

Special Session 1: March 14, 16:30–18:00 (JST)

Circular Economy -Transformation of Policies to Actions

Organized by the Solid Waste Management Association of Thailand (SWAT)

Thailand has introduced the National Roadmap on Solid Waste Management since 2015. After that, there have been several more national strategies and action plans on waste and plastic waste management. In particular, the Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management which is effective from 2018 to 2030, the plan is aimed at reducing or banning single-use plastic (SUP) products and increase recycling rate of plastic waste.

In addition, Bio-Circular-Green Economic Model or BCG has been introduced by the research community and promoted by the Thai government as a new economic model for inclusive and sustainable growth. The BCG model capitalizes the country's strengths in biological diversity and cultural richness and employs technology and innovation to transform Thailand to a value-based and innovation-driven economy. The model also conforms with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is also intended to align with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP) which is also the key principle of Thailand's social and economic development.

Introducing circular economy (CE) principles in production, trade and consumption within the waste hierarchy (i.e., reduce, reuse, recycle) can provide solutions to current unsustainable production and consumption patterns.

This special session will include policies and supporting measures and especially the implementation of CE by private sectors. Case studies with tangible results in Thailand will be discussed.

Programme

Session Chair: Dr. Chindarat Taylor, Vice President, SWAT; Founder and Director, Resource Efficiency Pathway.

- **16:30-16:45**

Opening Remarks and presentation

Title: An Enhancement of Plastic Packaging Waste Segregation Performance for Closed-loop Recycling.

Speaker: Dr. Orathai Chavalparit, President, SWAT; Professor, Chulalongkorn University.

- **16:45-17:00**

Title: Practice of Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy Policy at Doi Tung Development Project.

Speaker: Dr. Thanapong Duangmanee, Director of Environmental Policy, Mae Fah Luang Foundation.

- **17:00-17:15**

Title: Circular Economy Policy – Background and Update

Speaker: Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, President, Thailand Environment Institute (TEI).

- **17:15-17:30**

Title: Upcycling of Marine Plastics to High-value Products.

Speaker: Mr. Svein Rasmussen, Founder, Starboard, Thailand

- **17:30-17:45**

Title: Experiences in Recycling of Plastic Waste in Thailand – Challenges and Opportunities.

Speaker: Mr. David Bourge, General Manager, SUEZ Circular Polymer, Thailand

- **17:45-18:00**

Q & A and Closing Remarks