



## SEA circular E-roundtable

Reducing plastic waste in the food delivery service sector

18 September 2020

Conducted online

### Event Report

**Name:** [SEA circular E-roundtable, "Reducing Plastic Waste in the Food Delivery Service Sector"](#)

**Date:** 18 September 2020, 13:30 – 16:00 Bangkok time

**Objective:** A call for collective action to reduce plastic waste in the food delivery sector

This E-roundtable, organized under the **SEA circular Roundtable Series for Collective Actions for Less Plastic Wasted**, and attended by representatives from the food delivery services sector across Asia, was organized by SEA circular, a UN Environment Programme (UNEP) initiative. The E-roundtable had the following targets:

1. **Experience sharing:** How steps taken with industry players can be more impactful
2. **Pre-competitive collective actions:** Developing synergies and consensus
3. **Best practice aggregation:** Replicating actions proven to work by others
4. **Industry-wide commitment:** Advancing pledges and escalating industry-wide action

Operations and sustainability representatives from the region discussed best practices, lessons learned and incentives for aggregate industry action. The aim was to support and urgently scale-up plastic waste reduction initiatives and commitments, especially crucial during the current COVID-19 pandemic when the use of single-use plastic is deemed necessary for health and safety purposes. The E-roundtable event explored solutions for more challenging issues, including working and integrating backwards to the value chain, so as to impact and possibly influence the use of excessive packaging and plastic items coming from restaurants and food suppliers that avail of their services.

Discussions also included current trends and opportunities to manage plastic use better, customer expectations, regulatory requirements, business profitability and a level playing field. Ultimately, the E-roundtable served to find the lowest hanging fruit that could be acted on by the food delivery and e-commerce industry of South-East Asia that can be accomplished with the help of SEA circular and partners, building on the SEA circular business transformation theory of change.

### Programme:

BKK Time (GMT +7)	Session	Speaker
13:30 – 14:00	<b>Opening remarks and E-Roundtable Engagement Guidelines</b>  Plastics in the Industry: can we do without it?  Strategy for the food delivery sector	UNEP SEA circular
14:00 – 14:25	<b>Sharing Session: Case Studies</b>  Companies share their best practices, the challenges they face and the opportunities for less plastic wasted	Various presenters from food delivery service industry
14:25 – 14:50	<b>WWF PACT – The journey thus far</b>	WWF-Singapore
14:50 – 15:35	<b>Discussion: Business engagement for plastic action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic use in food delivery and e-commerce and supply chains</li> <li>• How to achieve downstream influencing with the help of UNEP SEA circular/WWF-SG?</li> <li>• Regulatory, technical, and precautionary concerns and standards</li> <li>• Challenges faced in addressing customer requirements and reputational risk</li> <li>• Collective actions with partners: business solutions, technological interventions</li> </ul>	Breakout groups moderated by organizers
15:35 – 15:55	<b>Recommendations and Commitments</b>  Establish a common direction and consensus for the next steps, to achieve milestones together	Breakout group leaders
15:55 – 16:00	<b>Follow-up and next steps</b>	UNEP SEA circular

**Format:** Due to the COVID-19 virus safety precautions, the E-roundtable was held using online video-conferencing.

## Participants

The E-roundtable meeting was attended by 23 participants, representing food delivery and service providers from Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, Korea, Hong Kong, and China, along with UNEP and WWF Singapore personnel. The Chatham House rule was observed, with special attention to ensure anti-trust precautions are taken. (Annex 2)

Participants called in via videoconferencing.

## Programme

### Welcome Session

1:30 PM (GMT +7. Bangkok time)

The rules for engagement were emphasized prior to commencing the E-roundtable. The E-roundtable was conducted under the Chatham House rule.

**Jerker Tamelander, COBSEA regional coordinator & Coordinator for SEA circular**, welcomed delegates and presented the overall context for the timeliness and urgency of the roundtable discussions, given the impacts of the pandemic brought about in no small part by consumer behaviour that has adapted to address health risks by staying indoors and ordering online more. With the COVID-19 restrictions bringing in more revenue than ever to the region's food delivery services, there is a need to take a closer look at the sustainability of packaging and of the value chains that enables it.

**Maggie Lee, Markets and Plastic Value Chain, SEA circular, UNEP, Asia and the Pacific Office** presented a quick overview, 'Plastics in the Industry: Can we do without it?'. The presentation gave an overview of the challenge of plastic waste, and highlighted some opportunities for interventions to address the challenge.

**Aqeela Samat, and Yvonne Lin, WWF-PACT**, welcomed the delegates and shared information relating to the Plastic ACTION (PACT) initiative which commenced in 2018 and puts into action *WWF's No Plastics in Nature by 2030* through a robust action framework for multiple business sectors. Enabling business decision makers to choose the material with the least environmental impact through a life-cycle assessment process, the supporting Alternative Materials Tool (AMT) was also shared with participants using the online demo. The availability of these tools could hopefully inspire participants to examine their individual plastic value chains, and progress on their journey on having less plastic wasted.

## Case Study Presentations

Leaders in the industry including Meituan-Dianping (China), foodPanda (Singapore), and gojek (Indonesia) presented by sharing best practices, the challenges they face and the opportunities within their strategies to see where more sustainable use of resources, particularly plastic, have been implemented.

## Breakout Sessions

Two breakout groups were formed in which the participants were sent to virtual discussion rooms, each moderated by a UNEP and WWF colleague and supported by a notetaker, who took down the discussion ideas using an online visual collaboration platform (Miro Board). The moderators used the same set of guide questions, to be addressed during the discussions. Participants were assigned so that there was an even representation of different kinds of food delivery services companies and geographies in each of the groups.

The discussions addressed specific topics on the challenges and opportunities to embark on a transformation of plastic consumption in their operations, potentially through the SEA circular and WWF initiatives.

- Packaging and plastic use by their upstream clients
  - Regulatory, technical, and precautionary concerns and standards
  - Challenges faced in addressing customer requirements and reputational risk
  - Collective actions with partners: business solutions, incentives, technological interventions
- 

## Guide Questions for the Breakout Sessions

1. What have you noticed in the general trend of customer requests with regards to plastics? Were there any cases in particular that are noteworthy and thought-provoking?  
Monika – every country is a bit different, but asking for eco-solutions is becoming louder
2. What have your restaurants/suppliers done to eliminate plastic waste in the deliveries? (Cutlery, bags, containers/lids) Are there brand or company policies and goals? and what have they done to measure the current consumption amount of plastics (single-use or reusable)? What are the existing initiatives?
3. What has your company done to eliminate plastic waste in the deliveries? (Outer packaging, opt-out defaults) Are there brand or company policies and goals? and what have you done to measure the current consumption amount of plastics (single-use or reusable)? Do you have further examples of your current initiatives to cut down on plastic? Are you measuring your merchants' plastic footprints?
4. What external barriers have you seen in restaurants/suppliers reducing plastic waste? Examples of those could be local/national sanitation policy, customer request/complaints and lack of incentives for restaurants. What external challenges do you face?

5. What collective action from the food delivery service industry do you think can help with removing the external barriers we have identified? How can we work better together to move the needle?
6. What internal barriers have you experienced in reducing plastic waste? Examples are top management disagreement, customer complaints, not enough alternative solutions/materials for suppliers, etc.
7. What collective action from the food delivery service industry as a collective group do you think can help with removing the internal barriers we have identified?
8. How can the WWF PACT or SEA circular provide help in removing some of the external and internal barriers and in managing your internal and external stakeholders (such as customers, restaurants, operations crew)? How can we help – in removing the barriers?

## Issues

Issues that were brought up during the discussions include the following:

Differences in the country regulations and infrastructure mean differences in implementation

- Food delivery companies, especially those with operations in different countries, are faced with having to deal with different regulations and laws. The various levels of infrastructure around waste management is also apparent across geographies, and hence impact the extent to which implementation of rules and regulations are observed.
- In China, Thailand and Malaysia, food contact material cannot be made of recycled plastic, hence providing more ammunition for the use of materials made from virgin plastic.
- Finally, there is also need to harmonize regulations on the use of plastic for delivery. Restaurants and the delivery companies are open to including a financial charge, which would then be passed on to customers. Unless this applies to the industry, however, customers will just move to those companies that do not impose the plastic charge. In this instance, being aware of sustainability becomes a disincentive to do good for companies internalizing the cost and adopting greener options.

## Customer Backlash

Cost and convenience matter to people a lot. More consumers are upset about not receiving vs receiving cutlery with their orders (even if they initially selected to opt-out when ordering). During the times of COVID-19 particularly, more people are equating extra packaging with better protection for safety and hygiene. Depending on the standard operating procedures of restaurants regarding take-out orders, delivery drivers will also

more likely add and anticipate that it's better to have the cutlery than not, and hence will add them despite an opt-out choice.

#### Lack of alternatives

One participant indicated that the type of food, in this case Asian food (with a lot of gravy or sauce, soupy noodles, etc.) presents challenges as well in the packaging options. The lids, for example, are difficult to replace with sustainable materials. It is really just necessary to use plastic to minimize the food spills.

There is the further sense that few alternatives, with the right economics, can supplant the current plastic and packaging for food deliveries. In Thailand, for example, merchants are having difficulty absorbing the additional cost that the ban of single-use plastic bags has imposed on their operations. Merchants' focus is to keep afloat, and many don't have knowledge on what would be truly eco-friendly.

#### Education and Awareness

Although there are many merchants who understand sustainability, participants of the discussion feel that many more do not. Participants mentioned that the drive to educate and provide access to know-how on how to be more sustainable in the procurement of materials, needs to be stepped up. In any case, the impetus to do more sustainable activities may also be limited because many restaurants are currently struggling with the costs of staying afloat.

Only a small sample of restaurants are measuring their footprints, and not necessarily in plastic only. The food delivery companies are also not sure on the best way to get the merchants on it.

## Recommendations and commitments

The breakout groups re-convened after 40 minutes of discussions. Both moderators shared the key messages and directions which might be considered for collective action moving forward.

#### Regulation and Laws

In countries where governments are more active either in reducing plastic usage or encouraging adoption of alternative materials, there is relatively more willingness to switch in the private sector. Lobbying with the government to incentivize use of greener materials and tax unsustainable ones presents proactive action which the industry can encourage. This would also allow for levelling the playing field, so that no one company is needlessly penalized for implementing sustainable options in their food take-out packaging. Delivery providers can then bring this further, by citing the govt regulations, and give extra visibility to the restaurants and promote these restaurants more.

### Alternative Materials

The food delivery sector participants are open in their exploration with their upstream clients of alternatives to packaging with plastic. Some are looking at paper bags, which sound more sustainable, but which, due to its low next life potential, may actually be an inferior option compared with plastics. Collaboration with NGOs and work to develop packaging that can be reused or recycled would therefore be a positive step.

The availability of assessment tools like the Alternative Materials Tool (AMT) presents an enabling step towards gaining more knowledge about alternatives which companies can avail of. More information about the AMT can be found in Annex 4.

### Cost

Customers in many countries will take what is there. Restaurants buy what makes sense for their economics. If there are economic alternatives and cheaper solutions to provide restaurants and delivery providers, there is a good chance for them to participate. If government would take this as their priority (through enabling investments and subsidies), then restaurants can consider this as an option.

### Education and working upstream and downstream

Education and awareness of the restaurants is important to push, especially as this facilitates the efforts of the food delivery companies to minimize the use of plastic. At the same time, there are opportunities to work directly with the delivery drivers, perhaps with better-structured food boxes where spills are minimized, and hence the requirement for more plastic as well. For some of the companies, their food delivery drivers deliver more than just food and can actually take direct orders. Educating drivers, especially about their enabling role, is important, so that they see themselves are part of the reduction narrative, rather than distinct and separate from it.

Encouraging collaboration with partners where aggregation of orders is possible, also provides opportunities for minimized packaging. Participants mentioned interesting partnerships with F&B partners in the malls, where orders are combined, with one centralized dispatch point.

Government, however, is still the sector that can do the most in educating the citizens. Government must be educating more, so that people become more aware.

### The Plastic Disclosure Training

Maggie Lee outlined the SEA circular plastic disclosure training – and offered this free training to enable the food delivery companies to share the information with their restaurants/clients about determining their plastic use baseline and have a clear measurement of their plastic footprint.

SEA circular's engagement with key players in the sector will continue to provide vital opportunities for industry information-sharing amongst common initiatives. The ultimate

goal is that collective monitoring and promotion of best practices that can drive the delivery sector's upstream industry to practices and standards towards less plastic wasted.

### Follow-up and next steps

- Prepare and disseminate the Event Report summarizing industry discussions and identifying next steps for collective action to all participants who attended, as well as to the invited food delivery representatives who were unable to attend.
- For participants who expressed interest in connecting their clients, SEA circular will follow up with these organizations and facilitate the baseline measurement of the business' footprint through the Plastic Disclosure Project – a realistic, actionable first step to understand what the plastic use and consumption in hotel operations is. Training will be provided to determine the information that will allow hotels to not only to benchmark commitments and goals, but allow for a common understanding within the organization for more efficient plastic use and consumption.
- WWF-PACT will reach out to the participants for a follow-up session about the PACT programme and the food delivery pledge.
- Engage and work with the food delivery organizations and their client restaurants as they commit to finite and measurable goals related to reducing their plastic waste. Encouraged by the confirmed interest to attend future related roundtable events, this will be an opportunity for SEA circular to advocate for stronger impact and higher commitments in its interactions with the participants, and that can only be enhanced more by industry action and peer pressure. This includes continued coordination and collaboration with the WWF-PACT, as this allows for synergy and for more efficient work with the sector on their actions and commitments for less plastic wasted.



## About SEA circular

SEA circular is an initiative from the UN Environment Programme and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) to inspire market-based solutions and encourage enabling policies to solve marine plastic pollution at source. SEA circular is a working in six countries in South East Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, from 2019–2023. The project is supported by the Government of Sweden. The focus is on several points along the plastic value chain. Interventions are designed and implemented with an understanding of land-sea interactions, and towards a circular economy. SEA circular works with national and provincial governments, private sector corporations, civil society groups and NGOs – and many other stakeholders – to support good governance and policy making and promote circular economy principles.

SEA circular focusses interventions on supporting market-based solutions, enhancing the science-basis for decision making, generating outreach to support awareness and behavior change, and promoting a regional approach through collaboration and networking.

## Annexes

Annex 1	Speakers
Annex 2	List of participants
Annex 3	Post-roundtable Survey
Annex 4	Presentation Materials

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## Annex 1      Speakers (in order of appearance)



### Jerker Tamelander

Jerker is Coordinator for the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and Coordinator for the SEA circular project, an initiative of COBSEA and UNEP to inspire market-based solutions and help formulate policies to prevent marine plastic pollution.



### Maggie Lee

Maggie is Programme Management Officer of the SEA circular project.



### Laura Kantor

Laura currently leads marketing efforts for foodpanda, Singapore's largest online food delivery company. Previously, Laura has held marketing and strategy roles at Ogilvy & Mather, on the IBM account, and Bupa, an International Healthcare Company. She specializes in marketing strategy and campaign planning, with proven success in both B2B and B2C.



### Yoanita Simanjuntak

Yoanita heads gojek's sustainability and innovation efforts. As chief of gojek Xcelerate, she also leads the company's business accelerator programme that enables education and training for direct-to-consumer (D2C) start-ups



### Feby Budi Dayono

Feby Budi is the Corporate Affairs Manager for gojek. Prior to this stint, he worked at DBS Bank and Lenovo Indonesia handling internal communications, CSR and public relations. His professional experiences include community development, marketing in Southeast Asia, North America, and the Middle East.



### Aqeela Samat

Aqeela works on Market Transformation at WWF-Singapore, which champions for a sustainable economy through responsible sourcing policies. She leads on the strategic planning of industry-driven platforms (SASPO for palm oil, PACT for plastics, RESET for seafood, and Halt for palm oil traceability)



### Yvonne Lim

Yvonne is a Materials Expert at WWF-Singapore, working on the development and delivery of a regionally accessible resources on the viable alternatives to plastics, including complete end of life cycle assessments and economic viability.



### Stefanie Beitten

Stefanie is Head of Market Transformation at WWF-Singapore (World Wide Fund for Nature Singapore), the world's largest conservation organization with offices in about 100 countries. Stefanie's team leads PACT (Plastic ACTION), a business initiative that aims to eliminate plastic pollution in nature and move towards a circular economy.

## Annex 2 List of Participants

The E-roundtable was attended by 23 participants, representing 8 delivery service companies from China, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The Chatham House rule was observed, ensuring anti-trust precautions are taken.

Errand Boy	Philippines
food panda	Hong Kong
food panda	Singapore
food panda	Thailand
gojek	Thailand
gojek	Indonesia
Grab	Singapore
Grab	Thailand
Meituan-Dianping	China
Woowa	Republic of Korea
Yindii	Thailand

## Annex 3 Post-event Survey

### Feedback for the event

A short survey was sent out to all roundtable participants after the event, requesting for feedback on the meeting, and the learning experience and information sharing with the rest of the industry. A total of 30% of the participants responded.

Overall, 86% of those respondents who participated in the survey found the E-roundtable to be helpful or very helpful. More details as to what they found helpful include (1) how the industry could work together to solve the problem (100%), and (2) information about best practices in the industry on plastic and marine litter and more importantly (66%). In addition, the meeting also provided many of these respondents (3) why the industry should work on plastics (50%). Multiple answers for this question was made available.

On providing a “how to” option, or what actions they would be interested in to move forward, there was keen readiness (70% of respondents) to refer their clients to work with SEA circular by taking the plastic footprint training, and/or to committing to stronger goals as an organization, if they have already embarked on some form of measurement. Less than a third (29%) were neutral in this aspect. On the other hand, 86% of the respondents agree or strongly agree that they are interested in working with WWF on PACT. This provides concrete direction for the team and for WWF to progress discussions with these organizations.

Finally, a query on whether there would be tremendous interest to attend upcoming roundtables related to their industry yielded strong agreement (29%) and agreement (71%) from the participants. This is quite encouraging, as the general satisfaction with a virtual arrangement gives more confidence that these industry discussions can only be made better with the use of more seamless technology and alternatives.

#### **Annex 4      Presentation materials**

- **Plastics: Plastic in the Industry: can we do without it?**
- **About SEA circular**
- **WWF-PACT and the Alternative Materials Tool**
- **First Actions on Measurement: Plastic Footprint Measurement**





# SEA circular E-Roundtable: Reducing plastic waste in the Food Delivery Service Sector

18 SEP 2020



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



## WELCOME & E-ROUNDTABLE ENGAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Coordinator, Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA),  
Coordinator for SEA circular, UNEP

Mr. Jerker Tamelander







## **PLASTIC IN THE INDUSTRY: CAN WE DO WITHOUT IT?**

**Project Management, SEA circular, UNEP**

**Ms. Maggie Lee**



## PLASTIC: THE ALL-PURPOSE MATERIAL

### ADVANTAGES:

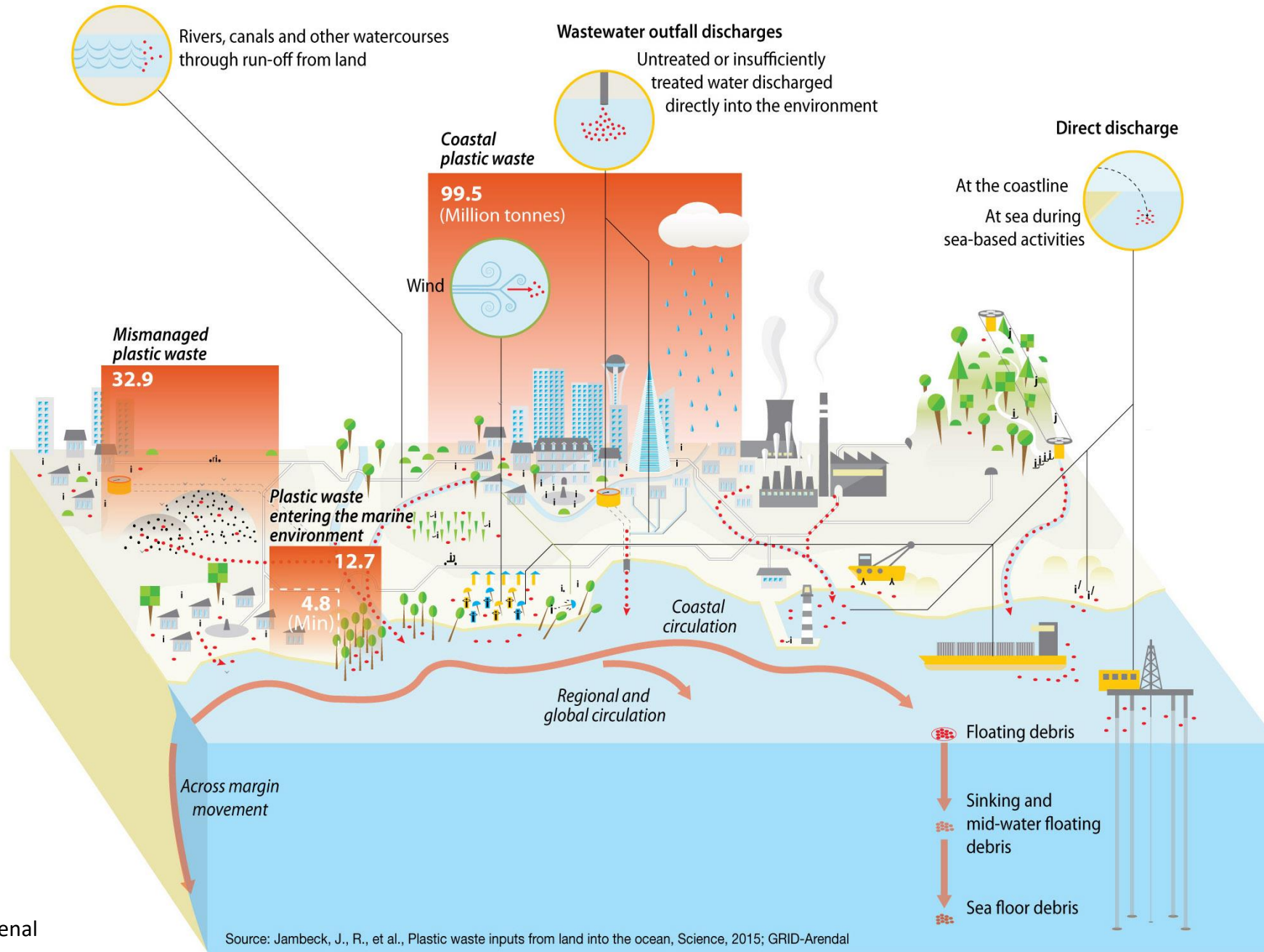
- ✓ Light weight
- ✓ Reduced volume (warehousing & distribution cost reduction)
- ✓ No corrosion problems
- ✓ Good resistance to mold & bacteria.
- ✓ Generally inert chemically, but be wary of “solvents”
- ✓ Usually have good impact strength; difficult to break
- ✓ If breakage occurs, fragments tend to be less hazardous than glass.
- ✓ Wide design & decorative possibilities.
- ✓ Highly affordable
- ✓ Highly durable



# Why is plastic becoming a bigger problem?

- 8 million tonnes of plastic waste is dumped in the ocean each year, and this number is set to double by 2025.
- Plastics is found in Arctic Snow, in the deepest ocean at the Mariana Trench, on the continent of Antarctica, on Mount Everest and in the atmosphere as small particles.
- Plastics is in 50% sea turtles and 90% of seabirds.
- Plastics is thought to be the main reason of death of baby dugong Marium at Koh Libong at Trang Province

# Why are plastics entering nature even when we “properly throw them away?”







99% OF PLASTICS CAUSE  
**CLIMATE CHANGE**



MARINE ANIMALS ARE  
UNDER THREAT

PLASTICS

UNINTENDED  
CONSEQUENCES



1 MILLION SEABIRDS  
DIE EVERY YEAR



WE ARE EATING,  
DRINKING AND  
BREATHING PLASTIC



# More than just animals - How does plastic impact nature?

1. Non-renewable resource
2. Climate change
3. Interfere with nature



Photo credits: WWF

# Human Impact

- Waste management is direct impact
- Plastic is only one contributor to numerous hazards
- Air pollution
- Water pollution
- Less well understood
  - Ingestion / toxins



# What are we doing collectively about plastic pollution?

## SDG 14.1

- by 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

## SDG 12

- Responsible consumption and production of plastics

## SDG 11 Indicator 11.6.1

- Increase proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





# What is “Avoidable” or “Unnecessary” Plastic?

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Plastic that, if not used, would not create adverse environmental or social trade-offs

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Some are straightforward, others require rethinking how products are designed, delivered and consumed

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But bans or materials substitutions is not necessarily better!



So... why  
can't we just  
ban all  
plastic?



Eliminating plastic / single-use plastic  
/ specific products may seem like the  
obvious answer to this challenge,  
but...



Removing one component may  
transfer environmental costs to  
another part of the system



**Keep a One Planet Perspective!**



# Shifting to Sustainable Inputs

- Recycled Content
- Responsibly Sourced Bio-materials
- Advanced Products

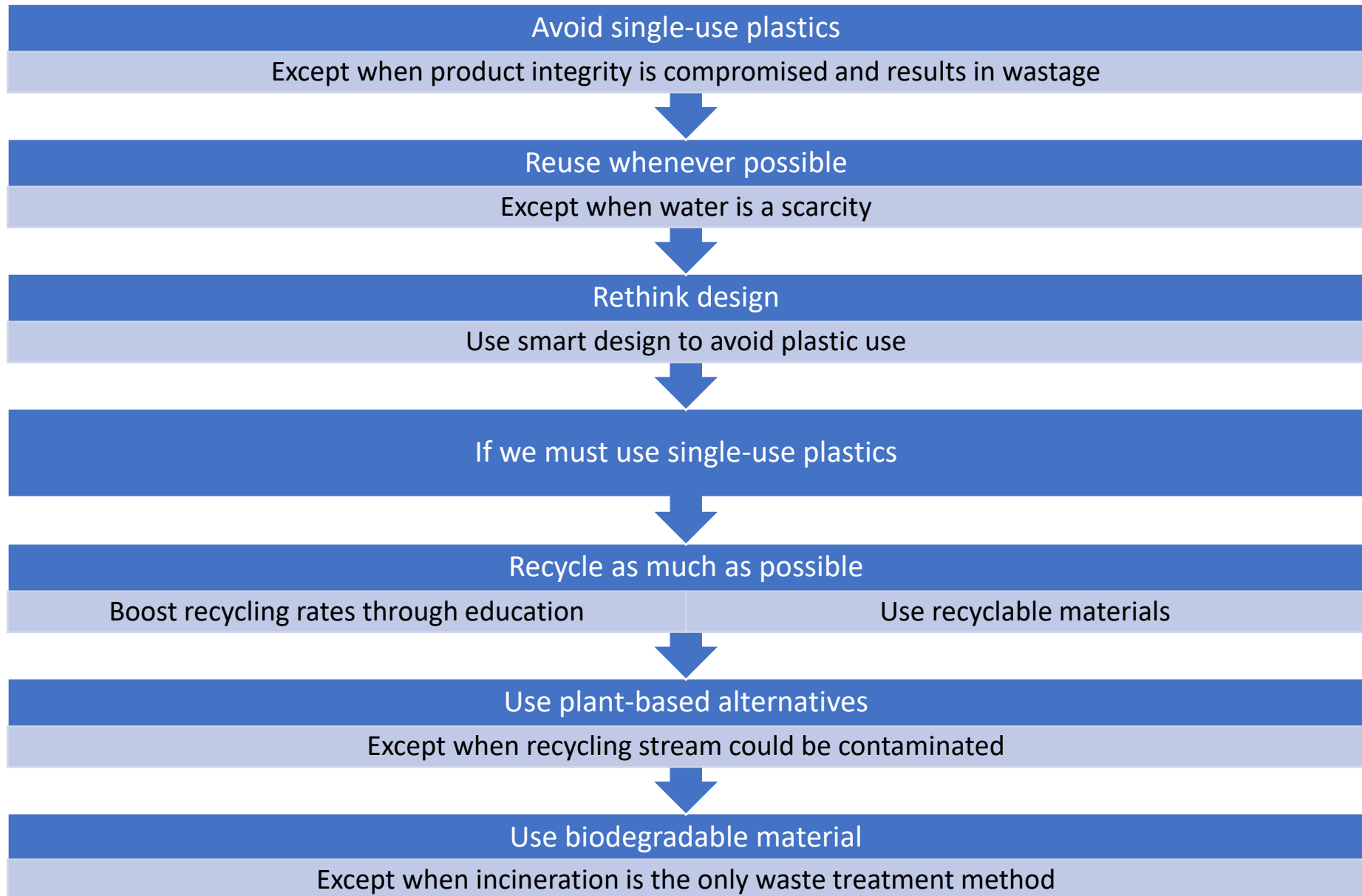


# What about beach clean ups?

- Alone, they are not enough! First, we need to stop the flow of plastics!
- Beach clean-ups are a good way to educate and engage the public, but they will not solve this crisis
- Beach clean-ups can be a part of a strong corporate engagement



# Some rules of thumb





# SEA CIRCULAR FOCUS AREAS

Overall goal: LESS PLASTIC WASTED

## ELIMINATE SINGLE USE PLASTICS



Elimination of single use plastics from selected value chains

## VIRGIN PLASTIC USE REDUCTION



Strengthened policy and fiscal incentives to reduce virgin plastic use

## ESCALATE RECYCLING



Escalation in recycling rates and plastic segregation at source

## PLASTIC PACKAGING REDUCTION



Increase in the variety of non-plastic and recycled plastic packaging

## CONSUMER AWARENESS



Growth in consumer demand for plastic pollution reduction



Sweden  
Sverige

# SEA circular COUNTRIES

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Cambodia

Indonesia

Malaysia

Philippines

People's Republic of China

Republic of Korea

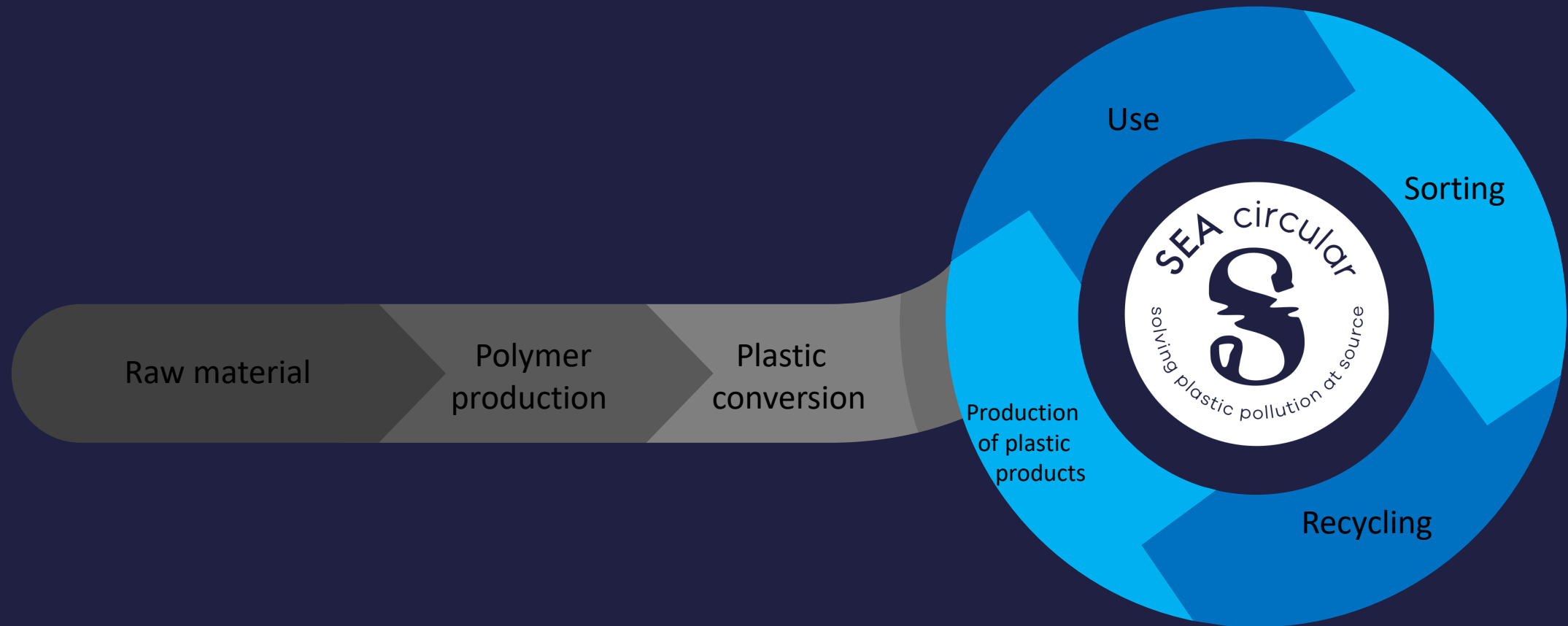
Singapore

Thailand

Viet Nam



# From Linear to Circular





## HOW SEA CIRCULAR CAN ADD VALUE TO YOUR COMMITMENTS

- Shared advocacy on less plastic wasted allows for convening more stakeholders from relevant sectors
- Our work with governments, academia and research gives us a better read of the next trends
  - Synchronized step-by-step actions for industry for synergy and scalability at SEA circular roundtable meetings
- At the forefront of action on clean seas, sustainable consumption and production, and plastic use policies which will impact the market
  - Exhort you to higher ambitions with tools, data, and best practices



# HOW CAN SEA CIRCULAR HELP?





## SHARING SESSION: CASE STUDIES





## WWF PACT – the journey thus far

- Presentation of PACT
- Explanation of the commitment framework
- AMT – Demo

Ms. Aqeela Samat & Ms. Yvonne Lin







# WWF PACT

SEA Circular Roundtable Event  
18 September 2020



# WWF-Singapore Market Transformation



**Stefanie Beitien**  
Head of MTI



**Yvonne Lin (Dr.)**  
Materials Expert



**Aqeela Samat**  
MTI Assist Manager

# Overview of PACT



With PACT, we provide solutions and resources, empowering businesses to reduce their plastic footprint, based on the PACT Guiding Principles.



## 1) Individual Commitments

Setting circular economy goals with individual companies



## 2) Sectoral Collaboration

Collaborating with entire sectors on plastic action



## 3) Expertise

Provision of Guides, Tools and Resources

# Our journey since Dec 2018



**22 PACT Champions  
across 5 industries**



**3 industry  
pledges**



**6 business roundtables  
across 8 industries**



# PACT Guiding Principles

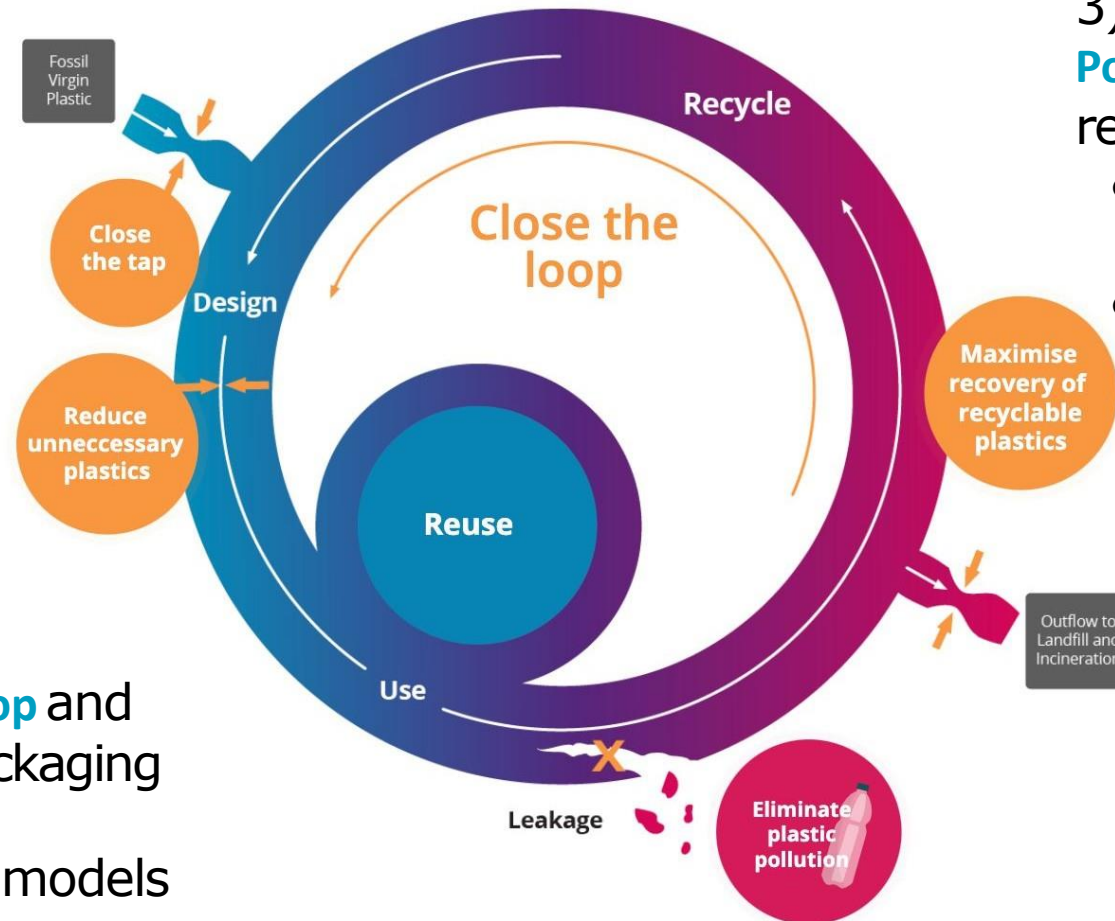


1) We need to **Close the Tap** and switch to alternative materials that have the least environmental impact

- Adhere to the results of the AMT for future packaging decisions

2) We need to **Close the Loop** and rely less on single-use packaging

- Redesign packaging
- Reusable packaging models



3) We need to **Eliminate Plastic Pollution** by increasing recycling rates

- Collect clean packaging for recycling in bulk
- Optimize recyclability of packaging via new designs

# Individual Commitments: Roadmap for plastic action



The following commitment template addresses all critical aspects of meaningful plastic action. By signing such a commitment, your business will have an ambitious, measurable and time-bound roadmap to achieve a circular supply chain for plastic packaging.

We commit to:

Specific & measurable goals  
to be filled in by signee

1. Eliminating unrecyclable plastics that are not crucial for product integrity by 2022.
2. Reducing \_\_\_\_% of unrecyclable single-use plastics by 2021, \_\_\_\_% by 2025 and 100% by 2030, either by eliminating them from the supply chain or switching to recycled or sustainable plant-based materials.
3. Supporting a circular economy by moving to 100% reusable or recyclable product & packaging design models by 2021.
4. Removing plastics from nature by making a net positive impact. By 2030, we will be collecting and recycling more plastics than we use.
5. Supporting conservation, innovation & research projects related to plastics.

**Close the Tap:**  
Reduce fossil based  
virgin plastics

**Close the Loop:**  
Enable a circular  
economy

# Individual Commitments: PACT Champions in Singapore



**PACT**  
No Plastics  
in Nature  
A WWF INITIATIVE FOR  
A CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND  
NO PLASTICS IN NATURE BY 2030

## HOSPITALITY



PAN PACIFIC  
HOTELS GROUP  
A Member of UOL Group

GRAND  
HYATT™

RAMADA  
BY WYNDHAM  
SINGAPORE  
AT ZHONGSHAN PARK



Hilton



THE FULLERTON HERITAGE  
SINGAPORE

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



## FOOD AND BEVERAGE



TADCASTER  
HOSPITALITY

KRAFTWICH™  
by SWISSBAKE



spa  
esprit  
group

The  
Lo & Behold  
Group

## MANUFACTURING



Cloversoft



## E-COMMERCE



# Individual Commitments: PACT wins over the last year



 Straws 2,628,000	 Stirrers 427,000	 Single Use Cups 450,000
 Cup Lids 299,000	 Cup Holders 1000	 Food Containers 1,266,000
 Food Container Lids 448,000	 Takeaway Bags 1,690,000	 Water Bottles 1,360,000
 Cutlery 554,000	 Sauce cups, bottles or sachets 1,038,000	 Cotton Buds 313,000
 Soap & Shampoo Bottles 358,000	 Bin Liners 1,030,000	 Laundry Bags 285,000
 Newspaper Bags 4,000	 Shower Caps 230,000	 Toothbrushes 65,000
 Combs 65,000	 Slipper Wrappers 100,000	

**More than 12 million pieces of plastic packaging and items have been eliminated by 22 PACT Champions.**



# Sectoral Collaboration:

## Safety in numbers



- Open, pre-competitive discussions to facilitate synchronised industry action around plastics
- Proven effective steps taken together with fellow industry players for impactful changes
- WWF takes ownership of narrative
- Best practice sharing from PACT champions
- Consensus for next steps

### 'Bag rage' prompts backdown on plastic bag levy in Australia

3 MIN READ



SYDNEY (Reuters) - Australia's second-largest supermarket, Coles, on Wednesday halted plans to charge shoppers for plastic bags, succumbing to customer fury about a shift away from single-use plastics.

*What we want to avoid*





# Sectoral Collaboration: Evidence based reduction



- Replacement via the PACT Alternative Materials Tool
- Awareness, education and choice - aiming towards a lasting impact and reduction are key.
- POS charging for single-use plastic items is highly effective - it leads to an immediate reduction of non-essential items, allows consumer choice, and promotes the wanted behaviour of BYO.

What are the low hanging fruits to drive reduction that your sectors can collaborate on?

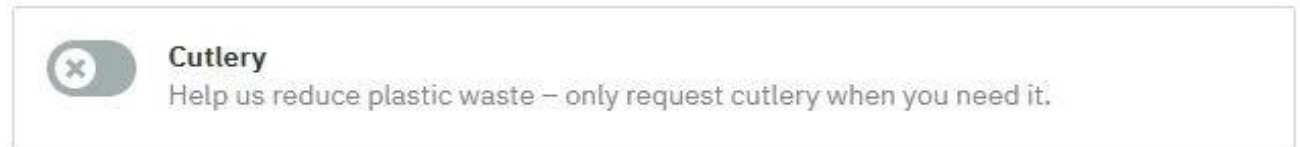


# Sectoral Collaboration: PACT Food Delivery Services Pledge (SG)



1. Since 2019, they have implemented a default opt-out function for cutlery

1 million pieces of cutlery saved a week in Singapore



2. By 2024, to remove unsustainable takeaway food packaging used by their food merchants

# Sectoral Collaboration:

## PACT Food Delivery Services Pledge



As part of an industry-wide movement, we, collectively as part of our industry, commit to the following:

1. Implementing a default opt-out for cutleries (i.e.: customers have the option to request for cutleries) by June 2021;
2. Supporting consumer behaviour change on adopting more sustainable materials (e.g.: recycled plastic and sustainable plant-based materials) and reuse, through corporate and brand channels;
3. Engagement of all merchants/restaurants to continuously improve their packaging materials with the aim to remove all unsustainable (i.e.: single-use virgin plastic) packaging by 2024, through:
  - a) The implementation of a scorecard/toolkit to evaluate the sustainability of packaging of merchants/restaurants.
  - b) Incentivised approaches to provide preferential status to merchants/restaurants that have adopted sustainable packaging.
  - c) In later stages, implementing supplier improvement programmes for merchants/restaurants that have yet to adopt sustainable packaging as per scorecard/toolkit mentioned in 3a).
4. Communicating successes in packaging sustainability improvement to consumers, colleagues and merchants/customers.



# Introducing the Alternative Materials Tool



# Packaging - Yay or Nay



WWF will encourage and work with businesses to implement **Bring-Your-Own initiatives** as a priority.

Increased reliance on food delivery services, c.ommerce and food takeaway has increase demand for packaging in Singapore

- Driven by COVID-19, but likely for demand to continue rising post-COVID
- BYO policies cannot be applied to most of these scenarios





# Packaging - Yay or Nay



The Alternative Materials Tool (AMT) is a research project commissioned to:

- Navigate the complex sustainability trade-offs of selecting materials → simple to use but **science-based solution**.
- Minimize the impact of its single-use packaging through alternative materials that are more environmentally benign, **without transferring the environmental cost to another system**.

\*Note: Only mono-materials are considered in AMT

# Examples of Multi-Layered Material



**Beverage carton is the only exception in AMT.**

# Packaging - Yay or Nay



Single-use packaging (SUP) is the target of the AMT:

- Short packaging shelf life
- Low functionality
- High waste generation
- SUP can never be sustainable - we can only reduce impact

## \*Note: PACT Guiding Principles

Reusables are a priority over single-use packaging. Only opt for SUP if reusable packaging systems are not feasible, and all unnecessary packaging have been eliminated.

Always provide a means of collecting back clean plastic waste, segregated for recycling.



# Unpacking Alternatives with the Tool

<https://plastic-action.asia/alternative-materials-tool/>





# Q&A







WWF Market Transformation

Thank You!

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### **BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS:**

**What can the food delivery service industry do to eliminate plastic marine litter?**

**Group leaders: Maggie, Stefanie, Aqeela**





## RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMITMENTS

**Group leaders: Maggie, Stefanie, Aqeela**



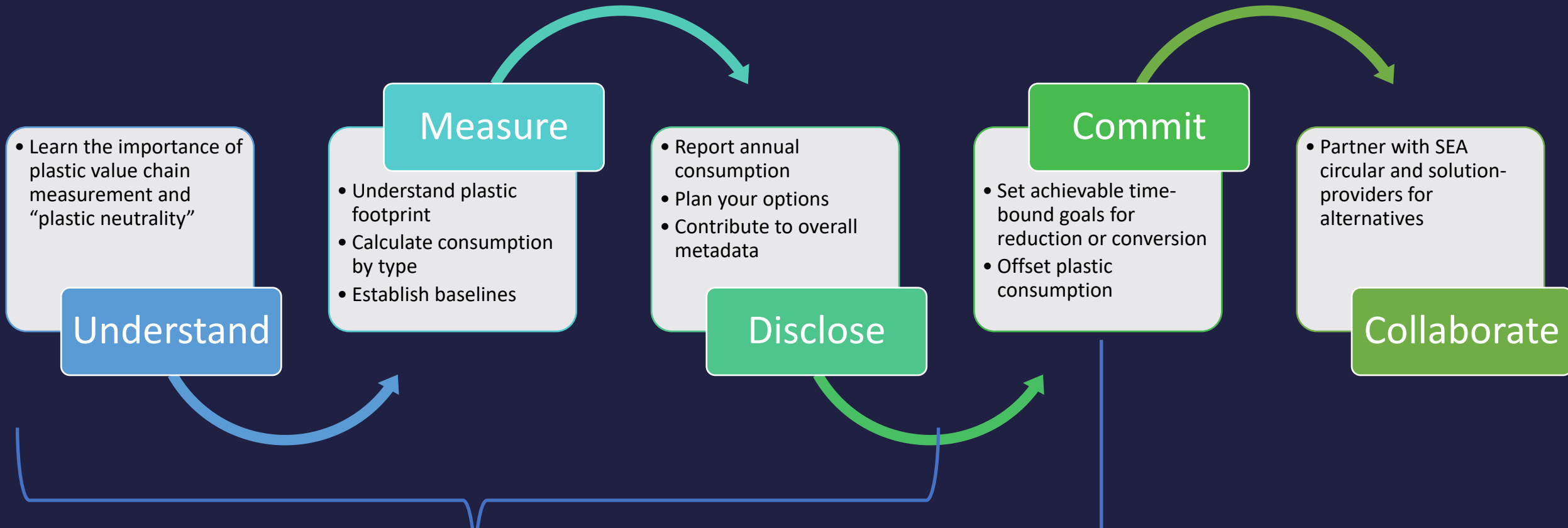


## **FIRST ACTIONS ON MEASUREMENT: Plastic Footprint Measurement**

**Ms. Maggie Lee**



# HOW CAN SEA CIRCULAR HELP?



PLASTIC  
DISCLOSURE  
PROJECT



**PACT**  
No Plastics  
in Nature  
A WWF INITIATIVE FOR  
A CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND  
NO PLASTICS IN NATURE BY 2030



## PLASTICS FOOTPRINT: DO YOU KNOW YOURS?

- Credible, legitimate, real data to guide actions
- Understand current status, identify risks and opportunities
- Guide target setting and courses of action:
  - Measure
  - Manage
  - Reduce
- Track progress towards targets over time
- Disclose to your stakeholders



*If you don't measure  
it...*

*...you can't manage  
it.*



# PDP AND SEA CIRCULAR

## Baseline & Benchmark with the PDP

By being part of the UN's SEA circular initiative, you will have training and support for undertaking the PDP, and become a leader in Southeast Asia with respect to plastic knowhow and management within your operations.

Undertaking the Plastic Disclosure Project (PDP) will allow your company to better manage its plastic use, recovery and waste impacts.



# WHAT DOES THE PDP DO?

## Objectives:

- Reduce plastic waste in the environment
- Encourage sustainable business practices
- Inspire improved designs & innovative solutions



## Mission:

- Annual disclosure of plastic footprints / management strategies
- Efficiencies in plastic use, reuse and recycling
- Awareness of plastic investment risks & opportunities

Companies and institutions can make improvements by ...

- Increasing recycled content
- Improving recycling programs
- Using less plastic packaging and reducing supply chain waste
- Developing new designs
- Introducing new materials

...reducing environmental impact





## FOLLOW-UP AND NEXT STEPS





# SEA<sup>of</sup> Solutions

24-26 NOVEMBER 2020

Co-hosted by the Government of Viet Nam

Wasting less plastic and keeping it out  
of the ocean - Has the needle moved?

Learn and engage in discussions about

- How COVID-19 challenges and provides opportunities for reduction and recycling
- Transformative solutions for society and businesses that encourage disclosure and monetizing waste
- How market perceptions and consumer behavior can promote policies and incentives towards less plastic wasted

If you wish to host a session or side event,  
please contact [sea-of-solutions@un.org](mailto:sea-of-solutions@un.org)

For more info, visit: <https://cutt.ly/SOS20>



**Thank you**  
[sea-circular@un.org](mailto:sea-circular@un.org)

