

Flash report

Virtual Consultation: Mapping SCP in ASEAN Countries



Date: Wednesday 17 March 2021 | 10.30-12.30 (Bangkok Time)

Venue: Live Broadcasting from Asian Institute of Technology

Disclaimer

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Table of Contents

List of Acronyms:	3
Background:	4
Objectives of the event	4
Logistical information about the event	4
Review on Participants:	4
Summary of key messages:	5
Welcome remarks	5
Opening remarks.....	5
Background of the project.....	5
Presentation of the Draft of “Mapping of SCP progress in ASEAN” by APRSCP	6
Presentation of the initial findings from the mapping exercise by APRSCP	6
Comments from AMS and Discussion	6
Timeline for discussion by SWITCH-Asia RPAC.....	8
Concluding and Closing.....	8
Snapshots of the event	9
Annex:	10
Annex 1: The Final agenda.....	10

List of Acronyms:

AIT	Asian Institute of Technology
AMS	ASEAN Member States
APRSCP	The Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production
ASEAN	The Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CE	Circular Economy
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
EPU	Economic Planning Unit
EU	The European Union
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SL	Sustainable Lifestyle
SWITCH-Asia RPAC	SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

Background:

Mainstream circular economy principles and promote sustainable consumption and production to ASEAN nations and explore how a circular economy can increase collaborative actions and policies to support socio-economic growth and resilience can create more opportunities for wider research and development to boost ASEAN community to be high-technology and knowledge-intensive industries and at the same time move towards pollution-free and sustainable planet. In cooperation with EU and UNEP through the SWITCH-Asia Programme and Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP), ASEAN Secretariat is working on the preparation of the SCP Framework for ASEAN which aims to be a guide for collaboration and coordinated investment in efforts between interested partners in regional and national level activities with a view of strengthening synergies and bringing all networks together for greater collective impact in the region and will contribute to overall ASEAN community goals that leaves no one behind and the attainment of the SDGS, particularly SDG 12.

Objectives of the event

1. To present the draft of the document to the AMS and share comments along with Q&A for any clarifications
2. To provide feedback, discuss and/or agree on the initial findings from the Mapping exercise for the SCP Framework outline and/or content
3. To agree on the proposed activities and timeline

Logistical information about the event

The organization of the regional policy dialogue on Circular Economy was organized as a closed hybrid-event via live broadcasting from Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Review on Participants:

More than 20 participants were registered prior to the event, and more than 30 viewers joined online which was accessible through Zoom live broadcasting.

Summary of key messages:

Welcome remarks

Dr. Mushtaq Memon

Manager to the RPAC SWITCH-Asia

This visual consultation is a key step to SCP framework for Asian country. Dr. Memon highlighted on 3 objectives of this event before presenting a presentation of SDG progress in ASEAN member states. The presentation showed that progression of SDG12 has been regressing last year but now it is moving to progress. Still, challenges are happening in some industry and countries. Although COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an increasing of plastic packaging, Dr. Memon believed this is a good opportunity to recover green environment as huge investments such as EU Green Deal are coming in Asia. Also, he addressed that the 3 actions we have to focus on as a policy maker are legislative, budgetary and oversight in order to set up monitor and adopt budget for supporting workplan.

Opening remarks

HE. Igor Driesmans

EU Ambassador to ASEAN

EU is cooperating with partner countries and region around the world in order to transfer the global ambitions of SCP into actions. SWITCH-Asia program funded by EU is one tool to strengthen this collaboration and accelerate the transition of countries in Asia. Circular Economy and SCP not only support socio-economic growth and resilience. They contribute to a pollution-free and sustainable ASEAN community. Over the last 2 years, the SWITCH-Asia programme is already supporting many of our ASEAN countries preparing their National Action Plans on SCP. However, more has to be done as the uptake of more sustainable consumption and production models cannot be tackled in isolation but a response at regional level is very important.

Background of the project

Mr. Noer Adi Wardoyo

Head, Environment and Forestry Standards, Indonesia National focal point to ASEAN Cooperation on SCP

Mr. Wardoyo thanks to EU, SWITCH-Asia and UNEP for continuing partnership and support to ASEAN, as well as to ASEAN member states for the efforts on SCP. He highlighted the progress related to SCP at both regional level and national level in ASEAN, such as *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together*, and SCP action plans in the member states. He highlighted the importance of the first ASEAN SCP framework and looking forward its development.

Presentation of the Draft of “Mapping of SCP progress in ASEAN” by APRSCP

Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu

Secretariat and former president of APRSCP

“Mapping of SCP progress in ASEAN” was presented by Dr. Chiu based on the scoping document as an input to the preparation of ASEAN SCP Framework. Dr. Chiu outlined ASEAN commitment to SCP and summarized current progress of SCP in ASEAN covering national strategy and frameworks, sectoral policies and other sustainability themes. 10 countries brief outlining the strategy and policy progress on SCP has been developed as annexes of the scoping report.

Presentation of the initial findings from the mapping exercise by APRSCP

Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu

Secretariat and former president of APRSCP

Dr. Chiu outlined the priority sectors, challenges and opportunities, as well as the draft structure of the ASEAN SCP framework.

Priority sectors: From the aspect of common issues, social concerns and need analysis, 12 areas are identified as common themes on SCP in ASEAN, including SCP policy implementation, waste management and recycling and sustainable tourism. These common themes will be used as inputs to priority sectors of the ASEAN SCP Framework.

Challenges and Opportunities: In the scoping report, emphasizing common goals with different paths, leveling key priorities and sectors with ASEAN countries, lack of awareness and knowledge, and lack of data and multi-sectoral cooperation are analyzed as main challenges. Furthermore, opportunities and needs including strengthening data collection capacity and monitoring, connecting the various existing ASEAN structures and initiatives are identified.

SCP Framework: The draft structure of the ASEAN SCP framework with 4 stages covering resource use, production and consumption system, pollution prevention and control, and circularity strategy are proposed in the scoping report for ASEAN member states to discuss and comment.

Comments from AMS and Discussion

Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo

Mr. Adi want to see time frame of 3 years with corroborative pattern on a particular area of SCP, SL, CE and education that look at the plastic, paper as well as food loss. He suggested we should open the link among Asian sub-region on SCP either transportation or tourism because they may already be practicing some good things. For SCP mapping, its objective should increase capacity among Asian member states and gather a pull of experts and knowledge management resources on SCP projects for good practice and resources. The rapprochement of how this framework can help transferring policy into action is should be taking into consider as well. Also, it would be very helpful to develop mutual and national action plan and training to share knowledge.

Mr. Daryl

Singapore Delegation

Mr. Daryl supported Mr. Adi suggestion that in order to avoid duplication, ASEAN secretariat can help us looking into how SCP can be applied to other workstream within Asian itself. He agreed on timeline that all common benefit can be shared among countries that the framework would offer. He emphasized that as there is diversity in the AMS, this is an important opportunity to build network along with the policy framework.

Dr. Vong Sok

Assistant Director for Sustainable Development Directorate / Head of Environment Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Dr. Vong Sok highlighted that this is the time for us to figure out how best we can advance SCP in our region. We are not only looking on existing policy and the gap, but also try to identify the governor institutional structure where it has been established and see how we can coordinate and advance accelerate SCP. Although there are still some challenges, this is a good opportunity for further study. He said we can choose whether we want comprehensive study or low-hanging fruit as suggested by Mr. Adi and shorten framework time from 10 years to 3 years with priorities or focus on specifically our framework with networking and information sharing. This will create engagement in region for SCP activities. As every country are facing different challenges and constraint and information may not fully capture, Dr. Sok suggested we start our action from low-hanging fruit such as engaging sectors to take part in exercise. Lastly, he said the framework needs to consider something more realistic and simple kick-off activity before advancing it step-by-step.

Ms. Zuraini

Malaysia Delegation

Ms. Zuraini emphasized that education, communication and public awareness are one of the key activities that can raise awareness for Asian to reach the implementation and uptake of SCP. She shared an inside information that EPU is the lead who can trap SCP implement in Malaysia. She also suggested that the input/output table in presentation is too complicate. It would easier to understand if the table is able to be simplified.

Dr. Chaiyod

Member of the Board of Trustees, APRSCP

Dr. Chaiyod addressed that the team has designed some matrix to help us see which status we are in so we can identify the process of our action in SCP mapping. When there is discussion on what will be the mapping result, it will be identified as ASEAN theme. Although we are discussing about policy today, we also have to look at stakeholder to work with SCP itself. Dr. Chaiyod appreciated the comment to start the first step with low-hanging fruit. Furthermore, he suggested everyone to enhance their communication broader into region level and start something to break ASEAN boundary.

Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu

Dr. Anthony believed we could find engaging and priority area which have multiply effect. He suggested that they would be more efficient and effective in promoting SCP in terms of education, awareness, connectivity to the other of ASEAN.

Timeline for discussion by SWITCH-Asia RPAC

Ms. Tunnie Srisakulchairak

Programme Management Officer, SWITCH-Asia RPAC

The timeline for discussion from SWITCH-Asia will be as below table.

17-24 March	Receive comment and feedback from participants
1st week of April	- Finalize and submit the final version of the mapping to the ASEAN Secretariat - Finalize the framework based on comments, suggestions and guidance from member states
May	Conduct the consultation to look at and finalize the complete framework
June	Complete SCP framework for launching to ASEAN

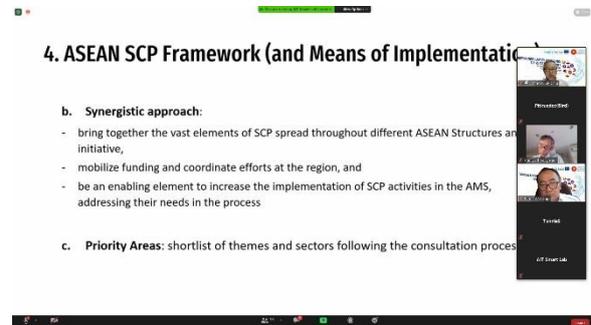
Concluding and Closing

Dr. Vong Sok

Assistant Director for Sustainable Development Directorate / Head of Environment Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Dr. Sok thank you all AMS for being strategies partners that always support each other not only in political aspect, but also in environmental sector which is one of the key priorities that EU highlighted in the Green Deal. He provided strategic advices on the ASEAN SCP framework, and addressed that it is important to promote communication, public awareness, community practice and other actions in the region through SCP framework, which is the way to mobilize sectors and actors to take part in ASEAN's SCP solutions. He said, "ASEAN looks forward to working together the EU and relevant partners to develop and implement a comprehensive ASEAN SCP Framework, starting with the high-yield opportunities."

Snapshots of the event



Annex:

Annex 1: The Final agenda

Time (IST)	Theme
1030-1035	Welcome Remarks Dr. Mushtaq Memon Manager to the RPAC SWITCH-Asia
1035-1040	Opening remarks HE. Igor Driesmans EU Ambassador to ASEAN
1040-1045	Background of the project Mr. Noer Adi Wardojo Head, Environment and Forestry Standards, Indonesia National focal point to ASEAN Cooperation on SCP
1045-1105	Presentation of the Draft of “Mapping of SCP progress in ASEAN” by APRSCP Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu Secretariat and former president of APRSCP
1105-1115	Q&A
1115-1145	Presentation of the initial findings from the mapping exercise by APRSCP Dr. Anthony Shun Fung Chiu
1145-1215	Comments from AMS and Discussion
1215-1225	Timeline for discussion by SWITCH-Asia RPAC Ms. Tunnie Srisakulchairak Programme Management Officer, SWITCH-Asia RPAC
1225-1230	Concluding and Closing Dr. Vong Sok Assistant Director for Sustainable Development Directorate / Head of Environment Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Moderated by Ms Tunnie Srisakulchairak, UNEP officer for the SWITCH-Asia RPAC.

For more information

SWITCH-Asia event page:

URL: <https://www.switch-asia.eu/event/virtual-consultation-mapping-scp-in-asean-countries/>

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