A Primer on Compliance and Enforcement Issues for Plastics Pollution

Addressing Plastic Pollution: Compliance and Enforcement Challenges

A Deep Dive into Treaty Negotiations and Enforcement Mechanisms

Ms. Chochoe Devaporihartakula

Programme Manager, Environmental Safeguards Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)



31 January 2024 | 11:00 AM Eastern | 10:00 AM Central 9:00 AM Mountain | 8:00 AM Pacific. | 11:00 PM GMT+7



Introduction to Plastic Pollution

- Plastic pollution represents a significant global challenge, particularly in the *Asia-Pacific region*. The lifecycle approach to addressing plastic pollution involves tackling the issue from production to disposal.
- United Nations highlighted it at its **73rd General Assembly**, leading to negotiations for a **new Plastics Treaty** to address the staggering effects on **marine life and human health**.
- The establishment of the *Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC)* during *UNEA-5.2* in 2022, aimed at developing a legally binding instrument to address plastic pollution. Key contentions include the lifecycle approach and the responsibilities of different countries.



INC Webinar: Targets, national plans and national implementation

National Action Plan Development and Updates in ASEAN Member States (AMS)

Stocktaking of the Regional Training Workshop on the Development of National Action Plan on Marine Debris and Evidence-based Policy Making for Sound Solid Waste Management in ASEAN Member States (AMS) 26-28 September 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand

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SUMMARY

REPORT

ional Training Workshop on the

velopment of National Action Plan on

Marine Debris and Evidence-based Policy aking for Sound Solid Waste Manageme ASEAN Member States (AMS) on 26-28

tember 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Yasuhiko Hotta Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production Area Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

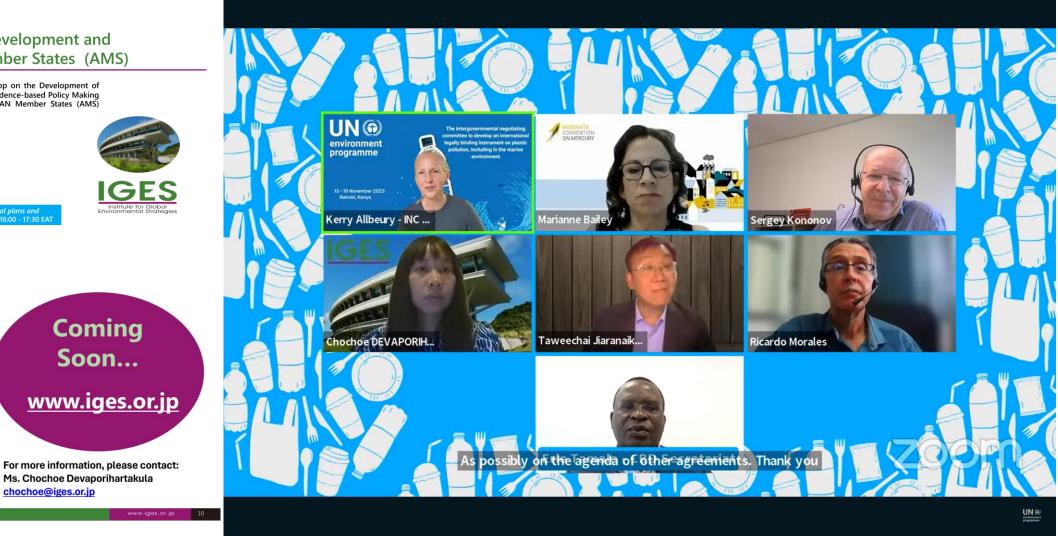
Pre-INC3-Webinar Series: Webinar 6 Targets, national plans and national implementation, Tuesday 3 October, 2023, 16:00 - 17:30 EAT

PREPARED BY

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chochoe@iges.or.jp



Monitoring the situation and monitoring progress of the future instrument: objectives/targets and their associated baselines, indicators and timelines

<image/>	Welcome and introduction Views of Chile regarding monitoring progress of the future instrument.	Karine Siegwart IUCN Senior Policy Advisor International Policy Centre Cristóbal Hernández Castillo Oceans and Biodiversity Coordinator International Affairs Office Ministry of Environment Government of Chile			
	Ensuring conservation considerations are integrated into a future instrument Addressing Plastic Pollution in the ASEAN Region: Progress Monitoring and the Path Forward	Secretary General Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)			
	Corporate performance and accountability: building a plastics protocol How can Corporate Disclosure enhance accountability in monitoring progress	Delphine Garin Manager, Plastics and Packaging, World Business Council for Sustainable Development Oliver Tanqueray Associate Director – Ocean Health,			
SIDE EVENT 4 AT INC-3	towards targets?	CDP			
15 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 13:30 - 14:45 EAT	Discussion, and closing	Karine Siegwart IUCN Senior Policy Advisor, International Policy Centre			

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Proposed (Intended) Interventions

- The first draft references "*necessary*" or "*appropriate*" measures, lacking specific definition.
- Suggestion: Add clear definition of "Necessary and appropriate measures" in the treaty to include regulations, economic instruments, information disclosure, reporting, monitoring, and compliance/enforcement tools.
- Goal: Ensure *consistent understanding* of these terms throughout the treaty.
- Further Enhancement: Propose incorporating this language where absent for *greater clarity*.
- Consideration: Develop *compliance and enforcement principles f*or national treaty implementation.
- Principles Discussion: Topics may include drafting effective laws, *anticipating non-compliance*, *robust monitoring, reporting requirements,* and *public disclosure*.
- Additional Elements: Include incentives for self-auditing, early compliance training, sanctions enough in treaty implementation laws to deter future violations, restorative justice mechanisms, product life cycle/design considerations, citizen enforcement, and clear timelines for voluntary compliance.

Plastic Pollution Situations in Asia

Japan

- Japan one of the world's biggest plastic waste producers because of its reliance on single use plastics
- Japan has aimed to promote policies tackling marine plastics, including the most recent Act on Promotion of Resource Circulation for Plastics passed in 2021 that aims for a transition to a circular economy.
- Japan also released "Osaka Blue Ocean Vision" in June 2019 aiming to reduce marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 through a life cycle approach and has published a National Action Plan.

Thailand

- Thailand similarly faces a single-use plastic problem.
 Despite having a high rate of waste collection and recycling, a large amount of mismanaged plastic waste washes off to marine environments.
- Microplastics especially have permeated the upper and lower Chi River, which threatens to make marine ecosystems inhabitable.
- In 2019, Thailand released the Roadmap for Plastic Waste Management 2018-2030 and has published Action Plan Phase I (2020-2022) and Action Plan Phase II (2023-2027).

Vietnam

- In coastal and river sites, plastic accounts for the majority of waste found in Vietnam. A report released by the World Bank found that over 60% of plastic items in Vietnam are single-use plastics.
- In 2018, 42% of plastics were mismanaged, of which were burned, leaked, or remained as litter. Under a businessas-usual (BAU) scenario, plastic leakage would more than double by 2030.
- Vietnam has created a National Action Plan and aims to transition to a circular economy through policy, economic instruments, technical tools, education, and plastic life cycle policies.

Cambodia

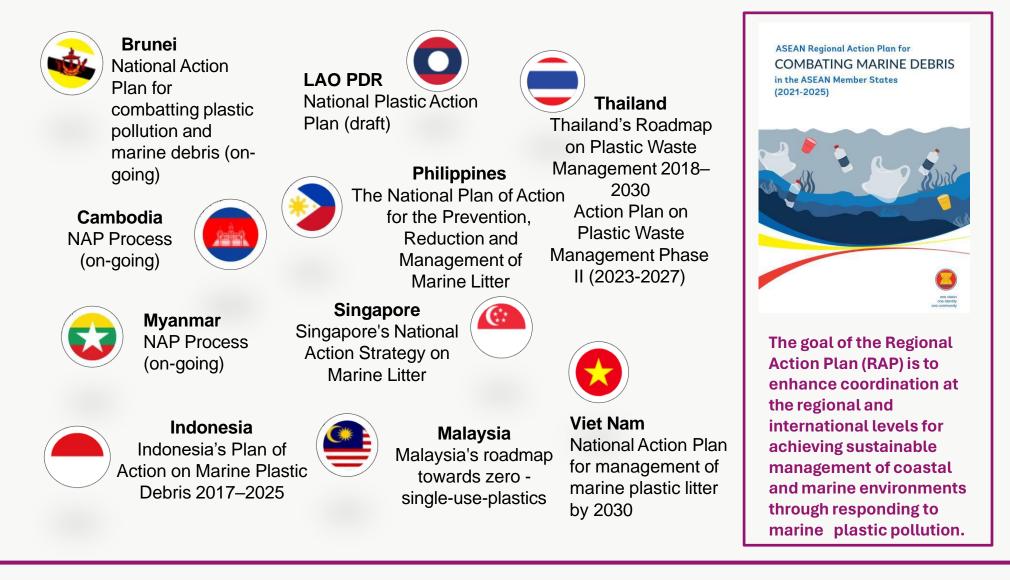
- Cambodia has a lack of waste management infrastructure, which has prevented effective recycling of plastic waste.
- In 2022, plastic made up 24% of all waste, an increase from just 5% in 1997.
- There have been several community efforts by organizations to help clean up waste, raise awareness of plastic waste, and increase recycling efforts. For example, the UNDP has collaborated with organizations and schools to treat plastic waste and provide water filtration systems.
- Cambodia has a Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan 2020-2030 which addresses plastic waste, but a National Action Plan is still in the final stage of the development.

Industries Causing Plastic Pollution in Water Bodies

Type of Industry	Average	Cambodia	China	Indonesia	Japan	Lao_PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Nepal	Philippines	Republic of <u>Korea</u>	Sri Lanka	Thailand	Viet Nam			
Food, beverages, tobacco	3.9	4	3		5	3	4	4	3	5	4	4			Ту	be of	
Textile, apparels, leather	3.7	3	3		3	3	4	5	3	4	4	5			Inc	lustry as	
Wood, wood products	2.8	1	1		3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3				ollution	
Paper, paper products, printing	3.3	3	1		3	3	5	5	2	4	4					urce in	
Chemicals, chemical products	3.6	2	3		5	1	4	5	2	4	5	5			ea	_	
Pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemical products	3.3	1	3		5	1	3	4	3	5	3	5			country		
Rubber and plastics products	3.0	1	3		3	1	5	4	3	4	2	4			4		
Metal manufacturing	3.2	1	3		5	1	3	5	1	4	4	5				_]	
Electrical equipment	2.5	1	2		3	1	2	4	1	3	5	3			5	Very high	
Machinery and equipment	2.6	1	3		3	1	2	3	1	3	5	4			4	High	
Motor vehicles, other transport equipment	2.5	1	2		3	1	2	3	3	4	2	4			3	Moderate	
Livestock industries	3.6	3	4		4	2	4	4	4	5	2	4			2	Low	
Mining and quarrying	3.8	3	3		3	4	5	5	4	5	2	4			1	Very low	
Petroleum refining	3.2	1	2		4	1	3	5	1	5	5	5					

Source: WEPA FY 2022 Questionnaire Survey Results on Water Environment Governance with Member Countries Shared at the 18th WEPA Annual Meeting in February 2023

Situation of NAP and RAP Development on Plastic in ASEAN



Project Title

Strengthening Capacity for Marine Debris Reduction in ASEAN region through Formulation of National Action Plans for ASEAN Member States and Integrated Land-to-Sea Policy Approach (Phase2)

(Phase1) January 2019 - September 2020 (Phase2) January 2022 – December 2023





Stocktaking of the Regional Training Workshop on the Development of National Action Plan on Marine Debris and Evidence-based Policy Making for Sound Solid Waste Management in ASEAN Member States (AMS) 26-28 September 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand

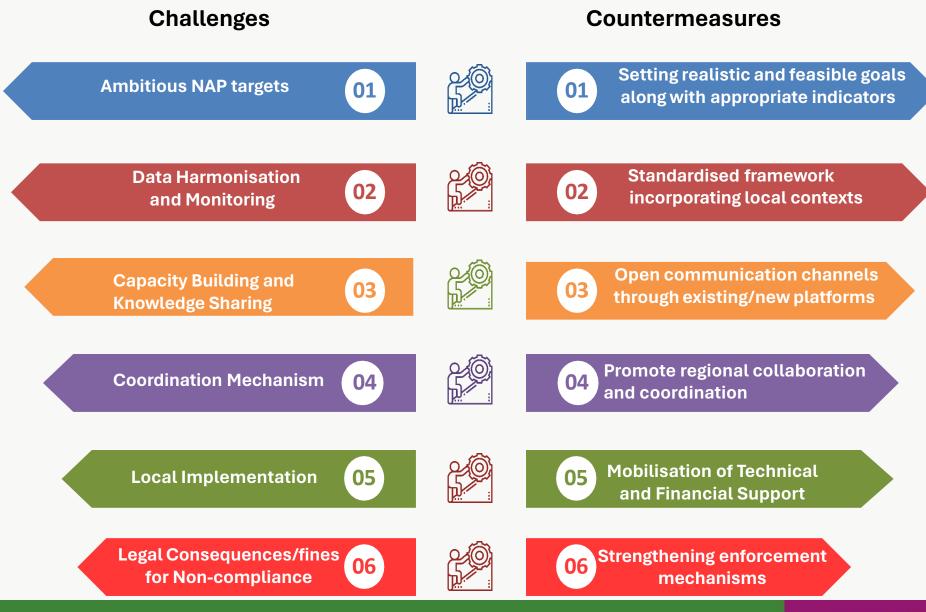


> Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan



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Stock-Take the Regional Process on Plastic Waste and Marine Debris Countermeasures



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Compliance and Enforcement Issues of the Draft Treaty

- Compliance mechanisms within the treaty context are complex, with debates on responsibilities between producers and consumers, and challenges in establishing effective enforcement measures.
- Enforcing international agreements poses significant challenges, including differing national capacities, political will, and the influence of powerful industries. Effective compliance mechanisms and global cooperation are crucial for meaningful progress.
- Role of Multi-Stakeholder Engagement is still limited.
- Financial and technical support are crucial for developing countries to meet treaty obligation and enhance infrastructure
- Collaborative approach required for effective compliance, enforcement.
- Strengthening mechanisms, engaging stakeholders key to successful implementation.



How Governments Should Enforce in Asia

- Monitor plastics and take inventory of plastic leakage. Greater coverage of data will allow for better mitigation strategies to be developed.
- Data harmonisation would create standardised practices for more comparable data among countries. For example, Japan has a report called "Guidelines for Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods" countries should coordinate guidelines to minimise the barrier to monitoring.
- Community engagement & education
- **Economic incentives** to curb demand. Countries such as Vietnam have implemented a small tax on single use plastics such as plastic bags.
- Mobilise financial resources
- Bio-ecological risk assessment

- Life cycle approach is crucial to curbing plastic pollution because it considers the impacts of all stages of a plastic product's life cycle. National Action Plans should include both downstream (plastic waste management and recycling) and upstream (bans, reduction and fiscal measures) policies to effectively tackle plastic waste. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mandates that producers take responsibility for the cost and management of disposal. Other practices include recycled content standards, eco-design criteria for packaging and to reduce microplastic leakage.
- Set date to end plastic pollution
- **Periodic assessment and monitoring of progress** of implementation of ILBI/effectiveness evaluation
- Strengthen waste infrastructure: collection, treatment, improve end-of-pipe capture

Data Focus, Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing



ERIA Experts Working Group (EWG) on Marine Plastic Debris





OECD

or Marine Plastic Debris

IGES ERIA

Building Data on the

Plastics Value Chain

CERIA IGES CCET

in ASEAN Member States



WORKSHOP REPORT

First Consultation Workshop for the Knowledge and Partnerships Platform under the Southeast Asia Regional Program on Combating Marine Plastics (SEA-MaP) 18 October 2023, Jakarta, Indonesia

Prepared by ERIA and IGES







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For more information, please contact: Ms. Chochoe Devaporihartakula chochoe@iges.or.jp



IGES Plastic Waste Portfolio



Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network

TWINNING

September 2015

1st Regional

Working Group

USAID (MPE-AECEN): EIA Meetings and Activities

June 2016

AECEN

Wehina

Particina

in ThETA

Technical

PARTNERSHIPS

AECEN

Established in 2005 with support from USAID and ADB to promote improved compliance with environmental laws and regulations in Asia.



REGIONAL STUDIES & ASSESSMENTS

AECEN conduct regional studies and assessments to capture member capacity priorities as well as supports regional capacity building initiatives through applied research, training programs and toolkits.

EVENTS & WEBINARS

Twinning partners **AECEN** organises establish workshops and cooperative webinars on programs on a environmental bilateral basis. compliance and **AECEN** also works enforcement to to promote collaborate and replication of exchange these best knowledge and practices across experience. the region.

December 2014 May 2015

EIA Policy and

Practice in the

February 2016

AFCEN Webina

articipation i

TA/EMMP

IA and AEC: A

Way forward

April 2016

Scoping to

AECEN Webinar

PP in FTA process

Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

18 Member Countries in Asia: Cambodia.

Malaysia, Myanmar, Maldives, Mongolia,

Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri

China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos,

AECEN maintains an environmental impact assessment (EIA) clearinghouse to facilitate knowledge capture and dissemination of information on international and regional best practices in EIA implementation.

July 2016

Technical

Meeting on EIA Meeting on EIA

4th Regional

Working Group

Consultatio

in 5 Mekong

----COMPLETION

Final Regional

Participation in EIA

for 5 Lower Mekond

Guidelines on Pub

FINDINGS

April 2016

3rd Regional

Technical

Working Group

AECEN Webina

Technia

Public Participati

in EIA on Tools and

December 2015

2nd Regional

Working Group

Meeting on EIA

August 2016

AECEN Webinar

Win-Win Solutions

Technical

EIA COMPENDIUM











Third ASEAN Environmental Law Conference United Nations Conference Centre | Bangkok, Thailand ADB

Fifth Montevideo Environmental Law

Programme Regional Meeting and

Ecocide (ec·o·cide) / ēkō sīd, ekō sīd/ loun) unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelih







