

## **Highlights of Experts Workshop III**

**Event Title:** Experts Workshop III (Wastewater Treatment)

**Date:** 20 July 2021

**Co-organizers/Supporting Organizations:** Co-Organized by Ministry of the Environment, Japan and UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA.

**Number of participants:** 10

**Number of participated countries:** 5

On 30 June 2021, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA organized an Experts Workshop (online) on the thematic area of 'Wastewater Treatment' which will constitute one of the chapters of the 2nd State of 3R and Circular Economy in Asia-Pacific to be launched in 2023. The workshop, which was attended by 10 participants from five countries, including senior government officials, Experts, MoE-Japan, and Private sector and UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA, was organized under the aegis of the UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA led Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific. The objective of this workshop was to receive inputs, feedbacks, and suggestions from the experts on the scope and content of the thematic chapter on Wastewater Treatment. The First State of the 3R in Asia and the Pacific- Experts' Assessment of Progress in Ha Noi 3R Goals will be used as a baseline for preparing this second assessment report in relation to implementation of Ha Noi 3R Declaration - Sustainable 3R Goals for Asia and the Pacific (2013 - 2023). Some of the critical issues and challenges raised by experts in areas of wastewater treatment sector include challenges to reuse the treated wastewater in agricultural sector, emerging contaminants and nano-particles, water pricing and water subsidies structure, new water saving technologies such as nature-based solutions, centralized and decentralized wastewater treatment system, role of NGOs, rainwater harvesting, implementation of new business models for wastewater reuse, improvement in sanitation system and use of sewage sludge as a new resource for energy production, among others.