# Source-to-sea opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region

**S2S PLATFORM**

**FAO** — FIAT PANIS



**12 December 2017, 9 am - 11 am  •  Sedona Hotel (11th floor), Yangon**

Co-organized by S2S Platform & FAO

**Background |** The Asia Pacific region hosts a large variety of source-to-sea contexts, from widespread, transboundary river basins, large countries composed of many islands, to small island developing states, and rich marine life in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. At the same time, millions of tons of plastic enter the ocean from land-based sources every year. Nutrient loads from agricultural runoff and inadequate wastewater treatment continue to cause eutrophication and spread of dead zones in coastal and marine waters. Flows of some rivers are so highly diverted that little water actually reaches the sea, robbing coastal ecosystems of the water, sediment and nutrients they need.  Coasts and oceans represent enormous assets and opportunities for local and regional economy that are jeopardized by the pressures posed from activities upstream. To better realize blue economic opportunities, green investments in basins can help ensure that healthy coastal and marine systems can continue to catalyse economic development.

The importance of improving fresh- and marine water quality and reducing marine litter is recognized by several goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Efforts to achieve SDGs 6 and 14 have to be undertaken in collaboration with stakeholders from a wide range of sectors, many of which are operating far upstream from coasts and oceans. The freshwater community has an important role to play in designing efforts to achieve SDG 6 targets on freshwater in ways that contribute to the well-being of the oceans.

**Session purpose |** This event will present experiences from the Asia-Pacific region on how to instigate action among upstream actors to reduce land-based impacts on coastal and marine environments, drawing upon experiences of S2S Platform members and other key actors in the Asia-Pacific region.

The outcomes from the session will be brought to a high-level panel on source-to-sea management at the World Water Forum in Brazil, in 2018 and from there towards the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) review of SDG 6.

The secretariat of The Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management is hosted by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

**SIWI**

www.siwi.org/source-to-sea

## Programme

**9:00-9:05**  Welcome by the session co-chair, *Torkil J. Clausen*
Chair of the Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management

**9:05-9:10**  Welcome by the session co-chair *Professor Charlie Than*
Member of AG, National Water Resources Council, President, Myanmar Engineering Council, Rector(Rtd), Myanmar Maritime University

**9:10-9:20**  Keynote 1: *H.E. Dr. Siti Nurbaya Bakar*
Minister of Environment and Forestry, Republic of Indonesia (to be confirmed)

**9:20-9:30**  Keynote 2: *Dr. Jakob Granit*
Director General, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)

**9:30-9:40**  Keynote 3: *Ranil Senanayake*
Systems Ecologist, Chairman, Rainforest Rescue International and Chairman, Rainforest Trust of Sri Lanka

**9:40-10:50**  Panel discussion
Moderator: *Torkil J. Clausen*, Chair of the Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management

Panelists:
- Myanmar representative(s), to be determined
- *Adrian Ross*, Executive Director, PEMSEA
- *Louise Whiting*, Senior Water Management Expert, Food and Agriculture Organization
- *Louise Herrmann*, First Secretary, the Swedish Embassy in Bangkok
- *Christopher Cox*, Programme Officer, UNEP Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA)
- *Dipak Gyawali*, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology

**10:50-11:00**  Closing remarks by the session co-chair, *Torkil J. Clausen*, Chair of the Action Platform for Source-to-Sea Management

**11:00**  End of session

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