

WEBINAR 20th Jan

A stocktaking exercise: Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

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Background: Pursuant to UNEA Resolution 4/6*

Subparagraph 7(a):

“Take stock of existing activities and action by governments, regional and global instruments, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other relevant contributors to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans;”

*(UNEP/EA.4/Res.6)

Agenda

- 1) **Introduction to the background/context of the stocktaking exercise.**
- 2) How to submit inputs to the stocktaking survey.
- 3) What is the survey about?
- 4) Who is the right person to complete the survey?
- 5) What to prepare before starting the survey?
- 6) What do we mean by an ACTION/ACTIVITY to reduce marine litter and microplastics?
- 7) What to do if there are multiple partners?
- 8) Format of the survey with DEMO.
- 9) Useful TIPS for completing the survey
- 10) Outcomes: What happens to your data after the survey?

Introduction to the Survey

- Macro and Microplastics in the environment are a main area of concern to the general public, policy makers and scientists.
- The United Nations is aware of some **truly excellent**, innovative programmes to tackle the problem but we would like to know more about these and other initiatives.

- The survey will enable us collate a stocktake of activities - provide a snapshot of the current situation.
- In so doing, we can learn from you about challenges and solutions.
- Compile and showcase best practices.

Aims

To carry out a **stocktaking** exercise:

- of **existing** activities and actions,
- **starting from** the 1st of January 2018,
- taken to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans;
- Opportunity to see where more coordination is needed and provide a snapshot of ongoing work.

Aims

Actions taken by:

- Governments
- Regional and global instruments
- International organizations
- The private sector
- Non-governmental organizations
- Other relevant contributors

Outcomes

- To analyse patterns and characteristics of actions;
- To identify any particularly successful interventions across regions;
- To **visualise** the activities and actions.

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<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/reporting-tool>



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Contacts:
 For any questions relating to these submissions, please write an email to:
unenvironment-gpml@un.org
stephanie.vanderpoel@un.org

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Inputs from Member States and stakeholders to the working documents for the fourth meeting of the ad hoc expert group on marine litter and microplastics.

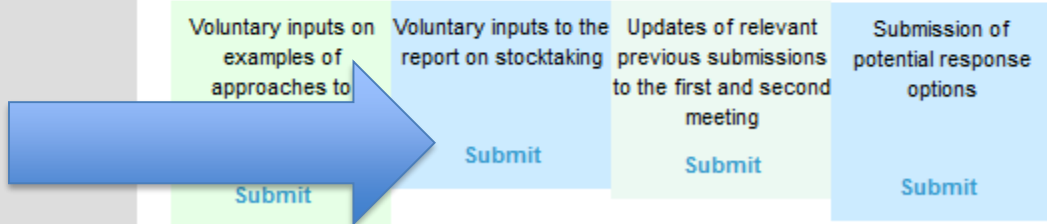
As per the outcome document accessible [here](#), the secretariat invites Member States and Stakeholders to provide their inputs for any or all of the below listed work streams.

- Voluntary inputs on examples of approaches to analyze effectiveness (subparagraph 7 (d) in [UNEA resolution 4/6](#)) – Submission deadline: 10 January 2020;
- Voluntary inputs to the report on stocktaking (subparagraph 7 (a) in [UNEA resolution 4/6](#)) - Submission deadline: 1 February 2020;
- Updates of relevant previous submissions to the first and second meeting of the expert group, pursuant to subparagraph 10 of [UNEA resolution 3/7](#) – Submission deadline: preferably by 1 February 2020;
- Submission of potential response options, pursuant to paragraph 10 (d) of [UNEA resolution 3/7](#) – Submission deadline: 1 February 2020.

The submissions can be made through the following means:

1. Filling the online form that allows you to enter the relevant information on the specific sections.
2. Uploading your documents through the file upload on each of the above sections. The documents will be guided by the template accessible [here](#)

Kindly observe the deadline for the submission dates to enable the secretariat to prepare adequately for the relevant actions. Note that some action points require the secretariat to include these inputs to the working documents for the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended expert group and timely submission will therefore be appreciated.



RESOLUTIONS

- 1/6. Marine plastic debris microplastics
- 2/11. Marine plastic litter and microplastics
- 3/7. Marine litter and microplastics
- 4/6. Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

TEMPLATE

Template for information sharing for the Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE STOCKTAKING SURVEY ON REDUCING MARINE PLASTIC LITTER AND MICROPLASTICS

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Voluntary inputs to the report on stocktaking



This section requests the inputs based on the following operative paragraph of UNEA 4 resolution 6:

7. Decides to extend until its fifth session the mandate of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics established by its resolution 3/7, and requests the expert group, building on its previous work, to:

(a) Take stock of existing activities and action by governments, regional and global instruments, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other relevant contributors to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans;

MAKING SUBMISSIONS:

Submissions can be made through the two options below:

Option 1: Submit your inputs through a questionnaire on the link below:

[Submission link](#)

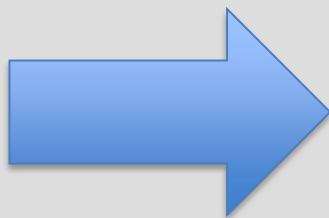
Option 2: Download and fill in the template ([downloadable here](#)) then upload your duly filled in document through the file upload tool below:

Upload your inputs

No file selected.

RESOLUTIONS

- [1/6. Marine plastic debris and microplastics](#)
- [2/11. Marine plastic litter and microplastics](#)
- [3/7. Marine litter and microplastics](#)
- [4/6. Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics](#)



A Stocktake: Reducing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

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A Stocktake of Existing Actions and Activities to Reduce Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

Introduction

We invite you to contribute to a voluntary online survey aimed at taking stock of existing activities and actions (starting from 1st January 2018) to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

Macro- and microplastics in the environment are a main area of concern to the general public, policy makers and scientists. We are aware of some excellent, innovative programmes to tackle the problem but we would like to know more about these and other initiatives. We want to learn from countries about their challenges and solutions, about existing activities and actions and showcase best practices.

Who is leading this Survey?

Agenda

- 1) Introduction to the background/context of the stocktaking exercise.
- 2) How to submit inputs to the stocktaking survey.
- 3) What is the survey about?**
- 4) Who is the right person to complete the survey?
- 5) What to prepare before starting the survey?
- 6) What do we mean by an ACTION/ACTIVITY to reduce marine litter and microplastics?
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- 8) Format of the survey with DEMO.
- 9) Useful TIPS for completing the survey
- 10) Outcomes: What happens to your data after the survey?

What is the survey about?

- The focus of the survey is on the **ACTIONS** and **ACTIVITIES** that are happening.
- Tell us about many Actions.
- But **ONE** action per survey.

Definition of 'Actions/Activities'

Focus on those that **aim for change** (interventions).

Open reach, to include smaller community-led initiatives, larger national and supra national approaches.

Defined broadly to include:

e.g. policy change, technological innovation, voluntary commitments, education, behaviour change programmes, research programmes
.....other structures/initiatives focusing on reducing plastic pollution.

Definition of 'Actions and Activities'

Taken at any point: source + pathway

Plastic debris in the ocean: a multiplicity of sources and pathways

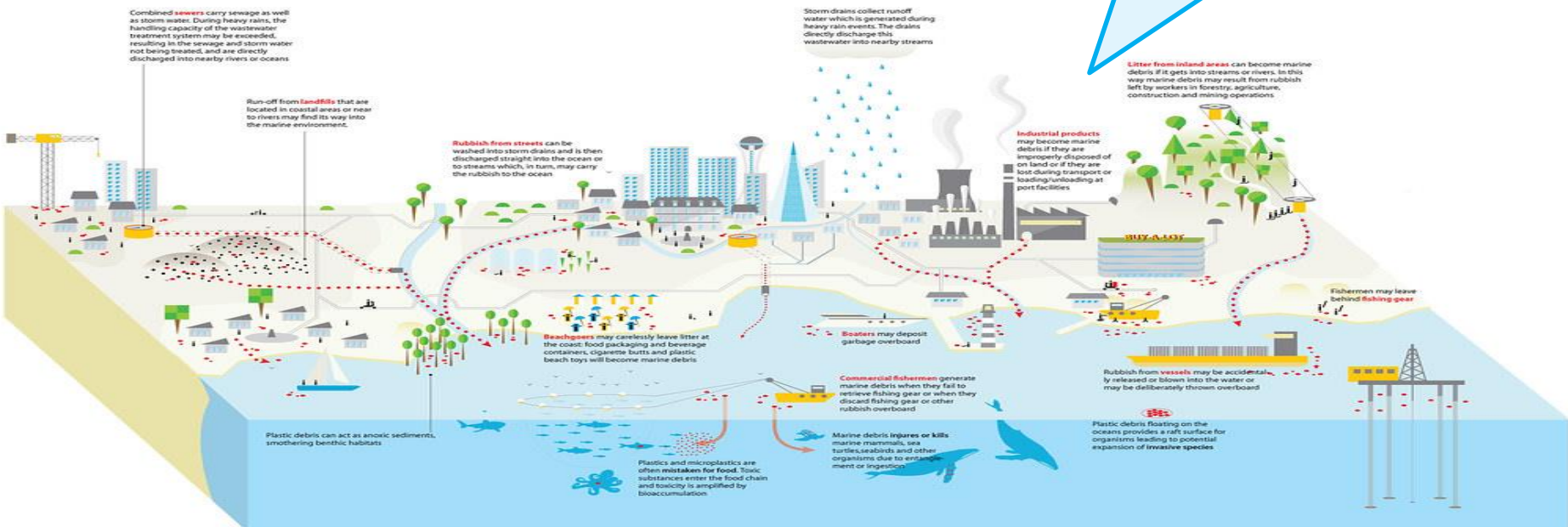


Image: <http://www.grida.no/resources/6922>

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Who can complete the survey?

Submissions can be from Government and private sector organisations.

AND all other contributors e.g. Charities, Community groups.

- The best person to complete the survey is someone who knows about that action or can report that action on behalf of the organisation.
- You can be involved in the action **or not**, you might only know of the action, but be in a position to collate all the details of the action.

Who can complete the survey?

- An organisation or individual can complete the survey **on more than one occasion** i.e. enter repeated actions.
- You can pause the survey midway and return to it later.

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What to prepare before the survey?

Your contact details

Name of the action

Details of the Actions

The type of organisation responsible for the action/activity?

Where the action(s) took or are taking place, in terms of:

Countries?

Pathway to sea e.g. coastal zones, freshwater rivers?

The life cycle/plastic supply chain?

What to prepare before the survey?

Information on:

- The impact or harm that the action relates to (e.g. human health, biodiversity etc.).
- The type of contaminant targeted (e.g. microplastic: microbeads or macroplastic: plastic bottles etc.).
- The target sector targeted by the action (e.g. packaging, medical sector etc.).
- How the action is funded (Amounts and Currency, In Kind, Funding Sources).
- The duration of the activity/action.
- About stakeholders and partners involved in your action(s)/activity(es).
- About the evaluation of the action(s).

What to prepare before the survey?

Links to Documents:

Please also prepare and provide links to information on the action.

Eg: URLs to reports, images, media articles.
You can also email these to us after the survey.

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What do we mean by an ACTION/ ACTIVITY?

E.g.

- changing a rule/legislation that affects the use of plastics,
- a project to encourage people to change their choice or use of plastic products
- it might be a monitoring assessment.
- Define ‘actions and activities’ broadly.
- If in doubt – complete the survey.
- Our aim is a broad stocktake, so completing the survey is likely to help us achieve this aim.

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What to do if there are multiple Partners?

- Please don't worry about an action or activity being entered more than once by different partners.

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<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/reporting-tool>

Direct link to the survey:

<https://plymouth.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/stocktake-reduce-marine-plastic-litter>

A Stocktake: Reducing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

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A Stocktake of Existing Actions and Activities to Reduce Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics

Introduction

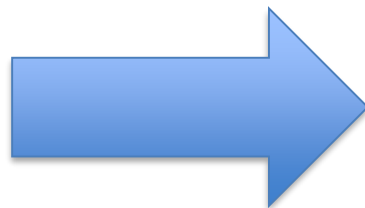
We invite you to contribute to a voluntary online survey aimed at taking stock of existing activities and actions (starting from 1st January 2018) to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

Macro- and microplastics in the environment are a main area of concern to the general public, policy makers and scientists. We are aware of some excellent, innovative programmes to tackle the problem but we would like to know more about these and other initiatives. We want to learn from countries about their challenges and solutions, about existing activities and actions and showcase best practices.

Who is leading this Survey?

What are the aims of the Survey?

The aim is to take stock of existing activities taken to prevent and reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics, to provide a snapshot of the current situation. The results will be used to produce a stocktaking report with a situational analysis of categories of actions and themes (e.g., along the life cycle, geographic range, environmental zone, and the existence of reporting and evaluation practices). This analysis will show the distribution and focus of current actions and activities and will be made available through the UNEP website to inform further discussions of the ad hoc open-ended experts group on marine litter and microplastics in preparation for the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly.



[Finish later](#)

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tourism), and what the drivers and barriers are related to the action.

The survey is estimated to take around 15 minutes to complete for each action or activity. Please use a computer to access and complete the survey as it is not suitable for mobile phones. Guidance is available from marinelitterstocktake@plymouth.ac.uk.

Code of Research Ethics

We value your help in this research on current actions and activities. Any personal data you provide (name, role and contact email address) will only be visible to the research team. You also have the right to withdraw from the survey at any point in the survey and can ask for the data to be destroyed. You can do so by contacting:

marinelitterstocktake@plymouth.ac.uk

In case of complaints please contact the ethics committee hhsethics@plymouth.ac.uk

General Contact: marinelitterstocktake@plymouth.ac.uk

[Click here](#) to download the survey guidance document:



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9. TYPE OF ACTION: What did the **MAIN** action/activity focus on? (**Please tick ONE which best describes the action you are reporting**). * *Required*



- LEGISLATION, STANDARDS, RULES: e.g. agreeing new or changing rules or standards that others should comply with, new regulation, agreements, policies, economic instruments etc. including voluntary commitments.
- WORKING WITH PEOPLE: Encouraging or enabling others (e.g., education, training, communication, awareness raising, behaviour change programmes)
- TECHNOLOGY and PROCESSES: New technical developments/innovation (e.g., research and development, new product design, new materials, processes etc.) changes in practice, operations, environmental management and planning.
- MONITORING and ANALYSIS: Collecting evidence around plastic discharge to the ocean/waterways? (e.g. monitoring, analysis)

10. TYPE OF ACTION: Whilst you already selected the focus of your action/activity in Question 9, did the action/activity **also** involve other aspects (please tick which ones below): *Optional*

LEGISLATION, STANDARDS, RULES: e.g. agreeing new or changing rules or standards

DEBRIEF

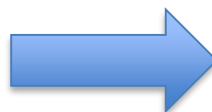
Thank you for taking part in this survey. The information is extremely valuable to us and will be analysed with care, to inform next steps. The information will be collated with the responses from other member states and organisations and will be included in a publicly available inventory of the activities and actions taken by organisations to reduce the discharge of marine plastic litter and microplastics to the seas and oceans.

The information will be available through the UNEP website, after the finalisation of the work.

46. Would you be willing to be contacted for a follow-up interview? If yes, please confirm, in the box below, how we can contact you:

Please click the FINISH BUTTON at the bottom right of the screen to record your information.

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Finish ✓

[Finish later](#)

- We have provided lots of boxes for text answers.
- If the choices in a question do not seem to describe your action, please use the
 - ‘other’ boxes
 - or
 - ‘is there anything more that you would like to tell us’ boxes.

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What happens to your data after the survey?

- Data analysed by project team
- Findings presented in a Stocktaking Report
→ AHEG 4 → update → AHEG 5
- Data from questions 1 - 29 will be entered into an online inventory platform – with an open access interface.

Who to contact?

marinelitterstocktake@plymouth.ac.uk

Questions?

Thank you



IMPORTANT LINKS:

UNEP papersmart documents:

<https://papersmart.unon.org/resolution/reporting-tool>

Survey:

<https://plymouth.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/stocktake-reduce-marine-plastic-litter>

Contact:

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