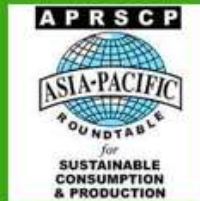


20th April
27th April
04th May
11th May
2021



Report of the 15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) Conference 2021

Our Partners:



About APRSCP

The Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) is an international, nongovernmental, non-profit, network institution that promotes sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in the Asia-Pacific. APRSCP came into being after a mid-1990s regional meeting on cleaner production in Thailand with the support from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and other partners, e.g. ADB, USAEP, EU Asialink. Since then, to date fifteen (15) events, where up to 500 professionals joined together physically and virtually (2021), were held to discuss the latest issues and trends. Known then as Asia Pacific Roundtable on Cleaner Production (APRCP), these meetings confirmed the importance of a forum to discuss and promote cleaner production and resource efficiency. Along the way, Cleaner Production has changed into the more challenging agenda of Sustainable Production and Consumption (SCP). With a global shift to include sustainable consumption, the forum was renamed to APRSCP, weaving SCP into broader policy platforms on sustainable development.



The APRSCP has been fostering dialogue and partnerships between industry, governments, academia and non-governmental organizations in the region in sharing and promoting best practices, programs, local initiatives, policies and lessons learned on SCP related projects in Asia and the Pacific region. The roundtable has been held every 18 to 24 months since being founded, working to facilitate uptake of SCP research, policy and practice. To date, the APRSCP has held 15 roundtables within the region and has built up a strong network covering the entire Asia Pacific region. These roundtables were hosted by member countries in the Region co-organized by the Board of Trustees of the APRSCP and supporting partners such UNEP and UNIDO, GIZ, and the EU. The roundtable has been successful in including participants from all sub-regions including South Asia, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Central Asia and Australasia.

APRSCP outputs have been used as major inputs in global decision-making processes, such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 18th / 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The declaration on the implementation of SCP in Asia and the Pacific Region, a key output in the 10th APRSCP in Yogyakarta, Indonesia last November 9 to 11, 2011, was submitted in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio+20). This declaration was instrumental in the adoption of the “10-Year Framework of Programmes (10 YFP) on SCP” in Rio+20.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in November 16, 2012 by UNEP and APRSCP, both parties agreed to cooperate in fostering regional collaboration to further their shared goals and objectives in promoting sustainable consumption and production and green economy activities in the Asia-Pacific region. The APRSCP drew from the results and recommendations of important events organized by UNEP, as part of the programme of work of the EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component

(PSC), with the main objective to support regional and sub-regional SCP strategies and initiatives through the development and implementation of the 10YFP.

The APRSCP network has grown and matured over the years with its board members and partners involved in providing their expertise in the drafting and implementing of the Asia Pacific Roadmap for the Implementation of the 10YFP.

Foreword

Noer Adi Wardoyo
Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
President of APRSCP Board of Trustees 2017 – 2021



APRSCP is proudly presenting to our SCP constituents in the Asia and the Pacific Region, the 15th Conference of APRSCP. This conference is well-positioned, bridging the 14th Conference of APRSCP in 2018, the covid-19 pandemic and recovery efforts, and the evaluation of SDG 12 progress and preparation for strengthening SCP multi-stakeholders collaboration post-2022.

The 14th Conference was hosted by Indonesia in Jakarta Nov 2018 and opened by H.E. Dr. Siti Nurbaya, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia. The conference outcome was Asia Pacific Citizenship Pledge for accelerating implementation of SCP towards prosperity and well-being, through enhancing collaboration among community of SCP practice in the region. The spirit was channelled through UNEA-4 Resolution #1 “Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production” in 2019, and development of ASEAN Framework on SCP by ASEAN in 2021, with Indonesia as lead-country, UNEP, EU SWITCH-Asia and APRSCP.

APRSCP congratulates the Philippines for the success of the 15th Conference of APRSCP with theme: “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP”. We also recognize the leadership and guidance provided by Hon. Mr. Fortunato de la Pena, Secretary, Dept. Science and Technology; Hon. Atty. Jonas Leones, Under Secretary, Dept. Environment and Natural Resources; and Hon. Mme. Mercedita Sombilla, Under Secretary, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA). We also extend our great thanks and congratulations to the Chair of the Conference, Prof. Anthony Chiu and his wonderful team of De La Salle University, the Philippines, and also to our Partners: UN ESCAP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNCRD, the One Planet Network, ASEAN Secretariat, EU SWITCH-Asia, IGES, GIZ, and others.

It is our pleasure to deliver this report and outcome of the 15th Conference of APRSCP to our constituents in Asia and the Pacific Region and also to our Partners, as our modalities to advance SCP work in the region and the global level.

APRSCP is committed to continue its missions, with the APRSCP Board of Trustees 2021 – 2024 under the leadership of Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Ministry of Railways, India – APRSCP President, and Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta, IGES, Japan – APRSCP Vice President.

I thank you

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Executive Summary



Prof. Dr. (Anthony) Shun Fung Chiu
University Fellow and Research Fellow
De La Salle University

Past President and 15th Roundtable Conference Chair
APRSCP

Since 1997, the Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) has been a leading regional convening network and a sound platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships to advance sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in the region. Continuing with its mission to enhance and strengthen cooperation on SCP, it has convened the 15th APRSCP with the theme of “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP”. Amid the COVID 19 pandemic, the event was changed from the physical Cebu-Bohol venue to a virtual space hosted by the Philippines and co-organized through the support of partner institutions. Its original planned partnership with the International Society for Industrial Ecology – Asia Pacific Meeting (ISIE-AP) was also postponed to future opportunity. In another first, the 15th APRSCP was held as a four-part series of two and a half-hour webisode roundtable discussion from April 20 to May 11, 2021, with over 1,000 viewer-participants as of May 31, 2021.

Webisode 1 discussed the key challenges and actions towards **Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia-Pacific through SCP** and was held on April 20, 2021 at 14:00 GMT +8. It started with a recognition that the COVID-19 pandemic resulted from living beyond the limits of planetary boundaries, and that recovery needs to be green. The presenters and roundtable discussants provided a holistic conversation on what green recovery entails and how this can be done. The roundtable emphasized that recovery from the pandemic is an opportunity for humanity to turn things around through an emphasis on Green and SCP. This transition can be facilitated by breaking free from silo mentality, fostering partnerships, making accessible financial instruments to green sectors, decarbonizing investment portfolios and subsidies, utilizing digital technology for efficiency and decision support systems. The discussions acknowledged that policies need to heed scientific data and evidence, and reiterated that tools (e.g., resource efficiency, ecolabeling, green public procurement) are available. The key action needed is the urgent mobilization of these tools and financial resources towards green objectives. Webisode 1 was conducted via Zoom platform with a simultaneous broadcast on YouTube, and was attended by more than 430 participants.

Webisode 2, with the theme **National Action Plans (NAPs) on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery**, focused on collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch. It was co-organized by the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, through the SCP Facility, and was held on 27 April 2021 at 16:00 (Manila Time). More than 212 attendees viewed and discussed how the regional and national efforts on the development and implementation of national action plans (NAPs) and strategies, and implementation of SCP practices can contribute towards green recovery post-COVID-19 pandemic. The roundtable provided an increased understanding of Asian countries’ diversity and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies, experiences on the challenges and opportunities in developing and implementing

NAP/Roadmaps on SCP, and recommendations from Asian and International experts on how SCP policy-making efforts can support green recovery. The Webisode also resulted to potential cooperation opportunities between APRSCP, SWITCH-Asia and other concerned institutions and participants. Webisode 2 was conducted via Zoom with a livestream on YouTube.

Webisode 3 discussed the role of public and private sectors, and tools like ecolabeling and green public procurement among other **Policy Instruments for Upstream Circular Economy**. It was co-organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and was held on May 4, 2021 at 14:00 GMT+8. More than 290 attendees and viewers of the Webisode 3 highlighted the potential for sustainable product development and procurement policies to support circular economy, and this has been demonstrated by the numerous policy initiatives in the European Union and in Germany as well. Particularly at this time when the global challenges are closely tied to greenhouse gas emissions, strong policies on ecolabels can provide industry standards in the manufacture of sustainable products and provide consumers with sustainable choices; and policies on green public procurement can initiate the demand to sustain such programs and projects. Increasingly, businesses are becoming aware of the competitive advantages in adopting circularity in their products and processes, especially as standards are expected to be developed and enforced at least initially in the EU. In the Asia Pacific region, many countries have ecolabels and GPP in place, and may benefit from mutual recognition or a harmonization of ecolabels to strengthen implementation. As provided in the examples from Thailand, industry networks and organizations, circular economy implementation benefits from a multi-stakeholder partnership approach where the government facilitates actions through policies and an enabling environment for CE. Webisode 3 was conducted via WebEx platform and again available for permanent viewing in YouTube.

Webisode 4 focused on multi-stakeholder cooperation and actions businesses, organizations and individuals, and the government can make in **Facilitating Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles**. This last webisode was held in conjunction with the Closing Event on May 11, 2021 at 14:00 GMT+8 over total of 3 hours. Individual and communal actions are needed in the transition to sustainability. The roundtable emphasized that multi-stakeholder cooperation and actions are essential in addressing sustainability and similar global issues because of the nature of these challenges, particularly at this time when health systems and social welfare are increasingly under pressure. While sustainable lifestyles are widely acknowledged as the goal, the new policies and business models required of this transition involve an experimental approach and evolving processes, with risks and challenges to stakeholders especially the small enterprises. The discussions highlighted the need for the government to play the role of a facilitator in providing an enabling environment for business, technology and innovation for sustainability. Other stakeholders also need to play a role in this transition and would need support from national and local governments. The examples provided in the roundtable from the academe (e.g., envisioning-based policymaking to support science-policy interface and translate science and data to policy interventions), organizations and research institutions (e.g., supporting social entrepreneurship, identifying and collaborating with stakeholders for sustainability pathways, empowering local governments to mainstream sustainability) showed the opportunities for sustainability through multi-stakeholder participation. The Webisode 4 was conducted via Zoom platform, and also available permanently in YouTube, with over 145 viewers and participants.

Each of the webisodes 1 – 3 rapporteurs made a concise recap at the Closing Event on each of the webisodes' messages. The 15th APRSCP concluded with two major outputs. The Cebu Declaration, as included in this report, was presented to capture the main messages of the four roundtable-webisodes.

The draft was commented by among expert participants and APRSCP Board. A policy-to-science interface output will be planned and published on the Elsevier Journal of Cleaner and Responsible Consumption (CLRC), with Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez (Philippines) as the Guest Managing Editor. Other guest editors are Prof. Gheewala Shabbir (Thailand), Dr. Sun Lu (Japan), Dr. Monique Retamal (Australia), and Dr. Tian Xu (China).

At the conclusion of the Closing Event, outgoing APRSCP President Wardojo (Indonesia) welcomed the new APRSCP President Mr. Sanjay Kumar (India) and Vice President Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta (Japan), along with the Roundtable Conference Chair of the upcoming 16th APRSCP Mr. Gamini Senanayake (Sri Lanka).

Thanks to the Webisode coordinators and the local organizing committee for this virtual event:

Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan

Dr. Thumrungrut Mungcharoen

Dr. Chaiyod Bunyagidj

Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta

Prof. Dr. Kathleen Aviso

Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez

Dr. Jonna Baquillas

and the DLSU Research Team RA, SA, and EA of Prof. Anthony Chiu headed by Ms. Eme Reburiano Tan

2021 Cebu Declaration on SCP

1. The 15th APRSCP was organized in four webisodes from April 20 to May 11, 2021, and hosted by the Philippines in close partnership with the One Planet Network, United Nations Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), UN Environment (UNEP), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), UN Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), EU Switch Asia SCP Facility, GIZ, IGES, S-16, and De La Salle University. The overall theme of “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP” provides the APRSCP’s swift response to uncertainties, challenges, and potential opportunities as a form of consultation process to the AP SCP Framework. National Action Plans, Upstreaming Circular Economy, and Facilitating Transition each took a main roundtable stage to identify such green recovery strategic path.
2. Recalling the APRSCP Charter and sustainable development principles,
3. Recalling the Yogyakarta Declaration 2011 on the implementation of SCP in Asia and the Pacific Region,
4. Emphasizing the Angkor Declaration 2016 on Green Future Sustainability in the Asia Pacific Region,
5. Recalling the Jakarta Asia Pacific Citizenship Pledge 2018 for accelerating SCP implementation,
6. Recognizing an immediate global issue from the increasingly unsustainable human economic activities and impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) that obligates a collective urgent transformative action to achieve the green future we want, along with the ASEAN mantra of leaving no one behind,
7. Reaffirming that business as usual and the take-make-dispose attitude on environment and natural resources can no longer constitute the new normal post pandemic,
8. Stressing that unsustainable resource management poses the biggest challenge to transition to a sustainable future. Pollution, climate change and biodiversity loss among others traces back to how resources are extracted, consumed, and disposed of. The triple bottom line remains the same from the Agenda 21 to the Agenda 2030. The pandemic demonstrates how better environmental quality can be achievable. The common agenda before humanity rests in restoring our mismanaged ecological system and enforcing green recovery.
9. Seeing that nations navigate a path to prosperity and wellbeing in the post-COVID-19, as future proofing growth and development requires a reevaluation of the established systems and operations. It is an imperative to rethink, redesign and restructure financial systems and economies, by means of mainstreaming SCP and circular economy as the only way forward.

The APRSCP with the development partners, issue this Cebu Declaration on Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP.

We, the 15th APRSCP participants, agree to:

1. Innovative Transition through Green Future Development

A green future in Asia Pacific is a regional society that values sound science and evidence. As the new normal begins to take shape, this is a utile growth paradigm, driven at the crossroad with the digital transformation and Industrial Revolution 4.0 to enable sustainable consumption and production patterns

through innovation, and to accelerate harmonization of development with nature. Asia and the Pacific is home to a young workforce and the small and medium enterprises. In fact, digital technology speeds up data collection, analysis and decision making, and this can be scaled up beyond the public and private sectors. In that regard, bridging a gap between technology adopters and technology innovators, does indeed pave the way for resource-efficient goods and improved services; as well as new ways of thinking and doing.

2. Systematic Transformation through a Green Development Agenda

2.1. For the swift transformations to happen, it necessitates a support system from an institutional mechanism to a collaborative network. Science, policy and business interface allow for an inclusive, evidence-based and multistakeholder approach to designing policies, business models, financing mechanisms, and fostering behavioral change. The principles of SCP remain the same, but the tools and approaches are dynamic and evolving. More than ever, actions need to be undertaken in all facets and dimensions to accelerate progress that has been undermined by the current pandemic.

2.2. To move forward, we commit to, and call on governments, scientific community, business, key partners and civil society to define and create a coalition of good will to cope with emerging issues and challenges of today and tomorrow. The Asia Pacific region cannot afford the increasingly recurring cost of a regional day-to-day inaction for the unsustainable future.

2.3. Working together and taking an urgent action together for the sustainability and green recovery of the region, with key priorities below:

- Mainstreaming SCP, circular economy and 3Rs principles with envisioning-based policies
- Prioritizing sustainable resource use and management in a green recovery plan
- Establishing criteria for green finance and businesses to bring value to people and the environment, such as efficient public transport systems and green building standards
- Implementing fiscal reforms that limit subsidies to fossil fuels, help decarbonize portfolios and integrate climate risks to insurance products
- Encouraging public-private partnerships to propel digitalization and advance innovation towards effective SCP implementation, as well as localization and regionalization of SCP policy
- Advocating for sustainable public procurement for a greater uptake on green products, facilitating the creation of simplified criteria for sustainable procurement and green labels
- Endorsing policies oriented towards supporting SMEs through capacity building, digital infrastructure, and access to a financing mechanism
- Promoting private sector actions through social enterprise, social experimentation, and corporate plans on climate issue, sustainable lifestyles, ecolabel and product innovation
- Supporting implementation of existing environmental policies, fostering SCP education and data availability, strengthening regional resource expertise, investigating into plastic concern, and ensuring sound food waste management

- Engaging in a regional dialogue on transformative ways of implementing an SCP and a circular economy.

APRSCP is committed to enhancing collaboration with Partners, incl. Governments through National Focal Points for SDG 12, UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP, UNCRD the One Planet Network, ASEAN, EU SWITCH-Asia, GIZ, IGES, etc. in fostering and facilitating SCP implementation in the AP region. APRSCP is also committed to continue channeling the voice of SCP stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific region at relevant international fora and fostering Asia Pacific participation in the multistakeholder collaboration in SCP through partnership with the One Planet Network.

Webisode I: Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP

Webisode Program

<p>Date: Apr 20, 2021 India Time: 10.30 am – 1 pm Bangkok Time: 1 pm – 3.30 pm Manila Time: 2 pm – 4.30 pm Japan Time: 3 pm – 5.30 pm Format: Invited Speakers and Discussants, and APRSCP Board members in zoom, General participants Q&A via YouTube live streaming https://youtu.be/hvxcHQCKUyA</p>	
<p>Opening Ceremony and Roundtable Discussion (20 min)</p>	
Welcome remarks	<p>Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia President, APRSCP</p>
Opening remarks	<p>Hon. Mr. Fortunato de la Pena Secretary, Department of Science and Technology Republic of the Philippines</p>
Opening remarks	<p>Hon. Atty. Jonas Leones Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Republic of the Philippines</p>
<p>Keynote Address (15 min) H.E. Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi Vice President, United Nations Environment Assembly 5 (UNEA-5) Director General on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia Immediate Past President, APRSCP</p>	
<p>Roundtable Webisode 1</p>	
<p>15th APRSCP Chair and Webisode 01 Moderator: Prof. Dr. Anthony SF Chiu University Fellow & Professor, De La Salle University Secretary and Past President, APRSCP</p>	
<p>Presentations (8 min each = total 40 min)</p>	
Presentation 1:	<p>Dr. Stefanos Fotiou Director for Environment and Development, UN ESCAP “Three emerging opportunities for SCP in a post-COVID-19 era”</p>
Presentation 2:	<p>Dr. Dechen Tsering Regional Director and Representative for Asia Pacific, UNEP “Green Recovery in Asia and the Pacific”</p>
Presentation 3:	<p>Dr. Rene van Berkel</p>

	UNIDO Representative and Head of Regional Office in India “Green Recovery and Rejuvenation of Manufacturing in Asia through Industrial Resource Efficiency”
Presentation 4:	Dr. Arab Hoballah Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility “More than ever before, SCP needed”
Presentation 5:	Mr. Kai Hofmann Project Director, GiZ “Circular Economy upstream policies for South-East-Asia – Building Back Sustainable”
Roundtable and Open Discussion (Discussant 1-2 min each time; total discussion = 70 min)	
Roundtable Discussant 1:	Miss Kartika Anggraeni , Collaborating Centre for SCP (CSCP) Future Earth, KAN on Systems of SCP
Roundtable Discussant 2:	Dr. Michikazu Kojima , Chief Senior Researcher, IDE-JETRO Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)
Roundtable Discussant 3:	Professor Dr. Geng Yong , IPCC AR-5 AR-6 lead author Dean of Environment, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
Roundtable Discussant 4:	Miss Kunzang , Bhutan National Environment Commission Board member, APRSCP
Roundtable Discussant 5:	Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez , De La Salle University Youth author/reviewer, UNEP GEO6
Roundtable Discussant 6:	Dr. Anupam Khajuria Researcher, Environment Unit, UNCRD
Roundtable Comments and Questions from General Audience and partners	
Closing remarks	H.E. Prof. Dr. Chhun Vannak Senior Advisor to Ministry of Environment, Former Vice-Minister, Former Secretary-General and Member of National Council on Green Growth, Vice-President of the APRSCP Board of Trustees.



15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production
Webisode 1 <https://youtu.be/hvxcHQCKUyA>
 APRIL 20, 2021 Tuesday 2 PM – 4.30 PM MANILA TIME (GMT+8)
“Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP”



Welcome / Closing remarks



Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo
 • Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
 • President, APRSCP



Dr. Chhun Vannak
 • Former Vice Minister Ministry of Environment, Cambodia
 • Vice President, APRSCP

Opening remarks



Hon. Fortunato de la Pena
 • Secretary, Department of Science and Technology Republic of the Philippines



Hon. Jonas Leones
 • UnderSecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Republic of the Philippines

Keynote Address



H.E. Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi
 • Vice President, United Nations Environment Assembly 5 (UNEA-5)
 • DG Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
 • Immediate Past President, APRSCP

Presentations



Dr. Stefanos Fotiou
 Director for Environment and Development, UN ESCAP



Dr. Dechen Tsering
 Regional Director and Representative for Asia Pacific, UNEP



Dr. Rene van Berkel
 UNIDO Representative and Head of Regional Office in India



Dr. Arab Hoballah
 Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility



Mr. Kai Hofmann
 Project Director, GIZ

Roundtable and Open Discussion



Ms. Kartika Anggraeni
 Collaborating Centre for SCP (CSCP) Future Earth, KAN on Systems of SCP



Dr. Nattavud Pimpa
 Director, ASEAN Center for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD)



Dr. Michikazu Kojima
 Chief Senior Researcher, IDE-JETRO Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)



Professor Dr. Geng Yong
 IPCC AR-5 AR-6 lead author
 Dean of Environment, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China



Atty. Kunzang
 Bhutan National Environment Commission
 Board member, APRSCP



Dr. Anupam Khajuria
 Researcher, Environment Unit
 United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)



Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez
 De La Salle University
 Youth author/reviewer, UNEP GEO6

Event Chair: Prof. Dr. Anthony SF Chiu
 • University Fellow & Professor, De La Salle University
 • Secretary and Past President, APRSCP

Realtime Update: www.facebook.com/APRSCP
 More details at www.aprscp.net

Summary Report

Context

In Asia and the Pacific, there was an emergence of a strong national and regional approach for cooperation on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) implementation. There has been significant progress in promoting and implementing SCP in the region through stakeholder involvement and through a continuous effort for knowledge sharing and private-public partnerships, in line with the global frameworks for cooperation, particularly its contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 12 and related SDGs. It is important to build on what has been done through these initiatives and to provide the platform for dialogue on how to build and strengthen partnerships to move forward together and emerge stronger towards green recovery post-CoVID-19 pandemic.

The first webisode is about the Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia-Pacific through SCP and was held on April 20, 2021 at 14:00 GMT +8.

Setting the Scene

The 15th APRSCP Webisode I was moderated by **Prof. Dr. Anthony Chiu**, University Fellow & Professor, De La Salle University; and Secretary and Past President, APRSCP. He introduced the APRSCP and its 15th conference that adopted an online roundtable/ webisode format, scheduled in four installments (Webisodes I to IV). Then, he invited APRSCP President Mr. Wardojo to give the opening remarks.

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo, Head of the Environment and Forestry Standards in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia; National Focal Point to ASEAN Cooperation on SCP; and President, APRSCP Board of Trustees detailed the role of the APRSCP in providing a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue to advance Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the region. He stressed that APRSCP continues its mission in putting forward SCP progress in SCP through the theme of Green Recovery in Asia Pacific. He recalled that in the 14th APRSCP conference in Jakarta, it was decided that countries would pledge to accelerate the implementation of SCP towards prosperity and well-being by enhancing collaboration among the community.

Mr. Fortunato de la Pena, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Philippines outlined the actions of the Philippines in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). He named some of the various initiatives of DOST, such as smart food value chains utilizing just-in-time practices, green packaging laboratories that seek to reduce non-biodegradable waste, innovation hubs for startups and entrepreneurs working to process raw material into green products, and advanced manufacturing centers for additive manufacturing rather than traditional subtractive methods that generate a lot of waste. He also recognized the importance of waste management and resource recovery of products even after the consumption stage.

Atty. Jonas Leones, Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines, emphasized that while the pandemic has caused major disruptions to the global supply chain, it has also opened a window of opportunity for transitioning to SCP. He acknowledged the need for SCP to be mainstreamed to identify the synergies in developing ways to lessen waste and pollution in collaboration with all the member states of the Asia Pacific region.

Keynote Address

H.E. Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi, Vice President of UNEA-5; DG Climate Change of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in Indonesia; Immediate Past President, APRSCP reiterated the importance of SCP as the way to move forward with green recovery. She cited the research on planetary boundaries and Earth system, detailing how changes in the past 50 years led humanity to surpass multiple planetary boundaries. Efforts and commitments of the international community from Stockholm 1972 to present have been ongoing. She stressed that while Rio 2012 has outlined the future we want, it has been a shadow of our agendas. She highlighted the need to accelerate efforts towards SCP, and this pandemic should be the new momentum for SCP. Taking stock from two important elements from the outcome of Rio 2012, she suggested that the current situation be evaluated based on the *10-year framework program*; and that options for *green economy* policies be available, but guided by a rigid set of rules. She noted the need to internalize externalities and make efficient the utilization of resources to support sustainable development.

H.E. Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi acknowledged that green recovery and development-related progress is a back-to-back topic, and that mainstreaming, internalizing and integrating the SCP approach further with discussions of multilateral agreements are needed to achieve sustainable development. Amidst the pandemic, the world is experiencing economic crises as well as environmental challenges such as pollution and waste, climate change and biodiversity loss. She said that global, national, and local efforts are needed, while stakeholders need to be involved following the motto: *No one left behind*. Resources need to be mobilized, and strategic policies and financing need to support stakeholders to move towards green recovery. To end, she highlighted four strategies that can be a good start in the green recovery, namely greening fiscal policies, innovating financing instruments, attracting private sector investment, and improving access to global finance.

Roundtable Presentations

Dr. Stefanos Fotiou, Director for Environment and Development of UN ESCAP, talked about delivering environment and climate responsive recovery in the wake of COVID-19. He stressed that COVID-19 is another impact of unsustainable human activities, a manifestation of urbanization, land use change, extractive industries, and energy use. Despite initial improvements in some environmental aspects, he maintained that these are temporary, and a V-shaped return of the environmental impacts is expected. At the onset of the pandemic, CO₂ emissions decreased, but plastic pollution increased (e.g., Thailand's plastic waste generation increased to 3,440 tons per day from 2,120 tons per day). He also described how urban areas are the epicenter of the pandemic, but they are not equipped to respond.

Dr. Fotiou discussed the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic that includes putting the science and scientist first; adopting a "whatever money it takes" approach; perfecting and improving common goods supported by nature; making global value chains climate resilient; fixing and making sustainable food systems; and ensuring credible information, not fake news, would be used to lead public discussions. While the UN framework for immediate socioeconomic response to COVID-19 focuses on the environment, he identified barriers present, such as the carrying capacity of ecosystems not being part of development planning; the consumption and production models having weak standards; the finance system that continuously promotes brown economy; and the existence of wrong subsidies that lead to environment degradation.

In order to build back better, Dr. Fotiou suggested the need to look at green growth and planetary health, and maintain a symbiotic relationship between humans and ecosystems. Potential SCP entry points to support this relationship and better recovery include stimulus packages taking natural resources use and management into account; recovery plans maintaining if not strengthening existing environmental standards and policies; corporations using strict environmental standards; and ending fossil fuel subsidies. Lastly, he underscored the importance of having a Global Financial system where portfolios are decarbonized, climate risks are estimated in insurance products, and regulatory frameworks are institutionalized for investments in key sectors. The only way to address climate and biodiversity emergencies is to re-establish a harmonious relationship between nature and human activity by redesigning financial systems.

Dr. Dechen Tsering, Regional Director and Representative for Asia Pacific, UNEP talked about the impacts of COVID-19 on progress towards SDG, and the ways green recovery can be achieved in Asia and the Pacific. She started by describing how the COVID-19 pandemic undermined the efforts on 80% of assessed SDG targets. Based on the SDG UN progress report for 2020, the Asia Pacific region is not on track to achieve any of the 17 SDGs by 2030 and may only achieve less than 10% of these targets. There is an urgency to accelerate progress towards the 2030 agenda by channeling sustainable and green recovery through building more green public transports, energy efficient retrofitting, disallowing private companies without a climate plan, and cutting subsidies to coal. On top of this, she mentioned the challenge of both meeting the energy demand and the Paris Agreement targets (and Nationally Determined Contributions, NDC). Based on current projections, energy demand will increase by 60% between now and 2050, and the amount of fossil fuels supplying that demand must decrease by 80%. To achieve climate goals, she said significant environmental and health synergies must be used to shift away from fossil fuels. She emphasized the need build an economic system that values nature as a central source of human wellbeing, environmental health, and economic prosperity in a post COVID-19 world. She also noted that the world need to be more ambitious in setting targets since current NDCs are not enough to keep the planet within two degrees of warming, and to push for circular economy and 3R approaches to combat plastic and marine pollution.

On green recovery, Dr. Tsering discussed the importance of data, partnerships, sustainable consumption and sustainable financing in the region. Green recovery must be based on comprehensive and well-analyzed data for science policy business interface to support the design of policies, business models, financing mechanisms, and behavioral change. There is already a wealth of knowledge in this region from regional institutions and multilateral bilateral programs, which play an important role in promoting and assisting stakeholders on SCP. Programs such as the EU-funded SWITCH-Asia on mainstreaming SCP and China's support of green consumption can help build the momentum towards SDG 12. On sustainable consumption, she suggested the need to focus on sustainable lifestyle approaches and sustainable public procurement. Targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint per capita rely on the proper lifestyle supported by green products and service. Transformative policy pathways are needed to support social and technological innovation. She cited the electrification of the vehicle fleets and encouraging meat-lite diets as examples of options sustainable consumption. Sustainable public procurement could also provide the basis for new models of investments and businesses in some countries in the region as public sector spending ranges from 30 to 50% of the GDP in many developing countries. Lastly, she said sustainable financing and development represents a trillion-dollar opportunity

for businesses that are able to bring value to people and the environment. Asia represents five trillion dollar business opportunities, and could potentially generate 230 million new jobs by 2030.

Dr. Rene van Berkel, UNIDO representative and Head of Regional Office in India, presented the potential for green recovery and rejuvenation of manufacturing through industrial resource efficiency. Due to the pandemic, manufacturing has come to a standstill and is still recovering slowly due to unprecedented uncertainties in business operations and product demand, among other concerns. In order to get back to business, he detailed a roadmap beginning with a plan for recovery, readying the workplace, restarting to recover, reviving for growth, and future proofing. Accordingly, Dr. van Berkel regarded this crisis as an opportunity for transforming operations towards the new normal, that is, a transformation of global product and consumption systems through resilience, digitalization, and circular economy practices. With circular economy, humanity cannot continue to live beyond means provided by nature and afford to neglect the present opportunities. He suggested that the way forward is through resource circularity, efficiency, and switch. He closed his presentation by saying that green is the only appropriate color for recovery – businesses cannot afford to be wasteful with resources, especially now with the new realization that cleaning up the air and environment is possible. Industrial resource efficiency is a good starting point to broaden manufacturing excellence, and boost preparedness for digital transformation and Industry 4.0.

Dr. Arab Hoballah, Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility, emphasized in his presentation that SCP is needed more than ever. The term “green recovery” is excessively used, and abused becoming widely misinterpreted by many. Despite the long history of SCP, he observed that implementation has been slow, with limited changes and limited transformation over the past 30 years. The problem today is a reminder how lifestyles and demands are becoming increasingly unsustainable. He added that the good initiatives and progress in SCP are not enough when one considers the exponential increase in the needs of the expanding middle class in Asia. He suggested that SCP practice the business sector needs to be strengthened to support innovation for higher resource efficiency. Good examples are not being scaled enough, and information on how products are produced and what happens over its lifecycle are not readily available. This lack of communication need to be overcome to better inform consumers and also link SCP with business sector to create trust.

Dr. Hoballah further explained the current needs in implementing SCP. He highlighted systems understanding as being key to the progress of SCP and green recovery. SDGs were prepared with a holistic approach, and the same need to be reflected in its implementation. However, he lamented that work on SCP in many sectors or organizations revert to silo mentality, not taking the whole picture of the SDGs into account. SDGs aim to address interrelated challenges and this requires concerted efforts from concerned stakeholders, and facilitated by dialogue. He also underscored the importance of empowering public institutions to provide coherent policy frameworks and tools for efficient SCP implementation and to guide stakeholder actions, and to facilitate out of the box and deeper in the box thinking. There is a need to look beyond the tip of the iceberg of operations, and tackle challenges deeper in the supply chain, which is limiting the current scale of sustainability impacts and opportunities. Therefore, he said fostering science-based and collaborative stakeholder participation in policy formulation and implementation is key to achieve holistic solutions. In addition, solutions such as innovation is essential, but not only in high tech or big companies. He stressed that innovation is also effective at the very small levels like small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups. SCP is dynamic and evolving, and is empowered by innovation, responsibility and efficiency.

In his closing message, Dr. Hoballah discussed how the work of EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility is helping break silos, engaging and bring stakeholders around the table for collaboration, putting forth the right message to the right target, and creating the trust within the program and country. He emphasized that a series of actions from all stakeholders and not only policies are needed to support SCP implementation – this will enable a collective and deep structural change, and not just shallow cosmetic changes.

Mr. Kai Hofmann, Project Director, GiZ, discussed the role of circular economy upstream policies for Southeast Asia in building back sustainable. He stated that the common problem at present pertains to how circular economy (CE) is mostly regarded as the same as recycling. In terms of the waste reduction potential, the top of the waste hierarchy represents roughly 50%, as this is where reduction in inputs and substitution of materials like plastic products can be made. On the other hand, recycling, which occurs after consumption, only makes up 20% of the reduction potential. He emphasized the need to start addressing the problem at prevention (e.g., looking at the way the product is created) even before consumption.

Then, Mr. Hofmann talked about the policy instruments and tools to implement circularity. He said it is important to introduce upstream policy instruments and to create a common understanding of CE by taking a deep dive into sustainable public procurement, analyzing the fundamentals, barriers, and initiatives to promote and implement this. He also mentioned that eco-label and standards are a good way to promote CE to the public by helping link circularity with willingness to pay. The EU uses several prevention policies for single-use plastics, innovation eco-system building and financing, which can be used as examples on how eco-labeling and sustainable public procurement can support upstream CE.

Roundtable Discussion

The Panel speakers were requested to answer the following questions:

1. Priority sectors for (post-pandemic) recovery and opportunities for SCP (e.g., 10YFP-2, climate change, and health)

Dr. Anupam Khajuria, Environment Unit Researcher, UNCRD, talked about the two important lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic: adaptability in the new normal because it is not possible to revert to the old normal, and resilience in building innovative ways to overcome the challenges of the current situation. She reiterated how the pandemic has shown the three pillars of economy, society and environment, including digital technologies, can no longer be ignored. This further highlighted the links among the sustainable development goals (SDGs), and the necessity for circular economy.

She outlined a post COVID-19 recovery plan for SMEs, and remarked the need to focus on SCP to reduce waste and increase the use of locally available raw materials. Businesses and SMEs would have create products that are genuinely needed at this time to keep their cash flow liquid. Moreover, she stressed the need for SMEs to take this opportunity to learn to innovate, maximize the value and extend the lifetime of their product through remanufacturing, repair or reuse. Through such approach, industrial waste can be reduced by around 80-90% and GHG emissions by 90%.

2. Short- to medium- term goals and actions to support green recovery (e.g., SPP-EL tools, etc.)

Professor Geng Yong, Dean of Environment, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, focused on carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions as a green target where actions can be taken on both producer and consumer sides. He

shared that the Chinese Government aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060, and to peak its overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. According to him, these targets entail a systematic reform – individual consumption behavior need to shift towards low carbon consumption, while all projects/ operations should practice low carbon production. He reiterated that people do not believe it is easy to achieve carbon neutrality, but it is the right agenda since China is the largest country in terms of CO₂ emissions. Therefore, he said China should take responsibility to be a global leader in this regard. He also believe that technology is a key enabler to achieve these targets from improving energy efficiency to delivering innovations. On the consumer side, he acknowledged the need for capacity building activities to educate the public for better awareness and sustainable consumer behavior.

Miss Kunzang of the Bhutan National Environment Commission, and Board Member, APRSCP, talked about green recovery in Bhutan's context, and how the country supports SMEs. She said that the idea of green economy neatly fits within the gross national happiness policy of the government from its economic policies to the constitutional mandate of maintaining at least 60% of land under forest cover. The country also limits the number of polluting industries. She added that the country has been supporting its SMEs since two decades ago, and has been active in the developing clean energy (hydropower and other renewable energy sources), promoting agriculture and forest biodiversity, and encouraging sustainable, high value and low impact tourism transportation industries.

3. Supporting green recovery of the micro, small and medium enterprises

Miss Kunzang discussed the importance of leadership in effectively coordinating actions in various sectors like construction, transport, agriculture and waste industry to advance sustainable and green economy; how to strengthen the involvement of SMEs; and how to leverage green finance and investments. She shared that in Bhutan, the government has initiated a startup center in 2018 with space for 28 startup business/ ideas. This will enable the potential SMEs to grow their business through shared spaces and other support programs such as mentoring, training, marketing, and the like. She said that such set up promotes coordination, resource pooling, sharing of best practices, and not working in silos. Another example she shared was the work of a registered SME called Greener Way that manufactures eco poles by recycling plastic waste. The rural part of Bhutan is promoting these poles by using it as electric fencing to avoid human-wildlife conflicts. Being able to replace wooden poles with these eco poles contributes to forest conservation, and it recycles 3-12 kg of plastic waste per pole.

Miss Kartika Anggraeni from CSCP Future Earth, KAN on System of SCP highlighted the fact that SMEs are the largest source of employment and economic/ business activities particularly in developing economies, and that the poor and rural populations are the most affected from disruptions to SMEs. She added that permanent closures of small enterprises have resulted in losses of intangible capital, skills and innovation capacity, and cited a World Bank report that these impacts will risk locking countries in Asia and Pacific into deep recessions even after the pandemic. Therefore, she suggested that policies oriented towards supporting SMEs need to be pursued in the short, medium, and long term.

Miss Anggraeni identified ways to support SMEs especially at this time. Governments need to create an enabling environment to support SMEs to thrive in this post-pandemic climate. She noted that as the global market is contracting due to lower demand for non-essential products, such as clothing and tourism, SMEs would need support in reestablishing their position in the value chains especially when they are serving international markets. Many SMEs are anxious to reinvent their business and often do not know how to do it themselves. She advocated for new partnerships between SMEs and think tanks,

universities and research institutes to build the capacity of SMEs to enable them to devise their own green recovery strategies according to their own set of local challenges and contexts. In this way, SMEs would have access to new methodologies such as design thinking, circular business models and digital technology, which includes harnessing big data. She suggested that policymakers can also support SMEs to be more sustainable and resilient towards future global shocks by helping SMEs access green finance. Through this current pandemic, consumers can clearly see how protecting the environment can help protect their wellbeing. Therefore, SMEs need support in accessing finance to start investing in green measures such as renewable energy, circular economy approaches and waste management.

4. Adapting and adopting SCP in this new normal age of digital reliance (e.g., e-waste, 4th industrial revolution, technology, lifestyle, etc.)

Dr. Michikazu Kojima, Chief Senior Researcher at IDE-JETRO, mentioned that COVID-19 is a major accelerator of digital technology especially with the proliferation of remote work or working from home (WFH), leading to the conduct of webinars and virtual meetings. He said that the WFH set up is a part of the new normal, which would probably be accepted in offices even after the pandemic. Therefore, he recommended that SCP practices and tools be incorporated in households as more and more people adopt remote work. He cited that some WFH employees might not have energy-efficient air conditioning, leading to higher energy consumption. Investment in energy efficiency at home will be needed to reduce the impact of WFH setting.

Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez, from De La Salle University, and Youth Author/ Reviewer, UNEP GEO6, talked about digital technology and the role of the youth towards the mainstreaming SCP. He noted that one of the benefits of digital technology is that it speeds up data collection, distribution and analysis. These show promise in improving services such as on demand transport services and optimization of routes. He mentioned that smart devices have also become very affordable even for household users. He provided examples of uses of smart devices such as smart meters that measure energy consumption, and Wi-Fi devices that remotely control appliances. He added that one of the key roles of digital technology will be to improve the efficiency of decision making beyond the industry to the government, business and household levels. He emphasized that you cannot control what cannot be measured, therefore green recovery should be based on well collected and analyzed data to respond to problems. Digital technologies can accelerate the mainstreaming of SCP through efficient decision-making.

Closing Remarks

H.E. Prof. Dr. Chhun Vannak, Senior Advisor to Ministry of Environment, Former Vice-Minister, Former Secretary-General and Member of National Council on Green Growth, Vice-President of the APRSCP Board of Trustees delved into what he calls the tip of the resilient green iceberg, that is, green recovery. He gave an example in Cambodia's green growth policy and national strategic plan adopted since 2013 as being inclusive and in harmony with green recovery. He lauded the work of the APRSCP in being consistent in its mission on staying green. He urged Asia Pacific to act together for the future sustainability of the region, and stay coherent and consistent towards being green. This is the tip of the green iceberg of planet earth. He reiterated the common message of the Webisode that the COVID-19 pandemic should motivate out of the box thinking and reinforce SCP implementation because there is no other option. He noted that this is the right chance for the Asia Pacific region to act and push for SCP, and accelerate the greening process. Finally, he enumerated three actions to pursue green recovery, namely, through thinking green;

loving green acts and harmonizing with nature; and having a green civilization as a new transformative system approach.

Webisode II: National Action Plans on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery

Webisode Program

<p>Date: 27 April 2021 16:00 – 18:30 (Manila Time) via WEBEX Format: Invited Speakers and Discussants, and APRSCP Board members in WEBEX, General participants Q&A via YouTube live streaming https://youtu.be/UUv9ZGDqudc</p>	
Welcome and Opening Remarks	
Welcome Remarks	<p>Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo Head, Environment and Forestry Standards, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia, National Focal Point to ASEAN Cooperation on SCP; and President, APRSCP Board of Trustees</p>
Opening Remarks	<p>Mr. Mario Ronconi Head of Unit, for South and South-East Asia, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission</p> <p>H.E. Mercedita Sombilla Undersecretary, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippines</p>
Roundtable Webisode II	
<p>Roundtable Moderators:</p> <p>Mr. Arab Hoballah Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility</p> <p>Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan SCP Advisor, SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility and APRSCP Member of the Board of Trustees</p>	
Importance of Implementing SCP policies towards Green Recovery	<p>Dr. Janez Potočnik Co-Chair, UN Environment International Resource Panel (IRP); Partner, SYSTEMIQ; and Former European Commissioner for Science & Research and Environment</p>
Sharing of Experiences on SCP Policy in Regional and National Level	<p>Dr. Vong Sok Head of the Environment Division, Assistant Director of the Sustainable Development Directorate, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>Mr. Dinh Van Chau Chairman, The Standing Office of SCP, Vice Director General,</p>

	<p>Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT), Vietnam</p> <p>Ms. Nareerat Panmanee Director of Strategy and Planning Division, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand</p> <p>Mr. Muhammad Irfan Tariq Director-General, Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan</p> <p>Roundtable and Open Discussion</p>
<p>Moderated Roundtable with Panelists</p>	<p><i>Building on speakers' presentations, the roundtable discussion will include the following panelists:</i></p> <p>Mr. Hugo Maria Schally Head of Unit, Directorate General for Environment, European Commission</p> <p>Mr. Charles Arden-Clarke Head, One Planet Network (10YFP) Secretariat, UN Environment Programme</p> <p>Dr. Wijarn Simachaya Chairman, The Thai SCP Network; President, Thailand Environment Institute; and Former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand</p> <p>Mr. Zafar Makhmudov Executive Director, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC)</p> <p>Mr. Eric Zusman Senior Policy Researcher/Area Leader, Institute for Global Environmental Studies (IGES)</p>
<p>Closing Remarks</p>	<p>Mr. Arab Hoballah Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility</p> <p>Mr. Alessandro Villa Deputy-Head of Unit, for Middle East and Central Asia, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission</p>

INFORMATIVE NOTE

15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) WEBISODE II:

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON SCP, DRIVERS FOR GREEN RECOVERY

Collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch



27 April 2021 • 1600-1800 (Manila Time) • WEBEX

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CONTEXT

Since 1997, the *Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP)*, has played an important role in fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships to enhance and strengthen cooperation on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). In the past 23 years, 14 Regional Roundtables on SCP have been convened, and the 15th APRSCP: "Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP," hosted by the Philippines, will be held on April 20 - May 11, 2021 through a series of webinar roundtable discussions.

The SWITCH-Asia Programme is co-hosting with the APRSCP the 15th APRSCP Webisode II focused on the *National Action Plans on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery, Collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch* on 27 April 2021 at 16:00 (Manila Time). This Webisode is part of the series of "Internal thematic cluster consultative and brainstorming meetings" inscribed in the SWITCH-Asia programme as part of activities for 2021-mid-2022 and through joint partnerships with partner countries and key organisations in the region.

Mainstreaming of SCP in regional and national policies has gained momentum in the Asian Region in the past years as countries reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable development in line with the global frameworks for cooperation, particularly their contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular SDG12 and other related SDGs.

A number of countries in the region have already elaborated their national action plans on SCP that identified needs and priorities of government and stakeholders, and formulated recommendations towards a shared agenda in terms of delivering on SDG12 and the SCP related targets under other SDGs and other SCP mandates. For implementation and monitoring of these national action plans, much support is still needed in advancing data availability, science, technology and innovation, financing, and capacity development.

OBJECTIVE

To strengthen cooperation and partnerships in support to countries in formulating and implementing their SCP policies and to initiate a dialogue platform for cross-border exchange of experiences and larger impact to move forward together and emerge stronger towards green recovery post-CoVID-19 pandemic.

OUTPUT

- Increased Understanding of Asian countries' diversity and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies;
- Exchanging experiences among Asian and European experts on how SCP policy-making efforts can support green recovery;
- Informing participants of countries' learning experiences and achievements and challenges in developing and implementing NAP/Roadmaps on SCP;
- Analyse potential cooperation opportunities between SWITCH-Asia and other concerned institutions and participants.

Summary Report

Context

Since 1997, the Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) has convened regional roundtables to foster multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships to enhance and strengthen cooperation on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). The 15th APRSCP: “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP,” hosted by the Philippines, has been conducted online through a series of webisode roundtable discussions from April 20 – May 11, 2021, co-organised by partner institutions.

The EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, through the SCP Facility, co-organised the 15th APRSCP Webisode II focusing on [“National Action Plans \(NAPs\) on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery”, Collaborations and synergies for a more impactful #WeSwitch](#) on 27 April 2021 at 16:00 (Manila Time).

Launched in 2007, the SWITCH-Asia Programme funded by the European Union has been providing the platform for partnerships and networks in between Europe and Asia to support the development and implementation of SCP policies and the promotion of SCP best practices together with multi-stakeholders, including the APRSCP.

More than 150 attendees of the 15th APRSCP – EU SWITCH-Asia Webisode II discussed the regional and national efforts on the development and implementation of national strategies and action plans and implementation of SCP practices as contribution towards green recovery post-CoVID-19 pandemic. Results of the Webisode II are the following:

- Increased understanding of Asian countries’ diversity and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies;
- Experiences shared on the challenges and opportunities in developing and implementing NAP/Roadmaps on SCP;
- Recommendations from Asian and International experts on how SCP policy-making efforts can support green recovery.
- Discussed potential cooperation opportunities between APRSCP, SWITCH-Asia and other concerned institutions and participants.

Setting the Scene

The 15th APRSCP – SWITCH-Asia Webisode II were moderated by Mrs. Loraine Gatlabayan, SCP Adviser of the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility and Mr. Arab Hoballah, Team Leader of the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility, as co-chairs of the event.

Mr. Arab Hoballah welcomed the participants to the event and thanked the APRSCP Board of Trustees for inviting EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility to contribute to the 15th APRSCP. He highlighted the importance of SCP, not just an approach but as a systemic process, involving all stakeholders, which is important to achieve transformative change towards inclusive, green and circular economy and sustainable development. SCP is the operational definition of sustainable development and its practical translation into responsible behaviour decisions and action. He highlighted how the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme

promotes SCP patterns in Asia through country support on enhancing and enabling the policy framework, the industrial and particular SME context, the market capacity, and the consumer responsible behaviour and action. He reiterated that more needs to be done in the global, regional, national and local level to effectively deliver SCP. The pandemic has become a lesson to all to push for and drive the change, to finally build forward, not better, but build right. He finally stressed that this event aims to increase the understanding of Asian countries' diversities and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies. There is a need to share those experiences and draw lessons on the challenges and achievements in developing and implementing NAPs/roadmaps on SCP.

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo, Head of the Environment and Forestry Standards in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia; National Focal Point to ASEAN Cooperation on SCP; and President, APRSCP Board of Trustees gave an overview of the APRSCP, which is a regional convening network that has been providing a sound platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships to advance SCP in the region. He highlighted the importance of the 15th APRSCP's theme and the need to make fundamental changes in our socio-economic systems down to individual and collective behaviors towards sustainable development. He mentioned that sustainable development issues are in the forefront in global and regional agenda with increased awareness on sustainable lifestyle, sustainable living, change in production systems, circular economy, resource efficiency, eco civilization among others.

Mr. Wardoyo recalled the outcomes of the 14th APRSCP hosted by Indonesia in 2018, the Asia-Pacific Citizenship pledge for accelerating the implementation of SCP, which was brought forward to UN Environment Assembly 4. It highlighted the need for innovative pathways to achieve SCP and called for formation of community of practice, development of SCP resource pool, enhancing collaboration at national regional level and also with the one planet network, and also mainstreaming SCP in national and regional policy. This resulted to the ongoing development of the ASEAN Framework on SCP supported by ASEAN Secretariat, UNEP through the EU SWITCH-Asia, and APRSCP. He highlighted that in the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2021 discussed how the implementation of SCP is lagging behind and It's time to revisit the work on SCP in the Asia Pacific region.

He raised key points to be addressed: scaling up work on SCP to achieve a systemic transformative change involving all stakeholders; clear vision on SCP through information and communication needed to engage and win support from all stakeholders; framework of SCP actions and awareness for stakeholders to contribute and do their part; and use of innovative tools to advance SCP. He also stressed the need to promote engagement with scientific community. Lastly, he stated that the 15th APRSCP will be featured in a special issue of the Elsevier Journal on Cleaner and Responsible Consumption.

Mr. Mario Ronconi, Head of Unit, for South and South-East Asia, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission highlighted the importance of Webisode II to exchange views on how to best integrate more sustainable practices in the economy and society. He highlighted how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected societies and economies. He emphasized that green recovery has become more of a necessity, with a coordinated approach to move to more sustainable economic models.

Mr. Ronconi stated the opportunity not only to reconsider criteria for the protection of the environment and natural resources but also to ensure a fair and inclusive restructuring of our economies and our societies. He highlighted how governments in Asia are adopting several measures to prevent negative

impact on the economy. Countries in Central Asia adopted measures to prevent negative impacts on the economy by reorienting the budget to take urgent measure in response to the pandemic. The Royal Government of Bhutan promoted fiscal and monetary measures. The Government of Bangladesh has rolled out 23 stimulus packages of 14.6 billion US dollars. In Southeast Asia, Malaysia implemented five stimulus packages and recovery plans amounting to about 20% of its GDP and provided assistance micro and small-scale businesses.

On the EU's response to the pandemic, the EU approved the "Next Generation EU" package, which is a recovery plan of 750 billion euro to invest in the green and digital transition. Under the umbrella of the European Green Deal, a Just Transition Mechanism was also created aiming at mobilizing at least 100 billion euro until 2027 to bring productive investments in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The European Commission adopted an ambitious and comprehensive package of measures, which includes the introduction of an EU Taxonomy to help investors financing activities in companies providing clear and reliable sustainability information. However, there is a need for a visionary and long-term approach for all these actions to move towards systemic change, in the way we produce, consume and work. Governments can play a very important role in supporting it, building back better, building forward better.

Mr. Ronconi highlighted that countries in Asia are undergoing a similar path such as developing action plans, supporting the integration of SCP models into policies. He mentioned how the EU, through the SWITCH-Asia programme, has been supporting many of Asian countries in developing SCP strategies, providing viable options for the recovery, and ensuring the creation of a sustainable and virtuous approaches to the economy. Specific SCP activities were carried-out in Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and recently in Vietnam supporting the development of its NAP on SCP in 2020. SWITCH-Asia is currently working closely also with Pakistan, the Maldives, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Cambodia and Lao PDR to design their sustainable roadmaps addressing key aspects of circularity, food-waste management and plastics. SWITCH-Asia also engages with the private sector to ensure that transformation will happen at all levels of the economy and throughout the whole value chain.

He emphasised the importance of the Asia-Pacific Roundtable to discuss about current and future development plans, to share best practices in Europe as well as in Asia, and to discuss challenges and opportunities into the recovery and to promote largely SCP practices in the region.

H.E. Mercedita Sombilla, Undersecretary of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippines mentioned that for the past 23 years, the Philippines recognize the vital role of the APRSCP in fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnership to strengthen synergy on sustainable consumption and production or SCP, hosting the APRSCP the 3rd time this year since its inception in 1997.

She highlighted the importance of the webisode's theme, relevant to the current situation, where recovering and bouncing back from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic do not only requires changing traditional approach to economic recovery but also necessitates the integration of green strategies to ensure a more sustainable future. This can be facilitated by SCP. She mentioned the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic across countries in the Asia-Pacific Region and the how human behaviour and ways of life should be improved to live more harmoniously with the environment. Besides the pandemic, the Asia Pacific region is vulnerable to natural risks and disasters, with the Philippines experiencing severe impacts from a volcanic eruption and back-to-back typhoons. The current crisis and disasters present an opportunity for a profound, systemic shift to a more sustainable economy.

Usec. Sombilla highlighted that SCP will help fast-track green recovery, veer away from the unsustainable paradigm, and steer behavioural change of current and future generations to ensure sustainable development of the region. She mentioned that there are numerous initiatives to implement SCP across various platforms at the global, regional, and sub-regional levels, such as those supported by UN Agencies, the European Union, through the SWITCH-Asia Programme, the ASEAN, and our respective bilateral and multilateral development partners. These initiatives need to be scaled up, shared, and replicated among the countries. She mentioned that the Philippine Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production (PAP4SCP) ensures a more coherent SCP implementation in the country that will give a better foundation in building back greener and facilitating green recovery. The Action Plan serves as a guiding framework to influence and steer sustainable and climate-smart practices, lifestyles, and behaviour across sectors and levels of government.

Given the crosscutting nature of SCP, she highlighted the need for an inclusive, participatory, and multi-stakeholder approach to implement SCP policies. The APRSCP, as a regional platform, plays a vital role in making this happen. Consistent with the regional thrusts embodied in the ASEAN, UNESCAP, and other frameworks, this Roundtable can provide opportunities for partnerships and collaboration to help accelerate the progress in the region's SCP implementation, especially in the following areas:

- Support for carrying capacity assessments and natural capital accounting and valuation of ecosystem services;
- Use of innovative technologies and digital and smart infrastructure for managing the environment and natural resources; and
- Interventions to steer behavioural change of both the public and private sectors, including those related to circular economy, green technologies, and innovative business models.

Importance of Implementing SCP policies towards Green Recovery

Dr. Janez Potočnik, Co-Chair of the UN Environment International Resource Panel, (IRP) and Former European Commissioner for Science & Research and Environment mentioned that the 15th APRSCP Chair, Dr. Anthony Chiu is also one of the IRP members. The IRP is a science-policy interface in the area of natural resource management, hosted by UNEP since 2007. It brings together about 40 scientists from all parts of the world and is steered by around 30 countries and the European Commission. IRP argumentation is conceptually built around the inevitable need to decouple the growth of wellbeing and prosperity from natural resource use and environmental impacts.

He highlighted that high-income countries need to reduce the consumption of resources; wherein low-income countries still need to increase resource use to build up essential infrastructures. Decoupling means a higher growth in prosperity comparing to the growth in natural resource use. Decoupling is essential for all and an urgent agenda for high-income countries. Looking at natural resource use is a useful lens to understand the causes of challenges that we are facing. Natural resources are the bridge between economy and competitiveness, on the one hand, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and health implications on the other. The link between managing natural resources and meeting climate target is crucial. Resource management approach or SCP is an approach that can bring together the agendas currently being dealt with mostly in silos. The fact that natural resources extraction causes multiple environmental impacts also means the solutions to reducing the needs for material extraction will have

exponential benefits to the environment and economics. He emphasized that importance of implementing SCP, an objective that the SWITCH-Asia cooperation between Asia and the EU so commendably pursues. Material consumption in some Asian countries is high.

In terms of production for exports, the EU needs to import less material-intensive goods while Asia needs to find new business models on export high resource-efficient goods or dematerialised services. The urban mobility system was given as an example of resource management, especially on fossil fuel and metals. He stressed that urban design, in so called circular hubs, would additionally reduce the need for mobility by creating more balanced neighbourhoods and reducing commuting in the first place. Redesigning cities, investing in electric shared mobility, and delivering mobility while reducing the need for cars are important.

Dr. Potočnik highlighted that economic transformation that prioritises SCP is essential. Innovation, new business models, and specific SCP policies are important, but they will never persist without changing some of the fundamentals of economic practice. There is a need to increase finance devoted to activities contributing to the sustainable use of natural resources. Delivering SDGs and related targets will simply not be possible without addressing the essence of the quantity driven economic model. How much is actually needed to meet human needs and how to reorganise our economy to meet them using fewer natural resources? Improving wellbeing should be a priority that includes major development opportunities, which requires critical rethinking of consumption and production behaviour.

He enumerated examples on progress in natural resource agendas during the last decade. In 2019, G7 environment ministers stated the need for resource decoupling to achieve climate change and biodiversity goals. G20 worked with IRP on potential impacts of resource consumption and solutions for its member countries. There is the adoption of European Green Deal in Europe. The initiative of SWITCH-Asia on SCP is also a clear sign of progress. He hoped that these initiatives will not just enable innovation in business models and technologies for SCP, but also encourage the international dialogue about moving beyond economic incentives for mass production and consumption and respecting planetary boundaries.

Session on Sharing of Experiences on SCP Policy in Regional and National Level

Dr. Vong Sok, Head of the Environment Division, Assistant Director of the Sustainable Development Directorate, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department in the ASEAN Secretariat mentioned that SCP is one of the key characteristics and elements of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025. SCP is also one of the strategic priorities in the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment under the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education (AWGEE). He mentioned the various initiatives on SCP including the ASEAN Plus Three Leadership Programme on SCP, which will next be held in Lao PDR.

He mentioned the ongoing development of the ASEAN SCP Framework supported by EU SWITCH Asia, which aims to contribute to overall ASEAN community goals and the attainment of the SDGs by up-scaling SCP practices in a regionalised and integrated approach. A SCP Scoping Paper was prepared and identified 18 common SCP themes in ASEAN Member States, including: (i) policy integration and implementation, data collection and reporting (ii) technical skills and capacity building, (iii) sustainable use of water, forest, land and minerals, (iv) green economy, (v) sustainable lifestyle and education, and (vi) sustainable tourism. The challenges and opportunities identified for SCP works in ASEAN, included the need to (i) identify a common goal, key priorities and sector prioritisation, (ii) internalise lessons, and (iii) support institutions and connect the existing structures and bodies in ASEAN for efficiency. He mentioned other

ASEAN initiatives on SCP such as the ASEAN Guidelines on Green Meetings, ASEAN+3 Youth Environment Forum, Publications on Gap Analysis on Circular Economy and Plastics, and ASEAN Cooperation on Marine Debris. He highlighted the need for engagement and coordination among stakeholders and for ASEAN to enhance its cooperation on SCP with relevant stakeholders and partners to harmonise and synergise efforts / commitments.

Ms. Nareerat Panmanee, Director of Strategy and Planning Division, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand mentioned the support provided by the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Policy Support Component to Thailand from 2011 to 2015 in further developing SCP policies. Support included the preparation of the Thailand SCP roadmap 2017-2036, with strategic goals, clear milestones and implementation timetable. The policy was revised to Thailand SCP Roadmap 2017-2037. The Roadmap identified SDG linkages between the SCP Goals in the six priority sectors: Industry, Agriculture and Food, Services and Tourism, Cities and local governments, Sustainable Procurement, and Awareness raising and education. It also provided provisions on monitoring and evaluation of progress towards implementation of the SDG 12. Ms. Panmanee mentioned the current support from EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility focused on mainstreaming Green Integration of Thailand: Transformation from Policy to Implementation. Expected outputs are the draft policy and action plan and the national green director. Awareness raising will also be conducted among multi-stakeholders to strengthen SCP network in Thailand and ASEAN countries. The COVID-19 Pandemic has increased the use of plastic packaging and she highlighted the efforts of governments on waste management based on the roadmap on plastic waste management 2018-2030 and the campaign on sending plastic home.

Mr. Muhammad Irfan Tariq, Director-General, Environment and Climate Change of the Ministry of Climate Change, Pakistan mentioned the unsustainable resource consumption in Pakistan is inefficient and there is a need for SCP to combat global warming, environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity among others. To achieve SCP, the country formulated the National Action Plan on SCP in 2017 supported by UN Environment through the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme. The NAP on SCP identified 10 priority sectors: Climate Change, Energy, Food Systems, Buildings and Cities, Transport, Water, Land Ecosystem, Marine Ecosystem, Industry and Education. Various initiatives on SCP were undertaken as part of the Plan. However, there was no existing mechanism to track the progress of such projects. A document regarding the monitoring and evaluation of SDG 12 related activities was formed. The document provides information on: (1) Situation analysis in different sectors; (2) Challenges faced by government bodies and other agencies related to data collection and interpretation; (3) Set of indicators for tracking the progress regarding the achievement of SDG 12 targets; and (4) Departments responsible for data collection and compilation against each indicator.

In concluding, he mentioned that SCP policies are in place. However, the major challenges are data collection and analysis and progress on implementation. He recommended a systemic approach to resolve data collection issues with database formed first at department level, then at inter-department level and lastly at inter-provincial level and for it to be available for sharing through an online information portal. In addition to evaluating the provincial performance, he recommended the need to extend technical and financial support to implement the plan on the ground. Better collaboration among relevant ministries and departments is needed for better collaboration and this can be done through cross-government coordination by promoting partnerships among departmental constituencies and with other stakeholders.

Mr. Le Ba Viet Bach from the Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), Vietnam presented the National Action Plan on SCP for period 2021 – 2030 (NAP – Vietnam) developed by MOIT with support from SWITCH-Asia and approved by H.E. Prime Minister in 2020. MOIT, the national focal point of Vietnam on SCP, established a standing office on the NAP – Vietnam which facilitates implementation of the Action Plan. He mentioned the NAP’s objectives, priority tasks with supporting SCP policies; the linkages between Circular Economy and the NAP on SCP focusing on supply chain and consumption. He then provided an overview of initiatives to implement the NAP on SCP such as the project supported by SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility in developing a sustainable seafood guideline and consumer awareness campaign.

Mr. Bach highlighted the challenges of implementing the NAP which is lack of supporting policies, finance and linkages with sectors. Other focus areas in terms of policy support needed are on waste management with priority given to recycling, processing and use, sustainable public procurement, and mainstreaming recycling regulations into green production policies. He also highlighted the importance of promoting Public - Private Partnership in SCP to help implement the NAP on SCP.

Moderated Panel Roundtable Discussion

Mr. Hugo Maria Schally, Head of Unit, Directorate General for Environment of the European Commission explained how the EU is incorporate SCP in Green Recovery plan and is engaging partners in Asia region to support the transition to green recovery. He mentioned that SCP has been an issue at the centre of the EU attention. EU has included SCP as a tool in all areas of international discussions and focusing very much on the definition in the context of EU policies. SCP has been reflected in many EU policy and action plans under the EU Green Deal, such as CEAP, Farm-to-Fork strategy. He stated that there are many underway initiatives of the EU to ensure that the transition arrives on the ground. EU is part of the global chain and global community. EU is pursuing partnerships with countries that would like to make the transition with the EU on the establishment of Green Alliances.

He mentioned the two elements discussed with EU’s partners: (1) An offer made with UNEP and UNIDO on the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency invites all Asian partners and (2) Global support for launching an international agreement on plastics at the occasion of the upcoming UN Environment Assembly in March 2022 which will be a joint push to integrate SCP in the life cycle of industrial ecosystems, products, and services. The external action of the EU on SCP mainly channels to the EUDs and SWITCH-Asia will play an important point in supporting the transition.

Mr. Charles Arden-Clarke, Head, One Planet Network (10YFP) Secretariat, UN Environment Programme provided an overview on the One Planet Network and the importance of the value-chain approach to catalyse science-based policy action on SCP. The Network aims to strengthen the science-policy interface to provide insights on the management of natural resources in relation to Agenda 2030. To meet this need, the United Nations Environment Assembly requested that the One Planet network and the IRP form a Task Group to catalyse science-based policy action on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) ([UNEP/EA.4/Res.1](#)). The IRP and One Planet network formed the [Task Group](#) comprising experts on natural-resource use from the IRP, and practitioners on SCP from across the One Planet network, in response to this resolution.

Mr. Arden-Clarke highlighted the importance of the value-chain approach as a methodology for catalysing science-based policy action on SCP. Its purpose is to identify key points of intervention within economic

systems to reduce natural-resource use and environmental impacts caused by production and consumption, and to define a common agenda for action. Through consultation and collaboration, the Value-Chain Approach defines a common agenda for concerted actions that can transform the system. He then summarized the three steps of the value-chain approach: (1) in-depth analysis of the value chain is undertaken to identify key points of intervention; (2) Mapping of existing activities of SCP practitioners (where governments, UN agencies, civil society, academics, or business) along the stages of the value chain and identifying priorities and the gaps and opportunities to redirect action; (3) multi-stakeholder consultations are undertaken with a diverse set of actors representing all stages of the value chain to define a common agenda for concerted actions that can transform the system. The common agenda aligns all actors to a shared vision for change, that includes a common understanding of the problem and a joint approach to solving it.

He gave an example in the food value chain assessment to assess influence across both primary production and final consumption. He stressed that moving towards the desired sustainability, including through structural shifts and circular models, requires a holistic approach involving players of all sizes and from all market segments to ensure crucial buy in for the implementation of the common agenda. The UNEP – IRP Publication, Catalysing Science-Based Policy Action on SCP can be accessed at <https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/task-group-catalysing-science-based-policy-action-scp>

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Chairman, The Thai SCP Network; President, Thailand Environment Institute; and Former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand presented the Thai SCP Network and how they engage with the government on pushing SCP policies and implementation in the forefront, thereby contributing towards green recovery and SCP implementation on the ground. He mentioned the development of SCP since 1990 starting on policies focused on cleaner production, life cycle assessment, and the holistic approach through SCP. The Thai SCP Network supports the implementation of the Thai SCP Roadmap 2017-2037 and Bio-Circular Green Model (BCG) Model. It is a strong network involving national government departments and Ministries, the Thai Environment Institute, and other stakeholders. Its objective is to collect, share, and disseminate knowledge, opinion, and suggestion on SCP and be the network of SCP information and collaborate with national and international organizations.

The Thai SCP Network, is a platform for multi-stakeholders having 200 members and 7 organisation members. It also builds collaboration with other Thai Networks such as the SDSN Thailand, GAP-net Thailand, UN Global Compact Network, PPP Plastics Thailand, and the Thai General Education Network among others. It is also supported by regional/ International Organizations such as the APRSCP, PECOP-Asia & IGES (S-16 Research Group on SCP, Japan), EU Switch-Asia SCP Facility and UNEP among others. The Network focused its activities on capacity building and knowledge sharing, having two major conferences. The Thai SCP Network helps to support National targets & Global commitments by bringing SCP policies and practice to the forefront, including SCP policy implementation, contribution in green recovery plans, and achieving the SDGs.

Mr. Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC) gave an overview on how CAREC is supporting the promotion of SCP in Central Asia. [CAREC](#) is a platform of cooperation in Central Asia. It conducts pilot projects, multi-level and multi-sectoral networking, and capacity building. One of its projects is the Resource Efficiency in Agri-food Production and Processing (REAP) supported by the SWITCH-Asia Programme, which promotes SCP practices in the

agri-food production and processing industries along the entire supply chain, while creating an enabling environment through clusters and by building on current national development strategies, integrating SCP incentives.

He mentioned that the project will focus on resource-efficiency in agri-food production and processing and apply approaches for dealing with resource shortfalls. This will cover increasing the efficiency of water usage, reduction of food-losses and decreasing other energy and resource inefficiency. The process of clusterisation will seek to enhance the competitiveness of local businesses. Expected Results include the introduction and improvement of SCP measures and technologies in 400 MSMEs in agri-food production and processing and improved clusterisation and ecosystem development for SCP involving all stakeholders. Within the project "Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program in the Aral Sea Basin" (CAMP4ASB), CAREC promoted SCP practices at the level of local communities: farmers and households, mass media and youth.

CAREC is also implementing with National Partners until May 2023 the Phase II: Nexus Dialogue in Central Asia, which will support the practical application of Nexus tools, methods and techniques through implementation of Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus pilot projects and leverage increased benefits and decreased trade-offs of cooperation at the regional level.

Mr. Eric Zusman, Senior Policy Researcher/Area Leader, Institute for Global Environmental Studies (IGES) answered the question: How can policymakers steer a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable course towards green recovery? What interventions are needed to ensure SCP policies and implementation are pushed in the forefront as sustainable COVID-19 responses? Mr. Zusman mentioned that Interventions needed to ensure SCP policy and implementations are push in the forefront as a sustainable response to COVID-19. Three interventions, the "triple-R framework", have lined up in responding to COVID. Those are "Response", "Recovery", and "Redesign".

COVID is a crisis that comes with opportunities to change. For example, the transportation sector where the mode of transportation has been changed. On recovery effort, we have seen governments have put efforts and budget into e-vehicles that help to modernise transportation systems. Regarding the redesign of the transportation system, it has been focusing on the infrastructure of the city and institutions. An example of a redesign for institutions is the cross-sectoral recognition of the Thai SCP Action Plan and the need to start working among government agencies and facilitation the cooperation between local and national governments working together on SCP.

Roundtable Discussion

The Panel speakers were requested to answer the following questions:

1. Need suitable financing during a transition period. How difficult for SMEs to access funding? What measures of the EU is an opportunity to provide funding to them?

Answer: (Hugo) In the EU, one of the key things is the integration of SCP narrative into finance and business sectors. By establishing criteria on what is green and sustainable finance, the EU tries to steer the investment sector in the direction of SCP-based business models. The implementation of the EU taxonomy and sustainable finance action plan is part of the story in steering part of the public and private fund in the direction of sustainable activities. This will also be expressed in external cooperation activities of the EU.

2. Value-chain approach - How OPN reach out to SMEs as they are the core of the value-chain?

Answer: (Charles) One Planet Network has about 650 members. Most of them are not SMEs. So, engagement of SMEs is indirectly through the partners of OPN such as chambers of commerce and projects that involving SMEs like SWITCH-Asia. SMEs have limitation in terms of time to participate the network activities. However, OPN still in contact with SMEs association, for example, in Brussels. In order to better engage with SMEs, we should tailor the outputs that relevant to SMEs and create a national and regional network that represent SMEs to bring their needs to the attention of projects and governments.

3. How Thai SCP Network induce/influence government and business partners in promoting green recovery and move forward with SCP in the country?

Answer: (Dr. Wijarn) The Thai SCP Network has been working closely with the government agencies. Some projects have been financially supported by the government. The network has become a legal entity that we can work for the government. Thai SCP network influences the governmental policies by being part of many national committees. At the same time, members of the Thai SCP network also include representatives of key governmental agencies.

4. What is the understanding of the value-chain in Central Asia and how it can be implemented in the region?

Answer: (Zafar) CAREC is currently holding training in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan that involve as many representatives from stakeholder groups (government, service providers, consumers, banks, SMEs) as possible, and there will also be a roundtable discussion among them regarding the value-chain as well.

5. What to add to the cooperation and partnership that can link to the triple R?

Answer: (Eric) By using a strong connection between SDG 12 and SDG 8, we can get more support from the ministry of environment and the ministry of economy and trade, which benefit SMEs. There is also growing interested from central banks in greening financial inclusion strategies, but they lack knowledge about SCP. So, communication from the SCP communities with the financial sector can ensure that the integration of green financial strategies will benefit the SMEs.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Arab Hoballah, Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility provided a summary of discussion based on expected outcomes. He highlighted the message from the EU and its commitment to work closely with partners in Asia through future regional and bilateral programmes will be focusing on Green Deal and its priority sections. He emphasised that It's time to revisit the work on SCP even if work has been done for decades. There is a need to stop, assess, revisit, and improve with a clear vision to engage and with support from concerned stakeholders to access the resources. Linking of science and policy is fundamental if we want to steer the behaviour change. Management of resources is the key for addressing sustainability and climate targets which is a critical issue for Asia in development and trade.

He emphasised that SCP transition takes time. There is a need to readdress and revise it. This needs systemic decarbonisation and approach, decoupling and looking better at key decisions from responsible leaders from private and public in order to move further. Take out what is bad and improve what is good. He highlighted the need to scale-up, push forward and engage fully with concerned stakeholder. There is

a need to mainstream SCP in concerned policies with a better monitoring system and to improve cross-government coordination.

The green approach has been shared by SWITCH-Asia from the beginning since the bottom line of SWITCH-Asia is to provide access and enable SMEs to make the change that is needed to deliver SCP, ultimately towards the right pathway to sustainable development. Since the challenge is huge, it is better to identify the low hanging fruit, work on that, and look at parameters to scaling up. It needs financial resource through stakeholder platform and engaging concerned stakeholders. Finally, he highlighted the need to integrate SCP narrative properly, correctly, adequately into policies and business models to be effective in our transformative change.

See link to access [15th APRSCP – SWITCH-Asia Webisode II documents and PPT Presentations.](#)

Selected comments from the viewers during the online event

Some comments from the online event include H.E. Prof. Dr. Chhun Vannak referring to the inclusive green actions on the ground to walk the talks in addressing local needs. He also talks about building on the existing institutions and networks to increase multilateral partnerships on clean and green technology. Seeing that the Asia Pacific region is experiencing a high degree of air pollution, natural resources depletion, increasing waste (solid, wastewater), plastic bags and the plastic materials. The region needs to have a common regional goal not to leave people behind by avoiding the conventional talks and the exploitation of the natural resources as well as changing the business model from the brown to the real greener ones.

Pornsil Pattchrintanakul also mentions that the promotion of awareness of sustainable consumption is less active compared to manufacturing sector. Consumer is the force to push for supply so there should be more work towards consumer awareness as well. They also mention that we should go beyond the boundary of the SCP so that there would be a wider public awareness and support for it and the wide sustainability, especially the SDGs 2030 (the 17 goals) and the zero emission of the CO₂, methane and other greenhouse gases by 2050.

Webisode III: Policy instruments for upstream Circular Economy

Webisode Program

<p>Date: 4 May 2021 India Time: 10.30 am – 1 pm Bangkok Time: 1 pm – 3.30 pm Manila Time: 2 pm – 4.30 pm Japan Time: 3 pm – 5.30 pm Format: Invited Speakers and Discussants, GIZ and APRSCP Board members in WebEx, General participants Q&A via YouTube/Facebook live streaming</p>	
<p>Opening and introduction</p>	
<p>Welcome and Opening remarks</p>	<p>Dr. Ulf Jaeckel German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) (TBC) Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen APRSCP (Board Member and Foundation President)</p>
<p>Introduction to Webisode 3</p>	<p>Mr. Kai Hofmann Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</p>
<p>Green Public Procurement and Ecolabelling as one of powerful instruments to drive Circular Economy</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Chaiyod Bunyagidj</p>	
<p>Public procurement within a circular economy</p>	<p>Mr. Siddharth Prakash Oeko-Institut e.V., Germany</p>
<p>The role of eco-labels in circular procurement</p>	<p>Mr. Chin-Yuan Chen Environment and Development Foundation, Taiwan</p>
<p>Roundtable and Open Discussion</p>	<p>Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Mr. Augustine Koh SG, Green Purchasing Network Malaysia</p>

<p>Creating new pathways to the Circular Economy</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Sena Peiris APRSCP Board Member</p>	
<p>Political and public awareness of the impacts of plastic pollution in the environment</p>	<p>Dr. Wijarn Simachaya PPP Plastics, Thai SCP Network & Thailand Environment Institute</p>
<p>Tools that transform plastic waste into value</p>	<p>Mr. Simon Baldwin Director, SecondMuse in Asia and The Incubation Network (TIN)</p>
<p>Roundtable and Open Discussion</p>	<p>Mr. Navneet Chadha IFC's Asia-Pacific Lead for Circular Economy</p> <p>Mr. Archawat Chareonsilp Chairman of Etran Group- winner of the 2020 Asia-Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge</p>



15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production
Webisode 3 - "Policy instruments for upstream Circular Economy"

Welcome remarks



Dr. Ulfjaeckel
 Head of Division
 Federal Ministry for the Environment,
 Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
 (BMU)

Opening remarks



Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen
 APRSCP Board Member and
 Foundation President

Keynote address



Mr. Kai Hofmann
 Project Director
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für
 Internationale Zusammenarbeit
 (GIZ) GmbH



Moderator
Dr. Chaiyod Bunyagidj
 APRSCP Board Member



Moderator
Mr. Sena Peiris
 APRSCP Board Member

Green Public Procurement & Ecolabelling as one of powerful instruments to drive Circular Economy

Presentations



Mr. Siddharth Prakash
 Senior Researcher
 Oeko-Institut e.V.



Mr. Chin-Yuan Chen
 Chief Technical Officer
 Environment and Development
 Foundation



Dr. Wijarn Simachaya
 President
 Thai SCP Network &
 Thailand Environment
 Institute



Mr. Simon Baldwin
 Director
 SecondMuse in Asia and
 The Incubation Network
 (TIN)

Roundtable and Open Discussion



Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai
 Project Co-Director
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für
 Internationale Zusammenarbeit
 (GIZ) GmbH



Mr. Augustine Koh
 Secretary General
 Green Purchasing Network
 Malaysia



Mr. Navneet Chadha
 IFC's Asia-Pacific Lead
 for Circular Economy



Mr. Archawat Chareonsilp
 Chairman
 Etran Group

Creating new pathways to the Circular Economy

Presentations

Live at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxxrqB_ZumU



May 4, 2021 | WebEX

- India Time: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
- Bangkok Time: 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
- Manila Time: 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm
- Japan Time: 3:00 - 5:30 pm

Register [here!](#)

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Summary Report

Context

More than 100 attendees for the Webisode III discussing potential policy instruments for promoting upstream circular economy, the key messages are the following:

- EU Green Deal and Circular Economy action plan: to ensure CE in all EU countries. EU targets by 2030 on resources & emissions are related to GPP, Ecolabel and CE.
- APRSCP outputs were used as major inputs in global decision-making process during the past 24 yrs. 15th APRSCP focuses on Green Recovery & Policy-Science Interface. Two sessions of Webisode 3 are key issues of policy instruments for upstream CE.
- CE barriers: False market price, not accounting external costs (paid by society). There is a need for upstream policies (from awareness, GPP-ecolabel/ISO, CE innovation-EPR-Tax, Bans)

Objective:

- Creating a common understanding of the Circular Economy concept, with focus on up-stream measures
- Demonstrate the role of public procurement and ecolabels as possible upstream policy instruments

Setting the Scene

The 15th APRSCP – SWITCH-Asia Webisode III was moderated by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and Mr. Sena Peiris, APRSCP Board Member. The conference started with the welcome remarks by Dr. Ulf Jaeckel.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Ulf Jaeckel, Head of Division, Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), Germany shared examples of laws, which contribute to circular economy (CE). He said that there is a law obliging procurers, retailers and selling platforms (e.g., Amazon) to make use of functioning goods when they become out of fashion or sent back by customers, and to report on how they are treating these goods. The aim is to get rid of common practice of burning these goods, which inefficient, particularly in textile industry. There are other legislations that promote more sustainable products and eliminate the use of single use plastic to enhance implementation of circular economy. He also mentioned the newly revised packaging law adapted in January 2021 that mandates a 25 Euro cents deposit for every one-way plastic bottle and metal can for drinks. This measure should provide competitive advantages for multi-use drinks and there are others regulation which eliminate the use of single use plastic.

At the European level, he identified the New Green Deal and Circular Economy Action Plan as very important regulations and initiatives on sustainable product that ensure circular economy in the region. Resource efficiency, reparability, durability of goods, availability of spare parts and mandatory repair instruction are decided on the EU level. He shared that a battery ordinance is being negotiated in Brussels at the moment, which will establish mandatory requirements for the whole life cycle of batteries from design and raw material use to treatment of waste. There is also the sustainable product policy initiative that aim to reduce the negative impacts of products and services by making them responsive to climate

needs, resource efficiency and circular economy on top of minimum product requirements of durability and safety. Lastly, he said one of the new important instruments in promoting sustainable product is the product passport. The digitalized product passport ensures that the information of the whole value chain of the product is accessible for consumers as well as waste management companies that keep materials in the loop.

He emphasized that these tools are important, but changing the mindset from “throw-away” mentality to “save resources” mentality is equally crucial. He pointed out that it is now easy for people to throw single-use items in the nearest bin, but more actions are needed and it is time for a change. Awareness raising campaigns are necessary for consumers. He further shared that their government has adopted a National Program on Sustainable Consumption as the main instrument to implement SDG12. The program has been updated very recently by the Green Cabinet, and includes the following targets:

- halving the consumption-related greenhouse gases by 2030,
- having a market share of 34% of products with credible label by 2030 in e-commerce and in stationary retailers,
- reducing food waste by 50% by 2030,
- doubling the use of bicycle by 2030,
- regulation for green public procurement to purchase climate friendly products and services in order to achieve climate neutrality by 2030, and
- achieving a market share of 25% of sustainable furniture.

He said that to pursue these targets, they are increasing the use of ecolabel and green public procurement to ensure that high standards followed in every purchase. He mentioned that the German government has projects in the region (e.g., SCP Outreach in Asia) that support the advancement of SCP such as in developing eco labeling and green/ sustainable public procurement (G/SPP) policies. In closing, Dr. Jaeckel reiterated their commitment to continue that cooperation with partners in the region.

Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen, Board Member and Foundation President, APRSCP delivered the opening remarks. He discussed the important role of APRSCP in advancing SCP in the region. Since 1997, the APRSCP has convened 14 conferences in several countries in the region, and its outputs have become major inputs to global decision-making processes like the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Rio+20. He said that APRSCP is growing together with SCP development in the region and the international agenda, including in facing the most recent challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide. Hence, the theme of “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP” for this 15th conference captures current issues and how SCP can enable recovery.

He acknowledged Philippines as the host of the present conference. He mentioned that part of the output of the conference is (i) a Declaration on advancing the SCP agenda, and a priority list of items for SCP strategic direction in the region, and (ii) a policy-science interface translating policy messages in the roundtable to the scientific community through a special issue of Elsevier “Journal of Cleaner and Responsible Consumption”. He pointed the relevance of Webisode III to the status of SDGs in Asia Pacific, particularly the alarming trends in Goals 12 (SCP) and 14 (life below water). The two sessions of the webisode focus on green procurement and Ecolabeling, and Plastic pollution and waste to value, which are the key issues of policy instruments for upstream circular economy. Finally, he welcomed the participants to the 15th APRSCP.

Keynote presentation

Mr. Kai Hofmann, Project Director, GIZ talked about the importance of policy instruments for upstream circular economy. He highlighted the upstream circular economy tools, which can offer business opportunities to reduce materials costs, increase asset utilization, and respond to changing demands. He discussed CE barriers, where the main one is the false market price (which is not normally accounted for in the external costs, paid by the society) of products. Hence, upstream policies (such as awareness raising, GPP-ecolabel, ISO standards, CE innovation, extended producer responsibility, tax and bans) are needed to internalize the external costs.

Session 1: Green Public Procurement (GPP) and ecolabelling (EL) as one of powerful instruments to drive Circular Economy (CE)

Mr. Siddharth Prakash, Senior Researcher, Sustainable Products & Materials Flows, Öko-Institut, Germany, presented about the European Green Deal, which has direct influence on EU Circular Economy Action Plan and Sustainable Products Policy Framework. The EU Sustainable Policy Framework covers issues on designing sustainable products, empowering consumers and public buyers, and circularity in production process. He explained about EU Sustainable Products Initiative including: Revise the Ecodesign Directive, make producers responsible for providing more circular products, mandatory sustainability labelling, mandatory minimum sustainability requirements on public procurement of products, facilitate recycled content or manufacturing and track use of hazardous substances. He shared examples of EU Circular Procurement and Ecolabels in GPP.

He ended his presentation by saying that circularity is increasingly seen as decisive competitive factor in a global economy in the future. Standards for circular products and services are expected to be developed and enforced in the EU, and countries in Asia are advised to include GPP within high-level policy goals. To support the implementation of GPP and other similar tools, Public Authorities need capacity building and technical support for applying CE principles in procurement process.

Mr. Chin-Yuan Chen, General Manager, Environment and Development Foundation (EDF); and Director, Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN), shared how ecolabels promote CE, and introduced the concepts of Eco Design, EPR, and increase recycled content. He narrated the Taiwan experience on how GPP promotes CE. He mentioned that the Taiwan Government announced the creation of Public Construction Commission in 2020, and unnecessary restrictions on recycled materials shall not be established in public construction cases.

He later pointed out the challenges for ecolabelling like tight competition, high cost, and issues on GPP and SPP. He proposed a new direction for ecolabels, namely increasing the value of Type 1 ecolabel, developing high environmental awareness of consumer, and promoting common core criteria practices, and Active Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA).

Roundtable Discussion

The Panel speakers were requested to answer the following questions:

1. Current Status of Green Public Procurement and Ecolabelling in the Asia Pacific region

Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai, Co-Director of Project “SCP Outreach in Asia” the Next Five Countries, GIZ, shared her viewpoint about ecolabel and GPP in the region. She discussed the status of GPP and ecolabel

implementation in countries as classified into three levels according to the maturity of EL and GPP. Advanced status is when EL/GPP are already in place with high impact such as in Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan. Medium Level is where there is a strong initiative on EL/GPP with some results like in Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand. Beginners are those that has just started activities on EL/GPP without concrete results yet like in Cambodia, Laos PDR and Myanmar.

2. How can Green Public Procurement and Ecolabelling support Circular Economy at the regional level?

Ms. Wilasinee talked about how Switch Asia Project and regional network supports SCP implementation in the region; and IGPN and APRSCP drives circular economy. She made suggestions to promote GPP/EL/CE in the region, including to develop clear policy instruments to support GPP/EL/E, set clear targets on what to achieve with prioritized sectors, create awareness on CE to key stakeholders (government, business and communities), and establish a strong program on R&D and eco innovation.

3. Suggestions/recommendations to upstream Circular Economy by Green Public Procurement, Ecolabeling and others

Mr. Augustine Koh, Secretary General of Green Purchasing Network Malaysia (GPNM), Council Member of International Green Purchasing Network (IGPN), confirmed that ecolabel is an effective tool to promote green purchasing. Eco Label products are readily available in many countries in the region. He cautioned that green washing is still a serious issue and needs to be properly addressed. He expressed confidence in green purchasing an effective mechanism to promote and implement circular economy especially on waste management and incentivizing communities.

To effectively promote green purchasing for circular economy, he suggested establishing close collaboration among stakeholders (product manufacturers and service providers, supply chain, government, and consumers), providing certified green procurer training and certification, exploring in depth synergies between ecolabel and green purchasing to push the market demand of EL Products.

Session 2: Creating new pathways to the Circular Economy

The session 2 on “Policy Instruments for Upstream Circular Economy” was moderated by **Mr. Sena Peiris**, APRSCP Board member. The session had two presentations, followed by a roundtable discussion with two panellists and an open forum.

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, President, Thai SCP Network and PPP Plastic in his presentation entitled “Creating New Pathways to Circular Economy in Thailand” spoke about the BCG Economic model created for achieving sustainable development through food security, health security, energy security and employment security, and natural resource and sustainable environment. He explained that the BCG model was developed based on the Economic Sufficiency Philosophy of Thailand; and covers Bio Economy, Circular Economy and Green Economy to harness maximum resource efficiency and eliminate wastes, and explore new economic opportunities. He said that circular economy is needed to address resource scarcity, overconsumption of resources, severity of pollution and effects of global warming and climate change. The BCG Model attempts to close the loop to reduce natural resource consumption through circularity, create new economic growth of (1% GDP) by increasing the income by 6.7 billion USD in 10 years, and combating climate change by reducing more than 50 million tons of CO₂.

He said that with the practices of collection, sorting, circulation and utilization, it is expected to recycle packaging 100% by 2030, contributing to closing the loop in plastics. Recycling 100% of PET plastics will

reduce energy consumption by 680 million tons of oil equivalent per year and reduce GHG emissions by 1 million tons. However, COVID-19 has increased plastic consumption in the country and in Bangkok the consumption has gone up by 62% to 1,320 tons a day, he said. He further explained the Public Private Partnership of Sustainable Plastics and Waste management (PPP Plastics) network. Highlighting the key actions in the Thailand Roadmap, he elaborated on the actions taken towards the objective of reducing 50% of plastics wastes by 2027. In showcasing the different models, he presented the use of new technologies such as use of plastic waste for paving of roads. He concluded the presentation illustrating the BGC model as a driving mechanism for circular economy.

Mr. Simon Baldwin, Director, SecondMuse and The Incubation Network (TIN) in Asia introduced the organization he leads in addressing ocean plastic pollution through its objectives of sourcing, supporting and scaling up innovative solutions for ocean plastic pollution through land-based activities. He said TIN is a catalyst for action and investment in circular economy to prevent the flow of plastics into oceans from land-based activities. TIN aims to improve the livelihood of vulnerable groups of people in target countries. He emphasized that the network is designed to deliver programs to drive innovation, investment, partnerships for gender responsive circular economy solutions. He showed that networking activities with many large brand owners and companies to create a synergistic network help achieve the objectives of TIN. He said TIN supports ventures, mediating for capital and markets, advocating for enabling policies and searching for solutions to improve the livelihood of the informal sector. The advocacy work of TIN includes supporting policies on plastics like bans, taxes and EPR. It also supports procurement policies (e.g., simplifying tendering and barriers to entry) and entrepreneurial policies (e.g., cutting red tape, access for green credits, promoting market demand). He concluded his presentation by describing and providing examples of many policy barriers in permits and licensing for many innovative solutions in the Asian region.

Roundtable Discussion

The Panel speakers were invited to answer the following questions:

1. What other enabling measures are required for these upstream policy instruments to be effective in getting entrepreneurs and industries to apply them at ground level?

Mr. Archawat Chareonsilp, Chairman, ETRAN Group and Innovation Eco System spoke about two major roles of the government in promoting circular economy. One is promoting collaboration among different stakeholders. The other is to ensure CE is mainstreamed in all policies, and not limited to certain sectors only. He said that by providing incentives and removing barriers, the government can increase employment and competitive advantage of the business.

2. Countries in Asia Pacific have a huge economic, religious, cultural, social diversity. What types of policies and standards can drive private sector investment in the region to move towards CE for using the upstream policies to promote eco innovation and circularity material flow?

Mr. Navneet Chadha, Asia Lead for Circular Economy of International Finance Corporation, Thailand spoke about policies and standards from an investment perspective. He said that plastic recycling should not be considered as a waste management solution, but as a circular economy solution. He emphasized the importance of developing a standard for the design of recycling activities and content of recycled materials. These standards will promote more investment in recycling and the advancement of recycling

industries. He also noted that since products move from the producing country to an importing country, and consumption may take place in another country, these standards should be harmonized in the region.

Open Discussion

In the Open Discussion, three questions were raised from the participants.

Question from Siddharth to Simon

Question: Whether companies are ready to experiment with new business models, and what are the challenges

Answer: Many large companies are already attempting changes like flexible packing and deliveries without packaging. These large companies are ready to invest in finding lasting solutions to plastic packaging issues through innovative approaches.

Question from Siddharth to Navneet

Question: Traditional models have worked well and can be a solution. They do not have to be high tech solutions always. The traditional food distribution systems in India worked extremely well in the past. Can IFC support such innovative initiatives?

Answer: Yes, there are traditional solutions. Some of them are small scale and very effective. It is not a question of advanced technology or not, but the question of scale. IFC has a different mandate and guidelines on investing capital to business. When inquiries cannot be addressed within the mandate of the IFC, they are passed to relevant institutions.

Question to Navneet:

Question: We are looking at Recycling as the solution to plastic wastes. Is it not prevention, reduce and reuse are more important to find a total solution.

Answer: Yes, recycling alone cannot be the answer. Reduce, reuse and recycle, as a total solution, reduces the burden on recycling.

The moderator invited the speakers to provide brief concluding remarks. Dr. Wijarn said stakeholder engagement is the most important in policy development and impact assessment. Knowledge sharing and awareness creation are crucial. Mr. Chareonsilp said collaboration and networking has become easy today, and many young entrepreneurs are engaging in dialogue. Government should create an enabling environment to “start the ball rolling” and afterward the multi-stakeholders / key players should be the ones to “keep the ball rolling”.

In conclusion, the moderator summarized the discussions of the second session into four major points:

- Participation of private sector in plastic waste management.
- Government’s role in creating an enabling environment through policies and allowing key players’ role to grow
- Collaboration and networking among different stakeholder groups
- Investment in plastic waste management; and not to see plastic waste management as an environmental problem, but as a strategy for circular economy

Closing Remarks

Mr. Kai Hofmann, Project Director, GIZ was very pleased to see the policy in place from the top by the European Government all the way down to the entrepreneur level, and have this broad spectrum of action on circular economy featured in this webisode. He said the presentations provided many lessons, and emphasized that there is still a huge need to further discuss on prevention measures, and not only to create more material circularity.

He believed that eco-labeling, green public procurement, and upstream prevention policies are the key tools for future circular economy. He ended the webisode with a sad reflection from an article issued by one of European Union chapters called debunking green growth. It shed light on the belief that consumption and production patterns today can continue is not a reality anymore. Lastly, he thanked all the speakers, participants, private sectors, and government personnel in attendance to the Webisode.

Webisode IV: Facilitating Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles

Webisode Program

<p>Date: May 11, 2021 India Time: 10.30 am – 1:30 pm Bangkok Time: 1 pm – 4.00 pm Manila Time: 2 pm – 5.00 pm Japan Time: 3 pm – 6.00 pm</p> <p>Format: Main speakers and APRSCP Board members in zoom, participants Q&A via Zoom webinar channel</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TR47LiVCQH6O2lzagq3r1Q</p>	
<p>Opening Remark (10 min)</p>	
<p>Opening remark</p>	<p>Prof. Anthony SF Chiu De La Salle University, Conference Chair of 15th APRSCP</p>
<p>Keynote Presentation (15 min)</p> <p>Dr. Tomohiro Tasaki National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan PECoP-Asia (S-16 Project)</p>	
<p>Roundtable Webisode 4</p>	
<p>Webisode Chairs: Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta Institute for Global Environmental Strategies/PECoP-Asia/ APRSCP Member of Board of Trustees</p>	
<p>Presentations</p>	
<p>Presentation 1:</p>	<p>Ms. Janet Salem UNESCAP “Interaction with businesses: emergence of new business models on circular economy and sustainable lifestyle”</p>
<p>Presentation 2:</p>	<p>Dr. Chen Liu IGES ‘Interaction with consumers: 1.5 lifestyle project and its progress’</p>

Presentation 3:	<p>Ms. Caixia Mao IGES 'The role of government towards long-term sustainability'</p>
Presentation 4:	<p>Dr. Chuthatip Maneepong EARTH Foundation "Multi-stakeholder engagement: a case from Green and Livable City of Samut Sakhon"</p>
Roundtable and Open Discussion	
<p>Roundtable Moderators:</p> <p>Dr. Atsushi Watabe IGES</p> <p>Mr. Dwayne Appleby IGES</p>	
Roundtable Discussant 1:	<p>Ms. Ara Kusuma Youth Years Country Lead, Ashoka Indonesia</p>
Roundtable Discussant 2:	<p>Mr. Togo Uchida Executive Director, ICLEI-Japan</p>
Roundtable Discussant 3	<p>Dr. Yusuke Kishita Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan</p>
Roundtable Discussant 4:	<p>Dr. Monique Retamal University of Technology in Sydney</p>
Roundtable Comments and Questions from General Audience	
Closing Ceremony	<p>Prof. Anthony SF Chiu Conference Chair</p> <p>Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo President of APRSCP</p>



PECoP-Asia

Policy Design and Evaluation to Ensure Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns in Asian Region



15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Webisode 4

MAY 11, 2021 Tuesday 2 PM – 5 PM MANILA TIME (GMT+8)

“Facilitating Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles”

Co-organized by APRSCP, IGES, and PECoP-Asia(S-16)Project



Opening / Closing Remarks



Prof. Anthony SF Chiu

- De La Salle University
- Conference Chair of 15th APRSCP

Keynote Presentation



Dr. Tomohiro Tasaki

- National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan
- PECoP-Asia (S-16 Project)

Closing Remarks



Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo

- Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
- President, APRSCP

Presentations



Ms. Janet Salem

UN ESCAP



Ms. Caixia Mao

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Dr. Chen Liu

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Dr. Chuthatip Maneepong

EARTH Foundation

Roundtable and Open Discussion



Dr. Atsushi Watabe

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Mr. Togo Uchida

Director, ICLEI-Japan



Mr. Dwayne Appleby

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Dr. Yusuke Kishita

Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan



Ms. Ara Kusama

Youth Years Country Lead, Ashoka Indonesia



Dr. Monique Retamal

University of Technology in Sydney

Register here!

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Event Chair: **Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta**

- Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
- PECoP-Asia
- Board Member of APRSCP

Realtime Update: www.facebook.com/APRSCP

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Summary Report

Context

The general theme of this conference series is “Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP” with the specific webisode 4 theme on “Facilitating Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles”. This COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to revisit our socio-economy and nature systems and to make fundamental changes in our socio-economy systems, down to individual and collective behaviours, towards sustainable development. It is timely that we need to assess our pre-pandemic transition roadmap and align it to the new normal. This last webisode of the 15th APRSCP was held on May 11, 2021 at 14:00 GMT +8.

Setting the Scene

Prof. Anthony SF Chiu, De La Salle University, Conference Chair of 15th APRSCP opened the webisode with a discussion on how APRSCP and PECoP-Asia has collaborated as partners for the last five years. APRSCP has conducted many initiatives in the region with the support of partner organizations to advance Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) projects. He emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated that socioeconomic activities and its relationship with nature be examined. With the general theme of green recovery in Asia, APRSCP is pushing the SCP agenda through the series of roundtable discussions this year in this 15th APRSCP. He also said APRSCP is supporting the implementation of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) in Asia and the Pacific region. He announced that the roundtable outputs will be published, containing policy-science interface recommendations. This session focuses on stakeholder collaboration in SCP and translating global agreements into local actions through consumption patterns and lifestyle.

Keynote presentation

Dr. Tomohiro Tasaki of the National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan shared his insights from PECoP-Asia (S-16 Project) research. First, he emphasized that the current crisis tackles the symptoms of a systemic imbalance. A transition is necessary, and he said this will be difficult to achieve because Asia is experiencing fast growth coupled with mass consumption and production. Among SDG goals, the progress in SCP is also lacking. Second, he said that SCP policy is evolving, and it needs to be utilized in moving forward. SCP evolution is classified into three phases, where: SCP 1.0 referred to the process (clean and sanitary living); SCP 2.0 towards products and services (efficiency), and SCP 3.0 on lifestyle and business models (sufficiency). SCP 3.0 suggests focusing on SCP not as means, but as a genuine outcome. With current trends, he noted that circular economy and digitalization are the entry points for SCP from now on. He reiterated that an integrated approach is needed and provided an example in the twelve policies proposed in 2018.

On the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Tasaki shared the results of the project PECoP-Asia. The research project identified 48 changes in production and consumption patterns brought about by the pandemic, half of which may return to normalcy (pre-COVID practices). He said that the pandemic helped realize the importance of resilience and social ties. In addition, he pointed out that policymaking for sustainability need to consider multi-stakeholder participation as SCP deals with social, economic and environment aspects, and especially at this time when health, safety and social inequalities are further challenged. PECoP-Asia uses scenario analysis and back-casting strategies in addition to evidence-based policymaking – he Dr. Tasaki highlighted the need for such envisioning-based policymaking (EnBPM)

strategies. In SCP 1.0/ 2.0, a small number of people decide the policy and it is efficient. However, the policy needs to take diversified actors into consideration. He mentioned that EnBPM, in the era of SCP 3.0, starts with envisioning and continues with experimentation and implementation. Emphasis is on how to achieve the goal, and that requires multi-stakeholder participation. He underscored that SCP issues are the symptoms, and all three versions are relevant for Asia.

Roundtable Presentations

Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta of Institute for Global Environmental Strategies; PECoP-Asia; and Member of Board of Trustees, APRSCP chaired the session.

Dr. Chen Liu of IGES discussed why 1.5-Degree Lifestyles are needed. Lifestyle is widely considered a critical element to address sustainability challenges as it provides a mitigation potential. He shared that the 1.5-Degree Lifestyles report provided a quantitative estimate of mitigation potential towards the Paris Agreement. The study involved a social experiment on recruited citizens in five countries to investigate how to enable lifestyle changes. On the side of ICLEI Japan, recruited twenty-nine people with high environmental awareness and divided them into five groups. They held an online workshop among participants and conducted household experiments through a catalogue of sustainable lifestyles (e.g., bicycle riding, compact housing, and a vegetarian diet) and online puzzle game for citizen partnership. They analyzed potential changes in carbon emission from lifestyle changes, and are currently finalizing policy recommendations. They found that all options are helpful, and some of the options are already in use. The obstacles to lifestyle changes are lack of infrastructure, high costs, lack of accessibility, varying personal needs, varying needs of other people, and inconsistent community and work requirements. The project increased discussions on 1.5-Degree Lifestyles through colouration and co-creation.

Ms. Janet Salem of UNESCAP talked about how material consumption is increasing in Asia, and circular economy provides the solution to increasing the value of the material: (1) maintain, repair, multifunction, maximum use, extended lifecycle; (2) share, rent; (3) refurbish, remanufacture; (4) recycle, down cycle, upcycle; and (5) Digitisation. Some of the examples of circular economy business include Sinaya dup (reusable pads), Norhnorh mattress (rental to hotels, collects and recycle), Buchu Runway (clothing rental and the companies retains ownership), Mobike (shared bicycle operator), Moreloop (sells surplus fabric), Trash lucky (plastic sorting and collection system) and Aihuishou (reverse vending machine). She said that these models involve supply chain risks (upside, downside and lateral), trade restriction, costs of R&D and price risk, but these risks can be mitigated by bringing diverse stakeholders together.

Ms. Caixia Mao of IGES looked into the role of government in the sustainability transition process. She discussed the development of the Vietnam National Action Plan on SCP as a multi-stakeholder process, where consultations helped in awareness-raising and increasing knowledge on SCP among the ministries. The focal point ministry is the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT), and they see SCP as a way to enhance innovation and compete in the global economy.

She explained the role of governments in the future based on the results of an expert survey. According to the experts, the governments will be seen as weaker and regarded in a negative light. Along with the transition, governments should take a stronger role and provide support for other stakeholders. She emphasized the need to recognise the roles and interests of government ministry to make policy intervention. Soft and hard infrastructures are necessary for sustainability transition, and sustainable options need to become default options.

Dr. Chuthatip Maneepong of EARTH Foundation started her talk by describing Nadee, Samut Sakhon (SS), Thailand, an industrial town with migrants from Myanmar working in the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) which comprise 90% of the total industries in the town. The town is also referred to as 'Kitchen of the World' and is an important food exporter. Wastewater discharge and solid waste pose severe risks and affect public health. The EARTH Foundation started working with Nadee in 2019, and recognized the strengths of the municipality in its stakeholders who are interested in circular economy. The city aims to be green and a liveable city. Based on the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) model, firms are willing to participate in environmental protection. The current challenges are limited resources of SMEs and integration of migrant workers. Besides, local government agencies relied on regulation and law enforcement than awareness or behavioural change. The city government also have limited baseline data. Hence, the Foundation had to shift its mode of engagement from ad hoc donations to formal collaboration that is continuous, and have formalised multi-stakeholder engagements to set up visions and plans until 2030. The activities need to include technical support and coaching to SMEs, sanitation, proper waste disposal, reducing food waste, and formalising migrant workers for their well-being. The Foundation believes in finding key change agents to mentor SMEs; and does not practice blame and shame, but positive change through regulation, incentives and awareness. They also identify pilots and avoid dependence on CSR.

Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta commented regarding the sustainability agenda where long-term goals like decarbonisation, net-zero carbon, circular economy and 1.5-degree lifestyles have now become mainstream. He noted that social experimentation is becoming more important to realise such visions. To drive these changes, there is a need to focus on processes and having a positive outlook (i.e., stakeholders need to feel positive to encourage their involvement).

Roundtable and Open Discussion

The roundtable discussion session was organised by **Dr. Atsushi Watabe**, IGES and **Mr. Dwayne Appleby**, IGES. They asked the participants to share their views based on their experiences on the following questions.

1. Who are your primary partners? What are the main drivers of your partners to take action?

Ms. Ara Kusama, Youth Years Country Lead, Ashoka Indonesia shared about her work with Ashoka in managing its community of social entrepreneurs and young Changemakers, who are Ashoka's primary partners. Ashoka is the world's leading network of social entrepreneurs and young changemakers. She referred to Prof. Tasaki in saying that a sufficient, creative and prosperous Asia requires systems thinking and envisioning approach. She said it applies in what Ashoka is doing – it is not about direct service over and over again, but there is a need to think at the systems level to change the industry and collaborate. In Ashoka, they identify changemakers, learn from them and mobilise others to tackle urgent challenges such as planet and climate, and ageing and longevity.

2. Who are your primary partners? What is the primary need and opportunities for partners?

Mr. Togo Uchida, Executive Director, ICLEI-Japan, explained that ICLEI is a network of 2,500 local governments across the world, all pursuing sustainability. The local governments are the primary partners of ICLEI. He said that the demographic changes is an important consideration for local governments in Japan. Although the sustainability agenda is felt, he acknowledged that it has been a slow recognition. He

also cited the presentation of Prof. Tasaki in mentioning SCP policy as evolving in the last decades. He said that such transitions are seen in other sectors, such as water supply, education and social welfare, and that the role of local governments is changing along with these transitions. In terms of the needs and the opportunities, the local government find it difficult to work on sustainability. He said that while biodiversity and climate change are considered important, local governments are more focused on delivering Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for short-term outcomes; hence, addressing long-term issues lags. However, sustainability issues are slowly gaining recognition, especially as local governments declared a target of zero carbon by 2050. This is a big opportunity because there is an ongoing perception change amidst the pandemic and current experiences.

Dr. Yusuke Kishita, Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan talked about his involvement in PECoP-Asia project, and his experience as a practitioner of participatory back-casting approach for envisioning SCP futures. He shared an SCP project partnering with university researchers in Kuala Lumpur, where they aim to propose policy interventions for future SCP scenarios. For their study, they conducted workshops to academia, government and industry to gather a diverse perspective and a better understanding of SCP in Malaysia. They were able develop concrete SCP policy scenarios (i.e., mobility, household chores and waste management) based on the workshops. As academics, the primary partners are interested in theoretical and methodological knowledge, which is the participatory back-casting method. On the other and, it was also a learning opportunity for university students and researchers. From a practitioner's view, the SCP scenario that was developed from the study provided a better understanding of the future by taking into consideration the local and regional context, and provided a platform for policy and business actions as well.

Dr. Monique Retamal, University of Technology in Sydney, mentioned that her work at the Institute for Sustainable Futures is about enabling sharing economy in Asia and the Pacific, and thinking about policy and institutional arrangements, business models and social practices to support the transition to circular economy and SCP. They engage with multiple stakeholders for research, government for identifying policy options, and industry and multilateral organisations for finding pathways to sustainability. She also shared about a research she undertook on sharing economy and collaborative consumption in Southeast Asia, where she worked with policymakers, SCP experts, industry associations, small businesses. The research focused on barriers and enablers to sharing and rental offerings. She identified businesses wanted legal definition and frameworks for their business to legitimize it for tax and financing. She explained that the primary reason for this is that product service sharing systems usually have longer payback periods. She observed that small businesses need sustainability advice in their operations, for example, to reduce the cost of transport logistics. Startups are also experimenting with various business models and want flexibility especially in their first year. In terms of the transition to sustainable lifestyles and social outcomes, she noted that sharing economy and collaborative consumption is usually used by the middle and upper middle classes, and there is an opportunity to increase the fundamental services it offers and access to it especially among those on the cusp of middle class lifestyle. The government can help these small businesses and start-ups by reducing the regulatory burden.

3. What is the best way to engage with partners? What are the best approaches to bring in additional partners?

Ms. Ara Kusama believe that engaging with stakeholders is key as complex challenges like climate change needs holistic and systemic understanding, and engagement with stakeholders. Government, policy and

decision makers do not know always have information on what is working; identifying what works and what can be scaled is essential. First, changemakers have the first-hand knowledge and government have the scale. She provided the example of Mr. Bambang Suwerda's waste bank work as an Ashoka changemaker, which was replicated by the Ministry of Environment. Second, she noted that the full potential of data and knowledge is not yet utilised for empowerment and action. She said data and technical knowledge should be made available and used for implementation. Better stories or narratives are needed so that people can understand the situation and can relate to it. Finally, funding is sparse in environment and other global challenges as climate-related initiatives constitute only two per cent of total funding. She reiterated the need for systems thinking and collaborations.

Mr. Togo Uchida shared that in Japan, the national laws and regulations are shaped by local action. Local government actions become mainstream national issues. Local government can take leadership, but it can be problematic if there is no support and understanding from the people. He pointed out that in a democracy, the people or other stakeholders can raise on issues to their local governments, and consider them as a partner. Each stakeholder has a role to play. He emphasized that in the many cases he has seen at ICLEI, collaboration is key for actions to move forward regardless of location.

Dr. Yusuke Kishita clarified that the primary aim of his research on back casting methodology and envisioning-based approach was not to solve the local problems, but to provide an overview of the future. They lay out concrete scenarios for the future and goals to be achieved, and identify policy interventions. With this envisioning-based approach, implementation is still a challenge. To determine the actual outcome of policy interventions, one option is doing small-scale experimentation. He noted that Ms. Ara's approach in project implementation may be complementary to their approach. In engaging with partners from a research point of view, enthusiasm and curiosity are essential; while from a practical perspective, funding is essential to keep the research going and methodological improvements.

Dr. Monique Retamal echoed Mr. Uchida's response about local governments playing a role. She said that engagement with all stakeholders is essential, local governments can assist businesses on matters like guidelines, providing space for sharing scheme, and to enter into dialogue with businesses to identify their needs.

Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta brought the session to a close by thanking the panelists for an active discussion. He expressed that the APRSCP wishes to continue these talks over the next years to further drive the implementation and mainstreaming SCP agendas to establish sound business models and the like.

Closing Remarks

Prof. Anthony Chiu informed the participants to email their questions to the APRSCP Secretariat for those who were not accommodated due to the time limit for the question and answer. He expressed optimism that the support and partnership for SCP would continue beyond these virtual sessions. He invited the rapporteurs of the previous webisodes for a recap of the sessions.

Dr. Jonna Baquillas provided the highlights of Webisode 1 where the key topic was about Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia Pacific through SCP. She emphasized each presentation's main topics from the Webisode 1 speakers together with the discussion points that were tackled during the roundtable discussion.

Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan shared the summary of Webisode 2 that focused on the National Action Plans on SCP, Drivers for Green Recovery organized by the EU SWITCH-Asia SCP facility. She discussed the regional and national efforts in the development and implementation of national strategies and action plans, and also implementation of SCP practices as contribution to green recovery post-COVID-19. The roundtable resulted to an increased understanding of the diversity in Asian countries, recommendations from experts, and discussed potential cooperation opportunities.

Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen presented the summary of Webisode 3 on Policy instruments for Upstream Circular Economy. He highlighted the total registered participants coming from 20 different countries totaling to 170 people. The key messages in the webisode include the EU Green Deal and CE action plan to ensure CE in all EU countries; APRSCP outputs being used in global decision-making process for the past 24 years; and CE barriers such as false market price and externalities which highlights the need for upstream policies.

Prof. Anthony Chiu discussed that one of the outputs of the 15th APRSCP is the Cebu Declaration. This declaration has two parts, namely, the Innovation Transition through Green Future Development and Systematic Transformation through a Green Development Agenda. He informed the participants that this document will be circulated for comments.

Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo, President, APRSCP, delivered the closing message starting with an appreciation of gratitude to the Philippines for being the host country for the 15th APRSCP conference. Recalling the theme of the conference together with the Cebu Declaration, he encourage everyone to move forward in the implementation of SCP to pursue prosperity and well-being through enhancing collaboration among community of SCP Practices in the Asia Pacific region. He informed the group that the APRSCP will also welcome new members to the Board of Trustees, where Mr. Sanjay Kumar would be the elect President with Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta as the elect Vice President. Looking ahead, he expressed that APRSCP would be interested in exploring new areas for advancing SCP including business models, digitalization, youth movements, and mobilization of funding. Next, he announced that the next conference will be hosted by Sri Lanka in November 2022 with Mr. Gamini Senanayake as the chair of the conference. He invited Mr. Senanayake for a brief word to invite the audience to the next conference. **Mr. Gamini Senanayake** talked about being the next host of the APRSCP conference, and shared some cultural aspects of Sri Lanka to everyone. Finally, Mr. Wardojo declared the conference to be officially closed. As the President of APRSCP, he handed over the leadership of APRSCP to the new President and Vice President. He thanked everyone for all the wonderful collaboration of the executive committee and foundation advisors during his term of service for the APRSCP.

Annex

Annex I: Webisode Summary Presentations

15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Opening Event and Webisode 1 Summary

April 10, 2021



15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for
Sustainable Consumption and Production
Webisode 1 <https://youtu.be/hvxcHQCKUyA>
APRIL 20, 2021 Tuesday 2 PM – 4.30 PM MANILA TIME (GMT+8)
*“Green Recovery and Beyond in Asia
Pacific through SCP”*



Welcomes / Closing remarks



Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo

- Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
- President, APRSCP



Dr. Chhun Vannak

- Former Vice Minister of Environment, Cambodia
- Vice President, APRSCP



Hon. Fortunato de la Pena

- Secretary, Department of Science and Technology Republic of the Philippines



Hon. Jonas Leones

- UnderSecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Republic of the Philippines



H.E. Ms. Laksmi Dhewanthi

- Vice President, United Nations Environment Assembly 5 (UNEA-5)
- DG Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
- Immediate Past President, APRSCP

Opening remarks

Keynote Address

Presentations



Dr. Stefanos Fotiou

Director for Environment and Development, UN ESCAP



Dr. Dechen Tsering

Regional Director and Representative for Asia Pacific, UNEP



Dr. Rene van Berkel

UNIDO Representative and Head of Regional Office in India



Dr. Arab Hoballah

Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility



Mr. Kai Hofmann

Project Director, GIZ

Roundtable and Open Discussion



Ms. Kartika Anggraeni

Collaborating Centre for SCP (CSCP)
Future Earth, KAN on Systems of SCP



Dr. Nattavud Pimpa

Director, ASEAN Center for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDDSD)



Dr. Michikazu Kojima

Chief Senior Researcher, IDE-JETRO
Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)



Professor Dr. Geng Yong

IPCC AR-5 AR-6 lead author
Dean of Environment, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China



Atty. Kunzang

Bhutan National Environment Commission
Board member, APRSCP



Dr. Anupam Khajuria

Researcher, Environment Unit
United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)



Dr. Neil Stephen Lopez

De La Salle University
Youth author/reviewer, UNEP GEO6

15th APRSCP Chair: **Prof. Dr. Anthony SF Chiu**
• University Fellow & Professor, De La Salle University
• Secretary and Past President, APRSCP

Realtime Update: www.facebook.com/APRSCP
More details at www.aprscp.net



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We need to mobilize resources towards green recovery after the pandemic. Strategic policies are needed and financing collaboration among stakeholders.

Global, national, and local efforts are needed, stakeholders need to be involved. No one left behind.

H.E. MS. LAKSMI DHEWANTHI

*Vice President, United Nations Environment Assembly 5 (UNEA-5)
Director General on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia Immediate Past President, APRSCP*



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The only way to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies is to reestablish relation between nature and human activity and redesign our financial systems.

Decarbonization of portfolios, estimation of climate risks in all insurance products, and regulatory frameworks for investment in key sectors are key.

DR. STEFANOS FOTIOU

Director for Environment and Development, UN ESCAP



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“

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There is an urgency to accelerate progress by channeling sustainable and green recovery through building more green public transports, energy efficient retrofiting, and cutting subsidies to coal.

Sustainable finances and development represents a trillion-dollar opportunity for businesses that are able to bring value to people and the environment

DR. DECHEN TSERING

Regional Director and Representative for Asia Pacific, UNEP



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With circular economy, we cannot continue to live beyond means provided by nature and afford to neglect the opportunities present. The way forward is through resource circularity, efficiency, and switch.

Industrial Resource efficiency is a good starting point in order to broaden manufacturing excellence to boost preparedness for digital transformation and Industry 4.0.

DR. RENE VAN BERKEL

UNIDO Representative and Head of Regional Office in India



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We need to empower public institutions to provide coherent policy frameworks and tools to manage efficiently and guide responsibly. The missing piece of the solution is systems understanding.

We need to break silos, steadily with patience and perseverance to bring people around the table and talk together and create the trust in SCP.

DR. ARAB HOBALLAH

Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility



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It is important to introduce upstream policy instruments and to create a common understanding of CE by giving focus on deep dives in sustainable public procurement.

Eco-label and standards are also a good way to promote CE to the public by helping link the circularity and willingness to pay.

MR. KAI HOFMANN
Project Director, GiZ



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giz

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Green recovery should be based on well-collected and analyzed data. Increased decisions-making efficiency through the use of digital technologies can accelerate the mainstreaming of SCP.

The role of the youth towards the mainstreaming SCP by speeding up data collection, distribution, and analysis.

DR. NEIL STEPHEN LOPEZ

De La Salle University

Youth author/reviewer, UNEP GEO6



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From both a production and consumption point of view, we would need to initiate systematic reform. All citizens would have to change towards low carbon consumption while projects should initiate low carbon production.

We would need to initiate capacity building activities to educate the general public so they can understand how they can change their behaviors.

DR. GENG YONG

IPCC AR-5 AR-6 lead author

Dean of Environment, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China



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There are two important lessons to learn from COVID-19. Adaptability, needing to move forward with the new normal; and Resilience, thinking of new innovative ways to overcome this pandemic.

All SDGs are indeed linked, and Circular Economy is necessary to solve not one SDG but multiples of it.

DR. ANUPAM KHAJURIA

Researcher, Environment Unit, UNCRD



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Bhutan’s economic policies embraces green recovery principles, and the country has several advantages in pursuit of green economy including their constitutional mandate to maintain forest cover.

Support to SMEs include the development of clean energy, promoting agriculture and forest biodiversity, and sustainable high value and low impact industries.

MISS KUNZANG

*Bhutan National Environment Commission
Board member, APRSCP*



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COVID-19 is a major accelerator of digital technology especially with the start of remote working from home. We need to include more investment in energy efficiency at home to reduce the impact of WFH setting.

This is part of the new normal and we probably would not entirely go back to completely working in an office type of setting.

DR. MICHIKAZU KOJIMA

*Chief Senior Researcher, IDE-JETRO
Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)*



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SMEs are the largest source of employment and delivery of goods and services particularly in developing economies. Therefore, policies oriented towards supporting SMEs need to be pursued in the short, medium, and long term.

Governments need to create an enabling environment to support SMEs such as forging partnerships with think tanks, universities, and research institutes.

MISS KARTIKA ANGGRAENI

*Collaborating Centre for SCP (CSCP)
Future Earth, KAN on Systems of SCP*



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Question 1: *Priority sectors for (post-pandemic) recovery and opportunities for SCP*

- Maximizing value through 3R to reduce industrial waste
- Enhancing skills among industry to access indigenous resources

Question 2: *Short- to medium- term goals and actions to support green recovery*

- Initiate capacity building activities and educate general public to change behavior
- Ex. Bhutan's economic policies: Gross National Happiness, 60% land under forest cover, and limiting number of polluting industries

Question 3: *Supporting green recovery of the micro, small and medium enterprises*

- Helping SMEs through shared spaces, resource pooling, and best practice sharing
- Forge multi-stakeholders partnerships with think tanks, universities, and research institutes to help build capacity and devise green recovery strategies

Question 4: *Adapting and adopting SCP in this new normal age of digital reliance*

- Investing in energy efficient solutions for WFH setups
- Digital technologies to accelerate mainstreaming of SCP

Jonna B.

Anthony SF Chiu

APRSCP President Noer ...

United Nations
CENTRE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (UNCRD)
Anupam Khajuria

Kai Hofmann

Fortunato T. de la Peña

Laksmi Dhewanthi

Ambreen Waheed

Chalcyod Bunyagidj

Neil Stephen Lopez

thumrongrut Mungcharo...

vannak chhun

Geng Yong

Michikazu Kojima

Sanjay Kumar

Rene Van Berkel (UNIDO)

Patricia Santiago

Meenakshi's iPhone

Kathleen Aviso

Stefanos Fobou

Jonas Leones

UNEP Dechen Tsering

Kartika Anggraeni

Emei Tan

Arab Hoballah

Enzo Cardino

Loraine Gatlabayan

IGES
Yasuniko HOTTA

Mushtaq Memon

BHUTAN NEC kunzang

Sena Peiris

TunnieS

Laura R Bestari_MoEF ID

Laura R Bestari_MoEF ID

Laura R Bestari_MoEF ID

Laura R Bestari_MoEF ID



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SCP FACILITY



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27 April 2021, 4:00 – 6:30 PM (Manila Time)

15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for
Sustainable Consumption and
Production (APRSCP) WEBISODE II:

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON SCP, DRIVERS FOR GREEN RECOVERY

Collaborations and synergies for
a more impactful #WeSwitch



More than 150 participants attended Webisode II.

Results

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- **Increased understanding** of Asian countries' diversity and shared priorities in the development and implementation of SCP policies;
- **Experiences shared** on the challenges and opportunities in developing and implementing NAP/Roadmaps on SCP;
- **Recommendations** from Asian and International experts on how SCP policy-making efforts can support green recovery;
- **Discussed potential cooperation opportunities** between APRSCP, SWITCH-Asia and other concerned institutions and participants.

Message from the APRSCP President

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Decision-makers in Asia Pacific are increasingly using terms such as: Sustainable lifestyle, circular economy and resource efficiency.

This will hopefully translate into actions as it's time to revisit our SCP work in the Asia Pacific region.

NOER ADI WARDOJO

Head of Center for Standards, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia



Messages from the EU representatives

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We need a systemic change in the way we produce, consume and work.

Governments can play a very important role in supporting this change.



MARIO RONCONI

Head of Unit for South and South-East Asia, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission



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EU SWITCH-Asia is the expression of the support to a global just transition to a resource efficient and circular economy for a more equitable use of resources.

We are working towards the achievement of SCP and inclusive and sustainable industrialisation!



HUGO MARIA SCHALLY

Head of Unit for Multilateral environmental cooperation in the Directorate for Global Sustainable Development in DG Environment of the European Commission

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#WeSwitch POWER OF SWITCH ∞ POWER WITH US

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Dr. Janez Potočnik

Co-Chair,
International
Resource Panel

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- **Decoupling** is essential for all to manage natural resources and meeting climate target.
- **Resource management approach or SCP** can bring together the agendas currently being dealt with mostly in silos.
- **Improving wellbeing** should be a priority that includes major development opportunities, which requires critical rethinking of consumption and production behaviour.
- **SCP Initiatives** will not just enable innovation in business models and technologies for SCP, but also encourage the international dialogue about moving beyond economic incentives and respecting planetary boundaries.

Message from the Country host

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SDG 12 cannot be achieved without effective collaborations and shared responsibilities of sectors such as energy, water, industry, and urban development.

The Philippines is committed to implement its Action Plan on SCP as part of the country's green recovery.

H.E. MERCEDITA SOMBILLA

Undersecretary of the Regional Development Group of the National Economic and Development Authority



Presentations

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Dr. Vong Sok

Head of the Environment
Division, Assistant Director of
the Sustainable Development
Directorate, ASEAN Socio-
Cultural Community
Department
ASEAN Secretariat



Mr. Muhammad

Irfan Tariq
Director-General,
Environment and
Climate Change,
Ministry of Climate
Change, Pakistan



Ms. Nareerat Panmanee

Director of the Strategy
Planning Division, Office of
Natural Resources and
Environmental Policy and
Planning (ONEP) Ministry of
Natural Resources and
Environment, Thailand



Mr. Dinh Van Chau

Associate Professor and
Deputy Director General of
Energy Efficiency and
Sustainable Development
Department, Ministry of
Industry and Trade of
Vietnam

Panel Speakers

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Mr. Hugo Maria Schally
Head of Unit ENV.F3
– Multilateral
Environmental
Cooperation,
Directorate General
for Environment,
European Commission



Charles Arden-Clarke
One Planet Network
Secretariat
UN Environment
Programme



Dr. Wijarn Simachaya
Chairman, Thai SCP
Network;
President, Thailand
Environment Institute;
Former Permanent
Secretary, Ministry of
Natural Resources and
Environment, Thailand



Mr. Zafar Makhmudov
Executive Director
Regional Environmental
Centre for Central Asia
(CAREC)



Mr. Eric Zusman
Senior Policy Researcher/
Area Leader, Institute for
Global Environmental
Strategies (IGES)

Key messages for way forward

- **Scale up work on SCP not just as an approach but as a systemic process** involving all stakeholders;
- **Management of resources** is the key for addressing sustainability and climate targets by addressing systemic decarbonisation and approach and decoupling;
- Need to promote **engagement with scientific community and linking of science and policy** is fundamental to steer the behaviour change;
- **Importance of the value-chain approach** as a methodology for catalysing science-based policy action on SCP to define a common agenda for concerted actions;
- **Need for framework of SCP actions and use of innovative tools** to advance SCP;
- Mainstream SCP in concerned policies with a **better monitoring system**;
- **Cross-government coordination** by promoting partnerships among departmental constituencies and with other stakeholders;
- Need to continually **share country experiences and draw lessons** on the challenges and achievements in developing and implementing NAPs/roadmaps on SCP;

Key messages for way forward

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- Clear vision on SCP through **information and communication needed**;
- **Improvement of data collection and analysis** and progress on implementation.
- **Financial resources** are needed through stakeholder platform and engaging concerned stakeholders;
- Promote **Public - Private Partnership** in SCP;
- Provide **support and enable SMEs to** make the change that is needed to deliver SCP;
- **Global, regional, national and local level cooperation** is needed to effectively deliver SCP, harmonise and synergise efforts / commitments.
- **Shared commitment for international and national** partners in Asia through future regional and bilateral programmes;
- **COVID is a crisis that comes with opportunities to integrate SCP narrative properly, correctly, and adequately** into policies and business models to be effective in our transformative change.

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15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Summary of Webisode 3 *“Policy instruments for upstream Circular Economy”*

Co-organized by:

APRSCP and GIZ

May 4, 2021 | on WebEx & YouTube

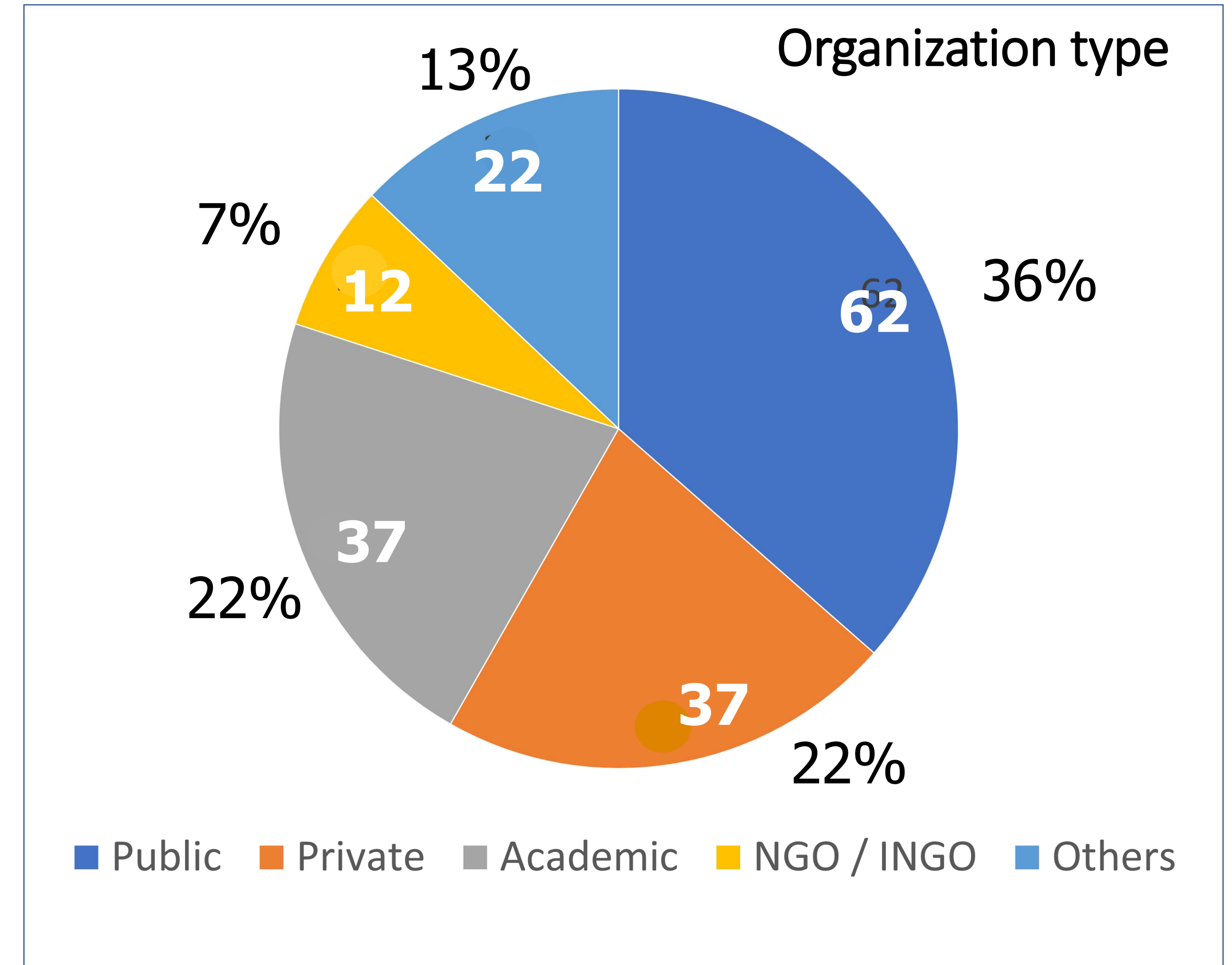
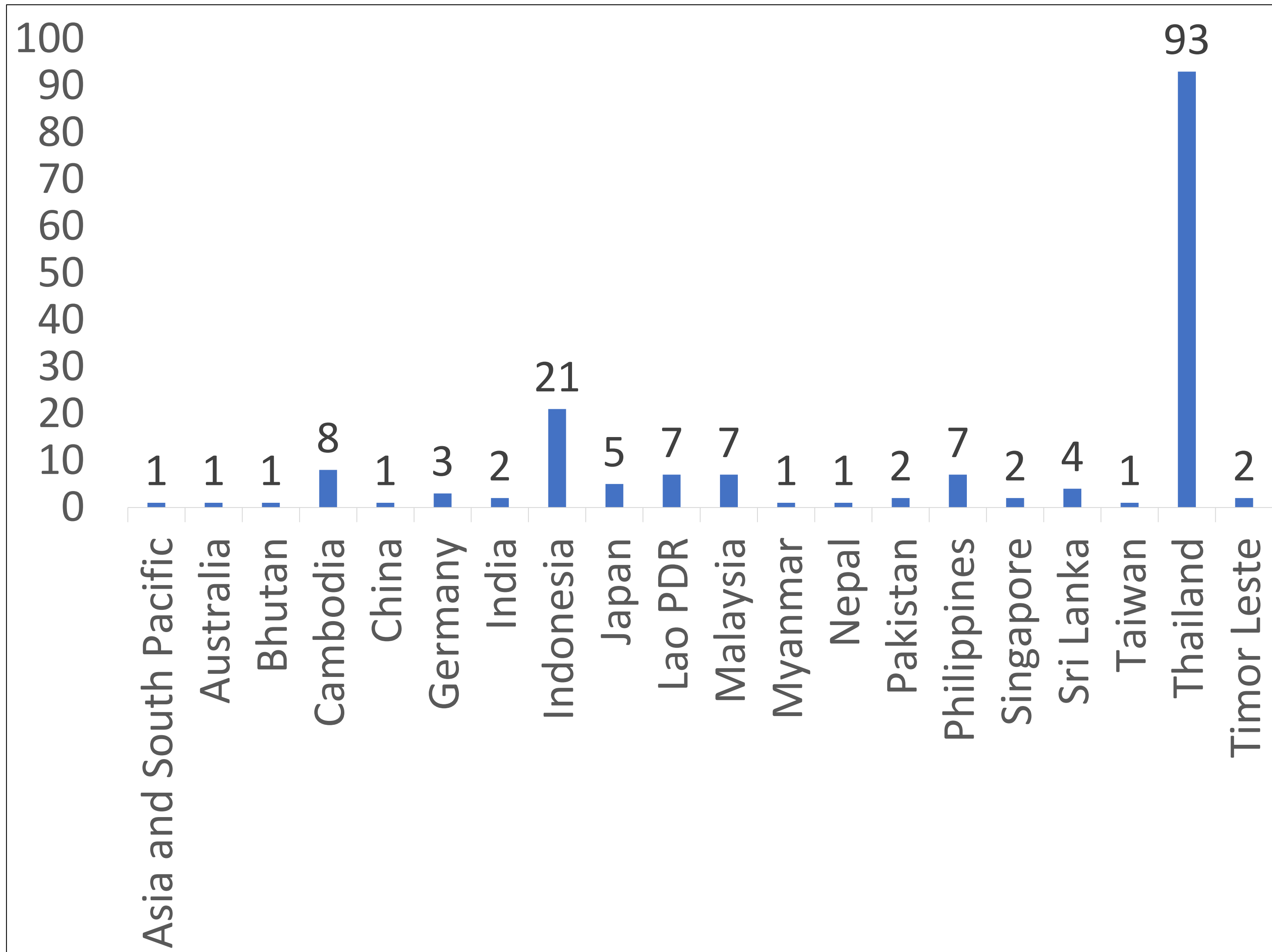
11:30 – 14:00 Mumbai Time

13:00 – 15:30 Bangkok Time

14:00 – 16:30 Manila Time

15:00 – 17:30 Tokyo Time

Total 170 registered participants (from 20 countries)



Opening Session

- *Welcome remarks:* Dr. Ulf Jaeckel, Ministry for the environment, nature conservation, and nuclear safety, *Germany*
- *Opening remarks:* Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen, *APRSCP Foundation*
- *Keynote presentation:* Mr. Kai Hofmann, *GIZ*

Key messages:

- EU Green Deal and Circular Economy action plan: to ensure CE in all EU countries. EU targets by 2030 on resources & emissions are related to GPP, Ecolabel and CE
- APRSCP outputs were used as major inputs in global decision-making process during the past 24 yrs. 15th APRSCP focuses on Green Recovery & Policy-Science Interface. Two sessions of Webisode 3 are key issues of policy instruments for upstream CE
- CE barriers: False market price- not account external costs (paid by society) → need upstream policies (from awareness, GPP- ecolabel/ISO, CE innovation-EPR-Tax, Bans)

Welcome remarks



Dr. Ulf Jaeckel

Head of Division

Federal Ministry for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

(BMU)

Opening remarks



Dr. Thumrongrut Mungcharoen

APRSCP Board Member and
Foundation President

Keynote address



Mr. Kai Hofmann

Project Director

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit

(GIZ) GmbH

Session 1

“Green Public Procurement (GPP) and Ecolabeling (EL) as one of powerful instruments to drive Circular Economy (CE)”

Speakers:

- Mr. Siddharth Prakask, Oeko-Institut, *Germany*
- Mr. Chin-Yuan Chin, Environment and Development Foundation, *Taiwan*

Panelists:

- Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai, Deutsch Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, *Thailand*
- Mr. Augustine Koh, Green Purchasing Network Malaysia, *Malaysia*

Moderator: Dr. Chaiyod Bunyagidj, APRSCP Board Member (*Thailand*)



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Revise the Eco-design Directive, make producers responsible for providing more circular products, mandatory sustainability labelling, facilitate recycled content, and track use of hazardous substances.

To support the implementation of GPP and other similar tools, Public Authorities need capacity building and technical support for applying CE principles in procurement process.

MR. SIDDHARTH PRAKASH

Senior Researcher, Sustainable Products & Materials Flows, Öko-Institut, Germany



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Ecolabels and GPP promote CE and increase recycled content. We need to increase the value of Type 1 ecolabels, develop high environmental awareness, and promote common core criteria practices and MRAs.

Taiwan Government announced the creation of Public Construction Commission in 2020, which limits unnecessary restrictions on recycled materials in public construction cases.

MR. CHIN-YUAN CHEN

*General Manager, Environment and Development Foundation (EDF);
and Director, Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN)*



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Suggestions/Recommendations

- Setup clear/strong policy support for GPP/EL/CE
- Initiate strong business model for CE
- Create SCP Network to promote GPP/EL/CE in the region (sharing best practice)
- Awareness raising on GPP/EL/CE for relevant stakeholders
- Capacity building for green procurers
- Set standards for CE products/services at country and in the region
- Initiate harmonization of eco-label products



Ms. Wilasinee Poonuchaphai
Project Co-Director
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit
(GIZ) GmbH



Mr. Augustine Koh
Secretary General
Green Purchasing Network
Malaysia

Session 2

“Creating new pathways to the Circular Economy”

Speakers:

- Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, Thai SCP Network & PPP Plastic, *Thailand*
- Mr. Simon Baldwin, The Incubation Network, *Singapore*

Panelists:

- Mr. Navneet Chadha, IFC’s *Asia-Pacific* Lead for Circular Economy
- Mr. Archawat Chareonsilp, Chairman of ETRAN Group- winner of the 2020 Asia-Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge, *Thailand*

Moderator: Mr. Sena Peiris, APRSCP Board Member (*Sri Lanka*)



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The BCG Model attempts to close the loop to reduce resource consumption through CE, create economic growth by increasing the income by \$6.7 billion, and combating climate change by reducing tons of CO2.

With the practices of collection, sorting, circulation and utilization, it is expected to recycle packaging 100% by 2030 to close the loop in plastics.

DR. WIJARN SIMACHAYA

President, Thai SCP Network and PPP Plastic



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We need to drive innovation, investment, partnerships for gender responsive circular economy solutions with many large brand owners and companies to create a synergistic network.

It is important to support policies on plastics like bans, taxes and EPR, procurement policies and entrepreneurial policies.

MR. SIMON BALDWIN

Director, SecondMuse and The Incubation Network (TIN)



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THE INCUBATION NETWORK
By The Circulate Initiative & SecondMuse

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Suggestions/Recommendations

- Plastic recycling should *not* be classified as a *waste management solution* but as a *circular economy solution*
- To solve plastic pollution problem, need all reduce, reuse and recycle (3R) as a total solution
- Recycled content standard and design for 3R standard are important and should be harmonized in the region
- Government roles in promoting CE: (1) promote collaboration among different stakeholders and (2) ensure that CE is mainstream in all policies, not limiting to some certain sections only, by both providing incentives and removing barriers
- With existing online platforms, collaboration and networking has become quite easy. Many young entrepreneurs are engaging in dialogue. Government should create an enabling environment and step aside



Mr. Navneet Chadha
IFC's Asia-Pacific Lead
for Circular Economy



Mr. Archawat Chareonsilp
Chairman
Etran Group



Implemented by



On behalf of:



of the Federal Republic of Germany

..THANK YOU VERY MUCH..

15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Webisode 4 summary

May 11, 2021



15th Asia Pacific Roundtable for
Sustainable Consumption and Production

Webisode 4

MAY 11, 2021 Tuesday 2 PM – 5 PM MANILA TIME (GMT+8)

"Facilitating Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles"

Co-organized by APRSCP, IGES, and PECO-Asia(S-16)Project



Opening / Closing Remarks



Prof. Anthony SF Chiu
• De La Salle University
• Conference Chair of 15th APRSCP

Keynote Presentation



Dr. Tomohiro Tasaki
• National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan
• PECO-Asia (S-16 Project)

Closing Remarks



Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo
• Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia
• President, APRSCP

Presentations



Ms. Janet Salem
UN ESCAP



Dr. Chen Liu
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Ms. Caixia Mao
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Dr. Chuthatip Maneepong
EARTH Foundation

Roundtable and Open Discussion



Dr. Atsushi Watabe
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Mr. Dwayne Appleby
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies



Ms. Ara Kusama
Youth Years Country Lead, Ashoka Indonesia



Mr. Togo Uchida
Director, ICLEI-Japan



Dr. Yasuke Kishita
Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan



Dr. Manique Retamal
University of Technology in Sydney

Register here!

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TR47LIVCQH6O2lzagq3r1Q



Event Chair: Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta
• Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
• PECO-Asia
• Board Member of APRSCP

Realtime Update: www.facebook.com/APRSCP
More details at www.aprscp.net



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We are tackling symptoms of systemic imbalance. A transition is necessary. SCP policy is evolving, and we need to utilize it. CE and digitalization are the entry points for SCP from now on.

The pandemic forced us to change consumption production pattern, and it helped us recognize the importance of resilience and social ties.

DR. TOMOHIRO TASAKI

National Institute of Environmental Studies, Japan PECO-P-Asia (S-16 Project)



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Lifestyle is considered a critical element to address sustainability challenges. There is a mitigation potential in lifestyle changes as seen in 1.5-Degree Lifestyles.

The obstacles are lack of infrastructure, high costs, lack of accessibility, varying personal needs, and inconsistent community and work requirements

— **DR. CHEN LIU**
IGES



APRSCP



IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

15th Asia-Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

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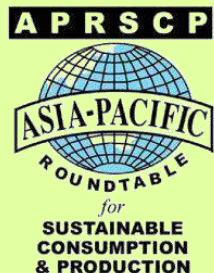


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Material consumption is increasing in Asia. Circular Economy provides the solution to increase its value of the material by extending its lifecycle beyond its first use.

Examples of CE business include reusable pads, mattress rentals, clothing rentals, shared bicycle, selling surplus fabric, plastic sorting and collection.

— **MS. JANET SALEM**
UNESCAP



15th Asia-Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production

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Governments should take a stronger role and provide support for other stakeholders in order to avoid having a negative tone. They have a big responsibility in the sustainability transition process.

We need to recognize the government ministry roles and interest to make policy intervention. Soft and hard infrastructure is necessary for sustainable transition.

MS. CAIXIA MAO
IGES



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IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

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Firms are willing to participate in environmental protection but are limited by resources. We need to move from ad hoc donations to formal collaboration that is continuous and multi-stakeholder.

We need to find key change agents to mentor SMEs and practice positive change through regulation, incentives, and awareness.

— DR. CHUTHATIP MANEEPONG
EARTH Foundation



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Q1. Who are your primary partners? What is the primary need and opportunities for partners?

- ▶ Follow a participatory backcasting approach with university researchers and policymakers.
- ▶ Share economy and local start-ups can help with national governments helping by identifying opportunities for guidelines targets to business needs.

Q2. What are the main drivers of your partners to take action?

- ▶ National laws and regulation are shaped by local action which therefore can become a mainstream national issue.
- ▶ Local governments would need to collaborate with other stakeholders in order to build support with the people in driving action.



Dr. Yusuke Kishita

Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Japan



Mr. Togo Uchida

Executive Director, ICLEI-Japan

Q3. What is the best way to engage with partners?

- ▶ Role of local governments is changing, tackling SDGs are important but their KPIs concentrate on short-term issues while trying to balance long term ones.
- ▶ Enable share economy through policy and institutional arrangements. MSMEs need the flexibility which could be provided by reducing regulatory burden.

Q4. What are the best approaches to bring in additional partners?

- ▶ Identify change makers, learn from them, and mobilize others to tackle challenges. Identify what works and what can be scaled is essential.
- ▶ In research, enthusiasm and curiosity are essential, while in practice, funding is essential. Implementation is a challenge; small-scale experimentation can help bridge the gap.



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