Tackling Marine Debris Across Southeast Asia
Thailand and the ASEAN on the move: -
Striving against Marine Debris Issues

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The root-cause of marine debris problem
About 80% of marine plastic debris comes from land-based sources. It was discharged into the ocean through about 10 main rivers, which are mostly located in Asia.

If we reduce the discharged plastic debris about 50% from these rivers, the ocean’s plastic waste will be reduced up to 37%. 

Jembech et. al. (2015)
Marine Debris is a transboundary issue

Other countries label/brand
ASEAN ACTION

ASEAN Conference on Reducing Marine Debris in ASEAN Region
Phuket, Thailand, 22-23 November 2017
Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris
Bangkok, Thailand, 5 March 2019
Outcome documents

1. The Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region

2. The ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris
   (i) Policy Support and Planning
   (ii) Research, Innovation, and Capacity Building
   (iii) Public Awareness, Education, and Outreach
   (iv) Private Sector Engagement

The 34th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand (June 2019)
The Way Forward

• Transforming the ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris into **ASEAN Action Plan**, which will lead to implementation efforts on the grounds and further collaboration with international development partners.
THAILAND ACTION

National Strategy on Natural Resources and Environment (2017-2036)

Pollution and Waste Management Plan (Phase I, 2017-2021)
National Action plan

Thailand’s Legal and Institutional Framework
National Action plan
National Action plan
• Other regional/ cooperation program

- UNEP (Marine Litter and Plastic Value Chain)

- UNDP

- IUCN (MarPlastic)

- UNESCO-IOC Sub-commission for Western Pacific (WESTPAC)

- World Bank/ GEF-ADB/ JAIF

- Ocean Clean-Up (Netherlands)

- River Clean-Up (TerraCycle Foundation)
Overall concept for Marine debris management

Land to Sea Waste Management
Thailand’s Marine Debris Situation in 2018

Waste Management in Thailand’s Coastal area

- **11.47 million tonnes**

- **59%** Utilized
- **25%** Disposed Properly
- **16%** Disposed Improperly

- **6.73 million tonnes** Disposed Properly
- **2.93 million tonnes** Waste Utilized

**Marine Plastic Waste**

- **21,700-32,600 ton/yr**

- **12%** Plastic Waste
- **10-15%** Marine Plastic Waste

**Total Waste Disposed Improperly**

- **1.81 million tonnes**
Thailand’s Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management 2018 - 2030

The Objective

1. to reduce and stop the use of plastic and replace it with environmentally friendly materials by 2019/2022

2. 100% of plastic waste will be reusable by 2027
THANK YOU
MOKEN GUARDIANS OF THE SEA:
Safeguarding the ocean from plastics
WHO ARE WE?

On December 26, 2004, a devastating tsunami hit Asia, causing the death of thousands of people. Amongst them were 12 year-old Jan and his 8 year-old brother Oscar.

In the immediate aftermath of this tragic event, a humanitarian project is born in an outpouring of solidarity.

The Jan & Oscar Foundation was officially founded on June 29, 2005.

Over 40 projects have been implemented in 10 years in Thailand.

Construction  Renovation  Water  Education

For at least 300 years, the Moken or "sea gypsies," have relied on the ocean to survive.

The Moken are an ethnic minority, nomadic gypsies of the sea, who still live as animistic hunter-gatherers in perfect harmony with "Mother Ocean".

With Austronesian roots, their language, culture and lifestyle are unique.

Nowadays their fishing nets are full of marine litter, threatening their survival.

Most of these exceptional swimmers live under the absolute poverty line and are not registered citizens (no identity card).
OUR GOALS

Recycle / upcycle plastic waste on Andaman Sea & rivers/canals that flow to the sea:
- Assign local Moken population as responsible rangers while they are fishing.
- Moken may play the role of global ambassadors in helping their culture to be safeguarded.

We are promoting the concept of circular economy by turning plastic waste into clothes, accessories and useful products.

Tackling marine debris and plastics is a wonderful opportunity for innovation, in particular creative interesting economically viable technologies to recycle low value plastics.
KOH LAO & KOH PHAYAM (trial run in progress)
To achieve our goal we count on our strong network of key stakeholders.

**CIVIL SOCIETY**
- Moken fishermen

**PRIVATE SECTOR**

**GOVERNMENT SECTOR**
- Kao Niwet Municipal school

**ROYAL FAMILY**
- Mom Rajawongse Jaruwan Rangsit is the patron of our project

**ECOALF : UPCYCLING THE OCEANS THAILAND**
WHERE DO WE STAND?
Marine Debris – It’s personal now!

OCEAN WISE SEAFOOD PROGRAM
Seafood Summit, Bangkok, June 12, 2019
Sophika Kostyniuk, Program Manager
Shoreline Cleanups
Twitter
22k+
followers

Facebook
7,800+
followers