

## 5th Global Summit on ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

October 14, 2024 | Madrid, Spain

**Addressing ocean plastic pollution in Indonesia: Initiatives underway and way forward****Santosh Kumar Mishra***S. N. D. T. Women's University, India*

**Statement of the Problem:** According to estimates, eight million metric tons of plastic waste pour into world's ocean, every year. This crisis is prevailing in all countries, including in Indonesia. In the context of Indonesia, this situation is exacerbated by ineffective waste management systems and rapidly urbanizing coastal cities. For marine pollution prevention, the Government of Indonesia has committed to an ambitious target of handling 70% of plastic marine debris by 2025 in a National Action Plan (NAP) for Handling Marine Debris. The Reducing Marine Debris Program is aligned with this action plan.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** The prime objective of this paper is to present discussion on key initiatives undertaken in Indonesia for preventing ocean plastic pollution. It also discusses contribution of Indonesia's municipalities in sustaining and expanding recycling collection efforts. Secondary data been used in this work. Data are largely 'qualitative' in nature; they were collected from secondary sources. Method of data analysis is 'descriptive'.

**Findings:** Indonesia contributes nearly 1.29 million metric tons of plastic waste to oceans annually. This situation makes the country the world's second largest ocean polluter. In view of these considerations, local governments are mandated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to manage the collection, transport, and treatment of solid waste in their communities. In order to reduce ocean plastic pollution, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) works with local and national governments, businesses, and civil society for the purpose of implementing sustainable solid waste management (SWM) and recycling solutions.

**Conclusion & Significance:** Municipalities and cities in Indonesia play meaningful role in bolstering sustainability and local self-reliance. Their continued engagement is key in sustaining and expanding recycling collection efforts. In order to address ocean plastic pollution, the Government of Indonesia implements national-level strategies and policies for SWM through a national action plan. However, private sector participation in reducing plastic waste efforts is crucial.

**Biography**

Santosh Kumar Mishra is an Independent Researcher who retired on June 30, 2020, from the Population Education Resource Centre, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai. He received a Government of India Fellowship for training in demography at the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, in 1986-1987, and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Patna in 1999. His qualifications include a Post-Master's Diploma in Adult & Continuing Education, a Certificate in Hospital and Health Care Management, and a Diploma in Human Resource Development. Dr. Mishra has authored/co-authored 5 booklets, 4 books, 23 book chapters, 97 journal articles, 2 monographs, 7 research studies, and 56 conference papers. He has been recognized with Certificates of Excellence in Reviewing (2017, 2018, 2021, 2022) and received the Excellence of Research Award in 2021 for his contributions to agricultural research.