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handle with care

# Building a common vision to address plastic pollution

KEY CONCEPTS AND COMMITMENTS

OCT 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019



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# MEET THE SPEAKERS



Ran Xie

Gerald Naber

Cecilia Lopez y Royo

Svitlana Mikhalyeva

## Moderator

Gina Torregroza

10YFP Secretariat

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- 14:00 - 14:05 Introduction by the moderator
- 14:05 - 14:20 Stock taking and Global Setting on Marine Pollution
- 14:20 - 14:35 New Plastics Economy Global Commitment
- 14:35 - 14:50 One Planet network & Plastics
- 14:50 - 15:00 Q&A

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Life Cycle Initiative



**environment**

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United Nations  
Environment Programme

# Stock taking and Global Setting on Marine Plastic Pollution

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Ran Xie

**Consumption and Production Unit, Resources and Markets Branch, Economy  
Division**

**UN Environment Programme**

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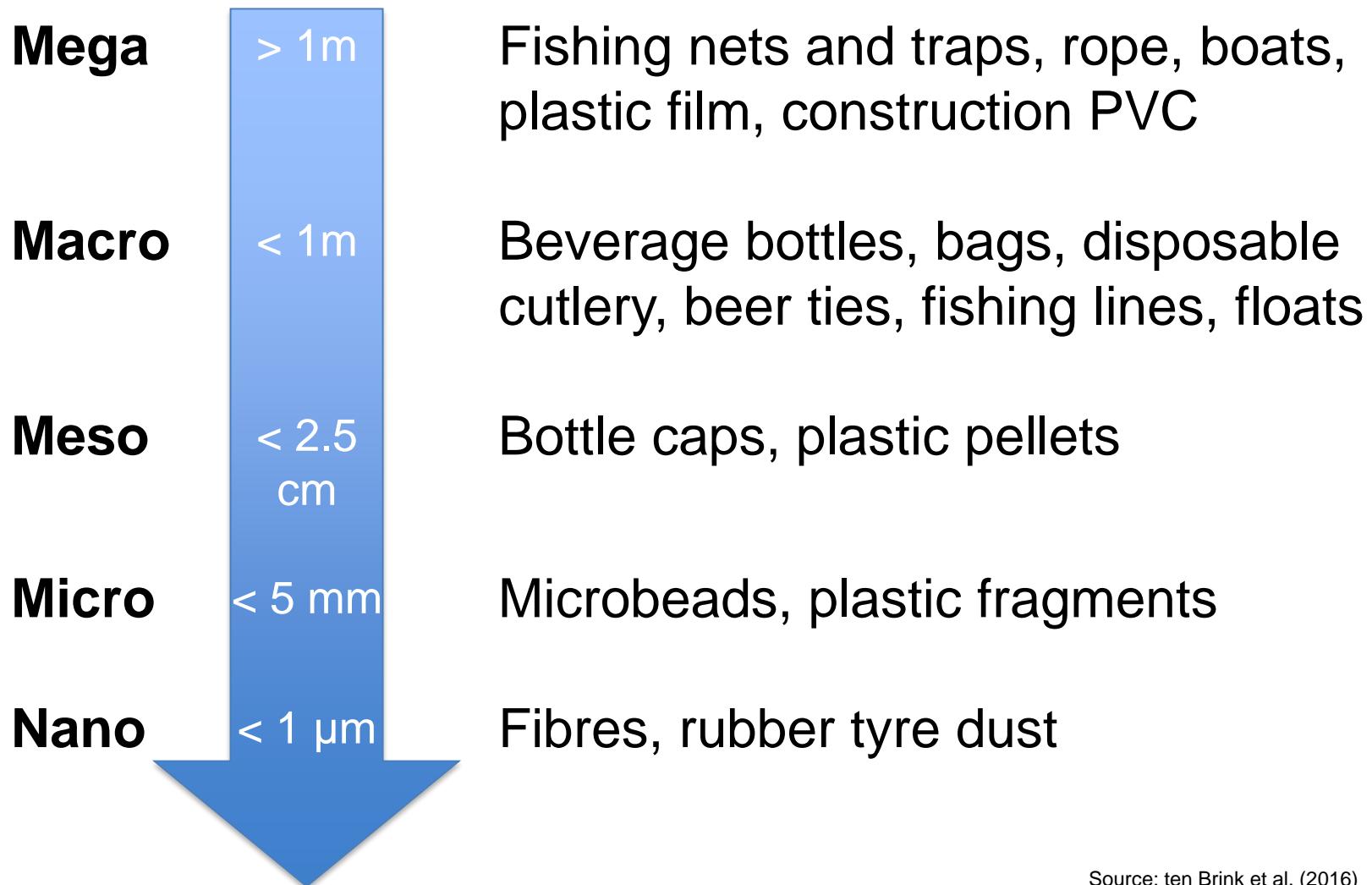


Each year, at least 8 million tonnes of plastics leak into the ocean, equivalent to dumping the contents of one garbage truck into the ocean every minute

The New Plastics Economy – Rethinking the future of plastics



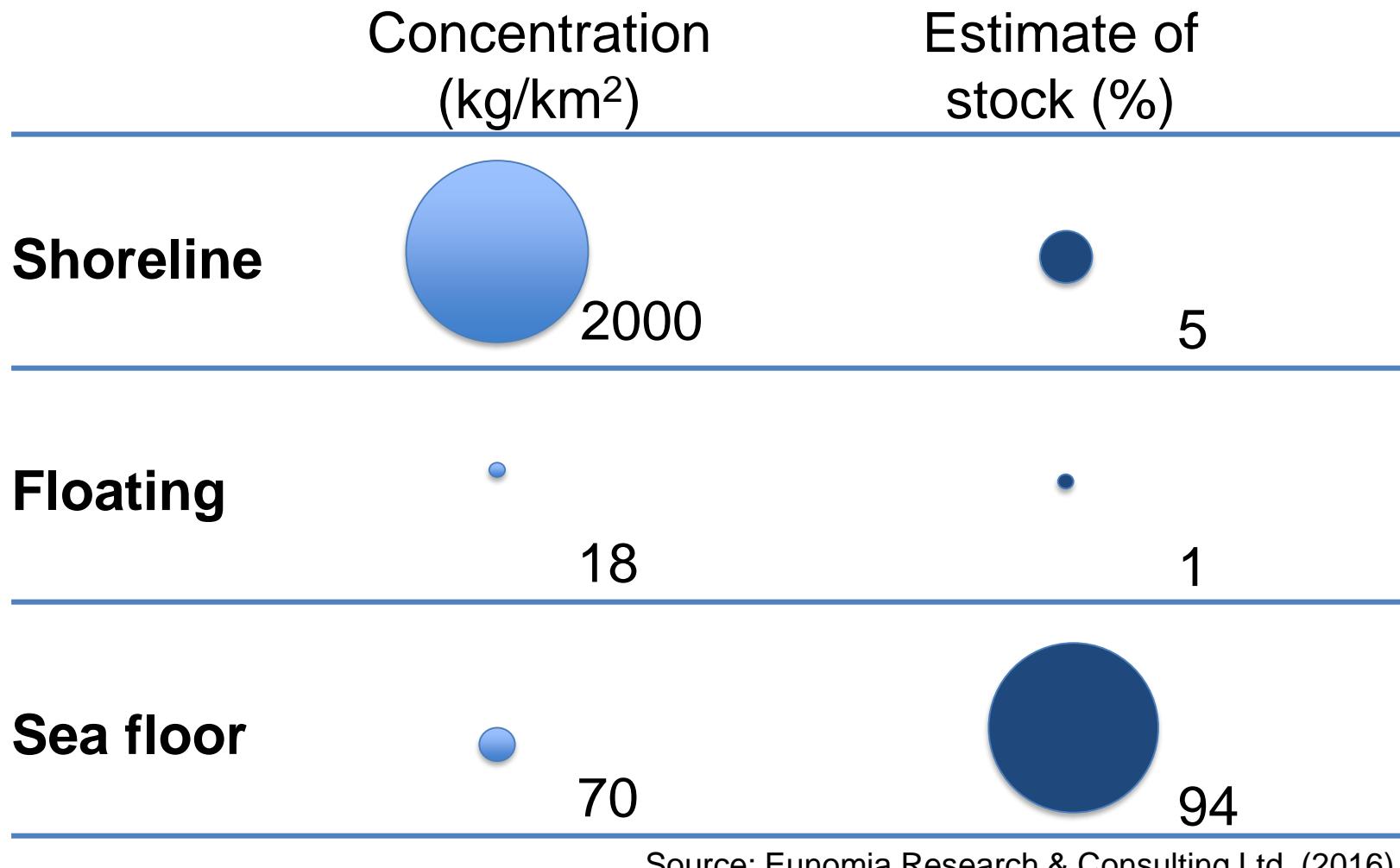
# Marine plastic litter is highly variable in size and composition



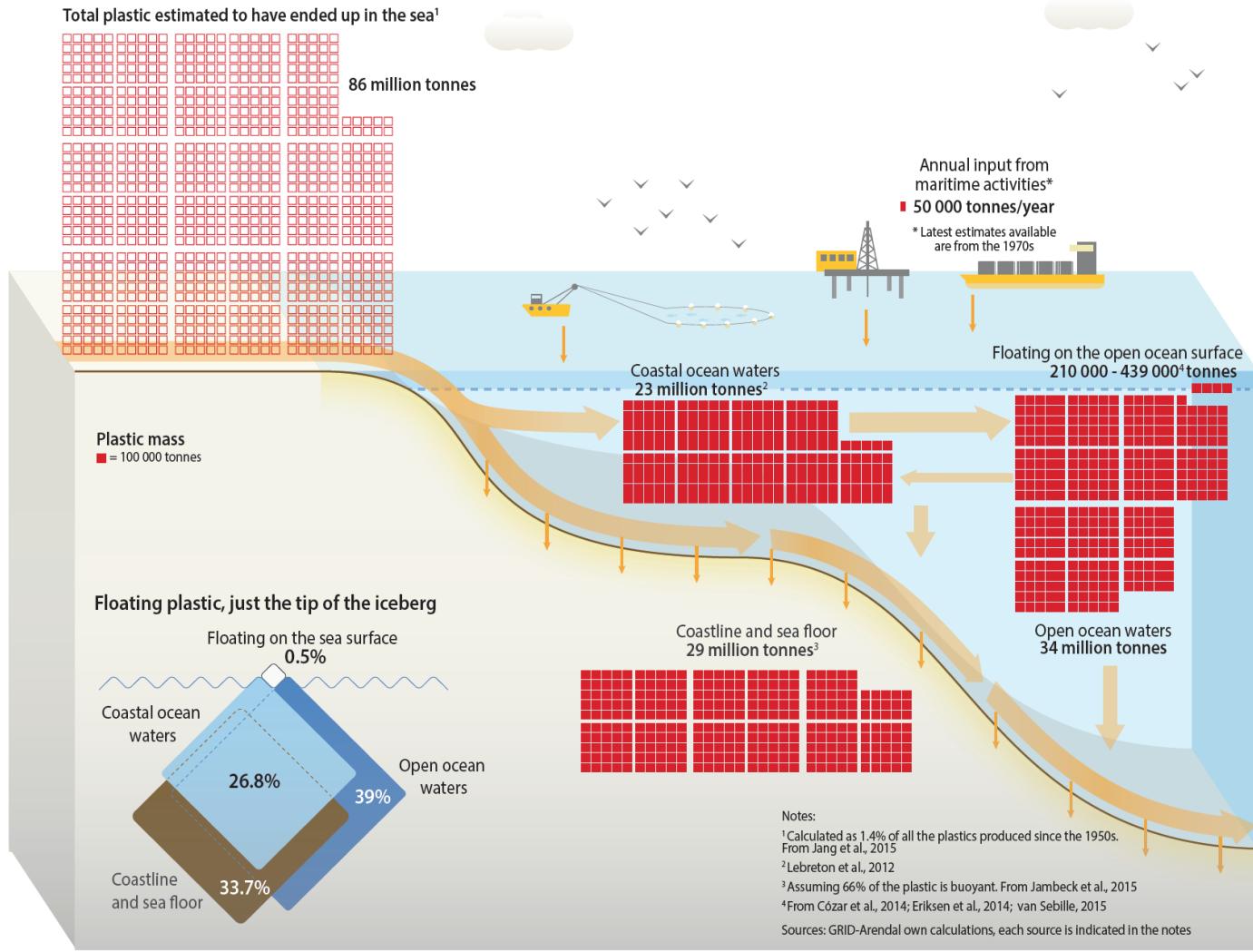
Source: ten Brink et al. (2016)

# Where is the plastic in the oceans (all)

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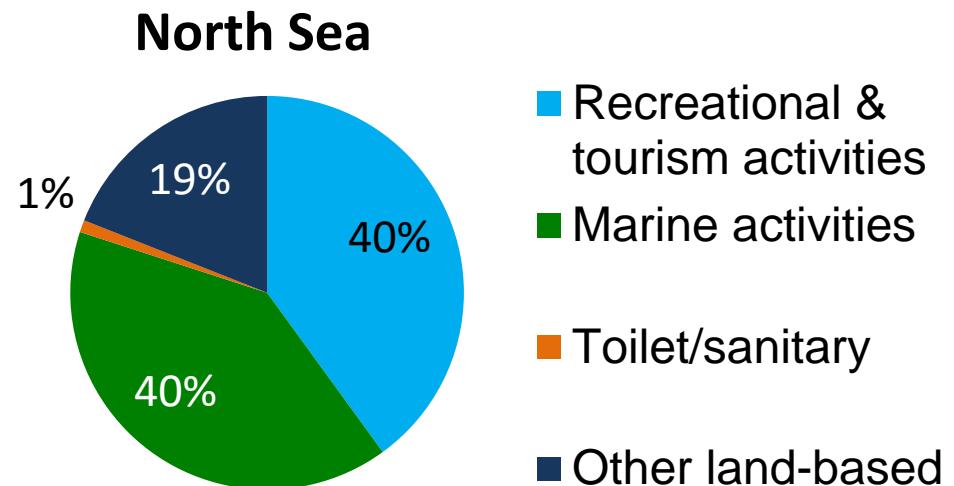
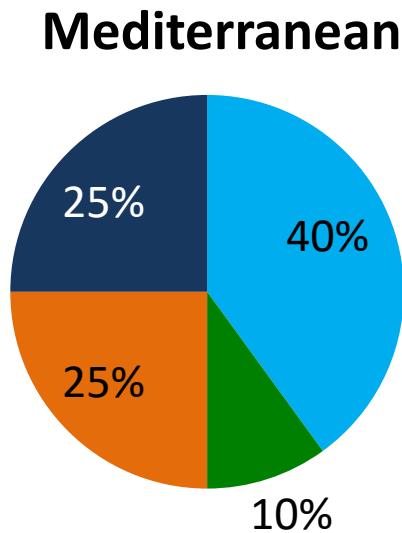
# Where is the plastic in the oceans



Source: UNEP  
and GRID-  
Arendal (2016)

# Sources of macroplastics

- 60-80% from **land-based sources**, but highly regional
- For example, prevalence by source for two different seas:



Source: European Commission (2010) Pilot project '4 Seas'

# Sources of macroplastics

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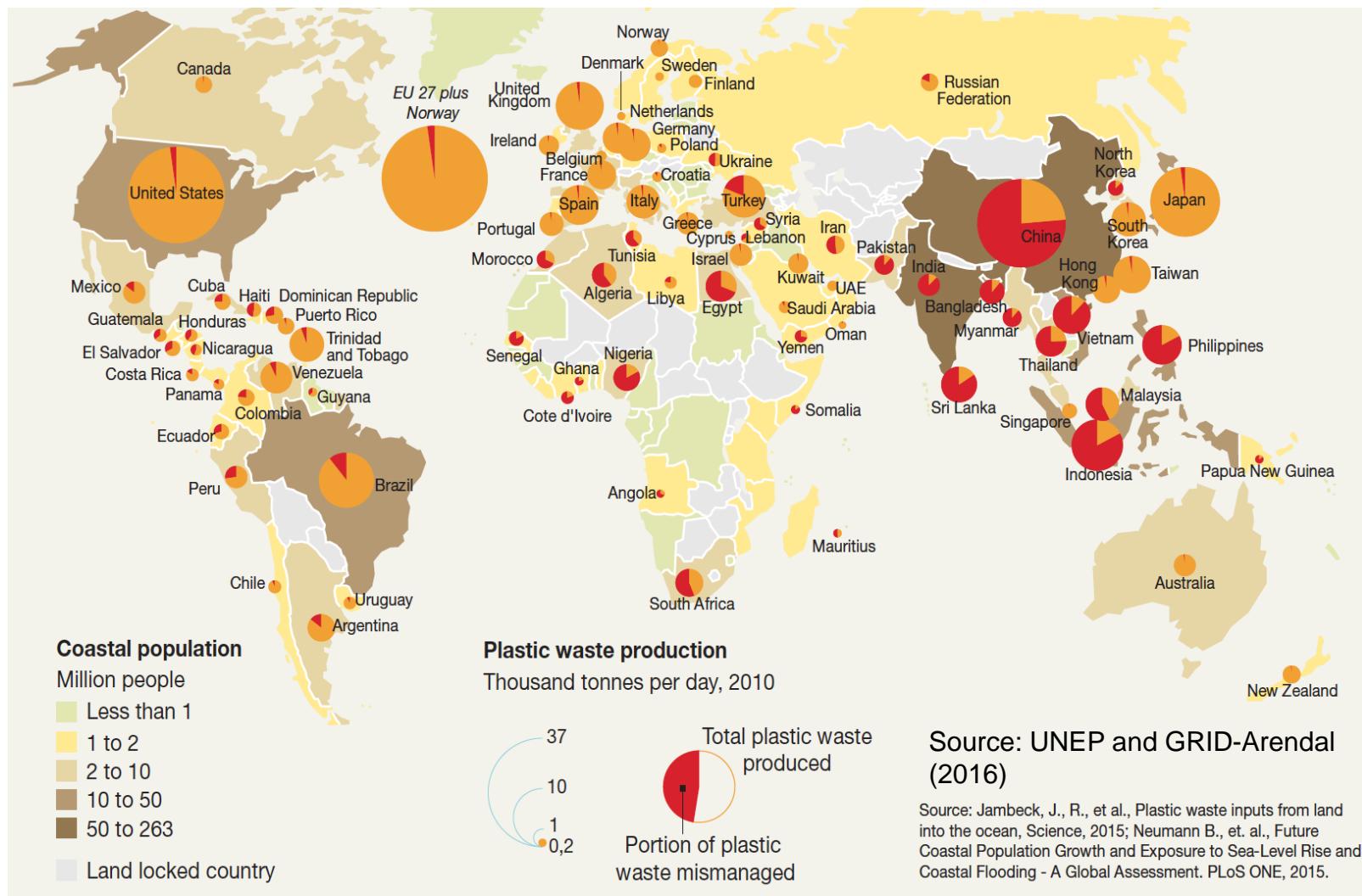
- Plastic litter from retail, commercial, household and tourism sectors largely **packaging** and **single-use** products
- Packaging accounts for around 30% of world's plastic use
- Many highly prevalent to littering, i.e. small, lightweight, easily wind blown
- Macroplastic litter arises primarily at **end-of-life** of plastic products

## Inland plastic litter sources

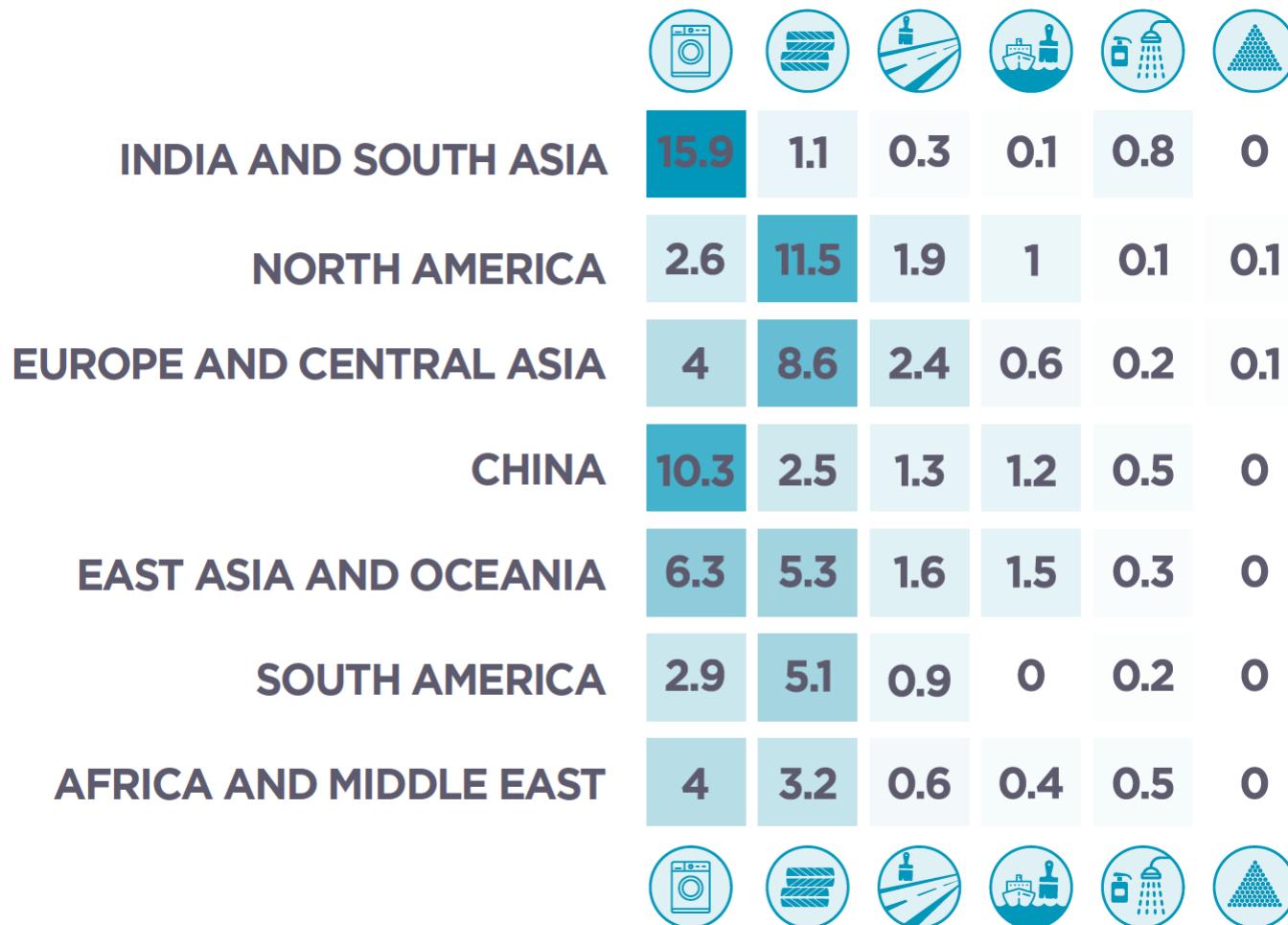
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- Increasing evidence that rivers are major conduit of plastic litter to the ocean
- 10 to 20 rivers - all in developing countries - account for as much as 94% of the total plastic load

# Mismanaged plastic waste



# Modelled sources of primary microplastics



Source: Boucher & Friot (2017)

# A vision to address the problem

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Rethink the system where we keep plastics at the highest possible value and where we do not pollute our oceans, our rivers, land and air.

- Take into account the entire value chain
- Identify strategic intervention points
- Consider chemicals, and keep chemicals of concern away from plastics
- Involve all actors of the value chain
- Apply a lifecycle approach

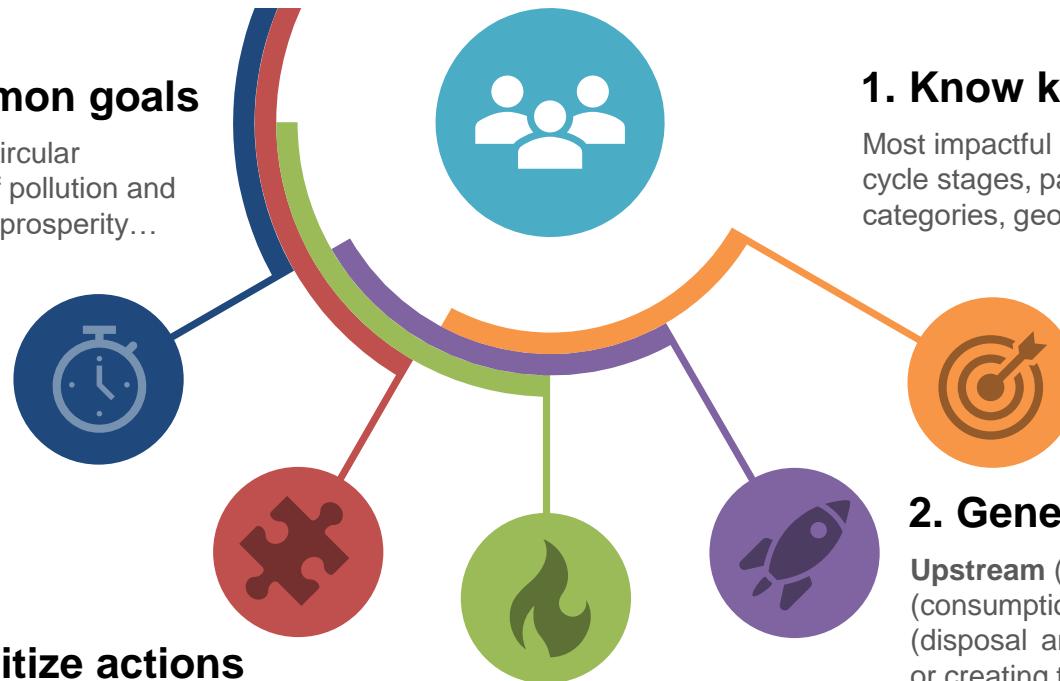


# The systemic and value chain perspective

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## 5. Reach common goals

Resource efficiency, circular economy, reduction of pollution and impacts, and improve prosperity...



## 1. Know key hotspots

Most impactful polymers and products, life cycle stages, pathways and fates, impact categories, geography...

## 2. Generate holistic solutions

Upstream (design and production), midstream (consumption and reuse) and downstream (disposal and recycling), not missing hotspots or creating trade-offs

## 4. Prioritize actions

Based on potential impacts, and feasibility of implementation

## 3. Coordinate

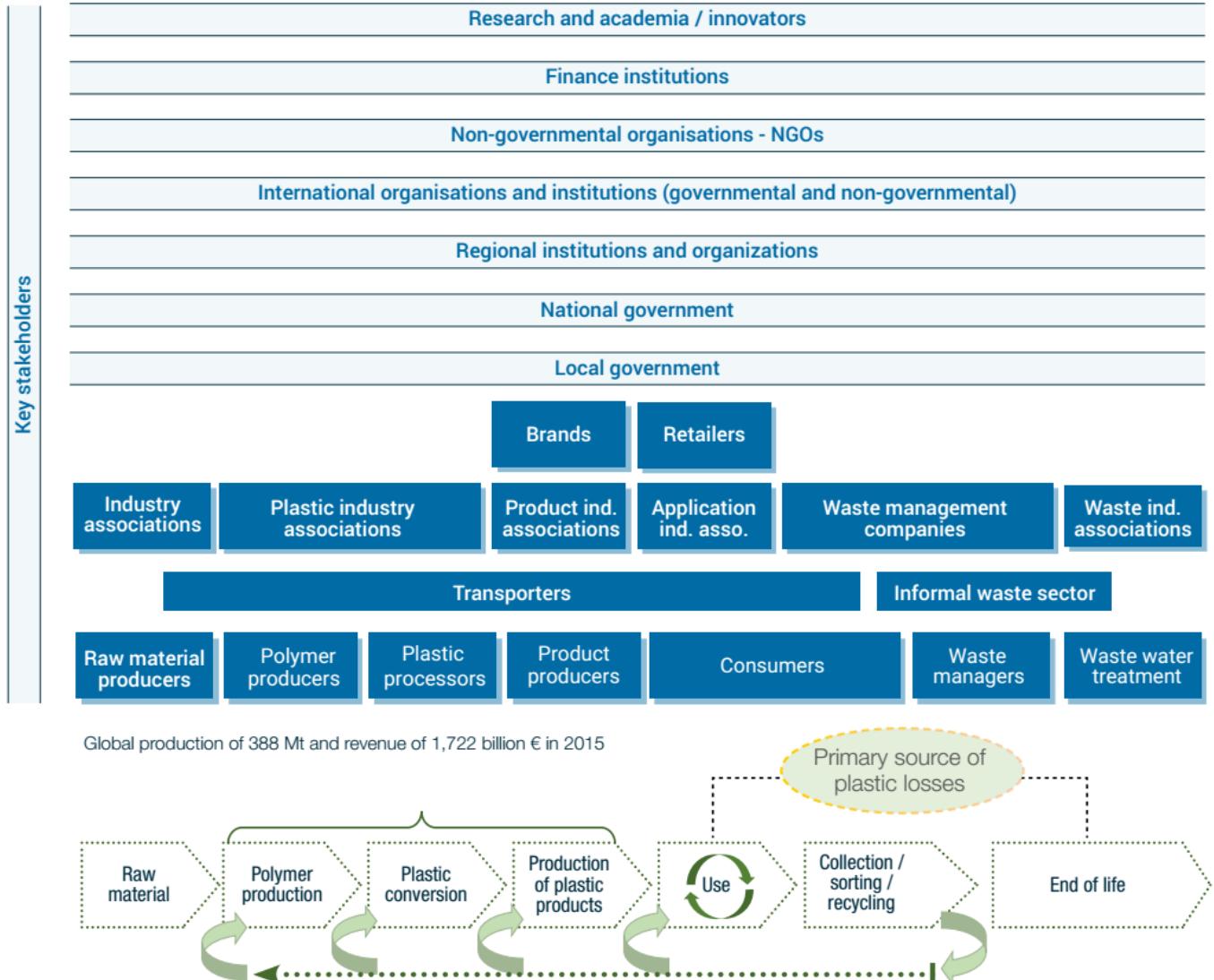
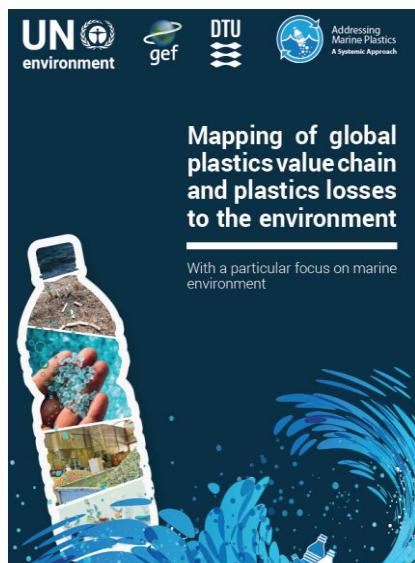
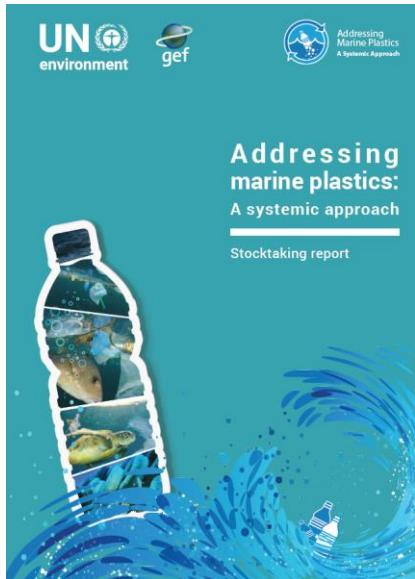
All actors of the value chain while prioritizing leverage areas: government, companies, research institutions, waste sector, finance sector, consumers

# UN Environment Assembly Resolutions guiding UNEP's mandate

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- Resolutions on marine litter and microplastics adopted at all United Nations Environmental Assemblies (UNEA 1/6, 2/11, 3/7 and 4/6)
- UNEA4 also adopted a key resolution on Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution (Res 9)
  - Requesting UNEP to compile LCA studies on SUPP and their alternatives

# Defining a systemic approach: actors



# Defining a systemic approach: Hotspots

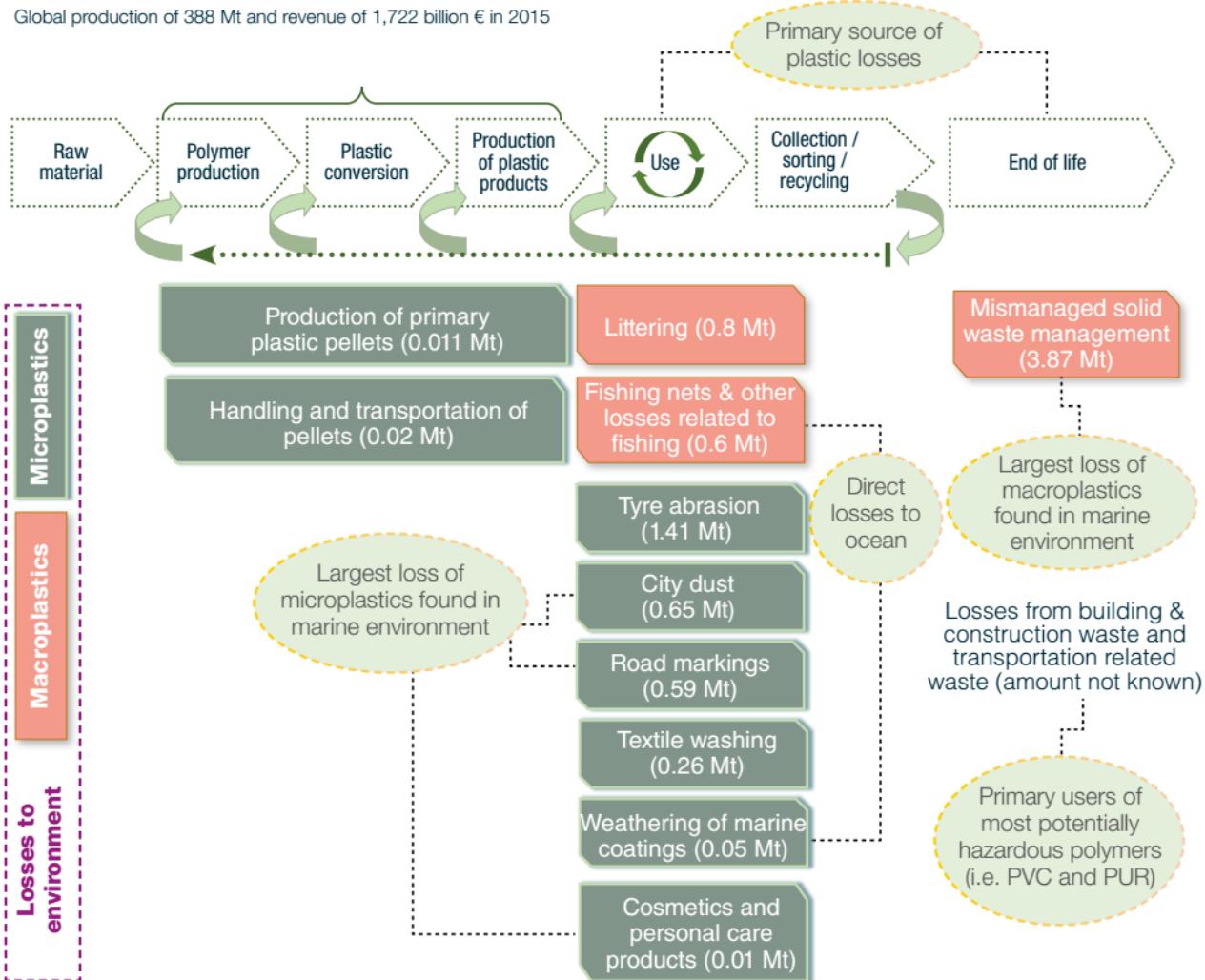
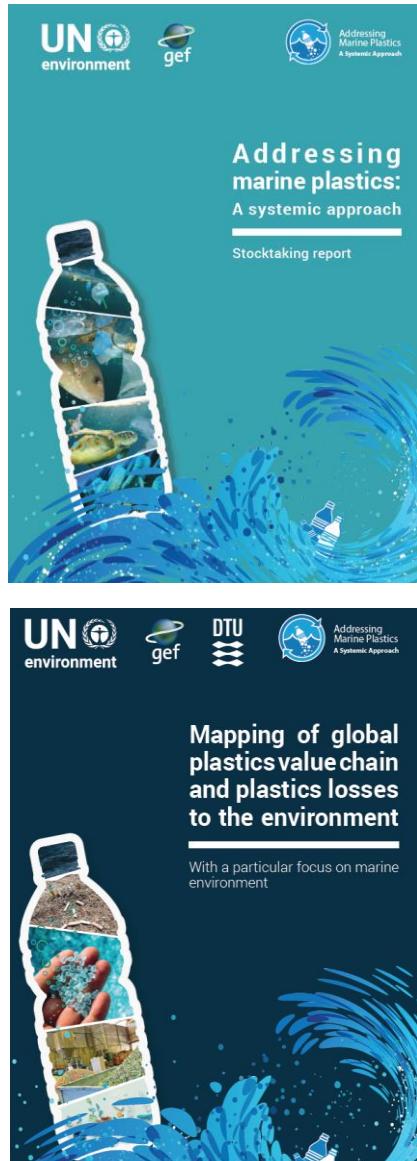


Figure 1. Overview of key value chain stages and stakeholders/interest groups associated with each value chain stage. Amounts of micro- and macroplastics lost to the environment are based on findings in Chapter 6. The identified key hotspots as presented in Chapter 9 are indicated with yellow circles.

# Fighting Plastic Pollution from a Life Cycle Perspective

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gef



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FOUNDATION



Life Cycle Initiative



Recommendations for  
Global Action

National Guidance for  
Plastic Hotspots

LCA studies on single-use plastic  
products and its alternatives



United Nations  
Environment Programme

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# Thank you

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Ran Xie, [ran.xie@un.org](mailto:ran.xie@un.org)  
Consumption and Production Unit,  
Resources and Markets Branch, Economy Division

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<https://www.unenvironment.org/>

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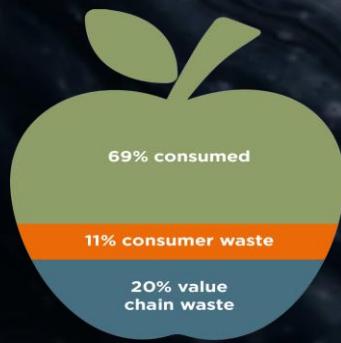
**NEW  
PLASTICS  
ECONOMY**



We aim to set the global economy on an irreversible path towards **a future where plastic never becomes waste.**



# Today's economy is hugely wasteful





Restorative &  
Regenerative



We aim to set the global economy on an irreversible path towards **a future where plastic never becomes waste.**

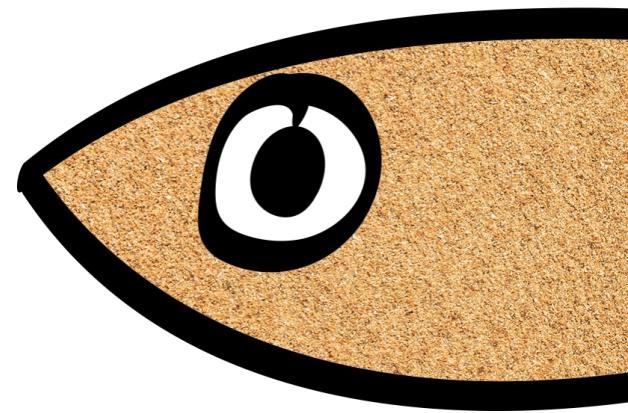




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By 2050, there could be more plastics than fish in the sea...

....yet the problem starts long before plastic reaches our oceans, rivers and beaches, and **so must the solutions.**

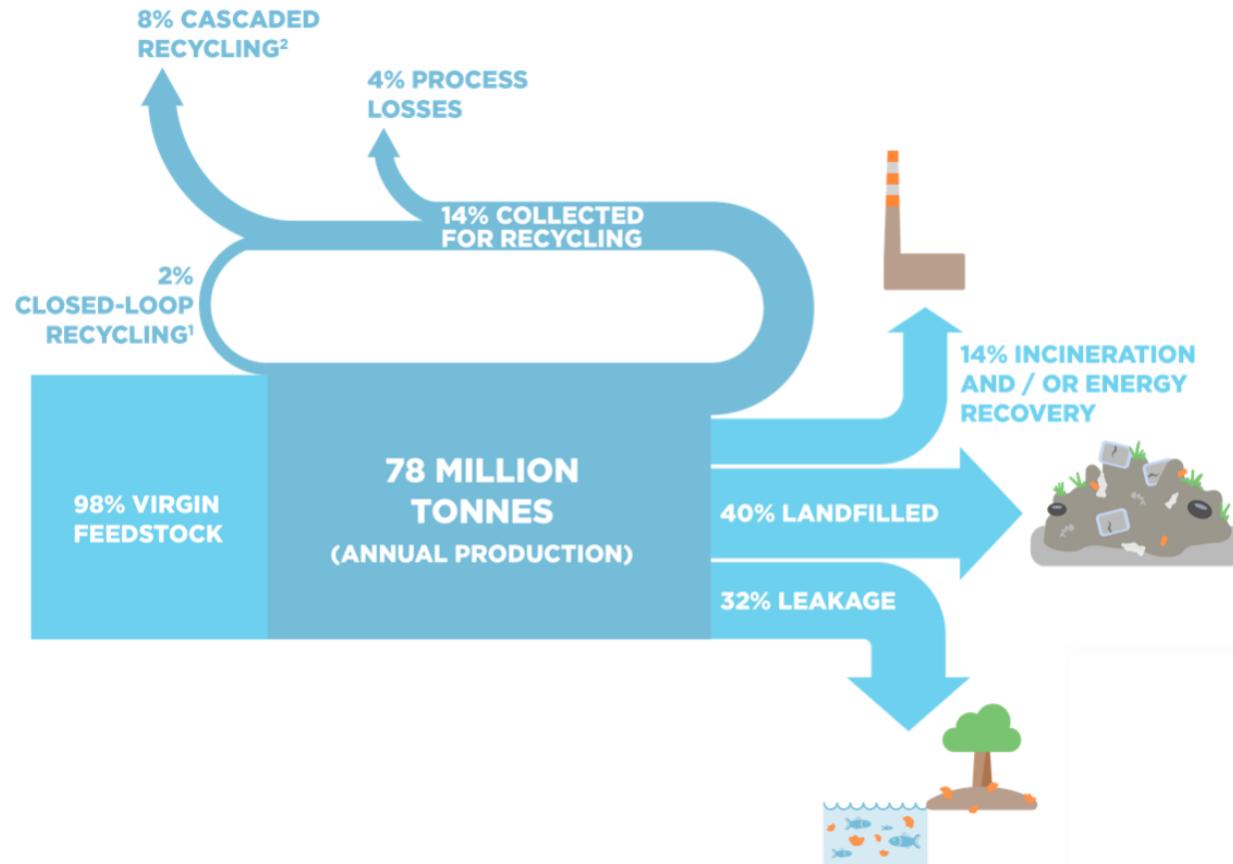


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## The broken system



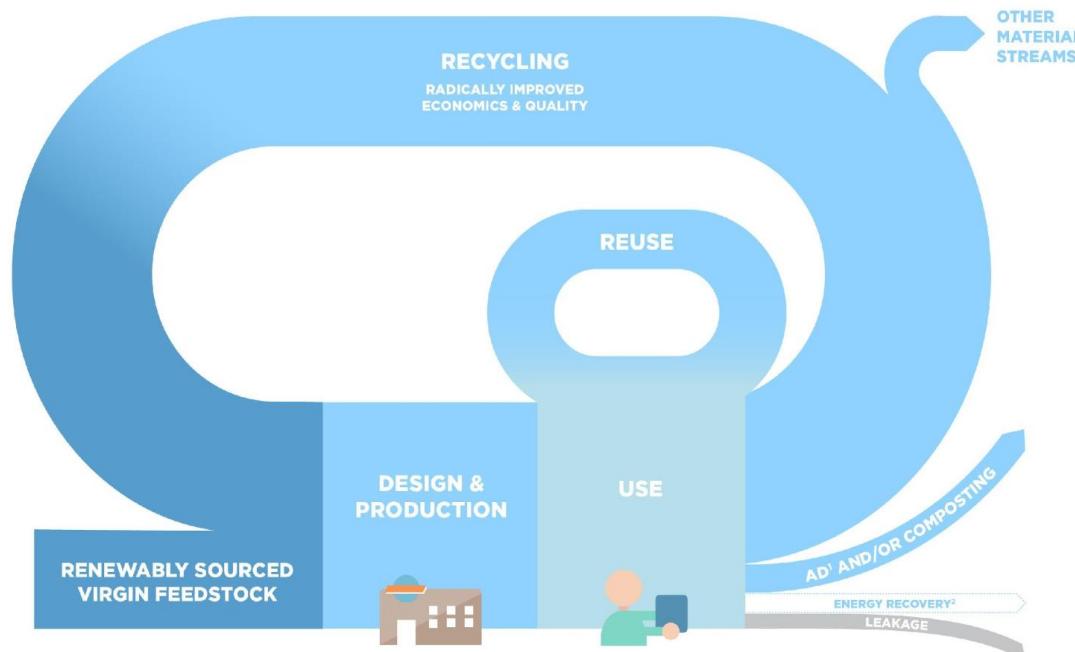
Ellen MacArthur  
Foundation: *The New  
Plastics Economy -  
Rethinking the future of  
plastics* (2016)





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## A circular system

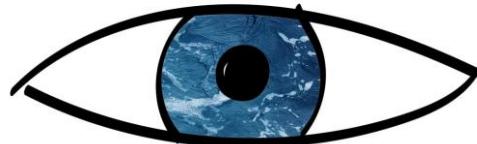


Ellen MacArthur  
Foundation: *The New  
Plastics Economy -  
Rethinking the future of  
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## The common vision

*based on years of research  
and collaboration with the  
plastics industry*

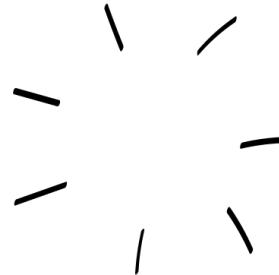
- a. **Elimination** of problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging
- b. **Reuse** models reduce the need for single-use packaging
- c. **100%** reusable, recyclable, or compostable
- d. All plastic packaging is reused, recycled, or composted **in practice**
- e. The use of plastic is **fully decoupled** from finite resources
- f. All plastic packaging is **free of hazardous chemicals**



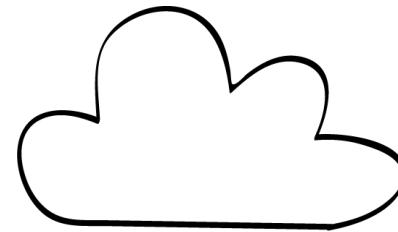
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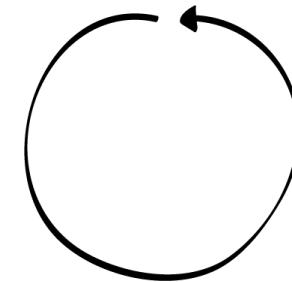
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ELIMINATE



INNOVATE



CIRCULATE



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As of June 2019

400+  
**signatories**

20%  
**of global  
volumes**

16  
**government  
s**

4.0  
**\$trillion AuM**





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## Common set of targets

(packaged goods producers, retailers & hospitality company & packaging producers)

1. **Endorse** the Global Commitment's common vision
2. Make the following individual 2025 commitments
  - a) Take action to **eliminate** problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging by 2025
  - b) Take action to move from single-use towards **reuse** models where relevant by 2025
  - c) **100%** of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable by 2025
  - d) Set an ambitious 2025 post-consumer **recycled** content target across all plastic packaging used
3. Commit to **collaborate** towards increasing reuse/recycling/composting rates for plastics
4. **Report** annually and publicly on progress towards meeting these commitments





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24<sup>th</sup> October

Publication of Global Commitment 2019 annual progress report

*~200 businesses and governments report on what they have done  
to realize their targets and commitments.*



**PLASTICS  
PACT**

A network of national  
collaboration initiatives



The question is not whether a world without plastic pollution is possible, but **what we will do together** to make it happen.

**Thank you**

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# One Planet network & Plastics

A common vision to address plastic pollution

Webinar 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2019  
Cecilia Lopez y Royo  
Coordinator, One Planet network



1

Support the implementation of SDG 12 and of the One Plan for One Planet strategy.

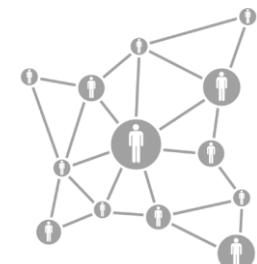


12.4 “By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle...”

12.5 “By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse”

2

Respond to UN Environment Assembly resolution on marine litter and microplastics requests the 10YFP to develop guidelines on plastic use and production to inform consumers, incentivise business and support governments



3

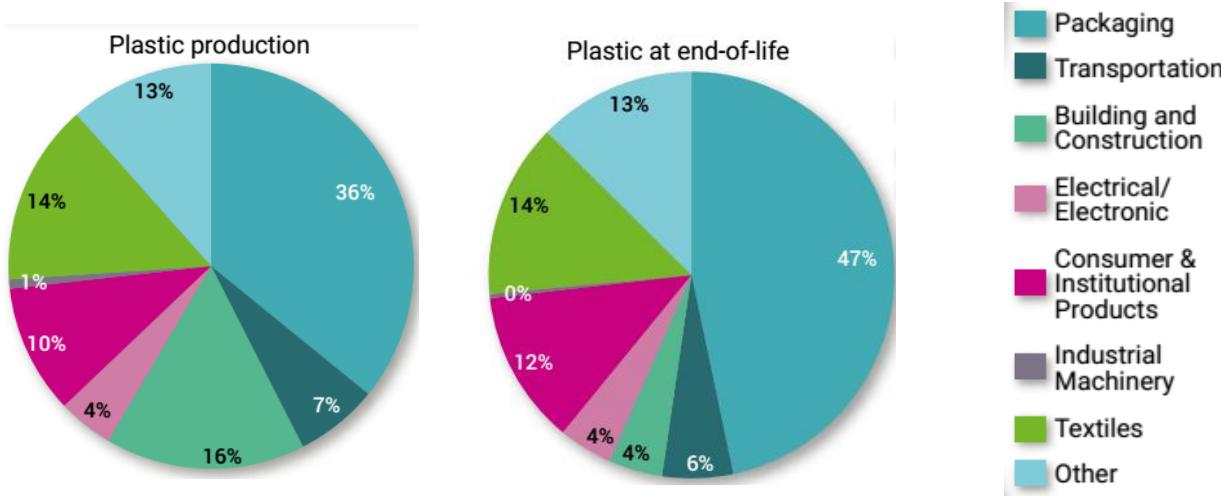
Collective advocacy and communication that leverages the complementary expertise and networks of the programmes





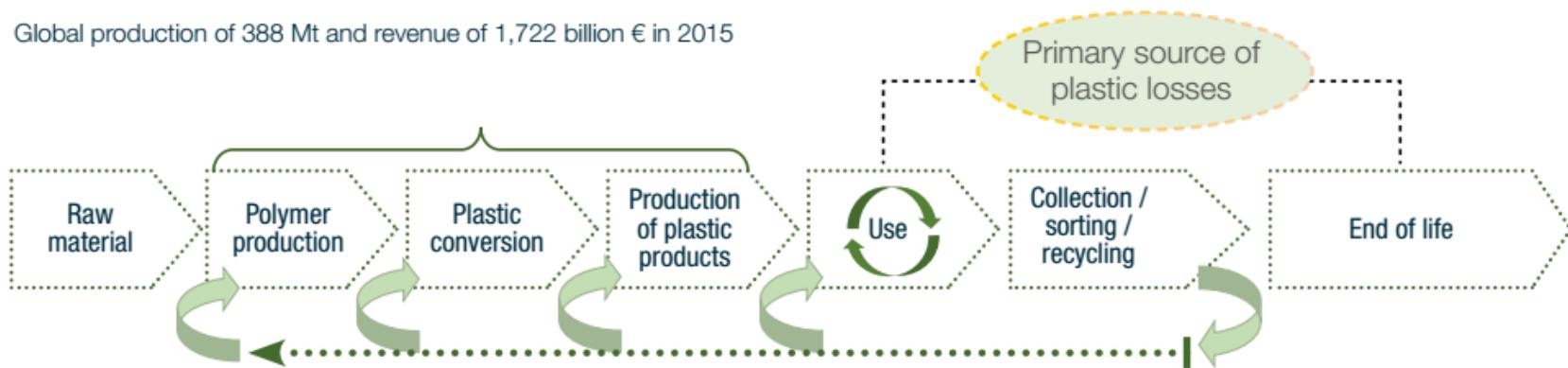
# Focus of the plastics initiative

## ❖ Plastic packaging as the main source of marine litter



## ❖ Creating impacts on the “use” stage of the plastic value chain

Global production of 388 Mt and revenue of 1,722 billion € in 2015



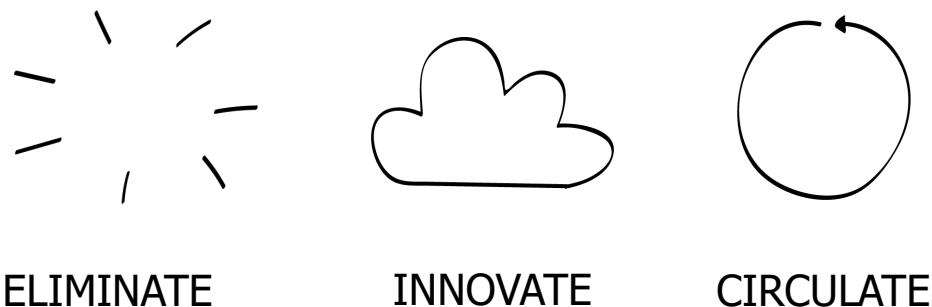


# Key commitments of the plastics initiative

- ✓ Take action to eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging
- ✓ Take action to move from single use towards re-use models
- ✓ 100% of plastic items to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable
- ✓ Set an ambitious recycled content target

Contributes to the New Plastics Economy Global commitment, led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in collaboration with UN Environment Programme

Already unites more than **400** organisations – businesses and governments across five continents





**Strategy Objective 3:**  
**2. Setting the agenda  
on plastic pollution**



Tourism global  
initiative on plastics



Engaging and  
informing consumers



Nudging and  
behavioural insights



**Strategy Objective 2:**  
**3. Tools & solutions  
on plastic pollution**



Review of standards  
and labels



Guidance for business:  
informing consumers



Tourism actors: tools  
& methodologies



**Strategy Objective 2:**  
**4. Best practices  
on plastic pollution**



**Strategy Objective 4:**  
**5. Role of SCP  
on plastic pollution**

**Timeline:** Guideline for the 5<sup>th</sup> UN Environment Assembly  
**Chapters of the guideline completed by October 2020**

**Thank you!**

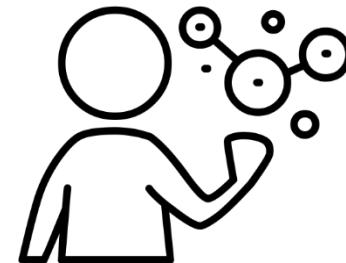


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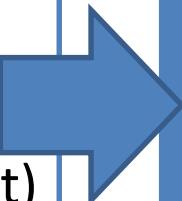
## GLOBAL TOURISM PLASTICS INITIATIVE

**in support of  
the New Plastics  
Economy Global  
Commitment**

# Overview of Tourism Companies' Actions to Address Plastic Pollution



- Leadership and engagement
- Elimination of unnecessary plastics
- Substitution w/ reusables
- Targets on properties of plastics (e.g. % of post-consumer content)
- Collaboration to increase recycling at destination
- Reporting on efforts



- Potential to accelerate impact through sharing of experiences
- Focus on procurement to extend reach of influence
- Increased recycling at destination requires collective efforts

# Purpose and objectives

## Interface of the Global Commitment for the Tourism Sector:

- By joining the Tourism Initiative, company joins the Global Commitment
- Common vision and target for the tourism sector globally

### Objectives:

- ✓ **Eliminate** problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging by 2025
- ✓ Take action to move from single-use towards **reuse models** where relevant;
- ✓ 100% of plastic **items (including packaging) to be reusable, recyclable, or compostable** by 2025
- ✓ Set ambitious 2025 **recycled content** target across all plastic items used
- ✓ Collaborate towards increasing **recycling/composting rate** for plastics in selected destinations

# Context: leading actors and One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme framework



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+



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*(Spain to TBC)*

# Partners and members of the initiative

- ✓ **Tourism businesses**, inclusive of all subsectors—accommodation, tour operators, travel agencies, airlines, cruises
- ✓ **Suppliers of products and services** to tourism businesses with a high plastic footprint
- ✓ **Destinations**, including local/national governments and destination management organizations
- ✓ Organizations with strong multiplier effect: **business associations (ITP, WTTC, ABTA...)** and **certification schemes**

# What is the value added to the sector?

- **Knowledge sharing** -> Accelerate the replication and scaling up of successful on-going actions to address plastics pollution
- **Sustainable & circular procurement** -> Recommendations for sustainable procurement practices and collaboration with suppliers to improve sustainability purchasing requirements and criteria for plastics
- **Destination & value chain level cooperation** -> Fostering & supporting the work at the destination level to improve waste management practices and infrastructure
- **Track the progress and benchmark** -> Reporting annually and publicly on progress towards meeting these commitments
- **Visibility and international recognition**

# What is expected from signatories?

1. **Endorse** the initiative
2. Set internal **targets** aligned with the objectives of the initiative
3. Provide **trainings/technical support** to the staff to reach targets
4. **Partner and collaborate** for joint solutions with suppliers, travelers, investors, local authorities and technology providers
5. Work with suppliers to obtain accurate **data** for tracking and reporting progress
6. Participate in yearly **reporting** exercise and **share experiences** and feedback

# Leading actors express interest in moving forward and being actively engaged



CONSIDERATE



In the pipeline...



## Timelines - Setting up the ground for the Initiative

- **Announcement** of the Tourism Plastics Initiative at Our Oceans Conference (October 23, 2019)
- **Consultation with sector stakeholders** to finalize co-creation of the Initiative—Agreement on priorities, targets, and delivery mechanisms (October—December, 2019)
- **Organizations and destinations express interest** in joining the initiative and begin the on-boarding process (January 2020 onwards)
- **Official Launch** of the Initiative at international tourism fairs—FITUR, ITB, WTTC Global Summit (2020, 1Q)

Join the next webinar



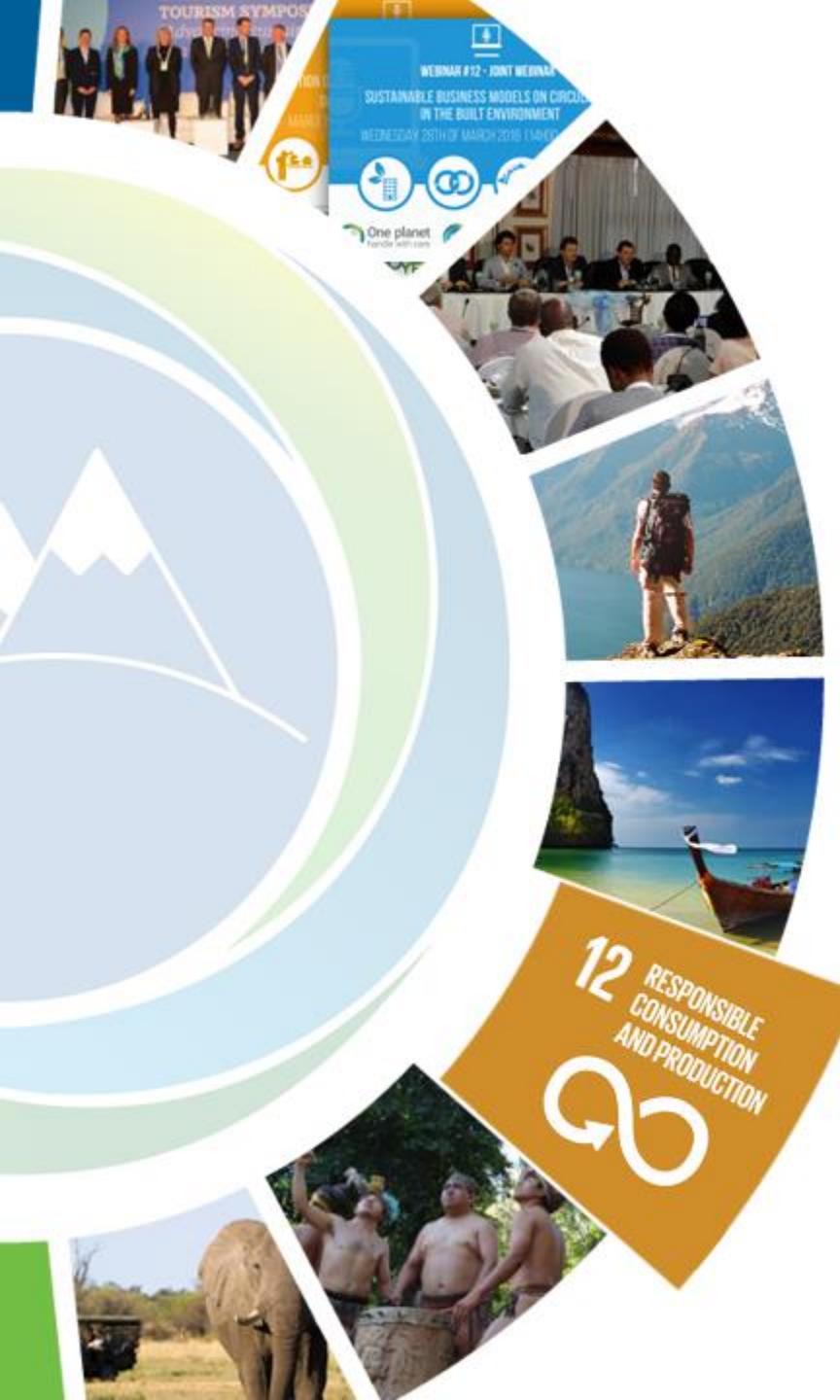
Webinar #16 - Sustainable Tourism Programme

## ADDRESSING PLASTIC POLLUTION IN TOURISM DESTINATIONS

29TH OF OCTOBER 2019 (14H00-15H00 CET)



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# Thank you!

To contact us:

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[vftrapa@unwto.org](mailto:vftrapa@unwto.org)



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# Q&A



# Reporting at the One Planet network

Tells us about your work on plastics!



The screenshot shows the homepage of the One Planet network website at [oneplanetnetwork.org](http://oneplanetnetwork.org). The page features a large background image of three young children smiling. At the top, there are logos for the United Nations and One Planet, followed by the tagline "handle with care". A green downward arrow points from the text "Tells us about your work on plastics!" to the "REPORTING" button. The navigation bar includes links for "A HUB FOR SDG 12", "ONE PLANET NETWORK", "DATABASES", "REPORTING" (which is highlighted with a green box and arrow), and "My SCP". Below the navigation, there is a sidebar with links for reporting: "WHY REPORT YOUR PROGRESS ON SDG 12", "WHAT TO REPORT ON SDG 12", "HOW TO REPORT PROGRESS ON SDG 12", "2018 REPORTING RESULTS", "REPORTING FAQS", and "REPORTING SUPPORT CONTACTS". A green button at the bottom of the sidebar says "Search the Global SCP database".



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Thank You