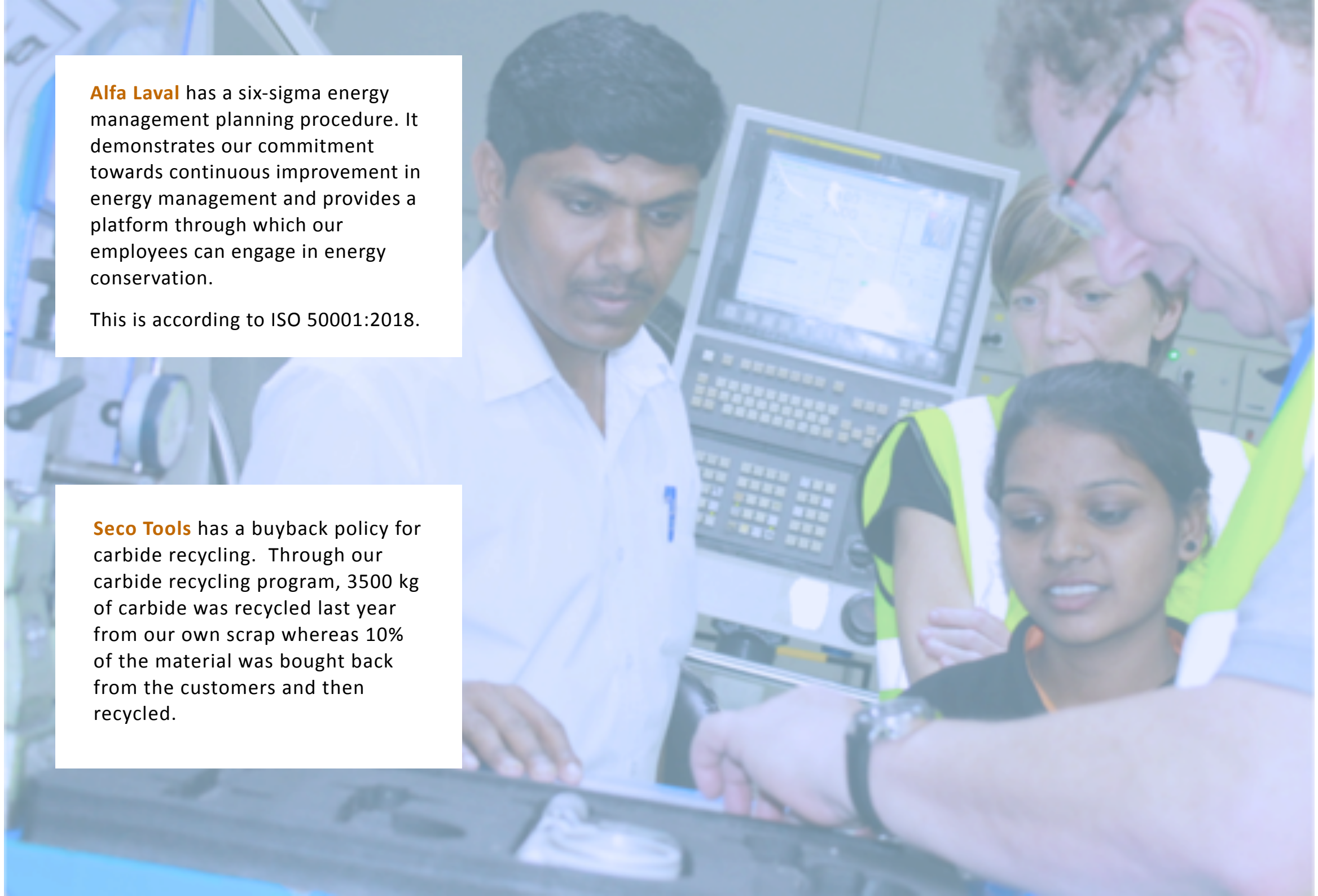


## EMPLOYEES

Swedish companies engage their employees on the sustainability agenda.

This is done through trainings, surveys, awareness creation, interactive feedback and idea processes etc.

Employees are encouraged to actively participate in company CSR programs.



**Alfa Laval** has a six-sigma energy management planning procedure. It demonstrates our commitment towards continuous improvement in energy management and provides a platform through which our employees can engage in energy conservation.

This is according to ISO 50001:2018.

**Seco Tools** has a buyback policy for carbide recycling. Through our carbide recycling program, 3500 kg of carbide was recycled last year from our own scrap whereas 10% of the material was bought back from the customers and then recycled.

## CUSTOMERS

Swedish companies engage with their customers through building awareness, collaborating on sustainable product design, and recycling schemes etc.

The Business Climate Survey 2021/22 conducted amongst 190 Swedish companies in India show that only 25% of customers in the public sector and 40% in the private, consider green impact as important in their purchasing decisions.



## THE LARGER ECOSYSTEM

Companies engage with their eco-system to drive green growth. The 18 companies gave us this list:

- **15** companies engage with local communities.
- **15** companies engage with other companies through trade associations.
- **12** companies engage with NGO's.
- **6** companies engage with Government authorities.
- **3** companies engage with research organisations.



**Ericsson** in partnership with IIT-Kanpur has developed an air monitoring program for Delhi based on NB-IOT sensors. The project was a success and is now being expanded to five other cities.

**ABB** works in the automation and renewable energy sector, we collaborate with universities and research centers for product development and improvement. With IIT-Madras we have done battery research, IIT-Roorkee a smart grid project, and with the Central Power Research Institute (CPRI), topical research.





## MOVING AHEAD

The Green Journey continues. Swedish companies are committed to the deployment of sustainable technology, creating circular business processes, and building green mindsets, across their value chains. Further, there are best practices and innovative solutions that await to be discovered by others. To learn from one another is an opportunity highlighted by all. Collaborations with other stakeholders in the business, social, and environmental eco-system we are part of, are important.

Let's do this together.