APEC Extended Producer Responsibility in Circular Economy Plastic Conference

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Malaysia
CONCEPT NOTE (CN) PRESENTATION: APEC Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in Circular Economy Plastic Conference

15th APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) Meeting

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14 Feb 2020
APEC Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in Circular Economy Plastic Conference

2 Days Event

Day 1: Full Day Conference.
- 6 papers and speakers from APEC Economies including Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, Japan, USA, China
- Content: Plastic issues, Extended Producer Responsibility in general including benefit and schemes, resource recirculation and EPR success stories in APEC economies.
- Participants/beneficiaries 150-200: Plastic Industries and Associations, Plastic Pact Members, Government, NGO’s, Universities, others

Day 2: Round Table Discussion for APEC EPR Action Plan
- Participants/beneficiaries 50: APEC economies delegation, Malaysian Plastic Pact founding members, Relevant government stakeholders
- Content: Discussion, Challenge, APEC action plan
Extended Producer Responsibility is a practice whereby importers and producers of products bear a significant level of responsibility for their products. They would be responsible for the impact their product makes on the environment throughout the lifecycle of the product. This would involve upstream impacts which include the selection of materials for the products, impacts from the production process, and downstream impacts from the use and disposal of the products. Producers have to design their products to fit in as environmentally friendly throughout its life cycle. They will also have to accept legal, socioeconomic or physical responsibility for environmental impacts that cannot be removed by design.
# EPR-based national policies in Asia and the Pacific

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<th>Status of Implementation</th>
<th>Name of the Policies</th>
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| Fully Implemented        | • Japan (Container Packaging Law, Automobile recycling law, Home Appliance Recycling Law, Law for recycling of small appliances, Law for promotion of effective utilization of resources)  
                          | • China (WEEE regulation, recycling technology policy of automobile)  
                          | • Korea (Packaging, WEEE, ELV)  
                          | • India (WEEE, Lead-acid batteries) |
| Postponement period      | • Indonesia (GP 101/2014)(packaging)  
                          | before full implementation  | • Viet Nam: 50/2013/QD-TTg(WEEE, Chemicals used in industry and agriculture etc.) |
| Under preparation of     | • Thailand (The draft act on the management of WEEE and other end of life products) (WEEE and some hazardous wastes such as dry cell batteries)  
                          | specific legislations      | • Indonesia (Governmental regulation) (E-waste) |
| Existence of Provisions  | • Japan (Basic Act for Establishing Sound Material Cycle Society)  
                          | supporting EPR principle   | • Malaysia (Environmental Quality Act, Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Act, Master Plan of National Waste Minimization, 10th Malaysian Plan)  
                          |                          | • China  
                          |                          | • Indonesia (Law on Solid Waste Management) |
| Based on Voluntary       | • Japan (voluntary take-back under Law for promotion of effective utilization of resources)  
                          | Approach/Agreement         | • Singapore (Singapore Packaging Agreement) |

*PROs : Producer Responsibility Organizations

By IGES 2018
EPR history in Malaysia

- EPR in Biogas Industry. Under NKEA 2020 EPP 5 Malaysia, nationwide biogas implementation, mandated that new mills & existing mills which apply expansion need to install full biogas capture or methane avoidance facilities effective 1 Jan 2014. Methane avoidance can be conducted practically through co-composting of POME & EFB into compost or organic fertilizer for soil nutrient management.

- EPR in Plastic Industry.
- Malaysian Plastic Pact will be launch between March – May 2020 and EPR will be one of the future initiatives that will be implemented.
Benefit of EPR?

- It leads to the reduction of waste in landfills and incinerators.
- It encourages the production of environmentally friendly products.
- It leads to the manufacture of easily recycled products.
- It lowers the amount of waste produced during the lifecycle of a product.
- It leads to a reduction in the cost of waste disposal.
- It saves energy.
- It reduces the cost of manufacturing new products as a waste product can be reused in the manufacturing process.

EPR by WWF (WWF is a member of Malaysian Plastic Pact)
# CONCEPT NOTE

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<th>Areas</th>
<th>Justification</th>
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| Relevance – Benefit to region | - The conference and workshop will address international issues on current weakness in waste management at the level of local communities, mismanaged plastic waste and single use plastic waste pollution in the world  
- The project will have a sustainable benefit to all APEC economies where it will spread information, capacity building and knowledge on EPR schemes benefit amongst APEC Economies in key sectors in plastic such as packaging.  
- The conference will benefit Plastic Industries including recycling in APEC economies and facilitate supply chain connectivity. |
| Relevance – Eligibility & Fund Priorities | - The funding priority areas covered by the ASF General Fund are the ECOTECH Priority Themes articulated in the Manila Framework, and the Sustainable Financing will meet the sub-priority which is strengthening economic infrastructure;  
- In the 2001 APEC Leaders’ meeting, Leaders noted that many APEC Member Economies to reinvigorate the commitment to sustainable development in pursuit of enhancing economic growth, promoting human and social development and protecting the environment as interdependent objectives. |
| Relevance – Capacity Building | - The conference will meet capacity building needs for APEC developing economies by knowledge Extended Producer Responsibility scheme in various countries supporting Circular Economy.  
- The conference will support various Sustainable Development Goals of 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) |
| Objective | - to assess the opportunities and challenges for implementing of EPR from APEC economies.  
- to share experience on the design and implementation of such schemes with policy makers and stakeholders within APEC economies  
- to get policy recommendations through a consultative process with stakeholders |
## CONCEPT NOTE

### Areas | Justification
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**Alignment - APEC** | • In the 24th Meeting of APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Statement (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea – 25th - 26th May 2018) and in APEC Key Document 2018 under item 62 APEC welcome additional work to advance sustainable materials management and work related to the circular economy, and green economy which promoting sustainable and Inclusive Growth.  
• In 2018 between 19-22 June at Yeosu, Republic of Korea, APEC has held a training and capacity building for Marine Debris Prevention and Management which discussed the damage to APEC economies from marine debris that was estimated at $1.265 billion in 2008. Plastic is one of the main contributed for marine debris and to date circular economy and energy recovery has not been discussed in APEC level, thus this circularity conference will be the continuation of APEC effort in combating the plastic pollution to the oceans and on Malaysia economy, it will be a good platform to learn about Circular Economy especially energy recovery from other APEC economies as we are new in this area.

**Alignment – Forum** | • The project strongly supports PPSTI Strategic Plan (2016-2025) by  
• Collaboration among the stakeholders (government, private sector, and academia), facilitating dialogue and creating opportunities to exchange views, share knowledge, information and experience among APEC member economies.  
• Enhancing capacity building in innovative growth and infrastructure development through workshops and projects at individual level and institutional level in terms of knowledge, skills, and uptake of innovation outputs. Improving linkages, networking capability and knowledge sharing among different groups of private and public stakeholders.  
• Development of policy recommendations and sharing of best practices.

**Evaluation** | • The conference will promote SDG 5 gender equality by giving priority to at least 30% female participants and participation of female speakers.

**Linkages** | • The Project Overseer will work with the co-sponsoring economies to give recommendation of local speakers and also to get recommendations of potential speakers to reduce the risk of last-minute speaker’s cancellations.
THANK YOU

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