



## Concept Note

### WEBINAR 1

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 | 14:30 – 17:00 hrs

#### Theme:

The Science & Technology of Plastics & Techniques/best practices of plastics pollution assessment and investigation.

#### Background:

In the plastic age we are in, if plastics are not reorganized and redesigned to be maintained in a circular loop or properly managed at their end-of-life, they will find their way into the environment, a phenomenon called leakage. To increase plastic material circularity, leakage of plastic from the human technosphere must be reduced, and ultimately prevented. To effectively control the plastic waste litter, stakeholders must be able to identify and detect the leaks at different points in the plastic value chain and initiate appropriate control measures. Plastics enter the environment by one of two core streams: visible macroplastics mainly from mismanaged waste, and a significant quantum as invisible primary microplastics. Currently there is a need to standardise methodology to perform plastic leakage assessments.

#### Objective:

The session shall highlight the science and technology features of polymers and plastics and the growing consumption aspects and generation of plastic waste including from single use plastics. Further, the initiatives in plastic waste assessment undertaken by various institutions / researchers is deliberated to reflect on the concerns of land based hotspots and problem of riverine and marine litter. The session shares insights from clean up initiatives in four cities as part of UNEP project. Further, the discussions seek to explore and identify gaps in plastic waste assessment that could be taken up for new projects.

#### The session shall cover the following topics:

- Assessment of Plastic Pollution by NPC in 4 cities.
- Polymer Science & Technology for plastics products.
- Environmental Implication of Single Use Plastic.
- Methodology for Macro-plastic assessment undertaken in India and challenges.
- Methodology for Micro-plastic assessments in rivers & Oceans and constraints.
- Approach of sampling & analysis in sediments of river Ganga.
- Problem of Marine Litter and Initiatives undertaken by Government of India in the area of plastic pollution assessments.

#### Expected Outcome:

Recommendations for Plastic waste assessment methodology and need for standardization and compilation of best practices followed in India.