

A Special Session on

The Circular Economy in South Asia

Regional Progress and the Role of Informal Waste Sector in a Just Transition



South Asia's rapid growth is driving resource use and waste, making circular economy (CE) approaches essential. This session will explore policies, business initiatives, and community practices, with a special focus on the vital yet often overlooked informal sector. Stakeholders from government, private sector, academia, and grassroots will share insights on building inclusive and sustainable CE systems.

Part 1 2:25 - 3:20 PM	Part 2 3:20 - 4:20 PM
<p>The Circular Economy in South Asia: A Review of Regional and National Progress</p> <p>Moderated by: Prof. Sadhan K. Ghosh, Founder and President, International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water (ISWMAW)</p>	<p>The Role of Informal Workers in a Just Transition</p> <p>Moderated by: Dr. Shilpi Bakshi, Senior Vice President, Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd</p>
<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p>Dr. Premakumara Jagath Dickella Gamaralalage, Director, IGES-CCET</p> <p>Jaipur Declaration on 3R & CE (2025-2035) - A Regional Policy Framework in Advancing Circular Economy in Asia-Pacific</p> <p>Mr. Choudhury Rudra Charan Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA</p> <p>The Circular Economy in South Asia: An Overview of Progress and Regional Trends</p> <p>Mr. Ezra Osorio, Policy Researcher, IGES</p> <p>Developing and Implementing Sub-National Level Circular Economy Action Plan</p> <p>Dr. Shilpi Bakshi, Senior Vice President, Environmental Management Centre Pvt Ltd</p> <p>Ending Open Burning: A Circular Economy Case Study from the Southern Maldives</p> <p>Mr. Gordon Jackson, Soneva Namoon Champion, Soneva Namoon</p> <p>Interactive Panel Discussion and Way Forward to the Next Part of the Session</p>	<p>Framing Presentation for the Informal Waste Sector</p> <p>Ms. Bharati Chaturvedi, Director, Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group</p> <p>Presentation: Key Findings and Case Studies from Asia</p> <p>Mr. Lakshitha Paranagamage, Programme Coordinator, IGES</p> <p>Panel Discussion: Pathways for Integration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Bharati Chaturvedi, Director, Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group• Dr. Ayesha Khan, CEO, Akhter Hameed Khan Foundation, Pakistan• Ms. Junko Fujioka, Program Assistant, International Environmental Technology Centre, Chemicals and Health Branch, Industry and Economy Division, UNEP-IETC• Ms. Chinmayi MN, Executive Director, Hasiru Dala• Ms. Indumathi, President, Thyajai Shramika Sangha <p>Audience Engagement: Roundtable Input & Q&A</p> <p>Summary of Key Takeaways</p> <p>Closing of the Session</p> <p>Dr. Pham Ngoc Bao, Research Director, IGES</p>



October 30, 2025

2:25 - 4:20 PM India Standard Time (5:55 - 7:50 PM Japan Standard Time)

Venue: Hybrid (Graphic Era University and Zoom)

https://iges-jp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_U66hSaS4R6i0HqNsV8b3Hg



International Society of Waste Management, Air and Water

