

# ASEAN-Japan Cooperation Action Agenda on Plastic Pollution

---

Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

At the occasion of ASEAN-Japan Cooperation Symposium

**Reo Kawamura**

Director for Environmental Policy and Director for Regional  
Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (RKC-MPD)

Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

[reo.kawamura@eria.org](mailto:reo.kawamura@eria.org)

# ASEAN-Japan Action Agenda on Plastic Pollution and ERIA's roles

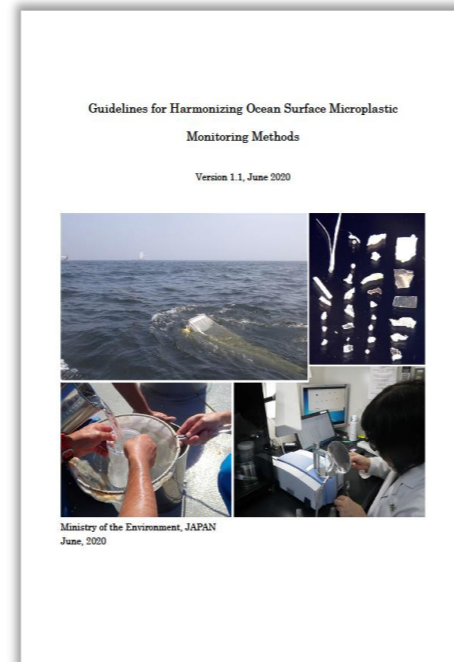
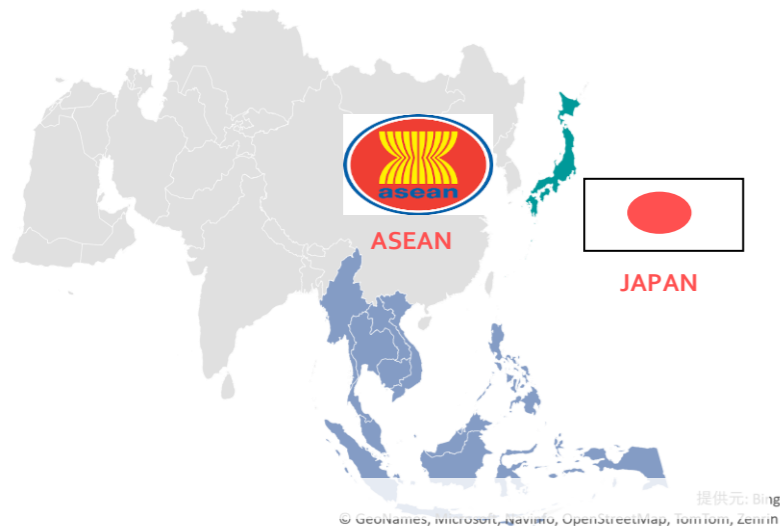


## Overarching Objectives and Scope

- Promoting a full-life-cycle approach and science-based approach for marine plastic measures.
- Supporting effective, progressive and concrete actions at all levels and stakeholders.
- To contribute to a development of international legally binding instrument and its implementation.

## Expected Outcomes

- 1) Support formulation and implementation of national action plans.
- 2) Promote consolidation and assessment of scientific knowledge.
- 3) Raise awareness: an inclusive discussion with relevant stakeholders.
- 4) Enhance knowledge sharing and capacity development through the **Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris of ERIA (RKC-MPD ERIA)**



Promoting measures throughout the full-life-cycle of plastics, including plastic pollution not just in the marine environment but more widely in the whole environment.

1. Support the development of NAP and their implementation

- Support for the formulation and implementation of action plans covering the full-life-cycle, which includes waste management
- Sharing of different measures and experiences
- Osaka Blue Ocean Vision (OBOV) and G20 Report on Actions against Marine Plastic Litter

2. Consolidate Scientific Knowledge

- Dissemination, utilization and database development of the plastic monitoring guidelines
- Development of inventory estimation method and trial calculation
- Knowledge sharing on the assessment of ecological impacts
- Training programs to share scientific knowledge

3. Raise awareness on plastic pollution

- Workshops and events in collaboration with different stakeholders such as local governments, civil society, and the private sector

**OBOV and G20 Report on Actions against Marine Plastic Litter**

**ERIA:  
Sharing policy measures of the central and local governments, as well as best practices of civil society and private sector efforts**

# (1) NAP Development and Implementation Support

Many organizations are supporting ASEAN as a region, or the AMS for their formulation and implementation of national action plans, including waste management, and share its experience

## Regional progress

- The World Bank → ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the AMS (2021 – 2025).

## Country-level progress

- Japan-ASEAN integration fund (JAIF) and IGES → Support to ASEAN countries, including Cambodia and Myanmar to develop NAP (Phase 1 & 2 projects).
- Many ASEAN+3 countries have reported their progress in the G20 report, including NAP development (see image below).

## Local Government involvement

- UNESCAP’s “Closing the Loop”  
→ Addresses plastic waste leakages from cities to the marine environment.

## Role of the ERIA’s RKC-MPD

- Supports ASEAN to make an input in the INC process to ensure its relevance to the region.
- Provides support for the EPR schemes as their plastic waste management scheme.



(Final version expected later this year – please submit if you haven’t done so)



<https://g20mpl.org/>

## (2) Scientific Knowledge promotion

Many scientific findings and initiatives in the scientific field have been developed for the benefit of the ASEAN countries.

### Global findings

- G20 Report on Actions Against Marine Litter is that many countries are struggling to collect reliable and comparable data.

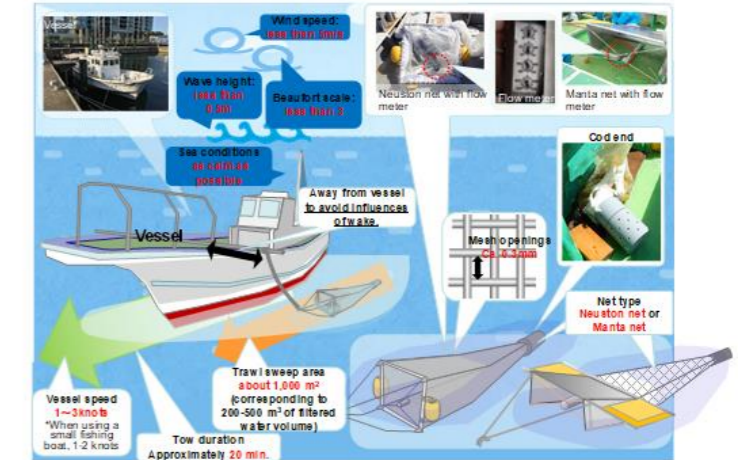
### Efforts by the MOEJ

- The Guidelines for **Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods** were developed in 2019, and revised in 2020.
- Currently, a **database and mapping system** development is underway to organize, store and share the collected microplastic data in line with the guidelines.
- To enhance efficiency and coverage, the new monitoring guidelines for **remote sensing technologies** has been discussed with the international experts.

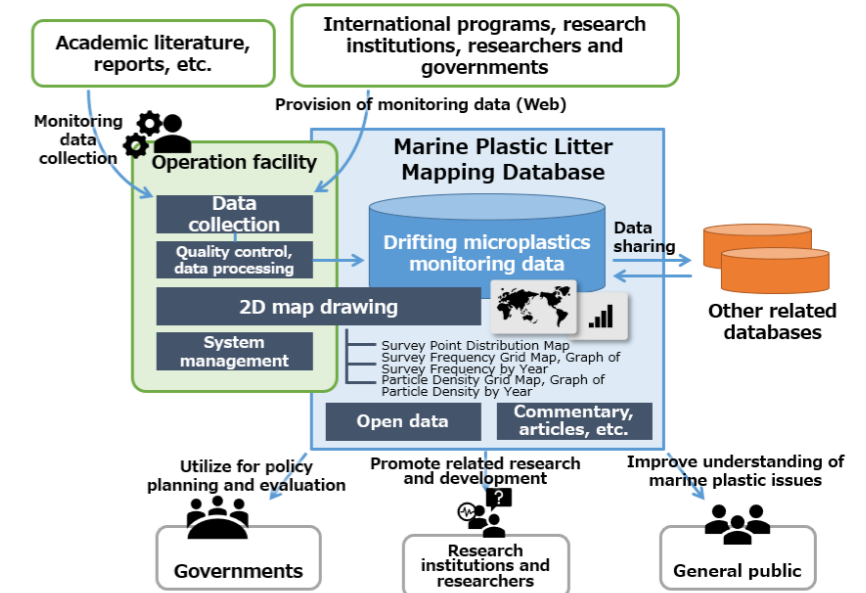
### Efforts by ERIA's RKC-MPD

- Scientific network with IGES, OECD, AIT, NIVA, JANUS, COBSEA, UNEP, TEI, INOS, etc.
- ➔ Establishment of the Experts Working Group on MPD, plastic value chain study and gap analysis, MPD expertise mapping and database development, plastic leakage study, monitoring indicator development, and pilot project for mangrove protection.

### Guidelines for Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods



### Database functions



# (3) Awareness raising and stakeholder engagement

## ERIA's RKC-MPD

- Various awareness raising activities, especially aiming youth (Interview articles, Podcast, joint activities).
- Active engagement and collaboration with regional and global stakeholders including the private sector, international organizations, research institutes, universities etc.
- Further participation and involvement with international forums are expected for 2023 and beyond.



Private Sector Discussion - Viet Nam April 2022



GIZ 3RProMar Regional Workshop May 2023



4th Experts Working Group Meeting May 2023



Cooperation Webinar with the Mission of the Republic of Korea to ASEAN - June 2022

# (4) Knowledge sharing and capacity development

## ERIA's RKC-MPD

- For the benefits of the ASEAN+3 region: Many research projects, trainings and capacity building programs in the field of marine plastic monitoring, mangrove habitat conversation, plastic leakage from factory and informal sector.



RKC-MPD ERIA Recognized as Key Regional Initiative in ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combatting Marine Debris

28 May 2022 - The ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combatting Marine Debris (ARMPD) was adopted in a virtual meeting. ERIA is recognized as a key regional initiative for combatting marine debris in ASEAN Region, under the leadership of the Republic of Korea. The plan was developed through the RKC-MPD and other regional organizations.

The meeting was held on 28 May 2022. The meeting was held in a virtual meeting. The meeting was held in a virtual meeting. The meeting was held in a virtual meeting.

Recognition

Scientific publications



Regional Knowledge Centre  
for Marine Plastic Debris



Regional Knowledge Centre  
for Marine Plastic Debris



[www.rkcmpd-eria.org](http://www.rkcmpd-eria.org)



[bit.ly/In-RKC-MPD](https://bit.ly/In-RKC-MPD)



[@rkcmpd\\_eria](https://www.instagram.com/rkcmpd_eria)



[@rkcmpd\\_eria](https://www.twitter.com/rkcmpd_eria)



[facebook.com/rkcmpd.eria](https://facebook.com/rkcmpd.eria)



[rkcmpd-eria.org/contactus](mailto:rkcmpd-eria.org/contactus)

ERIA Annex Office

Sentral Senayan II 15th floor Jalan Asia Afrika No.8  
Gelora Bung Karno, Senayan, Jakarta Pusat 10270,  
Indonesia

Tel: (62-21) 57974460 | Fax: (62-21) 57974463