

Ocean Plastic Turned into an Opportunity in Circular Economy OPTOCE

Inception meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam,
4th October 2019 - 12.00-16.30

Venue: The Myst Dong Khoi Hotel, Galaxy meeting room
4-6-8 Ho Huan Nghiep, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

Time	Activity	Presenter
12.00-13.00	Simple food, refreshments and registration	
13.00-13.05	Welcome	Ms. Anneli Alatalo Paulsen, Research Scientist, SINTEF, Norway
13.05-13.15	Opening remarks	Her Excellency Grete Løchen, Ambassador Norwegian Embassy, Hanoi.
13.15-13.45	Introduction to the OPTOCE project	Dr. Kåre Helge Karstensen, Chief scientist and Programme manager, SINTEF, Norway.
13.45-14.00	Overview on plastic waste management in Viet Nam	Mr. Nguyen Thanh Lam, Waste Management Department, Vietnam Environment Administration, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Hanoi.
14.00 -14.15	Paper production from recycled paper and plastic waste generation	Ms. Cao Le Phuong Thanh, Foreign Affair Manager, Lee & Man, Can Tho/Hau Giang Province.
14.15-14.30	Co-processing of Alternative fuels and Raw materials at Hon Chong	Mr. Bruno Fux, Director INSEE Ecocycle
14.30-14.45	Q&A / Discussion	All
14.45-15.00	Coffee/Tea	
15.00-15.15	Plastic waste management in 5 Vietnamese cities – plans for collaboration with OPTOCE	Mr. Dao Xuan Lai, United Nations Development Programme, Hanoi.
15.15-15.30	Sustainable cement production and plastic recycling – plans to collaborate with OPTOCE	Ms. Le Thanh Thao, Country Representative, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Hanoi.
15.30-15.45	Activities on plastic waste in Vietnam	Ms. Bui Thi Thu Hien, Marine and Coastal Resources Programme Coordinator, International Union for Conservation of Nature
15.45-16.00	Q&A / Discussion	All
16.00-16.15	Comments from DONRE's	DONREs
16.15-16.30	Summary and way forward	Dr Kåre Helge Karstensen

Rationale of the project "Ocean Plastic Turned into an Opportunity in Circular Economy – OPTOCE"

Out of 6.3-Billion-ton plastic waste generated up to 2015, only around 9% has been recycled, 12% incinerated while 79% has been "dumped". If continued, 12-Billion-ton plastic waste will be mismanaged by 2050 (Geyer, Jambeck, Law Sci. Adv. 2017;3: e1700782 19 July 2017).

OPTOCE is a regional project in five countries; China, India, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. These countries have 3 billion people, with almost 1 billion living close to waterways, and produce 176 000-ton Plastic waste per day, or 64 million ton per year. They have insufficient waste treatment capacity, but a huge resource and energy intensive industry, like cement manufacturing, iron- and steel production and electricity generation, using enormous amounts of coal and emitting more than 30% of world CO₂. If some of this coal can be replaced by non-recyclable Plastic waste, this will constitute a win-win solution – contribute to solve a plastic menace and reducing the emission of green-house-gases.

The Norwegian Government funded project aims to showcase that the involvement of Energy Intensive Industries, like cement manufacturing, can increase the treatment capacity for non-recyclable Plastic Wastes significantly, and contribute to reduce the release of microplastics to the Sea.

Lessons learned from the Pilot demonstrations will be shared through a regional multi-stakeholder forum enabling awareness raising, south-south capacity building and replication across the continent.



Mismanaged plastic wastes damages nature and undermine our future food supply from the Oceans – bold actions are needed!