

**WORKSHOP ON ADDRESSING PLASTIC POLLUTION
THROUGH INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY
ONLINE: 9-24 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Jointly sponsored by the
SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME
and the
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
under the
**SINGAPORE – UNITED STATES
THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME**
to be conducted by the
SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE
and the
**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION AGENCY**

Singapore Cooperation Programme

Singapore has provided technical assistance to other developing countries since the 1960s. As a country whose only resource is its people, Singapore believes that human resource development is vital for economic and social progress. Singapore itself has benefited from training provided by other countries and international organisations.

In 1992, the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) was established to bring together under one framework the various technical assistance programmes offered by Singapore. Through the SCP, the range and number of training programmes were increased to share Singapore's development experience with other developing countries.

To date, over 132,000 officials from more than 180 countries and territories have participated in our courses and study visits. The SCP is managed by the Technical Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

United States Department of State

The United States has a long history of providing technical assistance in Southeast Asia. We believe our partnership with Singapore, through the Third Country Training Programme, will enable us to further strengthen our cooperation for the benefit of the Asia-Pacific Region and build on our long-term engagement with ASEAN. Our goal is to help countries build capacity and develop sustainable systems.

In collaboration with Singapore and the recipient countries, we will work toward these common goals. By sharing best practices, we can strengthen local governmental institutions, especially the public administration and the civil service of countries.

The Third Country Training Programme, while managed by the U.S. Department of State, is a whole-of-government effort working with relevant experts in the field to strengthen ASEAN integration.

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of State

leads diplomatic efforts across the full range of international cyber policy issues that impact U.S. foreign policy, national security, human rights, and economic imperatives, and spearheads related U.S. engagements and initiatives with foreign governments in bilateral and multilateral fora.

Singapore-United States Third Country Training Programme

Established in February 2012, the Singapore-United States Third Country Training Programme (TCTP) is a partnership between the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the US Department of State to jointly conduct capacity building courses for Southeast Asian countries, in particular those in the Lower Mekong region. The TCTP supports ASEAN community-building efforts by enhancing connectivity, promoting sustainable development, and strengthening regional resilience. Singapore and the US draw on complementary expertise and experience to develop innovative capacity building programmes that meet the priority needs of ASEAN member countries.

Singapore Environment Institute

The Singapore Environment Institute (SEI) is the training and knowledge management division of the National Environment Agency (NEA). It is responsible for delivering in-house training to build an agile, resourceful and resilient NEA workforce. SEI also oversees NEA's knowledge management initiatives and records management practices. SEI works with institutes of higher learning to develop training programmes for local environmental services industry. The Institute also conducts capacity building workshops catering to selected foreign government officials.

U.S. Department of State

The U.S.-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP) is a State Department initiative that funds over 20 city level projects to address urban challenges within ASEAN countries. It takes a whole of government approach involving more than 16 U.S. government agencies, stakeholders and Dialogue Partners with the aim to share knowledge and smart tools, cultivate business partnerships and improve the delivery of essential urban services for sustainable quality of life in ASEAN cities. The

Partnership is funding numerous projects addressing water management, urban mobility, integrated urban services, resource recovery and reuse, cybersecurity education, renewable energy integration and modelling as well as academic research involving socio-economic mobility in the Gig economy, AI and traffic simulation, micro-climate data analysis among others. USASCP is partnering with the US Environment Protection Agency (EPA) to showcase new tools and opportunities to address plastic debris and waste management involving a circular economic approach and private sector engagement. USASCP will also share case studies from Clean Cities, Blue Ocean, USAID's flagship program for combating ocean plastic pollution that works with 22 cities and towns in seven countries to strengthen and encourage investments in solid waste management systems and change behaviors around the 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle).

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA works with U.S. government agency partners, foreign nations, industry and non-governmental organizations to ensure that international decisions and management of marine pollution issues support EPA's mission: To protect human health and to safeguard the natural environment - air, water and land - upon which life depends. EPA has wide expertise in environmental health science, public engagement, and regulatory policymaking. In this course, EPA seeks to share effective management practices, policies and programs that can reduce the overall volume of trash generated or prevent trash from entering the aquatic environment.

Course Objectives

The course aims to provide participants with an opportunity to learn about ASEAN's plastic pollution challenges and the importance of promoting integrated solid waste management strategies for creating sustainable local and regional solutions. The issue of plastic pollution caused by inadequate waste collection, storm water discharges, and extreme natural events in cities of varying populations will be addressed in the context of policy, planning, practice, and innovation to advance a circular and sustainable

materials management approach to optimize resource efficiency, recovery and reuse for socio-economic and ecological benefits.

Course Outline

The course will encompass:

- Understanding of circular economy and its linkages and impact on the ASEAN Blue Economy;
- Circular economy approaches and linkages of global, regional, and national policies;
- Experiences, tools, best practices and case studies and practical examples of waste management practices at the city, national and regional scale; and
- Industry practices, innovation and financial/business models for resource recovery and reuse of solid waste and marine plastics.

Methodology

This course will be delivered by e-Learning for up to **31 participants**.

It will be conducted in a lecture and panel discussion style by experienced trainers, academics and/or policy makers in relevant topics, with opportunities for group discussions, sharing sessions, case studies and/or evaluation sessions.

COURSE DURATION / VENUE

The course will be conducted via e-Learning between **9-24 September from 9:00 – 11:00am (GMT +8)**.

Sessions	Singapore – 9:00-11:00am [SGT]
Day 1	Sept. 10
Day 2	Sept. 15
Day 3	Sept. 17
Day 4	Sept 22
Day 5	Sept 24

Invited Countries

Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Timor-Leste.

Application Information

The ideal applicants should be:

- Mid-to-senior level government officials from cities, sub-national and national governments who work in the ministries of natural resources and environment, urban development, economy and finance, waste management, research and innovation, and other related industries;
- Able to attend all the synchronous e-learning sessions. They will require an internet-enabled device with Zoom/Cisco Webex/Microsoft Teams installed, and an internet-enabled device with functioning webcam, microphone and audio;
- Prepared to participate actively in the programme;
- Prepared for “live” sessions to be recorded and shared with other course participants;
- Nominated by their Government;
- Proficient in written and spoken English; and
- In good health.

Terms Of Award

This course is sponsored by the Government of Singapore and the Government of the United States of America (U.S.) under the Singapore-U.S. TCTP.

Under this TCTP, the Governments of Singapore and the U.S. will bear the course fees for successful applicants, thereafter known as “participants”.

Regulations

Participants are required to comply with the following:

- To strictly observe course schedules and not to change training subjects or miss training sessions;
- To carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by the nominating Government or the Governments of Singapore and the U.S. with respect to the course.

Application Procedure

(Closing date for nomination: **6 August 2021**)

The Governments of Singapore and the United States are pleased to invite the respective National Focal Points for Technical Assistance to nominate up to **three (3)** suitable candidates for consideration.

Selection of candidates for the limited number of training awards will be based on merit. The Governments of Singapore and the US seek the understanding of the respective National Focal Points for Technical Assistance in the event that their nominee is not selected.

All nominations are to be submitted **through online at <https://go.gov.sg/marinelitter21> by 6 August 2021**. All application forms must also be **endorsed**

by the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Focal Point for Technical Assistance.

Note:

- Participants who complete all course assignments and attend at least 66% of 'live' e-learning sessions, will receive a certificate of completion from the SCP.
- All applications should be completed in full. Incomplete application forms or forms which are not endorsed will not be considered. Please contact Camille_Ng@mfa.gov.sg or Odelia_oh@mfa.gov.sg if you encounter technical issues during application.
- Applicants should refrain from making telephone and email inquiries on the status of their applications.
- The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore** will inform all applicants of the outcome of their applications. The National Focal Point will also be informed directly or through Singapore's diplomatic representations in the nominating country.

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