



Norwegian Embassy  
New Delhi

## **Title: Challenges and Solutions for Reducing Marine Plastic Pollution**

Date: 8th February 2024

Time: 1600 - 1730 IST

Venue: Silver Oak 1, India Habitat Centre

### ***Concept Note***

#### **(i) Problem statement and state of play**

Marine plastic pollution is a global problem with recent studies showing that more than 1000 rivers account for 80% of global riverine plastic emissions into the ocean. This is deeply linked to unsustainable plastics use and inadequate waste management practices worldwide. Past few decades have witnessed sharp growth in plastics use, waste generation and its leakage, into marine ecosystems. Plastic pollution impacts are not only limited to marine environment, and there is growing evidence of significant ecological, economic, and social impacts across the entire plastics value chain. Preventing plastic waste from entering nature requires both upstream and downstream solutions. It requires eliminating unnecessary plastic use, encouraging reuse, refill mechanisms, recycling, and setting up and operating effective waste management systems. Evidently, a holistic approach to address marine and riverine plastic pollution is required. This will specifically need focus on improving the municipal solid waste management and curbing leakage from land-based sources.

Several countries like India have taken important steps of notifying plastics waste management rules, banning various single use plastics (SUP) items and introducing extended producers' responsibility for plastics packaging. India banned 19 selected SUP items and also launched an online portal to track the compliance of EPR for plastics packaging. While the policies are in place, ground level implementation still remains an issue. There are several strategies, mechanisms, and technologies being employed for effective implementation of laws. There are associated challenges with ground level implementation which needs discussion and deliberation. This session aims to deliberate on these associated challenges and possible solutions to overcome.

(ii) Objectives of the thematic track

- Discuss challenges related to ground implementation of plastics waste management in developing countries like India
- Discuss key solutions to overcome challenges for ground implementation
- Sharing knowledge and success stories to reduce plastic pollution
- Identify new opportunities to reducing marine plastics pollution

(iii) Questions -

- Which are the key solutions in Indian context to overcome ground level implementation challenges for reduction of marine plastic pollution?
- Which are the global and national success stories which needs to be replicated?
- What India can offer to the world in terms of polices, and implementation mechanisms to reduce plastic pollution?

**About the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)**

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making 'sustainable development' a globally shared goal. The only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment, based in the Global South, WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities by assembling the world's most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform. The 23rd edition of the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)—the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)—will be held from 7-9 February 2024 in New Delhi. The Summit deliberations will focus on the umbrella theme: Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice.