

ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021-2025)

SUMMARY



one vision
one identity
one community



ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States

Action Plan Summary

The ASEAN Secretariat
Jakarta

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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Catalogue-in-Publication Data

ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States - Action Plan Summary
Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, May 2021

363.73940959

1. ASEAN – Marine Environment – Strategy
2. Plastic Waste – Marine Plastic Debris – Policy

ISBN 978-623-6945-32-2

ISBN 978-623-6945-32-2



ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities

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The implementation plan presented in this publication is envisioned to leverage the region's collective experience by sharing best practices and lessons learned, as well as utilize the economies of scale to be found in areas such as standards, innovation, financing and training. Ultimately, this approach aims to support and encourage AMS to strengthen policies and practices at the national level, while enhancing collaboration and coordination at the regional and international levels in order to achieve sustainable management of coastal and marine environments.

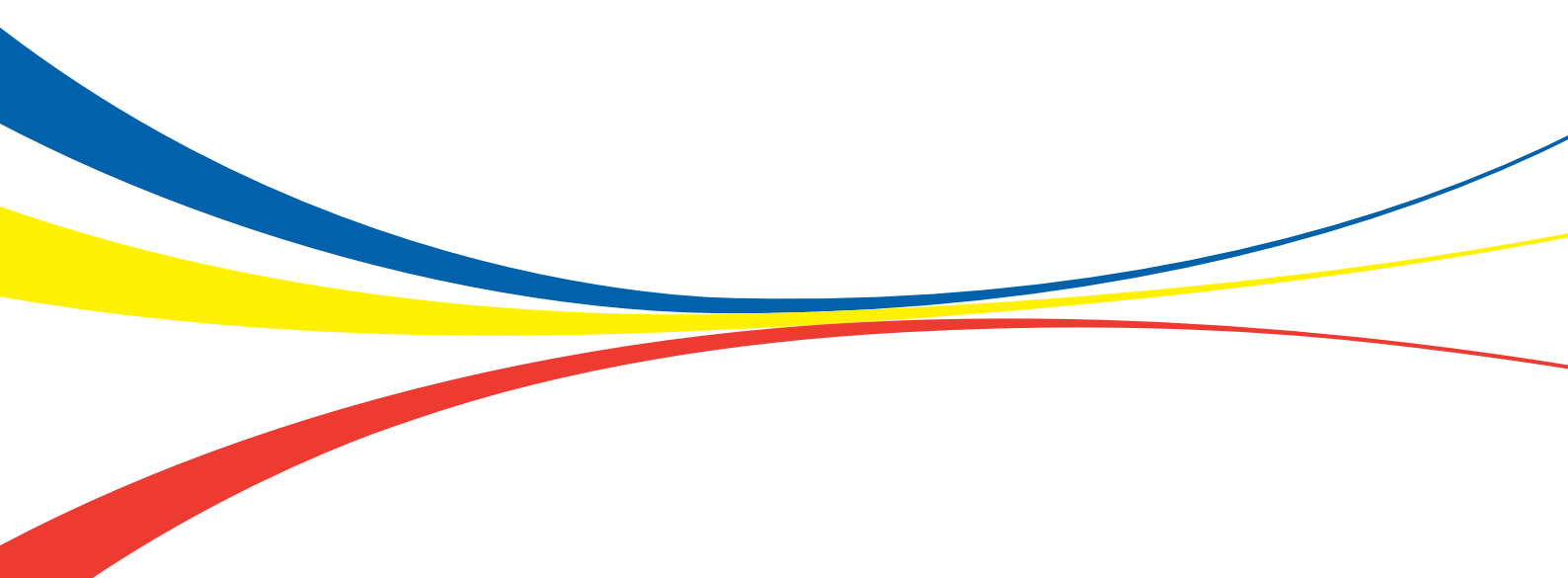
Dato Lim Jock Hoi, *Secretary-General of ASEAN*

“

There is a pressing need for ASEAN countries to come together to provide comprehensible, scalable solutions to address marine debris... Fortunately, there is a growing number of champions in countries, corporations and communities that are helping reduce unnecessary plastics usage, increase plastics recycling, and reduce plastics leakage on land and in water bodies.

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

Victoria Kwakwa, *Regional Vice President
East Asia and the Pacific Region,
World Bank*



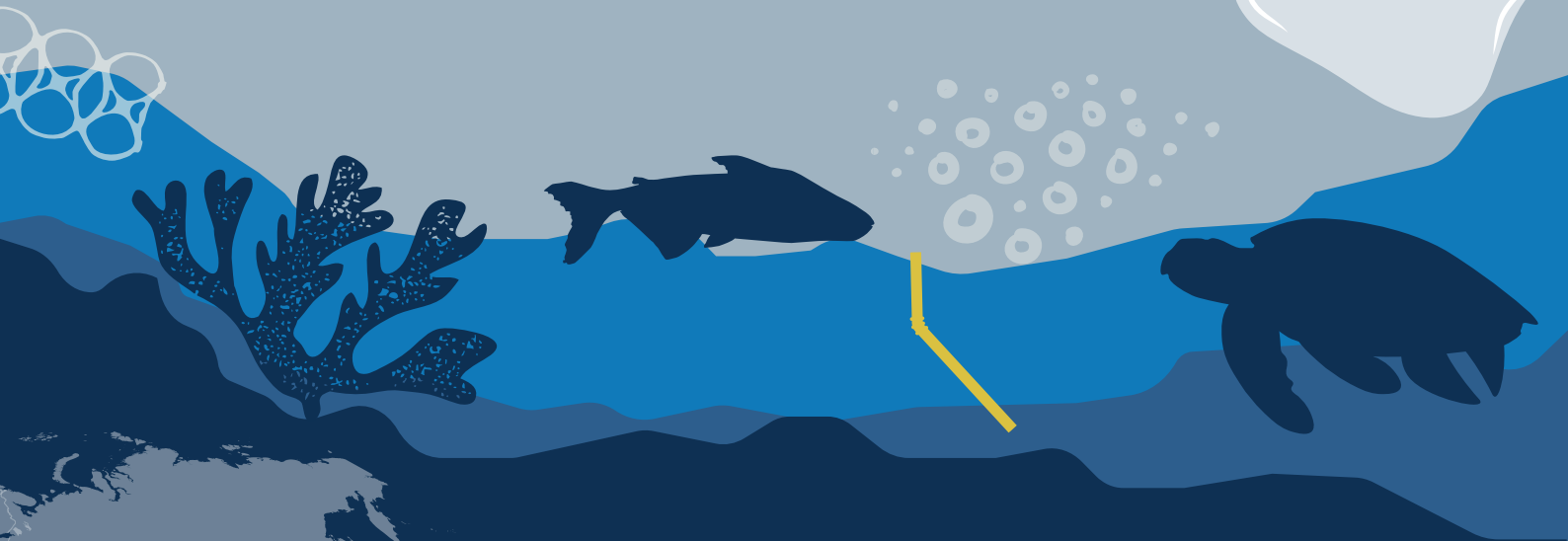
The Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris will play an important role in helping ASEAN turn the tide in the battle with plastic waste and protect the vital marine environments that sustain the region for generations to come.

Marine plastic debris is a global problem. The way plastics are currently produced, used and managed often does not reflect the economic benefits of an approach to a “circular” economy and results in harm to the environment.

International action remains key to tackling the most significant sources of plastics litter in the oceans.

The goal of the Regional Action Plan (RAP) is to enhance coordination at the regional and international levels for achieving sustainable management of coastal and marine environments through responding to marine plastic pollution.

MARINE DEBRIS IN ASEAN



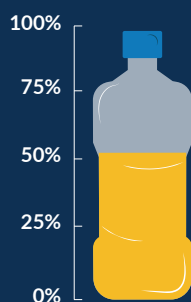
243 MILLION TONS

of waste generated in just six AMS countries in 2016



31.7 MILLION TONS

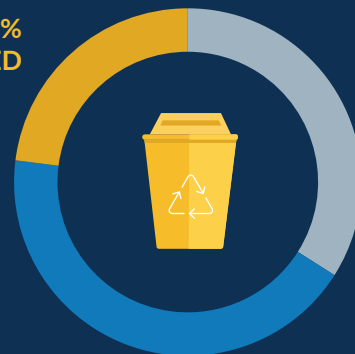
of plastic waste estimated for these six countries in 2016



53 PERCENT

of the waste generated in ASEAN is uncollected

**23%
RECYCLED**



**34%
ILLEGALLY
DUMPED**

**43%
TREATED/
DISPOSED OF**

LESS THAN 1/4

of the total collected in ASEAN is recycled

OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE PLASTIC WASTE VALUE CHAIN

Given that land-based sources account for approximately 80% of marine plastic debris, integrated solutions can be identified across the plastic waste value chain. There are many opportunities for better management throughout the plastic life-cycle. An integrated approach is required to tackle marine debris with opportunities for action at three key stages of the value chain.



Reduce Inputs into the System

Reduce inputs into the system by designing products to be reusable or recyclable, improving business and consumer awareness on their waste plastic footprint, clarifying standards on biodegradability and compostability and reducing consumption of single-use plastics.



Enhance Collection and Minimize Leakage

Enhancing collection and minimizing leakage by improving key SWM infrastructure — especially poorly sited dumpsites, promoting sorting and appropriate fee structures, developing stronger enforcement mechanisms to discourage littering and clarifying packaging labels for end of life disposal/recycling.



Create Value for Waste Reuse

Create value for waste reuse by guaranteeing feedstock volumes, developing off take markets, improving consumer segregation of waste, increasing knowledge of suitable technologies and minimising investment risk in key solutions.

REGIONAL ACTIONS

FRAMEWORK OF ACTION COMPONENTS

The political commitment of the AMS to tackle plastic waste provides opportunities to address marine littering on a regional scale, creating value for common markets, shared knowledge and homogeneous tools, approaches and technologies. To enable a coordinated approach, 14 Regional Actions are identified. These Actions aim to address a variety of plastic issues along the value chain and are categorized according to four Framework of Action components.



REGIONAL ACTIONS

POLICY SUPPORT & PLANNING



Reduce Inputs into the System

2. Guiding principles for phasing out select single-use plastics

4. Best practice manual for development of minimum standards and technical requirements for plastic packaging and labeling

5. Regional stocktaking of green public procurement



Enhance Collection & Minimize Leakage

1. Regional guidebook on financial mechanisms for investments in plastic waste management

6. Best practice manual for reducing, collection and treatment of sea-based litter



Create Value for Waste Reuse

3. Regional guidebook on standards for responsible plastic waste trade, sorted plastic waste and recycled plastics



Photo: Nokuro / Shutterstock.

REGIONAL ACTIONS

RESEARCH, INNOVATION & CAPACITY BUILDING



Reduce Inputs into the System

8. Strengthen
ASEAN regional
knowledge network
on marine plastics

9. Regional study
on microplastics



Enhance Collection & Minimize Leakage

7. Guidebook
for common
methodologies
for assessment
and monitoring of
marine litter

10. Coordinate
regional training
programs on
plastics and waste
management



REGIONAL ACTIONS



PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Reduce Inputs into
the System



Enhance Collection &
Minimize Leakage

11. Behavioral
change
communication
strategy playbook

12. Enhance
regional awareness
for consumers of
labeling of plastics
and packaging



REGIONAL ACTIONS

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT



Enhance Collection &
Minimize Leakage



Create Value for
Waste Reuse

13. Establish a regional platform for EPR knowledge support and implementation support

14. Establish a regional platform to support innovation and investments in plastics and plastic waste management



Photo: CarryOnDroning / iStock.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1 PLANNING PHASE: ENABLING CONDITIONS

- Preliminary institutional arrangements
- Resource mobilisation
- Communication & coordination strategy; baseline development

2 IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

- Final institutional arrangements
- Action implementation

3 MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION PHASE

- Annual reporting
- Mid-term review
- Final evaluation & new recommendation

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