



Waste Management and the Plastics Crisis in Asia and the Pacific: **Local actions for global problems**

Liveable Cities Lab

Circular Economy: Take, make, use, REPEAT!

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ADB cluster TA project on circular plastics economy

Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific

Objective: Reduce marine plastic pollution and restore river and ocean health

Participating countries (and tentative location focus): Indonesia (Cirebon), Philippines (Manila), Thailand (Phuket plus national), Viet Nam (Mekong Delta plus national), with the aim to expand and scale-up.

TA Budget Total: \$13 million

- \$1.7 million: ADB (approved), Regional scope
- \$0.5 million: e-Asia Knowledge Partnership Fund (approved), Regional scope
- \$2 million: GEF (approved), Regional scope
- \$1.5 million: Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (approved) – Indonesia and Viet Nam only
- \$7.3 million: GEF (PIF approved) - Plastik Sulit Indonesia only

Implementation:

- Regional knowledge and preparation activities now through October 2021
- Full implementation January 2021 – December 2024

Key partners: Governments of Japan and Korea; Global Environment Facility; Global Plastic Action Partnership; World Wide Fund for Nature; and others.

What is plastic pollution?

Littering

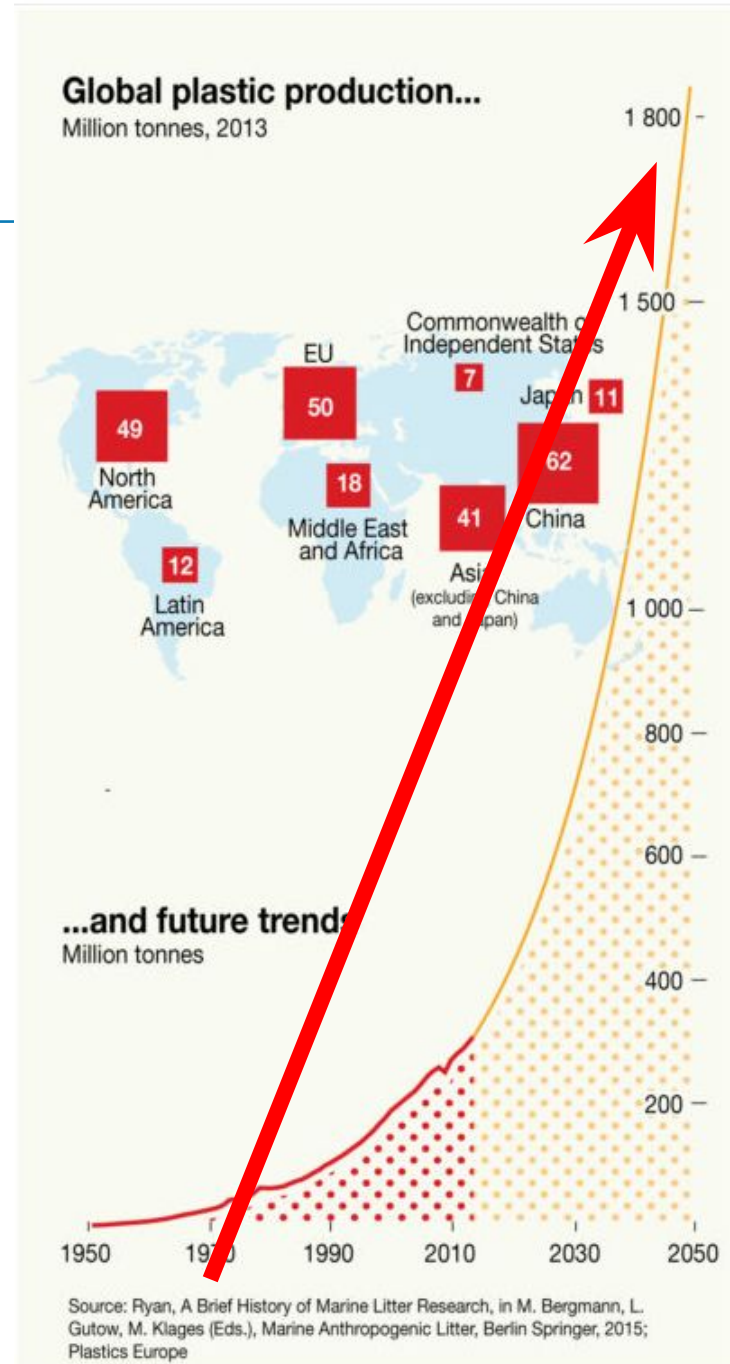
- About 11 billion plastic items are entangled on coral reefs across Asia and the Pacific and are projected to increase coral reef disease outbreaks. => **Environmental risk**

Production and use of virgin resources

- Globally, plastic production has surged from 15 million tons in 1964 to 311 million tons in 2014 and is expected to double over the next 20 years. => **Climate gas pollution**

Open burning or WtE

- Incineration of plastic => **Climate gas pollution**



Design for circularity – not for disposal



City level action plans

- A mean to identify sources of local plastic pollution and prioritize actions

Goals:

- 1.To reduce the unnecessary use of plastic and disposable items
- 2.To prevent marine pollution
- 3.To support the local transition to a circular economy for plastics

Activities:

1. Mapping of existing SWM systems and infrastructure for plastics.
2. Setting up a baseline to identify plastic waste hotspots and key leakages and the origin of waste flows.
3. Identification of priority plastic product groups for plastic pollution to be addressed in the action plan.
4. Value chain and stakeholder analysis for the prioritized plastic product groups.
5. Analysis of selected supply chains of the prioritized product groups with an emphasis on identifying the opportunities and highest potential for plastic pollution reduction of MSMEs through circular economy approaches using the three actions defined by the Global Plastic Commitment 'Eliminate, Innovate, Circulate
6. Summarizing report and city action plan with recommendations for an outreach program.

Eliminate and innovate

- Example: Refilling models in small, local convenience stores



Circulate

High-quality recycling is necessary

“High quality recycling is recycling plastic into a quality where it can substitute virgin fossil plastic”

Why high-quality recycling?

- ✓ Higher value of the recyclables
- ✓ Increased market for the recyclables
- ✓ Environmental and climate benefits from virgin plastic substitution

How?

- Effective and proper plastic waste collection, as closed to the source as possible
- Open versus closed loop recycling
- Collaboration and dialogue with industry - plastic and plastic producers.
- Design for recycling and producer responsibility

Circular economy is an opportunity for local green jobs

An industry approach

For reuse as well as recycling

Key partners

- Recycling sector
- Small and larger plastic producing and plastic using industries
- Commercial sector, shops, restaurants, tourism
- Informal waste sector

Support and collaboration on

- Innovations and investments in the reuse and recycling sector
- Resource supply for plastic using industries and commercial actors
- Green procurement strategies

The logo for the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in a white serif font inside a dark blue square with a thin white border.

ADB

A wide-angle photograph of a beach completely covered in plastic waste and other debris. The sky is overcast and blue, and the ocean is visible in the background. The text 'Thank you.' is overlaid in the center of the image.

Thank you.