

## **Highlights of Experts Workshop VII**

**Event Title:** Experts Workshop VII Healthcare and Medical waste

**Date:** 21 September 2021

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

**Number of participants:** 20

**Number of participated countries:** 5

On 21 September 2021, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA organized an Experts Workshop (online) on the thematic chapter – Healthcare and Medical waste - of the 2nd State of 3R and Circular Economy in Asia-Pacific to be launched in 2023. The workshop, which was attended by 20 participants from 5 countries, including senior government officials and experts from MoE-Japan, MONRE-Viet Nam, ISWMAW, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) of the Government of India, WHO, UNEP, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA and private sector, 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 Healthcare and Medical Waste. Some of the critical issues and challenges raised by experts are the need for harmonization of proper definition of healthcare and medical waste across the region, lack of clear institutional mechanism to deal with healthcare and medical wastes, impact of climate change and natural disasters, impact of medical tourism, illegal dumping and burning of healthcare wastes, sound business models for recycled products, lack of awareness among healthcare staffs and informal waste sector, and public-private-partnerships to expand waste management services of local government and municipal authorities, among others. The 2nd State of 3R and CE is scheduled to be launched in 2023.