



ECO-AAWAS

Green Certification and Award for Residential Welfare Associations (RWAs)

By: International Confederation of Trade and Industry (ICTI) and Green Society of India (GSI)

INTRODUCTION

The International Confederation of Trade and Industry (ICTI) and Green Society of India (GSI) propose the **ECO-AAWAS Green RWA Certification and Award Program**, a simplified and practical sustainability rating system specifically designed for **Residential Welfare Associations (RWAs)** across India. The program aims to empower housing societies to adopt basic yet impactful environmental practices that enhance resource efficiency, improve resident well-being, and contribute to national climate goals. ECO-AAWAS is positioned as an accessible, low-cost, easy-to-implement alternative to complex green building standards.

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

ECO-AAWAS seeks to:

- Promote sustainable living within existing and new residential communities.
- Encourage RWAs to adopt measurable and achievable green practices.
- Provide recognition for environmentally responsible societies.
- Build awareness and participation among residents for long-term environmental stewardship.



FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW

The rating system is structured around **five core sustainability pillars**, each containing simple criteria suitable for phased adoption:



1. Energy Efficiency

- Use of LED lighting in common areas.
- Scheduled maintenance of electrical systems.
- Promotion of household-level energy conservation habits.



2. Water Management

- Rainwater harvesting systems (basic or advanced).
- Prevention of water leakage and wastage.
- Installation of low-flow fixtures (where possible).



3. Waste Management

- Segregation of waste at source (wet/dry/hazardous).
- Composting of organic waste within the society.
- Tie-ups with authorised recyclers.



4. Greenery & Biodiversity

- Maintenance of green spaces and native plantations.
- Promotion of terrace/balcony gardening.
- Avoidance of harmful chemicals and pesticides.



5. Community Engagement & Governance

- Formation of a Green Committee within the RWA.
- Conducting awareness workshops for residents.
- Transparent reporting of sustainability initiatives.

RATING STRUCTURE

ECO AAWAS follows a simple point-based system:



1. Bronze: Basic compliance with minimum mandatory criteria



3. Gold: High performance with sustained practices



2. Silver: Moderate adoption across all pillars



4. Platinum: Exemplary leadership and model green community

RWAs can apply annually for evaluation and upgradation.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT BY ICTI AND GSI

ICTI and GSI will provide:

- A self-assessment toolkit for RWAs.
- On-site or virtual guidance for implementation.
- Awareness materials for residents.
- Certification and recognition through events and publications.

EXPECTED IMPACT

The ECO-AAWAS program is expected to:

- Reduce energy and water consumption at community level.
- Encourage circular waste management practices.
- Improve health, comfort, and environmental quality for residents.
- Create a nationwide network of sustainable and responsible RWAs.

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