



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 442

<b>Date of Issue</b>	31 July 2024
<b>Project Code</b>	23-CP-43-GE-DLN-A
<b>Title</b>	APO e-Course on the Ocean Environment and Plastic Pollution
<b>Timing</b>	20 December 2024
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Digital Learning
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	Open
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Remarks</b>	Timing is the launch date of the e-course.

<b>Objectives</b>	Understand plastic pollution in oceans; promote measures to prevent plastic pollution; and contribute to restoring the ocean environment.
<b>Rationale</b>	The ocean environment faces significant challenges due to plastic pollution, which has become a global environmental crisis. Microplastics persist in the environment, accumulating in marine ecosystems, and potentially entering the food chain. They harm aquatic wildlife and may pose human health risks. This course contributes to Green Productivity and robust innovation ecosystem goals under the APO Vision 2025.
<b>Background</b>	The UNEP reported in 2021 that 9–14 million tons of plastic waste per year are estimated to enter the oceans. This plastic waste harms aquatic wildlife and decreases fishery productivity. Plastics do not biodegrade but break down into smaller pieces known as microplastics. These persist in the environment, accumulating in marine ecosystems, and potentially entering the food chain. Microplastics can accumulate toxins and harmful chemicals. When they are consumed by humans through seafood, these contaminants may pose health risks. Conserving ocean environments and marine resources is one of the SDGs (Goal 14). Collective efforts are needed to understand plastic pollution and decrease the amounts entering the oceans. Currently, international initiatives and policies aim to mitigate plastic pollution, including bans on single-use plastics, improved waste management systems, and promoting recycling and alternative materials.
<b>Topics</b>	Overview of plastic pollution in oceans; International discussions on plastic pollution of oceans; and Strategies to prevent plastic pollution such as regulation on single-use plastics, recycling, innovations like biodegradable plastics as well as waste management, energy recovery, and educational efforts to raise awareness of reducing plastic consumption and promoting sustainable practices.
<b>Outcome</b>	Participants acquire knowledge of plastic pollution in ocean environments and measures to prevent it such as innovations and educational efforts.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Open to all participants in members and nonmembers.

Please refer to the implementation procedures circulated with this document for further details.



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