ENABLING CHANGE AT LOCAL, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

Date: Thursday November 16, 13:30-14:45  
Participants: 70 participants, 41% male, 56% female, 3% n/a

Key messages resulting from the event:

Baseline data must be collected to inform national action and measure progress overtime. There are currently many data gaps that need to be addressed to enable a tailored approach to country-specific challenges. Financing needs to be allocated for baseline data collection.

National legislation is the backbone of implementation. Global policy needs to be translated into national legislation based on a common understanding and interpretation of the treaty text. For this, clear, unambiguous definitions of key terms and concepts are needed.

Implementation of global obligations at the national level requires adequate financing. Other global conventions have shown that data collection, implementation and reporting do not happen unless sufficient financial resources, technical assistance and knowledge transfer are allocated. To ensure implementation at the subnational level, national governments will have to provide appropriate financial and technical support to their cities, towns, and other subnational governments to increase their capacity for environmentally sound waste management and recycling. Governments must also invest in scientific and technical review panels.

Successful implementation of legislation needs to involve all stakeholders. Women, young people, frontline communities, waste workers, consumer groups and industry must all be included in the process to develop national action plans to accurately reflect the situation on the ground and boost ownership and implementation.

Extended Producer Responsibility can help fund reuse/refill systems and other alternative delivery models. While EPR is often known to support recycling and waste management, the raised funds can also be used to invest in and incentivize alternative delivery models.

Innovation does not have to be technological. Innovation can also be found in past practices and local and indigenous knowledge, for example, by returning to using traditional materials.

Bridging the gap between global policies and national and local actions. To bridge the gap between global policies and national and local actions, a multi-faceted approach is necessary. This includes creating awareness about the treaty's goals and benefits, providing technical assistance and capacity-building programs, and fostering partnerships between governments, non-governmental organizations, industries, and local communities. Encouraging the development of national action plans aligned with the treaty's objectives, along with robust monitoring and reporting mechanisms, ensures that global policies are translated into concrete, localized actions.
Key policy considerations for the INC process: (gaps, etc.)

- The treaty must include adequate means of implementation, including financial mechanisms, capacity building and technology transfer to ensure effective participation of all countries. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) can be an effective financing mechanism for strengthening waste management systems and incentivizing reuse/refill, recycling and improved package design. Parties should also provide appropriate financial and technical support to their cities, towns, and other subnational governments for capacity building and infrastructure investment.

- National plans should have binding targets and control measures.

- The treaty must recognize traditional and indigenous knowledge and ensure an inclusive process, including for waste pickers.

Key knowledge products and resources:

- "Clean Cities Blue Ocean" Virtual Event and Training Hub
- Case Study: Extended Producer Responsibility: A System for a Circular Economy
- Local Business Models and Scalable Best Practices for Circular Economies
- Empowering Women in the Waste Sector
- Reducing Single-Use Plastics Through Social and Behavior Change

Identified data gaps:

- Baseline data on plastic production, plastic consumption, plastic waste
Annex I: Agenda of the event with presenters and titles

INC-3 SIDE EVENT

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KEY INFORMATION:
- **Date:** Thursday November 16, 13:30-14:45
- **Location:** CR14
- **Organizers:** UN Development Programme (UNDP), USAID, Norwegian Retailers’ Environment Fund (Handelens Miljøfond), Red de Acción por los Derechos Ambientales (RADA), Pacific Environment

BACKGROUND:
As delegates discuss potential elements of a global plastics treaty, it is key to consider existing experiences on how to build a global agreement that is implementable at all levels – regional, national, and local. This event seeks to discuss best practices and lessons learned from other conventions, local governments, and civil society to provide insights on which key elements are needed and what design factors (institutional, financing, capacity and others) to consider for a global agreement to be successfully implemented at the regional, national and local levels.

AGENDA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:38 - 13:55:</td>
<td>Elevator pitch: panelists introduce their key message/s for the event – All panelists [3 min per person]</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:55 - 14:25:</td>
<td>Panel discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:25 - 14:45:</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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PANELISTS:
- **Clare Romanik**, Lead Ocean Plastics and Urban Advisor, USAID
- **Kei Ohno Woodall**, Senior Coordination Officer, Basel, Rotterdam & Stockholm Conventions
- **Xuan Quach**, Vietnam Country Director, Pacific Environment | Coordinator of Vietnam Zero Waste Alliance
- **Musonda Mumba**, Secretary General, Convention on Wetlands
- **Alejandra Parra**, Co-founder, Red de Acción por los Derechos Ambientales (RADA)
- **Aileen Lucero**, National Coordinator, EcoWaste Coalition, Philippines
Annex II: Co-organizers

- Sulan Chen, Principal Technical Advisor and Global Lead on Plastics Offer, UNDP
- Clare Romanik, Lead Ocean Plastics and Urban Advisor, USAID
- Mari Kristin Martinsen, Advisor Environment and Society, Norwegian Retailers’ Environment Fund (Handelens Miljøfond)
- Alejandra Parra, Co-founder, Red de Acción por los Derechos Ambientales
- Xuan Quach, Vietnam Country Director, Pacific Environment

Annex III (optional): Additional information any of the co-organizers may wish to share

- Photos from the event are available here.
- The presentation is available here.