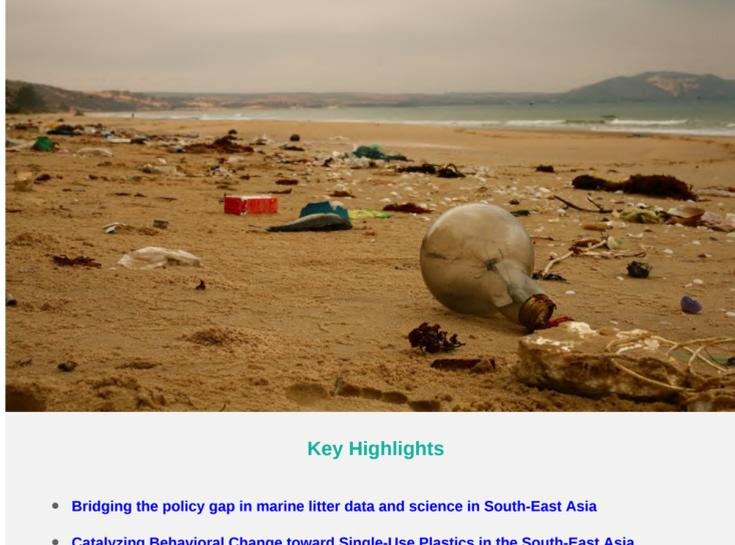


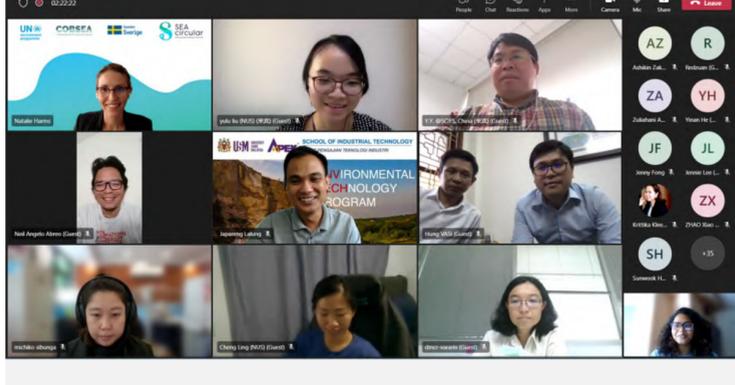
SEA circular is an initiative of the UN Environment Program and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) to inspire market-based solutions and encourage enabling policies to prevent marine plastic pollution and less plastic wasted in South-East Asia

**Newsletter - April 2022**



**Key Highlights**

- [Bridging the policy gap in marine litter data and science in South-East Asia](#)
- [Catalyzing Behavioral Change toward Single-Use Plastics in the South-East Asia](#)
- [Building Foundation for a Robust National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme in the South-East Asia](#)
- [Ending Plastic Pollution Using 10 Acceleration Solutions](#)
- [Promoting the International Legally Binding Instrument to End Plastic Pollution in the South-East Asia](#)



**Bridging the Policy Gap in Marine Litter Data and Science in South-East Asia**

Under the SEA circular project, the COBSEA Secretariat and the National University of Singapore (NUS) held a [regional virtual consultation](#) on April 20, 2022 with participating countries of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and stakeholders from academia to introduce the expanded regional marine litter research inventory and [online research database](#).

[Read more](#)



**Ending Plastic Pollution Using 10 Acceleration Solutions**

The SEA of Solutions (SOS) 2021 event closed with 10 acceleration solutions through in-depth and constructive dialogues, which set the benchmark for stepping up collective actions to end plastic pollution. These solutions were identified during the three-day programme....

[Read the report](#)

**Catalyzing Behavioral Change toward Single-Use Plastics in South-East Asia**

100 days to #BeatPlasticPollution campaign in 2021 helped the SEA circular project to reach over 21 million people with its message, stop using single-use plastics. The campaign was run on social media and encouraged the consumers to avoid plastics that are hard to recycle or reuse....

[Read the report](#)



**Promoting the International Legally Binding Instrument to End Plastic Pollution in South-East Asia**

Ms. Kamala Ernest, SEA circular Project Coordinator was invited on [Astro AWANI show](#), [#ConsiderThis](#), to discuss about the plastic resolution, which was endorsed by the representatives from 175 nations during the UN Environment Assembly 5.2 on 2nd March 2022



**Building Foundation for a Robust National Marine Litter Monitoring Program in South-East Asia**

In partnership with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), the COBSEA Secretariat held a regional consultation on April 04, 2022 with SEA circular project target countries to discuss planned activities on marine litter monitoring in 2022.....

[Read More](#)



A joint webinar was organized by International Labor Organization, OECD and SEA circular, UNEP on *Addressing Plastic Waste Through Responsible Business Conduct: Shifting Towards Circularity in South-East Asia*. SEA circular presented about the efforts to support EPR implementation and how EPR & Human Rights Based Approach in the plastic value chain helps the private sector address and achieve responsible business conduct. There were discussions on responsible business conduct (RBC), and Circular Economy and Plastics at the OECD. A panel discussion was also held where three of the panelists were from current and past SEA circular project partners, ie Prof. Sara Seck from Dalhousie University, Josephine Tan from Penang Green Council, and Indah Budiani from Indonesia Business Council for Sustainable Development.



**In the Philippines**

The SEA circular project partner WWF-Philippines has launched the EPR project on January 20, 2022 in the presence of media and different stakeholders with an aim to establish EPR roadmap through developing toolkits that will help align all stakeholder groups about EPR and their role.



**In Indonesia**

Another EPR project was launched in Indonesia on January 18, 2022 in partnership with Indonesia Business Council for Sustainable Development (IBCSO). This project will primarily focus on the establishment of a multi-stakeholder working group, enablement of and capacity building on EPR and Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) for achieving the Indonesian National Action Plan on Marine Plastic Debris and capturing circularity opportunities.

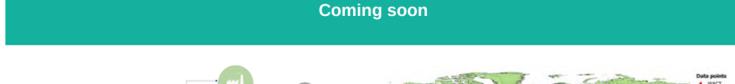


**Situational Analysis on Plastic Credits and Recommendations towards a Harmonized Approach**

The study is expected to bring about a better understanding on the credit mechanism and recommendations on what it should address, to be effective for stakeholders, decision, and policy makers. This project will contribute to the ten solutions summarized for the Sea of Solutions 2021, namely towards the solution of "functional circular solutions".

**Second Phase: Multi-country Business and Consumer Surveys 2022**

The second phase of the [multi-country consumer and business awareness surveys](#) is being conducted in 2022 in partnership with Food Industry Asia (FIA) conducted to understand consumer and business attitudes towards plastic waste, how they are currently tackling plastic waste issues as well as perspectives on how to best tackle plastic waste. The report will provide insights on the gaps and recommendations for Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.



**Material Flow and Value Chain Analysis Report in Thailand**

Material Flow Analysis (MFA) is used to monitor the physical flows and stocks of single-use plastics in Thailand through the production, consumption and waste management processes to address marine litter pollution, and to better understand the factors that contribute to pollution prevention and to identify appropriate responses.



**Modeling of Plastic Pollution Hotspots with a Focus on the East Asian Seas**

This report will provide an overview of the University of Leeds' regional hotspot modelling, and convey its global estimates of the SDG 11.6.1 indicators and associated plastic pollution. Particular focus is additionally provided to the East Asia Seas countries.

**About SEA circular project**

The SEA circular project – Reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in Southeast Asia is implemented by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), with funding support from the Government of Sweden. SEA circular aims to reduce and prevent plastic pollution and its impact by working with governments, businesses, civil society, academia, and international partners. The initiative promotes market-based solutions and enabling policies to transform plastic value-chain management, strengthens the science base for informed decision making, creates outreach and awareness. The project leverages COBSEA's regional mechanism to tackle the transboundary challenge of marine litter in a harmonized manner.

**contact us**

Website: [www.sea-circular.org](http://www.sea-circular.org)

Email: [sea-circular@un.org](mailto:sea-circular@un.org)

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