

Side Event for COP25**“Towards a Plastic-Free ASEM – 3R Practices in Asia and Europe”****Date:** Thursday, 5 December 2019**Time:** 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM**Venue:** COP25, IFEMA - Feria de Madrid, Spain | Korea Pavilion**Concept Note**

The mass proliferation of plastic products has contributed to it being one of the world’s most challenging environmental problems. Plastics have dire consequences on the environment, health, society and economy, with many other cross-cutting factors. Exacerbating the already familiar costs of plastic, a recent report has shown that greenhouse gas emissions from the plastic lifecycle could impede global efforts towards managing the rise in global temperature. To address the issue, realistic measures on reducing the use of plastic must be considered and implemented.

Reduction of plastic waste is more than just addressing it from a waste management perspective. It needs to be attended at various levels while ensuring representation of stakeholders involved in all stages of the plastic lifecycle. Furthermore, plastics reduction and management must go beyond recycling and should take a circular economy approach.

This side event will explore practical examples of local initiatives designed to reduce plastics waste in Asia and Europe. The session will go beyond discussions on policies, and will gain inspiration and insights from bottom-up initiatives sparking small changes that can trigger big changes that would ultimately contribute to achieving national and global targets on plastics waste reduction and management.

Tentative Programme

3:00 pm	Registration
3.30 pm	Keynote Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Senior Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)• Ms. Eunhae Jeong, Senior Development Management Expert, UNOSD
3:40 pm	Keynote Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Dr Tran Hong HA, Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Vietnam (TBC)
4:00 pm	Dr. Patrick SCHROEDER, Chatham House
4:10 pm	Dr. Lewis AKENJI, Executive Director, SEED
4:20 pm	Dr. Jong Soo YOON, Consultant, UNOSD
4:30 pm	Ms. Melissa LOW, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute (ESI), National University of Singapore :
4:40 pm	Moderated Discussion Moderator: Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Senior Project Manager, ASEF
5:20 pm	Rapporteur: Ms. Nur A'in BINTE ABD RAZAK, Project Officer, ASEF
5:30 pm	Closing of Event

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