



# 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











#### The impact of plastic pollution on oceans is at least \$8 bn per year Natural capital cost of marine plastic pollution by consumer product sector **Automobiles** Consumer electronics Furniture Medical and pharma- 65 ceutical products 86 Athletic goods Durable household goods Restaurants Toys Clothing and accessories Footwear 334 Personal care products 345 734 Retail Non-durable 902 household goods Food Soft drinks and ice 3 135 Million dollars 1 370 Source: UNEP, Valuing Plastic, 2014

### 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... 1 800 Million tonnes, 2013 Commonwealth of Independent States EU Japan 11 50 62 North America China Middle East and Africa Asia (excluding China Latin 1 000 -America 800 -600 -...and future trends Million tonnes 400 -200 1970 1950 1990 2010 2030 2050

Source: Ryan, A Brief History of Marine Litter Research, in M. Bergmann, L. Gutow, M. Klages (Eds.), Marine Anthropogenic Litter, Berlin Springer, 2015; Plastics Europe

## why?

plastics are Immensely versatile

long-term implications poorly understood / not considered

consumer behavior: from adoption to addiction

policy and regulation not keeping pace with development

environmental and social cost of plastics not internalized

# Plastic sources Fishing intensity Coastal\* inputs Impervious surface in watersheds Shipping

#### 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







Project Purpose	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
Lead Partners	UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
Duration	54 Months, inception phase 2018, implementation phase 2019-2022
Funding	USD 6.4 Million provided by Sida
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











Outputs

Outcomes

**Impact** 

#### 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

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

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





### contact us: unep-cobsea@un.org

www.cobsea.org www.unenvironment.org











