

May 2024: Augmenting School Infrastructure through Sustainable Upcycling of Plastic Waste



IIM Bangalore's commitment to social responsibility is demonstrated through targeted initiatives that intersect education, sustainability, and community upliftment. These programs go beyond academic outreach, actively integrating environmental and social equity into tangible outcomes for underserved communities across Karnataka.

A total of 273 pieces of furniture - including 88 eco-friendly benches, 50 computer tables, 93 study desks, 100 chairs, and others have been donated across 40 schools in Tiptur and Madhugiri to augment their existing infrastructure. These have been made from Post-consumer multi-layer plastic waste (MLP) processed into durable furniture using proprietary upcycling technology and procured from Saahas - Zero Waste, an sustainability focussed NGO specialising in waste recycling and upcycling. This is also part of the Sustainability Initiatives of IIMB and has been featured in [Responsible Roots, Sustainable Progress](#), the IIMB Sustainability Report 2025.

Through this initiative, a total of 3,200 kg of plastic has been diverted from landfills, 23.2 tons of CO₂ emissions have been avoided, 240,079 MJ of energy saved, 87.47 m³ of water conserved, 20+ livelihoods supported through production and logistics.

This initiative exemplifies IIMB's ability to embed sustainability within social outreach, reducing deforestation and plastic pollution while enhancing public education infrastructure.