OBJECTIVE:
To mainstream sustainable waste management and 5R principles into the primary education system in Bhutan. Also, to enhance behavioural change in the younger generation for protecting the environment towards achieving sustainable development.

INITIATIVE SUMMARY (WHAT & HOW):
The booklet “Ecology Note” is designed to provide opportunities to deepen students’ understanding on sustainable waste and resource management topics including waste prevention, recycling, composting, and the 5Rs in general, through employing activities such as exploration, discussion and presentation. The Teacher’s Guide accompanying the booklet also provides procedures and tips to enhance the activities. In collaboration with the Royal Education Council (REC), the contents of Ecology Note are also integrated into the official science curriculum at primary schools in Bhutan.

Impact: Improved waste prevention, Promote recycling, composting, and 5Rs

Resources: School staff, Students, Booklet

Application: Scalable and replicable (already replicated, originally from Myanmar)

5Rs/Other Keywords: Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Innovative Features

AWARENESS AND SENSITIVITY
• Understand the current waste situation.

INVESTIGATION AND EVALUATION
• Examine modern lifestyles to identify the cause and results of actions, analyse their causal sequences, and evaluate their economic value

ACTION SKILLS
• Identify specific actions, best approaches and outcomes for future implementation.

Educational Features

• The programme is integrated into the official science curriculum at primary schools in Bhutan.
• This programme promotes cognitive and behavioural change.
• Activities based on personal experience, by exploring crucial issues to create strong personal incentives.

Useful link
National Environment Commission, Bhutan http://www.nec.gov.bt/
IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET) https://www.ccet.jp/
Contact
Miwa Tatsuno, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies tatsuno@iges.or.jp
Andre Dzikus, Chief Urban Basic Services Section WasteWiseCities@un.org https://unhabitat.org/waste-wise-cities #WasteWiseCities