

Highlights of Experts Workshop IV

Event Title: Experts Workshop IV (Food Waste)

Date: 29 July 2021

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

Number of participants: 18

Number of participated countries: 7

On 29 July 2021, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA organized an Experts Workshop (online) on the thematic chapter - Food Waste - of the 2nd State of 3R and Circular Economy in Asia-Pacific. The workshop, which was attended by 18 participants from 7 countries, including senior government officials, Experts, MoE-Japan, Private sector, UNEP (France) 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 Food Waste. 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 food waste sector include reduction of food waste before recycling, food reduction target in each business sector, smart purchase of food, emerging new methods to reduce food wastes and enhance food security, optimize cost savings, among others. The participants also recommended to address the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on food waste generation. Other issues recommended include improvement in food supply chain, life-cycle assessment, food security and nutrition, and the water-energy-food nexus as a new approach to achieve food security and sustainable agriculture. The 2nd State of 3R and CE is scheduled to be launched in 2023.