



UNCRD Special Session on

Advancing Science-Policy-Business Interface towards Implementation of the Jaipur Declaration (2025-2035) on 3R & Circular Economy for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient Sound Material Cycle & Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific

30 Oct 2025 (Thursday) / 11:10 am -13:00 p.m.

Room: HALL 2

Co-organized by: UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA and ISWMAW,

at

[[15th International Conference on Sustainable Waste Management (IconSWM)-Circular Economy & IPLA Global Forum 2025,

29 Oct-1 November 2025, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India]]

The Asia-Pacific is the world's most populous and dynamic region in the world. While rapid economic growth has led to higher living standards, it is also diminishing the region's resource efficiency and natural capital – shrinking forests, declining biodiversity, disappearing wetlands and water resources, among others, while resulting in growing volume and diversification waste streams such as but not limited to the municipal solid waste, industrial waste, agricultural waste, plastic waste, e-waste, and hazardous and chemical waste, among others. Given the weight of Asia Pacific's economic growth and resource consumption globally, any improvement in Asia Pacific's resource efficiency and circularity will have significant positive global impacts. At the same time, 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 the NetZero, ensuring a resilient and sustainable future for all.

The high-level 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific (3-5 March 2025, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India), which was co-organized the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA), Government of India, 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), adopted a new voluntary and legally non-binding Jaipur 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) which 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.

This special session brings together scientists and researchers from academic sector, experts from policy and business domain and civil society to accelerate implementation of the Jaipur Declaration (2025–2035) on 3R and Circular Economy across Asia and the Pacific. The meeting will focus on strengthening a practical science–policy–business interface that converts evidence into scalable action: circular product design, sustainable value chains, nature-positive recycling, resource efficiency metrics, and finance mechanisms for low-carbon circularity. The special session will identify priority interventions, partnership models, policy instruments and investment pipelines that align national and subnational plans with the Declaration’s targets. The outcome will be an actionable, time-bound set of policy and private-sector commitments and an operational roadmap for monitoring progress, knowledge sharing and capacity building across the region.

DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Date: 30 October 2025 / Time: 11:10-13:00 / Room: ??

Title: UNCRD Special Session on Advancing Science-Policy-Business Interface towards Implementation of the Jaipur Declaration (2025-2035) on 3R & Circular Economy for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient Sound Material Cycle & Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific

Total Duration: 110 minutes

Facilitator: Choudhury Rudra Charan Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA

11:15-11:20 - Opening Remarks – Mr. Upendra Tripathy, IAS (Retd.), Adjunct Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru, Former Founding Director General, International Solar Alliance, Former Secretary MNRE, Government of India (5 min)

11:20-11:35 - Keynote Address - Prof. Brajesh Dubey, Department of Civil Engineering / Chair Person of School of Water Resources, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India (15 mins)

11:35-11:55 - Background Presentation (1): JAIPUR 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 CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (20 mins)

11:55-12:05 - Background Presentation (2): - Recycling Industrial Parks in Japan - Eco-Town Project – by Dr. Michikazu Kojima, Senior Research Fellow on Environmental Issues, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA) (10 mins)

12:05 – 12:50 - Panel Discussion (45 mins)

- Dr. Alessio Miatto, Senior Research Scientist, CSIRO Environment, Canberra, Australia;
- Dr. Asit Aich, Scientist, Government of India, Ministry of Water Resources, India;

- Dr. Michikazu Kojima, Senior Research Fellow on Environmental Issues, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN (ERIA);
- Dr. Nguyen Trung Thang, Deputy Director General, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Agriculture and Environment (ISPAE)/MONRE, Viet Nam;
- Ms. Padma Gunde, Director, Anyadha, Hyderabad, India;
- Prof. Brajesh Dubey, Department of Civil Engineering / Chair Person of School of Water Resources, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India;
- Prof. Sadhan K Ghosh, Founder and President, International Society for Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW) and Chairman of 15th IconSWM-CE & IPLA Global Forum 2025;
- Ms. Nupur Tandon, Founder and CEO, Prowaste Concepts Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, India

12:50 – 12:55 – Wrap up - Choudhury Rudra Charan Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (10 mins)

12:55- 13:00 – Closing Remarks

Discussion Points:

1. *How can governments, research institutions, and the private sector strengthen the science–policy–business interface to translate scientific innovations and evidence into actionable policies and scalable circular economy business models in the region?*
2. *From a scientific perspective, what institutional or collaborative mechanisms are needed to better align scientific research agendas with policy needs and industry priorities, ensuring that science truly drives innovation and circular outcomes at scale?*
3. *What mechanisms or incentives are needed to encourage private sector investments, startups, and SMEs to adopt circular business models in line with the Goals of the Jaipur Declaration (2025-2035) and how can governments and international organizations help de-risk such investments?*

4. *How can scientific research more effectively inform national and local policy frameworks towards implementation of the Goals of the Jaipur Declaration (2025-2035)?*
5. *What emerging scientific innovations—such as bio-based materials, clean production technologies, or advanced recycling systems—show the most promise for accelerating circular economy transitions in Asia and the Pacific?*
6. *Reliable data remains a major barrier in implementing 3R and circular economy policies. How can the scientific community collaborate with governments and the private sector to develop standardized metrics, data-sharing frameworks, and monitoring systems for tracking progress of implementation of the Jaipur Declaration (2025-2035)?*