PROVISIONAL CONCEPT NOTE & PROGRAMME

High-Level 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific

Theme: Realizing Circular Societies Towards Achieving SDGs and Carbon Neutrality in Asia-Pacific

3-5 March 2025

Venue: Rajasthan International Center, Jaipur City, Rajasthan, INDIA

Co-organized by

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs; UNCRD; Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India; स्वच्छ भारत एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर; Ministry of the Environment Japan; ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. BACKGROUND

Over the past 50 years, resource consumption and material use have risen significantly leading to depletion of natural capital of the planet. Since 1970, resource extraction has surged by nearly 400 per cent and is projected to reach 106.6 billion tonnes in 2024[1]. Studies show that over 90 per cent of all materials extracted and used are wasted, with only 8.6 per cent are reintegrated into global economy in 2020[2]. In business-as-usual scenario, the material extraction is projected to increase by 60 per cent by 2060, potentially undermining global efforts to meet climate, biodiversity, and pollution targets, as well as threatening economic prosperity and human well-being[3]. For example, half of all greenhouse gas emissions, along with over 90 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress, originate from resource extraction and processing[4]. Over 60 per cent of planet-warming emissions accounts for 40 per cent of the health impacts associated with air pollution[5]. The decline in natural resources and biodiversity, coupled with the rise in waste generation and diversification, presents unprecedented challenges for effective environmental management and sustainability of ecological assets.

Asia-Pacific, the world's most populous and dynamic region, accounts for about two-thirds of global growth[6] and 63 per cent of global material use[7]. While this rapid economic growth has improved living standards, it has also diminished the region's resource efficiency and natural capital, resulting in shrinking forests, declining biodiversity, and depleted water resources and wetlands. Asian countries face diverse challenges due to their varying economies, available resources, geographic locations, and vulnerabilities to global environmental issues, including

[1] https://www.wbcsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Global-Resources-Outlook-2024-Implications-for-Business_business-brief.pdf
[2] https://www.circularity-gap.world/2022
[3] https://www.unep.org/resources/Global-Resource-Outlook-2024
[4] Global Resources Outlook Report 2019, UNEP International Resource Panel (IRP)
[5] https://geographical.co.uk/news/extraction-of-earths-natural-resources-could-soar-by-60-per-cent
[6] Regional economic outlook. Asia and Pacific: challenges to sustaining growth and disinflation, 2023.
[7] https://www.unep.org/regions/asia-and-pacific/regional-initiatives/supporting-resource-efficiency#:~:text=Asia%20Pacific&text=Asia%20Pacific%20dominates%20global%20use,manufacturing%20centres%20in%20the%20region

frequent climate-induced disasters and socio-economic impacts from climate change. For instance, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Pacific Island countries are particularly vulnerable to climate change effects such as rising sea levels, extreme weather, and plastic pollution which costs economies up to USD 3.7 trillion[5] over the lifetime of plastics. Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) also encounter significant socio-economic challenges in achieving sustainable development, requiring sustainable infrastructure in areas like energy, transport, health, and waste management to support zero waste societies and a circular economy. Similarly, other sub-regions like ASEAN and South Asia, rich in biodiversity and natural resources, face various environmental and developmental challenges. Therefore, any improvements in resource efficiency and sustainable management of natural resources in Asia-Pacific will have significant global impacts.[8]

At the same time, many countries in Asia and the Pacific have become net importers of raw materials and are nearing their limits on domestically available natural resources and minerals. The policy and scientific communities recognize that challenges such as resource supply security, increasing waste and pollution, and climate change are critical constraints to future growth and rising living standards in the region. Waste is intrinsically linked to numerous environmental issues, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, particularly the leakage of plastics and hazardous chemicals into ecosystems. To address these global and regional challenges associated with inefficient material use and waste management, the principles of a circular economy are becoming increasingly essential. Traditional linear economic models, based on "take-make-dispose" approaches, have led to excessive waste generation and inefficient resource use. In contrast, circular economy principles focus on waste reduction, extended material use, and the regeneration or restoration of natural ecosystems. Circular economy is a closed loop economy in which nearly all wastes or outputs either become inputs to other manufacturing processes or are returned to natural systems as benign emissions rather than as pollutants (thus pollution is prevented – land, water, air, ocean).

Circular economy principles enhance sustainable waste management (with a primary focus to waste prevention and minimization) and promote business sustainability in conjunction, especially in a world facing resource scarcity and environmental degradation. Therefore, private and business sector have an important role in advancing circular economy. Circular societies take a holistic approach by encouraging sustainable practices not only within businesses and industries but also throughout communities. This leads to more efficient resource use, minimized waste, and the restoration and regeneration of natural ecosystems. Circular economy supports carbon neutrality by fostering low-carbon business models, reducing energy consumption, and increasing the use of renewable energy, all of which significantly lower environmental footprints and contribute to combating climate change.

Acknowledging the outcomes of the UN High-level Political Forums (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, as well as the UN Summit of the Future held on 22 September 2024, where world leaders adopted the Pact for the Future and its annexes—the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations to chart a path toward achieving the SDGs and responding to emerging challenges and opportunities, and recognizing the objectives of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) which aims to promote and facilitate the restoration of degraded ecosystems worldwide, there is an imminent need to reverse biodiversity loss, enhance ecosystem services, combat climate change and pollution (land, air, water, and ocean), and improve the livelihoods of those who depend on healthy ecosystems and their services.

[8] https://www.unep.org/regions/asia-and-pacific/regional-initiatives/supporting-resource-efficiency

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs, in particular, not only call for equitable economic growth, but also provide important political and institutional framework to implement 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle), resource efficiency and circular economy measures that can create the conditions for sustainable development meeting the needs of the growing population without relying on the use of primary resources or virgin raw materials. Resource security, environmental benefits and sustainable economic growth are at the heart of a circular economy, which not only provides an important basis in achieving SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production), but also trigger meaningful synergies in combined efforts in achieving other SDGs such as SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 11 (safe, resilient, sustainable cities and communities), SDG 13 (combat climate change), and SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 15 (life on land), among others.

Under the Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific (launched in 2009), the Hanoi 3R Declaration (2013-2023) with its 33 goals was a first unprecedented voluntary commitment of Asia-Pacific countries in moving towards a more resource efficient and circular society. The Hanoi 3R Declaration provided an umbrella policy framework for countries for voluntarily developing and implementing 3R policies and programmes at all levels to help Asia-Pacific countries shift from linear to more resource efficient economy towards realization of a circular society. The new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2025-2034) aims to act as a catalyst for transformational changes in resource and waste management in Asia-Pacific. This will include enabling changes to policies, institutional frameworks, financing models, data management approaches, and the implementation of various technologies towards achieving zero-waste societies. It will also aim to catalyze multi-layer cooperation and partnerships in advancing collaborative actions towards achieving the SDGs and other international agreements such as the Paris Agreement on climate change, the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, among others.

The Regional 3R and Circular Forum in Asia-Pacific also aims to support through the new Declaration, among others, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 5/14 that launched the negotiations to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic. To implement the 3R approach to address plastic pollution in its entirety, it is important to eliminate unnecessary single use and short-lived plastic, rolling out refill and reuse models and producing less problematic plastic. It means addressing harmful chemicals and designing for circularity. It means investing in solid waste management and recycling – so that we can use, reuse and recycle resources more efficiently. Asian leaders are taking a strong position in ongoing negotiations to develop the "Global Plastics Treaty," aiming to address plastic pollution, including marine debris, through a comprehensive approach covering the entire plastic life cycle.

The transition to circular societies is crucial for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement's climate objectives. In particular, the Asia-Pacific region where resource demands and waste generation and diversification are growing rapidly, has an opportunity to lead the transition towards circular societies, creating a sustainable path for economic growth while addressing pressing environmental challenges. By integrating circular economy principles into policies and practices, Asia-Pacific countries can accelerate progress toward the SDGs and carbon neutrality, ensuring a resilient and sustainable future for all. Achieving climate neutrality will also largely depend on significant reduction of energy demand

for material extraction and processing. The two dimensions of carbon neutrality – energy and resource management and carbon sequestration – need to be in harmony that carbon is removed from the atmosphere, used in the economy without being released, and stored for longer periods of time.

While most Asia-Pacific countries are implementing national waste management policies, a number of countries have embarked on circular economy road maps as a basis to accelerate implementation of international agendas and agreements such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Paris Agreement, the Habitat III New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, among others. The Government of India, for example, has successfully completed the first phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission), one of the world's largest waste management and sanitation initiatives aimed at achieving a "Clean India", and has also devised a circular economy roadmap addressing 11 focus areas with decentralized responsibilities and horizontal cooperation of key line Ministries and Departments such as - Municipal Solid Waste and Liquid Waste (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs); Scrap Metal - Ferrous and Non-Ferrous (Ministry of Steel); Electronic Waste (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology); Lithium Ion (Li-ion) Batteries (Niti Aayog); Solar Panels (Ministry of New and Renewable Energy); Gypsum (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade); Toxic and Hazardous Industrial Waste (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals); Used Oil Waste (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas); Agriculture Waste (Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare); Tyre and Rubber Recycling (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade); and End-of-life Vehicles -ELVs (Ministry of Road Transport and Highways).

With this objective, the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific is organized with an objective to chalk out the pathways and opportunities for realizing circular societies in the region, with a focus on achieving the SDGs and carbon neutrality. To this regard, the 12th Forum aims to discuss and agree a new voluntary and legally non-binding 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2025-2034) for achieving resource efficient, clean, resilient, sound material cycle and low-carbon society in Asia and the Pacific. The new Declaration aims to act as a policy guiding framework and catalyst for countries to facilitate integration of sustainable consumption and production practices as well as circular economy principles into their overall policy, planning and development, including infrastructure development.

2. OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES

The objectives/outcomes of the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific are:

a). Promote circular economy principles across different sectors in Asia-Pacific to ensure sustainable resource management and waste reduction;

b). Discuss circular economy policies and practices to accelerate achievement of the SDGs such as SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production), but also trigger meaningful synergies in combined efforts in achieving other SDGs such as SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (safe, resilient, sustainable cities and communities), SDG 13 (combat climate change), and SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 15 (life on land), SDG 17 (Partnerships), among others;

c). Discuss how circular economy strategies can be integrated into national and regional policies aimed at reducing carbon emissions and achieving net-zero targets;

d). Discuss how to strengthen regional cooperation and foster collaboration between governments, businesses, and civil society to accelerate the transition from traditional linear economy (take-make-dispose) to more resource efficient and circular societies across Asia-Pacific;

e). Discuss challenges (policy regulatory gaps, financial barriers, infrastructure gaps, technological limitations) and opportunities in addressing circular economy principles for various sectors and waste streams;

f). Discuss and agree a new voluntary and legally non-binding 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2025-2034) for achieving resource efficient, clean, resilient, sound material cycle and low-carbon society in Asia and the Pacific; and

g) Discuss and pave way towards realization of a - Zero Waste Cities and Societies - involving key stakeholders – government (national and local), private and industry sector, including MSMEs, academic and research institutions, donors and development banks, and NGOs, among others, in support of the effective implementation of the new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration for Asia and the Pacific (2025-2034).

3. CO-ORGANIZERS

The 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific is hosted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, and co-organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA).

3. SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

The 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific is expected to be supported by the State Government of Rajasthan along with a number of international and donor organizations such as –United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO), United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Labour Organization (ILO), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM), 3R International Scientific Conference on Material Cycles and Waste Management (3RINCs), International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW)/ IPLA Global Secretariat, International Academy of Environmental

Sanitation and Public Health (IAESPH), ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Institute of Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), AIT Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP), EU SWITCH-Asia, Policy Support Component Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) among others (tbc).

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Around 40 Asia-Pacific countries from various Sub-Regions, including South Asia, Southeast Asia (ASEAN), Northeast Asia, and Oceania [Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Island Countries (PICs)].

7. PARTICIPANTS

Participation in the Forum is by invitation only. It is expected that approximately 500 (300 international and 200 local) participants, including high-level government representatives from Asia-Pacific countries, city mayors, international experts, academic and research institutes and resource persons and others as listed below will attend the Forum. The Forum will be conducted in hybrid mode.

- High level government representatives and policy makers from relevant Ministries such as Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Local Government, etc.;
- City Mayors/Local Government representatives;
- Experts and international resource persons, including representatives of scientific and Research and Development (R&D) institutions in the areas of 3R/resource efficiency/waste management/life cycle assessment and management;
- Representatives of the UN and international organizations, including international financial institutions, multi-lateral development banks and donor agencies; and
- Representatives of the private and business sector and NGOs etc.

Participation in the Forum is free of charge. A limited amount of travel support will be available on a priority basis for nominated government representatives from the developing countries and invited experts/international resource persons. Unless otherwise stated in the official invitation, the participants are requested to kindly cover their own travel, accommodation and all other incidental expenses through their organizations or external sponsorships.

9. INTERNATIONAL 3R EXHIBITATION

A number of corporate and private sector are expected to display their state of art 3R and circular economy technologies and knowhow and best practices as part of the international exhibition which has been always an integral part of the Forum. Participating in the exhibition will provide opportunities for business and corporate sector to explore possible partnerships and collaboration with participating countries of the Forum.

10. CONTACT

Secretariat of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)-DSDG/UN DESA
1-47-1, Nagono, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya 450-0001, Japan
Tel: +81-52 561 9417 / 9531 / 9536 / 9505 (Direct);
WhatsApp: +81-90-9184-1663 (Mobile)
Fax: +81-52 561 9375
E-mail: 3R@uncrd.or.jp

Swacch Bharat Mission (SBM) & PHE Division
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi, India
Tel: +91-11-23061437/ 23062285
Email: pappuk.singh@gov.in; binay.jha@nic.in

Provisional Programme of 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific

Date	3-5 March 2025
Venue	Rajasthan International Center, Jaipur City, Rajasthan State, India
Tentative Theme	***Realizing Circular Societies Towards Achieving SDGs and Carbon Neutrality in the Asia-Pacific***
Forum Chair	**H.E. Shri Manohar Lal,** Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India
Co-organizers	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Government of Japan United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) of Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) /UN DESA
Supporting Organizations	State Government of Rajasthan National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO) United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) International Labour Organization (ILO) Asian Development Bank (ADB) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM) 3R International Scientific Conference on Material Cycles and Waste Management (3RINCs) International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW)/ IPLA Global Secretariat ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability Institute of Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) EU SWITCH-Asia Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS)

Summary of all events

TIME	EVENTS	DAY	VENUE
12:30-12:50	**Japan Side-event 1:** Decarbonization Technologies in the Waste and Resources Sector for Realizing a Circular Economy	Day 1 (3 March)	Main Auditorium/ Upper ground floor
15:30-16:30	**Japan Side-event 2:** Accelerating Circular Society: Expansion and Reproducibility of Municipal Achievements in 3R and Circular Economy	Day 1 (3 March)	
12:00-12:45	**India-Side-event- Session 1**: India pathways to circular economy	Day 2 (4 March)	
15:00-15:45	**India-Side-event - Session 2:** Policy Dialogue	Day 2 (4 March)	
15:45-16:30	**India-Side-event - Session 3:** CE Financing and Industry engagement	Day 2 (4 March)	
16:30-17:15	**India-Side-event - Session 4:** Academia for circular economy	Day 2 (4March)	
09:45-12:45	**India-Side-event - Session 5:** Case Clinic on Circular Economy	Day 3 (5 March)	
15:45-17:15	**India-Side-event- Session 6:** Start-ups and Innovation	Day 3 (5 March)	
9:30-18:00	**12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific [Main event]**	Day 1, 2 & 3 (3-5 March)	
9:30-18:00	3R and Circular Economy Exhibition	Day 1, 2 & 3	

Programme Overview

Main Events of the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific

Time	*Programme*	*Parallel Event*	*Room*
	Day 1: 3 March 2025 (Monday)		
09:00-09:30	Registration		
09:30-10:00	Arrival of dignitaries, Group Photograph, Inauguration c		
10:00-11:00	Opening Session		
11:00-12:15	Plenary Session1: Ministerial (High-Level) Statements		
12:15-12:30	Keynote Address1		
12:30-14:00	Visit to exhibition and Networking Lunch Break	Side Event1: by Japan (60 min) (Time: 12:30-13:30) (Room: Main Auditorium/ Upper ground floor)	
14:00-15:30	Plenary Session 2	Ministers, Ambassadors & Secretaries invited to atten the CITIIS 2.0 rollout event (India Pavilion)	
15:30-17:15	Plenary Session 3	Ministers & Ambassadors Roundtable Dialogue (Conference Hall-1/ first (floor)	Side Event 2: by Japan (60 min) (15:30-16:30) (Room: Japan room/Lower ground floor)
17:15-18:15	Plenary Session 4: Introduction of Jaipur Declaration	17:30 to 18:00 Indo-Japan Bilateral Dialogue (Board room/ First floor)	
18:15-19:00	Cultural programme	Rajasthan International Centre (RIC),	
19:00 onwards	Welcome Reception	Open Ground	
	End of Day 1		
	Day 2: 4 March 2025 (Tuesday)		
09:30-09:45	Keynote Address 2		
09:45-11:15	Plenary Session 5		
11:15-11:30	Special Address 1		
11:30-12:00	Keynote Address 3		
12:00-13:15	Country Breakout Sessions		
13:15-15:00	Visit to 3R Technical exhibition and Networking Lunch Break		
15:00-20:00	Technical Field Visit		
	End of Day 2		
	Day 3: 5 March 2025 (Wednesday)		
09:30-09:45	Keynote Address 4		
09:45-10:15	Plenary Session 6		
10:15-10:30	Special address 3		
10:30-10:45	Keynote Address 5		
10:45-12:15	Parallel Round Table Dialogues		
12:15-13:00	Plenary Session 7		
13:00-14:00	Networking Lunch Break		
14:00-15:30	Plenary Session 8		
15:30-16:00	Review of the Chair's Summary		
16:00-17:30	Plenary Session 9: Discussion and Adoption of New Declaration and Adoption of Chair's Summary		
17:30-18:00	Closing Session		

End of Day 3

Programme
Venue: Rajasthan International Center (RIC), Jaipur, Rajasthan

Time and Room	Programme
Day 1: 3 March 2025 (Monday)	
09:00-09:30	Registration & Morning Coffee / Tea
9:30-10:00	Arrival of dignitaries Group Photograph **Inauguration of 3R Technical Exhibition** -by **Hon'ble Shri Manohar Lal,** Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India
	Opening Session
10:00-11:00 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Welcome Remarks** - **Shri Katikithala Srinivas,** Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (MoHUA) (5 mins) **Opening Remarks** - **H.E. Mr. ASAO Keiichiro,** Minister of the Environment, Government of Japan (5 mins) - UN Resident Coordinator, India (5 mins) **Special Addresses** - **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) (5 mins) - **Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana,** Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (5 mins) - **Hon'ble Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma**, Chief Minister of Rajasthan (5 mins) - **Hon'ble Shri Manohar Lal,** Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (5 mins) **Address by Guest of Honour** - **H. E. Shri Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister, Government of India (5 mins)
	Plenary Sessions
11:00-12:15 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 1** **Ministerial (High-Level) Statements** (3-5 mins per statement) *High-level representatives deliver statements on current and future plans and policies in their respective countries about 3R and circular economy. Ministers may present physically or through pre-recorded video statement as convenient.*

	Name of the countries (tbc): *India*, *Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, the Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam (tbc)*	
	Session Chair: **Hon'ble Shri Manohar Lal,** Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India **Facilitator/Moderator:** **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UN DESA	**Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
12:15-12:30	**Keynote Address 1: Advancing Circular Society in Asia-Pacific - Key to Achieve SDGs and Carbon Neutrality** – by **Prof. Shinichi Sakai,** Dr. & Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University, Advanced Science, Technology & Management Research Institute of Kyoto, Japan (15 mins)	
12:30-14:00	**Visit to Exhibition and Networking Lunch Break**	
14:00-15:30 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 2** **3R and Circular Economy Towards Resilient, Low-carbon and Sustainable Cities and Communities** *This session will discuss challenges, opportunities, strategies, partnerships and examine the interlinkages between circular economy and sustainable cities towards achieving **SDG 11.***	
	Presentations Presentation (1): Indian approach for circular economy-**Mr Ved Prakash Mishra** Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Circular economy towards net zero: A sustainable pathway to carbon neutrality* – by **Ms. Melissa MacEwen,** Director, PwC New Zealand (8 mins) Presentation (3): *Realization of Eco-Town - Case of Kitakyushu City in Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan* – by **Ms. Miwa Katsuhara,** Deputy Director, Kitakyushu City, Japan (8 mins) (online) Presentation (4): *3R and circular economy vision of Danish cities: Best practices and success stories* – by **Dr. Petr Dolejš**, Representative of Danish Embassy, New Delhi, India (8 mins) Presentation (5): *Food composting cases from Zama City, in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan*– by **Ms. Mito Sato,** Mayor of *Zama City*, Japan (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (40 mins) **- H.E. Mr. Ahmed Nizam**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Government of Maldives	**Session Chair:** **Mr Naresh Pal Gangwar,** Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, Government of India **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Mr. Arab Hoballah,** Senior Expert 3R & Circular Economy, SWICH Asia and Ex-Chief of Sustainable Consumption and Production at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	- Dr. Jairaj Phatak, Director General, All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG) **- Mr. Padma Kumar Mainalee**, Joint Secretary, Urban Development Division, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of Nepal **- Ms. Parul Agarwal,** Country Programme Manager- India, UN-Habitat **Discussion Points:** 1. *What are the biggest challenges cities face in transitioning from a linear (more resource intensive) to a circular economy (more resource efficient)?* 2. *Can you share successful cases of cities implementing circular economy strategies effectively?* 3. *What policy interventions are necessary to integrate circular economy into urban planning?* 4. *How can governments at different levels (local, national, international) collaborate to accelerate the integration of circular economy principles in overall policy, planning and infrastructure development?* 5. *What role do businesses and industries cooperation play in promoting circular economy models in sustainable urban development?* 6. *How can digital technologies (AI, blockchain, IoT) support or accelerate circular economy initiatives in cities?* 7. *How can circular economy approaches help cities mitigate and adapt to climate change? In what ways can circular economy principles be integrated into broader climate resilience strategies? How do circular economy strategies contribute to achieving SDGs (in particular SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13) and net-zero targets under the Paris Agreement?* Question & answer	
15:30-17:15 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 3** **Circular Economy Policies -Translating Global Vision into Local Actions** *This session will highlight global frameworks on the circular economy, establish a shared understanding of the global priorities and commitments for circular economy policies, planning and development, and try to bridge the gap between global frameworks and regional, national-and-local level commitment and actions. This session further identifies synergies, potential cooperations, and partnerships in local, regional, and national development in implementing circular economy, including regional and national roadmaps.*	
	Presentations Presentation (1): *International best practices in circular economy* – by **Mr. Thierry Martin**, SWM Expert, World Bank (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Connecting regions to achieve global impetus for policy action: lessons learnt from four years of GACERE* – by **Mr. Ko Matsuura**, Ministry of the Environment of Japan, on behalf of	**Session Chair:** **Mr. Rajesh Yadav**, Principal Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, India

	the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) (8 mins) Presentation (3): *Framework for circular economy for the ASEAN economic community – by* **Dr. Venkatachalam Anbumozhi,** Senior Research Fellow for Innovation, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) (8 mins) Presentation (4): *Circular economy policies -translating global vision into local actions* – by **Dr. Walter Stahel,** Founder-Director- Product-Life Institute, Switzerland (8 mins) (online) Presentation (5): *Empowering urban sustainability: OECD's circular economy programme for cities and regions* – by **Ms. Oriana Romano,** Head of the Water Governance, Blue and Circular Economy Unit, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (8 mins) (online) Presentation (6): *Combating plastic pollution: Global and national actions*– by **Dr. Sumit Sharma,** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (8 mins) (tbc) (online) **Panel Discussion** (40 mins) - **Mr. Rajesh Yadav**, Principal Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, India **- Ms. Batzaya Sed-Ayushjav,** Director General, Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing (MoUDCH), Mongolia **- Dr. Aujla Mohinderjeet Singh**, Sr. Vice President, Kanwar Surjit Singh Institute for Spatial Planning Environment Research, India **- Dr. Nguyen Trung Thang,** Deputy Director General, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam **Discussion Points:** 1. *How do international agendas, agreements and frameworks [e.g., SDGs, Paris Agreement, New Urban Agenda, Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC 2021), ASEAN Circular Economy Business Alliance (ACEBA, 2024)] shape national and local circular economy policies?* 2. *What are the key challenges in aligning local policies with international understandings on circular economy? How can policymakers ensure that circular economy principles and strategies are tailored to the specific needs of different regions and cities?* 3. *What policy mechanisms have proven most effective in driving circular economy adoption and implementation at the local level? How can local governments work with national and global stakeholders (e.g., international organizations, donors,*	**Facilitator/Moderator:** **Prof. Yong-Chul Jang**, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	multilateral development banks (MDBs), etc.) to accelerate circular economy policy implementation? 4. *What role do extended producer responsibility (EPR) and others such as innovative financing mechanisms (e.g., green bonds, public-private partnerships, etc.) play in supporting local circular economy initiatives?* 5. *How can education and capacity-building programs help bridge the gap between circular economy policy design and local implementation?* 6. *What lessons can be learned from cities that have successfully localized international understanding on and principles of circular economy?* Question & answer	
17:15-18:15 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 4** ***Presentation:*** Introduction on *"New Declaration on 3R and Circular Economy – Sustainable 3R and Circular Economy Goals for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient, Sound Material Cycle and Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific (2025-2035)"* – by **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UN DESA **(20 mins)**	
	Facilitator/Moderator: **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UN DESA (20 mins) Question & answer (10 mins)	Session Chair: Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, Government of India (tbc) Rapporteur: National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
18:00-19:00	**Cultural Programme**	
19:00 onwards (Open area)	**Welcome Reception** Co-hosted by the Govt. of Rajasthan and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India	

End of Day 1

<table>
<tr><th colspan="3">Day 2: 4 March 2025 (Tuesday)</th></tr>
<tr><td>9:00 – 9:30</td><td colspan="2">Morning Tea/ Coffee
(Convention Hall / Upper Ground Floor)</td></tr>
<tr><td>09:30 – 9:45
(Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)</td><td colspan="2"><u>Keynote Address 2:</u> Material flows, waste, GHG emissions and circularity - Dr. Heinz Schandl, Senior Scientist, CSIRO, Australia (Pre-recoded)</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Plenary Sessions</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">09:45-11:15

(Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)</td><td colspan="2"><u>Plenary Session 5</u>
Nature-based Solutions and Circular Economy
This session will gain insights to nature-based solutions towards achieving circular society with an objective to prevent biodiversity loss, support nature conservation and eco-system restoration to address societal challenges, providing both environmental and human well-being benefits in line with the SDG 6, 7, 11, 12, 13 ad 15 associated with Target 6.3, Target 7.2, Target 11.3, Target 12.5, Target 13.1 and Target 15.3.</td></tr>
<tr><td><u>Presentations</u>
Presentation (1): Nature based solution and circular economy – by Mr. Karanjit Singh Ngangbam, Director, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation (DDWS), Government of India (8 mins)

Presentation (2): AIIB's commitment to advancing circular economy – by Mr. Ankur Agrawal, Investment Operations Specialist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) (8 mins)

Presentation (3): Comparative life cycle assessment of biomass-based masks with plastic-based masks– by Prof. Yong-Chul Jang, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea (8 mins)

Presentation (4): Nature based solution to landfill leachate management in atoll nations – by Mr. Leney, Programme Manager, Kiribati Solid Waste Management Programme; Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development, Kiribati (8 mins)

Presentation (5): Transforming our societies and economies through nature-based solutions and circularity – by Dr. Charles Karangwa, Global Head of Nature-based Solutions, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (8 mins)

<u>Panel Discussion</u> (40 mins)
- Mr. Narayan Prasad Bhandari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of Nepal
- Mr. Amit Dutta, General Secretary and Head of Delegation/ Young Naturalist Network
- Mr. Richard Howard Leney, Programme Manager, Kiribati Solid Waste Management Programme, Kiribati</td><td><u>Session Chair:</u>
Mr. Padma Kumar Mainalee, Joint Secretary, Urban Development Division, Ministry of Urban Development, Nepal

<u>Facilitator/Moderator:</u>
Dr. V. K. Chaurasia, Advisor, CPHEEO, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affair, Government of India

<u>Rapporteur:</u>
National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)</td></tr>
</table>

	- **Prof. Yong-Chul Jang**, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea **Discussion Points:** 1. *How do nature-based solutions (NbS) align with circular economy principles to drive sustainability? How can public awareness and education drive wider adoption of NbS in everyday life?* 2. *What are the key benefits of integrating NbS into circular economy strategies for cities and industries?* 3. *Can you share successful examples of NbS that have helped in waste minimization, resource recovery, sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12)?* 4. *What role do governments and policymakers play in scaling up NbS for a circular economy? How can regulatory frameworks be adopted to encourage the integration of NbS in urban and rural development?* 5. *What role do forests, wetlands, and marine ecosystems play in supporting a circular bioeconomy?* 6. *How can businesses incorporate NbS into their sustainability and circular economy models? What are the opportunities for green entrepreneurship and investment in NbS-driven circular solutions?* 7. *How can technology and innovation enhance the effectiveness of NbS in circular economy transitions?* Question & answer
	Special Session 1
11:15-11:20	**Welcome remarks by Ms. Roopa Mishra,** Joint Secretary, MoHUA
11:20-11:27	**Address by Ms. Mio Oka,** Country Director for India, Asian Development Bank
11:27-11:40	**Special Address 1 – by Shri Srinivas Katikithala,** Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India
11:40-11:55 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor	**Keynote Address 3: – by Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (15 mins)**

<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="2">Parallel Country Breakout on Major Initiatives & Achievements
Country will present their major initiatives, master plans and achievements in promoting 3R and circular economy</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">12:00-13:15

(Mini Audi 2 / First Floor)</td><td colspan="2">Country Breakout Group 1
Country presentations (using maximum 5 slides) to focus on-
(a) major new initiatives/achievements in 3R and circular economy areas;
(b) major challenges (institutional capacity, financing, technology and infrastructure) in promoting 3R and circular economy;
(c)Cooperation of countries towards establishment of -Circular Economy Alliance for Cities (CEAC)

Open Discussion</td></tr>
<tr><td>Country Presentations (5 mins maximum):
Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Viet Nam

Question & answer:</td><td><u>Session Chair:</u>
H.E. Mr. Trevor Hedley Manemahaga, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology, Solomon Islands

<u>Facilitator/Moderator:</u>
Mr. Upendra Tripathy, Former Principal Advisor (Education) to Chief Minister of Odisha, India/Former Founding Director General, International Solar Alliance/Former Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India

<u>Rapporteur:</u>
National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">12:00-13:15

(Lecture Hall 2 / 2nd Floor)</td><td colspan="2">Country Breakout Group 2
Country presentations (using maximum 5 slides) to focus on-
(a) major new initiatives/achievements in 3R and circular economy areas;
(b) major challenges (institutional capacity, financing, technology and infrastructure) in promoting 3R and circular economy;
(c)Cooperation of countries towards establishment of -Circular Economy Alliance for Cities (CEAC)
Open Discussion</td></tr>
<tr><td>Country Presentations (5 mins maximum):
Fiji, Palau, Kiribati, Cook Islands</td><td><u>Session Chair:</u>
H.E. Dr. Maina Vakafua Talia, Ministry of Home Affairs,</td></tr>
</table>

	Question & answer:	Environment and Climate Change, Tuvalu **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Ms. Susana Telakau,** Solid Waste Management Adviser, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
12:00-13:15 (Lecture Hall 3 / 2nd Floor)	**Country Breakout Group 3** *Country presentations (using maximum 5 slides) to focus on-* *(a) major new initiatives/achievements in 3R and circular economy areas;* *(b) major challenges (institutional capacity, financing, technology and infrastructure) in promoting 3R and circular economy;* *(c)Cooperation of countries towards establishment of -Circular Economy Alliance for Cities (CEAC)* *Open Discussion*	
	Country Presentations (5 mins maximum): Cambodia, Malaysia, Tonga, Vanuatu Question & answer:	**Session Chair:** **Mr. Tung Ciny,** Secretary of State, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MoISTI**),** Cambodia **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Mr. Richard Howard** Leney, Programme Manager, Kiribati Solid Waste Management Programme **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
12:00-13:15 (Lecture Hall 1 / 2nd Floor)	**Country Breakout Group 4** *Country presentations (using maximum 5 slides) to focus on-* *(a) major new initiatives/achievements in 3R and circular economy areas;* *(b) major challenges (institutional capacity, financing, technology and infrastructure) in promoting 3R and circular economy;* *(c)Cooperation of countries towards establishment of -Circular Economy Alliance for Cities (CEAC)* *Open Discussion*	

	Country Presentations (5 mins maximum): Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Mongolia Question & answer:	**Session Chair:** **H.E. Mr. Ahmed Nizam**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Government of Maldives **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Mr. Amitesh Mithum Deo,** Founder/Director Pacific Recycling Foundation, Fiji **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
12:00-13:15 (Mini Audi 1 / First Floor)	**Country Breakout Group 5** *Country presentations (using maximum 5 slides) to focus on-* *(a) major new initiatives/achievements in 3R and circular economy areas;* *(b) major challenges (institutional capacity, financing, technology and infrastructure) in promoting 3R and circular economy;* *(c)Cooperation of countries towards establishment of -Circular Economy Alliance for Cities (CEAC)* *Open Discussion*	
	Country Presentations (5 mins maximum): Thailand, Japan, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka Question & answer:	**Session Chair:** **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Ms. Melissa MacEwen,** Director, PwC New Zealand **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
13:45-15:00	**Networking Lunch Break and Visit to 3R Technical exhibition** (Convention Hall / Upper Ground Floor)	
15:00-20:00	**Technical Field Visit** - Waste to Energy - STP facility - Heritage of Rajasthan	

End of Day 2

Day 3: 5 March 2025 (Wednesday)		
9:00 – 9:30	**Morning Tea/ Coffee** (Convention Hall / Upper Ground Floor)	
9:30-9:45 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Keynote Address 4:** **Circular economy in the context of urban resilience ~ Implication towards SDG 11 – by Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna,** National University of Singapore	
	Plenary Session	
09:45-10:15 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 6:** **Launch of the Reports** - Remarks by **Dr. Rupa Chanda**, Director of Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) (3 mins) - **Launch of the Secrets to Unlocking the Next Frontier for a Circular -Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region** -Presentation by **Dr. Sudip Ranjan Basu**, Chief of Sustainable Business Network Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) (5 mins) - **Launch of the 2nd State of the 3Rs in Asia and the Pacific –** *Advancing Circular Economy in Asia and the Pacific Towards Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* – Presentation by **Dr. Anupam Khajuria**, Research Fellow and Academic Associate, UNU-IAS (8 mins)	**Session Chair:** Representative of the Government of India **Facilitator/Moderator:** **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UNDESA **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
10:15 -10:30	**Special Address 2:** Implementing circularity of solid and liquid waste for largest human congregation at Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, India **– by Prof. Amit Kapoor,** Chair, Institute for Competitiveness, University of Stanford (15 mins)	
10:30 -10:45	**Keynote Address 5:** Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) – India's Mission for Sanitation, Cleanliness, and Waste management **– by Ms. Roopa Mishra,** Joint Secretary, SBM-U, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) (15 mins)	

	Parallel Round Table Dialogues: Breakout Sessions	
10:45-12:15 (Conference Hall 1 / First Floor)	***Parallel Round Table 1*** **Circular Economy and Electric and Electronic Waste** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of electric and electronic waste as it emerges as one of the major environmental problems, particularly in the Asia and Pacific region. It will also emphasize the promotion of private business for collecting, dismantling and recycling and other treatment of such waste.*	
	Presentations (tbc) Presentation (1): *Achieving circular economy for the e-waste sector in Viet Nam* – by **Mr. Nguyen Trung Thang,** Deputy Director General, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam (8 mins) Presentation (2): *From scrap to sustainability: Advancing a sustainable end-of live vehicle processing operation in Kiribati* – by **Mr. Alice Leney,** Programme Manager, Kiribati Solid Waste Management Programme; Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development, Kiribati (8 mins) Presentation (3): *Circular economy on electric and electronic waste* – by **Mrs. Sunita Verma,** Group Coordinator & Scientist G, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (50 mins) - **Mr. Manish Jain,** Associate Director, Sustainability, Indian Cellular and Electronics Association, MeitY - **Mr. Upendra Tripathy,** Founding Director General Emeritus, International Solar Alliance; and Former Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India **- Ms. Pranita Upadhyaya,** Head of the ITU Area Office and Innovation Centre for South Asia, ITU - **Dr. Vivek Agarwal,** Chairman, Institute of Chartered Waste Managers **Discussion Points:** 1. *What are the biggest challenges in managing e-waste within a circular economy framework?* 2. *What policies and regulations are needed to improve e-waste management and promote circular economy principles?* 3. *How can Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes be strengthened to ensure manufacturers take responsibility for end-of-life electronics?* 4. *How can technology and AI-driven solutions improve e-waste collection, sorting, and recycling?*	**Session Chair:** **H.E. Tereapii Kavana,** Associate Minister, Support Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Cook Islands **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Prof. Seeram Ramakrishna,** National University of Singapore **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	5. *What role do manufacturers play in designing products (e.g., design for environment / DfE) that are easier to repair, upgrade, and recycle? How can international cooperation help address cross-border e-waste trade and illegal dumping?* 6. *What are successful cases of public-private partnerships (PPP) driving circularity in the electronics sector?* 7. *What role do education and digital literacy play in promoting responsible e-waste disposal and resource recovery?* 8. *How can the informal sector be integrated into formal e-waste management systems to ensure fair labor practices and safety?* Question & answer:	
10:45-12:15 (Conference Hall 2 / First Floor)	***Parallel Round Table 2*** **Circular Economy and Plastics Waste** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of packaging and plastic waste. It will also provide insights into knowledge, research, and partnerships (PPP) to promote eco-friendly alternatives to single-use plastics in addition to the importance of international cooperation.* **Presentations** Presentation (1): *Unlocking waste as a resource through a Circular Economy: cases from SPREP countries* – by **Ms. Susana Telakau,** Pacific Region Expert, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Circular design of plastic products: a basic vocabulary for the implementation of policy and business tools* – by **Mr. Daniele Serra,** Project Manager, UNIDO on behalf of the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) (8 mins) Presentation (3) *Recycling, material flow, and recycled content demands of Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) bottles towards a circular economy in Republic of Korea* – by **Prof. Yong-Chul Jang**, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea (8 mins) Presentation (4): *Unveiling* m*icroplastics pollution- issues, challenges and solutions-Case of Thailand* – by **Prof. Sandhya Babel,** School of Bio-Chemical Engineering and Technology, Thammasat University, Thailand (8 mins) Presentation (5): *Advancing circular economy beyond recycling: WASTE's innovative approach for sustainable waste management with the focus on plastics***–** by **Mr. Pavee Raheja**, Business Development Expert, WASTE NL (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (30 mins) - **Mr Hiten Bheda,** Chairman, Environment Committee, All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association **- Mr. Padma Kumar Mainalee**, Joint Secretary, Urban Development Division, Ministry of Urban Development, Nepal	**Session Chair:** **Mr. W. D. S. C. Weliwatta,** Additional Secretary (Natural Resources), Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Prof. Yong-Chul Jang**, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea (tbc) **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

- **Ms. Pepetua Election Latasi,** Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment, Tuvalu
- **Ms. Wassana Jangprajak,** Environmentalist, Senior Professional Level, Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Government of Thailand
- **Mr. Amitesh Mithum Deo,** Founder/Director, Pacific Recycling Foundation, Fiji
- **Ms. A. M. Manoja Pushpa Kumari Abesingha**, Municipal Engineer, Municipal Council Kandy, Sri Lanka

Discussion Points:

1. *What are the biggest challenges in managing plastic waste within a circular economy framework?*
2. *What role does Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) play in ensuring manufacturers take accountability for plastic waste?*
3. *How can international or global agreements help harmonize plastic waste management strategies across borders?*
4. *What are some successful circular economy models for plastics, such as reuse, refill, and closed-loop recycling systems?*
5. *How can innovations in biodegradable plastics and alternative materials contribute to reducing plastic waste? How can nature-based solutions (NbS) contribute to the prevention and minimization of plastic waste? What are some successful examples of using NbS to mitigate plastic pollution in urban and coastal environments?*
6. *How can public-private partnerships (PPP) accelerate plastic waste reduction and recycling efforts? What successful PPP models have been implemented to tackle plastic waste at scale? How can collaboration between brands, waste management companies, and governments improve plastic waste circularity?*
7. *What role does education and awareness play in driving public engagement in plastic waste reduction?*
8. *How can the informal sector be integrated into formal waste management systems to improve plastic recycling rates and social equity?*

Question & answer:

	Parallel Round Table 3 **Circular Economy and Textile and Fashion Industry** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of textile and fashion clothing. It will also provide insight to identify steps to facilitate a circular textile economy*	
10:45-12:15 (Mini Audi 1 / First Floor)	**Presentations** Presentation (1): *Closing the Loop: The drivers of change towards circularity within the textile and fashion industry*– by **Ms. Morgane Parizot**, Strategic Education Director at Redress, and Founder at Looped, Hong Kong, Special Administrative Regions of China (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Advancing circularity within the Birla's textile and fashion industry* – by **Ms. Sonal Kaushik**, Environment Head, Aditya Birla Group, Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (ABFRL) (8 mins) Presentation (3): Challenges of circular economy in textile and fashion initiatives in Japan – by -Japan Sustainable Fashion Alliance (JSFA) Presentation (4): *Approaches for circular textile and apparel industry in India* – by **Mr. Tushar Jani,** Centre for Environment Education (CEE), India (8 mins) Presentation (5): *India's textile recycling initiatives*– by **Ms. Mansha Balecha**, Engagement Manager - Sattva (8 mins) Presentation (6): Realizing Circular Solutions towards Achieving SDGs and Carbon Neutrality in Asia Pacific – by **Mr. Pankaj Kumar**, National Project Coordinator, UNIDO, India (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (40 mins) - **Mr. Md. Rezaul Karim**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Bangladesh (tbc) - **Ms. Morgane Parizot**, Strategic Education Director at Redress, and Founder at Looped, Hong Kong, Special Administrative Regions of China - **Ms. Shruti Singh**, Fashion for Good, India **- Ms. Morgane Parizot**, Strategic Education Director at Redress, and Founder at Looped, Hong Kong, Special Administrative Regions of China **Discussion Points:** 1. *What are the biggest challenges in making the textile and fashion industry more circular?* 2. *How does the current linear model (fast fashion and fast discard) contribute to environmental and social issues?*	**Session Chair:** **Shri Rohit Kansal,** Additional Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Mr. Wayne Hubbard,** Chief Executive Officer, ReLondon and Representative of Circular Economy Institute (CEI), UK **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	3. *What are the key opportunities for circularity in textiles, from design to disposal?* 4. *How can governments enforce Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to promote sustainable textile production and waste management?* 5. *What incentives can policymakers introduce to encourage circular business models in the fashion industry?* 6. *How can brands transition from fast fashion to circular models such as resale, rental, and repair?* 7. *How can consumers be encouraged to embrace sustainable fashion choices, such as buying second-hand or repairing clothes? How can social movements, influencers, and media groups help accelerate the shift toward sustainable fashion consumption?* 8. *What role do retailers, manufacturers, and governments play in building closed-loop supply chains? How can collaboration across industries (e.g. fashion and technology, fashion and waste management) drive transition to circularity?* Question & answer:	
10:45-12:15 (Multi-Purpose Hall Part 1 / First Floor)	***Parallel Round Table 4*** **Circular Economy and Construction Industry** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of construction materials such as concrete, iron, timber and so on. It will also provide insights into energy efficiency in buildings, and recycling and alternative construction materials.* **Presentations** Presentation (1): *Driving the cement and concrete industry's journey towards Net Zero Carbon* by 2050– by **Prof. Hao WANG,** Professor of Materials and Manufacturing, University of Southern Queensland, Australia (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Collaborative models for circular construction: Dutch approaches to industry-wide transformation* – by **Mr. Jaap Veenenbos,** CEO of SusBDe (8 mins) (online) Presentation (3): *Building a greener and cleaner India through circular economy in the construction industry* – by **Prof. S. K. Singh**, Engineering Science, C.B.R.I, India (8 mins) Presentation (4): **Dr. L P Singh**, Director General, National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB) (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (40 mins) **- Mr. Calvin Ikesiil**, Chief, Division of Solid Waste Management, Bureau of Public Works, Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Industries, Palau	**Session Chair:** **Mr. Narayan Prasad Bhandari,** Joint Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of Nepal **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Dr. Rupa Chanda,** Director of Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	- **Ms. Michiko Miyamoto,** Country Director, International Labour Organization (ILO) **- Mr. Haden Talagi,** Director, Department of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources, NIUE **- Prof. S. K. Singh**, Engineering Science, C.B.R.I, India - **Ms. Soumya Chaturvedula,** Director, ICLEI South Asia **<u>Discussion Points:</u>** 1. *What are the key challenges in shifting from a linear "take-make-dispose" model to a circular approach in the construction sector?* 2. *What policies and regulations can encourage circularity in construction materials and building design? How can governments promote circular construction practices through incentives, mandates, and public procurement policies?* 3. *What role do building codes and certification systems play in advancing circular construction?* 4. *How can recycled and bio-based materials contribute to a more sustainable construction industry?* 5. *How can construction companies adopt "design for deconstruction vis-à-vis design for environment (DfE)" principles to enable material reuse and repurposing?* 6. *How can digital technologies (e.g., Building Information Modelling (BIM), AI, IoT) improve material tracking, waste reduction, and circular construction planning?* 7. *How can cities and municipalities support the development of urban mining for resource recovery and secondary material markets? What role do contractors, architects, and developers play in ensuring materials are reused instead of discarded?* 8. *How can public-private partnerships (PPP) accelerate circular economy adoption in the construction sector? What are some successful case studies where collaboration between government, businesses, and communities has driven circular construction?* Question & answer:	
10:45-12:15 (Multi-Purpose Hall Part 2 / First Floor)	***<u>Parallel Round Table 5</u>*** **Circular Economy and Biomass Waste** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of biomass waste. It will also provide insights into research to enhance circular economy utilization of biomass waste towards sustainable regional development.*	

Presentations (tbc)

Presentation (1): Presentation (1): Organic farming and its role in circular economy – by **Dr. Gagnesh Sharma**, Director, National Centre for Organic and Natural Farming, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India (8 mins)

Presentation (2): *The Future of Biomass in a Circular Economy: Sustainable Solutions for Resource Recovery and Carbon Neutrality*- **Prof. Agamuthu Pariatamby**, Sunway University, Malaysia (8 mins)

Presentation (3): *Sustainable rural community based on resource-recyclizing agriculture ~ Kamishihoro Town, Hokkaido, Japan* – by **Mr. Yasumasa Sato** (8 mins) (prerecorded)

Panel Discussion (40 mins)

- **Shri Preet Pal Singh,** Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India
- **Mr. Um Serivuth,** Director NPCC, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MoISTI), Cambodia
- **Ms. Kritika Raj**, Principal Environment Officer, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Fiji
- **Mr. Filimone Kata Lapaoo,** Senior Environmentalist, Department of Environment, Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications, Tonga

Discussion Points:

1. *How can biomass waste be effectively integrated into a circular economy, and what are its potential benefits for sustainability?*
2. *What types of biomass waste (e.g., agricultural residues, food waste, forestry by-products) hold the greatest potential for circular solutions? How can biomass waste be used to create valuable products, such as bioenergy, bioplastics, or bio-based chemicals, while minimizing environmental impact?*
3. *How can governments support the development of sustainable biomass waste industries through incentives, research, and development funding?*
4. *What are the most successful circular business models for using biomass waste, and how can they be scaled across different industries?*
5. *How can public-private partnerships (PPP) drive innovation and investment in biomass waste management and circular economy solutions?*
6. *What role do local governments, businesses, and communities play in promoting the sustainable use of biomass waste?*

Session Chair:

Ms. Pepetua Election Latasi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment, Tuvalu

Facilitator/Moderator:

Prof. Agamuthu Pariatamby, Sunway University, Malaysia

Rapporteur:

National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	7. *What are some of the most promising emerging technologies for converting biomass waste into valuable products (e.g., biofuels, bioplastics, and biochemicals)? What role does the circular use of biomass in food and agriculture (e.g., organic waste to compost, organic fertilizers) play in closing the loop?* 8. *How can the transition to a circular economy with biomass waste improve livelihoods, particularly in rural or low-income communities?* Question & answer:	
10:45-12:15 (Mini Audi 1 / First Floor)	***Parallel Round Table 6*** **Circular Economy and Freshwater Resources** *This round table will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the circularity of water storage, water efficiency and wastewater management and so on. It will also provide prospects of circular economy in wastewater reuse and recycling in the region.* **Presentations (tbc)** Presentation (1): River Cities Alliance (RCA), and Urban River Management Plan (URMP) – by **Mr. Nalin Kumar Srivastava**, Deputy Director General, NMCG (8 mins) Presentation (2): *Enabling a circular economy approach in wastewater management: Cases form Denmark*– by Representative of Danish Embassy New Delhi, India (8 mins) Presentation (3): *Circular economy through the reuse of treated wastewater* – by **Mr. Rajeev Kumar Mital,** Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) or **Mr. Brijendra Swaroop,** Executive Director (Projects), NMCG, India (8 mins)) Presentation (4): *Empowering cities and communities through circular water solutions: Global examples* – by **Mr. Emani Kumar,** Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI Global and Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia (8 mins) Presentation (5): *Circular towards water Security of India* – by **Prof. Brajesh Kumar Dubey**, Department of Civil Engineering and Chairperson - School of Water Resources, IIT-Kharagpur, India (8 mins) **Panel Discussion** (40 mins) - **Mr. Tri Supondy,** Director General of Industrial Resilience, Region, and International Industrial Access, Ministry of Industry, Indonesia (tbc) - **Ms. Priyanka Singh,** Programme Lead Council on Energy, Environment and Water, India **- Mr. Emani Kumar,** Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI Global and Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia **Discussion Points:**	**Session Chair:** **Ms. Batzaya Sed-Ayushjav,** Director General, Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing (MoUDCH), Mongolia **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Prof. Brajesh Kumar Dubey**, Department of Civil Engineering and Chairperson - School of Water Resources, IIT-Kharagpur, India **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

	1. *What are the key challenges in integrating water use into a circular economy, and how can they be overcome?* 2. *According to the United Nations, water scarcity affects approximately 3.6 billion people globally, who experience inadequate access to water for at least one month per year. This situation is projected to worsen, with over 5 billion people expected to face water shortages by 2050. Additionally, around 2 billion people (26% of the global population) lack access to safe drinking water, and 3.6 billion (46%) lack access to safely managed sanitation services. What are the possible impacts a shift to the circular economy would have on SDG 6 (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all)?* 3. *What role should governments play in integrating circular economy principles into water management policies and regulations? What role does water pricing and financial mechanisms play in driving the adoption of circular water practices across sectors?* 4. *How can public-private partnerships (PPP) foster innovation and investment in sustainable water management solutions? What role can collaborations between water utilities, industries, and local governments play in ensuring equitable access to water while promoting circular practices?* 5. *How can nature-based solutions (e.g., wetlands, urban green spaces) contribute to improving water quality and minimizing freshwater consumption?* 6. *How can digital solutions (e.g., IoT, AI) optimize water management systems to reduce waste, increase efficiency, and improve access to clean water?* 7. *What roles can international organizations and collaborations play in fostering global dialogue and action on sustainable freshwater use within a circular economy?* Question & answer:	
	Plenary Sessions	
	<u>Plenary Session 7</u> **Round Table Reporting Back Session**	
12:15-13:00	Reporting back Round Table 1 (5 mins) Reporting back Round Table 2 (5 mins) Reporting back Round Table 3 (5 mins) Reporting back Round Table 4 (5 mins) Reporting back Round Table 5 (5 mins) Reporting back Round Table 6 (5 mins)	**<u>Session Chair:</u>** **Mr. Padma Kumar Mainalee**, Joint Secretary, Urban Development Division, Ministry of Urban Development, Nepal

		Facilitator/Moderator: **Prof. Yong-Chul Jang**, Department of Environmental Engineering, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
13:00-14:00	**Networking Lunch Break** (Convention Hall / Upper Ground Floor)	
14:00-15:30 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 8** **Greening SMEs Towards Circular Society (SDG 9) Including the Role of PPP (Public-Private Partnership)** *This session will discuss barriers and drivers of eco-innovations, smart and digital technologies transition towards industry 4.0 and public policy solutions for fostering sustainable development, including barriers and drivers of PPP and public policy solutions for incentivizing the private sector towards sustainable development building upon transition towards circular economy.*	
	Presentations Presentation (1): *Greening SMEs towards circular society: role of private sectors* – by **Dr. Sudip Ranjan Basu,** Chief of Sustainable Business Network Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) (8 mins) Presentation (2): Promoting circular economy in MSME sector - **Sh. Ateesh Singh, Joint Secretary,** Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India (8 mins) Presentation (3): *Policy recommendations, practical guidance and tools on greening SMEs* – by **Ms. Michiko Miyamoto,** Country Director, International Labour Organization (ILO) (8 mins) Presentation (4): **Ms. Surbhi Singhvi,** Manager from the Energy Team, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) (8 mins) Presentation (5): *Supporting the development of SME circular economy business models in London*– by **Mr. Wayne Hubbard,** Chief Executive Officer, ReLondon and Representative of Circular Economy Institute (CEI), UK (8 mins) Presentation (6): *Circularity and resource efficiency: How can we overcome the challenges (technical and financial capacity) towards greening their entire supply chain*– by **Mr. Arab Hoballah,** Senior Expert 3R & Circular Economy, SWICH Asia and Ex-Chief of	**Session Chair:** **Ms. Maqsura Noor**, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industry (MoI), Government of Bangladesh **Facilitator/Moderator:** **Dr. Sudip Ranjan Basu,** Chief of Sustainable Business Network Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, UN ESCAP **Rapporteur:** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)

Sustainable Consumption and Production at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (8 mins)

Panel Discussion (40 mins)

- **Dr. K Rajkumar,** Director, Indian Rubber Materials Research Institute (IRMRI), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

- **Mr. Pankaj Sinha,** Representing Chair of the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN) Task Force on Circular Economy; Global Business Director-Recycling, Indorama

- **Mr. Ankit Todi,** ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN) Executive Council member; Group Chief Sustainability Officer, Mahindra Group

- **Mr. Kamal Nanavaty**, President, Reliance Industries Limited

- **Prof. Ms. Mona Gupta,** ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN) member; Director & Advisory Board - Becquer Energy

- **Ms. Vaishakhi Shah,** Executive Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory, India

Discussion Points:

1. *Why are greening SMEs crucial in the transition towards a circular society, and how can they contribute to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure)? What are the critical enablers that the Governments should consider for greening the SMEs towards circularity?*

2. *Required financial and technical capacity and high upfront costs are critical challenges for SMEs. How can SMEs access green financing, and what role do financial institutions play in supporting their circular transition?*

3. *What type of information-based instruments can governments facilitate in raising the awareness of both consumers and SMEs on the needs and benefits of greening the supply chain?*

4. *What are the best examples and experiences where environmental regulations have encouraged SMEs and firms to pursue green strategies towards cost savings, market competitiveness and better public image?*

5. *What are the key enablers to promote government-to-business, business-to-business, and industry-to-industry interactions in greening the operations and supply chain? What could various technologies offer in this regard?*

6. *How can PPPs facilitate SME engagement in circular economy initiatives? What are the key success factors for effective PPPs in promoting SME sustainability? Can you highlight successful examples of PPPs that have helped SMEs transition to circular practices?*

Question & answer:

15:30-16:00	**Review of the New Declaration and Chair's Summary**
16:00-17:30 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Plenary Session 9** **Discussion and Adoption of the Jaipur Declaration** *"New Declaration on 3R and Circular Economy – Sustainable 3R and Circular Economy Goals for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient, Sound Material Cycle and Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific (2025-2035)" and* ***Adoption*** **of Chair's Summary** **Forum Co-chairs:** **Shri. Tokan Sahu, MoS,** Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India **Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh,** MoS, MoEFCC, Government of India **Facilitator/Moderator:** **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD/ DSDG/UNDESA & **Mr. Arab Hoballah,** Senior Expert 3R & Circular Economy and Ex-Chief of Sustainable Consumption and Production at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) **Rapporteur:** **Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi,** United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)-DSDG/UN DESA **&** National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
17:30-18:00 (Main Auditorium / Upper Ground Floor)	**Closing Session**
	Closing Remarks - **C. R. C. Mohanty**, Environment Programme Coordinator, United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)- DSDG/UN DESA (5 mins) - **Dr. Rupa Chanda,** Director of Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) (5 mins) - Ministry of the Environment, Japan (5 mins) - **Ms. Roopa Mishra,** Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA), India (5 mins)

End of Forum

Annex 1: Side Event 1: by MOE-Japan (Day 1: March 3)

Time: 12:30-13:30 & Venue**:** Main Auditorium/ Upper ground floor

Side Event 1

Theme: Decarbonization Technologies in the Waste and Resources Sector for Realizing a Circular Economy

1. Event Overview

In Japan, postwar economic development and the concentration of population in urban areas led to a rapid increase of waste, and the deterioration of public health became a major social problem. In response, cities have been promoting incineration instead of landfill disposal for sanitary disposal and volume reduction, and each city has been introducing waste incineration facilities. Furthermore, in recent years, Japan have been promoting the formation of a Sount Material-Cycle society by recovering energy such as heat and electricity, implementing the 3Rs, and ensuring proper disposal. This has also contributed significantly to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to landfill disposal. This event will be held as a side event of the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific and will introduce the latest approaches to waste treatment and energy recovery/utilization to achieve net-zero emissions and a circular economy.

4. Outline

Theme：Decarbonization Technologies in the Waste and Resources Sector for Realizing a Circular Economy

Date：3 March 2025　12:30～13:30

Place：Rajasthan International Center, Jaipur City, Rajasthan, INDIA

Format：Hybrid

Language：English

Organizer：Ministry of the Environment, Japan

5. Pogram

Moderator: Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan

12：00 (5min)	Opening Remarks	Mr. Yasushi Katsume, Parliamentary Vice Minister, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
12：05 (7min)	Introducing JFE's Solutions for realizing a Circular Economy ~Waste Recycling Technology and CCUS~ (tbc)	JFE Engineering Corporation
12：12	Resource circulation realized by diverse waste treatment technologies	Kanadevia Corporation

(7min)	and CCUS (tbc)	
12：19 (7min)	Energy savings and CO2 emissions reduction performance of trans-heat containers (tbc)	SANKI ENGINEERING CO., LTD.
12：26 (7min)	(tbd)	NIPPON STEEL ENGINEERING CO., LTD.
12：33 (7min)	(tbd)	Eight-Japan Engineering Consultants Inc.（tbc）
12：40 (10min)	Q＆A	
12：50	Closing	

Annex 2: Side Event 2: by MOE-Japan (Day 1: March 3)

Time: 15:30-16:30 & Venue: Japan room/Lower ground floor

Side Event 2

Theme: Accelerating Circular Society: Expansion and Reproducibility of Municipal Achievements in 3R and Circular Economy

Event Overview:
This side event will explore how successful municipal governments with notable achievement in the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and circular economy practices can expand and reproduce their successes. These municipalities provide valuable insights into how innovative policies and practical initiatives can drive sustainable urban systems. By analyzing their success factors and discussing strategies for adapting and scaling these practices, the event aims to promote widespread adoption and accelerate the transition to a circular society.

Background and Rationale:
Municipal governments are key players in implementing 3R and circular economy initiatives, often achieving innovative solutions to urban challenges. Some municipalities have made significant progress in waste reduction, resource efficiency, and decarbonization. These successful models provide valuable insights into how municipalities can lead the transition to a circular society.
This event focuses on analysing such achievements, identifying the factors behind their success, and discussing how their policies, technologies, and community engagement approaches can be adapted and reproduced in other cities, ensuring scalable impact and global relevance.

Key Objectives:
1. Showcase Expansion Potential:
   Present successful municipal initiatives with proven results and scalable frameworks.
2. Promote Reproducibility:
   Explore how other municipalities can adapt and implement these practices in diverse contexts.

3. Strengthen Knowledge Transfer:
   Encourage peer-to-peer learning and collaboration among municipalities to share best practices and resources.
4. Discuss Enablers for Scaling:
   Highlight critical factors such as policies, financing, technology, and partnerships that drive success.

Expected Outcomes:
1. Increased awareness of successful municipal models and their expansion potential.
2. Practical strategies for reproducing 3R and circular economy initiatives in other cities.
3. Strengthened networks for collaboration and knowledge transfer among municipal leaders.
4. Actionable recommendations for scaling municipal successes globally.

Agenda

Opening Remarks	Parliamentary Vice Minister: Mr. Yasushi Katsume Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
Presentation 1:	Mr. Motomi Saito from Osaki Town, Japan
Presentation 2:	Eco-Town Initiative from a municipality, India
Panel Discussion:	Moderator: Dr. Kazuhiko Takemoto President of Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center Title: Scaling Local Success: Expanding and Reproducing Municipal Achievements in 3R and Circular Economy

Annex 3: India Side Event (Parallel Event): by MOHUA-India

09:45-17:15- Day 2 (4 March 2025) and Day 3 (5 March 2025)

<table>
<tr><th>Time Slot</th><th>4th Mar 2025</th><th>5th Mar 2025</th></tr>
<tr><td>09:45-11:45</td><td>Plenary session</td><td rowspan="2"><u>Side-event Session 5-</u> Case Clinic on Circular Economy
• Pecha Kucha format case presentations by a diverse range of stakeholders</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:00 to 12:45</td><td><u>Side-event Session 1</u> - India Pavilion - India Pathways to Circular Economy
- Mayor’s Voices (20 mins)
- Innovators Pitches (20 mins)
- DFI Strategies (20 mins)

Chair’s remarks by Mr B.V.R Subrahmanyan, CEO, NITI Aayog (15 mins)</td><td>Plenary session</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:45 to 15:00</td><td>Lunch Break</td><td>Lunch Break</td></tr>
<tr><td>15:00 to 15:45</td><td><u>Side-event Session 2</u> – Policy Dialogue</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>15:45 to 16:30</td><td><u>Side-event Session 3</u> – CE Financing and Industry Engagement</td><td><u>Side-event Session 6</u> – Start-ups and Innovation</td></tr>
<tr><td>16:30 to 17:15</td><td><u>Side-event Session 4</u> – Academia for Circular Economy</td><td></td></tr>
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