

SESSION 2.3: International trade and environment

DATE/ TIME: Tuesday 19 November 2019 at 15.00-16.15 hrs (75 minutes)

PANELISTS:

1. Ms. Aileen Lucero, National Coordinator of the EcoWaste Coalition, Philippines
2. Ms Penchom Saetang, Director, Ecological Alert and Recovery Thailand
3. Mr Gharat Nagara, Auriga, Indonesia

MODERATOR: Ms. Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida, United National Environment Programme (UNEP)

CONCEPT NOTE

Trade can have both positive and negative effects on the environment. An expansion of international trade can have direct impact on the environment by increasing pollution or degrading natural resources.

However, increased trade can in turn, by supporting economic growth, development, and social welfare, contribute to a greater capacity to manage the environment more effectively. More importantly, open markets can improve access to new technologies that make local production processes more efficient by diminishing the use of inputs such as energy, water, and other environmentally harmful substances.

The inclusion of environmental provisions in bilateral and regional trade agreements can help harmonise environmental regulations between developed and developing countries. More advanced economies can provide resources and institutions for capacity building and can encourage less-developed partners to strengthen environmental regulations.

Efforts have been made in ASEAN Region to balance trade growth and environmental health protection [e.g. through management of proper waste disposal] and address environmental crisis, especially transboundary haze pollution and import/ export of wastes under trade agreements.

However, some ASEAN countries experience negative impacts of international trade on environment and face a challenge on how to make use of trade agreements to protect environment and strengthen environmental regulations.

This Session will cover the current trade and environmental issues in ASEAN region and how ASEAN countries can address these issues as to protect health in a sustainable manner.

Panelist:

Ms. Aileen Lucero

National Coordinator of the EcoWaste Coalition, Philippines



Ms. Lucero is an environmental activist for 10 years. Her passion for the environment and clean air brought her to advocate and help communities manage and transform human behaviour into zero waste practices. Her training, experience and global involvement in waste and chemical safety made a mark because of her dedicated commitment in sharing this to schools and universities, LGUs and government agencies and to the grassroot communities. A trainer and educator, policy developer and lobbyist, full time campaigner and a community organizer. Ms. Lucero serves as member to various Technical Working Group in the House of Representative and validator for environmental compliance (ECA) of the DILG, DENR and the Office of the Ombudsman for monitoring compliance to RA 9003. She sits as an alternative CSO representative to the National Solid Waste Commission and a member of the validation team of the Environmental Compliance Audit of the DILG. Moreover, she has been instrumental in the return of the South Korean garbage in Cagayan de Oro last February and the Canadian waste last June 2019. Currently, she serves as the National Coordinator of EcoWaste Coalition, a non-stock public interest group non-government organization promoting zero waste, climate and environmental justice.

Ms. Penchom Saetang

Director, Ecological Alert and Recovery Thailand



Penchom Saetang

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Ecological Alert and Recovery –Thailand (EARTH) is a non-profit foundation, focusing on industrial pollution and chemical safety issues. Main activities include environmental monitoring training, community empowerment, law & policy advocacy, and researches. EARTH is a country member of IPEN.

Work experiences

- Founding Committee of Ecological Alert and Recovery –Thailand (EARTH)
- Founding Committee of Enlawthai Foundation
- Project manager, Citizen Science in Protecting Environment and Health (2018-2019), funded by Thai Health Promotion Foundation
- Project manager Thailand, Increasing Transparency in Industrial Pollution Management through Citizen Science Project, in cooperation with Arnika Association, Czech Republic, (2015-2018), funded by EU Aid Program
- Project manager, Lead poisoning prevention project: driving towards lead paint elimination in Thailand (2013-2014), supported by Thai Health Promotion Foundation
- Country partner of IPEN’s Lead Paint Elimination Project between 2012-2015, supported by European Union
- Lead Action Week activities between 2012-2017
- Project manager of the PRTR Law Research and Development Project, (2011 to 2015), at the Thai Health Promotion Fund
- Advisory Board of the Council of Work and Environment Related Patient Network of Thailand (WEPT) (2004 to present)
- Member of the National Coordinating Subcommittee on Policy and Planning for Chemical Safety of the National Coordinating Committee on Chemical Safety, Ministry of Public Health (2002 to 2017)

Moderator:

Ms. Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida

United National Environment Programme (UNEP)



Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida is the Regional Coordinator for Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality, UN Environment Programme. Her current portfolios cover issues such as air pollution, heavy metals such as mercury, plastics, asbestos, and environment and health. She is an Environment Programme Specialist with experience stretching over 25 years. Her mission is to promote Pollution Free Asia and the Pacific. Kakuko has designed and facilitated over 150 multi-stakeholder consultations, planning exercises, and trainings over 40 countries. Until September 2015, she was with the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Previously, Kakuko was in Latin America and the Caribbean with assignments concerning integrated environmental assessment and geospatial and statistical analysis. Prior to that, she was with the WWF in UK and the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya Association (WCK). She holds BSc in Zoology/ Wildlife Conservation from Fort Valley State College, USA, and MSc in Environmental Management from University of Stirling, UK.