

Global Cities Preventing Plastic Pollution



Case Study

4 Asian Cities: UN ESCAP Mapping Project

Identifies Hot Spots of Plastic Pollution
Uses Remote Sensing

KEY ELEMENTS

PILOT CITIES

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Surabaya, Indonesia
Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand
Da Nang, Viet Nam

APPROACH

- Remote sensing, satellite and crowdsourced data applications
- Detect and monitor the sources and pathways of plastic waste entering rivers in urban catchment areas

POLLUTION TARGETED

- All types of plastic waste

For more Information, please see:
United Nations Press Release
[Link: New UN Initiative To Reduce Plastic Pollution From ASEAN Cities](#)

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in partnership with the Government of Japan, launched a new project which aims to reduce the environmental impact of cities in South East Asia by addressing plastic waste pollution in rivers and oceans on May 5, 2020.

Fast growing cities in South East Asia are responsible for as much as 60 per cent of plastic waste leakage into the environment. 75 per cent of land-based sources of marine plastic pollution in the region originates from uncollected waste and 25 per cent from leakages in the municipal waste management systems.

The ‘Closing the Loop’ project will support governments by addressing plastic waste pollution and leakages into the marine environment. To do this, the project will leverage innovative technologies such as remote sensing, satellite and crowdsourced data applications to detect and monitor the sources and pathways of plastic waste entering rivers in urban catchment areas.

The project will produce plastic waste maps and simulations for each pilot city and will train officials and stakeholders in ASEAN cities to use smart technologies to monitor, assess, report on and sustainably manage plastic waste as well as further strengthen municipal solid waste management systems.

“Cities are on the front line in addressing plastic waste in ASEAN, which is the world’s most polluting region when it comes to ocean plastics.”

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana