Inaugural Meeting of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia

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Introduction of the Objectives, Structure, and Vision of the Regional 3R Forum

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United Nations Centre for Regional Development
Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

• Open dumping of solid waste is widespread, not full utilization of 3R potential
Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?
Living in a place 20 times above safe level of lead, arsenic, nitrogen....

Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

Many children waste pickers at the highly polluted dumping site...

Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

Highly contaminated leachate seeps untreated into groundwater, a source of drinking water....

Water availability is an emerging issue in Asia with some countries already heading towards water stress, but water quality deterioration because of industrial discharges and municipal sewage, agrochemicals will further accelerate the issue!
Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

• Over reliance on conventional type waste management such as landfills and incineration is not sustainable (landfills are major source of methane (CH$_4$), a powerful GHG, and land costs are getting very high).

GHG emissions from waste are directly affected by numerous policy & regulatory measures that encourage energy recovery from waste, restrict choice for ultimate waste disposal, waste prevention / minimization through 3R. In many countries, e.g., in EU & Japan, waste management policies are closely related to & integrated with climate policies.
Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

• Focus is more on downstream or end-of-pipe solutions and local governments spend significant amount of money on waste collection & disposal without adequate consideration on resource saving measures and their economic return or input where as up-stream solutions provide opportunities for –
  • source reduction (increased resource efficiency/minimize raw material input)
  • waste prevention/minimization of environmental risks through eco-friendly designs and products
  • structured or reorganized production processes so that the waste of one industry is a valued input to another (industrial symbiosis)
Why should Asian countries mainstream 3R?

• Prevailing economic system does not provide adequate incentives for conservation and efficient resource allocation.

• Prevailing production and consumption patterns are not adequately oriented towards resource efficiency, contributing to growing quantities of wastes that must be managed for final disposal.

• As Asian industrial economies continue to grow, the region will generate more toxic chemicals & hazardous wastes, mostly coming from industrial, agriculture, and manufacturing processes.

Projected Solid Waste Generation in Asia (2000-2050)
Where should Asia countries be heading?

Product policy (Preventive/up-stream solutions) versus Waste Policy (Down-stream/end-of-pipe solutions)
Where should Asia countries be heading?

- Waste prevention, extended use, re-use (Resource Conservation/Resource efficient economy & society)
- An expanded recycling industry (Resource intensive and hazardous production of expanding markets)
Where should Asian countries be heading?

The governments must be clear in their strategy –

• Whether to continue with business-as-usual with ‘more waste and more recycling’ approach?

-OR-

• whether the goal is to encourage the producer to alter the design of the products?
• whether the goal is to utilize the expertise of the manufacturers in managing the used products after they attain end-of-life?
• whether the goal is to develop modalities for gradual shifting of the cost of managing the used products from municipalities to manufacturers (EMS, EPR, etc.)
Financial Express
3R strategy needs to be promoted for proper waste management

Adviser for Environment and Forest Affairs C.S. Khan said that the 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) strategy for managing waste needs to be promoted in the country to encourage sustainable waste management, thereby reducing its ill effects. Khan gave the example of the integrated waste management system in the capital city of Dhaka, where the government is promoting waste segregation and recycling to alleviate the problem of waste management. He said that by promoting the 3R strategy, the country can achieve a sustainable future for generations to come.

The Bangladesh National 3R Workshop (2007): Raising Nation-wide awareness

The workshop was organized by the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and the Bangladesh Environment and Forestry Development Centre (BDFDC). The workshop aimed to raise awareness among policymakers, officials, and stakeholders about the importance of waste management and the need to adopt the 3R strategy.

The workshop featured a series of lectures and discussions on waste management, recycling, and sustainable development. Experts from various fields were invited to share their knowledge and experiences on waste management practices.

The workshop highlighted the importance of waste management in promoting sustainable development and improving the quality of life for all. It emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach to waste management, incorporating the 3R strategy to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste.

In conclusion, the Bangladesh National 3R Workshop (2007) was a successful event that brought together policymakers, officials, and stakeholders to discuss and promote the importance of waste management and the need to adopt the 3R strategy for sustainable development.
Inception Workshop on National 3R Strategy in Bangladesh (2008)

Sustainable waste management to generate green jobs
Says Mahbub Jamil

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, in-charge of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Dr Khofifah Indar Parawansa, said the principles of sustainable waste management—reduce, reuse and recycle—can create a "win-win situation" for all as it has potentiality to generate green jobs specially among the youth.

"It could build a resource efficient economy," said Jamil while he was inaugurating the Inception Workshop on "Formulation of national strategy on waste reduce, reuse and recycle (3Rs) for Bangladesh" in the city yesterday. The Department of Environment organised the workshop.

CHIEF adviser's special assistant Mahbub Jamil said on Wednesday: "Waste reduction, reuse and recycle can create a win-win situation for all as it has potentiality to generate green jobs specifically in recycling business.

"It can build a resource efficient economy," he said while inaugurating an Inception Workshop on 'Formulation of National Strategy on Waste Reduce, Reuse and Recycle for Bangladesh' in Dhaka. The Department of Environment organised the workshop.

Raja Devashis Roy, special assistant to the chief adviser, in-charge of the environment and forest ministry, was also present at the function as special guest.

Chaired by environment and forest secretary AHM Rajaul Karim, the function was addressed by officials from the various government and non-government organizations who participated in the workshop.

Mahbub Jamil said industrial waste management in Bangladesh has been based on reactive approach. The new approach to solve the waste problem globally is based on proactive approach, which is basically a preventive approach. This can be achieved through introducing Environmental Management System (EMAS) in the industries.

He said use of EMAS would show practical business results in terms of increased efficiency, reduced costs and reduced waste as well as environmental benefits.

Raja Devashis Roy stressed the cooperation of all agencies concerned among civil society, media and experts to overcome the problem of waste.

A significant number of representatives from various government, autonomous and non-government organizations participated in the workshop.

United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>G8 Sea Island Summit (U.S.)</td>
<td>3R Initiative was agreed upon.</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Ministerial Meeting on the 3R Initiative (Tokyo)</td>
<td>Assistance to National 3R Strategy Development started (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Cambodia)</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Senior Officials Meeting on the 3R Initiative (Tokyo)</td>
<td>Asia 3R Promotion Conference (Tokyo)</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>2nd Senior Officials Meeting on the 3R Initiative (Bonn, Germany)</td>
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| 2008 | G8 Environment Ministers Meeting (Kobe)  
  `Kobe 3R Action Plan` agreed upon | 2nd Asia 3R Promotion Conference (Tokyo)  
  EAS Environment Ministers Meeting (Hanoi)  
  Japan's Proposal of Regional 3R Forum was appreciated |
| 2009 | G8 Summit (Hokkaido, Toyako)  
  `Kobe 3R Action Plan` was endorsed | Preparatory Meeting of the Inauguration of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia (Tokyo)  
  Inaugural Regional 3R Forum in Asia, Nov 2009 |

G8 will follow up their progress in 2011.
Regional 3R Forum in Asia

Goal:
To achieve *low carbon and sound material cycle societies in Asia* through facilitating bilateral and multilateral cooperation for increasing *resource and energy efficiency* through the 3Rs, and for promoting *environmentally sound management of wastes in the region*; to set in motion a *regional mechanism* to address 3R issues, needs and priorities in Asian countries, including emerging issues of concern in waste management.

Objectives:
(a) facilitate *high-level policy dialogues* on 3R issues, challenges, and opportunities;
(b) facilitate *improved dialogue and cooperation* with international organizations and donor communities for materializing and implementation of 3R projects at local and national level identified through national 3R strategies;
(c) provide a *strategic and knowledge platform* for sharing experiences and disseminating among Asian countries best practices, tools, technologies, policy instruments on various aspects of the 3Rs;
(d) provide a platform to develop *multilayered networks of stakeholders* such as governments, academia, scientific and research community, private sector, and NGOs;
(e) generate international consensus and understanding on the beneficial aspects of the 3Rs in the context of achieving *MDGs, resource and energy efficiency, resource efficient economy, and climate change mitigation*; and to
(f) provide a platform for *proliferation of national 3R strategies* in developing countries.
Composition of Regional 3R Forum

- National, local government representatives (MoE, MoI, MPW, MOUD, etc.)
- Subsidiary Expert Group (SEG)
- Regional and international organizations, bi-lateral/ multi-lateral donors
- NGOs and business sectors
Collaborating organizations:
- ADB
- AIT/3rKH
- Basel Convention
- OECD
- UNEP
- UNESCAP
- UNIDO
- IGES
- GTZ
- JICA, etc.

High-level Policy Dialogue/Consultation
- strategic guidance on 3R promotion & implementation addressing countries’ priorities

Technical inputs/policy research:
- International Collaborative Research (coordinated through IGES)
- Technical input for policy consultation
- SEG (Subsidiary Expert Group)
- Facilitation & interagency coordination support

Pilot Projects
- Capacity Building Programs
- 3R strategies, 3R feasibility studies
- Seek close collaboration

Private Sectors
- Local gov. communities
- NGO/NPOs

Framework for Implementation of Regional 3R Forum in Asia

United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)
Subsidiary Expert Group

Expected roles:

• Provide necessary technical input to the policy consultations, share best practices/experiences in the relevant 3R areas
• Participate in the International Collaborative Research which is coordinated by IGES under the overall framework of the Forum, conduct relevant research, and share the results/findings to support the policy discussions in the Forum;
• Provide over all advisory support стратегий guidance in the implementation of the 3R related activities at local and national level.

Criteria for Selection of Expert Members:

• Having sound understanding on the policy and institutional issues in developing countries concerning waste management/in one or more thematic areas of 3R
• Sound expertise in assessment of various technologies concerning 3R/waste management in the context of developing countries;
• Considerable experience as a researcher and/or practitioner
• Sound understanding about the priorities of international donor communities in 3R/waste management.
3R Thematic Focus of the Forum

Waste Sectors:
• Municipal Solid Waste
• Industrial and Hazardous Waste
• Agriculture/Bio-mass Waste
• Construction Waste
• Medical/Health Care Waste
• Electric and Electronic Waste (e-waste)

Cross-Cutting areas:
• Resource Efficiency, Energy Efficiency (including CP aspects)
• Climate Change Mitigation/Co-benefits/CDM (in the context of 3R/Waste Management)
• Social aspects/Poverty/MDG/Informal sectors
• Illegal trade of wastes / transboundary movement of hazardous wastes
• Research and development (3R technology assessment & evaluation, and resource cycle/circulation)
## Regional 3R Forum in Asia: Scope of Activities

### Regional 3R Forum in Asia

*(provide umbrella framework for a wide range of activities)*

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<th>Strategy dev’t and implementation</th>
<th>Demonstration projects</th>
<th>Reduction of GHG emissions (Co-benefits)</th>
<th>3R information and research network</th>
<th>Prevention of inappropriate and illegal trade of waste</th>
<th>Int’l collaborative research</th>
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| • Support national 3R strategy dev’t.  
  • Share experiences in national 3R strategy development.  
  • Facilitate implementation of national 3R strategies. | • Develop regional facility to identify demonstration projects.  
• Support demonstration projects.  
• Convene Asia Congress for Reduction of Use in Disposable Plastic Bag. | • Support co-benefits projects (reduction of GHG emission + sound waste management). | • Compile/disseminate 3R knowledge through the 3R Knowledge Hub (3RKH).  
• Develop/strengthen regional network among key institutions and experts. | • Facilitate international collaboration under the existing scheme of Asia Network for the Prevention of the Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes. | • Launch international collaborative research to identify strategic policy options and their effectiveness towards sustainable resource cycles in the region. |

*(Source: adapted from MoE-J, 2009)*
Establish linkage with & complement

- Solid & Hazardous Waste Thematic Working Group (under the Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health)
- 3R Knowledge Hub (3rKH)
- Basel Convention
- ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC)
- Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)
- MDGs
- Other relevant processes
Asian Countries’ Priorities for Strategic Implementation of the 3Rs

- **Mainstreaming 3Rs** in environmental and economic policies and programs
- Mobilizing **financial resources** for Implementation of 3Rs
- Development of **human resources** as well to facilitate efficient **diffusion of 3R knowledge and technologies**
- Understanding and implementation of **co-benefits of the 3Rs** (GHG reduction etc.)
- Development of necessary **organizational framework/support to deal with the informal sector**
- **Development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies** for waste management and the 3Rs
- **Empowering cities** to build them as core clients for **financing and investments towards implementation of 3Rs** / materializing Sustainable or Eco City.
- Information sharing and technical capacity development for **prevention of inappropriate and illegal trade of waste**
- **International collaborative policy research** on sustainable resource cycles in Asia
Guiding Principles/Framework

TOKYO 3R STATEMENT

(To be adopted in Session 6 on Day 2)