

Meeting Report

Thailand Stakeholder Consultation on reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic waste chain in South East Asia

7 June 2019, The Sukosol Hotel Bangkok, Thailand



Summary

The consultation on reducing marine litter by addressing the management of the plastic value chain in South East Asia was organized by the UN Environment Programme (UN Environment), the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East of Asia (COBSEA), and the Thai Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), supported by the Government of Sweden, on 7 June 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. A wide range of delegates attended, from local government, private sector, academia, civil society organizations, UN agencies and other intergovernmental agencies.

The meeting provided an opportunity for stakeholders and partners to learn about the SEA circular project and to give their feedback on planned activities in Thailand, to share their initiatives addressing plastic value chain management, and to explore opportunities for collaboration. In plenary, UN Environment, COBSEA and MONRE shared updates from the project and the current status of the policy landscape in Thailand, followed by presentations from government and private sector partners on local implementation of national targets and market-based solutions to reduce and prevent plastic waste. The meeting introduced issues of impact monitoring and presented the new project branding, before discussing measures to promote people-centred solutions and sustainable business models. In the afternoon, participants engaged in group discussions on market-based solutions, data needs, outreach, and constituency engagement through the SEA of Solutions week. The consultation was followed by a closed-door meeting of implementing partners to discuss modalities of collaboration.

The consultation demonstrated increased awareness for marine litter issues across relevant stakeholder groups, showcased the development of an enabling policy landscape in Thailand and the willingness of producers, retailers, and waste management actors to invest in innovative solutions for circularity and prevention of plastic pollution. The discussions provided valuable inputs to the project team to further develop planned activities and strengthen partnerships to achieve project results in Thailand.

Key messages:

- Multi-stakeholder partnerships across the plastic value chain are key to solving the challenge of marine litter and plastic pollution. Private sector investment is critical for transformative change.
- The Thai Government has entered into a Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Plastic and Waste Management (PPP Plastic) with the Plastic Industry Club, the Federation of Thai Industries and other partners from the private sector and civil society to reduce marine plastic pollution in Thailand by at least 50 per cent by 2027.
- The Thai Government and stakeholders are determined to succeed in phasing out seven types of plastic items over the next four years (in 2019: plastic cap seals in water bottles, oxo-degradable plastics, and plastic microbeads; by 2022: plastic bags less than 36 microns in

thickness, Styrofoam food boxes, plastic straws, and single-use plastic cups) and use 100 per cent recycled plastic by 2027.

- Thailand is working towards a plastic circular economy model of reducing the use of new raw materials in production, increasing product recycling, and upgrading technology to maximize efficiency. Rayong Province is one of the locations piloting the approach. Thailand is committed to working with partners to make the model a reality, including with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Association of Southeast Asian Nations-European Union (ASEAN-EU), G20, UN agencies, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) to implement the model.
- Cross-agency and inter-ministerial coordination is essential to remove regulatory and legislative barriers to plastic recycling and reduction.
- Large corporations active in Thailand are spearheading new ways to do business while reducing their plastic footprint and waste to landfill.
- Good practice initiatives of awareness-raising and community-based waste management are underway in Rayong, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai (Lanna model), supported by local governments and grassroots movement such as Trash Hero.
- A people-centred human rights-based approach can expand waste management strategies beyond environmental performance to respect the needs and interests of all groups of society, including disadvantaged groups.

Background

The UN Environment Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and COBSEA, with support from the Government of Sweden, are forging partnerships with local and national Governments, the private sector, civil society, academia and development cooperation agencies in South East Asia, to tackle the transboundary challenge of marine litter.

With commitment from stakeholders throughout the plastic value chain, the initiative '[SEAcircular – solving plastic pollution at source](#)' is identifying market-based solutions and enabling policies to prevent marine plastic pollution. The project aims to reduce adverse impact of land-based plastic leakage into the marine environment, by ensuring that less plastic is wasted at source and management of the plastic value chain is improved in South East Asia. Considering waste management systems in the region remain largely inadequate to process increasing amounts of plastic waste, the project focusses on the lifecycle stages of (i) Production of plastic products, (ii) Plastic use, and (iii) Collection / sorting / recycling, to ensure that less plastic is wasted and to strategically prevent plastic litter entering the ocean. To promote inclusive whole-of-value-chain change at the national and regional level, project activities actively engage national and local government agencies; businesses, producers, retailers, and associations in the packaging, consumer and institutional products industry; civil society, consumers, informal waste workers, and communities most vulnerable to the impacts of marine litter; in coordination with UN agencies,

intergovernmental organizations and development cooperation partners active in this field. The project has four components:

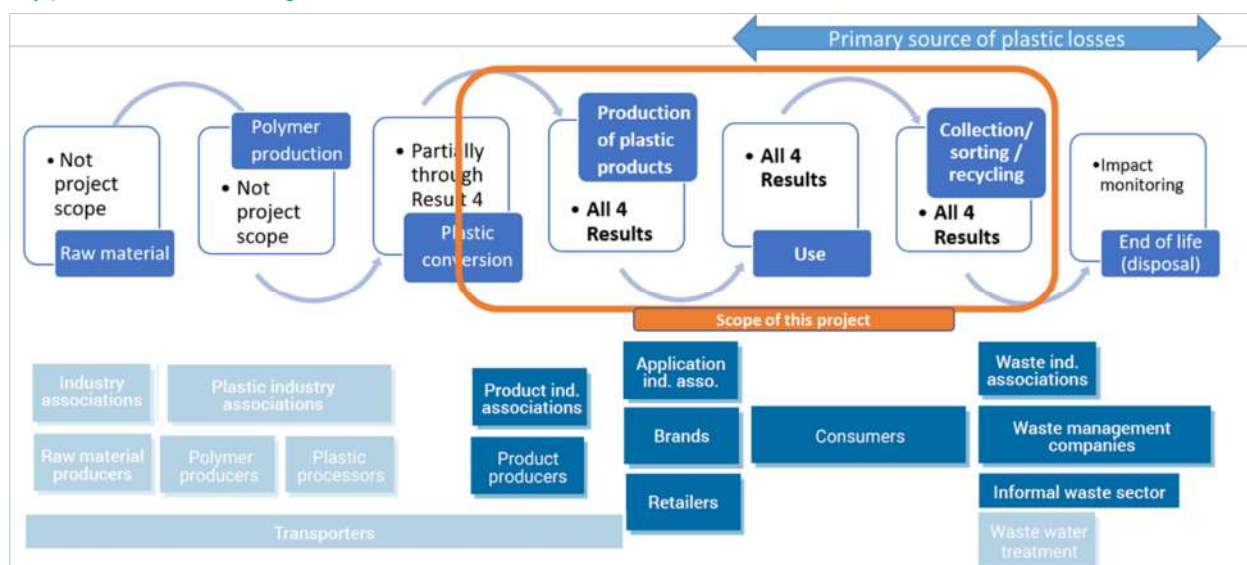
Output 1: Identify and develop market-based solutions towards 'less plastic wasted' to promote transformational changes in plastic management. Using a Circular Economy approach, this includes creating business incentives for plastic reduction and recycling that increase plastic re-use and recovery and reduce single-use plastic products.

Output 2: Strengthen the scientific basis for informed decision-making to address marine plastic litter, by building national and regional capacities, and generating and disseminating data and information products, coherent methodologies, indicator frameworks and reporting processes/systems, in line with global best practice. Building on intergovernmental COBSEA mechanisms, the project will assist government partners to assess, develop and implement strategies and plans to address plastic pollution holistically from 'source to sea' and collect findings of plastic hotspots in the environment to monitor progress of upstream efforts to reduce leakage.

Output 3: Create widespread outreach on marine litter and plastic pollution to raise awareness of marine litter and of solutions for better plastic value chain management, to promote behavioural change among consumers and in the industry and create an enabling space for policy development. This will involve regional constituency engagement and knowledge exchange, targeted outreach campaigns and linking to global campaigns (e.g. #Clean Seas).

Output 4: Regional networking and coordination will establish the necessary mechanisms for technical advice and exchange, facilitating dialogue and networking and provide targeted capacity building and technical support. The project will support implementation of regional frameworks – such as the COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Framework of Action on Marine Debris—and improve coordination among actors, including finance institutions and international, regional and/or national organizations engaged in developing plastic pollution and waste management systems.

Key plastic value chain stages and stakeholders¹



Consultation objectives

The inception phase of the project concluded in March 2019, generating a revised Results Framework for the implementation to 2023. The objectives of the consultation with stakeholders in Thailand aimed to:

- receive feedback on the project's objective and expected impact, strategies and approaches, and plans in Thailand;
- introduce the project's Implementation Partners and stakeholders in Thailand; and
- explore opportunities for collaboration among other initiatives and partners.

All objectives of the meeting were met through plenary and group discussions, feedback to presentations of project implementing parties and partners, and a closed-door meeting following the main consultation.

Participants

Participants included national and local governmental representatives, private sector representatives, members of the academia, and civil society organizations in Thailand, UN agencies and other intergovernmental agencies based in Thailand, as well as implementation partners of the SEAcircular project. This included MONRE and local government of Rayong province, the Food and Drug Administration of Thailand (FDA), The Siam Cement Group (SCG), Coca-Cola Thailand, IKEA Southeast Asia, the Solid Waste Association of Thailand (SWAT), the Federation of Thai Industries, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the International Union for Conservation of Nature

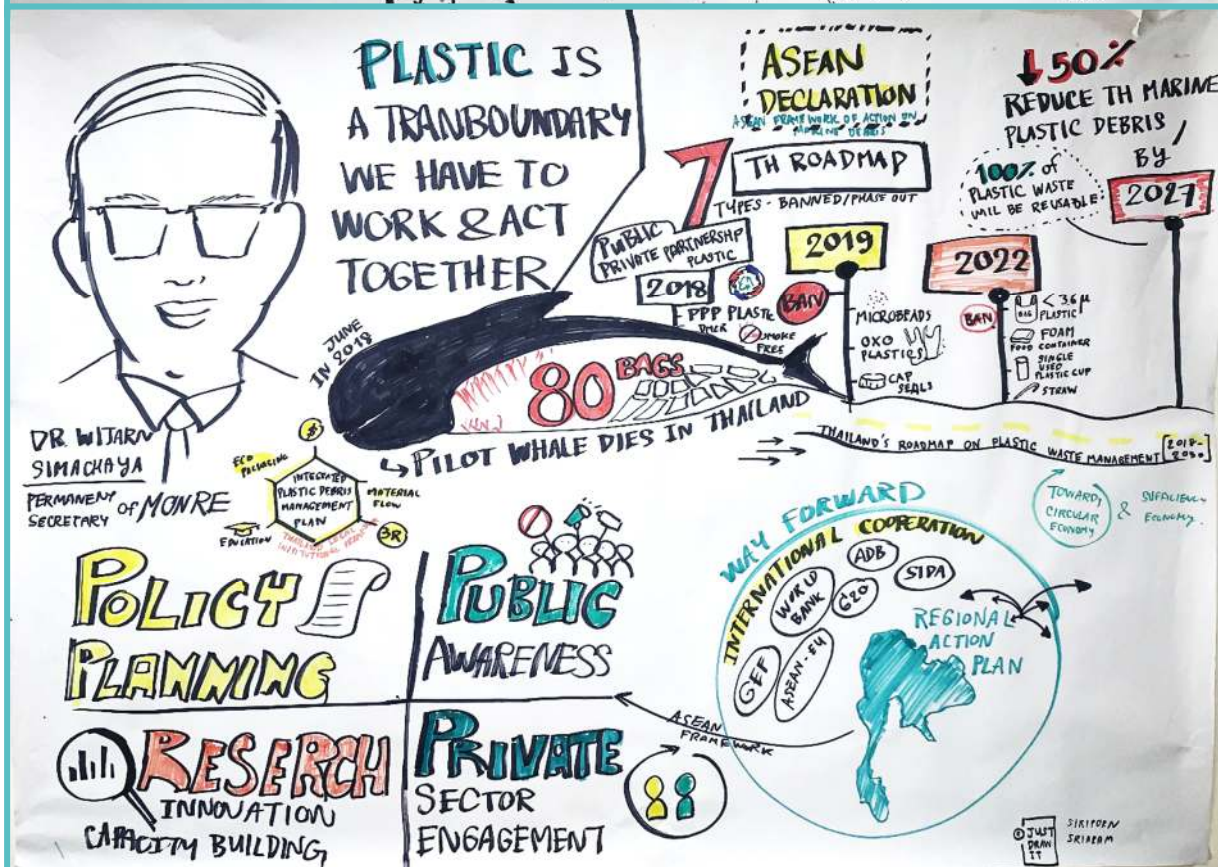
¹ Adapted from Figure S1 in UN Environment (2018). *Mapping of global plastics plastic value chain and plastics losses to the environment (with a particular focus on marine environment)*. Ryberg, M., Laurent, A., Hauschild, M. United Nations Environment Programme. Nairobi, Kenya.

(IUCN), the Delegation of the European Union to Thailand, the German Development Cooperation Agency (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ), Ocean Recovery Alliance, the Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce, and the Swedish Embassy with representation from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Also in attendance were biodegradable packaging company Gracz, Food Industry Asia (FIA), the Phuket Hotel Association and civil society organisations such as Trash Hero Thailand. All participants are listed in Annex 2.

Consultation highlights

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Permanent Secretary of MONRE and **Ms. Isabelle Louis, UN Environment Deputy Regional Director** welcomed participants to the meeting by emphasizing the importance of addressing marine litter in the region through [multi-stakeholder partnerships, enabling policy environments and a people-centred approach](#). **Ms. Pojanath Bhatanacharoen, Executive Director of the Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce** welcomed the partnership with the private sector as a prerequisite to addressing plastic pollution at source.

To set the scene, **Mr. Jerker Tamelander, COBSEA Coordinator**, and **Ms. Kakuko Yoshida of UN Environment** provided an updated overview of the project's value chain and partnership approach. They emphasized the environmental, social and economic impact of plastic pollution and inadequacy of legislation and waste management systems in the region to handle increasing amounts of plastic. [Interventions along the value chain and commitments from all stakeholders are needed](#) to reduce the adverse impact of marine litter by reducing plastic leakage from land.



Current status and policy landscape on combatting plastic pollution in Thailand

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya affirmed the [commitment of the Government of Thailand](#) to strengthening partnerships to tackle marine plastic pollution under the recent Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management 2018-2030, and under the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Framework of Action on Marine Debris. The Government recently announced that they will phase out seven types of plastic items from 2019 to 2022, including plastic bottle cap seals, oxo-type plastics, microbeads, plastic bags of less than 36 microns, foam food containers, single-use plastic cups, and plastic straws. The country also aims to recycle 100 per cent of plastic waste by 2027. A newly formed 'Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Plastic and Waste Management' aims to work with all sectors to reduce plastic waste in the Thai marine environment by at least 50 per cent by the year 2027 and to encourage the adoption of a Circular Economy approach for managing plastic. Initiatives to reduce plastic consumption in Thailand include no single-use policies in government offices and plastic bag campaigns of retailers such as Makro and Central Group.

Actions to reduce plastic leakage

Mr. Prayoon Pongpan, Superintendent of Ko Samet National Park in Rayong Province presented the [local government's initiative on reducing plastic bags and Styrofoam](#) in the National Park that commenced in November 2014. The policy prohibits the use of Styrofoam containers and limits the use of plastic in the National Park. Efforts include monitoring local and tourist activities, engaging shops in Ko Samet to use non-plastic alternatives, and offers to replace plastic bags with fabric bags upon arrival at the pier, and efforts to limit the discharge of plastic bags at sea from fishing vessels. On World Environment Day, a campaign to reduce pollution at Khao Laem Ya National Park with over 500 participants, including the Deputy Provincial Governor, collected plastic bags using kayaks.

Ms. Jiraratana Thesasilpa of FDA highlighted the importance of regulating the use of plastic in food packaging to ensure consumer health and safety. She emphasized the need for [cross-agency coordination to address the fragmented nature of responsible agencies and legal frameworks relevant for food packaging](#). Revisions in legislation currently prohibiting the use of recycled plastic material for food packaging that could create incentives for recycling, require multi-agency consultations and coordination along the value chain, including with the Ministry of Industry, the Thai Industrial Standards Institute, the Ministry of Public Health, and the Pollution Control Department (PCD). Quality assurance, packaging standards and approval mechanisms are needed to ensure that use of polymers and products are safe for consumer use and to ensure proper collection and sorting, cleaning and recycling, and production of containers. FDA is working on a technical manual to guide industry compliance with standards. Ms. Thesasilpa stressed the need for an operational plan, including a road map to revise the regulation prohibiting the use of recycled plastic in packaging, starting with polyethylene terephthalate (PET); a mechanism to engage relative agencies and partners; identification of available technologies and collection of scientific evidence for case-by-case assessments; a system of inspections and a safety assessments for

industry; and coherent standards. UN Environment commended FDA's efforts and offered support to identify a pathway to increase recycled material in food packaging.

Market-based solutions towards "less plastic wasted"

Mr. Numpol Limprasert, Sustainable Development Director of SCG, presented the company's zero waste to landfill policy calling for a waste reduction of 60 per cent from 2014 to 2025, emission reduction targets, and the promotion of ecofriendly products and services and an eco-label. He stressed the [need for collaboration with suppliers, customers and consumers](#), to design products for recyclability to reduce hard-to-recycle products such as multi-layered plastics, and to improve management of post-consumer waste. SCG initiatives include a take-back scheme to recycle Greenovative Lube Packaging; the Plastic Road initiative in collaboration with Dow Chemical; and installing waste bins for separation to showcase the end-to-end zero waste model. UN Environment welcomed these initiatives that demonstrate [private sector partners' commitment to become part of the solution](#).

Mr. Nuntivat "Ed" Thamhatai, Public Affairs and Communications Director of Coca-Cola Thailand, presented the company's World Without Waste mission to move toward 100 per cent recyclable primary packaging by 2025 and 50 per cent recycled packaging content by 2030, collect and recycle an equivalent of all primary consumer packaging sold by 2030, and to engage in partnerships to support a healthy debris-free environment. In Thailand, Coca-Cola is engaging with FDA to pave the way for use of recycled PET for beverage packaging. GA conducted a material flow and value chain analysis for PET bottles in Thailand and Coca-Cola is working with likeminded companies to set up an industry-run packaging recovery organization (PRO). The company works with IUCN and local governments to set up sustainable waste management systems in communities and National Parks. Opportunities for collaboration include [setting up a reliable single national database](#) on waste management and the recycling industry with regular tracking and updates to overcome data fragmentation; and [working with a neutral convener such as UN Environment to galvanize efforts and create synergy](#) and business matching for product innovation. Mr. Thamhatai called coordination of education, incentive mechanisms and law enforcement for behaviour change.

Mr. Lars Svensson, Sustainability and Communication Director at IKEA Southeast Asia, introduced the [company's strategy to become people, planet and profit positive](#), including zero waste to landfill efforts, sustainable supply chain management, and sustainability in operations and facility management. Targets include becoming single-use plastic free by 2020 and virgin plastic free by 2030. IKEA is working with Megabangna to sort, collect and recycle waste and reduce waste going to landfill, while reducing overall cost, and is building a customer waste buy-back centre to increase recycling and the value of waste. Mr. Svensson welcomed cooperation with UN Environment in line with IKEA's larger vision and strategy for sustainability. Collaborating with an independent and neutral party such as UN Environment could help to vouch for the integrity of the process and impact of IKEA's efforts, and help to build relationships with a range of actors including government to showcase the business and policy feasibility and scalability of pilots such as the buy-back

centre. Collaboration could increase the regional reach and help to convey an integrated and relevant message and increase public awareness and engagement. Collaboration with UN Environment was also welcomed to improve research and methodologies.

Dr. Panate Manomaivibool of Mae Fah Luang University spoke on behalf of SWAT and introduced the Association's efforts to [raise awareness for plastic pollution and improve waste management](#). SWAT is engaging three volunteer groups to demonstrate increases in recycling rates, from source segregation (Group A) targeting waste generators such as communities, hotels, offices, and department stores; to improving collection (Group B) targeting waste collectors such as municipalities, recycling waste traders, professional waste collectors and transporters; to up-cycling, recycling and improving waste treatment (Group C) targeting up-cycling & recycling factories, waste to energy facilities and landfill operators. Activities include awareness raising campaigns, improving understanding of types of recyclable plastic, consultation with Government to address issues of plastic imports and to update regulations for recycling, and addressing new challenges created by biodegradable products. SWAT welcomes collaboration with UN Environment and COBSEA on outreach to raise awareness, promote behavioural change, and create an enabling space for policy development (Output 3); and on regional networking for technical advice and exchange, and targeted capacity building support (Output 4).

Mr. Paradorn Chulajata, Chairman of the Plastic Industry Club, of the Federation of Thai Industries, introduced the 'Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Plastic and Waste Management' between the public sector, private sector, and the civil society, including the Plastic Industry Club, the Federation of Thai Industries, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), MONRE, and IUCN. The initiative will support entrepreneurs to innovate plastic management (e.g. upcycling of ocean plastic into textiles, use of wood-plastic composites for building materials); educate consumers and the public about proper disposal and waste management (using digital education platforms, working with Siam Discovery, with commitments from the Petrochemical Industry Club); pilot a clean city model in Khlong Toei District in Bangkok, and in Rayong Province (where a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with 25 schools to develop collection initiatives and a joint venture with the private sector is investing in waste recovery infrastructure); and develop a Plastic Material Flow Database for Thailand to measure success (in cooperation with Chulalongkorn University and the Pollution Control Department). Mr. Chulajata stressed that any model that relies on subsidies rather than [engaging the private sector through good business models](#) would inevitably fail. In contrast, the public private partnership was working with different stakeholders, including UN Environment, to find sustainable joint solutions for improved infrastructure and circular economy models.

[Measuring impact and sharing solutions](#)

Mr. Amit Jain, Managing Director of International Resources Group (IRG) Systems South Asia, presented the outcome indicators developed for SEAcircular to measure impact and success, ranging from upstream measurement of plastic consumption (e.g. through national production and sale of various plastic polymers, and varieties of available alternative packaging) to

downstream indicators of plastic waste management (e.g. increase in collection of PET bottles for recycling in tonnes, and the packaging recycling rate of a country). He flagged major challenges such as fragmented data collection and monitoring and disparate definitions of single-use plastic, collection and recycling rates that the project would need to navigate.

Ms. Esther Lake of UN Environment, presented the new project branding, including the short title (SEAcircular), logo and website (under development) and presented upcoming outreach activities. She invited participants to join the [SEA of Solutions constituency week from 11-15 November](#) in Bangkok that will foster partnerships between academia, governments, businesses and communities to matchmake solutions and investments. She announced a Special Sustainable Business Award for innovations in plastic management in Thailand that will be awarded during the SEA of Solutions week, alongside the Asia Environmental Enforcement Awards.

[Promoting inclusive solutions and sustainable business models](#)

Ms. Natalie Harms of UN Environment facilitated a discussion on the project's people-centred approach to reducing marine litter. She stressed that [the protection of our environment and ecosystems is key to human well-being and the enjoyment of human rights](#), such as the rights to livelihood, wellbeing and health and argued that waste and pollution threaten environments and ecosystem services that these rights depend on. SEAcircular respects the needs and interests of disadvantaged groups of societies that are exposed to discriminate impacts of pollution, including women and children, informal waste workers, and coastal and fishing communities. Achieving inclusive and equitable solutions required ensuring participation and empowerment of these groups, accountability of governments and businesses toward their human rights obligations, and non-discriminate access to support and information. Ms. Harms welcomed the collaboration with UN OHCHR and UNDP to strengthen the human rights-based approach of the project.

Ms. Thérèse Björk of UN OHCHR presented to concept and value of a human rights-based approach, including the right to a clean and safe environment, health, food, and an adequate standard of living free of discrimination. She identified [governments and businesses as duty bearers with human rights obligations toward right holders](#) such as consumers, communities and disadvantaged groups.

Ms. Harpreet Kaur of UNDP introduced the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights that provide practical guidance to companies and clarify that ensuring corporate respect for human rights requires not only that [companies themselves take action, but also that States provide an appropriate policy and regulatory environment](#) to foster business responsibility to uphold human rights through their operations and activities.

In the ensuing discussion, participants from the private sector and academia reaffirmed the importance of people-centred approaches to improving the plastic value chain as part of corporate responsibility strategies. [Engaging the informal sector](#), whose significant contribution to recycling and recovery of plastic waste remains undervalued and threatened by exploitative practises of

middlemen and exposure to dangerous materials, was identified as a key challenge in South East Asia. UN Environment concluded that issues around ensuring people-centred solutions to marine pollution would be explored and lessons learned shared with stakeholders in more detail through a dedicated analysis and upcoming training opportunities.

Accelerating and coordinating action in Thailand: Group Discussion

Following discussions in plenary, the participants split into four groups to explore market-based solutions and business incentives (Group A), scientific evidence and data needs (Group B), outreach and engagement (Group C), and inputs to the SEA of Solutions partnership week (Group D). Each group identified key challenges and solutions for action related to their group topic, while considering enabling policy frameworks and inclusive approaches as crosscutting issues. A rapporteur from each group presented the outcomes of discussions and opportunities for collaboration under the SEAcircular project to the plenary.



Group A: Market-based solutions and business incentives

- The group identified key challenges to transforming markets in Thailand:
 - Imported plastic waste is cheaper than domestically collected plastic waste;
 - No national policy on waste segregation or mandatory collection exists. As a result, waste management systems in Thailand have limited coverage, are not organized well, often rely on the informal sector, and are not financially sustainable;
 - National strategies and policies including roadmaps may not outline steps for operationalization or opportunities for government support to the general public and small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) to move to alternative models;
 - E-commerce is an increasing challenge without concern for packaging reduction and waste management.
- There are opportunities to create solutions for the plastic waste issue, by using “carrots” (incentives) and “sticks” (compliance)” (e.g. the *Lanna* model from Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai), through education, and by improving transparency in the processes and creating trust among all the stakeholders involved.
- The Government could create an enabling environment for plastic alternatives, plastic waste collection, re-use and recycling, by formulating and enforcing policies that create local

demand for recycled plastics, tax incentives for SMEs in waste management/recycling industries, and flexibility in financial reporting requirements for SMEs.

- The group noted urgent needs to introduce the circularity and life cycle analysis in the online shopping industry.
- The group stressed that plans for plastic reduction and increased recycling need to go hand in hand ("synchronized, rather than contradicting") with initiatives to create a circular model.
- The human right based approach should be embraced not only to minimize impacts of plastic pollution, but to improve the lives of marginalized groups such as informal waste pickers.

Group B: Scientific evidence and data needs

- There is increasing research into marine litter and plastic pollution in the country, but the effort is somewhat scattered and may benefit from enhanced networking among academic and research institutions, including to catalyse research specifically addressing policy and management needs. It was noted that Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR), with PCD, has a particularly important role in this regard. Existing networks can potentially also be leveraged, such as the 'sustainable university network' coordinated by Kasetsart University. It was noted that research will be greatly supported by strengthening collaboration across countries and between institutions.
- A number of specific research gaps were identified, including:
 - Research on the economic dimension of marine litter and some of the economic aspects of plastic pollution are currently very light, and in some cases absent. The basis for modelling and assessments is therefore mostly too weak to support detailed planning and decision making.
 - There is a need for further research into how micro- as well as nanoplastics are making it into the food chain and into humans, and what the implications are, both in terms of ecosystem and human health impacts or risks. It was noted that further research is needed on how ingestion of micro- or nanoplastics may mediate delivery of toxic compounds added to or adsorbed onto plastics.
 - Multilayer plastics present a particular challenge in recycling. Some further research and development focussing on production as well as recycling technology and methods may be warranted to address this.
 - Strengthened application of a life-cycle approach in developing and deploying alternatives, to ensure that alternatives are indeed better options from the perspective of reducing plastic leakage without a disproportionate overall environmental footprint. It was noted that good estimation of the net plastic reduction from the introduction of alternatives was often weak, and application of a life cycle approach very rare. However, some alternatives are currently being introduced at a fast pace. This requires research, some further development of methodologies and, importantly, appropriate policy.
 - Related to this, there is a need for further research into the end of life of recycled or repurposed products, e.g. possible leakage into the environment through the use of plastic in roads, as well as ultimate disposal and fate of material that has been recycled.

- The need to strengthen monitoring and assessment was emphasized. Despite many efforts to step up monitoring in Thailand and the region, these do not connect to a coherent data framework yet, which reduces the utility of the data. Specifically, it was noted that:
 - Development of harmonized national marine litter monitoring programmes is a priority. This includes development of appropriate data standards and data systems. International guidelines and tools are available to draw on.
 - While land-based sources are important, there is a need to also focus on Abandoned, Lost and otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG). Efforts are starting in some locations and some habitats but need to be taken forward in connection with/linked into national monitoring programmes.
 - Recognizing that marine litter occurring in a given habitat or location is not a strong proxy for leakage from specific sources on land, and vice versa, marine litter monitoring and plastic pollution/leakage monitoring need to be connected (enabling/going towards a mass balance approach).
- The importance of identifying, collating and sharing robust case studies was noted. This could include studies on the business case for taking action, as well as the 'community development case'. Anecdotal evidence can many times be useful or sufficient but will have a greater impact when complemented by hard data.

Group C: Outreach and engagement

- The group discussed successful local-level campaigns that SEAcircular could build on to increase outreach for marine litter action.
- The campaign on food containers "No foam for food" has been promoted in Chiang Mai for several years. The Government has worked with local markets to eliminate polystyrene food containers.
- Other initiatives in partnership with coffee vendors are addressing the use of single-use drinks containers and straws in Chiang Mai.
- The Phuket Hotels Association is working in the tourism sector to reduce plastic litter from hotel operations.
- Trash Hero Thailand has been working on beach clean-ups and waste collection for over five years, engaging local communities, dive operations, consumers and businesses.

Group D: SEA of Solutions partnership week

- The group welcomed the idea of organizing a multi-stakeholder exchange platform that could tackle priority issues and matchmake solutions along the value chain.
- The event should create visibility for solutions and solution providers, e.g. through innovation awards, and recommendations should be synthesized for governments.
- The event could include engagement through art, music or a cultural performance.
- Suggestions for key issues to be discussed at the partnership week included:
 - Leveraging investments for solutions, identifying fiscal incentives;
 - Improving collection, recovery and recycling to supply companies with feedstock;
 - Creating awareness for behavioural change, marine litter education;
 - Creating shared ownership for solutions, formalizing commitments and partnerships;

- Creating an accessible database of projects to improve coordination;
- Harmonizing standards and regulations across borders;
- Addressing knowledge gaps including through value chain analyses;
- Stakeholders that should be invited include:
 - National/local government (PCD, BMA, FDA, Ministries of Finance, Environment...);
 - Recyclers and waste management companies;
 - Local businesses as well as national, regional or multinational companies, stock exchanges and associations/federations;
 - Domestic, national and international investors;
 - Local citizens and communities, youth;
 - Non-governmental organizations in the environmental space;
 - Development cooperation partners and (sub)regional organizations (ASEAN);
 - Research organizations and universities;
 - Start-ups, social enterprises and incubators;
 - Media, digital platforms, social media influencers/celebrities as ambassadors;
 - Key sectors including tourism and hotel associations;
 - Local civil society/grassroots initiatives and representatives of interest groups (divers, surfers).

Additional information

More information on the event, presentations and photos can be found online at:

<http://bit.do/thai-consultation-7june>

Contact us!

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Annex 1: List of Participants

No	Name	Organization
1.	Mr. Ukkrit Satapoomin	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
2.	Mr. Suwan Nanthasarut	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
3.	Mr. Supawat Kan-Atireklap	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
4.	Ms. Pimwhalan Chueapudee	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
5.	Ms. Supadsha Kuntong	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
6.	Ms. Paweena Srisawetichot	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
7.	Mr. Wutthichai Kaewkrav	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
8.	Dr. Wijarn Simachaya	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
9.	Ms. Charinee Suwannatat	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
10.	Ms. Mathya Raksasataya	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
11.	Ms. Sureeporn Kerdkankaew	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
12.	Ms. Wanich Sawayo	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
13.	Mr. Chaiya Boonchit	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
14.	Ms. Chalatip Ratasuk	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
15.	Ms. Piyaphat Lertsirisaenyagorn	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
16.	Mr. Pralong Dumrongthai	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
17.	Ms. Somtawin Chanpram	Phe Subdistrict Administrative Organization
18.	Ms. Tippayanee Potinikorn	Phe Subdistrict Administrative Organization
19.	Mr. Prayoon Pongpan	Khao Laem Ya - Mu Ko Samet National Park
20.	Mr. Boonyakorn Jaisa-ard	Khao Laem Ya - Mu Ko Samet National Park
21.	Mr. Sathien Ngamchai	Mueng Klaeng Municipality
22.	Ms. Pirunda Chardchoo	Mueng Klaeng Municipality
23.	Mr. Apisit Tweejun	Maung Klang Municipality
24.	Mr. Tussanai Buranakorn	Chiang Mai Municipality
25.	Mr. Tawan Dongdang	Chiang Mai Municipality
26.	Ms. Tasawan Khawsejan	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
27.	Ms. Jiraratana Thesasilpa	Food Administration Department
28.	Ms. Salina Sangtong	Food Administration Department
29.	Ms. Sirirat Khundam	Food Administration Department
30.	Mr. Lars Svensson	IKEA-Thailand
31.	Mr. Thamhatai Nuntivat	The Coca- Cola Thailand
32.	Mr. Numpol Limprasert	Siam Cement Group
33.	Mr. Petch Niyomsen	Siam Cement Group
34.	Mr. Sinchai Thiensiri	Thailand Institute of Packaging and Recycling Management for Sustainable Environment
35.	Ms. Onanong Kunanupap	Thailand Institute of Packaging and Recycling Management for Sustainable Environment
36.	Mr. Burin Tangsilpaolarn	Solid Waste Management Association (Thailand)
37.	Dr. Panate Manomaivibool	Mae Fah Luang University
38.	Mr. Paradorn Chulajata	Prepack Thailand / The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI)

39.	Ms Thanwarat Pornpanawan	CP-All/ 7andi holdings
40.	Mr. Samrej Zeepongsekul	CP-All/ 7andi holdings
41.	Ms. Suthasinee RANGUBPAI	Sodexo Company
42.	Dr. Pojanath Bhatanacharoen	Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce
43.	Ms. Nussara Jaturunsomboon	Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce
44.	Mr. Takagi Satoshi	EXRI Asia Co.,Ltd
45.	Ms. Gevalin Jintawat	EXRI Asia Co.,Ltd
46.	Mr. Michikazu Kojima	Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia
47.	Dr. Weerachat Kittirattanapaiboon	Gracz Company
48.	Ms. Prae Piromya	Central Group
49.	Ms. Sarinya Rangsipatcharayut	Central Group
50.	Ms. Natsamon Vongkittipat	The Mall Group Co.,Ltd
51.	Ms. Nattapak Atichartakarn	Gobi Partners
52.	Ms Shannon Kalayanamitr	Gobi Partners
53.	Mr. Richard Jones	Indorama Venture Company
54.	Ms. Naweensuda Krabuanrat	Indorama Venture Company
55.	Ms. Sasinotai Rochanutama	Indorama Venture Company
56.	Ms. Sujitra Vassanadumrongdee	Chulalongkorn University
57.	Dr. Chanathip Pharino	Thailand Science Research & Innovation
58.	Mr. Naporn Popattanachai	Thammasat University
59.	Ms. Orathai Pongruktham	Thailand Environment Institute
60.	Mr. Svein Rasmussen	Starboard Company
61.	Ms. Tasmin Chilcott	Starboard Company
62.	Ms. Pattaramart Makmoon	Starboard Company
63.	Ms. Maggie Lee	World Wide Fund for Nature
64.	Dr. Babette Resurreccion	Stockholm Environment Institute
65.	Mr. Bibb Sabhavasuu	Trash Hero
66.	Ms. Sumitha Soorian	Phuket Hotels Association
67.	Dr. Naoya Tsukamoto	Regional Resource Centre for Asia and Pacific
68.	Dr. Suriyan Tunkijjanukij	Kasetsart University
69.	Dr. Maeve Nightingale	International Union for Conservation of Nature
70.	Ms. Siriporn Sriaram	International Union for Conservation of Nature
71.	Ms. Sumangali Krishnan	GA Circular
72.	Ms. Maria Chiara Femiano	European Union to Thailand
73.	Mr. Alvaro Zurita	GIZ Thailand
74.	Mrs. Pimpilas Nuntiphon Khoeiram	GIZ Thailand
75.	Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai	GIZ Thailand
76.	Mr. Rashane Sala-Ngarm	GIZ Thailand
77.	Ms. Stefanie Mayr	GIZ Thailand
78.	H.E. Mr. Staffan Herrström	Embassy of Sweden in Thailand
79.	Ms. Åsa Hedén	Embassy of Sweden in Thailand
80.	Ms. Louise Herrmann	Embassy of Sweden in Thailand
81.	Ms. Juthathip Subhaswasdikul	Embassy of Sweden in Thailand

82.	Ms. Emma Enström	Embassy of Sweden in Thailand
83.	Ms. Pantipa Sutdhapanya	Embassy of the Netherlands in Thailand
84.	Mr. Doug Woodring	Ocean Recovery Alliance
85.	Mr. Andrew Russell	Ocean Recovery Alliance
86.	Mr. Amit Jain	IRG Systems South Asia Private Limited
87.	Mr. Kriengsak Wongpromrat	Plastics Institute of Thailand
88.	Ms. Chanida Phuensaen	Central Food Retail Co.,Ltd
89.	Mr. Edwin Seah	Food Industry Asia
90.	Ms. Parichaya Srakaeo	Trash Lucky
91.	Ms. Therese Bjork	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
92.	Ms. Romchat Wachirattanakornkul	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
93.	Ms. Sirirat Khomwaree	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
94.	Mr. Chan Tanggarnjanavalukul	Energy and Environment Consulting Group Co., Ltd. (EEG)
95.	Ms. Sitta Marattanachai	Energy and Environment Consulting Group Co., Ltd. (EEG)
96.	Ms. Deirdre Boyd	United Nations Resident Coordinator in Thailand
97.	Ms. Momoko Sato	United Nations Resident Coordinator in Thailand
98.	Ms. Harpreet Kaur	United Nations Development Programme
99.	Ms. Isabelle Louis	UN Environment
100.	Ms. Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida	UN Environment
101.	Mr. Jerker Tamelander	UN Environment
102.	Ms. Natalie Harms	UN Environment
103.	Ms. Krittika Kleesuwan	UN Environment
104.	Ms. Esther Lake	UN Environment
105.	Mr. Jitendra Sharma	UN Environment
106.	Ms. Maria Grossi	UN Environment
107.	Mr. Mokoto Tsukiji	UN Environment

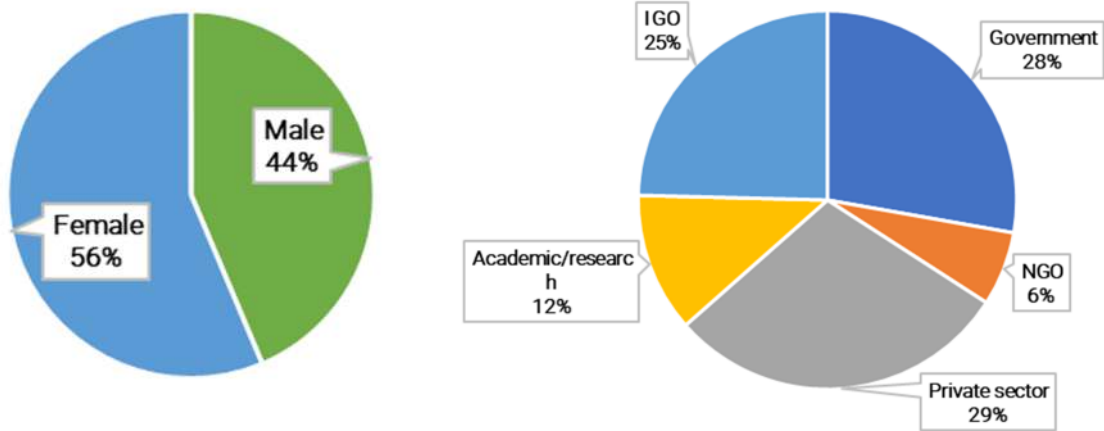
Annex 2: Programme

time	topic and speakers
08:30 – 09:00	Registration with Coffee and Tea
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome Remarks by the Government of Thailand, the Embassy of Sweden, and UN Environment
09:10 – 09:40	Setting the scene: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the project and the consultation, by Mr. Jerker Tamelander, COBSEA Secretariat • Overview of the value chain approach and the role of partners, Ms. Kakuko Yoshida, UN Environment • Introductions
09:40 – 10:00	Current status and policy landscape on combatting plastic pollution in Thailand: Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) Thailand
10:00 – 10:30	Group Photo & Networking Break
10:30 – 11:45	Actions to reduce plastic leakage. Facilitated by: Ms. Kakuko Yoshida, UN Environment <i>Local implementation of The Plastic Waste Management Road Map 2018-2030:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Prayoon Pongpan, Superintendent, Ko Samet National Park, Rayong Province • Ms. Jiraratana Thesasilpa, Food and Drug Technical Officer, Food and Drug Administration of Thailand <i>Market-based solutions towards "less plastic wasted":</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Numpol Limprasert, Sustainable Development Director, The Siam Cement PLC / SCG • Mr. Nuntivat Thamhatai, Public Affairs and Communications Director, Coca-Cola Thailand Ltd. • Mr. Lars Svensson, Sustainability and Communication Director, IKEA Southeast Asia • Dr. Panate Manomaivibool, Mae Fah Luang University, on behalf of Solid Waste Association of Thailand • Mr. Paradorn Chulajata, Chairman of Plastic Industry Club, Federation of Thai Industries
11:45 – 12:15	Measuring impact and sharing solutions. Facilitated by: Ms. Kakuko Yoshida, UN Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A closer look at indicators for success – Mr. Amit Jain, Managing Director, IRG Systems South Asia Pvt. Ltd. • Outreach and visibility – Ms. Esther Lake, UN Environment
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:15	Promoting inclusive solutions and sustainable business models. Facilitated by: Ms. Natalie Harms, UN Environment COBSEA Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right to a clean and healthy environment – Ms. Natalie Harms

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfilling rights and upholding duties – Ms. Thérèse Björk, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights • Human rights and business – Ms. Harpreet Kaur, UN Development Programme • Group Discussion: Existing initiatives, gaps and needs for equitable action along the plastic value chain
14:15 – 15:30	<p>Accelerating and coordinating action in Thailand. Group Discussion, facilitated by UN Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group A: Market-based solutions and business incentives • Group B: Scientific evidence and data needs • Group C: Outreach and engagement • Group D: SEA of Solutions partnership week <p>Crosscutting issues: enabling policy frameworks and inclusive approaches</p>
15:30 – 15:45	<p>Wrap-up</p> <p>Closing remarks by Mr. Staffan Herrström, Swedish Ambassador to Thailand</p>
Meeting of the Implementation Partners (Closed meeting / By invitation only)	
16:00 – 17:30	Discussion on implementation modalities and schedules

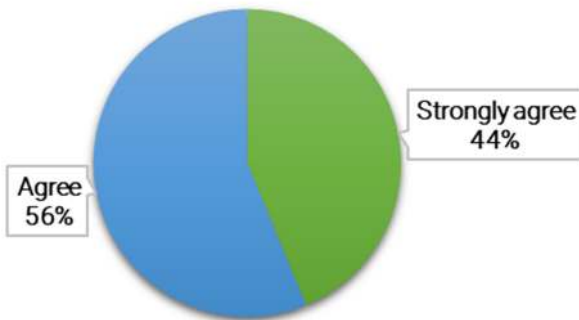
Annex 3: Summary of participant evaluations

Representation:

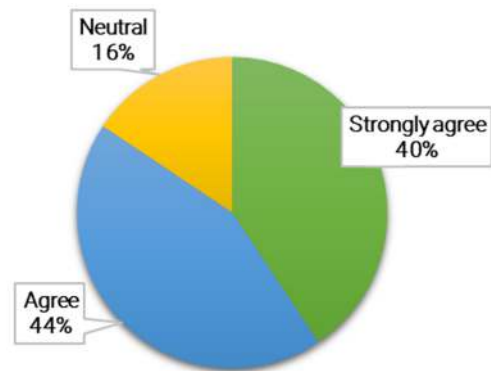


I. Relevance of the session

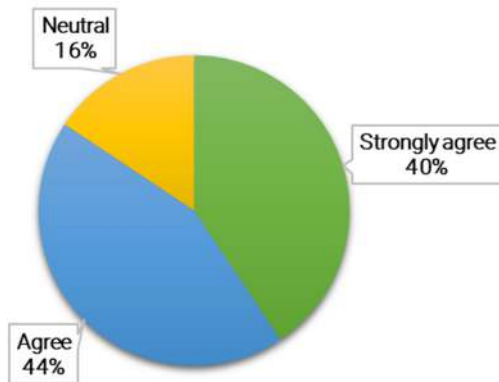
1. The issue of the discussion is well chosen and timely:



2. The issues reflected regional priorities:

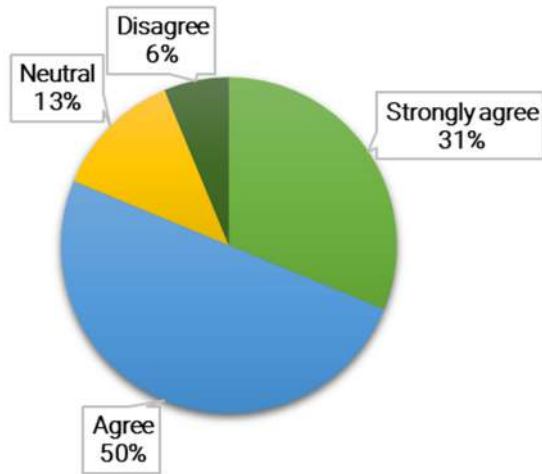


3. The issues highlighted national needs and priorities for reducing plastic pollution:

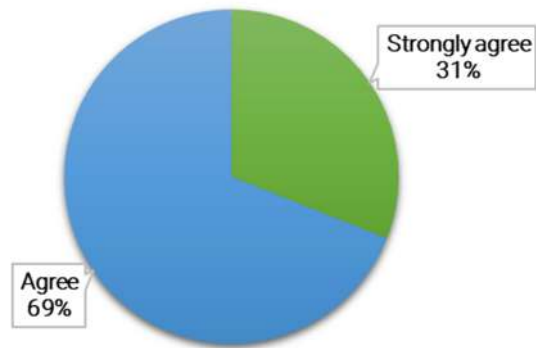


II. Effectiveness and Efficiency of the session

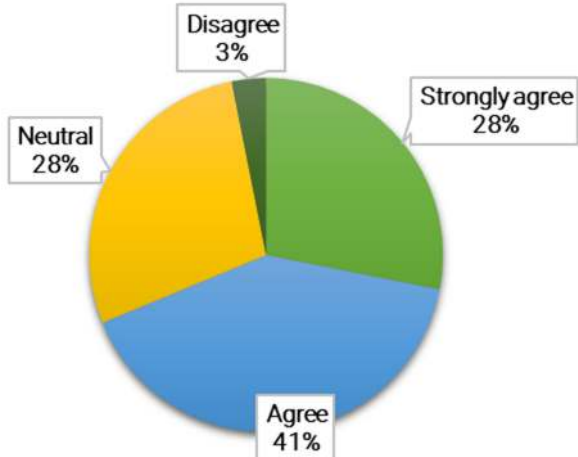
1. The session increased my knowledge of issues:



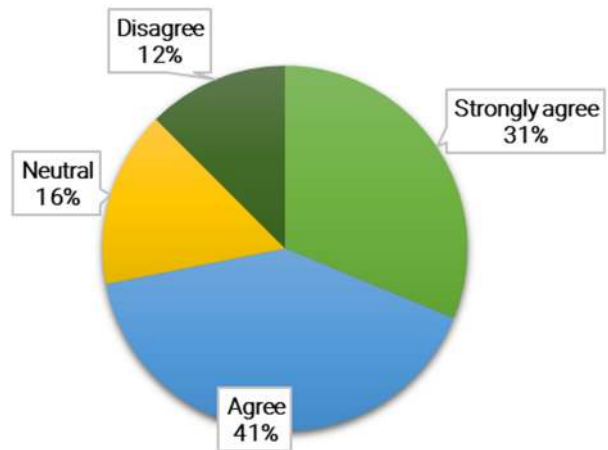
2. The presentations were of good quality:



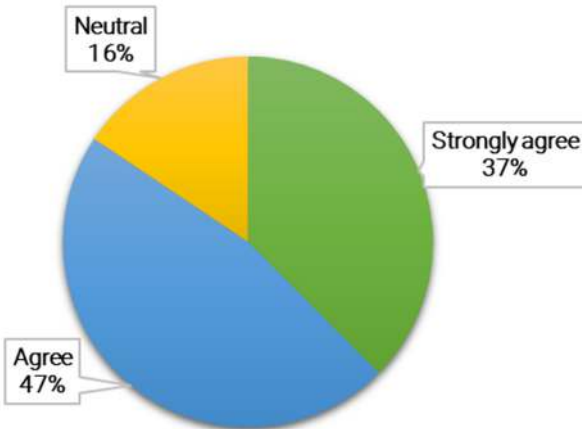
3. I developed new knowledge and skills:



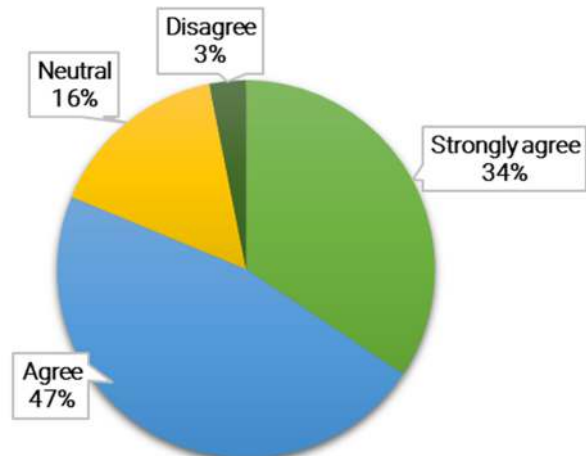
4. Interaction with presenters was good:



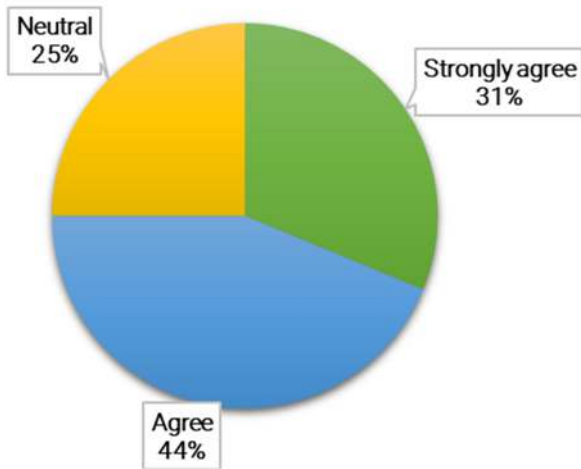
5. References to national/regional experiences were made:



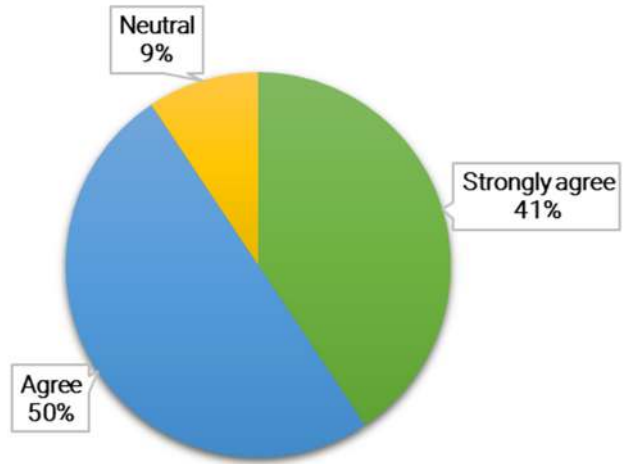
6. The event was well-structured:



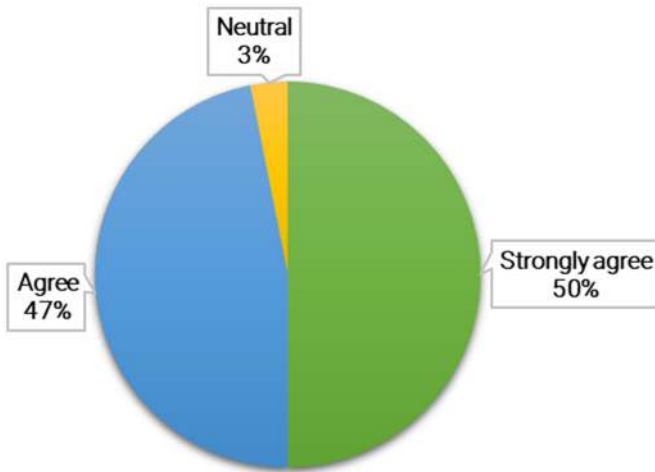
7. The event had a good length:



8. The event was well-delivered:

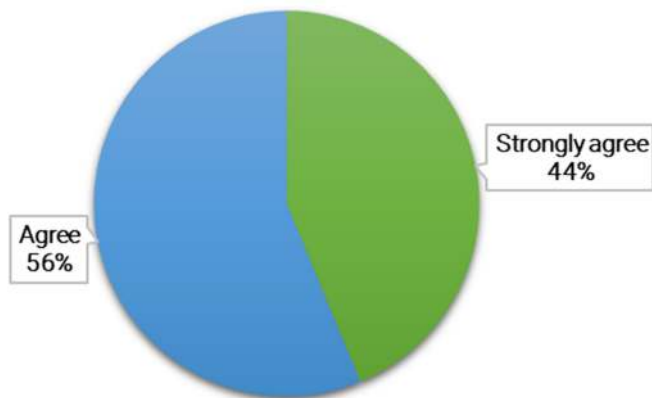


9. The logistical arrangements of the event were well-managed:



III. Overall comments and suggestions

I am overall satisfied with the consultation:



Which of the sessions were the most useful to you?

- Group discussion
- HRBA
- Success stories
- Thailand FDA and Plastics PPP presentations
- Thailand policies on combating plastic pollution
- All sessions
- Case studies
- Local implementation plan
- Actions to reduce plastic leakage
- Networking

Which, if any, of the sessions were not useful to you?

- None

Indicate how and in which areas of your work you intend to use the results of this event:

- Scientific information;
- Data collection;
- Partnership;
- Management of marine debris issues;
- Awareness raising;
- Brainstorming for developing new policy solutions and better add more market-based solutions to the series of packaging waste;
- Partnerships on recycling business;
- Organization workplan;
- The solution for circular economy vs. plastic waste solving;
- Networking and research/academic servicing on organization and tourism sector;
- Measuring and managing the plastic footprint and sharing success/case studies to organization Partnership and education program.

Other comments and suggestions:

- Keep up the good work;
- Looking forward to further partnership;
- Interest in expert panel/focus groups on more advanced market policies and business incentives;
- Interest in more concrete examples on business and human rights;
- Interest in discussion possibility of energy distribution;
- Interest in developing actions plans;
- Interest in sharing presentations and participants contacts;
- Interest in additional case studies.