

Training: Responsible Business Practices, Human Rights and Plastic Pollution

Monday December 1, 2020, Webinar (WebEx)

Event website and registration

<https://www.sea-circular.org/events/training-on-responsible-business-practices-human-rights-and-plastic-pollution/>

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) are hosting a training on responsible business practices that align with, respect and promote the human right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. The training is part of project activities under the SEA circular initiative, implemented jointly by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and COBSEA in South-East Asia. SEA circular aims to inspire market-based solutions and promote evidence-based planning to prevent marine plastic pollution. The project promotes a human rights-based approach to identify people-centred and equitable solutions that address the needs, rights and interests of all groups of society, including consumers, informal waste workers, children and youth and coastal communities most vulnerable to the impacts of marine litter.

Workshop objectives

The training webinar aims to increase awareness and understanding of responsible business practices and environmental rights to promote a human rights-based approach to reducing plastic leakage and pollution. The webinar provides an opportunity to learn, share good practices, and discuss business needs and strategies for a greener and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This initial training will build the foundation for a better understanding of environmental rights and will identify the need and interest for further targeted training.

Learning objectives include:

1. Learning: **Understanding environmental rights** in relation to responsible business conduct
2. Sharing: **Replicating actions** proven to work by others **and sharing guidance for businesses**
3. Practicing: **Exercises to apply** what we have learned
4. Motivating: **Discussing practical steps** to implement responsible business practices and motivate fellow industry players

Participants

The training is aimed at businesses, producers, retailers, and associations in the packaging, consumer, tourism and institutional products industry operating in South-East and East Asia. The target group includes, in particular, businesses that have participated in the plastic footprint reporting training under SEA circular and/or are developing or implementing plastic (waste) reduction strategies. SEA circular requests implementing partners to join this event and highly recommends potential or current collaborative business partners of SEA circular to participate.

Proposed agenda:

Topic
Welcome and introduction to the training
What are environmental rights? How is a human rights-based approach relevant for businesses and tackling plastic pollution? <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction to issues, concepts and existing guidance- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights- Due diligence framework- Q&A
Sharing good practices and replicating action <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentations of responsible business initiatives in the region (and beyond)- Discussion of challenges and experiences
Practical exercise: applying a HRBA to business strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Steps toward building a responsible business strategy- Practical exercise in breakout groups
Next steps toward responsible business practices <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What do businesses need?- Discussion of needs and interest for follow-up training and sharing access to additional resources

Logistics

The training is planned as a 3-hour online event due to COVID-19 restrictions. Information on how to connect will be shared with confirmed participants in due course.

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For more information and to participate, please contact:

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