

14:00 – 17:30, 27 March 2020 (GMT +7 Bangkok Time)

SEA circular E-Roundtable: Reducing plastic waste in the hospitality industry

A series of dialogues to discuss best practices, lessons learned and accelerate urgently scaling-up of collective plastic waste reduction

Please note – this is now an online event. The E-Roundtable will be held via video conferencing due to COVID-19 restrictions.

SEA circular initiative will send out the connection instructions for Bluejeans video conferencing to confirmed participants.

E- Roundtable: Reducing plastic waste in the hospitality industry

SEA circular is an initiative of UN Environment Programme 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. <http://sea-circular.org>

The E-Roundtable is organized by SEA circular Initiative, as part of a **2020 Roundtable series for collective actions for less plastic wasted.**

A Call for Collective Action to Reduce Plastic Waste

Tourism, and the related hospitality sector, is a major contributor to plastic waste in South-East Asia. Plastics are widely used in hotels to support travelers' requirements for convenience and aesthetic appeal as well as sanitary concerns. From the cups, straws, coffee lids, shampoo bottles, amenity kits, water bottles, and room minibars, to the hotel breakfast buffets, event spaces, and back of house activities, plastics are ubiquitous in the industry.

SEA circular is holding a series of 'roundtable events' for various sectors to support plastic pollution prevention. For the hotel industry in South-East Asia, roundtable events are being held for hoteliers and tourism accommodation owners. Hoteliers will discuss best practices, lessons learned and incentives for aggregate industry action. The aim is to support and urgently scale-up plastic waste reduction initiatives and commitments.

SEA circular's engagement with key players in the hotel industry will also provide vital opportunities for industry information-sharing amongst common initiatives. This is part of a series of dialogue with various sectors who are connected in the Plastic Value Chain. The ultimate goal of the Series of Roundtables is enhanced collective undertaking, reporting, monitoring and demonstration of best practices that can drive industry standards towards less plastic wasted.

Join us – Be Part of the Solution

ROUNDTABLE OBJECTIVES:

In this E-Roundtable, SEA circular is inviting hotels, hotel associations, and related industry professionals for this online discussion. The discussion will consider current trends and opportunities to manage plastic use better, customer expectations, regulatory requirements, business profitability, and protecting brand reputation – amongst other issues. Participants will address specific topics on the challenges and opportunities to reduce, reuse, and recycle plastic in their operations. Ultimately, the roundtable serves to find the lowest hanging fruit that is accomplishable by the hotel industry of South-East Asia with the help of SEA circular.

This SEA circular E-Roundtable event will include the following:

1. **Experience sharing:** How steps taken with fellow industry players can be more impactful
2. **Pre-competitive actions:** Developing synergies and consensus
3. **Aggregate best practices:** Replicating actions proven to work by others
4. **Lifting the bar:** Advancing pledges and escalating industry-wide action

Agenda:

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BKK Time (GMT +7)	Session	Speaker
14:00 – 14:30	Welcome and E-Roundtable Engagement Guidelines Plastics in the Industry: can we do without it?	Kakuko Nagatani–Yoshida, UNEP Maggie Lee, UNEP SEA circular
14:30 – 15:00	Sharing Session: Case Studies Destinations and companies share their best practices, the challenges they face and the opportunities for less plastic wasted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phuket Hotels Association • Marina Bay Sands Hotel Singapore • Six Senses Hotels & Resorts
15:00 – 15:20	Enabling the Goal for Less Plastic Wasted	Pablo Montes, Global Tourism Plastic Initiative
15:20 – 16:45	Discussion: Business engagement for plastic action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic use in hotel operations and supply chains • Regulatory, technical, and precautionary concerns and standards • Challenges faced in addressing customer requirements and reputational risk • Collective actions with partners: business solutions, technological interventions 	Breakout groups moderated by UNEP staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pablo Montes • Janet Salem • Natalie Harms • Maggie Lee
16:45 – 17:15	Recommendations and Commitments Establish a common direction and consensus for the next steps, to achieve milestones together	Breakout group leaders
17:15 – 17:30	First Actions on Measurement: Plastic Footprint measurement	Maggie Lee
	Follow-up and next steps	Maggie Lee, SEA circular

Participation:

The event is open to all current members of the hospitality industry, inclusive of executives, managers and consultants of hotels and tourist accommodations in South-East Asia.

The meeting will follow closed-door and [Chatham House rules](#). The meeting will be recorded but only for note-taking purposes and will be deleted after. Kindly note that anti-trust precautions will be taken.

For more information and to participate, please contact:

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www.sea-circular.org/events/roundtable-reducing-plastic-waste-in-the-hospitality-industry