



GREEN DEPOSIT DEPLOYMENT & IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR FY2024-25



Prepared by



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Executive Summary

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) established the Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits in April 2023, effective from June 1, 2023, to promote resource mobilization for green projects by banks. In response, UCO Bank developed its Green Deposit Policy for 2024-25, which includes fixed-term, rupee-denominated deposits dedicated solely to green finance. The policy was independently verified to ensure alignment with green finance principles.

Throughout the fiscal year 2024-25, UCO Bank introduced its Green Deposit scheme, successfully raising ₹45.70 crore by March 2025. These funds were allocated to a 47.5 MW (Commissioned capacity: 28MW) solar photovoltaic power plant in Gujarat, developed by Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. The funds were disbursed in four tranches over the year.

This Impact Assessment Report reviews the fund allocation and environmental impact from the inception of the program in August 2024 to March 31, 2025, ensuring compliance with RBI guidelines and UCO Bank's internal policy. The report emphasizes the bank's governance structure and the focus on renewable energy projects.

Key Performance Metrics - FY2024-25



Figure 1 - Key Performance Matrix – FY2024-2025

1. Introduction and Context

In April 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introduced a comprehensive *Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits*, effective June 1, 2023, to encourage banks to mobilize resources for green projects. Under this framework, **regulated entities must institute a Board-approved Green Deposit Policy**, earmark deposit proceeds exclusively for eligible green finance, and ensure robust governance including third-party verification of use of funds and annual impact reporting. Certain activities are explicitly excluded (e.g., projects involving fossil fuels, nuclear energy, tobacco, etc.) to prevent greenwashing.

In line with these directives, UCO Bank formulated its **Green Deposit Policy 2024-25**, aligning its products and processes with RBI guidelines. This policy defines a Green Deposit as a fixed-term, rupee-denominated deposit whose proceeds will be allocated to *green finance* (lending/investment in eligible green activities/projects) and reaffirms that funds will not support any excluded activities. We have revived UCO's policy on Green Deposit, and it is in alignment with accepted green finance principles (as per RBI's mandate for independent evaluation of the policy).

During FY2024-25, UCO Bank launched its Green Deposit scheme, inviting retail and institutional depositors to contribute to a dedicated funding pool for environmentally beneficial projects. By the end of March 2025, UCO Bank had mobilized a cumulative ₹45.70 crore in green deposits. As per RBI and UCO policy requirements, the Bank identified eligible green projects to deploy these funds, with priority given to renewable energy initiatives. The Bank's **Green Deposit Governance Structure** includes oversight by the Resources Department and Risk Management Department, which jointly monitor fund allocation and report to the Board on program progress.

This Impact Assessment Report covers the period from program inception and the time the first green deposit was raised by the bank (August 2024) up to March 31, 2025. The report has been prepared with the assistance of an independent assessor to evaluate the allocation of proceeds and the resulting environmental impact.

The report aims to verify the green deposits compliance with the RBI framework basis UCO's internal policy on "Green Deposit policy 2024-25", approved by the Board with an effective date as on 30-05-2024 owned by the Resources Department & Risk Management Department at UCO Bank.

2. Scope of the Report

This report covers the fiscal year 2024–25 and outlines the mobilization and allocation of green deposit funds in accordance with the RBI framework. It includes project evaluations, third-party verification, and indicative environmental impacts.

3. Allocation of Proceeds (Use of Proceeds)

In accordance with UCO Bank's Green Deposit Policy and the RBI framework, **100% of the green deposit proceeds were allocated to finance an eligible green project**, with no part of the funds being used for ineligible purposes. The sole project financed is a 47.5 MW (Commissioned 28MW) grid-connected solar photovoltaic power plant in Gujarat, developed by Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.

UCO Bank disbursed the **₹45.70 crore (₹74.82 cumulative)** of green deposit funds to this project in four tranches, matching the project's drawdown schedule:

- **₹35.25 crore** disbursed on 28-Oct-2024
- **₹16.55 crore** disbursed on 09-Dec-2024
- **₹15.92 crore** disbursed on 23-Jan-2025
- **₹7.10 crore** disbursed on 25-Mar-2025

These disbursements were timed to the project's needs and were partially covered by the inflows from green deposit placements. Table 1 below maps the **Green Deposit inflows** (by month) against the **loan outflows** to the project. Green deposits were raised across August 2024 through March 2025, and the cumulative inflows by each disbursement date were used to fund the corresponding tranche.



Table 1 - Green Deposit Inflows vs Project Loan Outflows (Aug 2024 – Mar 2025)

Month (FY2024-25)	Green Deposits Raised (₹ Crore)	Funds Deployed to Project (incl. Green Deposit) (₹ Crore) ¹
Aug 2024	12.81	0 (no disbursement in Aug)
Sep 2024	19.04	0 (no disbursement in Sep)
Oct 2024	2.52	35.25 (disbursed 28-Oct-2024)
Nov 2024	3.34	0 (no disbursement in Nov)
Dec 2024	1.16	16.55 (disbursed 09-Dec-2024)
Jan 2025	1.91	15.92 (disbursed 23-Jan-2025)
Feb 2025	2.59	0 (no disbursement in Feb)
Mar 2025	2.33	7.10 (disbursed 25-Mar-2025)
Total	45.70	74.82

As illustrated above, UCO Bank raised ₹ 45.70 Cr in green deposits over the period, while a total amount of ₹ 74.82 Cr was disbursed to the solar project by March 2025. **No proceeds remain unallocated** as of March 31, 2025.

This complete allocation fulfils the RBI mandate that banks **deploy green deposit proceeds towards eligible green projects within a reasonable time frame or hold them only in temporary liquid instruments** until deployment.

UCO Bank's tracking of proceeds ensures a clear audit trail from each rupee of green deposit to its use in the qualifying project, preventing any diversion to non-green purposes. The Bank's internal systems tag these deposit funds and their deployment in a dedicated manner, following a **"use-of-proceeds" approach** consistent with global green finance practices.

4. Portfolio Impact and Allocation Summary

Under RBI's prescribed reporting format for green deposits, banks are required to disclose the sector-wise allocation of green deposit funds across eligible categories. **Table 2** below presents UCO Bank's Green Deposit portfolio allocation as of March 31, 2025, categorized by the RBI-approved green sectors. Since UCO's green deposit program commenced in FY2024-25 and all proceeds were allocated to a single renewable energy project, the entire amount falls under the 'Renewable Energy' category. For comparison, the table includes columns for the current fiscal year (FY2024-25), the previous fiscal year (FY 2023-24), and the cumulative total since inception. (UCO Bank did not have a green deposit program in FY 2023-24, hence the previous year values are zero.) This format aligns with the RBI's reporting template for green deposits.

¹ Outflows shown in the month of actual disbursement. Green deposit inflows in each month were directed to meet subsequent disbursement requirements for the said project. The shortfalls were covered through UCO's larger pool of ₹2128.04 Cr. funds for Green Projects which are being used to fund a variety of projects ranging from Hybrid Renewable Energy Projects, Biofuel projects, Clean Transportation and Government Subsidized schemes like PM-Suryodaya Scheme and PM-KUSUM.

The **cumulative position** since the inception of UCO's green deposit initiative is identical to the FY2024-25 figures, given that this was the first year of implementation.

Figure 3 – Green Fund Allocation

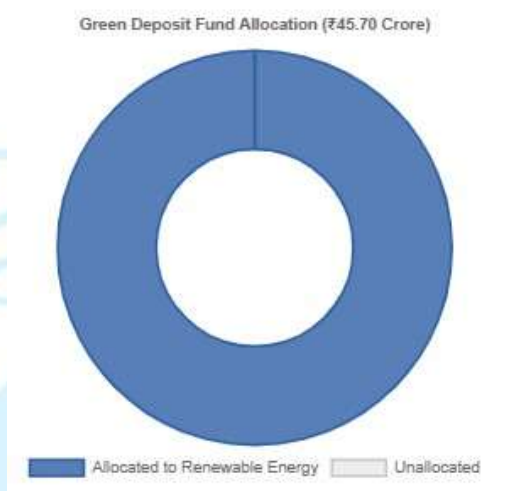


Table 2 - UCO Bank Green Deposit Portfolio – Allocation by Eligible Category (₹ Crore)

Green Eligible Category (per RBI Framework)	FY 2023-24 (Amount in ₹ Cr)	FY2024-25 (Amount in ₹ Cr)	Cumulative (Amount in ₹ Cr)
(1) Renewable Energy	0	45.70	45.70
(2) Energy Efficiency	0	0	0
(3) Clean Transportation	0	0	0
(4) Climate Change Adaptation	0	0	0
(5) Sustainable Water and Waste Management	0	0	0
(6) Pollution Prevention and Control	0	0	0
(7) Green Buildings	0	0	0
(8) Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources & Land Use	0	0	0
(9) Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation	0	0	0
Total Green Deposit Funds Allocated (B)	0	45.70	45.70
Total Green Deposits Raised (A)	0	45.70	45.70
Unallocated Green Deposit Funds (A – B)	0	0	0

Source: UCO Bank records. The format of disclosure is based on RBI Master Direction RBI/2023-24/14 (11 April 2023) requirements.

As shown in Table 2, UCO Bank raised **₹45.70 Cr during FY2024-25** through green deposits and allocated the entire amount to the *Renewable Energy* category (specifically, the solar energy project). There were **no allocations in other categories** such as energy efficiency, clean transportation, etc., during this period, and consequently no unutilized (unallocated) green deposit funds at year-end.

In UCO's case, the Renewable Energy allocation pertains solely to **solar power** as per the project requirement. This clearly demonstrates UCO Bank's focus on financing clean energy infrastructure using green deposits, in alignment with national priorities for renewable energy expansion. Furthermore, the fact that **"Amount of Green Deposit funds not allocated" is NIL** confirms that UCO has deployed all green deposit funds to eligible projects within the reporting period. There is also no balance pending in temporary investments as of March 31, 2025 (since any interim surplus was utilized by year-end), satisfying the RBI's expectation that green funds are promptly used or else invested only in safe liquid assets pending use.

5. Project-Level Impact: Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd (IIPL)

Project Overview: The green deposit funds were used to finance a **47.5 MW (Commissioned capacity: 28MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant** located in the state of Gujarat, India. The project is developed and operated by *Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.* under a long-term power purchase agreement (PPA) with the local electricity distribution company. The solar plant achieved 28 MW commissioning by March 2025, synchronizing with the grid to begin commercial operations. UCO Bank's financing (₹74.82 Cr) was crucial in enabling the construction and commissioning of this clean energy project, which aligns with India's renewable energy development initiatives.

The project was assessed against UCO Bank's green financing criteria at the proposal stage and was deemed fully eligible under the **"Renewable Energy" category (specifically solar energy)** as per the Bank's Green Financing Framework. It does not involve any prohibited technologies or fuels (such as coal or diesel generation), ensuring there is no breach of the exclusion list defined by RBI (e.g., no fossil fuel or nuclear component).

Key details of the project are summarized below, followed by its environmental and social impact metrics:

- **Capacity:** 47.5 MW (utility-scale solar PV plant).
- **Current Commissioned Capacity (as of March 2025):** 28 MW (over 8 locations)
- **Location:** Gujarat, India (specific site details as per project MOU, in a high solar irradiance zone).
- **Developer/Sponsor:** Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. – an independent power producer specializing in renewable energy.
- **Project Cost and Financing:** Total project cost is approximately ₹225.98 crore including a subsidy of 49.875 Cr. (1.05 Cr. per MW) (confidential; includes equity and debt). UCO Bank's green deposit-backed loan of ₹74.82 Cr is a part of the total financing of 175 Cr. The

Consortium led by Canara Bank constituted part of the debt portion, disbursed in phases as listed earlier. The promoter contributed the required equity, and any viability gap funding or government subsidy (if applicable) is documented (e.g., central financial assistance under renewable energy schemes).

- **Expected Lifetime:** 25 years of operation (typical PV plant life, with regular O&M).

Energy Generation: Based on solar resource assessment and the plant's design, the 47.5 MW solar installation, once fully commissioned, is expected to generate about **70 million kilowatt-hours (kWh)** of clean electricity per year upon complete commissioning of the project. This estimate corresponds to an annual capacity utilization factor in the range of ~17–20%, which is typical for solar PV in Gujarat's climatic conditions. However, with the phased commissioned capacity of 28 MW, the project has generated a total of **9210000 kwh (units) till March 2025**.

Emissions Avoided: The solar plant's output directly displaces electricity that would otherwise be generated from fossil fuel sources on the grid (predominantly coal-based generation in India's mix). Using an emission factor of approximately 708 grams (0.71kg) of CO₂ per kWh (the average carbon intensity of India's grid power), once fully commissioned, the project's annual emissions avoidance is estimated to land at around 49,500 tonnes of CO₂ per year (at CUF of 17%). **For the last financial year, at the commissioned capacity of 28 MW, the project has avoided about 6521 MT of CO₂.** Over the next 25 years, once fully commissioned, the project is expected to avoid of 1.2 million tonnes of CO₂ in its lifetime. In addition to CO₂, the project also helps reduce other pollution associated with thermal power generation (such as NO_x, SO₂, particulate matter), thereby contributing to cleaner air locally and regionally. The contribution of this single project to emissions reduction is a tangible step toward India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) goals and climate commitments.

Table 3 – Avoided Emission – Green Deposit Projects

Generation	9210000	kwh in FY'25
Grid Emission Factor	0.708	kgCO ₂ e/kwh
Avoided emissions per year	6520680	kg
(approx.)	6521	MT CO ₂ e
Energy Generation till Mar'25		
Location	Units Generated	Water Used
	kwh	KL
Botad-2	2550000	100
Dharwala	1140000	100
Gadhada	300000	100
Jalalpur	1120000	70
Lakheni	490000	80
Lathidad	1280000	70
Motivavdi	1010000	70
Salangpur	1320000	100
Total	9210000	690

***Source – Figures as provided by UCO bank team*

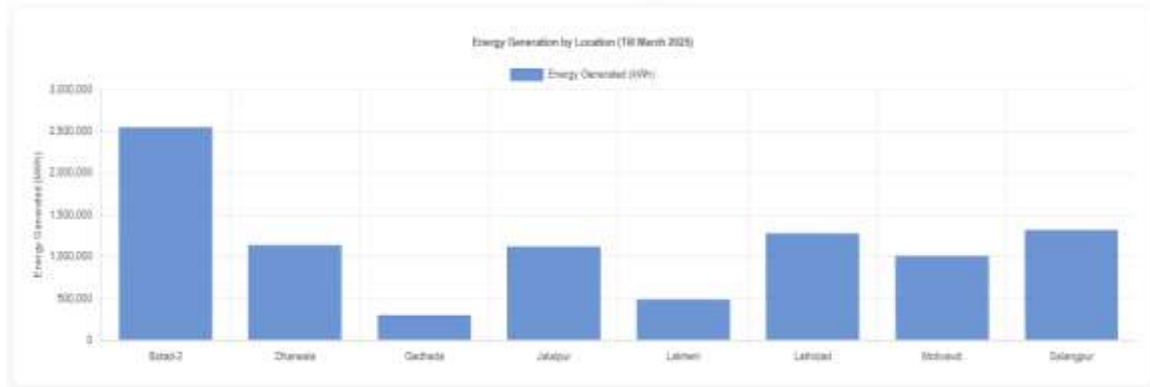


Figure 4 – Energy Generation Location till March 2025

Job Creation and Socioeconomic Impact: The construction of the solar plants provided a boost to the local economy through job creation and procurement of local services. The project realized around **52 on-site jobs** (direct workers) which were created during the peak construction phase of the project. These jobs included engineers, technicians, supervisors, and multiple semi-skilled and unskilled workers from nearby communities (for civil work, module installation, cabling, etc.). The project also indirectly supported additional employment off-site in manufacturing (solar module and component supply chain) and ancillary services (transportation, engineering services, etc.), though the additional indirect jobs which were created are not included in the above onsite job count.

Now that the plant is operational, it is supporting ongoing jobs for operations and maintenance. A team of around 10–15 full-time personnel are expected to manage the plant's operations over its life span – this includes plant managers, electrical engineers, technicians for module cleaning and maintenance, and security staff.

Beyond direct employment, the project has **social benefits**: the developer undertook local community engagement and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities such as training programs for some of the workers, improving local infrastructure (e.g., access roads), and contributing to village development needs (like installing solar streetlights in the vicinity). The infusion of construction workers and activity also benefited local businesses (e.g., suppliers, hospitality for workers, etc.) during the construction period. Overall, the project serves as a demonstration of the *positive social and economic impacts* that green investments can foster in addition to their environmental benefits.

Other Environmental Benefits: The solar project makes efficient use of land (with minimal ecological disturbance and mitigation measures in place for any affected vegetation). There are no significant air or water pollutants from the plant's operation. The project design includes environmental management measures such as rainwater harvesting, disposal/recycling plans for solar panels at end-of-life, and biodiversity-friendly site practices (e.g., maintaining ground cover

vegetation to prevent soil erosion). The successful commissioning of this plant contributes to **grid stability and energy security** by adding renewable capacity; given Gujarat's high solar irradiance, the project will supply more power during daytime peak demand. It also helps conserve water resources, as solar PV generation has negligible water usage compared to coal-fired power plants (thus indirectly supporting sustainable water use). These co-benefits align well with the intended outcomes of green deposit-funded activities, reinforcing the rationale for UCO Bank's financing choice.

6. Assurance and Audit Statement

Independent Third-Party Verification: In compliance with RBI's green deposit framework, UCO Bank engaged **Adfactors PR**, an **independent third-party assurance** to verify the allocation of green deposit funds and the integrity of this impact assessment. The external verifier reviewed the Bank's Green Deposit Policy, the list of nominated projects, and the evidence of funds flow, and has confirmed that UCO's green deposits for the period were **deployed in alignment with the Bank's policy and RBI's guidelines**. All green deposit proceeds have been traced to the solar project loan account, and no exceptions or discrepancies were found in the use-of-proceeds. The verifier also assessed the performance and outcomes of the project against the criteria defined for eligible green projects under the RBI framework.

Verifier – ESG Advisory Practice at Adfactors PR

Verification Date – 27 June 2025

Conclusion - Based on this review, the independent assurance report (issued April 2025) concludes that: *"UCO Bank's green deposits raised during FY2024-25 have been allocated to eligible green projects in accordance with UCO's Green Deposit Policy and the RBI's Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits, with no deviations or unutilized proceeds."*

This statement provides stakeholders confidence that the environmental claims (renewable energy generation and emissions reduction) are backed by actual project data and robust calculations. The full Third-Party Assurance Report is provided as an annexure to this document for reference.

Internal Audit and Controls: UCO Bank's Green Deposit have been audited and reported in public disclosures. UCO Bank has decided to put in place and build a mechanism of tagging and mapping its funds raised under green segment to the green Finances quarter on quarter basis for FY2024-25.

Additionally, UCO Bank monitors the credit and operational risk aspects of the green deposit deployment. All four disbursement tranches underwent the usual credit approval processes (per the loan agreement conditions), and the Bank ensured that the disbursed funds were utilized by the borrower for project expenses as intended (supported by invoices and CA certificates from the borrower for each tranche). RBI Framework Compliance UCO Bank's green deposit initiative and the financed solar project are **fully compliant with the RBI's Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits** (RBI circular dated 11 April 2023). Below is a summary of key compliance points:

- **Eligible Green Project Category:** The financed project clearly falls under *Renewable Energy*, one of the eligible categories defined by RBI. Specifically, RBI's framework (and UCO Bank policy) lists "solar energy projects" as eligible green activities. The 47.5 MW (Commissioned Capacity: 28MW) solar plant meets this criterion, contributing to renewable electricity generation. No portion of the funds was used for any activity outside the permitted list. Importantly, the project does **not involve any excluded sectors** such as fossil fuel-based operations or nuclear energy, which RBI explicitly disallows for green deposit use. Thus, the use of proceeds adheres to the positive list and avoids the negative list set by the regulator.
- **Board-Approved Policy:** UCO Bank had in place a duly approved **Green Deposit Policy FY2024-25**, as required by RBI. This policy was formulated to mirror RBI's framework and was approved by the Bank's Board prior to launching the product. It covers all necessary aspects – definitions of green deposits and green finance, governance structure, internal processes for evaluation and selection of projects, monitoring of proceeds, etc. The policy also commits to periodic review and updates in line with any further RBI or government guidelines, ensuring ongoing compliance.
- **Contribution to Climate Goals:** RBI's framework emphasizes mobilizing deposits for *climate risk mitigation, climate adaptation, and other environmental objectives*. The financed solar project contributes primarily to climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions (through replacement of fossil-fuel power) and aligns with national renewable energy targets. It also indirectly supports climate adaptation and sustainability through emissions reduction and conservation of resources (for example, reduced air pollution yields health benefits, and zero water use aids water conservation). This reflects compliance with the spirit of RBI's initiative – to channel funds into projects with clear environmental benefits.
- **Transparency & Disclosure:** In line with RBI requirements, UCO Bank has maintained transparency about its green deposit program. The Bank has documented the **list of green projects and the amounts allocated** to each and is disclosing this information in its annual report and this dedicated impact report. UCO reported the total green deposits raised and utilized in its financial statements notes for FY2024-25, as guided by RBI. This Impact

Assessment Report itself is part of compliance, addressing the requirement for annual impact disclosure to depositors and other stakeholders.

- **Third-Party Verification:** RBI mandates an **independent third-party verification** of the allocation of funds annually. UCO has complied by engaging an external assessor (as described in Section 5 above) to verify the fund usage and impact metrics. The conclusions of that verification attest to compliance with both UCO's policy and RBI's framework. The presence of this verification process is a direct fulfilment of the regulatory framework's requirements.

Overall, UCO Bank's actions under the green deposit program satisfy all major pillars of the RBI framework: having a clear policy, allocating funds to eligible green projects, avoiding restricted sectors, obtaining third-party assurance, and reporting outcomes. By adhering to these, UCO not only remains in regulatory compliance but also demonstrates its commitment to best practices in green finance.

7. UCO Bank's Internal Governance Framework for Green Deposits

UCO Bank has established a robust internal governance structure to implement and oversee the Green Deposit program, ensuring accountability at each stage – from deposit acceptance to project funding to impact reporting. Key elements of UCO's internal framework include:

- **Policy Governance and Implementation:** The Bank's *Resources Department* (which handles deposit products) along with the *Risk* and *Credit* team is responsible for rolling out the green deposit scheme as per the Board-approved policy. They coordinate with branches and marketing units to ensure the product is offered with appropriate disclosures to customers. All green deposits are coded distinctly in the Bank's systems to segregate them from general funds. The Bank's *Asset-Liability Committee (ALCO)* monitors the pricing and terms of green deposits, while ensuring they align with market conditions and any regulatory interest rate norms.
- **Project Evaluation and Selection:** UCO Bank evaluates the loan proposals for funding via green deposits. When a proposal such as the 47.5 MW solar plant comes up, the committee verifies that it meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the Green Deposit Policy (referencing the list of eligible sectors and checking for exclusions). The operating units present a justification for classifying a project as green, which is reviewed during credit appraisal. In the case of the solar project, it was straightforwardly approved as an eligible green project. The committee also ensures that the project has necessary environmental permits and does not pose significant ESG risks that could contradict the environmental objectives.

- **Use-of-Proceeds Management:** Upon sanction of the green loan the Bank manages the actual allocation of the collected green deposits to the project. UCO Bank links the green deposit liabilities to green asset (loan) exposures. As green deposits are collected, a running total of available green funds is tracked. When disbursements are made to the project, those are recorded against the green deposit pool. UCO Bank has decided to put in place and build a mechanism of tagging and mapping its funds raised under green segment to the green Finances quarter on quarter basis for FY2024-25. The said initiative will help for assessing the impact to the environment, Reporting and Disclosures to the top management, regulators and to external agencies.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** The Risk Management Department, in conjunction with the business units, continuously monitors the performance of the funded green project. They track key indicators such as project completion status, power generation data, and any revenue or repayment issues, as part of credit monitoring. For reporting, as per policy within **three months of the financial year-end** a comprehensive review report on the Green Deposit program will be prepared. This annual review covers: (a) the total green deposits raised in the year, (b) the list of projects and brief descriptions, (c) amounts allocated to each, and (d) the third- party verification and impact assessment results. The report will be published on the official website of UCO Bank and will be accessible to all stakeholders.
- **Transparency and Disclosures:** In addition to internal reports, UCO Bank has committed to making public disclosures about its green deposits. The Bank's Annual Report for FY2024-25 includes a section on Green Deposit in the Other Disclosures where the green deposit initiative is described, and key numbers (funds raised, sectors financed, etc.,) are detailed in the Annual Report under Section 14. Other Disclosures, sub-section (k) Portfolio - Level information on the use of Funds has been disclosed. This Impact Assessment Report will be made available to all green depositors and stakeholders, demonstrating the outcomes of their contributions. By institutionalizing these disclosure practices, UCO ensures compliance with RBI's transparency expectations and strengthens stakeholder trust. The report will be published on the official website of UCO Bank and will be accessible to all stakeholders.
- **Capacity Building and Training:** UCO Bank Risk and Resource Department is the owner of the Green Deposit framework. We recommend workshops be conducted for credit officers and branch managers to familiarize themselves with eligible green activities and the importance of accurate tagging and reporting. This internal capacity building is

recommended for the FY2025-26 onwards regularly as an integral part of the governance framework to ensure that the Green Deposit scheme is understood and implemented effectively across the bank.

Through the above measures, UCO Bank's internal governance ensures that the **environmental integrity of the green deposits is maintained**. The framework minimizes the risk of "greenwashing" (misrepresenting non-green loans as green) by requiring multi-level checks and documentation for any project to be classified as green. The involvement of the Board and senior management in oversight reflects a top-down commitment to the program's success. Collectively, these governance practices position UCO Bank as a responsible steward of green funds, in line with industry's best practices and regulatory expectations.

8. Conclusion

The Green Deposit Impact Assessment for UCO Bank's FY2024-25 green deposit deployment concludes that **the program has been highly effective and fully compliant**. UCO Bank successfully allocated all green deposit proceeds to an eligible solar energy project, thereby facilitating 47.5 MW (Commissioned: 28MW) of new renewable energy capacity.

This financing has yielded substantial positive impacts, including clean power generation and significant greenhouse gas emissions avoidance, while also contributing to local economic development through job creation. The deployment of funds was conducted under strict adherence to UCO's Green Deposit Policy and RBI's regulatory framework, with transparent tracking of proceeds and verification. Both third-party assurance and internal audits corroborate that there has been **no deviation from stated use of proceeds**, and that the funds have achieved the intended environmental benefits.

Careful governance and oversight have ensured that the risk of greenwashing is eliminated – the project financed is unquestionably green by definition and outcome. UCO Bank has thereby demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and accountability to depositors who entrusted their funds for green purposes. This impact report, modelled on best practices, provides stakeholders with a clear view of how their green deposits have been utilized and what the tangible results are achieved. Going forward, UCO Bank aims to continue scaling its green deposit portfolio, financing a diversified range of green projects (renewable energy and beyond) to further support India's transition to a low-carbon economy.

The Bank will maintain the same exacting standards of reporting and impact measurement in future periods. In summary, for the year under review, UCO Bank's Green Deposit initiative can be deemed a success – aligning financial strategy with environmental responsibility and setting a strong precedent for subsequent green financing endeavors.

9. Specific limitations and exclusions

Adfactors PR's green deposit impact analysis report is subject to the following limitations, as we have not been engaged to:

- UCO Bank's financial statements and economic performance
- Verify the UCO Bank's statements that describe the expression of opinion, belief, aspiration, expectation, aim or future intention or global socio-economic and environmental aspects provided by the UCO Bank.

10. Adfactors PR's responsibilities

Adfactors PR's responsibility is limited solely to providing an impact analysis for the deposit allocation in accordance with UCO Bank's Green Deposit Policy and the RBI Green Deposit Framework, based on the procedures performed and the evidence reviewed. This engagement was conducted by a multidisciplinary team comprising professionals with the appropriate expertise and experience in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices.

This Green Deposit Impact Assessment Report has been prepared exclusively for UCO Bank by our engagement team under an agreed arrangement for disclosure. Any party other than UCO Bank that gains access to or makes use of this report does so entirely at its own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Adfactors PR accepts no responsibility and disclaims all liability to any party other than UCO Bank for our work, this Green Deposit Impact Assessment Report, or the conclusions presented herein.

Verification Conclusion

Final Assessment: Based on the comprehensive verification process, Adfactors PR concluded that UCO Bank's green deposits raised during FY2024-25 have been allocated to eligible green projects in accordance with the Bank's Green Deposit Policy and the RBI's Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits, with no deviations or unutilized proceeds identified.

11. Annexures

- **Annexure 1: UCO Bank Green Deposit Policy (FY2024-25)** – The full policy document outlining the framework for green deposits, eligible categories, governance, etc., as approved by the Board.
- **Annexure 2: Project MOU/Loan Agreement** between UCO Bank and Indian Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. for the 47.5 MW Solar Power Project – detailing the terms of the loan, use of proceeds clause, and project details.
- **Annexure 3: Green Deposit Inflow and Outflow Statements** – a record of monthly green deposit mobilization (Aug 2024–Mar 2025) and the corresponding fund transfers to the project, extracted from UCO Bank's systems (transaction statements).
- **Annexure 4: Independent Third-Party Assurance Report** – the report issued by the external verifier (e.g., audit firm or sustainability consultant) that reviewed UCO's green deposit allocations and impact metrics.
- **Annexure 5: Project Impact Data Sheet** – a detailed data sheet for the solar project, including technical specifications, expected generation calculations, and the emissions reduction computation. (This may include the basis for assumptions like solar radiation, grid emission factor reference, etc.)
- **Annexure 6: Commissioning Certificate of the Solar Plant** – issued by the relevant authority or the project developer, certifying the date of commissioning and operational status plants adding to 47.5 MW (28MW till March 2025) plant (evidence that the project is completed and generating power).
- **Annexure 7: Chartered Accountant (CA) Utilization Certificates** – certificates from an independent CA confirming that each tranche disbursed by UCO Bank has been utilized for the approved project expenditures. Typically, these funds have been provided by the borrower for loan drawdowns, ensuring proceeds went into equipment procurement, construction, etc., in the solar project.
- **Annexure 8: Relevant Government Approvals/Letters** – for instance, any sanction letter of capital subsidy or viability gap funding for the project, and any key permissions (like environmental clearance or grid interconnection approval) to demonstrate the project's compliance and support from authorities.

(Note: Annexures 6–8 are supporting documents that strengthen the credibility of the impact assessment by providing evidence of project completion and proper use of funds.)

- **Annexure 9:** Projects Sanctioned and Funds Allocated in FY2024-25 with Sectoral Allocation

S. No.	RBI Category	Sub- Category	No. of Projects	Sanction in FY2024-25	Disbursement in FY2024-25	Project Completion	Remarks
1	Renewable Energy	Solar FCC/MC	3	1068	74.82	Yes – 1, No - 2	1 project is live - partial
2	Renewable Energy	Solar Wind FCC/MC	2	374	200	No	
3	Renewable Energy	Biomass – FC/MC Ethanol	6	685.19	309.90	No	
4	Renewable Energy	PM Kusum Scheme	-	-	-	No	Limited Data Available
5	Renewable Energy	PM – Suryodaya Scheme	1243	22.90	22.90	Yes	Limited Data Available
6	Clean Transport	E-Vahan	6	0.41	-	No	Limited Data Available
7	Clean Transport	EV – Loan	1193	180.47	-	No	Limited Data Available
Summary for FY2024-25		Projects	2453	2330.97	607.62		

- **Annexure 10:** The evidence is prepared and managed by the Risk, Credit and Resource Department at UCO Bank.

12. Sources

1. Reserve Bank of India – Framework for Acceptance of Green Deposits, April 2023 (referenced in UCO Bank policy).
2. UCO Bank – Policy on Green Deposits (FY2024-25), Board Approved, 2023 (internal policy extract).
3. State Bank of India – Green Deposit Impact Analysis Report (Jan 2024–Mar 2025), Care Edge Advisory, 2025 (for format and comparative data).
4. International Association for Impact Assessment – Solar Power Project Case Example, 2020 (generation capacity of 47.5 MW plant ~70 million kWh/year when fully commissioned).
5. Climate Transparency Report 2019 – India Country Profile (electricity grid emission factor ~708 gCO₂/kWh).

6. Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) – Jobs, Growth and Sustainability Report, 2020 (employment factor ~3.45 jobs per MW for utility-scale solar).
7. RBI Notification – Disclosure Format for Green Deposits Allocation (sector-wise allocation table template).

Additional Supporting Evidence to be Collected (for due diligence and to substantiate future reporting and audits):

- **Project Performance Reports:** Periodic generation reports from the solar plant (monthly or quarterly energy output data) to verify that the projected environmental benefits (e.g., MWh generated, CO₂ abated) are being realized in operation. This data will feed into subsequent impact reports and allow adjustment of estimates if needed.
- **Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Records:** Documentation of the O&M arrangements, including any contracts with O&M service providers, staffing details, and maintenance logs. This helps in confirming that adequate resources are in place to sustain the project's performance over its lifetime (aligning with long-term impact expectations).
- **Site Visit Reports/Photographic Evidence:** Internal or external site visit reports (with photographs) to visually verify the existence of solar installation, the status of the panels and inverters, and any notable environmental or community features. Such evidence can be used in future impact communications and serves as audit support.
- **Environmental Compliance Records:** Copies of compliance reports related to environmental and social safeguards – for example, pollution control board consents, wildlife assessments (if any), and implementation of environmental management plan measures. Ensuring these are in order reinforces that the project's green impact is not undermined by any unforeseen negative environmental issues.
- **Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) & Revenue Statements:** The signed PPA for the project (to confirm that the energy is being sold to the grid/off-taker) and periodic revenue or billing statements. These indicate the project's financial health and indirectly confirm energy delivery (as revenue is linked to kWh supplied). This is pertinent to assess ongoing viability and sustained impact.
- **Beneficiary Testimonials or Case Study:** It may be useful to collect qualitative evidence of impact, such as statements from the local community or workers about how the project has benefited them (e.g., employment opportunities, local development). While not strictly required by RBI, such evidence can enrich future reports and demonstrate the broader value of UCO's green financing.
- **PM Suryadoya and PM Kusum:** The projects aligned under the projects will be in requirement to maintain additional data to be used in the calculation of Emissions avoided. Such as follows: Date of Disbursement, Date of Installation – complement record, Installed Capacity, Captive or Connected to the Grid, Generation commencement, Net metering bills to tally generation and calculate avoided emissions.
- **PM Vahan, EV Vehicles:** The projects are to be aligned with the subcategory of Clean Transportation – EV Vehicles to be included in the Green Deposit Deployment and recorded as per RBI Requirements. For the calculation: Date of purchase and fund disbursement, the size of the vehicles (Hatchback, Sedan, SUV), Kms covered(average), Battery and Range (Manufacturer Information), Average unit cost of electricity.



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