



SEAcircular

promoting inclusive solutions & sustainable
business models:
the right to a clean and healthy environment

7 June 2019, The Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok

human rights & the environment

the right to a clean & safe environment & functioning ecosystems

life

health

food

clean water &
sanitation

adequate living
standards

non-
discrimination



unsustainable resource management & pollution threaten ecosystems & the services they provide

→ threaten marine life, human health, tourism, fisheries, resilience...

→ threaten the enjoyment of human rights

discriminate impacts of pollution

- 1) Women, men & children are exposed to different risks:
 - Gendered use and disposal of plastic products
 - Health risks of hormone disrupting chemicals
- 2) Informal waste workers are key for plastic waste management:
 - recycling & recovery relies on unrecognized services of the urban poor
 - risks to health and livelihoods
 - majority of waste workers are women
- 3) Way of life in coastal communities & small-scale fishers under threat
 - decreased fish catch
 - damage to equipment & danger of injury

inclusive & equitable solutions

→ tackle root causes of discriminate impacts, address needs & capacities of vulnerable & disadvantaged groups

1) Participation & empowerment

- engage waste picker representatives to identify inclusive solutions
- targeted outreach to all consumer groups for behaviour change

2) Accountability & transparency

- raise awareness of human rights obligations & build capacity
- identify and take into account discriminate impacts

3) Non-discrimination & equality

- targeted support, gender-sensitive language, accessibility

Thank you!

contact us: unep-cobsea@un.org

discussion

- What is your organization doing to address human rights along the plastic value chain (including national action plans, corporate social responsibility strategies, collaboration with UN partners to apply Guiding Principles etc.)?
- Who is / what groups are most impacted by mismanagement of plastics? How can we engage them in finding solutions that meet their needs and interests?
- Which stakeholders / organizations could we involve to reach vulnerable groups and include their voice?
- What gaps and challenges exist and how can this project support capacity building and awareness-raising for human rights (trainings, tools, dialogues)?