

Circular Economy Webinar Session 4 Key Summary:

DATA ROOM

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

A Pre-launch for the Circular Plastics Economy e-Learning Course

25 August 2022

Speakers:

Diane Archer, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environmental Institute Asia, Thailand Anna Itkin, Managing Partner, The Inceptery Pte Ltd., Singapore Christina Chun-Ling Ho, Senior Specialist, TEPA, Taipei,China Orathai Pongruktham, Advisor, Thailand Environment Institute, Thailand Viganda Varabuntoonvit, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, Kasetsart University Lerwen Liu, Managing Director, STEAM Platform, KX Innovation Center

About the Course: Launched in 2022 by the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), the <u>Circular</u> <u>Economy e-Learning Course</u>, focuses on plastic circularity, addressing plastic pollution issues in the region, and developing effective policies and implementation strategies. The course was designed to follow the life cycle of plastic, covering extraction of natural resources, production, distribution, use, waste management (reduce, reuse, recycle), and recovery of energy and composting.

Key Takeaways

e-Learning Course Structure:

- 1. **Policy Challenge Towards Achieving Circularity with Plastics** by Diane Archer, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environmental Institute Asia Thailand
 - a. This module emphasizes the importance of global and national policy frameworks in achieving circularity with plastics. It discusses regulations related to plastic production, consumption, and waste management. It also explores the role of technology and changing behavior in achieving circularity goals.
 - b. It highlights the role of the informal sector in waste management and the need to integrate informal waste workers into formal waste management systems.
 - c. To facilitate waste management, it is crucial to address consumption beahvious at the household level. Encouraging waste sorting and reduction before disposal can help streamline the waste management process and improve recycling rates.
- 2. Policy Implementation Mechanisms & Challenges and Consumer Behavior of TEPA by Christina Chun-Ling Ho, Senior Specialist, TEPA
 - a. This module highlights the implementation of laws to reduce single-use plastic products, as well as challenges particularly in plastic recycling and establishing efficient recycling systems and how providing incentives to waste holders can address these challenges.

INTERNAL. This information is accessible to ADB Management and staff. It may be shared outside ADB with appropriate permission.



- b. **The focus is on promoting green design practices** throughout the entire product lifecycle, including production, consumption, and packaging.
- 3. **Public-Private Partnership and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Building** by Orathai Pongruktham, Advisor, Thailand Environment Institute
 - a. The module highlights the role of public-private partnerships in promoting circularity and entrepreneurship in the plastic industry. It discusses collaboration between governments, businesses, and citizens to create a secondary materials market and develop innovative business models. The PPP approach emphasizes integrating entrepreneurship and private sector involvement in implementing sustainable solutions.
- 4. **Circular Business Models: Barriers & Enablers for Circular Economy** by Anna Itkin, Managing Partner, The Inceptery Pte Ltd Singapore
 - a. This module introduces what a circular business model is and its importance in achieving a circular economy. It emphasizes the need for innovation, appropriate policies, and collaboration to transform current business practices into circular models.
 - b. The module highlights the importance of policy, behavioral, and educational actions in supporting the transition to a circular economy. The role of policies can either be barriers or enablers for circular economy adoption. Collaboration and strategies across society, companies, governments, and citizens are also highlighted as crucial in driving circularity.
- 5. **Plastic Life Cycle, Value and Supply Chain, and Impact** Viganda Varabuntoonvit, Chemical Engineering Department, Kasetsart University, Thailand
 - a. The module includes an overview of the lifecycle of plastic, from material extraction to recycling. It explores the environmental impact of plastic throughout its lifecycle and compares different recycling technologies. The importance of managing the plastic supply chain and addressing environmental impacts is emphasized.
- 6. ESG Financing for Re-usable Packaging for e-Commerce Pei-Tsz (Amy) Sun, Researcher, ESG Center of National Tsing Hua University / Presented by Lerwen Liu, Managing Director, STEAM Platform, KX Innovation Center
 - a. This module gives an overview of a case study on a circular business model used by a company named PackAge+. The company's business model focuses on B2B sustainable supply chain management. They take care of the packaging solution from design to distribution and maintenance, emphasizing sustainability in the process.
 - **b.** The company provides stores with an eco-friendly way of shipping goods by using reusable packaging.

Watch the Recording here

INTERNAL. This information is accessible to ADB Management and staff. It may be shared outside ADB with appropriate permission.