

An underwater photograph showing a massive accumulation of plastic waste in the ocean, forming a large, circular gyre. Several sea turtles are seen swimming through the debris, which includes various types of plastic bottles, bags, and other trash. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the scene is illuminated from above, creating a somber and urgent atmosphere.

SEA of Solutions 2019

11-14 November 2019

**Partnership week
for marine plastic
pollution prevention**

sos2019.sea-circular.org



Welcome to SEA of Solutions 2019

from Inger Andersen, Executive Director,
United Nations Environment Programme

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to SEA of Solutions 2019: Partnership week for marine plastic pollution prevention.

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Coordinating Body of the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) are bringing together governments, business leaders, scientists, UN agencies and community groups, for a dialogue on solutions to address marine plastic pollution.

Plastic waste is choking our rivers and seas, threatening ecosystems and livelihoods in South East Asia and beyond. Striving for cleaner seas, wasting less plastic and moving to circularity, requires fundamental changes throughout the plastic value chain.

Asia has become a major hotspot of plastic leakage. Plastic pollution is an acute threat to the region's environment, particularly marine and coastal ecosystems. It also threatens economic development, societal well-being, food security and human health.

At UNEP, we engage on the plastic pollution challenge through our Regional Seas Programme, and policy advocacy with member states, civil society and the private sector to address the root causes of marine litter by targeting the production and consumption of non-recoverable and single-use plastics. Our global Clean Seas campaign aims to generate awareness and action for our seas with 60 countries now part of this global push.

SEA of Solutions 2019 is a significant opportunity to build partnerships, upscale innovations, raise ambition and drive action along the plastic value chain - to achieve regional and global transformation.

In your deliberations this week, I encourage you to stretch to develop innovative and holistic solutions to the crisis of plastic pollution.

I wish you every success.

A collage of various plastic and glass bottles and containers against a blue background. At the top, there are several clear and green glass bottles, some with decorative patterns. To the right, a portion of a cardboard box is visible. At the bottom, there are a white plastic bottle, a crumpled green plastic bag, and a clear plastic water bottle with a white cap.

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SEA of Solutions 2019

Plastic waste is choking our rivers and seas, threatening ecosystems and livelihoods in South-East Asia. Striving for cleaner seas, less plastic wasted and a more circular economy requires fundamental changes throughout the plastic value chain.



SEA of Solutions 2019 is the first annual partnership week convened by SEA circular – an initiative from the UN Environment Programme and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), with support from the Swedish Government – to inspire market-based solutions and encourage enabling policies to prevent marine plastic pollution in South East Asia.

SEA circular works in partnership with governments, businesses, civil society, development partners, academia, UN agencies and the media to solve plastic pollution at source.

SEA of Solutions 2019 is bringing together governments, business leaders, scientists, UN agencies and community groups, to dialogue on solutions for marine plastic pollution.

SEA of Solutions 2019 will:

INFORM:

Showcase dynamic dialogue on topical issues – including trade of plastic waste, second life markets and recovery, circular economy, and packaging and e-commerce.

INSPIRE:

Provide a platform for private sector, academia, governments and communities to connect and effect change.

ACTIVATE:

Build partnerships and initiate regional coordination efforts, to find tangible solutions to marine plastic pollution in South East Asia.

JOIN US:

For a week of expert dialogue incorporating a high-level forum, to drive forward solutions to this urgent issue.

[We can find solutions to marine plastic pollution in South-East Asia. Together, less plastic wasted](#)

OVERVIEW:

DAY 1 – 11 NOV:

Solutions with science: What does the latest science tell us?

DAY 2 – 12 NOV:

Plasticity @ SEA of Solutions: Solutions through innovation and business: How does a more circular economy prevent marine plastic pollution?

DAY 3 – 13 NOV:

Solutions from communities: How do we get communities involved in the transformation?

DAY 4 – 14 NOV:

SEA of Solutions 2019: Forum on plastic pollution solutions

SEA of Solutions 2019

‘Week at a Glance’

	Day 1 Monday 11 November 2019 Solutions with science	Day 2 Tuesday 12 November 2019 Plasticity @SEA of Solutions
07:00-08:00	Registration	
Morning	Opening plenary: What does the latest science tell us?	
	Parallel sessions	
	State of the science: How does scientific research support action to combat marine plastics in South East Asia	Gender and social dimensions of marine litter pollution
	Coffee Break	
	Transboundary movement of plastic waste	
	08:30-10:30 Plastic circularity today: The macro, micro and continuing disruption	
	Coffee Break	
	Pioneering our future: Innovation takes inspiration and perspiration	
Lunch	Lunch	
Afternoon	Parallel sessions	
	Towards better data: Monitoring, assessment and related technologies	Governance frameworks to manage marine plastics
	Coffee Break	
	Chemicals and plastics	
	Making circular the default: Embedding circularity for a circular economy	
	Coffee Break	
	The numbers game: Money makes the world go round and the circle circular	
	END OF DAY 1	
	END OF DAY 2	
Evening	Plasticity networking drinks	

	Day 3 Wednesday 13 November 2019 Solutions from communities	Day 4 Thursday 14 November Forum on marine plastic pollution solutions
07:00–08:00	Registration	
Morning	Opening plenary: Localizing multi-stakeholder coordinated actions for fighting plastic pollution	Welcome
		Opening plenary: Take it back! Bring it back!: Solutions for the illegal trade in plastic waste
	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
	Leading at the local level: Youth and community solutions	I want to live forever: Solutions to close the loop for packaging, recycling and e-commerce
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Afternoon	Valuing waste: Business solutions	Money money money!: Solutions to address plastic pollution through finance for innovation and technology
	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
	Localizing transformation: National and local government solutions	Voices for solutions to the plastic pollution conundrum
	END OF DAY 3	END OF DAY 4
Evening	Asia Environmental Enforcement Awards	Partnership cocktails

DAY 1

Solutions with science





Opening plenary – What does the latest science tell us?

09:00 – 09:30

Tackling marine plastic litter requires coordinated efforts across all sectors. Scientific research has played a big role in advancing our understanding of the problem, its extent and impacts, as well as in driving attention to it at every level of society. Science and the knowledge it generates continues to be the foundation for solutions to marine plastic pollution, through research, monitoring and assessments, through material, product and process design, and by providing an evidence-base for policy.

Setting the stage for the SEA of Solutions, this opening plenary will consider how far the science has taken us – what do we know and what have we achieved? – as well as what we still need the science to tell us in order to successfully tackle marine plastic pollution.

MC

- Nadya Hutagalung, UN Goodwill Ambassador

Keynote:

- Wijarn Simachaya, President, Thailand Environment Institute

Parallel session 1 – State of the science: How does scientific research support action to combat marine plastics in South East Asia?

09:30 – 10:30

To be successful, solutions to marine plastic pollution must be predicated upon a clear understanding of the issues based on sound science. This session will discuss findings of a review of scientific research on marine plastic pollution in South East Asia and consider how critical research gaps can be filled.

Presentations, follow-up discussions and Q&A in this session will explore the current state of scientific knowledge on marine plastic litter in the region, including the extent to which current research addresses the priorities or areas of focus of marine litter policy frameworks, initiatives and programmes driven by governments, industry and civil society. Based on this, the session will seek to identify key gaps in research.

Moderator:

- Youna Lyons, National University of Singapore, Centre for International Law

Discussants:

- Amanda Lim Yue Han, NUS
- Yuke Ling Tay, Natural Scientist, NUS
- Wenxi Zhu, Head, Programme Specialist, IOC-WESTPAC

QUESTIONS

- What are the drivers of research on marine plastic pollution in the region?
- How does current science line up with the policy and governance space, and where does the science need to focus to address the key policy questions in the region?
- How are these scientific findings being disseminated, communicated across varied stakeholders, and translated into evidence-based policymaking, business innovations and citizens participation in designing and delivering the ground solutions?



Parallel session 2 – Gender and social dimensions of marine litter pollution

09:30 – 10:30

Plastic is ubiquitous, affecting a range of stakeholders, public health and wellbeing as well as economic development. It may also be a significant vulnerability multiplier in key sectors and among those already poor and marginalized, including people living on or near coastlines. An analysis conducted by UNEP, the Coordinating Body of the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), to be launched at the event, highlights initial findings and existing knowledge gaps in relation to the gender, human rights and economic dimensions of marine plastic litter.

This session will provide insights on the gender and human rights dimensions of marine plastic litter, and how consideration of this can contribute to fair, equitable and ethically sound action and sustainable outcomes in the longer term.

Moderator:

- Niall O'Connor, Director, Asia Centre, Stockholm Environment Institute

Discussants:

- May Thazin Aung, Research Associate, Stockholm Environment Institute
- Kabir Arora, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) and Organizing (WIEGO)
- Sumangali Krishnan, GA Circular, Singapore.

QUESTIONS

- What are the weaknesses and knowledge/data gaps on the gender and human rights-based approach in marine plastic pollution sector as compared to other fields where gender and human rights based approaches (HRBA) principles have been well articulated?
- What are the key recommendations for the people-centred and gender-inclusive actions in policy and practices to address marine plastic pollution?



Parallel session – Transboundary movement of plastic waste

11:00 – 12:30

The international trade in plastic waste for disposal and recycling has boomed. Social, economic, and environmental impacts arise as a result of mismanagement and weak accountability, prompting several countries in South East Asia to impose restrictions on scrap plastic imports. This has led to spill over to other countries, and illegal trade persists. A better understanding of waste flows and better management of the waste trade is needed. This session will discuss the plastics waste trade, including the flow of plastic waste into and within the region. Discussants will consider approaches (including technological and policy-led) towards better management of waste trade, as well as enhanced enforcement, research and other aspects to effectively tackle the illegal waste trade.

Moderator:

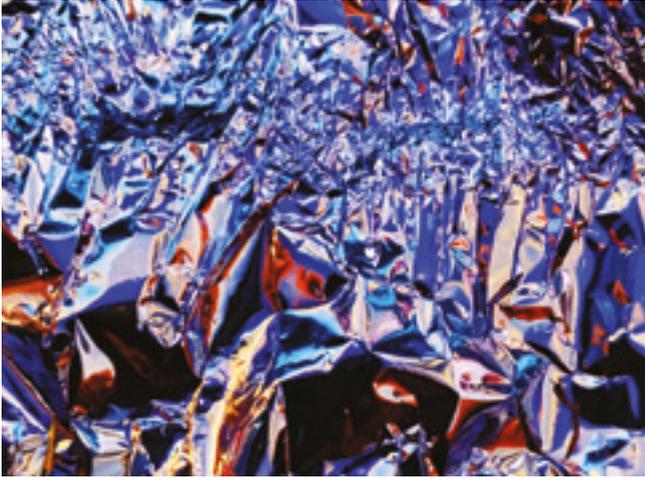
- Giovanni Broussard, Regional Programme Coordinator, UNODC

Discussants:

- Panate Manomaivibool, Lecturer, Mae Fah Luang University
- Michikazu Kojima, Senior Economist, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA)
- Jayaprakash Murulitharan, Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia
- Maria Tsakona, Senior Expert Waste Management, GRID Arendal

QUESTIONS

- What is the current state of knowledge of waste trade in the region, and what are the critical knowledge gaps? How can the knowledge foundation for better decision-making be strengthened?
- Are national legislation and regulations among countries of export, transit and import sufficient, or do they present significant problems of management and enforcement?



Parallel session 3 – Towards better data: Monitoring, assessment and related technologies

13:30 – 15:00

Data drives effective policy, business and technological solutions. Defining and prioritizing interventions to address marine plastic litter and tracking their efficacy is, however, undermined by data limitations, including lack of harmonized assessment and monitoring methodologies. Existing data on plastic pollution is often not available to various stakeholders in ready-to-use formats.

This session will focus on finding solutions through better data, including how assessment and monitoring can underpin effective action, and how new technologies can be applied.

Moderator:

- Heidi Savelli, UNEP GPA/Global Partnership for Marine Litter (GPML)

Discussants:

- Qamar Schuyler, Research Scientist, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Association (CSIRO)
- Lixin Zhu, East China Normal University
- Ran Xie, Associate Programme Officer, Consumption and Production Unit, Economy Division, UN Environment
- Kavinda Gunasekara, Senior Programme Specialist, Asian Institute of Technology
- Nani Hendiarti, Director, Marine science and technology, Coordinating Ministry of Maritime Affairs (CMMA)
- Suchana Chavanich, Associate Professor, Chulalongkorn University
- Tatsuya Abe, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan
- Peter Kershaw, Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, UK

QUESTIONS

- What are the current gaps in marine plastic data in the region, and how can these gaps be filled?
- How can data from different sources be harmonized and combined to get a holistic picture at national and the regional level?
- How can new approaches and technologies help fill existing data gaps and facilitate greater use of good quality, unbiased, and purpose-driven data for better decision-making?

Parallel session 4 – Governance frameworks to manage marine plastics

13:30 – 15:00

To be successful, solutions to marine plastic pollution must take into consideration institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks at international, regional and local levels. Consideration of these frameworks is not relevant to governments only. To be fully effective, they must be embraced and leveraged also by development actors, private industries and civil society.

This session will discuss existing initiatives, challenges and possible paths forward to manage marine plastics, from the perspective of a state, the civil society, and research on the circular economy, in the context of South East Asia

Moderator:

- Youna Lyons, National University of Singapore, Centre for International Law

Discussants:

- Vu Hai Dang, National University of Singapore, Centre for International Law
- Karen Raubenheimer, Lecturer, University of Wollongong
- Kim Nong, Deputy Secretary General for National Committee for Coastal Management and Development, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia
- Yegor Volovik, Coordinator, Northwest Pacific Action Plan
- Yasuhiko Hotta, Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

QUESTIONS

- What are the regional governance frameworks in South east Asia, their progress, and challenges for the region?
- How are these international, regional and subregional responses to plastic pollution steering action at national level, and how can they be better leveraged? What are the difficulties encountered and support needed by States?
- How to better involve private initiatives in the context of regional legal and institutional frameworks?



Plenary session – Chemicals and plastic 15:30 – 16:45

The urgent need to address pollution by marine plastic litter and microplastics is now widely recognized. The damage which plastics can do is often visible and dramatic. What is less apparent is the risk associated with additives and chemicals in and on plastics.

A large number of chemicals are used in the production of plastic materials ranging from the monomers that make up the plastic polymer itself, to a wide range of additives used, for example to soften plastic, colour it or make it less flammable.

Despite how useful these additives are in the functionality of polymer products, their potential to contaminate soil, air, water and food is widely documented in literature.

The presence of additives is also a major challenge to recycling, or extending lifetime of products. A circular economy won't be achieved unless this challenge is addressed effectively.

In addition, plastics plays a role of carriers of bacteria, POPs and other chemicals of concern, posing a serious threat to environment and human health.

Moderator:

- Sandra Averous-Monnery, Associate Programme Officer, Economy Division, UNEP

Discussants:

- Hideshige Takada, Professor, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
- Chen Yuan, Basel and Stockholm Convention Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (BCRC-SCRC China)
- Nguyen Anh-Tuan, Vietnam Environment Administration (VEA), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, MONRE
- Roland Weber, Independent Researcher
- Maria Neira, Director, Department of Public Health, Environment and Social Determinants of Health, WHO

Closing plenary 16:45 – 17:00

Doug Woodring, Founder, Ocean Recovery Alliance
Jerker Tamelander, Coordinator COBSEA, UNEP

QUESTIONS

- Toxic or potentially toxic properties of plastics including chemical additives in plastics, as well as chemicals adsorbed to plastics in the marine environment;
- The implications and existent/proposed solutions from different perspectives of plastic lifecycle: design, recycling, waste-water treatment and policies interventions.

DAY 2

Plasticity @ SEA of Solutions





**Opening session – Plastic circularity today:
The macro, micro and continuing disruption
08:30 – 10:20**

In a world reliant on global trade, plastic waste has become toxic. The heady mix of plastic waste, global damage, and national interest put an end to the Wild West recycling trade: China’s National Sword and the Basel Amendments sealed that door.

Where to from here? How do we manage the macro and micro economics of global trade and achieve circular economy? What does the New Order mean? And what are the business take-outs?

Five TED Talk-style Keynote speakers will be followed by a facilitated panel.

MC:

- Gillian Hyde, The Plastics Circle

Moderator:

- Trish Hyde, The Plastics Circle and Plasticity

Discussants:

- Doug Woodring, Founder, Plasticity and Ocean Recovery Alliance
- Steve Wong, MD, Fukutomi Ltd. / Chair, China Scrap Plastics Association
- Belinda Ford, Public Affairs, Comms and Sustainability Director, Coca-Cola ASEAN
- Sumangali Krishnan, Chief Business Officer, GA Circular
- Oscar Wang, Deputy Director, IQTC

**Pioneering our future: Innovation takes
inspiration and perspiration
10:40 – 13:00**

With great challenges come business opportunities. These opportunities can only be captured through innovation. Whether through intrapreneurship or entrepreneurship, people are driving change.

This session introduces several passionate plastic circular economy innovators, exploring their ideas and business models – and asking what is needed for success? (including attracting investment).

Meet the Innovators: A keynote brand and four TED Talk-style speakers, four pitches, and a facilitated panel.

Moderator:

- Trish Hyde, The Plastics Circle and Plasticity

Discussants:

- Vivekanand Sistla, R&D Director, Beauty & Personal Care, Unilever Thailand
- Pei Kang Ng, CEO / Co-Founder, Tria Bio
- Pete Ceglinski, CEO, The Seabin Project
- Ravish Majithia, Founder & Materials Scientist, Magnomer
- Murray Hyde, COO, The Plastics Circle
- Sracha Udomsak, Chief Technology Officer, Siam Cement Group

Plasticity Prize

- The PLASTICITY PRIZE – Four Entrepreneurs | Four Pitches | Five minutes to impress. And YOU decide who wins!



Making circular the default: Embedding circularity for a circular economy

13:45 – 15:45

How can businesses influence or create circularity? Using case studies, this session explores the business case, the challenges and benefits of building a product-based circular economy; how individuals can influence cultural and actual change from within; balancing marketing and sustainability for brand reputation; and approaches to regulation that deliver quadruple bottom line.

Four TED Talk-style keynote speakers and one interactive session on global trade.

Moderator:

- Trish Hyde, The Plastics Circle and Plasticity

Discussants:

- Ran Xie, Associate Programme Officer, Economy Division, UN Environment Programme
- Ambrogio Miserocchi, Management Associate, Sustainability Development, Thai Union Group PCL
- Eduardo Garza, Creative Director & Partner, Waste2Wear (Delivering a Big and Bold Business Initiative)
- Lars Svensson, Sustainability and Communication Director, IKEA Southeast Asia, Influencing Change

Final session – The numbers game: Money makes the world go round and the circle circular

16:10 – 17:15

But first, an announcement: today's PLASTICITY PRIZE WINNER – as voted by you!

Plastic pollution is an economic problem. In this session we examine the role of investment, market levers, business practice and need. In a world dominated by share markets and 10x returns, how do we build a framework that supports revolutionary innovation, de-risks high risk and gets investment where it is needed?

This session has two panels that work like a mini debate. It's called the Circulate Sessions.

The Circulate Sessions

1. CIRCULATE SESSION 1: Financing circularity (or 'show me the money'...)

A fireside chat on the delicate topic of financing plastic circular economy start-ups, scale-ups, expansions, cleantech, social inclusion – spanning multiple countries and jurisdictions.

- Regula Schegg, Managing Director Asia, Circulate Capital
- Phineas Glover, Head of ESG, Credit Suisse (invited)
- Doug Woodring, Founder, Plasticity Forum and Sustainability Economist

2. CIRCULATE SESSION 2: Circularity in plastics: Finance meets business...

Following the exploration of the finance landscape, this session applies a business practicum overlay – the insights from business people dealing with the money-side of things.

- Helmut Schmitz, Head of Public Affairs, Der Gruene Punkt, The Green Dot (invited),
- Richard Jones, Senior Vice President, Indorama Ventures PCL
- Singh Intrachooto, Asst Prof Kasetsart University Faculty of Architecture
- Maurice Evers, CEO, De Paauw Recycling



The open forum

17:15- 17:45

A mix of Q&A, thoughts and take-outs, with questions from the floor for the speakers of the day – and comments and observations from participants.

The final insights will come from [Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida](#), [Regional Coordinator for Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality, Asia and Pacific Office, UNEP](#), about the challenges, the inspiration and the learnings they will take into tomorrow's SEA of Solutions – and critically, all of the days beyond.

Moderators:

- Trish Hyde, The Plastic Circle and Plasticity
- Doug Woodring, Founder, Ocean Recovery Alliance



Day close and networking open

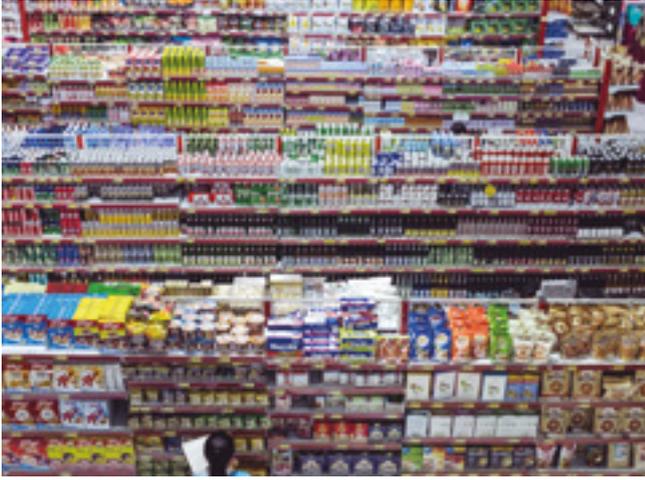
17:45 – 19.00

At the close of Plasticity – and ahead of Day 3 for Sea of Solutions – we continue the discussions over a well-earned drink and a bite to eat. It is a great opportunity to network, and – who knows? Maybe you'll spark the conversation that will ignite a world-changing initiative.

DAY 3

Solutions from communities





Opening Plenary – Localizing multi-stakeholder coordinated actions for fighting plastic pollution

09:00 – 10:15

Tackling the problem of plastic pollution requires a range of measures at the local, national and international levels. Businesses, government, academia and civil society are bringing innovative ideas, resources and expertise to implement practical solutions to fight plastic pollution.

Keynote speeches in this session will highlight these multiple perspectives. The session will demonstrate coordinated policies, technologies, research and innovation, business practices, and behavioural change actions and initiatives from national and local government, businesses, communities and youth – promoting local solutions to plastic pollution.

This session will also seek to highlight local solutions with the aim to encourage multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Day 3 MC:

- Antoinette Taus, UNEP National Goodwill Ambassador, Founder, Planet CORA

Moderator:

- Omar Siddique, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Urban Development Section, ESCAP

Discussants:

- Hidetoshi Nihimura, President, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia
- Alexander Rendell, Managing Director, EEC Thailand

Plenary session – Leading at the local level: Youth and community solutions

10:45 – 12:15

Communities are an important component in building circularity in the plastic value chain. It is imperative to change collective behaviours and cultures within communities, to reduce plastic consumption and fight plastic pollution.

This session will focus on community-based awareness-raising efforts, advocacy, innovations, and the application of science and grass-root knowledge. The session will seek solutions through the actions of communities – particularly youth – and show how these play an essential role in circular economy approaches for plastic waste management.

Examples of youth and community-led initiatives to drive change at local and policy levels will be highlighted – including the role of environmental education. Examples will include youth-led awareness-raising campaigns, actions in influencing businesses and policymakers, and promotion of entrepreneurship.

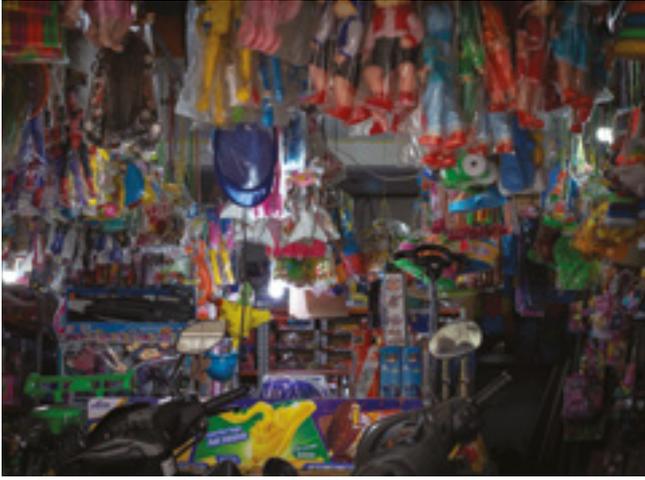
The session will showcase the measures that are being advocated by governments and businesses to invest in communities and harness youth action. Discussion will centre on how inclusive these community and youth-oriented actions are – and whether they fully consider how plastic pollution affects various groups in different ways. Discussants will look at ways to translate, replicate and upscale these community and youth solutions into policy-making and business innovations in South East Asia.

Moderator:

- Antoinette Taus, UNEP National Goodwill Ambassador, Founder, Planet CORA

Discussants:

- Ralyn 'Lilly' Satidtanasarn, Bye Bye Plastic Bags, Thailand
- Helen Mullen, Co-Founder, Ecobeast Group
- Katy Waring, Co-Founder, Ecobeast Group
- Sujitra Vassanadumrongdee, Project Manager, Chula Zero Waste
- Kaye Vasey, Chief Connecting Officer, Mesh Minds
- Wayne Nicholas Phillips, Lecturer, Mahidol University
- David Robinson, Director, Bangkok River Partners



Plenary Session – Valuing waste: Business solutions

13:15 – 14.45

Many socially responsible businesses are collaborating with local, national and international governments to seek solutions to plastic waste. The private sector is working alongside research institutions, and together with communities – including the informal waste sector and affected and disadvantaged groups.

Solutions include technological and design innovation to promote resource efficiency, material and energy recovery from waste, reverse logistics business models, and provision of social and livelihood support for the informal sector and the most affected groups.

This session will look at two streams to find value in waste: (1) Recovering and utilizing material and energy value to reduce waste – including opportunities for public-private collaboration, and; (2) Managing waste through focusing on resource efficiency and developing alternatives to conventional waste management systems.

Discussants will focus on impactful business solutions to address the entire value chain – rather than just focusing on recycling. They will consider whether solutions will be best achieved through voluntary corporate social responsibility, or mandated extended producer responsibility. Solutions will highlight how businesses are championing the cause, and bringing other companies/ businesses with them in the fight against plastic pollution.

Moderator:

- Esther An, Chief Sustainability Officer, CDL Singapore

Discussants:

- Salinla Seehaphan, Corporate Affairs Director, Tesco Lotus
- Atip Asvanund, Head of Sustainability Development: Social Activities and Academics, Charoen Pokphand Group (CP)
- Paola Cortese, Country Director, Plastic Bank, Indonesia
- Maeve Nightingale, Senior Programme Coordinator, Coast and Marine, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



Plenary session – Localizing transformation: National and local government solutions

15:15 – 16:45

National and local governments in South East Asia are becoming more active in reducing plastic waste and addressing marine plastic pollution. These efforts are being driven by economic incentives, as well as the demands of civil society, youth, socially-responsible businesses, and international efforts.

Governments are taking action through enabling market-based instruments, and promoting waste management programmes. It is important to forge strong partnerships through various initiatives for localizing solutions to plastic pollution in cities and countries.

Discussion in this session will focus on national and municipal authorities which are championing change and demonstrating policy innovations to tackle plastic waste. Discussants will consider how the private sector and civil society can work together with national and local government to localize plastic pollution solutions. Solutions will demonstrate how national governments are promoting local governments to champion plastic waste management, and how local actions by municipalities can be upscaled.

Moderator:

- TBC

Discussants:

- Aimee Gonzales, Executive Director, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia
- Yumi Nishikawa, Lead, Regional Plastic-Smart Cities, SEA, WWF
- Kazuhide Umemoto, Deputy Mayor, Kitakyushu, Japan
- Singthong Nunnumsisawat, Mayor, Wiang Thoeng Tambon Municipality, Chiang Rai, Thailand

DAY 4

Forum on plastic pollution solutions





Welcome

09:00–10:00

09:00 – 09:05 Audio-visual opening

**09:05 – 09:10 Message from Inger Andersen,
Executive Director, UNEP**

09:10 – 09:15 Welcome Remarks

- Dechen Tsering, Regional Director, UN Environment Programme, Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific

09:15 – 09:25 Special Remarks

- H.E. Helen Ågren, Swedish Ambassador for the Ocean, Swedish Ministry of the Environment

09:25 – 09:35 Opening Remarks

- H.E. Varawut Silpa-archa, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Kingdom of Thailand

09:35 – 10.00 Keynote

- Lillygol Sedaghat, Spokesperson for Global Planet or Plastic Campaign, National Geographic



Opening plenary – Take it Back! Bring it back!: Solutions for illegal trade in plastic waste 10:30–11:45

The rapid growth in the production, use and disposal of plastic represents a challenge for waste management systems. It has resulted in a global trade in plastic waste. In January 2018, China banned the import of 24 types of waste, including various plastics. Since then, plastic waste exports have been re-routed to South East Asia countries, including Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Viet Nam. This is posing a threat to the environment and human health.

The global trade of waste and plastic waste involves a wide range of actors. Therefore, traceability and control is proving a challenge. Countries are taking steps to address this issue. Countries are no longer issuing permits to import plastic scrap and are announcing the shipping back of contaminated plastic waste. Much of this plastic waste was being brought in illegally in containers, once the containers are fully inspected.

Containers of contaminated plastic are now sitting in ports – which is posing environmental and health risks. Recycling sectors with proper credentials are awaiting legal shipments of non-contaminated plastic.

To tackle the issue of illegal trade of plastic waste, the national competent authorities must have the capacity to monitor and control the flow of plastic waste, and to implement and enforce existing legislation and policies. Source countries – where the plastic waste originates – are also being engaged to tackle the problem at source.

This session will consider the multi-pronged initiatives being undertaken by both source and recipient countries, national and international frameworks to clean up the plastic waste trade. Policies such as the Basel Convention will be discussed, as well as the role of enforcement agencies in addressing the challenges brought by the illegal trade in plastic waste.

Moderator:

- Veronica Pedrosa

Discussants:

- Huib van Westen, Coordinator, Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste
- Carlos Martin-Novella, Deputy Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
- Zuraini Ahmad Tajuddin, Senior Principal Assistant Director, Department of Environment, Selangor, Malaysia
- Emilie Devenport, Co-founder, River Recycle, Bangkok
- Benedicte Niel, Principal Agent, Global Pollution Enforcement Team, Environmental Security Programme, INTERPOL
- Naporn Popattanachai, Director, Centre of Natural Resources and Environmental Law, Thammasat University

QUESTIONS

- How can we ensure the traceability of the plastic waste being traded, through strengthening data and intelligence-sharing amongst transboundary stakeholders?
- What are the challenges and gaps in the enforcement of inspection and controlling the illegal trade in plastic waste?
- How will the Basel Convention agreement to include mixed, unrecyclable and contaminated plastic waste exports support environmental justice and an ethical circular economy?
- How will the Basel Convention agreement to include mixed, unrecyclable and contaminated plastic waste exports support environmentally sound recycling for domestically created plastic waste?
- What are the challenges of the Basel Amendments in restricting trading and movement of plastic as a commodity?



Plenary Session – I want to live forever: Solutions to close the loop for packaging, recycling and e-commerce

13.00 – 14:15

Plastic, as a packaging material, has revolutionized the way we produce, distribute and consume goods and services. It has increased products' shelf life and offers ease of transport. The packaging industry accounts for 35.9% of global plastic consumption. Most packaging is for single use. There are few incentives to reduce wastage in plastic packaging or to choose more environmentally sound packaging. There is inadequate investment in developing alternative packaging materials. As result, plastic packaging has become an additional burden for already inadequate municipal solid waste management systems.

This session will consider how businesses in the South East Asian region are beginning to respond to the immense challenge of packaging waste by setting their own targets on recycling rates and recycled plastic usage. It will review how governments are implementing policies to eliminate selected plastic items. Other actions to help close the loop include: Design for recyclability for second life / material recycling, material bans / restrictions, policies on alternative packaging, source segregation and separated collection and extended producer responsibility (EPR).

Moderator:

- Veronica Pedrosa, Independent Broadcast Journalist

Discussants:

- Laksmi Dhewanthi, Senior Advisor to the Minister on Industry and International Trade, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia
- Richard Jones, Senior Vice President, Indorama Ventures
- Stein Hansen, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, UNIDO
- Paradorn Chulajata, Managing Director, Pre Pack Thailand and Chairman, Plastic Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries
- Guiseppe Busini, Deputy Head of Mission, European Union Delegation to Thailand

QUESTIONS

- How will governments disincentivise the production and utilization of single-use plastic items including packaging in South East Asia?
- Which trends in industrial development in South East Asia that will work towards or against our collective interest to reduce plastic wastage and plastic pollution?
- How will businesses reduce wastage of plastics, especially packaging, in South East Asia?
- How can governments, businesses and consumers collaborate in bringing the life cycle approach to the plastic value chain?



Plenary Session – Money money money!: Solutions to address plastic pollution through finance for innovation and technology

14:15 – 15:30

Plastic waste management is costly for local and national governments. Basic solid waste management systems covering collection, transport, and sanitary disposal in low-income countries cost US\$35 per tonnes at a minimum. Marine plastic pollution costs the world up to US\$2.5 trillion a year. There is a significant lack of inclusive financing options, investment, and technology innovations to mainstream alternative materials to plastic, to improve waste management systems, and to generate more circular business opportunities to reduce plastic wastage throughout the value chain.

This session will identify ways to finance innovations and technology advancement to bring solutions to plastic wastage and marine plastic pollution in South East Asia. In this panel discussion, Discussants will demonstrate how financial investments can accelerate and scale up solutions to marine plastic pollution.

Moderator:

- Veronica Pedrosa, Independent Broadcast Journalist

Discussants:

- Steve Sikra, Senior Advisor, Alliance to End Plastic Waste
- Nalini Shekar, Co-founder, Hasiru Dala Innovations, Bangalore
- Sharinee Shannon Kalayanamitr, Venture Partner, Gobi Partners
- Casper Durandt, Chairman, PETCO
- Christophe Crepin, Practice Manager for East Asia and Pacific Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy, World Bank

QUESTIONS

- How much money do governments and municipal authorities currently invest in managing plastic waste?
- How can adequate financing be (re)directed to support research and development in material alternatives to plastic?
- Should businesses be more financially responsible for managing the plastic waste they generate?
- What exciting new investment opportunities exist in alternative materials innovation and circular economy?
- How can financing for new technologies and circular business opportunities be generated?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for waste management investments in the region?



Plenary session – Voices for solutions to the plastic pollution conundrum

16.00 – 16:45

This session will raise collective regional voices for solutions to the plastic pollution conundrum.

Following a multimedia presentation, the ‘fireside-chat’ style session will feature messages of urgency, pledges, announcements and commitments from various perspectives – of national and local governments, research and academia, private sector, community groups, youth and media.

The aim is to focus on ways forward and collective actions, exemplifying a partnership approach for marine plastic pollution prevention in South East Asia.

Moderator:

- Veronica Pedrosa, Independent Broadcast Journalist

Discussants:

National government

- H.E. Samantha K. Jayasuriya, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Thailand
- Tokuaki Shobayashi, Deputy Director General, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan
- Makarim Wibisono, Senior Adviser to the Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia

Regional

- Vong Sok, Head of Environment Division, Sustainable Development Directorate, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat

Research / science

- Chayaporn Wattanasiri, President, Mae Fah Luang University
- Masahito Yeno, Project Manager, R&D, Mitsui Chemicals

Informal sector

- Nalini Shekar, Co-founder, Hasiru Dala Innovations, Bangalore

Business

- Alope Lohia, CEO, Indorama Ventures Limited
- Belinda Ford, ASEAN Director of Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability, Coca-Cola ASEAN

Youth

- Louise Mabulo, UN Young Champion of the Earth 2019

Communities

- Antoinette Taus, UNEP National Goodwill Ambassador, Planet CORA

Closing Summary – SEA of Solutions 2019: Outcome, roadmap and action plan on marine litter and pollution prevention

16:45 – 16:50

Moderator:

- Veronica Pedrosa, Independent Broadcast Journalist

Closing Remarks

16:50 – 17:00

Moderator:

- Dechen Tsering, Regional Director, UN Environment Programme Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific

SPEAKERS





Aimee Gonzales,
Executive Director,
Partnerships in Environmental
Management for the Seas
of East Asia (PEMSEA)

Aimee Gonzales is the Executive Director at Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA). Aimee Gonzales has more than 20 years of experience in managing multicultural teams in the design and implementation of marine/fisheries strategies and public policy reform to mainstream environment in regulatory, planning and investment frameworks. Prior to joining PEMSEA, Ms. Gonzales held various posts at WWF International. The most recent was as Manager of the Marine Ecosystems Goods and Services, where she worked on evidence-based economics and policy analysis on marine/fisheries issues. Her previous positions include Manager for EU Fisheries and Trade, Senior Policy Adviser for Trade and Investment and Coordinator of the Expert Panel on Trade and Sustainable Development. Aimee holds a Masters in Environmental Assessment and Education from the London School of Economics and a Master in Public Policy from National University of Singapore.



Alexander Rendell,
Co-founder and CEO,
Environmental
Education Center (EEC)

Alexander Rendell is an actor, singer, Co-founder and CEO of the Environmental Education Center (EEC), an organization that raises environmental awareness among kids through camps. The EEC is in its fifth year of operations and has hosted around 150 camps. Using nature as its classroom, the group organises outdoor activities and camping trips to encourage young people to help protect the earth's resources. Alexander aims to foster environmental consciousness in kids, to tackle the environmental crisis from the ground up. He holds a Master in Environmental Social Science from Mahidol University and a Bachelor in Communication and Media Studies from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.



Aloke Lohia, Founder,
CEO, Executive Director,
Indorama Ventures PCL

Aloke Lohia is the Founder, CEO, Vice Chairman and Executive Director of Indorama Ventures PCL. He is the Chairman of the company's Sustainability Committee and a member of the nomination, compensation and corporate governance committee. Indorama Ventures is the world's largest producer of PET polymer by capacity. Under his leadership, IVL has established a recycling business to respond to the challenges of resource management as well as the need for sustainable packaging. Indorama has eleven recycling facilities globally and aims to complete the recyclable loop and has committed US\$1.5 billion of investment in recycling. He holds an honorary doctorate in Business Administration from Rajamangala University of Technology, Thailand and a Bachelor of Commerce from Delhi University, India.



Ambrogio Miserocchi,
Management Associate,
Thai Union Group PCL

Ambrogio Miserocchi is a Management Associate in the Sustainability Development Department at Thai Union Group PCL. Thai Union, one of the world's largest seafood companies, has been ranked number one in the world in the Food Products Industry Index of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) for the two years in a row, with an industry best-in-class 100th percentile ranking for total sustainability. Thai Union Group PCL, has joined forces with the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) in a drive to reduce the growing problem of abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) worldwide. Ambrogio is an environmental engineer with a strong interest in climate change, environmental conservation and social development. He holds a Master of Engineering in Environmental and Land Planning Engineering and a Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Italy.



Antoinette Taus,
 UNEP National Goodwill
 Ambassador / Founder,
 Communities Organized for
 Resource Allocation (CORA)

Antoinette Taus is an award-winning actress, singer, host, humanitarian and long-time UN advocate. She is passionate about her work as the founder of the non-profit organization CORA (Communities Organized for Resource Allocation). She has been a staunch supporter of UNEP’s work, particularly around plastic pollution and ocean conservation. Her efforts helped bring local partners together, including the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, to form Clean Seas Pilipinas, a national chapter of UNEP’s global Clean Seas campaign. Antoinette is also the CEO and Founder of “The Sustainable Planet”, a social enterprise focussing on promoting sustainable products.



Atip Asvanund,
 Director of Sustainability
 and Good Governance,
 Charoen Pokphand Group
 (CP Group)

Atip Asvanund is Head of Strategic Policy Development at True Corporation and Director of Sustainability and Good Governance at Charoen Pokphand Group (CP) in Bangkok, Thailand. His work experience revolves around Digital Technology, Startup, Telecom, Public Policies, Food, Agriculture, Fisheries, Retails and Sustainability. Dr. Atip is an executive at Thailand’s major telecommunication, broadcasting and convergence company. He holds leadership positions in public organisations, and contributes to Thailand’s leading newspapers. He is currently heading a sustainability team in 22 provinces coastline provinces in Thailand working directly with communities of Artisan fishermen. His educational background is in Computer Science, Economics and Public Policies. He holds a doctorate and Master’s degree from Carnegie Mellon University, USA.



Belinda Ford,
 Public Affairs,
 Communications and
 Sustainability Director,
 Coca-Cola ASEAN

Belinda Ford is Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability Director for The Coca-Cola Company in ASEAN where she is responsible for leading government relations, sustainability and corporate communications across the region. Prior to her current role, Belinda held roles leading the function for the Company across multiple markets in ASEAN including Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam with her initial role in the region based in Yangon with Coca-Cola Myanmar where she helped establish operations and governance for the Company’s newest market. Before Myanmar, Belinda worked for the Coca-Cola South Pacific based in Sydney having joined the Company from public relations agency Porter Novelli where she led the Consumer and Food Practice. Belinda holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne and a Master of Business Administration from the Australia Graduate School of Management, University of New South Wales and is based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Bénédicte Niel,
 Principal Agent, Global
 Pollution Enforcement,
 INTERPOL

Bénédicte Niel has dedicated her academic and professional career to work on environmental issues, with two Master’s degrees in Environmental Policies and Environmental Sciences, and a junior expertise on forestry and pollution crimes. She has been an integral member of INTERPOL’s Global Pollution Enforcement Team – within the Environmental Security Programme – since April 2017, contributing to the coordination of the largest global enforcement operations ever led against waste-related crimes and marine pollution. Her statistical analysis of operational data led to the identification of criminal trends and risk indicators that INTERPOL has shared with all member countries, allowing enforcers to enhance their detection and disruption of pollution crimes globally. Benedicte is now conducting INTERPOL’s work on plastic-related crime, which the organization and member countries have identified as a priority target.



Carlos Martin-Novella,
Deputy Executive Director,
Basel, Rotterdam and
Stockholm Conventions

Carlos Martin-Novella is the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. He holds a Master of Science degree in biology from the Complutense University (Madrid, Spain). Carlos has more than 30 years of professional experience on environment and sustainable development issues, both at national and at international levels, and multilateral environmental negotiations and processes. In his previous assignments Carlos was the Deputy Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Special Advisor to UN Environment on Multilateral Environmental Agreements, a Senior Advisor to the German Government, a Senior Advisor to the Spanish Government and a Principal Administrator at the European Commission. Earlier in his career Carlos undertook scientific field research on Mediterranean ecosystems and lead initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in Spain, Europe and globally.



Casper Durandt,
Head of Sustainable
Packaging, Coca-Cola
Southern and East Africa

Casper Durandt is the Head of Sustainable Packaging and Agriculture and Franchise Technical Director for Coca-Cola Southern and East Africa. He also serves on the board of the South Africa National Bottle Water Association (SANBWA) and previously The Glass Recycling Company. He is also the Chairman and Founder of PET bottle recycling company PETCO. PETCO has helped grow PET collection rates from single digits in the early 2000s to 65% today, putting it on a par with international standards. Casper is an accomplished international speaker, has a passion for the environment and is an expert in water bottling, plant maintenance and PET recycling. He has over 20 years of experience in Supply Chain, Manufacturing, Quality, Packaging and Sustainability. He has a PhD in Industrial Engineering, an MBA from the University of Stellenbosch, a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Pretoria University and is a qualified Professional Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).



Chayaporn Wattanasiri,
President, Mae Fah Luang
University

Chayaporn Wattanasiri is the President of Mae Fah Luang University (MFU). She holds a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding, University of Alberta, a M.Sc. in Horticulture, University of Missouri-Columbia, and a B.Sc. in Genetics, Chulalongkorn University. Dr.Wattanasiri has been a key driver behind the development of organic farming in Thailand. She was Standard Committee of IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) and the Chairperson of Governing Board of Organic Agriculture Certification Thailand (ACT) and is still the General Secretary, Organic Agriculture Certification Foundation. She joined MFU as a Vice President responsible for the academic affairs in 2011. Dr.Wattanasiri was appointed as the President on 29 April 2019. The new administration has continued and emphasize on sustainability of MFU under the motto: "new, different, better and together".



Christophe Crepin.
Manager for the
Environment, Natural
Resources and Blue
Economy Global Practice
(ENB), SEA, World Bank

Christophe Crepin, a French national, is the Manager for the Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy Global Practice (ENB) for South East Asia at the World Bank. He provides technical and strategic guidance to the ENB regional activities and manages a team of professionals with work programs consisting of operational and analytical work related to environment health, natural resources, green growth and climate change in East Asia, including Marine Plastics. He has directly led innovative work on policy, institutions, financing and investments worldwide on these topics for close to the past 30 years, including Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe.



David Robinson,
Director, Bangkok River
Partners

David Robinson is the Director of Bangkok River Partners to promote the Chao Phya River as a world-class destination for leisure and tourism. He is also a co-founder of Creative District Foundation, a community-centric non-profit organisation with a new vision of environmental improvement for the riverside districts of Bangrak and Klongsan. He is former media executive working in public and commercial television in Australia, Europe and the US, consults on a number of projects in Thailand through his company VIVID. He has also volunteered with ActionAid previously, an international humanitarian agency focused on poverty eradication, working in 12 countries across Asia from Afghanistan to China.



Dechen Tsering,
Director, UNEP Asia and the
Pacific Office

Dechen Tsering is the Director at UN Environment, Asia and the Pacific Office. She has held management and leadership positions with the United Nations and has over 25 years of experience in national government and intergovernmental organizations including the World Bank. She has been actively involved in intergovernmental negotiations as a key negotiator for least developed countries and contributed to the establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group. Previously, she served as Director of the Finance, Technology and Capacity-Building Programme at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat. Prior to that position, she was the Deputy Regional Director of UN Environment in Asia and the Pacific. Dechen holds a Ph.D. from the Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich in forest economics and policy. She also has a Master's Degree from Georgetown University and Undergraduate Degrees from UC Berkeley.



Doug Woodring,
Founder and Managing
Director, Ocean Recovery
Alliance

Doug Woodring is the Founder and Managing Director of Ocean Recovery Alliance, which is focused on bringing innovative solutions, technology, collaborations and policy together to impact positive improvements for the health of the ocean. He is the Founder of the Plasticity Forum, which focuses on the future of plastic, and where the leaders are going with design, innovation, materials, recycling and solutions, for a world with a reduced waste footprint. He is also the founder of Kids Ocean Day Hong Kong, as well as the Grate Art project, which puts Art for Awareness on city streets in Hong Kong. Doug has worked in Asia for over 25 years in several industries which have been at the forefront of technology within their sectors, mainly related to the environment and new media platforms. He has a dual Masters degree from The Wharton School (MBA) and Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies.



Eduardo Garza,
Creative Director,
Waste2Wear

Eduardo Garza Garcia is the Creative Director and Partner at Waste2Wear. Based in China, Waste2Wear recycles 100% post-consumer plastic waste into environmentally friendly fabrics and has partnered with former fishermen to collect ocean plastic. It brings together stakeholders from different sectors in a joint effort to find solutions to reduce plastic pollution in the oceans. He uses his creative skills to lead a multidisciplinary team to create awareness on social and environmental issues and to design and implement impact solutions to help companies become more sustainable through innovation in Circular Economy.



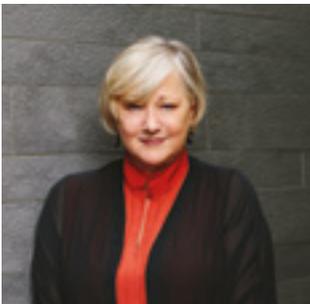
Emilie Devenport,
Project Development, River
Recycle

Emilie Devenport is responsible for project development at River Recycle. Their mission is to provide river cleaning as a free service for affected communities to immediately reduce the flow of plastic entering the oceans. Together with their partners, River Recycle provides the means to recover plastics currently flowing in rivers around the world, and turn it into raw material for the circular economy. River Recycle's second largest shareholder provides 30 years of experience in marine oil spill cleanup with a global delivery network in 104 countries. Emilie has broad experience tackling marine conservation challenges with the public and private sector, related to plastics pollution, marine protected areas and youth participation in decision-making. She pursued her Master's Degree in Marine Systems and Policies at the University of Edinburgh, and also holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Leeds, United Kingdom.



Esther An,
Chief Sustainability Officer,
City Developments Limited
(CDL)

Esther An is the Chief Sustainability Officer at City Developments Limited (CDL). A pioneer CSR practitioner for over 20 years, she is instrumental in building up City Developments Limited's sustainability leadership since she joined the company in 1995. She spearheaded the company's pioneering efforts in strategic sustainability integration, reporting and green financing. Esther sits on board several international and local sustainability organisations including UNEP Finance Initiative Property Working Group; UNEP Sustainable Stock Exchanges' Green Finance Advisory Group, World Green Building Council Corporate Advisory Board, GRI Corporate Leadership Group for Integrated Reporting; Asia Pacific Real Estate Association Singapore Chapter Board and Global Compact Network Singapore Management Committee. Founder of the Women4Green Network, Esther is committed to engaging and empowering women in the male-dominated building and technology industries to drive the sustainability agenda.



Gillian Hyde,
General Manager,
The Plastics Circle / MC,
Plasticity

Gillian Hyde is General Manager at The Plastics Circle, and Plasticity's resident MC. In 2000, Gillian executed a 180° vocational turn – moving from an established career as a professional actor to the business world, where she held senior management positions (in marketing and operations) in the wine industry. Although no longer involved full-time, she continues her association with the wine industry as a free-lance writer and wine educator. A professional communicator for many years, Gillian recognises that clarity of message is central to the art of persuasion; and that there is a lot of persuading to do, if we are to deliver a successful plastics circular economy. In 2018, Gillian was appointed General Manager (communications and content) at The Plastics Circle; in 2019 she accepted a directorship. Plasticity Bangkok will be Gillian's fourth Plasticity forum – having previously held the reins at Plasticity Kuala Lumpur; Fiji and Amsterdam.



Giovanni Broussard,
Regional Programme
Coordinator, UNODC

Giovanni Broussard is the Regional Coordinator of the UNODC Global Programme for Combatting Wildlife and Forest Crimes in Southeast Asia. His work focuses on building capacity to tackle transnational organized crime in the environment sectors, such as illegal wildlife trade, timber trafficking and fishery crime. He has 15 years of experience in the field of project management related to criminal justice, organized crime and law enforcement. He worked in Afghanistan, Namibia, Macedonia and he is now based in Thailand. He holds a PhD in Development studies with focus on Environment, a Master in International Relations with focus on Corruption and an undergraduate degree in Economics with focus on drug markets.



Giuseppe Busini,
Deputy Head of Mission,
European Union

Giuseppe Busini is the Deputy Head of Mission of the European Union Delegation to the Kingdom of Thailand since September 2018. The European Union is Thailand's third trading partner and third source of foreign direct investment. They are also partners in issues such as promotion of Sustainable Development Goals. Giuseppe has worked in the EU External Relations service for more than 20 years, covering inter alia South Caucasus, Iran, Central Asia, the Gulf Cooperation Council and India. Before his appointment to Bangkok, he was responsible for the EU's relations with ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum. Giuseppe holds a master degree with Honours in Political Science and a PhD in International Relations and Contemporary History, both obtained at the University of Perugia in Italy.



Helen Ågren,
Ambassador for the Ocean,
Swedish Ministry for Foreign
Affairs

Helen Ågren is the Ambassador for the Ocean at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Ms Ågren has been working at the Swedish Government Offices since 2000 in various positions on issues such as sustainable development strategies, green economy, consumption and production, climate mitigation and adaptation, research, innovation and local investment programs. She chaired the Swedish Governments Council for Sustainable Development between 2005-2007 and has held advisory positions to Statistics Sweden on the National Environmental Accounts. Helen Ågren studied chemistry at Stockholm University.



Helmut Schmitz,
Director Communication
& Public Affairs, Der Grüne
Punkt – Duales System
Holding GmbH

Helmut Schmitz has worked since 2013 as Director Public Affairs for "Der Grüne Punkt – Duales System Deutschland GmbH" in Berlin, Brussels and Cologne. As Head of International Communication and Director Public Affairs he was responsible in 2000 – 2013 for projects with different international stakeholder groups, particularly in Europe and Asia. After finishing Albertus-Magnus-University in Cologne with a Master Degree in Biology he worked seven years as Secretary General of the Young Federal Civil Servants Association, the umbrella organisation with 45 independent associations in the German public service.



Hideshige Takada,
Professor, Tokyo University
of Agriculture and
Technology

Hideshige Takada is a Professor at the Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Japan. He received his Ph.D. from Tokyo Metropolitan University and has been working in Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology for 33 years. His specialty is trace analysis of organic micropollutants. The target compounds include persistent organic pollutants (POPs), endocrine disrupting chemicals, pharmaceuticals as well as anthropogenic molecular markers. His research field encompasses from Tokyo Bay and its vicinities to Southeast Asia to Africa. In 2005, Shige Takada launched International Pellet Watch, global monitoring of POPs by using beached plastic resin pellets. He has been working with ~ 100 NGO and individuals who have concern about marine plastic pollution. His group has been demonstrating the transfer of hazardous chemicals from ingested plastics to biological tissue through field observations and exposure experiments. Shige Takada has authored over 150 peer-reviewed papers in international journals and over 20 international conferences.



Hidetoshi Nishimura,
President, Economic
Research Institute for ASEAN
(ERIA)

Hidetoshi Nishimura is the President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). Prof. Hidetoshi has an extensive career in international affairs. He joined the Ministry of International Trade and Industry in 1976 and has assumed numerous positions since, including Representative of the Asia-Pacific Region of the Japan Overseas Development Corporation, Director of the Southeast Asia and Pacific Division of the Trade Policy Bureau, and Vice Governor for International Affairs of Ehime Prefecture among others. He assumed position of ERIA Executive Director in June 2008 and subsequently was appointed as its first President and was then reappointed as President for a third five-year term. He is also visiting Professor of Waseda University, Darma Persada University, Honorable Professor of Guangxi University, and Fellow of Musashino Institute for Global Affairs, Musashino University. He graduated from Faculty of Law, The University of Tokyo, Japan.



Huib van Westen,
Senior Inspector, Human
Environment and Transport
Inspectorate (ILT)

Huib van Westen is Senior Inspector at the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) in the Netherlands. He focuses on the prevention and enforcement of illegal transboundary movements of harmful substances and hazardous waste. Previously, he was the Coordinator for the Regional Enforcement Network for Chemicals and Waste (REN) implemented by the UN Environment Programme. It aims to enhance the capacity of the customs in the region to control the illegal trade in chemicals and waste, and to further strengthen the existing network as a platform for effective enforcement at the regional and national levels.



Inger Andersen,
Executive Director, United
Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)

Inger Andersen was appointed Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme by UN Secretary-General António Guterres in February 2019. Between 2015 and 2019, Ms. Andersen was the Director General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Inger Andersen brings a passion for conservation and sustainable development with more than 30 years of experience in international development economics, environmental sustainability and policy-making, as well as in designing and implementing projects and generating on-the-ground impact. She has played a key role in supporting riparian countries on international water management and hydro diplomacy. Inger Andersen has previously held leadership roles at the World Bank and the UN. Most recently, she was Vice President of the Middle East and North Africa at the World Bank, and previous to that Vice President for Sustainable Development and Head of the CGIAR Fund Council.



Isabelle Louis,
Deputy Regional Director,
United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)
Regional Office for Asia
and the Pacific

Isabelle Louis is the Deputy Regional Director at United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. As Deputy Director, she leads an experienced team in strategic assessments of regional environmental policy issues, partnerships engagement and dialogue; supporting the convening of experts for sharing and learning, and sustaining strategic government relations so as to advance UNEP's global programme of work across the Asia Pacific region. She has international experience in environment and sustainability issues across Asia Pacific region with local, regional and international NGOs, governments, business and local communities. She also has expertise in partnerships assessments and establishment for environment, sustainability and fundraising successes, senior Management Executive Leadership development, Environment, Science and Policy research, analysis and advocacy. Prior to her role with the UN, she worked with Sustainability Advisory as an Associate Partner and with WWF as Director for Asia Pacific. She holds a doctorate in Botany from The University of Sheffield, UK.



Jayaprakash Murulitharan,
Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia

Jayaprakash Murulitharan is the Principal Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia. He is highly experienced in various domestic, regional and international policies related to Environmental Management including air and water pollution. He is responsible for monitoring the progress of Hydrofluorocarbon Phasing Out Programme (HPMP) under the Montreal Protocol Treaty, the Transboundary Haze Pollutions, developing Malaysia's Environmental Performance Index (EPI), establishing the National Environmental Quality Monitoring Program, and negotiating and preparing country's interventions related to policy matters on Ozone Depleting Substance, Air pollution, Acid Deposition, Transboundary Haze Pollution and Environmental Quality Management. He is a Chevening Scholar and holds a Master of Science in Sustainability Studies and Environmental Studies from the University of Glasgow, UK and a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from University of Technology, Malaysia.



Jerker Tamelander,
Coordinator, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), UNEP

Jerker Tamelander is the Coordinator at the Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), UNEP, a regional intergovernmental policy forum and decision-making body for the East Asian Seas Action Plan. Prior to this role, he was Head of the Coral Reef Unit at UNEP where he led activities on coral reefs and associated ecosystems; policy analysis and guidance; programme development and implementation. Previously, he was working with the IUCN as Manager, Oceans and Climate Change; Coordinator, Indian Ocean and Coordinator, IUCN Asia Regional Marine Programme and with UNEP as a Programme Officer. He holds a Master of Science in Marine Biology from University of Gothenburg.



Kabir Arora,
National Coordinator, Alliance of Indian Wastepickers

Kabir Arora is the National Coordinator for the Alliance of Indian Wastepickers. Kabir is an urban geographer, trained in geography, urban development and public policy. The Alliance of Indian Wastepickers has members across India. Kabir is supporting the Asian outreach of the Global Alliance of Wastepickers.



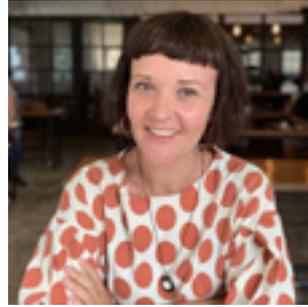
Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida,
Regional Coordinator for Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality, UNEP

Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida is the Regional Coordinator for Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality, UN Environment Programme. Her current portfolios cover issues such as air pollution, heavy metals such as mercury, plastics, asbestos, and environment and health. She is an Environment Programme Specialist with experience stretching over 25 years. Her mission is to promote Pollution Free Asia and the Pacific. Kakuko has designed and facilitated over 150 multi-stakeholder consultations, planning exercises, and trainings over 40 countries. Until September 2015, she was with the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Previously, Kakuko was in Latin America and the Caribbean with assignments concerning integrated environmental assessment and geospatial and statistical analysis. Prior to that, she was with the WWF in UK and the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya Association (WCK). She holds BSc in Zoology/Wildlife Conservation from Fort Valley State College, USA, and MSc in Environmental Management from University of Stirling, UK.



Karen Raubenheimer,
Lecturer, University of
Wollongong

Karen Raubenheimer is a lecturer at the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS), University of Wollongong, Australia. She obtained her PhD from ANCORS, focusing on international and regional policy frameworks. Her thesis, titled “Towards an Improved Framework to Prevent Marine Plastic Debris,” analysed measures to prevent ocean- and land-based sources of plastic pollution. She presented a possible model for such an agreement at the 17th meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea. Karen was the lead researcher and author of the 2017 assessment for UNEP titled: “Combating marine plastic litter and microplastics: An assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and subregional governance strategies and approaches.”



Katy Waring,
Co-founder, EcoBeasts

Katy Waring is the Co-founder of Bangkok’s environmental education startup EcoBeasts. With collaboration and teamwork at its heart, EcoBeasts connects schools and local environmentally driven businesses and foundations, aiming to support and ignite positive action across the city. Katy worked in events before completing a BEd Primary Education in her home country of Scotland. Her 10 year teaching career has spanned 5 countries, developing a pedagogical understanding in as many different curriculums and methodologies. Unable to discover a framework that highlights environmental themes adequately, Katy’s passion and drive to bring environmental education into the spotlight became realised with the birth of EcoBeasts in January 2019. The project has big plans for the future, remaining true to its core beliefs of collaboration for mutual gain for all participants, the essence of powerful action driving local and global sustainability.



Kavinda Gunasekara,
Team Leader (Environment),
Asian Institute of
Technology (AIT)

Kavinda Gunasekara is the Team Leader (Environment) and Senior Program Specialist at the Geoinformatics Center (GIC), Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. He joined GIC in 2008. Previously, he worked as a GIS Specialist at Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) and a Researcher at the University of Peradeniya in Sri Lanka. His areas of expertise include GIS and Remote Sensing Applications on Coastal Morphology, Landslide, Glacier, Habitat Suitability and Tsunami and Use, Cover Mapping and Change Monitoring and On-the-Job Trainer. He holds a doctorate in Coastal Engineering from the University of Tokyo, Japan.



Kay Vasey,
Chief Connecting Officer,
Mesh Minds

Kay Vasey is the Chief Connecting Officer at Mesh Minds and Founder of the Mesh Minds Foundation. The MeshMinds Foundation is a not-for-profit arts organisation that is focused on enabling sustainable development through creative technology from an Asian perspective. Their mission is to connect artists with the world’s most socially responsible companies to work on immersive artwork and experiences focused on the sustainable development of people and our planet. Prior to MeshMinds, Kay was a technology lawyer focused on multimedia content licensing. Whilst Head of Arts at The British Council, she spearheaded ground-breaking artist-in-residence programmes between Singapore and the UK and took the lead on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Singapore International Foundation.



Kazuhide Umemoto,
Deputy Mayor, Kitakyushu,
Japan

Kazuhide Umemoto is the Deputy Mayor of the City of Kitakyushu, Japan. In one of the greatest environmental comeback stories of the 20th century, Kitakyushu was transformed from industrial wasteland to the first “Eco Town” in Japan. For its passionate commitment to the environment, the city of just under 1 million people has received global accolades. Kitakyushu became the first city in Japan to receive the UN Environment Programme’s Global 500 award and was named one of four Green Growth Model Cities by the OECD. The organization chose Kitakyushu as one of its nine pilot cities to advance the SDGs. A new cooperation agreement between the city and UN Environment will help bring that expertise to bear on plastic pollution through support to local governments in Thailand and Cambodia to implement effective waste management plans.



Kim Nong,
Senior Technical Officer,
Ministry of Environment,
Cambodia

Kim Nong is the Senior Technical Officer for the Minister of Environment in Cambodia. He is also Deputy Secretary General for General Secretariat of National Committee for Cambodian Coastal Zone Management and Development, Deputy General Director for General Directorate of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection, Deputy National REDD+ Task Force, and also as COBSEA National Focal Point. He is a specialist on Environmental Protection of Coastal Water and Community-Based Development from Germany and Canada respectively. He has 25 years experiences working on policies and strategies development for environmental conservation and protection.



Laksmi Dewanthi,
Senior Advisor, Ministry of
Environment and Forestry,
Republic of Indonesia

Laksmi Dewanthi is the Senior Advisor to the Minister on Industry and International Trade, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia. She is a government official with more than 25 years of experience in the field of environment and sustainable development. Prior to her current position, she served in a number of different capacities, including as Director of Hazardous Waste Management Performance Evaluation, Assistant Deputy Minister for Environmental Data and Information, as well as Assistant Deputy for Environmental Economics, where she was responsible for developing the State of the Environment Report (SOER) and Environmental Quality Index, Environmental Data and Information System, and the implementation of various economic instruments for environmental protection and management. She received a Master’s degree in Environment and Development Policy at the Sussex University, UK. In the international fora, since 2003, she has been involving in environmental-related trade and climate change negotiation as well as in sustainable development related talks.



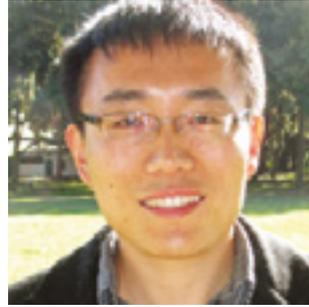
Lars Svensson,
Sustainability and
Communication Director,
IKEA Southeast Asia

Lars Svensson is the Sustainability and Communication Director for Ikano Retail Asia (IKEA Southeast Asia) and Group Sustainability Manager for Ikano Group. Ikano Retail Asia own and operate IKEA stores and Shopping Centres in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand and invest in mixed use real estate. He has worked in regional and local management roles in Southeast Asia since 1992 with mainly IKEA but also EF, Novena Holdings and Oriflame with sustainability, marketing, establishment, business development and sales. Lars is currently Vice President of Thai Swedish Chamber of Commerce and has served as Councillor for Southwest CDC in Singapore. He earned an MBA from Stockholm School of Economics with a post graduate scholarship for Malay language studies at National University of Singapore.



Lillygol Sedaghat,
Explorer and Storyteller,
National Geographic

Lillygol Sedaghat is a National Geographic Explorer and multimedia storyteller at the intersection of science, systems and people. Previously, she was a Fulbright–National Geographic Digital Storyteller documenting Taiwan’s waste management system, plastics recycling, and circular economy initiatives. Through her work, Lillygol hopes to inspire conscious consumerism and spark a global discussion on trash with #MyWasteMyWay. Using infographics, music videos, maps, and digital storytelling to promote environmental education, she aims to transform people’s perceptions of trash from something disposable to something valuable. An active spokesperson for National Geographic’s global Planet or Plastic? campaign, she helped to launch the Planet or Plastic? campaign in both mainland China and Hong Kong. Lillygol received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy from the University of California, Berkeley and is pursuing a Ph.D. in environmental anthropology.



Lixin Zhu,
Plastic Marine Debris
Research Centre (PMDRC),
East China Normal University

Lixin Zhu is part of the Plastic Marine Debris Research Centre (PMDRC), State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research, East China Normal University. Lixin received his Bachelor’s degree from the Ocean University of China, in Qingdao, China, majoring in marine ecology and marine life science. Lixin holds a doctorate from the State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research (SKLEC), East China Normal University, in Shanghai. Lixin’s doctoral thesis focused on the losses of the dissolved organic matter as it transits from rivers to the open ocean. He quantified concentrations of dissolved black carbon and lignin and their loss rates in waters from the Yangtze River and East China Sea, as well as within Georgia estuaries.



Louise Mabulo,
UN Young Champion of the
Earth 2019

Louise Mabulo is an award-winning chef, entrepreneur, agriculture advocate, public speaker, and competitive archer. She is the Founder of The Culinary Lounge, The Camarines Food and Tourism Society, and The Cacao Project. Louise is a recipient of the Young Champions of the Earth Prize 2019 by UNEP for her initiative, entitled The Cacao Project, which aims to combat deforestation by reviving barren lands through tree planting, creating economic forests and nurseries, promoting fair trade and reforestation, while empowering farmers with higher incomes. She promotes sustainable agriculture, and farm-to-table cuisine, and was awarded The Outstanding Young Farmer of the Philippines by JCI International. Louise completed an Economic Development and Social Entrepreneurship at Brown University, U.S.A., and the Watson Institute Philippines.



María Neira,
Director, Department of
Public Health and
Environment, World Health
Organization (WHO)

María Neira is the Director of the Department of Public Health and Environment at the World Health Organization (WHO). She was also Vice Minister of Health and Consumer Affairs in Spain and President of the Spanish Food Safety and Nutrition Agency. Before joining WHO, she obtained extensive field experience working in Africa as Public Health Adviser in the Ministry of Health in Mozambique and in Kigali, Rwanda, where she served as UN Public Health Advisor for UNDP. María holds a degree in Medicine and Surgery (University of Oviedo, Spain), and a specialization in Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases at the Université René Descartes, Paris. She then obtained a Master’s degree in Public Health from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, in Paris, France. She has been awarded the Médaille de l’Ordre du Mérite National by the Government of France, the Spanish National Nutrition Strategy Award, among others, and is a member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Asturias.



Maria Tsakona,
Senior Expert, Waste
Management, GRID-Arendal

Maria Tsakona is the Senior Expert, Waste Management at GRID-Arendal. She has been working in the field of waste and resource management for over 13 years, providing innovative advisory and support services to businesses, public authorities, NGOs and policymakers in environmental and natural resource management. She holds a degree in Environmental Engineering (MSc) and has experience directing and managing environmental engineering projects in the field of solid waste and resource management: formulation of waste management plans and strategies, reuse and recycling programs, environmental impact assessment studies and feasibility studies. She founded the Women of Waste initiative supported by ISWA and also joined the ISWA Marine Litter Task Force. Maria's vision is "closing the loop" and she participates in multidisciplinary teams to develop an overview perspective and bring sustainable solutions into her projects.



May Thazin Aung,
Research Associate,
Stockholm Environment
Institute (SEI) Asia

May Thazin Aung is a Research Associate with SEI Asia working on policy analysis and stakeholder engagement. May works closely with government agencies and civil society in Southeast Asia to promote evidence-based decision-making and multi-stakeholder participation. May's work focuses on understanding how political, regulatory and institutional structures in natural resource governance influence the use and control of resources by different actors and social groups. Away from research and policy engagement, May is also interested in using innovative science-communications tools at the science-policy interface, and has published several photo-stories, discussion briefs and short-films. Prior to joining SEI, May supported Myanmar policy-makers to develop environmental protocols to improve natural resource governance. May graduated from Vermont Law School with a M.A. in Environmental Law and Policy.



Michikazu Kojima,
Senior Economist, Economic
Research Institute for ASEAN
(ERIA)

Michikazu Kojima is Senior Economist at the Economic Research Institute specialising in environmental policies, especially, waste management and recycling in Asian countries. Prior to joining ERIA, he was a chief senior researcher at Institute of Developing Economies in Japan. He has also contributed in the field of international cooperation, as a member of Expert Working Group of Environmentally Sound Management under the Basel Convention, a member of Technical Expert Committee for Green Industry Platform by UNIDO and the course leader on JICA training courses on recycling policy. He holds Master of Science on Agricultural and Resource Economics from University of California, Berkeley.



Murray Hyde,
CEO, The Plastics Circle /
Program Director, Plasticity

Murray Hyde is the Chief Operating Officer at The Plastics Circle and the Program Director for the Plasticity Forum. The Plastics Circle aim is to turn plastic waste streams into business opportunities globally. He is the Co-Founder of their project PastX which is a micro-market app for the trading of quality recycled feedstock collected by locals. He is responsible for overseeing daily operations, while developing business and strategy for clients. Murray has over 20 years of experience in business and management. His focus is on driving strategic thinking for business and developing relationships that deliver sales, profits and great customer experiences. Murray holds a Master of Leadership from Deakin University, Australia.



Nadya Hutagalung,
UNEP Goodwill Ambassador

Nadya Hutagalung is a media personality, eco-centric jewellery designer and eco-activist who has become one of Asia's leading voices in the Green Movement. Devoting her time and voice to environmental advocacy Nadya made headlines with building one of Singapore's first eco-home from scratch. She co-founded an ivory reduction campaign 'Let Elephants Be Elephants' which has over 8000 pledges to date. In her capacity as a UNEP Goodwill Ambassador, she helped launch the global campaign – #cleanseas – to eliminate major sources of marine litter by encouraging governments to pass plastic reduction policies. She is also the Founder of Green Kampong, a social enterprise focused on promoting sustainable living practices.



Nagulendran Kangayatkarasu,
Deputy Secretary General,
Environment and Climate
Change, Malaysia

Nagulendran Kangayatkarasu is the Deputy Secretary General, Environment and Climate Change of the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia. Formerly, he was deputy under-secretary at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia. He played a key role in the government's decision to no longer provide drinking water in plastic bottles or food wrapped in plastic at its events, in a bid to cut down single-use disposable plastics. His achievements include work with the government's Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division as he led the task force preparing the final draft of Malaysia's Access to Benefit Sharing. Nagulendran holds a doctorate in Biodiversity Governance and a Master of Science in Environmental Management from the University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus.



Nalini Shekar,
Co-founder, Hasiru Dala
Innovations

Nalini Shekar is the co-founder of Hasiru Dala, an organization of wastepickers in Bangalore. She is also a co-founder of Kagad Kach Kashtakari Panchayat (KKPKP), a union of wastepickers in Pune in 1997. Previously, she worked on the issue of violence against women for over a decade in the USA. Her main focus in Hasiru Dala is on the inclusion of wastepickers and other waste workers in the informal waste economy in the Solid Waste Management systems of Urban Local Bodies across Karnataka. Hasiru Dala is working on organising and skilling wastepickers to provide services in the waste management sector. Facilitation of access to social security entitlement offered by the government is another major goal of the organisation. She was chosen as one of 100 women in India who make a difference in the society by BBC.com, and received several awards in the USA for her work with immigrants and women survivors of violence.



Nani Hendiarti,
Director, Maritime Science
and Technology, Coordinat-
ing Ministry for Maritime Af-
fairs, Republic of Indonesia

Nani Hendiarti is currently the Director for Maritime Science and Technology, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs, Republic of Indonesia. She is also a lecturer on marine remote sensing at the Master Program in Marine Science, Department of Physics – FMIPA at University of Indonesia as well as a scientist in Geomatics, Center for Natural Resources Inventory, Agency of the Assessment and Application of Technology, Jakarta. She holds a degree of Doctor Rerum Naturalium in Marine Remote Sensing, the University of Rostock, Department of Marine Biology, Germany as well as a Post-doctoral in Marine Science, National Taiwan University. She has more than 25 years of experience working in the area of marine and natural resources. She has issued a number of publications, including the 'Satellite View of Southern South China Sea: Natuna Island and Its Surrounding Water' and 'An operational approach to the ocean management in the Indonesian Archipelago'.



Naporn Popattanachai,
Director, Faculty of Law,
Thammasat University

Naporn Popattanachai is currently a Director of Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Law, Faculty of Law, Thammasat University, Thailand. His research interests and expertise lie in the fields of Public International Law, International Environmental Law, International Law of the Sea, and Trade-related Environment matters. Naporn advises both public and private institutions, such as the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment. Prior to this, Naporn practised as a lawyer with Hunton & Williams (Thailand) Ltd. where he consulted on Constitutional and Administrative law, Environmental Law, WTO Law, Public International Law and general corporate matters. Naporn holds a doctorate in Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution from Land-based Activities from Nottingham Trent University, UK. He pursued his LL.M. in European Legal Studies at the University of Bristol, and LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy at University College London. He was an ITLOS/Nippon Fellowship at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Hamburg, Germany.



Neo Mei Lin,
Research Fellow, Tropical
Marine Science Institute,
National University of
Singapore (NUS)

Neo Mei Lin is a Research Fellow at the St John's Island National Marine Laboratory, Tropical Marine Science Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS). She holds a doctorate in Marine Ecology and a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Life Sciences from NUS. Her research interests include Giant clams, Experimental Marine Ecology, Invertebrate Larval Biology and Ecology, Marine Biodiversity and Conservation and Science Communication. She is a recipient of the World Future Foundation Ph.D. Prize in 2014, the L'Oréal For Women in Science National Fellowship in 2015, and the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award in 2017. She was also selected as the only Singaporean TED Fellow for the Class of 2017.



Niall O'Connor,
Centre Director, Stockholm
Environment Institute

Niall O'Connor is the Asia Centre Director for the Stockholm Environment Institute. He has worked in government, academia and non-government organizations, adding over 20 years of environment and development senior leadership, programme management and academic capacity to the organization. Previously he has worked with Teagasc, Concern Universal, Agroforestry Research Unit for the Government of The Gambia and WWF, among others. At WWF, he also served as Regional Representative of WWF Madagascar & West Indian Ocean, Director of WWF's Performance and Development Africa and finally the Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, WWF's biggest Programme Office that administered six country offices and 450 employees. Niall holds a BSc and an MSc in Forestry, both from University College Dublin, and an MSc in Biodiversity Conservation from Imperial College London, with a specialty in community-managed nature park conservation.



Omar Siddique,
Economic Affairs Officer,
UNESCAP

Omar Siddique is the Economics Affairs Officer, Sustainable Urban Development at United Nations ESCAP. He has over 15 years of experience in formulating urban strategies and managing people-centred city development programmes with a geographic focus in Asia Pacific, Africa and Latin America. Previously, Omar worked with Cities Alliance as a Senior Urban Specialist and with UNDP as Programme Specialist for Urban Development. His main areas of expertise are slum upgrading strategies, urban poverty assessment, municipal financing strategies, city-wide service delivery profiling, local climate change mitigation and adaptation planning, participatory planning for informal livelihoods promotion, and institutional strengthening for improved urban governance. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and Urban Geography from Monash University, Australia and a Master of Arts in International Relations from New York University, U.S.A.



Oscar Wang,
Deputy Director, IQTC

Oscar Wang is Deputy Director, National Reference Laboratory for Food Contact Material (IQTC), Guangzhou Customs Technology Center, China. With chemistry education background and nearly 13 years' experience on testing and food contact materials safety assessment, Oscar Wang has been involved in the setting a series of China National GB Standards, and is currently looking at import requirements for recovered content. In addition, he is Executive Officer of the Secretariat for China FCM Sustainability Alliance.



Panate Manomaivibool,
Lecturer, Mae Fah Luang University

Panate Manomaivibool is a Lecturer at the Mae Fah Luang University, Thailand. He has led around 20 research projects and served as advisor in several other projects on sustainability. He has also assisted in a series of projects commissioned by the Pollution Control Department in Thailand to translate the policy principle into draft laws for the management of waste electrical and electronic equipment. His recent research was the foundation of the action that was followed under the theme "Chiang Rai Zero Waste" (CR ZW). Together with practitioners and community leaders, they successfully developed an archetype community in Chiang Rai that can achieve more than 50% waste diversion and be an exemplar for others to model after. He holds a doctorate in Engineering and an MSc in Environmental Management from the IIIIEE, Lund University and a Master in Public Administration and Public Policy from University of York, UK.



Paola Cortese,
Indonesia Country Director,
Plastic Bank

Paola Cortese is the Indonesia Country Manager for the Plastic Bank, an organisation where people can exchange plastic waste for goods or Blockchain secured digital tokens. She possesses 10+ years of experience in building, running and monetising small businesses in Design, F&B and Sustainability fields. As the founder of Cortese Design Studio – an eco-forward interior design studio, Zero Waste Life HK – a consultancy agency that focuses on lowering barriers to sustainable behaviour, and a Climate Reality Leader, Paola is experienced on the topic of designing a circular lifestyle in the urban environment. Now as the Indonesia Country Manager of Plastic Bank, Paola hopes to expand her impact by cleaning the environment and tackling the plastic issue while alleviating poverty nationwide.



Paradorn Chulajata,
Chairman, Plastic Industry Club

Paradorn Chulajata is the Chairman of Plastic Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries and Managing Director of Prepack Thailand Co., Ltd., one of the top five flexible packaging manufacturers in Thailand. Since he joined Plastic Industry Club in 2003, he has been involved in several committees such as Thailand Bioplastic Development Committee, Ministry of Science, National Skill Standards of Plastic Industry, Ministry of Labour, Member of Committee in setting up Plastic Institution of Thailand, Ministry of Industry, and Committee in Thailand Institute of Packaging and Recycling Management for Sustainable Environment, the Federation of Thai Industries. He played a major role in forming Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Plastic and Waste management in Thailand which aims to reduce plastic waste into Thai ocean by 50% by 2028.



Pei Kang Ng,
CEO and Founder, Tria Bio

Pei Kang Ng is the CEO and Founder of TRIA, a packaging house specializing in innovative and sustainable food packaging. TRIA's breakthrough technology, Bio24, is a closed-loop system for disposable foodware and food waste. The system turns disposable foodware and food waste into fertilizer in just 24 hours, a world's first, and have clinched several notable awards. He also runs a design consultancy firm, Geometria. He has vast experience in various design and innovation competence including industrial design, UX, design thinking, material and sensors R&D, technology management and packaging innovations. More recently, Pei Kang led design innovation for Philips Global TV and Home Theatre System portfolio and drove its R&D activities across Philips Netherlands, Hong Kong, and Singapore. As an industrial designer turned entrepreneur, Pei Kang firmly believes that great design has the ability to inspire change. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design from Brunel University.



Pete Ceglinski,
CEO and Co-founder,
Seabin

Pete Ceglinski is the CEO and Co-founder of The Seabin Project. He started the Seabin Project with the aim to clean up ocean pollution through a floating rubbish bin designed to catch rubbish, oil, fuel, detergent and micro plastics down to 2mm in size operating 24/7. Along with the development of the project, he's involved in the technical design and development of the products. Designed for marinas, ports and yacht clubs because of their calm environments and available services, the Seabin has now been installed in more than 16 countries, with more than 50 marinas investing in the technology. Ceglinski has a background in product design, with over 10 years of high-end yacht building experience.



Peter Kershaw,
Chair, Joint Group of Experts
on Scientific Aspects of
Marine Protection (GESAMP)

Peter Kershaw is the Chair of the Joint Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Protection, an inter-Agency body of the United Nations (GESAMP). He is an independent science advisor to UN agencies on marine environmental protection. His international experience includes working in association with a number of UN Agencies and other Intergovernmental Organisations (e.g. IAEA, UNESCO-IOC, UNEP, IMO, FAO, IWC, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency, Global Environmental Facility, ICES, PICES) in a range of research, assessment, advisory and collaborative roles. His research interests have revolved around many different aspects of marine environmental processes and the potential effects of human activities on the ecosystem, the influence of societal and economic aspects in policy formulation and implementation, and use of this understanding to bridge the science-policy divide. He holds a doctorate and a Bachelor of Science in Geology from the University of Dundee, Scotland.



**Pojanath
Bhatanacharoen,**
Executive Director,
Thai-Swedish Chamber
of Commerce

Pojanath Bhatanacharoen is the Executive Director of the Thai-Swedish Chamber of Commerce. Representing Swedish companies in Thailand and echoing their ethos on sustainability issues, Pojanath is leading on the organisation of the Chamber's sustainability events to help engage businesses and public in environmental issues. The upcoming TSCC Smart Cities Symposium will explore the issues of smart mobility and connectivity to address the core challenges and understand the latest technologies that are shaping the future of responsible business. Pojanath is particularly passionate about partnership building between businesses, government, academia and the public to achieve sustainable development goals. She holds a PhD in Politics from Newcastle University, UK.



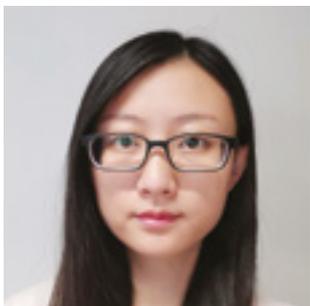
Qamar Schuyler,
Research Scientist, CSIRO

Qamar Schuyler is a Research Scientist at CSIRO's Oceans and Atmosphere Flagship. She handles statistical modelling for a variety of marine debris-related projects. Her primary focus is on marine plastics, and the transport of debris from land to sea. Other research interests include the impacts of marine debris on wildlife, the analysis of satellite imagery for ecological change detection, visual ecology, and sea turtle biology and ecology. Qamar also has extensive experience in marine tourism, and coordinated outreach and education campaigns in the Mariana Islands. She has a PhD from the University of Queensland and a Master of Environmental Studies from the College of Charleston in South Carolina.



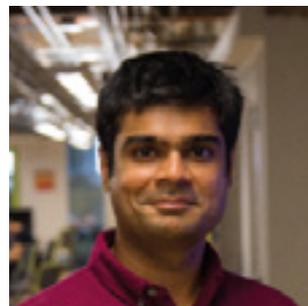
**Ralyn 'Lilly'
Satidtanasarn,**
Bye Bye Plastic Bags

Ralyn Satidtanasarn AKA Lilly of Bye Bye Plastic Bags Thailand, an anti-plastic youth campaign group, is a 12-year-old environmental activist. Lilly has been meeting directly with officials to lobby for policy change. A sixth grader at St. Andrews International School, Lilly spends about three to four days a week visiting other schools and meeting both government and corporate officials. Lilly won her first victory; she persuaded Central, a major supermarket in Bangkok, to stop giving out plastic bags in its stores once a week. Lilly is currently meeting with education officials to ask that lessons about the environment be included in Thai school curriculums.



Ran Xie,
Associate Programme
Officer, UNEP

Ran Xie is the Associate Programme Officer for the Consumption and Production Unit, Economy Division at UN Environment. She works on circular economy for plastics. Previously, she was in the Pollution and Health Unit at UNEP, reporting and monitoring of the UNEA3 voluntary commitments and the preparation of the report on pesticides and fertilizers requested by UNEA3 resolutions. She obtained her Master degree in International Relations and environmental policy from Peking University and Sciences Po. Before joining UNEP, she worked for China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center, an institute affiliated with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China.



Ravish Majithia,
Founder and CEO,
Magnomer

Ravish Majithia is the Co-founder and CEO of Magnomer, a design-to-recycle company that makes magnetic coatings to enable the recyclability of plastic packaging. He is a materials scientist by training, a chemist at heart and an entrepreneur by design. Ravish is an experienced researcher in the field of nanoscale materials. His interests lie in recycling, technology development and commercializing applications of nanoscale materials in all walks of life. Ravish has a Ph.D. in Materials Science with specialization in nanomaterials from Texas A&M University. He also holds an MBA from Babson College. An author of numerous widely cited original scientific research papers and named as one of the 'Top 100 MBA's in 2018' by Poets & Quants, Ravish certainly wears many hats.



Regula Schegg,
Managing Director Asia,
Circulate Capital

Regula Schegg is the Managing Director, Asia at Circulate Capital. She leads the investment strategy, manages the investment team and oversees Circulate Capital Ocean Fund's investment portfolio in South and Southeast Asia. Together with her team, Regula manages asset allocations as well as due diligence, portfolio management of fund investments. She also provides strategic advisory to the portfolio companies, focusing on strategy, business development, fundraising, key hiring decisions, financial management and governance. Regula is an experienced global professional with over 20 years' of leadership, business development, project management finance and social enterprise/start-up expertise. Throughout her corporate career, she held positions in corporate strategy, M&A, private equity, financial controlling and business development. Regula graduated with an MBA (Honors) in Global Management from Thunderbird, School of Global Management, USA, with undergraduate studies in Switzerland, the United Kingdom and France. She is an Aspen Institute Business & Society First Movers Fellow.



Richard Jones,
Senior Vice President,
Indorama Ventures PCL

Richard Jones is the Senior Vice President at Indorama Ventures PCL and Director of the IVL Foundation. The IVL Foundation recently partnered with GEPP for the collection of waste for sustainable recycling based on the Circular Economy concept. He commenced a career in investor relations (IR) over 20 years ago and has been recognized as one of the top 25 IR officers in the world of all time. Currently, Richard focuses on HR, corporate communications, CSR and sustainability. He is also the Chairman of the Sustainability Steering Committee. He holds a Master in Business Administration from Sasun Graduate School and a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from University of Wales, UK.



Salinla Seehaphan,
Corporate Affairs Director,
Tesco Lotus

Salinla Seehaphan is the Corporate Affairs Director at Tesco Lotus. Her main responsibilities are enhancing Tesco Lotus' positive image among external stakeholders, including 12 million customers who shop at Tesco Lotus every week. She works to instil Tesco values and engage over 50,000 employees in Thailand through effective internal communications, and supporting Thai society through high impact programmes such as the recent 'Proud not to use plastic bag' campaign that received award from Marketing Association of Thailand. She has 18 years of experience in Marketing and Communications working with international companies in various industries including Singapore Airlines, DHL, Yum Restaurants, and most recently, HSBC. She holds a Master's degree in Organizational Communication from the University of Northern Iowa, USA, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand.



H.E. Samantha K. Jayasuriya,
Ambassador of Sri Lanka
to Thailand

H.E. Samantha K. Jayasuriya is the Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Thailand. Ambassador Jayasuriya is a career diplomatic officer with 21 years of experience. Immediately prior to being appointed as Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Thailand, she served as the Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Office in Geneva. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Ambassador Jayasuriya served in the Economic Affairs Department of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, as an Assistant Lecturer. She is skilled in multilateral affairs, human rights, migration, sustainable development, policy analysis, politics, and government. She holds a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Japan (IUJ) and Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Agriculture Economics from University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.



Sandra Avérous Monnery,
Programme Officer,
Chemicals and Health
Branch, Economy Division,
UNEP

Sandra Avérous Monnery is Programme Officer at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). She joined the Chemicals and Health Branch in summer 2019, and leads work on chemicals in products, chemicals and plastics, sustainable and green chemistry and the Global Mercury Partnership. She has worked for the past 10 years on sustainable consumption and production at UNEP. Recently, she oversaw the eco-innovation portfolio, engaging all actors, including the private sector and SMEs, towards sustainable value chains and circular economy, where she focused on circularity in the plastics, electronics and textiles sector. She also served as well as Special Assistant to the Division Director. Development economist, her area of expertise is Chemicals, Sustainable Consumption and Production and Disaster Preparedness.



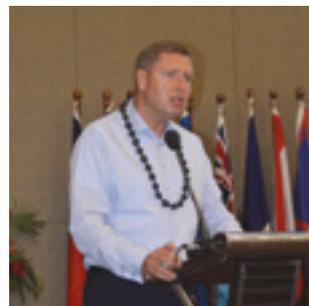
Sharinee Shannon Kalayanamitr,
Venture Partner, Gobi
Partners

Sharinee Shannon Kalayanamitr is Venture Partner at Gobi Partners Thailand Fund. Shannon is the Founder of KIGAI Group, a consulting company designed to solve 21st century challenges. She is currently advising the Thai government, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, and the Digital Economic Promotion Agency (DEPA) on its Thailand 4.0 Strategy, with a specific focus on its Tech, IoT, and Startup Execution plans. Shannon also co-founded and was the Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) of Orami [formerly Moxy], – South East Asia’s only e-commerce destination focused on women. Shannon is also currently an advisor to Santora Nakama, a startup studio that works with entrepreneurs to build startups across the region. She is Gobi’s official representative in Thailand, pitching the firm to investors, limited partners, and angel investors, as well as procuring investment opportunities for Gobi in the digital media and IT sectors.



Singh Intrachoto,
Head of the Building
Innovation and Technology,
Kasetsart University, Faculty
of Architecture

Singh Intrachoto is Head of the Building Innovation and Technology Program at Kasetsart University Architecture, Bangkok and Design Principal at OSISU, Thailand’s leading eco-design production house. He holds a PhD in Design Technology from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Singh is considered a pioneer of ecological design in Thailand. He focuses on bridging academia and industry to leverage technology, education and production approaches to stimulate environmentally responsible innovations within the design and architecture industry. He is Design Innovation Ambassador for Thailand’s National Innovation Agency. He received Thailand’s Emergent Designer of the Year 2007 Award as well as Top Environmentalist 2008 Award from Thailand’s Department of Environment.



Stein Hansen,
Regional Director, UN
Industrial Development
Organization (UNIDO)

Stein Hansen is the Regional Director and Representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand where he also represents UNIDO in the UNSDG Asia Pacific Regional Directors group, and the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism. He is an Economist who has been working in international development for 26 years. Prior to his appointment, he was Chief of Strategic Donor Relations, Office of Deputy to Director General, UNIDO, Vienna, Austria. Previously, he has also worked at UNDP where he served as Resident Representative, UN Resident Coordinator and Deputy Resident Representative. He holds a B.Sc. in Economics from Aalborg University, Denmark. In addition to being an Economist, Stein R. Hansen holds a Master of Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University with focus on international development. He is also a Senior Executive Fellow of the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.



Stephen Sikra,
Senior Advisor, Alliance to
End Plastic Waste

Stephen Sikra is the Senior Advisor at the Alliance to End Plastic Waste. He is a Materials Science Engineer with 26 years work experience at the Procter & Gamble Company. Currently, he is a Technology Manager leading P&G's global Material Science and Technology program for package material innovation in support of all P&G business units. His history includes management roles in process development, package development, and product supply operations contributing to P&G's Fabric Care, Home Care, and Beauty Care business units. Stephen is a champion for plastic recycling and currently holds the following positions: Chairperson, Rigids Committee, Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR); Advisory Board Member, Closed Loop Fund (CLF); Executive Board Member, The Recycling Partnership (TRP); Steering Committee Member, Flexible Film Recycling Group (FFRG) and Technical Advisor, Materials Recovery For the Future project (MMRF).



Steve Wong,
Executive President, China
Scrap Plastics Association

Steve Wong is the Executive President of the China Scrap Plastics Association and is also the Founder and Managing Director of Fukutomi Company Limited. Being one of the leaders of the plastic recycling industry, Fukutomi operates through its processing facilities at Hong Kong, Vietnam and Penang and globally with its well-established networks and affiliates worldwide. As environmentalism is Steve's business philosophy, Fukutomi is committed to investing in technologies and equipment for improving the efficiency through new applications for plastic recycling. His company's mission is to maintain a fresh, healthy and comfortable living environment for the next generation and contribute to the global sustainable development.



Suchana Chavanich,
Associate Professor,
Chulalongkorn University

Suchana Chavanich is Associate Professor at the Department of Marine Science, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. Suchana received her Ph.D. in Zoology from University of New Hampshire, USA. She has a broad base of ecological research interests that involve the study of nearshore species from tropical to polar region. In addition, her research focuses on conservation and restoration of marine ecosystems, and impact of climate change and marine debris on marine ecosystems. Currently, she has marine biodiversity projects under the Plant Genetic Conservation Project and Polar Research Project of the Royal Initiative of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.



**Sujitra
Vassanadumrongdee,**
Researcher, Environmental
Research Institute,
Chulalongkorn University

Sujitra Vassanadumrongdee is a researcher at the Environmental Research Institute, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. She is also the Project Manager of the Chula Zero Waste Project. Together with network partners, Chulalongkorn University implemented this project to develop a model for waste and hazardous waste management in urban areas and the Sustainable Waste and Hazardous Waste Management Plan in Chulalongkorn University. Her areas of expertise are policy and institutional analysis on waste management, environmental and health valuation, economic tools for environmental management, public participation in environmental management and trade and environment. Sujitra holds a doctorate and Master's degree in Environmental Economics from Hiroshima University, Japan. She completed her Bachelor in Political Science (International Relations) from Chulalongkorn University.



Sumangali Krishnan,
Chief Business Officer, GA
Circular

Sumangali Krishnan is the Chief Business Officer at GA Circular and has over 12 years of research and consulting experience ranging fields law, economics and waste management. She has a J.D. in Law from Boston University as well as a Masters degree in Economics. In her current role, Sumangali has developed and led various research projects, exploring both policy and on-ground realities across South and South East Asia. Working closely with intergovernmental agencies, national and local governments, as well as leading plastics, consumer and retail goods manufacturers in Asia, she has a good understanding of opportunities and challenges in the region with respect to waste. In previous year, she has worked in research, private practice and has provided legal and business advise to start-ups and emerging businesses.



Suracha Udomsak,
CTO and Emerging Business
Director, SCG Chemicals

Suracha Udomsak is the Chief Technical Officer and leads Research and Development Center at Siam Cement Group Chemicals Co., Ltd. He is also in charge of Emerging Businesses Director at SCG Chemicals. His primary responsibility is to drive SCG Chemicals' research and innovation to market. He was awarded a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering at Texas A&M University in the USA. He joined SCG Chemicals in 1989 and since then has extensive experience in polymer production ranging from polyethylene, polypropylene and polyolefin compound. His areas of expertise also include chemistry, chemical and process engineering.



Trish Hyde,
Managing Director and
Founder, The Plastics Circle
/ Director, Plasticity Global

Trish Hyde is the Managing Director and Founder of The Plastics Circle and the Director of Plasticity Global. The Plastics Circle is a business start-up to drive innovation and commercial opportunities that put the circle into circular economies in Asia. Her work spans non-profit industry collaboration and education initiatives; scrap plastic end-market development; technology applied within market contexts and regulatory and stakeholder engagement. Previously, as CEO of the Australian Packaging Covenant, Trish successfully negotiating the Enhanced Covenant, and setting the multi-ministerial and broad-membership endorsed 2022 APC Vision and Strategic Plan. She is a senior executive with 15+ years' leadership and commercial experience. She holds a double Masters from Deakin University, Australia.



**H.E. Varawut
Silpa-archa,**
Minister, Ministry of Natural
Resources and Environment,
Thailand

H.E. Varawut Silpa-archa is the Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand. Varawut was elected as Member of the Parliament again in 2019, after previously serving as a Member of the Parliament in 2001, 2005 and 2007. Roles he has held in government include Deputy Minister of Transport in 2008, Secretary to the Minister for the Ministry of Tourism and Sports in 2002, as well as Secretary to the Minister for the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment in 2001. He completed a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering at University College London and then did a Master of Business Administrative Finance at the University of Wisconsin.



Veronica Pedrosa,
Independent Broadcast
Journalist

Veronica Pedrosa is an independent broadcast journalist, news presenter and moderator. Veronica began her career, in 1995, as a news anchor with CNN International and then with BBC World. She has also been a journalist with ABS-CBN News and Current Affairs. She was with Al Jazeera English in the run-up to its launch, and worked for the channel for six years full-time, and then as a freelance for a few years more. During that time she was based in the Asia-Pacific bureau, in Kuala Lumpur; at the main bureau, in Doha; and as a correspondent in the field, based primarily in Bangkok. In 2004, Veronica was named Best News Anchor at the Asian Television Awards. She completed her undergraduate studies at Newnham College, Cambridge and graduated from Cambridge University with an M.A. (Honours) in English.



Vivekanand Sistla,
Regional R&D Director,
Unilever

Vivekanand Sistla is the Regional R&D Director, Personal Care & Site Leader at Unilever. He is Responsible for R&D for very dynamic Hair Care Category for SEA & ANZ Cluster and represents on Leadership and Business Teams for Thailand and Vietnam. He also drives Innovation agenda for 12 countries, with a wider variety of consumer profiles and needs and is Site Leader for R&D Bangkok with over 200 employees across categories. He has been with Unilever for over 18 years and specialises in Innovation Strategy & Leadership, Product and Process Development, Technology transfer and scale-up, Consumer Insights, Claims & Regulatory affairs, Open Innovation and Project Management. Prior this role, he was the Global R&D Director Lipton and Beverages Global Design Centre and Global R&D Director Refreshment Category. He holds a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from University of Tennessee, Knoxville and a B.Tech. in Chemical Engineering from Osmania University.



Vong Sok,
Head of Environment
Division, The ASEAN
Secretariat

Vong Sok is the Head of Environment Division and Assistant Director of Sustainable Development Directorate at The ASEAN Secretariat. He manages and promotes ASEAN regional environmental cooperation in the context of enhancing environment sustainability to contribute to sustainable development, among others, in the areas of air, water, land, coastal and marine environment, climate change, environmental education and environmentally sustainable cities. He has over 15 years of experience working as an Environmental Specialist (assessment and management) focusing specifically in the areas of climate change, forestry, biodiversity, watershed, wetlands, and land use planning and management. He holds a doctorate in Environmental Impact Assessment and Climate Change from the University of Western Australia and a Master of Science in Environmental Science and Management from Universite Catholique de Louvain, Belgium.



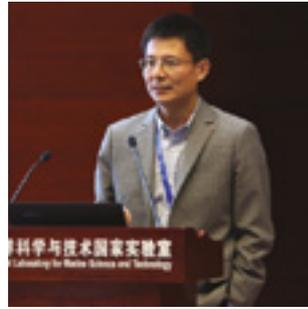
Vu Hai Dang,
Senior Research Fellow,
National University of
Singapore (NUS)

Vu Hai Dang is a Senior Research Fellow with the Ocean Law and Policy Programme of the Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore (NUS). His area of expertise includes international law, law of the sea, international environmental law, protection of the marine environment and the South China Sea. Dang holds a Doctorate of Juridical Science in International Marine Environmental Law from Dalhousie University, Canada and a Master of Laws in International Trade Law from University of Paris V, France. He has experience working in the fields of legal service, civil servant, diplomacy and academics.



Wayne Nicholas Phillips,
Lecturer, Ecology and
Conservation, Mahidol
University

Wayne Nicholas Phillips is a lecturer in Ecology and Conservation at Mahidol University International College. The focus of his work with the youth has been on providing opportunities to interact with stakeholders to gain different perspectives of shared problems; and to spend time in nature to gain a greater understanding of the role of our behaviour. His efforts focus on coral reefs and adjacent ecosystems and as an outlet for his efforts he founded Project Koh Sak to highlight the role of plastics and tourism in reducing coral reef resilience to climate change. Working with the island owners and other stakeholders, Wayne aims to reverse declines in reef and island quality and to help deliver an experience that is educational; enhances island and reef quality; and offers the opportunity for peace and quiet in this frenetic world. He holds a doctorate in Biology from the University of Essex and a M.Sc. in Aquatic Resource Management, King's College London, UK.



Wenxi Zhu,
Head, Intergovernmental
Oceanographic Commission
Sub-Commission of UNESCO
for the Western Pacific
(IOC-WESTPAC)

Wenxi Zhu is the Head of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Sub-Commission of UNESCO for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) based in Thailand. He is responsible for the development, coordination and implementation of regional programmes on marine science, observations and capacity building in the Western Pacific and adjacent regions, which include North-East Asian region – The Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), South-East Asia – The Global Ocean Observing System (SEAGOOS), IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers on Marine Sciences; ten regional scientific projects and programs, and four regional working groups. As a key advocate for marine science, IOC and its WESTPAC focus on working collaboratively with scientists representing different institutions, countries, and international programs to advance ocean science for the prosperity of human beings.



Wijarn Simachaya,
President, Thailand Environ-
ment Institute

Wijarn Simachaya is the President of the Thailand Environment Institute. He is an expert in environmental law, pollution control, natural resources, and environment management. He previously worked in many key positions including as Director General of the Pollution Control Department, Secretary-General of the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Permanent Secretary and Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. He has also represented the ministry of various international forums. He has worked as a leader of green growth and government reform strategy development for Thailand. Wijarn serves as a chairman of Thailand's long-term strategy (20-year plan) on natural resources and environmental management, including water resources management, sustainable forest management, together with pollution control management and environmental governance for the Ministry. He has been a supervisor of 16 departments and public organizations of the ministry.



Yasuhiko Hotta,
Programme Director,
Sustainable Consumption
and Production, Institute
for Global Environmental
Strategies

Yasuhiko Hotta Programme Director of Sustainable Consumption and Production at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). He holds Dphil in International Relations from University of Sussex in 2004. Before joining IGES in September 2005, he was a project assistant of UNU/ Zero Emissions Research Initiative at United Nations University/Institute for Advanced Studies, Contracted Researcher (Industrial Policy Area), Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc. He has been involved in both policy initiatives and research projects in relation to sustainable resource circulation such as G8's 3R Initiative and Working Group for 3R Policies for Southeast and East Asia at Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). He is a member of several advisory committees for Ministry of the Environment Japan. He is also a part-time lecturer for Tokyo Institute of Technology and Sophia University.



Yegor Volovik,
Coordinator, Northwest
Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP)

Yegor Volovik is the Coordinator of at the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), UN Environment Programme. He has over 25 years of experience including over 20 years at international level in both public and private sectors, including a number of UN Agencies including UNDP, UNEP and UNICEF. Yegor is familiar with the development processes in countries with economies in transition, including designing and implementing environmental policy reforms, strengthening management capacity of national and inter-state partners, as well as setting up modern governance systems and favourable enabling environment. HE has worked in various geographical regions including Northern, Central and Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, Africa, Central Asia, the Mediterranean and Black Sea basins. He holds a PhD from the Institute of Program Systems of the Russian Academy of Sciences (databases, information systems, mathematical modeling of abiotic and biotic processes of ecosystems, ecosystem management decision support).



Youna Lyons,
Senior Research Fellow,
National University of
Singapore (NUS)

Youna Lyons Youna Lyons is a Senior Research Fellow with the Ocean Law and Policy Programme of the Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore (NUS). Her dual expertise in law and marine sciences has led her to spearhead and coordinate several multidisciplinary research projects at CIL on the protection of the marine environment in Southeast Asia (SEA) including the prospects for re-use of obsolete offshore installations as artificial reefs , sensitivity mapping for spill preparedness and response, pollution from marine plastics and the mapping of shallow features and sensitive marine areas. She is Chair of the Board of the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS), an observer at the IMO, the London Convention and Protocol, the Arctic Council, the ISA and OSPAR. She holds an LLM in international law from University Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne, trained in oceanography at the College of Oceans and Fisheries of the University of Washington, Seattle, also holds a Masters in Marine Affairs from this University and is completing a PhD dissertation with the University of Wollongong on sensitive marine areas in the South China Sea.



Zuraini Ahmad Tajudin,
Senior Principal Assistant
Director, Department of
Environment, Selangor,
Malaysia

Zuraini Ahmad Tajudin is the Senior Principal Assistant Director of Department of Environment Selangor, Malaysia. Currently, she is assigned as head of enforcement for all activities subjected under Environmental Quality Act 1974 at the Selangor state level. As part of Department of Environment of Malaysia enforcement team, her team is mandated to ensure the compliant of The Basel Convention, especially on the control of transboundary movement of hazardous waste and other waste. Among her team recent successes is the detainment of over 100 illegal cargos containing plastic and hazardous waste into Malaysia. Her previous role as a prosecutor has equipped her with the knowledge of handling all the related legal issues. With over 20 years of experience working for The Department of Environment of Malaysia she has also been the focal person for The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention.



Yumi Nishikawa,
Regional Plastic-Smart
Cities Lead, SEA, WWF

Yumi Nishikawa is the Regional Plastic-Smart Cities Lead, SEA at WWF. This initiative aims to work on the ground and with cities and tourism areas in five pilot countries to scale up to 25 cities by 2021 to build a global movement of PlasticSmart Cities. She has had over three years of experience working in the financial services industry and over two years in the development. Her non-profit experience includes working for the 100 Resilient Cities, Clinton Global Initiative, Impact Investment Exchange Asia, United Nations Global Compact, and the Rockefeller Foundation. During her time in finance, Yumi worked for Goldman Sachs, Ernst & Young, and J.P. Morgan in Japan. She pursued her Master's degree in Public Administration from Columbia University. Yumi also holds a Bachelor of Arts from Sophia University, Japan.

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CO-HOSTS



United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP's work maintains an overarching commitment to sustainability and is categorized into seven broad thematic areas: climate change, disasters and conflicts, ecosystem management, environmental governance, chemicals and waste, resource efficiency, and environment under review.

Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)

The Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) oversees the implementation of the East Asian Seas Action Plan, adopted in 1981 and revised in 1994. The East Asian Seas Action Plan brings together nine countries – Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam – in development and protection of the marine environment and coastal areas of the region, for the health and wellbeing of present and future generations. Specifically, efforts are focused on addressing land-based marine pollution; strengthening marine and coastal planning and management; and sharing marine environmental management experiences and policies towards strengthened regional governance.



Government of Sweden

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida, is a government agency working on behalf of the Swedish parliament and government, with the mission to reduce poverty in the world. Through its work and in cooperation with others, Sida contributes to implementing Sweden's Policy for Global Development (PGU). Sida carries out enhanced development cooperation with a total of 35 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. It assists the government in deciding and implementing its development assistance policy. Sida participates in advocacy work for Sweden's prioritized issues within the international development cooperation field and is in constant dialogue with other countries and international organizations.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Government of Thailand (MONRE)

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Government of Thailand was founded in 2002 with the vision "to return the natural environment to the Thai people and to work towards the incorporation of natural resources and the environment in the Government's national agenda as these provide the basis for social and economic development". The MONRE vision supports proactive integration of the administrative management of natural resources, environmental protection, and biological diversity, based on the principles of public participation and good governance. Pollution control and elimination to promote public wealth and quality of life are also encouraged.

PARTNERS



UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations' regional hub promoting cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The largest regional intergovernmental platform with 53 Member States and nine associate members, ESCAP has emerged as a strong regional think-tank offering countries sound analytical products that shed insight into the evolving economic, social and environmental dynamics of the region. The Commission's strategic focus is to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is reinforced and deepened by promoting regional cooperation and integration to advance responses to shared vulnerabilities, connectivity, financial cooperation and market integration. ESCAP's research and analysis coupled with its policy advisory services, capacity building and technical assistance to governments aims to support countries' sustainable and inclusive development ambitions.

www.unescap.org



Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection

The Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) is an advisory body, established in 1969, that advises the UN system on the scientific aspects of marine environmental protection. GESAMP is jointly sponsored by ten UN organizations with responsibilities relating to the marine environment. These organizations utilize GESAMP as a mechanism for coordination and collaboration among them. GESAMP functions are to conduct and support marine environmental assessments, to undertake in-depth studies, analyses, and reviews of specific topics, and to identify emerging issues regarding the state of the marine environment. GESAMP itself today consists of 17 experts, drawn from a wide range of relevant disciplines, who act in an independent and individual capacity. Studies and assessments are usually carried out by dedicated working groups, most of whose members are not sitting members of GESAMP but part of the broader GESAMP network.

www.gesamp.org



Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

The Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia or ERIA is an international organization established in Jakarta, Indonesia in 2008 by a formal agreement among Leaders of 16 countries in the East Asian region to conduct research activities and make policy recommendations for further economic integration in the East Asia. ERIA works very closely with both the ASEAN Secretariat and 16 Research Institutes to undertake and disseminate policy research under the three pillars, namely Deepening Economic Integration, Narrowing Development Gaps, and Sustainable Development. ERIA provides analytical policy recommendations to leaders and ministers at their regional meetings. The ERIA Research Institutes Network consists of research institutes from 16 East Asia Summit countries.

www.eria.org

Plasticity

Plasticity is a one-day intensive collaboration of business leaders and industry influencers, Plasticity sparks the conversations that ignite world-changing initiatives. Utilising a “Ted-Talks” style format, Plasticity introduces practical sustainability concepts that are relevant to today’s business world, and showcases new market opportunities for transforming plastic waste into valuable second-life resources. Plasticity is much more than a conference; it’s a global movement of informed eco-optimism, fuelled by exciting new circular economic thinking and ground-breaking technological advances. Since its inaugural forum in 2012 at the Rio+20 Earth Summit, Plasticity has been conducted in Hong Kong, New York, Lisbon, Shanghai, London, Dallas, Los Angeles, Sydney, Kuala Lumpur, Suva and Amsterdam. Now, the 13th Global Plasticity Forum is coming to Thailand, with local and international speakers, presentations, panels,

www.plasticity.global



Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) was founded by a determined group of businessmen led by Tan Jiak Kim in 1905, to serve the needs of the local community. Now, more than 100 years on, as Singapore's flagship university, it continues to be in service of country and society. NUS aspire to be a vital community of academics, researchers, staff, students and alumni working together in a spirit of innovation and enterprise for a better world. Its singular focus on talent is the the cornerstone of a truly great university that is dedicated to quality education, influential research and visionary enterprise, in service of country and society.

www.sei.org

The National University of Singapore (NUS)

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) is an international non-profit research and policy organization that tackles environment and development challenges. SEI connects science and decision-making to develop solutions for a sustainable future for all. Its work spans climate, water, air and land-use issues, governance, the economy, gender and health. Stakeholder involvement is at the heart of SEI's efforts to build capacity, strengthen institutions and equip partners for long-term change. SEI's knowledge and findings are accessible to decision-makers and civil society: as its own open access material, in leading academic journals, and repackaged for effective decision support.

www.nus.edu.sg

EXHIBITORS



About SEA circular



SEA of Solutions 2019 is the first annual partnership week convened by [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.

Plastic waste is choking our rivers and seas, threatening ecosystems and livelihoods in South East Asia.

Striving for cleaner seas, less plastic wasted and a more circular economy requires fundamental changes throughout the plastic value chain.

It is estimated that just four Asian countries – China, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam – account for about half the plastic waste that flows from land into the ocean. This is due to rapid growth in plastic production, and inadequate management of solid waste – resulting in overflowing landfill sites and plastic leakage.

At the third United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3) in December 2017, Heads of State and Ministers of the Environment from over 140 countries declared that:

[“Any threat to our environment is a threat to our health, our society, our ecosystems, our economy, our security, our well-being and our very survival.”](#)

Plastic pollution has wide-ranging environmental, social and economic impacts, damaging marine ecosystems and biodiversity and ultimately impacting human health.

[SEA circular](#) is 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 behaviour change, and promoting a regional approach through collaboration and networking.

[SEA circular](#) goals:

- Increase in the variety of non-plastic and recycled plastic packaging
- Elimination of single use plastics from selected value chains
- Escalation in recycling rates and plastic segregation at source
- Strengthened policy and fiscal incentives to reduce virgin plastic use
- Growth in consumer demand for plastic pollution reduction

The overall aim is for less plastic wasted, with reduced input to, and impact on, the marine environment and its dependent people in South East Asia.

[Join us to solve plastic pollution at source](#)

www.sea-circular.org





EVENT WEBSITE
sos2019.sea-circular.org
#SEAofSolutions

