

# 6<sup>th</sup> GEF Assembly High Level Roundtable 7 - Marine Plastics



Second Floor, Phong Nha Room, Ariyana Conference Center,  
Furama Resort, Da Nang City – 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 (16:00 - 17:30)

## Overview

We are witnessing a crisis in the making. What looked like a marginal, local and esthetic disturbance is now recognized as a global challenge that is probing the adaptiveness of a whole industry, challenging entrenched consumer behaviors and alerting governments to take leadership into new territory marine plastics.

This call to action is spurred by relatively new recognition that at least 8 million tons of plastic end up in our oceans every year, the equivalent of one garbage truck full of plastic dumped into the ocean each minute. Plastic makes up 80% of all marine debris from surface waters to deep-sea sediments and has been detected on shorelines of all the continents with more plastic materials found near popular tourist destinations and densely populated areas.

Confronting this challenge requires addressing the entire plastic value cycle - material engineering, product and process design, consumer use and behavior, and collection systems and recycling.

This circular economy approaches to marine plastics not only reduces marine debris; it also reduces greenhouse gas emissions through reduced fossil fuel extraction, reduces hazardous chemical emissions through both improved end-of-life practices to capture and properly dispose of these substances, reduces hazardous chemical emissions through redesigned materials and products, and creates new livelihoods and economic opportunities with positive side effects of improved solid waste management and public health. Addressing marine plastics, therefore, enables nations to achieve priorities under the UNFCCC, SAICM, Stockholm Convention and CBD.

## Agenda:

15:30-16:00	<i>Participants arrive to Conference Center</i>
16:00-16:05	<i>Introduce participants</i>
16:05-16:10	<i>Martin Stuchtey, CEO, open the session</i>
16:10-16:25	<i>Erik Solheim, ED UN Environment and co-chair PACE scope of the challenge, the timeline for change, UNE's agenda</i>
16:25-16:28	<i>LuhutPandjaitan, Coordinating Minister of Maritime Affairs, Indonesia</i>
16:28-16:31	<i>AtleHamar, State Secretary of the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment</i>
16:31-16:35	<i>Thi Ta Dinh, Director General, Viet Nam Administration of Sea and Islands, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Viet Nam</i>
16:35-16:40	<i>Dini Trisyanti, Founder &amp; Director, Sustainable Waste Indonesia</i>
16:40-16:45	<i>Victoria Kwakwa, East Asia Pacific, Regional Vice President, World Bank</i>

16:45-16:50	<i>Susan Ruffo, Managing Director, International Initiatives, Ocean Conservancy</i>
16:50-16:55	<i>Martin Stuchtey, will recap the key principles for addressing marine plastics</i>
16:55-17:25	<i>Martin Stuchtey, solicit input from audience members regarding these key principles (Audience engagement)</i>
17:25-17:30	<i>Martin Stuchtey, Closing remarks</i>

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## Outputs

The presentations and discussion will raise appreciation among participants regarding:

- The multiple GEBs of addressing marine plastics – GHG emissions, chemical pollution, marine biodiversity impacts
- The importance of a holistic, lifecycle approach to addressing marine plastics (more than a plastic bag ban and more garbage trucks)
- The various roles of each sector (government, businesses, NGOs, investors), particularly the benefits of private-public partnerships and how they can work
- Initiatives underway, including the Global Plastic Action Partnership put forward by the World Economic Forum, World Resources Institute, UN Friends of the Ocean, and other key global players
- Interest and commitment of the GEF to address marine plastics – linkages to GEBs, lifecycle/circular economy approach, PPPs and working at national to regional to global scales (i.e. previous bullet points)

Relatedly, the discussion will provide an opportunity for feedback from, and discussion among, participants, particularly the governments, regarding:

- To what extent the ideas and perspectives shared reflect what the participant's needs (how do we reframe to ensure they do?)
- Obstacles they are facing and how the GEF and others can work with them to address these issues.