

CONCEPT NOTE

7th Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals Side Event:

Innovative Technology Solutions to Marine Pollution in the East Asian Seas Region

The Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) is pleased to organize a side event for the 7th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals. The topic of this event will be the use of **Innovative Technology Solutions to Marine Pollution in the East Asian Seas Region**. This event will take place in the form of a panel with two organizations, Plastic Fischer and Ocean Conservancy, who will briefly present their solutions followed by an interactive dialogue with the audience.

The objective of this event is to facilitate information-sharing on best practices and effective technologies in the response to marine pollution in the East Asian Seas Region.

Plastic Fischer will discuss their 'Triple L Initiative' which tackles marine pollution using swimming barriers called trash booms as well as through hosting events to educate on recycling, explain benefits of pre-sorting household waste, and present alternatives to single-use plastic. Ocean Conservancy will be focusing on their 'Clean Swell App,' a phone application that gamifies the collection of trash and instantaneously uploads your data to their global ocean trash database. In addition, the 'International Trash Trap Network' (ITTN) will be discussed, which is a collaboration between Ocean Conservancy and the 'U of T Trash Team' that aims to link existing trash trapping technologies while inspiring new projects across the globe.

Tentatively, the COBSEA side event will take place **Wednesday, 4 May 2022, 7:30 am EST / 6.30 pm IST**. This event will be a 60-minute session, hosted in English through the virtual platform Zoom.

For further information, please contact the Team Assistant at the COBSEA Secretariat, Ms. Chantelle Van Amburg (chantelle.vanamburg@un.org).

Co-organizers

Plastic Fischer - Karsten Hirsch
Ocean Conservancy – Robyn Albritton

Background

The Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) is a regional intergovernmental mechanism and one of 18 Regional Seas programmes. It is the decision-making body for the East Asian Seas Action Plan, bringing together nine countries – Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Viet Nam – in protection and sustainable development of the marine and coastal environment. COBSEA focuses on marine pollution, ecosystem-based marine and coastal planning and management, and ocean governance. The COBSEA Secretariat is hosted by Thailand and administered by UNEP.