



ADB Regional Workshop *Strategies for Plastic Waste Data Collection and Management: Foundations for National and City Action Plans*

CONCEPT NOTE

Date: 10 October

Time: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

Format: In Person and Online

Venue: Holiday Inn Bangkok Sukhumvit

Background

Robust monitoring of marine litter in the environment over time, assessments of waste leakage, and identifying sources of plastic pollution are key for evidence-based mitigation efforts and for tracking effectiveness of interventions to reduce plastic pollution and marine litter over time. However, while national monitoring efforts and programs exist in countries in Southeast Asia, data collection efforts are often fragmented and conducted on an ad hoc basis linked to one-off initiatives or development cooperation projects. It is currently almost impossible to compare plastic pollution project data within or across countries, as there is no coherence of methods and indicators used and findings are not collected and managed in a systematic way at national level. As plastic pollution is a transboundary issue, data comparability is important to address sources and track effective action at local, national, regional and global level.

Workshop Objectives

Recognizing these challenges, the Asian Development Bank, in collaboration with the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), is hosting a regional capacity building workshop: *Strategies for Plastic Waste Data Collection and Management: Foundations for National and City Action Plans*, on 10 October 2023, in Bangkok, Thailand. This one-day workshop is for government officials from Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam as part of the knowledge program of ADB's Technical Assistance: Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific and all COBSEA countries. Through a series of expert led presentations, case studies and group discussions the workshop aims to:

1. Provide an overview by experts of the tools and approaches available for monitoring and assessment of plastic pollution and marine litter for evidence-based action for countries to apply to their specific contexts.
2. Share examples by experts of how methods, tools and approaches have been applied in specific country contexts for participants to learn about best practices and challenges.
3. Share the perspectives of stakeholders at different levels, from governments to communities, to understand successes and capacity needs for data management, monitoring and evaluation of initiatives, and evidence-based policy making, as well as understand how development partners can support countries further.

Establishing national baselines and frameworks for regular monitoring and data management are a precursor to evaluation of policy effectiveness. Any intervention, whether a single-use plastic ban, extended producer responsibility scheme, or other initiative, should be underpinned by baseline data to prioritize effective action and inform continuous improvement.

BANGKOK PLASTICS WEEK

9–12 October 2023 • Bangkok, Thailand



PROGRAM AGENDA (as of 21 September 2023)

Strategies for Plastic Waste Data Collection and Management: Foundations for National and City Action Plans

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Venue: Holiday Inn Bangkok Sukhumvit

TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
8:00–8:30	Registration	
9:00–9:20	Welcome Remarks and Preliminaries	
	Introduction	Erin Sinogba Project and Knowledge Management Lead TA on Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific ADB
	Opening Remarks	Jay Roop Deputy Country Director Thailand Resident Mission ADB
	Opening Remarks	Mahesh Pradhan Coordinator Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) United Nations Environment Programme, Thailand
	Training Overview	Erin Sinogba, ADB
9:20–9:30	GROUP PHOTO	
9:30–10:30	SESSION 1: Overview of Approaches: Collecting Data Along the Plastic Value Chain	
	Harmonizing monitoring of plastic pollution in the environment – key takeaways from 9 October workshop	Natalie Harms Lead, Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) United Nations Environment Programme, Thailand
	Plastic Waste Data Collecting Approaches and Experiences	Marie Gouttebroze Project Manager Waste and Energy Recovery Department SEURECA- Veolia
	<i>Facilitated Discussion</i>	
10:30–10:45	COFFEE BREAK	
10:45–12:15	SESSION 2: Formal and Informal Waste Management: Working on the Ground and Overcoming Challenges	
	Plastic Waste Data Collection: Current Practices, Key Challenges and Strategies	Prof. Visvanathan Chettiyappan Professor Mahidol University, Thailand

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TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
	<i>Facilitated Discussion</i>	
	Plastic Waste Data Integration for EPR Implementation by Cities: Experiences from Healthy Oceans and Clean Cities Initiative (HOCCI)	Charlyn Pendang Coordinator, HOCCI UN-Habitat Philippines
	<i>Facilitated Discussion</i>	
	Digital Solutions for Plastic Waste Data Collection & Waste Flow Monitoring	Dr. Kavinda Gunasekara Manager and Chief Operating Officer Global Water and Sanitization Center Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
12:15–13:15	LUNCH	
13:15–15:00	SESSION 3: National Plastic Data Management: Approaches to Action Plans	
	<i>Panel Discussion with</i>	
	Heidi Savelli-Soderberg Chief, a.i., Source to Sea Pollution Unit, Ecosystems Division UNEP	Siddarth Hande Founder and CEO Kabadiwalla Connect, India
	Focus: National Source Inventories & GPML Global Digital Platform and Data Hub	Focus: Scaling Up Plastic Waste Collection with Better Informal Sector Data: Case Study & Lessons Learned
	Nguyen Thi Thu Trang Co-Founder and Deputy Director Centre for Supporting Green Development (GreenHub), Hanoi, Viet Nam	
	Focus: Developing a National Waste Data Platform: Experience and Recommendations	
	<i>Facilitated Discussion</i>	
15:00–15:30	COFFEE BREAK	
15:30–16:30	SESSION 4: Moving Forward: Addressing Needs, Building Opportunities, and Working with Partners	
	ADB Support and the Global Plastics Treaty	Rocky Guzman International Governance, Policy, and Legal Consultant TA on Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific ADB
	<i>Facilitated Discussion</i>	
	Introduction to Working Group 3, Global Plastics Summit	Natalie Harms COBSEA, UNEP

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TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
16:30–16:40	Closing Remarks	James Baker Senior Circular Economy Specialist (Plastic Wastes) Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department ADB
17:00	NETWORKING RECEPTION	

Expert Informed Discussions

This event also brings together leading experts who will participate in facilitated session discussions. They will provide insights and answer questions relevant to their areas of expertise. They include:

1. Yumi Nishikawa, WWF Plastic Smart Cities Lead (Asia)
2. Marilyn Mercado, WWF Plastic Policy Asia Coordinator
3. Raja Asvanon, Research Associate, Stockholm Environment Institute
4. Liviana Zorzi, Specialist, National Plastic Action Partnership, Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP), World Economic Forum
5. Panate Manomaivibool, Assistant Professor, Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand

Knowledge Partner: COBSEA

The Twenty-fifth Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM 25) of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) adopted [Regional Guidance on Harmonized National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes](#) to strengthen monitoring efforts based on individual country capacities in line with global best practice and international guidelines. COBSEA has also held a series of training sessions on marine litter monitoring methods at national and regional level and conducted baseline surveys in five countries in South-East Asia. *Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter: Methods for Comparable Data Collection to Prioritize and Evaluate Interventions*, is part of COBSEA's ongoing efforts to build country capacity on data analysis to evaluate effectiveness of interventions, and to further harmonize monitoring efforts at regional level.

Event Organizer: Seureca in consortium with DT Global

Seureca is the Consulting Engineering and Strategic and Operational Assistance division of the Veolia Group. Striving for Ecological Transformation, they assist clients in a transition towards a more sustainable economy and a positive footprint. Seureca designs solutions adapted to today's environmental challenges in the fields of Water, Energy, Waste Recovery and Recycling for industries, public authorities, as well as the tertiary sector.

DT Global is an international development consultancy based in the UK with 10 offices across the world. DT Global has partnered with communities, governments, aid organizations, and the private sector to develop engineered infrastructure projects, as well as the associated management and institutional arrangements to deliver public services and attract investment.