







6th Greater Mekong Subregion **Environment Ministers' Meeting**

Phnom Penh | Cambodia | 10-13 September 2024



Session D: Environmental Quality Management

Rapporteur:

Ms. Pareena Prayukvong

Technical Assistance Team





Session Agenda & Contributors



13:00 Welcome & Introductions

Moderator: Dr. Jürgen Stäudel, Advisor Solid Waste

Management, Ministry of Environment (MOE), Cambodia



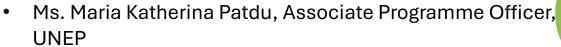
13:05 **Scene Setting**Ms. Chiara Metallo, TA Theme 4 Lead, Ramboll

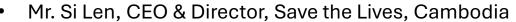
13:20 **Keynote Address**Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, President, Thailand Environment Institute



13:35 Panel Discussion

 Dr. Kim Thi Thuy Ngoc, Head, Division of Science and International Cooperation, ISPONRE, MONRE, Viet Nam





 Dr. Chettiyappan Visvanathan, Emeritus Professor, Mahidol University





14:15 Audience Q&A

14:25 Summary and Closing Remarks

14:30 **LUNCH**



Key Takeaways

Session D Environmental Quality Management

- While challenges remain, the GMS region has made significant progress in advancing pollution control
 and waste management through policy development, and the promotion of circular economy practices.
- However, there is limited evidence that these efforts have led to effective and sustainable outcomes and further documentation and sharing of successful practices across the region are needed.
- It is imperative for GMS countries to strengthen regional frameworks and implement harmonized policies that effectively address transboundary pollution issues and reduce costs for inaction, such as haze and water contamination, while also promoting sustainable waste management practices that align with global standards.
- A multi-stakeholder approach is needed to address these complex environmental challenges, combining top-down policy alignment with bottom-up community engagement and localized capacity-building efforts, ensuring that policies are actionable and context-specific.
- There is widespread recognition that GMS countries must enhance dialogues and cooperation to foster innovation, share best practices, and invest in integrated waste management systems, as well as advanced pollution control technologies that support a Bio-Circular Green (BCG) Economy.
- Technology plays a critical role in improving pollution monitoring and waste management systems, enabling more efficient data collection, real-time reporting through digital solutions, AI tools, as well as the adoption of circular economy approaches and advanced waste management solutions.
- It is likewise important to move beyond basic pollution control measures and develop comprehensive
 environmental governance frameworks that can attract climate finance and private sector investment,
 thus scaling up sustainable solutions and building resilience in the GMS region.