

# FINANCING SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS MARINE PLASTICS POLLUTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

## 2nd REGIONAL OCEAN POLICY DIALOGUE

15-16 DECEMBER 2020, 13:00-16:30 (ICT)  
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### About the Dialogue

A two-day virtual Regional Ocean Policy Dialogue on 15 and 16 December 2020 will explore the interlinked issues of policy coherence, sustainable ocean finance and marine plastics pollution in Southeast Asia. The Dialogue will be co-hosted by the OECD together with the Indonesian Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investments, the ASEAN Secretariat, the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The Dialogue will build on the success of the Regional Ocean Policy Dialogue in Southeast Asia, held in Indonesia in December 2019.

The Dialogue will provide a platform to share analysis and experiences with the aim of developing guidance to enhance regional co-operation, policy coherence and sustainable financing solutions to address and prevent marine plastics pollution. The Dialogue will draw on OECD evidence and information from other national and international sources to highlight relevant ocean-related data and indicators, and showcase selected policies, projects, and financing instruments that address marine plastics pollution in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision. The outcomes of the Dialogue will help support the implementation of National Marine Litter Action Plans and the ASEAN Framework for Action on Marine Debris as well as regional inputs for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).

#### Background

With a coastline of 173,000 km bordering some of the richest ocean ecosystems in the world, Southeast Asia is home to over one third of the world's coral reefs and mangroves and has the highest levels of biodiversity for coral reef fish, molluscs, mangroves and seagrass species. This ecological abundance underpins economic wealth for the region with the ASEAN group reaching USD 50 billion in value-added from the ocean economy.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, the marine economy as a percentage of national gross domestic product (GDP) is significant for several states in the region –accounting for approximately 22% of GDP for Vietnam and 15% for Indonesia, for example.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OECD (2020), *Sustainable Ocean for All: Harnessing the Benefits of Sustainable Ocean Economies for Developing Countries*, The Development Dimension, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/bede6513-en>.

<sup>2</sup> Gamage, Rajni Nayanthara (2016). *Blue economy in Southeast Asia: Oceans as the new frontier of economic development*. *Maritime Affairs: Journal of the National Maritime Foundation of India* 12 (2) 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09733159.2016.1244361>

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However, ocean pollution – especially from plastics – represents a significant threat to ocean health and to the sustainable ocean economy in the region. Plastics represent a major source of ocean pollution with between 4.8 and 12.7 million tonnes of plastics entering the ocean each year<sup>3</sup> and costing an estimated USD 13 billion per year due solely to its negative impact on the coastal environment, tourism and the fisheries industry.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, many of the plastics introduced into marine ecosystems are extremely long-lived and are likely to remain in the environment for hundreds or thousands of years, with some of their impacts appearing only in the longer term. Approximately 80% of marine plastic debris originates from land-based sources, often from urban areas, and is transported to the ocean through rivers and municipal waterways, while the remaining share comes from fishing activities, natural disasters and other sources.<sup>5</sup>

Plastics pollution is particularly problematic in Southeast Asia, where it represents a significant environmental, social and economic threat. Plastics pollution negatively affects not only biodiversity, but also has adverse impacts on a number of ocean economy sectors, such as tourism and fishing. Addressing the issue requires effective waste management and policy coherence, enhancing existing financial mechanisms and identifying new financing solutions for reducing marine plastics pollution. It will also involve improving regional co-operation through the ASEAN Framework for Action on Marine Debris, data and technological innovations, and the engagement of, consultation with and co-ordination of a variety of stakeholders.

### Participation

The Regional Policy Dialogue targets members of the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME), among other government representatives from the region. The Dialogue will also involve industry, local governments, the financial sector, academic experts, civil society, international partners and providers of development co-operation with active programs in the region. This will help ensure strong synergies with ongoing and new activities in this area and create greater momentum for strong policy outcomes in the region.

Please register to the Dialogue through this [link](#).

<sup>3</sup> Diez, S. et al. (2019), Marine Pollution in the Caribbean: Not a Minute to Waste, World Bank Group, Washington, DC, <http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/482391554225185720/pdf/Marine-Pollution-in-the-Caribbean-Not-a-Minute-to-Waste.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> UNEP (2014), “Valuing plastic: The business case for measuring, managing and disclosing plastic use in the consumer goods industry”. [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/9238/-](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/9238/-Valuing%20plastic%3a%20the%20business%20case%20for%20measuring%2c%20managing%20and%20disclosing%20plastic%20use%20in%20the%20consumer%20goods%20industry-2014Valuing%20plasticsF.pdf?sequence=8&isAllowed=y)

<sup>5</sup> Jambeck, J. et al. (2015), “Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean”, *Science*, Vol. 347/6223, pp. 768-771, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/SCIENCE.1260352>.

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### FRAMEWORK AGENDA

#### Day 1 - Building the evidence base

Tuesday 15 December 2020, 13:00-16:30 ICT (Bangkok/Jakarta)

**13:00** Opening and introduction

*Welcoming remarks: Dr. Rodolfo Lacy, Director, OECD Environment Directorate*

*Keynote address: Dr. Nani Hendiarti, Deputy Minister for Coordination of Environmental Management and Forestry, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs, Indonesia*

**13:20** Session 1: Addressing marine plastics pollution in Southeast Asia: policy coherence for effective action

*Presentation followed by moderated panel discussion and Q&A with participants*

**14:45** Coffee Break and virtual networking

**15:00** Session 2: Financing solutions to reduce marine plastics pollution

*Presentation followed by moderated panel discussion and Q&A with participants*

**16:25** Wrap-up for Day 1

#### Day 2 - Sharing experiences and looking ahead

Wednesday 16 December 2020, 13:00-16:30 ICT (Bangkok/Jakarta)

**13:00** Opening

*H.E. Kung Phoak, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)*

*Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary, UN ESCAP*

**13:15** Session 3: Food for thought: Inspiration from good practices

*Presentation of good practices*

**14:15** Session 4.a: Towards guidance for an effective and coherent approach to reducing marine plastics pollution:  
Breakout groups

*Presentation of rationale followed by breakout group discussion*

**15:05** Coffee break and virtual networking

**15:20** Session 4.b: Towards guidance for an effective and coherent approach to reducing marine plastics pollution:  
key messages and next steps

*Presentation of key messages from breakout group discussions*

*Wrap-up and next steps*

**16:10** Closing

*Dr. Rosa Vivien Ratnawati, Director General of Waste and Hazardous Waste Management, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia*

*Mr. Anthony Cox, OECD Environment Deputy Director*