

## 1. GLOBAL HYBRID PARTNERSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

### 1.1 Addressing Marine Plastics: A Systemic Approach (AMPSA)

**Summary of role:** *'Addressing Marine Plastics: A Systematic Approach' is a partnership led by the UNEP to develop a strategic roadmap to help guide transition to circular plastic economies.*

**Summary of work:** *A project with four components are currently being implemented: global alliance platform for circular economy; mobilising investment in waste management infrastructure and advance waste management solutions; developing a roadmap for GEF engagement and strategy development; facilitating knowledge sharing and project coordination.*

**Keywords/research fields:** *Addressing Marine Plastics; UNEP; New Plastics Economy; Ocean Conservancy; GRID-Arendal; Global Environment Facility; circular economy; global alliance platform; investment; waste management; roadmap; strategy development; knowledge sharing; project coordination; role of gender*

#### 1.1.1 Background and aim

Addressing Marine Plastics: A Systematic Approach is a thematic partnership led by UNEP in collaboration with the New Plastics Economy, Ocean Conservancy and GRID-Arendal, and with funding from GEF. The project aims to develop a strategic roadmap to help guide transition to circular plastic economies at local, national and global scales. Available: <http://gefmarineplastics.org/partners>.

#### 1.1.2 Activities and projects

- Component 1 by New Plastics Economy: Global alliance platform for circular economy, to redesign plastics from inception
- Component 2 by Ocean Conservancy: To mobilise investment in waste management infrastructure and advance waste management solutions in the Asia-Pacific
- Component 3 by UNEP (Economy and Ecosystems Divisions): To develop a roadmap for GEF engagement and strategy development, including the identification of intervention points
- Component 4 by GRID-Arendal: To facilitate knowledge sharing and project coordination for effective delivery

#### 1.1.3 Reports

In June 2019, the report 'The Role of Gender in Waste Management: Gender Perspectives on Waste in India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam' was released by UNEP in partnership with Ocean Conservancy, the New Plastics Economy and GRID-Arendal and with funding from GEF (GEF Project ID No. 9681). This report analyses the role of women in developing countries of the South and

Southeast Asia in reducing mismanagement of plastic waste in the region (see [Part 1, Section 6.2.2.3](#) and [Part 1, Section 6.4.1.3](#)). Available: <https://gefmarineplastics.org/news/ocean-conservancy-report-to-tackle-ocean-plastic-crisis-engage-women-in-south-and-southeast-asia> and <https://oceanconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/The-Role-of-Gender-in-Waste-Management.pdf>.

## 1.2 Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP)

**Summary of role:** *The Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP) is hosted by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with the World Resources Institute to tackle plastic waste from source to sea by fast-tracking circular economy solutions through identification of investable solutions.*

**Summary of work:** *The GPAP has launched pilot initiatives in key regions (Indonesia, Vietnam and Ghana) to accelerate the transition towards circular economy on the ground.*

**Keywords/research fields:** *Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP); World Economic Forum; World Resources Institute; plastic waste; circular economy; National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP)*

### 1.2.1 Background and aim

The Global Plastics Action Partnership (GPAP) was launched in September 2018. It is hosted by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in collaboration with the World Resources Institute (WRI) and networks of experts, civil society, government and industry leaders. It aims to tackle plastic waste from source to sea by fast-tracking circular economy solutions through identification of investable solutions. Initial funding of US\$10+ million was provided by the UK, Canada, The Coca-Cola Company, Dow Chemical and Pepsi-co. The Japanese Suntory Group joined on 15 November 2019.

### 1.2.2 Activities and projects

In 2019, GPAP launched several pilot initiatives in key regions to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy on the ground. Learning from these pilots and local leaders, new initiatives will be deployed and scaled into other regions committed to tackling pollution from marine plastics. GPAP indicated that it would build a model in three countries: Indonesia, Vietnam and Ghana.

Available: <https://www.nspackaging.com/analysis/gpap-ghana-vietnam-indonesia/>.

In March 2019, Indonesia joined forces with GPAP to launch the first National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP). More than 200 leaders and experts came together to pledge their commitment to collaboration and action, which included the ambitious target of reducing 70% of Indonesia's marine debris by 2025. Since then, Indonesia NPAP has built its local governance structure consisting of a Steering Board and an Expert Panel, and is developing a model analysis that will form the basis for policy recommendations, industry guidelines and investment plans. Implementation began in 2020 under the leadership of NPAP decision-makers and with the support of the global GPAP community. Available:

<https://www.weforum.org/press/2020/04/indonesia-unveils-action-plan-to-prevent-16-million-tonnes-of-plastic-from-entering-the-ocean/> and <https://www.weforum.org/press/2019/03/indonesian-government-and-partners-announce-next-steps-to-tackle-plastic-pollution/>.

For Vietnam, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and GPAP are currently preparing for the launch of Vietnam NPAP.

### 1.3 IUCN: Close the Plastic Tap Programme (IUCN - CPTP)

**Summary of role:** *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a hybrid environmental network established in 1948 composing of both civil society and government organisations.*

**Summary of work:** *The IUCN's programme of work on marine plastics, titled "Close the Plastic Tap", focuses on tackling pollution at its source. Several projects run within this programme in different parts of the world and ocean basins.*

**Keywords/research fields:** *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Close the Plastic Tap; MARPLASTICCS; workshops; tackling marine plastics in Thailand; PWFI, Ha Long - Cat Ba Alliance; report; review of plastic footprint methodologies*

#### 1.3.1 Background and aim

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was established in 1948. It is a membership union comprising both government and civil society organisations. It is therefore a hybrid of intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and functions as an environmental network. The IUCN's programme of work on marine plastics is named 'Close the Plastic Tap'. It focuses primarily on tackling pollution at its source.

#### 1.3.2 Activities and projects

Several projects are run within this programme that focus on different parts of the world and ocean basins. Available: <https://www.iucn.org/theme/marine-and-polar/our-work/close-plastic-tap-programme/projects>.

#### Marine Plastics and Coastal Communities (MARPLASTICCS)

MARPLASTICCS is a 3-year initiative launched in 2017 and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The overall goal is for governments and regional bodies within the Eastern and Southern African and Asian regions to promote, enact and enforce legislation and other effective measures that contain and reduce marine plastic pollution. MARPLASTICCS has been deployed in Thailand and Vietnam. Available: [https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/marplasticcs\\_factsheet\\_final.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/marplasticcs_factsheet_final.pdf).

Under the MARPLASTICCS programme and funding, there have been several workshops held in Vietnam as follows:

- IUCN, together with the Legal Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Vietnam, organised a workshop on 10 June 2019, entitled ‘Plastic Pollution in Vietnam: from Science to Policy’. This workshop aimed to identify knowledge and legal gaps, explore impactful solutions, and define policy recommendations to reduce the ocean plastics pollution. Available: <http://vietnam.ird.fr/media/ird-sites-de-representation/vietnam/pdf/pdf-2019/plastic-pollution-workshop>.
- IUCN, in collaboration with the French Institute of Research for Development (IRD), held a workshop on 10 December 2019 in Vietnam on the theme of national guidance for identifying plastic pollution hotspot and working solutions. Available: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/workshop-provides-guidance-for-identifying-plastic-pollution-hotspots/165260.vnp>.

#### Tackling Marine Plastics in Thailand: From Community-based Actions to Policies

Phase 1 of this project (2018-2019) was funded by The Coca-Cola Company Foundation. It works from community-based actions to policies and aims to raise transformative awareness and change people’s behaviour towards solid waste management in key strategic locations in Thailand. As part of the project, 30 representatives from the Koh Yao Yai Subdistrict community went on a learning visit to Haad Nopparat Tara-Moo Koh Phi Phi National Park and Tarnbokorani National Park on 10 April 2019. This learning visit was organised by IUCN Thailand to understand approaches on solid waste management and how to reduce marine litter. Available: <https://www.iucn.org/news/thailand/201907/koh-yao-yai-community-learns-solid-waste-management-approaches-marine-national-parks>.

#### Ha Long–Cat Ba Alliance in Vietnam

This project was a 3-year initiative (2014–2017) that involved coastal clean-ups. It was funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It aimed to foster partnerships between the Vietnam government, businesses and civil society, to catalyse actions in order to improve environmental management and protect the natural integrity of the Ha Long Bay World Heritage Site, including the Cat Ba Archipelago. Available: <https://www.iucn.org/asia/countries/viet-nam/ha-long-cat-ba-alliance>.

### **1.3.3 Reports**

The IUCN also published a number of reports relating to marine plastics that are not specific to the Southeast and East Asia region, but are relevant. One report is the 2019 publication titled ‘Review of plastic footprint methodologies: Laying the foundation for the development of a standardised plastic footprint measurement tool’. It provides governments, industry and other important stakeholders a full review of existing and emerging methodologies that help identify the abundance, distribution, types, sources, pathways and sinks of plastic pollution at various scales (national, regional and global). Available: <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/48510>.

Among the list of draft motions to be adopted at the IUCN World Congress scheduled in Marseille, France on 11–19 June 2020, draft motion no. 022 calls for the stopping of the global plastic pollution crisis in marine environments by 2030. Available: <https://www.iucncongress2020.org/motion/022>.

#### 1.4 The Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI)

**Summary of role:** *The Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) is a cross-sectoral alliance launched by the World Animal Protection in 2015 to achieve a net reduction of ghost gears in the ocean by 2030.*

**Summary of work:** *The GGGI consists of a series of projects reviewed by the GGGI Project Review Board and approved by the GGGI Steering Group: Global Ghost Gear Portal and Ghost Gear Reporter, Best Practice Framework for the management of fishing gear, Myanmar Ocean Project - Ghost Gear Removal in the Myeik Archipelago, Gear Marking in Indonesian Small Scale Fisheries, Thai Union Ghost Gear Work Plan and Philippines: the Steveston Harbour Net Recycling Initiative.*

**Keywords/research fields:** *Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI); GGGI Review Board and GGGI Steering Group; Global Ghost Gear Portal and Ghost Gear Reporter; Best Practice Framework for the management of fishing gear; Myanmar Ocean Project - Ghost Gear Removal in the Myeik Archipelago; Gear Marking in Indonesian Small Scale Fisheries; Thai Union Ghost Gear Work Plan; Philippines: the Steveston Harbour Net Recycling Initiative*

##### 1.4.1 Background and aim

The Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) is a cross-sectoral alliance founded and launched in 2015 by the World Animal Protection. It focuses on abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) with the aim of achieving a net reduction in ghost gears in our oceans by 2030. On 17–18 November 2019, GGGI held its 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Panama City, Panama. Available: <https://www.ghostgear.org/news/2019/11/19/2019-gggi-annual-meeting-draws-to-a-close>.

##### 1.4.2 Activities and projects

The GGGI consists of a series of projects reviewed by the GGGI Project Review Board and approved by the GGGI Steering Group. Participants to the projects include 14 governments, two international organisations (regional organisations from the Pacific Ocean), 23 private sector participants, 15 corporates, 55 NGOs and two academic institutions. Participants from Southeast Asia include Myanmar Ocean Project (Myanmar) and Thai Union (Thailand). Available: <https://www.ghostgear.org/members>.

### Global Ghost Gear Portal and Ghost Gear Reporter

One major operation of GGGI is the development of a robust platform for the global reporting of ALDFG, which can be done through the GGGI 'Global Ghost Gear Portal' online or through the 'Ghost Gear Reporter' mobile application. Whilst the extent of participation of states from the ASEAN+3 at GGGI still seems limited at this stage, valuable ALDFG data from the ASEAN+3 are still collected and reported (Figure 1.6.1.1 below).



Figure 1.6.1.1. 'Map of gear events' from the GGGI global data portal.

Green dots mark out areas where there are ALDFG reported. (Available: <https://globalghostgearportal.net/dp/gearmap.php>.)

### Best Practice Framework (BPF) for the management of fishing gear

GGGI has published its Best Practice Framework (BPF) on ALDFG. The purpose of the BPF is to provide guidance to fishing industry and related stakeholders to prevent lost fishing gear and its impacts, as well as mitigate those impacts when gear is accidentally lost.

The work plan spans key areas identified by the GGGI to tackle ALDFG, particularly 4 key areas as follows:

- (i) End of life fishing gear;
- (ii) Habitat destruction;
- (iii) Non-entangling FADs; and
- (iv) Removal of fishing gear from the oceans.

Available:

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b987b8689c172e29293593f/t/5bb64b578165f5891b931a6b/1538673498329/wap\\_gear\\_bp\\_framework\\_part\\_2\\_mm\\_lk-2017.10.23.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b987b8689c172e29293593f/t/5bb64b578165f5891b931a6b/1538673498329/wap_gear_bp_framework_part_2_mm_lk-2017.10.23.pdf)

### Myanmar Ocean Project – Ghost Gear Removal in the Myeik Archipelago

In 2019, the Myanmar project completed its first phase in assessing the prevalence of ALDFG in the archipelago, specifically in three locations identified as ALDFG hotspots. In this first phase, ALDFG was indeed prevalent in the archipelago as the project successfully removed more than 1000 kg of ALDFG from the sites. As the next step, the project is developing more efficient ways of removal by better locating ALDFG through aerial and underwater drones and remotely operated vehicles. Available: <http://www.myanmarocean.org/>.

#### *Gear Marking in Indonesian Small-Scale Fisheries*

In this study, fishing gears in small-scale fisheries were marked to combat ALDFG through traceability and recovery of lost gear. This study revealed the feasibility of a gear marking system but identified a need for a greater understanding of the benefits of this system and difficulties in retrieving gear. Moving into its next phase, more environmentally-friendly tags will be developed and expansion into different gear types will be explored. Available: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b987b8689c172e29293593f/t/5bd6e743a4222f4430aabf3b/1540810590236/Casestudy-INDONESIA.mk2.single.pdf>.

#### *Thai Union Ghost Gear Work Plan*

Thailand joined the GGGI in 2018 and applies the BPF in tackling the ALDFG issue. There are four work streams under the plan as follows:

- (i) Promote and raise global awareness of the issue through new initiatives;
- (ii) Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) for purse seine tuna in the eastern Atlantic Ocean and Indian Ocean, in line with the GGGI Best Practice Framework and the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear;
- (iii) Increase the number of vessels involved and the capacity to remove lost FADs under the FAD Watch programme in the Indian Ocean; and
- (iv) Improve management practices for ALDFG in Thailand to reduce and prevent pollution into the marine environment.

Available: <https://www.thaiunion.com/files/download/sustainability/policy/Thai-Union-and-the-Global-Ghost-Gear-Initiative-Work-Plan-2018-2020-Overview.pdf>.

#### *Philippines: the Steveston Harbour Net Recycling Initiative*

This initiative involved the shipping of discarded fishing nets (that had been retrieved by the fishing communities in the Philippines) to Slovenia to be recycled into nylon yarn for product manufacture. The first shipment of nets for recycling revealed that only nets made of nylon 6 could be recycled. This is only a subset of a full seine net. Other parts of the net are made of other types of plastics that cannot be recycled in the context of this project, such as the polyethylene-based border web and the polypropylene ropes. New options are being explored for these. Available: <https://www.ghostgear.org/projects/2018/10/10/steveston-harbour-net-recycling-initiative>.