



10th 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCS) on Material Cycle and Waste Management - Circular Economy Solutions, 15-17 March 2024, Sydney, Australia (3RINCS 2024)

Expert Consultation Meeting on NEW DECLARATION on 3R and
Circular Economy ~
Sustainable 3R and Circular Economy Goals for Achieving
Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient, Sound Material Cycle and Low-
Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific (2024-2034)
[Successor of Ha Noi Declaration (2023-2034)]

16-17 March 2024, Hilton Hotel, Sydney, NSW, Australia

Co-organized by: UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA & 3RINCS 2024

[DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE](#)

1. Background:

The Asia-Pacific is the world's most populous and dynamic region in the world. It accounts for 63 per cent of the global material use. Over the decades the regional has witnessed rapid growth of urban areas, the creation of new urban infrastructure, increased purchasing power of people due to economic growth, the development of emerging industries, and the establishment of significant manufacturing hubs in the region. While rapid economic growth has led to higher living standards, it is also diminishing the region's resource efficiency and natural capital – shrinking forests, declining biodiversity, disappearing wetlands and water resources, among others, while resulting in growing volume and diversification waste streams such as but not limited to the municipal solid waste, industrial waste, agricultural waste, plastic waste, e-waste, and hazardous and chemical waste, among others. Given the weight of Asia Pacific's economic growth and resource consumption globally, any improvement in Asia Pacific's resource efficiency will have significant global impacts.

With the financial support of the Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan, the high level Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia was launched in 2009, with an objective to provide strategic policy advice to national government authorities in mainstreaming 3Rs and the circular economy in the overall policy, planning and development.

The Forum brings high level governmental decision-makers from Asia and Pacific countries to meet and discuss how to achieve resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), integrated solid waste management, sound material-cycle society, low-carbon and green growth development towards achieving the zero waste society. The Forum further provides a knowledge sharing platform for disseminating and sharing best practices in 3R and circular economy areas, including new and emerging issues of concern in waste and resource management.

3R and Circular Economy not only provide an important basis in achieving the SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production) but also synergies in combined efforts in achieving the other SDGs. For example, actions to achieve SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production) will trigger synergies in achieving SDG 13 (combat climate change), SDG 11 (safe, resilient, sustainable cities and communities), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), among others. The Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific brings both the policy and scientific community to convene on an annual basis the Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific to strengthen the science-policy interface in addressing 3R and resource efficiency as the basic for economic growth, pollution prevention and strengthening resilience of cities and communities, and after all, to achieve the international agendas and agreements such as the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement, among others.

Currently there are more than 35 Asia-Pacific member countries, including Pacific Island Countries, joining the Forum on a regular basis. The Forum uniquely invites multiple line Ministries and agencies such as – Environment, Industry, Urban Development, Construction, Public Works and Transport and Rural Development, etc. to join the Forum.

At Asia-Pacific level, the Hanoi 3R Declaration (2013-2023) and its 33 sustainable 3R goals (agreed at 4th Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in Ha Noi, Viet Nam in 2013) was the first unprecedented voluntary commitment of Asia-Pacific countries in moving towards a more resource efficient and circular society and provided an umbrella policy framework for developing and implementing 3R policies and programs at all levels to help Asia-Pacific countries shift from linear to more resource efficient to circular economy ultimately.

The past high level intergovernmental Regional 3R Forums expressed strong support for a *Successor of Ha Noi Declaration (2024-2034)*, given the ongoing need for Asia and the Pacific countries to integrate sustainable consumption and production actions and circular economy principles in the overall policy, planning and development with an objective to achieve co-benefits – protection of natural ecosystems and resources, reduction of disposal costs through waste minimization, reduction carbon footprints, achieving energy security, improving economic competitiveness of industries, promoting green technologies and innovations, creating new eco-friendly business models, and openings for new green jobs for achieving sustainable cities and human settlements.

2. Objective:

The main objective of the Expert Consultation Meeting is to strengthen the pre-zero draft New Declaration (2024-2034) from both policy-science point of view, in particular the “strategies” to achieve the proposed goals (Annex 1) as well as “indicators” (Annex 2) of monitoring the progress of implementation of the proposed goals of the new Declaration.

Following this Expert Consultation Meeting, the pre-zero draft will undergo a series of with the participating countries of the Regional 3R & Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific. It is expected that the Final Draft Declaration will be discussed and agreed by countries at the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific which will be hosted by the Government of Viet Nam in late 2024.

3. Participants

It is expected that the consultation meeting will be attended by approximately 30 scientists and experts and academics joining the 10th 3R International Scientific Conference (3RINCs) on Material Cycle and Waste Management - Circular Economy Solutions, 15-17 March 2024, Sydney, Australia (3RINCs 2024)

4. Date and Venue

The Expert Consultation meeting will be takes place Hilton Hotel-Sydney, the official venue of the 2024 3RINCs, in two phases as below.

⇒ EXPERT SESSTION: 16 March 2024 / 15:00-17:00 (Room B)

⇒ OPEN SESSION: 17 March 2024 / 9:00-10:30 (Room A)

5. Provisional Programme

Pease see below.

DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

16 March 2024 (Saturday): 15:00-17:00 / Room B

Expert Consultation Meeting on new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration - Sustainable 3R and Circular Economy Goals for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient, Sound Material Cycle and Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific (2024-2034)

Chair: Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University,
Advanced Science, Technology & Management Research Institute of KYOTO

Facilitator: CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA

Opening Remarks - by Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University (5 mins)

Background Presentation (1): Ten Year's History of Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific and Introducing the pre-zero Draft new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2024-2034) - by CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (20 mins)

Expert Presentation (2):

Discussions: 60 mins

Discussion Points:

1. Are there any important elements from the view point of science-policy interface missed out or needs to be strengthened in the pre-zero draft new Declaration? (please refer the whole draft Declaration)
2. Are the proposed "strategies" to achieve the underlined goals of the new Declaration sufficient or appropriate? Is any important strategy missed out? (please refer Annex 1 of the draft Declaration)
3. Are the proposed "indicators" of monitoring the progress of implementation of the underlined goals of the new Declaration sufficient or appropriate? Is any important indicator missed out? (please refer Annex 2 of the draft Declaration)

Summary of Discussions/Inputs/Feedbacks by CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (10 mins)

Concluding remarks by Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University (10 mins)

17 March 2024 (Sunday): 09:00-10:30 / Room A

Open Consultation on new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration - Sustainable 3R and Circular Economy Goals for Achieving Resource Efficient, Clean, Resilient, Sound Material Cycle and Low-Carbon Society in Asia and the Pacific (2024-2034)

Chair: Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University,
Advanced Science, Technology & Management Research Institute of KYOTO

Facilitator: CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA

Opening Remarks - by Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University (5 mins)

Plenary Lecture 1: Resource Flow Management and Circularity Index in the Framework of Circular Economy – by Dr. Keisuke Nansai, National Institute of Environment Studies (NIES), Japan (tbc) (30 mins)

Plenary Lecture 2: Ten Year's History of Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia-Pacific and Introducing the pre-zero Draft new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2024-2034) - by CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (15 mins)

Open Discussion: 30 mins

Discussants:

- Prof. Chart Chiemchaisri, Kasetsart University, Thailand (tbc)
- Prof. Yong Chul Jang, Chungnam National University, Republic of Korea (tbc)
- 3RINCs Expert 3 (tbc)
- 3RINCs Expert 4 (tbc)
- 3RINCs Expert 5 (tbc)

Major Discussion Points:

4. How can we strengthen the science-policy-business interface in advancing 3R and circular economy in Asia and the Pacific? To this regard, what are the key policy recommendations for the national and local governments of the Asia-Pacific Region?
5. How can the overarching principles of 3R and Circular Economy create meaningful synergies in accelerating the SDGs and the climate goal under the Paris Agreement?
6. What role the proposed new 3R and Circular Economy Declaration (2024-2034) should play in the context of achieving the sound material cycle society, zero waste society, net zero carbon and nature positive?

Draft concept note and provisional programme as of 1 March 2024

[Summary of Discussions/Inputs/Feedbacks](#) by CRC Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (5 mins)

[Concluding remarks](#) by Prof. Sinichi Sakai, Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University (5 mins)