SEAcircular
Reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in South East Asia

Thailand Stakeholder Consultation
7 June 2019, The Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok
marine litter is everywhere
environmental, social and economic impact

• ingestion, entanglement and smothering
• loss of life or injury at sea
• micro- and nanoplastics in seafood
• flooding damage due to blocked storm drains
• vector-borne diseases such as dengue
• tourism and loss of recreational value
Global plastic production...

Million tonnes, 2013

- North America: 49
- EU: 50
- China: 62
- Japan: 11
- Middle East and Africa: 18
- Commonwealth of Independent States: 7
- Asia (excluding China and Japan): 41

...and future trends

Million tonnes

- 1950
- 1970
- 1990
- 2010
- 2030
- 2050

why?

- Consumer behavior: from adoption to addiction
- Plastics are immensely versatile
- Policy and regulation not keeping pace with development
- Long-term implications poorly understood / not considered
- Environmental and social cost of plastics not internalized
Marine litter in SEA

- Rapid growth in plastic production and use
- Inadequate management of solid waste and wastewater
- High production and use of plastics that end up as marine litter
- Patchy data and information: marine litter status, loading and sources
Reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in South East Asia

- A regional approach, developed in the context of the COBSEA Regional Action Plan and supporting the ASEAN Framework for Action on Marine Debris
- Focus on the plastic value chain, interventions designed and implemented with an understanding of land-sea interactions, and towards a circular economy
- A multi-stakeholder partnership: government, private sector and civil society
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Purpose</th>
<th>To reduce adverse impact of marine litter by reducing plastic leakage from land contributing to implementation of COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, UNEA resolutions as well as SDG Targets 14.1; 12.4 and 12.5; and 17.17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead Partners</td>
<td>UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)</td>
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<td>Duration</td>
<td>54 Months, inception phase 2018, implementation phase 2019-2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>USD 6.4 Million provided by Sida</td>
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| Outputs        | 1. Market-based solutions towards reducing plastic waste  
2. Strengthening the scientific basis for decision-making  
3. Outreach and training to create an enabling environment  
4. Regional networking for effective and coherent action                                                                                          |
| Cross-cutting  | Human rights-based approach, Gender mainstreaming                                                                                                                                                |
1. Market-based solutions
   - Stakeholders measure and report plastic footprint
   - Stakeholders manage their plastic value chain
   - Business incentives for plastic reduction and recycling

2. Science-basis for decision making
   - Assessment of plastic leakage and hotspots
   - Marine litter monitoring at national and regional levels
   - Research collaboration and publishing
   - Policy obstacles and opportunities identified

3. Outreach
   - Social and economic impacts better understood
   - Targeted training
   - Outreach campaigns/consumer awareness
   - Enabling policy change

4. Regional networking
   - Policy dialogue and constituency engagement
   - Regionally coherent national plans and policies
   - Information sharing and stakeholder engagement

Outputs:

- Variety of non-plastic and recycled plastic packaging increases
- Elimination of single use plastics from selected value chains
- Plastic segregation at source and recycling rates increase
- Strengthened policy and fiscal incentives to reduce virgin plastic use
- Growing consumer demand for plastic pollution reduction

Impact:

- Less plastic wasted, with reduced input to and impact on the marine environment as well as dependent people
This consultation

• introduce the project and implementation partners in Thailand
• receive feedback on project strategy, approaches, and plans in Thailand
• explore opportunities for collaboration with other initiatives and partners

Participants:
• national and local government,
• private sector,
• academia, civil society organizations in Thailand,
• UN agencies & other inter-governmental agencies