The threat of plastic to the future sustainability of the food system in Southeast Asia, the world's largest archipelagic region

International Symposium "Marine Plastic Debris and its Countermeasures in Asia: Impact on Ecosystems and International Cooperation"

- 6 February 2023 -

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Southeast Asia: the world's largest archipelagic region

Global Distribution of Coral, Mangrove and Seagrass Diversity



Plastic Pollution and Consequences





https://theoceancleanup.com/sources/

Plastic Pollution and Consequences



Plastic Pollution and Consequences



Key sources (orange) and pathways (red) of marine litter, as well as solid waste management (SWM) responses (green). Credits: Joana Mira Veiga, Deltares. (https://water.europa.eu/marine/state-of-europe-seas/pressures-impacts/marine-litter)

Stranded beach litter



Cordova et al (2022) https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X22007172

Stranded beach litter

Top-10 stranded macroplastic debris in general and in each location.

Area	Top-10 plastic debris category									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All beaches	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Thin plastic wrap/bag	Plastic bottles	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Plastic cup	Styrofoam packaging	Thick plastic wrap, sack	Cigarettes filter butts	Rope, fishing line, fishing rod, plastic rope/small net pieces	Shoes, sandals gloves
% share	12.15	11.96	11.42	8.05	7.64	6.99	6,81	6.47	4.78	3.15
Aceh	Plastic bottles	Plastic cup	Cigarettes filter butts	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Styrofoam packaging	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Rope, fishing line, fishing rod, plastic rope/small net pieces	Diapers, sanitary and period products	Food boxes, plastic utensil	Wrap cosmetics, toiletries, etc.
% share	13.59	13.22	12.30	9.87	8.29	7.01	6.15	5.86	4.15	2.57
Belawan	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Thin plastic wrap/bag	Plastic bottles	Styrofoam packaging	Shoes, sandals, gloves	Plastic cup	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Rope, fishing line, fishing rod, plastic rope/small net pieces	Plastic cable, Pipe, hoses, pieces	Diapers, sanitary and period products
% share	20.77	15.02	13.09	9.26	5.88	5.13	4.88	3.88	3.38	2.51
Bintan	Thin plastic wrap/bag	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Plastic bottles	Thick plastic wrap, sack	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Plastic cup	Shoes, sandals, gloves	Diapers, sanitary and period products	Food boxes, plastic utensil	Cigarettes filter butts
% share	14.60	14.43	12.68	12.43	10.63	9.26	5.74	3.04	2.65	2.40
Padang	Plastic bottles	Thin plastic wrap/bag	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Cigarettes filter butts	Plastic cup	Rope, fishing line, fishing rod, plastic rope/small net pieces	Thick plastic wrap, sack	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Styrofoam packaging	Plastic cable, Pipe, hoses, pieces
% share	12.54	12.35	10.65	9.87	7.66	7.64	7.55	7.53	7.33	2.25
JKT Pari	Plastic sachet/ multilayer	Styrofoam packaging	Thin plastic wrap/bag	Plastic cup	Plastic bottles	Straw, cotton buds, pieces	Shoes, sandals, gloves	Cigarettes filter butts	Thick plastic wrap, sac	Rope, fishing line, fishing rod, plastic rope/small no pieces
% share	14.24	14.00	13.09	13.04	7.64	6.17	5.46	ordova et a	(2022)	
JKT	Styrofoam	Plastic	Thin plastic	Straw, cotton	Plastic cup	Shoes, sandals,	Thick plast			
Pramuka	packaging	sachet/	wrap/bag	buds, pieces		gloves	wrap, sack h	ttps://www	.sciencedir	ect.com/s
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Most frequently reported items of litter

- Plastic sachet/multilayer 1.
- 2. Thin plastic wrap/bag
- **Plastic bottles** 3.
- Straw, cotton buds, pieces 4.
- 5. Plastic cup
- Styrofoam packaging 6.
- 7. Thick plastic wrap, sack
- Cigarettes filter butts 8.
- Rope, fishing line, fishing 9. rod, plastic rope/small net pieces
- 10. Shoes, sandals, gloves

Single-use plastic!!

e/article/pii/S0025326X22007172 rod, plastic

rone (email net

Stranded beach litter: sources?



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Plastic fragmentation

Plastic don't break down, they break apart !



Cozar et al (2014) https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.1314705111

Microplastics



Plastic fragmentation: pandemic case study



Lesson Learn: Microplastic Pollution from Landfill Area



https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X21000205

- Micro- and mesoplastics were identified in all water samples.
- An estimated average daily release of microplastic from leachate drain at 80640 ± 604.80 particles
- Daily mesoplastic release from leachate drain to the aquatic environment was estimated 618240 ± 1905.45 particles
- After input from the leachate drain, the microplastic number increased threefold and nine times higher for mesoplastics
- Polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene was the most abundant microplastics found

Plastic pollution in the river





Cordova et al (2022) https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X22000200

Microplastic in sediment/soil and macrobentic organism



Plastic ingested by marine organism



Gazelle : The Palestinian Biological Bulletin – Number 172 – April 2019



https://news.mongabay.com/2019/ 11/in-indonesian-waters-filterfeeders-ingest-dozens-to-hundredsof-microplastic-particles-everyhour/

Lesson Learn: Microplastic in the air



- The deposition rate of atmospheric microplastic in the rainy season 4 times fold than the dry season.
- The meteorological factors (rainfall and wind speed) significantly influenced the deposition rate.

- 5.0

4.5

4.0

3.5

2.5

1.5

- 1.0

0.5

0.0

•

The atmospheric microplastic size significantly affected the deposition.

The atmospheric microplastics in Jakarta are derived from local activity emissions.

Months

Plastic in all environmental matrices



Plastic ingested by marine organism





photo by M.R.Cordova

Links climate change and plastic pollution

The fundamental links between climate change and marine plastic pollution

Ford et al., 2021

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969721054693

We have collated evidence that marine plastic pollution and climate change are linked in at least three ways:





Plastic contributes to greenhouse gas emissions throughout its life cycle

Climate change and plastic pollution co-occur throughout the environment

Climate change will

exacerbate the spread

of plastic pollution



There are solutions which mitigate against both climate change and plastic pollution



Concluding remark: The future?

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The future of food from the sea

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Terima Kasih





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Terima kasih – Thank you – អរកុណច្រើន – ありがとうございます – شكر الك – Danke – 崩谢 – धन्यवाद – ຂອບໃຈ – Salamat – ຕາມະຂະຫວິເປີດເຜິ