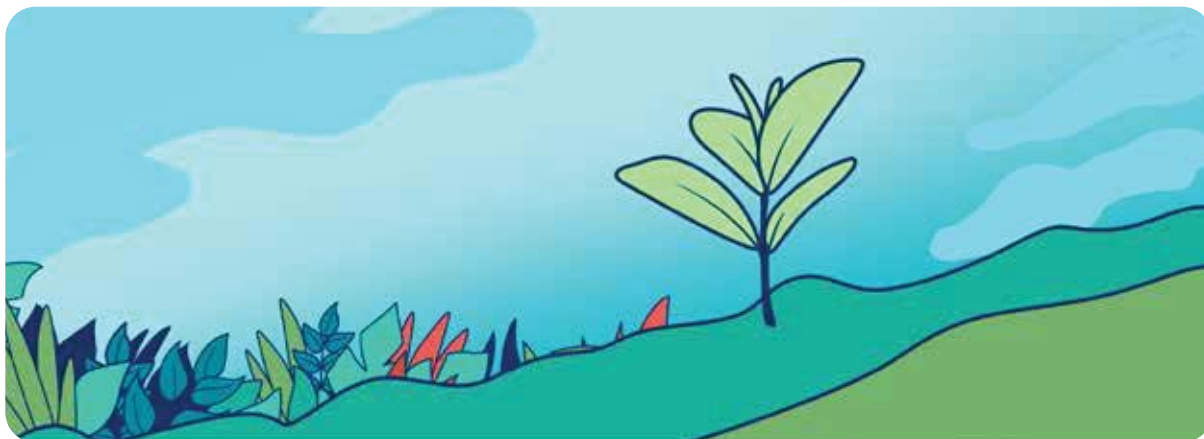


Environment Unit



The Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris (RKC-MPD) was established in ERIA in October 2019 to support the ASEAN+3 Member States in tackling marine plastic pollution and to foster related good practices in the region. The RKC-MPD aims to facilitate networking amongst stakeholders, raise awareness, promote innovative actions in each country, and facilitate national and regional cooperation to collectively counter the marine plastic debris issue, while supporting the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021–2025).

The current activities of the RKC-MPD include the collection and dissemination of Member States' legal frameworks, action plans, and voluntary initiatives; sharing of scientific knowledge; and the promotion of positive business efforts undertaken by the private sector (<https://rkcmpd-eria.org/story>), in which companies are invited to showcase products, services, and technologies

that contribute to the reduction of plastic waste and marine plastic debris. The RKC-MPD has also published research on the application of extended producer responsibility in Asian developing countries. In addition to the above, the RKC-MPD has been actively engaging in awareness-raising activities to connect not only with policymakers, but also with wider stakeholders. One of the programmes launched in August 2021 is an interview series named 'Zero in on plastics', through which researchers and activists in the marine plastic field are invited to share their knowledge and experience with online readers. A special focus will be given to youth engagement in upcoming programmes. Joint research projects are ongoing with partner institutions such as the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific at the Asian Institute of Technology (RRC.AP/AIT), and the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore.