

## The 12<sup>th</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments

22-23 January 2020

Kitakyushu, Japan

### Draft Concept Note

1. **Background:** Asia is a vibrant region in global economy. The countries and cities of the region are in different stages in advancing 3R and circular economy as part of their macro-economic development policies. Countries and cities are increasingly benefitted through international information-sharing and cooperation. Intergovernmental partnerships, Regional 3R Forum and academic exchanges on environmental problem and waste management have been very useful in promoting 3R and circular in the region.

Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC) has held “National convention for environmental sanitation” since 1956 for information exchange among local governments, experts, NPO and so on. In 2006 and 2007, we organized the international symposium “Challenge by Asian region for 3R”. Since 2008, “The 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments” has been held as further developed one for information exchange and collective action, as a role of local governments is very important for promotion of 3R<sup>1</sup>. There is an important nexus between this local government-based initiative and the UNCRD-MoEJ led Regional 3R Forum in Asia-Pacific.

With this background the 12<sup>th</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments will be organized from 22-23 January 2020 in Kitakyushu city, Japan with an overall theme of “Asian and Japanese Local Governments’ Policy and Action toward Municipal Solid Waste Measure focused on Plastic Waste”. In course of the previous Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific, there is a lot of interest generated among cities and countries on developing 3R infrastructures such as eco-industrial zones, science parks, city business/industry cooperation in advancing circular economy. So, in this regard, this 12<sup>th</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments is expected to provide an important basis in support of 3R process lead by UNCRD. This capacity building exercise involving the local governments is not only a direct contribution to the objectives of the Hanoi 3R Declaration (2013-2023), but also the forthcoming 10<sup>th</sup> Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in the Russian Federation in 2020 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the underlined SDGs.

2. **Objectives:** The objective of the 12<sup>th</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments are to:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.jesc.or.jp/en/tabid/203/Default.aspx>

- discuss the current state of waste generation, composition, management (collection, sorting, recovery and recycling)
  - discuss the laws, legislations, institutional measures taken up on MSW and Plastics waste,
  - identify any focused short term/long term action plan on implementing 3R (reduce, reuse, recycling) of MSW and Plastics waste
  - identify and discuss the challenges faced in implementing sound policies and measures;
  - To what extent “circular economy in the context of minimaxing waste” is understood and pursued by cities;
  - How to enhance the role of local governments in Regional 3R Forum in Asia-Pacific.
3. **Co-Organizers:** The 12<sup>th</sup> 3R Conference for Asian Local Governments is organized by Japan Environmental Sanitation Center (JESC), co-organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, Kitakyushu City, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)-DSDG/UN DESA
  4. **Language and Documentation** All documentation material will be in English. UNCRD will disseminate all documents and presentation material of the Workshop on web link: <http://www.uncrd.or.jp/Home?page=view&nr=566&type=230&menu=214>
  5. **Participants:** Participants in the conference is by invitation only. It is expected that approximately 100 participants, including high-level government representatives from Asia-Pacific cities, City Mayors and representatives from private companies.
  6. **Contact:**  
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