



## IAPRI 2024 SPAIN - Report

1. This year's IAPRI Conference was part of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of **ITENE** where they honoured their founders and ex-directors as well during the official dinner. **ITENE** is a technological centre specialising in R & D in packaging, logistics, transport and mobility, which was set up as a private Spanish non-profit association, founded on 30 May 1994.
2. Theme for this year's conference was to "**Show how Knowledge and Technology make an impact to build a Safer and More Sustainable Future**". The conference sessions were conducted at SH Valencia Palace - a 5-star Hotel in Valencia.
3. Over 300 delegates attended the event as this was a World Packaging Conference open to anyone, unlike the alternate Members' Conference. It was touted as the largest ever attendance in IAPRI history by the organisers. Majority of the participants (about 90%) were from the Europe, followed by US and other Asian countries. There were many delegates from US / European companies / organisations who were offered 25% discounted registration fees.
4. **Day 1 (June 17)** - Morning included an optional 1.5-hour tour to the ITENE Center located at Paterna (10km from the Conference Hotel) through buses arranged by the organisers. The ITENE Center has about 200 employees working on Packaging Testing, R&D and providing technical assistance for innovation and technology in 5000m<sup>2</sup> of laboratories and pilot plants, equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The afternoon of day 1 had the regular working group meetings at the conference hotel on packaging sustainability, materials, distribution, and university education. The evening saw welcome reception at another Hotel Atic Palau Alameda.



5. **Day 2 (June 18)** - The inauguration of the conference was conducted at the Oceanografic Auditorium (inside Europe's largest aquarium in Valencia), with keynotes from European Commission on their new PPWR regulations and on safety of packaging materials by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The Social Dinner was arranged in the evening at Hotel Contrapunto, with views of Valencia's iconic City of Arts and Sciences.

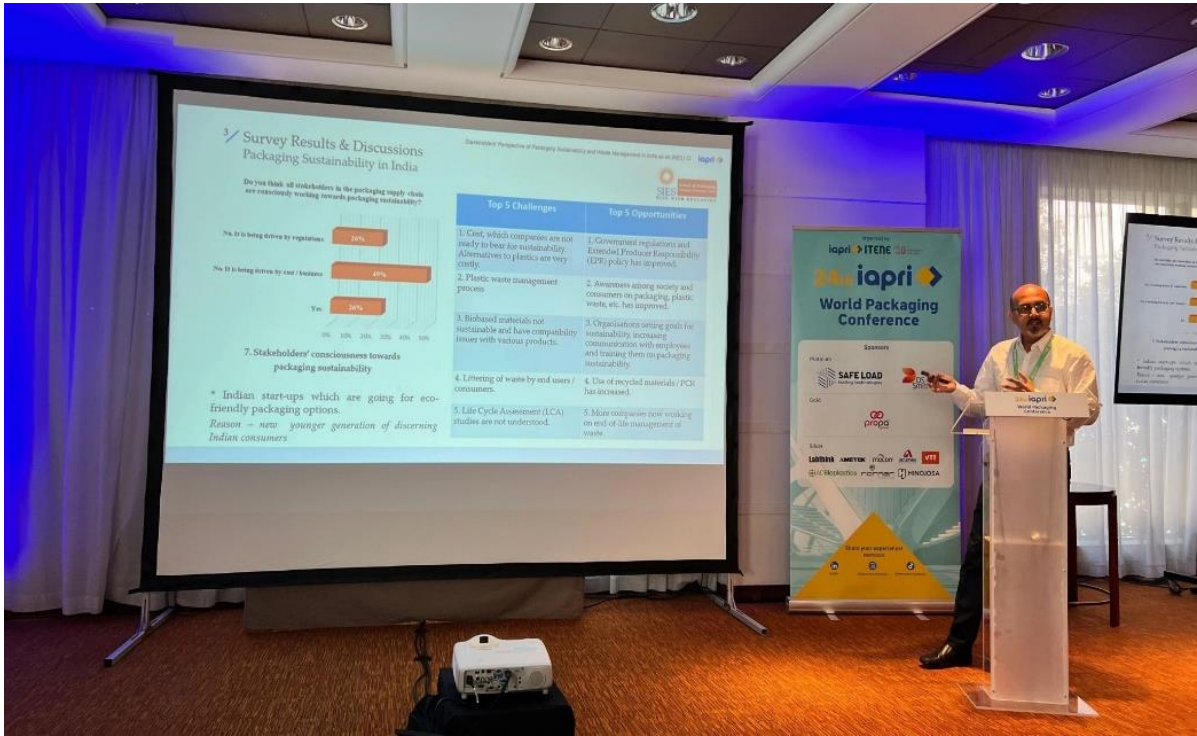




6. **Day 3 (June 19)** - Started with the parallel presentation sessions and the evening saw the Official Dinner arranged at Campo Aníbal celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ITENE.



7. **Day 4 (June 20)** - Morning session saw the last parallel presentations, including the presentation of SIES SOP Director Prof. Prasad Iyer's paper on "**Stakeholders' Perspective of Packaging Sustainability and Waste Management in India as on 2023**". It was well received by the delegates. The conference closure happened at 2pm followed by the IAPRI General Meeting.



8. The **32<sup>nd</sup> Member Conference** - will take place in Roanoke, Virginia, USA, June 9-13, 2025, hosted by **Virginia Tech's Center for Packaging and Unit Load Design** as presented during the Conference closure. The theme for this member-only conference will be **"The Future of Packaging is Circular"**.

- \* - \* -