

# Agenda item 6a

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Summary of Working Document UNEP/AHEG/2019/3/2

Approach for the stocktaking of existing activities and actions towards long-term elimination of discharges into the oceans, to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics by relevant contributors

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Third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics  
18-22 November 2019 – Bangkok, Thailand

# Pursuant to UNEA Resolution 4/6\*

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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)

# Project aims

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To carry out a **stocktaking** exercise:

- of **existing** activities and actions,
- from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2018,
- taken to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics with the aim of the long-term elimination of discharge into the oceans.

Will also feed into the effectiveness analysis under subparagraph 7(d) of resolution 4/6

# Project aims

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To carry out a **stocktaking** exercise:

- of **existing** activities and actions,
- from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 20
- taken to reduce marine pl with the aim of the long t into the oceans.

Snapshot of  
Action Now

# Project aims

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Actions taken by:

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

# Using JISC Online Survey:

25% complete

## Action 1: Drivers and Motivation for your action/activities.

In this section, we would like you to tell us about the factors that drove or motivated the actions/activities.

Are you reporting from the:

- Private/commercial sector
- Public sector
- Other

Driver	Not at all important				Extremely Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Public opinion in general (no specific contact)					
Public opinion specifically (you have been contacted and asked to make changes)					
Cost considerations (e.g., of existing processes in your organisation or of disposal)					
Leadership by specific individuals in your organisation who are very engaged in the issue					
Existing policy					
A recent policy change					
Anticipating a future policy change					
Organisational values					
Environmental impact					
Standards/ New Standards					
Economic drivers (e.g., fines, subsidies)					
Spiritual or Religious considerations					
Moral considerations					

Draft

## PILOT UNEP: A Stocktake: Reducing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastic Discharge to the Ocean

10% complete

Thank you for responding, please can you tell us a little about your role?

3 Name

4 Institution

5 Role

6 What is the name of the responsible body for reporting or accountability?

7 Do the actions that you are reporting to us, lie within:

- Public Administration
- International convention/agreement
- National ministry/agency
- Sub-regional ministry/agency
- Community based organisation
- International non-governmental organisation
- Private sector organisation
- Multinational corporation
- National Corporation
- Small-medium sized enterprise
- Other

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# Definition of 'Actions and Activities'

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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 on the pathway

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

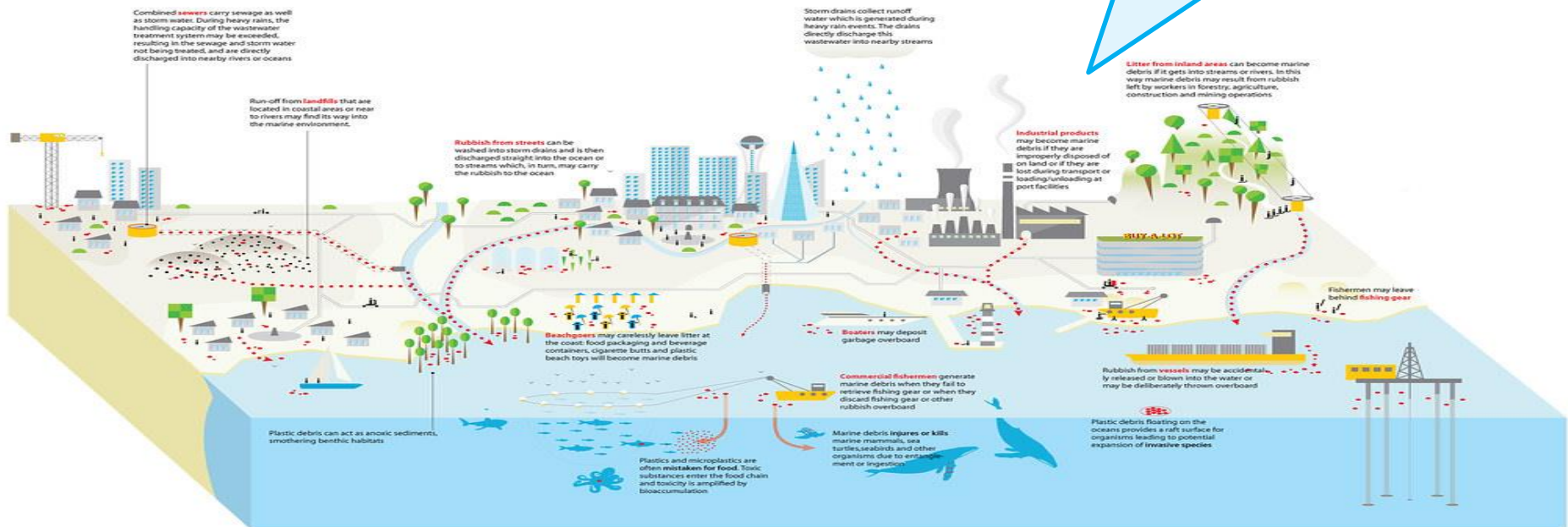


Image: <http://www.grida.no/resources/6922>



# Outcomes

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- Analysis of patterns and characteristics of actions;
- Identification of any particularly successful interventions across regions;
- Identification of gaps where future efforts should be focused;
- **Mapping** and **visualization** of the activities and actions.

# Methodology

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## **Phase 1:**

will focus on Government and private sector actions.

## **Phase 2 :**

will focus on all other contributors.

- Main tool of data collection will be an online survey for submissions from stakeholder groups.
- Complemented by interviews and a literature review.
- Working in partnership; open to feedback and input from all.

# Methodology

## Phase 1:

will focus on Government and private sector actions.

- Main tool of data collection will be an online survey for submissions from stakeholder groups.
- Complemented by interviews and a

**Phase**  
will fo  
contri

Will be developed in close coordination with the work under resolution 4/6 subparagraph 7(d):

Analysis of effectiveness of existing and potential response options

# Timeline

Timeline	Dates	AHEG Meeting
Presentation on Approach	18 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2019	Third ad hoc open-ended expert group meeting
Progress Update	May 2020 <i>(dates TBC)</i>	Fourth ad hoc open-ended expert group meeting
Final Report Presentation	October 2020 <i>(dates TBC)</i>	Fifth ad hoc open-ended expert group meeting

# Timeline

Timeline	Dates	AHEG Meeting
Presentation on Approach	18	rt
Progress Update		
Final Report Presentation		

- Led by the University of Plymouth,
- Supported by a consortium of five partner Universities,
- One in each world region to ensure regional representation,
- And best practice collection.

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Categories of Activity

Where does the  
Action take place?

Where in the  
Lifecycle?

Focus of the Activity?

**Normative**

e.g. Policy instrument  
Inter-ministerial  
committees

**Evidential**

e.g. Monitoring programmes

**Capacity Building**

e.g. Awareness programmes  
new technologies or  
operations

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

## Categories of Activity

### INITIAL RESPONDENT FEEDBACK:

Difficulty understanding words like  
'Normative'

**Propose** using terms such as:  
e.g.

- Legislative, standards, rules
- Monitoring and Analysis
- Working with People

### **Normative**

e.g. Policy instrument  
Inter-ministerial  
committees

### **Evidential**

e.g. Monitoring programmes

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e.g. Awareness programmes  
new technologies or  
operations

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Categories of Activity

Where does the  
Action take place?

Where in the  
Lifecycle?

Focus of the Activity?

**Geography range:**

- Global
- Regional
- Transnational
- National
- Sub-national



# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Categories of Activity

Where does the  
Action take place?

Where in the  
Lifecycle?

Focus of the Activity?

## **Production**

e.g. design, additives

## **Consumption**

e.g. reduction,  
elimination,  
prevention

## **Waste Management**

e.g. infrastructure  
recycling  
disaster debris

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Categories of Activity

Where does the  
Action take place?

Where in the  
Lifecycle?

Focus of the Activity?

**Within ecosystem**

**What is targeted**

e.g. fishing gear  
bottles

**System-wide or sectoral**

e.g. retail, medical,  
construction

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

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Drivers/Barriers

Impacts

Funding

Evaluation

Drivers

e.g.

- Economic concern
- Environmental concern
- Public opinion
- SDGs

Barriers

e.g.

- Technical issues
- Materials
- Lack of expertise

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

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Drivers/Barriers

Impacts

Funding

Evaluation

- Human health
- Freshwater organisms/biodiversity
- Marine organisms
- Economics and trade

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Drivers/Barriers

Impact

Funding

Evaluation

e.g.

- Source of Funding

# Approach: Aspects of the Survey

---

Drivers/Barriers

Impact

Evaluation

Evaluation

- Are outcomes evaluated?
- Environmental impacts
- Social impacts
- Economic impacts
- Which indicators?

# Using JISC Online Survey:

25% complete

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Draft

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- National Corporation
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Driver	Not at all important				Extremely Important
--------	----------------------	--	--	--	---------------------

Focus on simple, straightforward numerical and categorical responses NOT a lot of open text.

Spiritual or Religious considerations					
Moral considerations					

PILOT UNEP: A Stocktake: Reducing Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastic Discharge to the Ocean

Options for mapping, visualization, analysis.

Draft

3 Role

4 What is the name of the responsible body for reporting or accountability?

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# Project Outputs

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1. An **online inventory platform (referred to as ‘online inventory’ hereafter)**, where the collected data is stored and managed
2. A **stocktaking dashboard (referred to as ‘dashboard’ hereafter)**, including a range of graphical representations visualizing trends and gaps

## Online inventory (1/2)

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- The inventory has an **open-access interface**
- This will enable users to gain access to source documents and review and undertake their own geographic and activity-based analyses
- It also contains **customized filters**, which allows the user to search for actions on a number of topics
- A **map** on the landing page shows where actions are located

## Online inventory (2/2)

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- The survey feeds directly into the online inventory
- A team of academic researchers familiar with the different topics and aware of key regional and national considerations as well as languages will
  - **quality-assure** the survey inputs
  - **oversee** the uploading of data into the online inventory
- The online inventory allows for **additional information** on the published actions that can be input by the academic team at any given time

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# Disclaimer

The data visible in the following slides of the online inventory is placeholder data and merely used for demonstration purposes

Projects

Source to sea  Reporting  Responsible actor  Role organisation  Organisation  Location   
 Impact  Sector  Target action  Lifecycle of plastics  Type of action  Geography   
 Duration  Funding  Pollutant targeted

The most recent projects added to the stocktaking



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 3: Responsible tourism

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water bottles

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 1: Plastics and clothes

UNEP

Thailand

4 Projects

1

Map Satellite

Map data ©2019 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Projects

Source to sea Reporting Responsible actor Role organisation Organisation Location

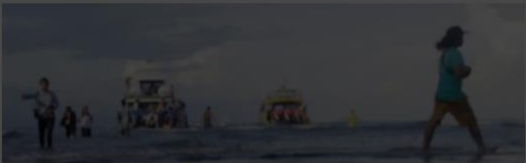
Impact Sector Target action Lifecycle of plastics Type of action Geography

Duration Funding Pollutant targeted

Most recent projects added to the stocktaking



Placeholder action 4: Cleaning rivers  
UNEP  
Thailand



Placeholder action 3: Responsible tourism  
UNEP  
Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water bottles  
UNEP  
Thailand



Placeholder action 1: Plastics and clothes  
UNEP  
Thailand

4 Projects  
1

Map Satellite

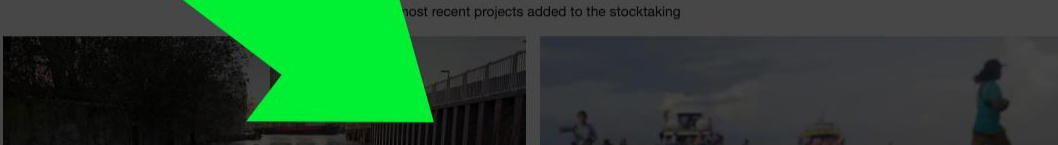
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Projects  Search

Source to sea Reporting Responsible actor Role organisation Organisation Location

Impact Sector Target action Lifecycle of plastics Type of action Geography

Duration Funding Pollutant targeted



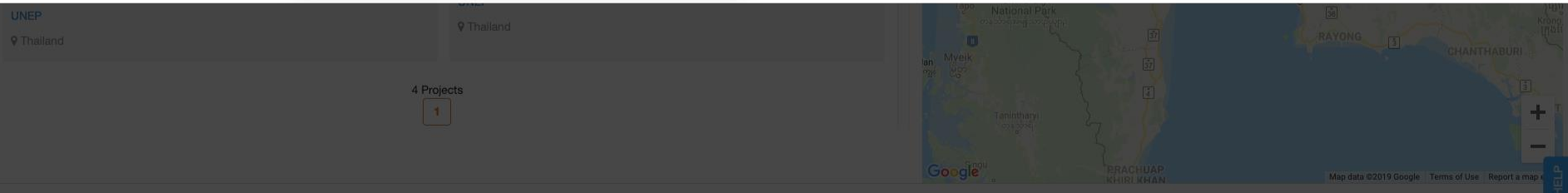
Source to sea Reporting Responsible actor Role organisation Organisation Location

Impact 

- No, There is no reporting mechanism
- No, Reporting is voluntary
- Yes, There is mandatory compliance reporting
- Yes and the outcomes of the action are evaluated
- No but the outcomes of the action are evaluated
- Other

Lifecycle of plastics Type of action Geography

Duration Funding Pollutant targeted



Projects

- Source to sea
- Reporting
- Responsible actor
- Role organisation
- Organisation
- Location
- Impact
- Sector
- Target action
- Lifecycle of plastics
- Type of action
- Geography
- Duration
- Funding
- Pollutant targeted

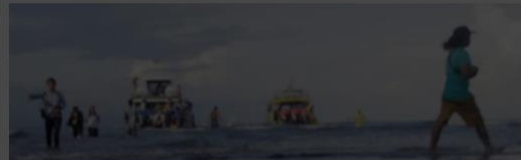
The most recent projects added to the stocktaking



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 3: Responsible tourism

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water bottles

UNEP

Thailand



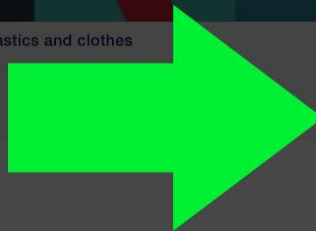
Placeholder action 1: Plastics and clothes

UNEP

Thailand

4 Projects

1



Map Satellite

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Projects	Search	Source to sea	Reporting	Responsible actor	Role organisation	Organisation	Location				
Impact	Sector	Target action	Lifecycle of plastics	Type of action	Geography	Duration	Duration	Duration	Duration	Duration	Pollutant targeted

The most recent projects added to the stocktaking



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 3: Responsible tourism

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water bottles

UNEP

Thailand



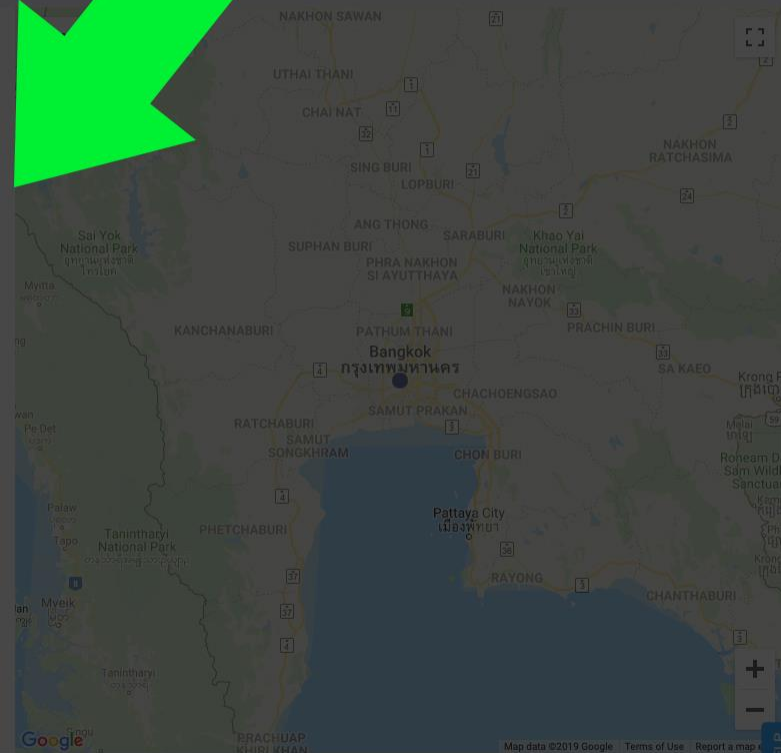
Placeholder action 1: Plastics and clothes

UNEP

Thailand

4 Projects

1



Projects

Source to sea Reporting Responsible actor Role organisation Organisation Location

Impact Sector Target action Lifecycle of plastics Type of action Geography

The most recent projects added to



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers

UNEP

Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water bottles

UNEP

Thailand

4 Projects

1



# UNEP stocktaking of existing activities and actions to reduce marine plastic litter & microplastics

Register

Projects

Type of action  Organisation  Sector  Location  Responsible actor

Role organisation  Geography  Source to sea  Lifecycle of plastics  Target action

Pollutant targeted  Impact  Reporting  Funding  Duration

The most recent projects added to the stocktaking



Placeholder action 4: Litter in rivers



Placeholder action 3: Responsible tourism

UNEP  
Thailand



Placeholder action 2: Preventing marine litter from plastic water

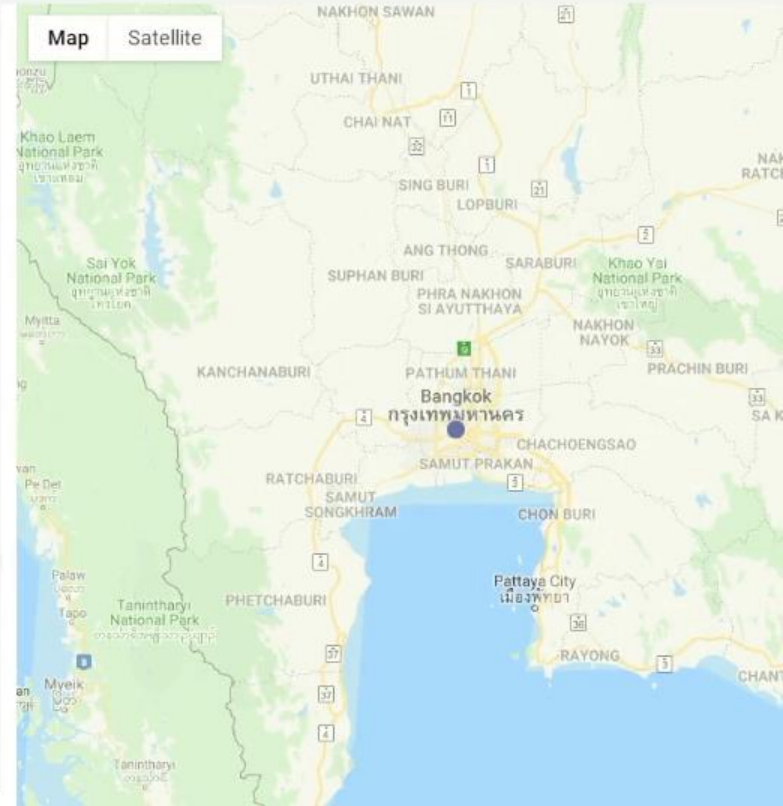


Placeholder action 1: Plastics and clothes

UNEP  
Thailand

4 Projects

1



# Dashboard

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- The inventory of actions/activities will be presented through a **visual dashboard** of **key metadata**, such as
  - focus from source-to-sea,
  - type of lead organization,
  - and lifecycle phase.
- The dashboard aims to **visualize trends** and **gaps** based on the stocktaking on marine plastic litter and microplastics.

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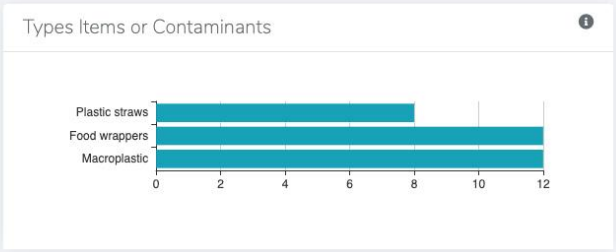
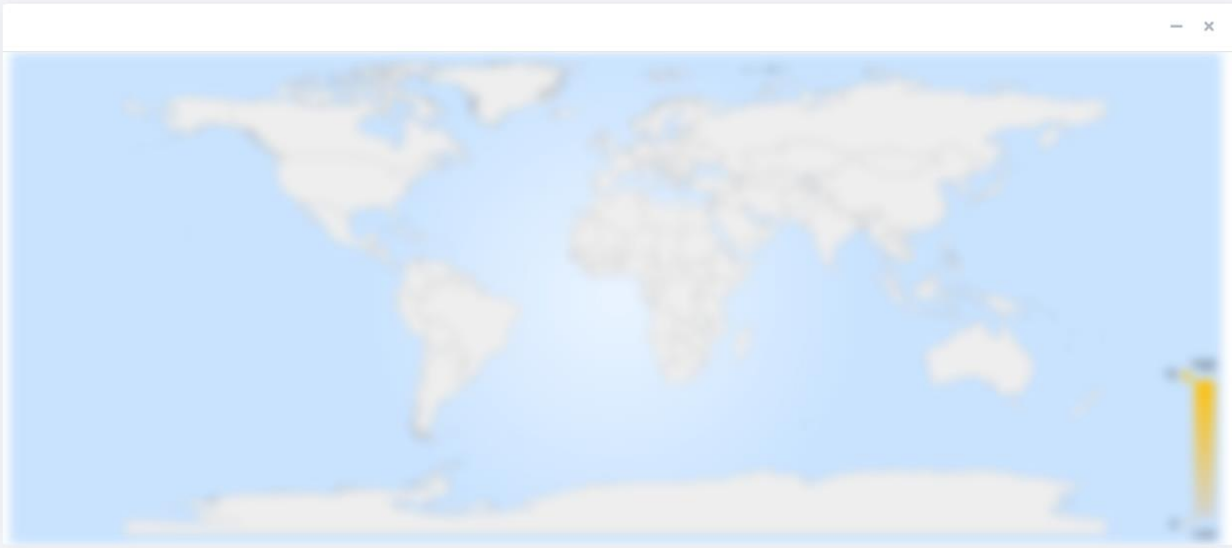
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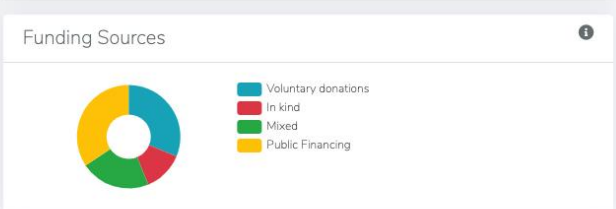
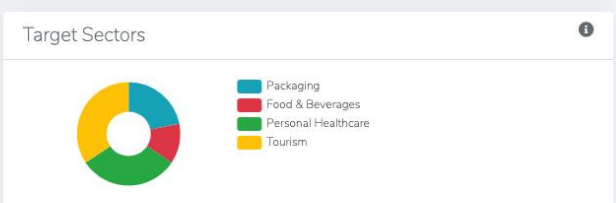
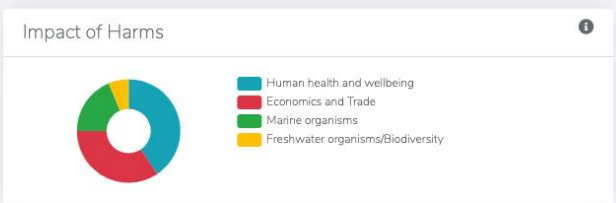
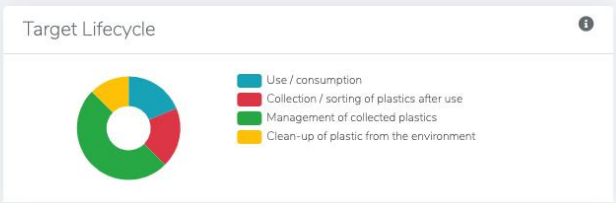
Country: **Global**

Projects: **32**



### Project List

ID	Location	Project	File
DB-0	Indonesia	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-1	Indonesia	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	



UNEP stocktake of existing activities and actions to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

Search Country or Region



Country  
Global



Actions  
32



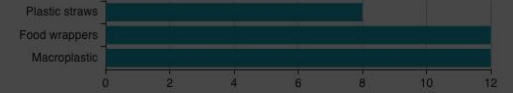
Project List

Search

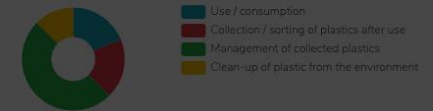


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DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	

Types Items or Contaminants



Target Lifecycle



Impact of Harms




Target Sectors






Funding Sources







Search Country or Region 

 Country  
Global 

 Actions  
32 

Search Country or Region 

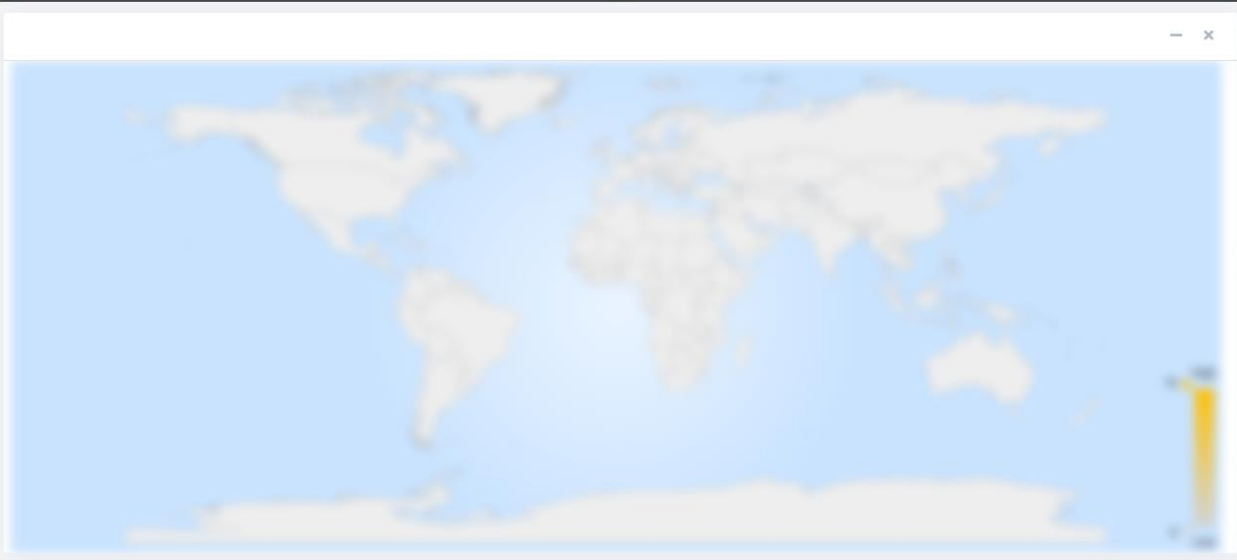
 Country  
Indonesia 

 Actions  
32 

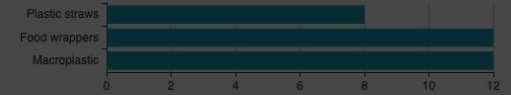


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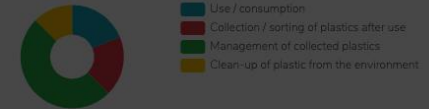
Search Country or Region

Country  
GlobalProjects  
32

## Types Items or Contaminants



## Target Lifecycle



## Impact of Harms



## Funding Sources



## Project List

Search

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1 2 3

## UNEP stocktake of existing activities and actions to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

Search Country or Region

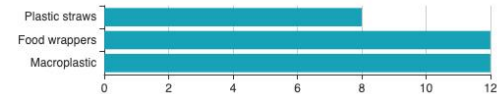
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## Types Items or Contaminants



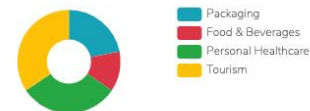
## Target Lifecycle



## Impact of Harms



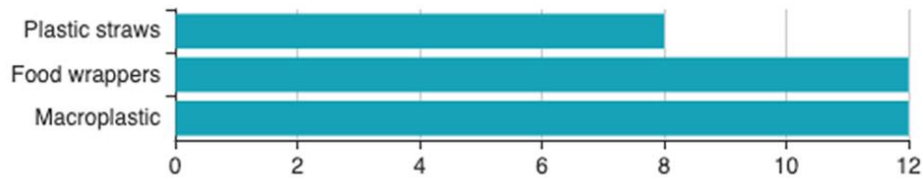
## Target Sectors



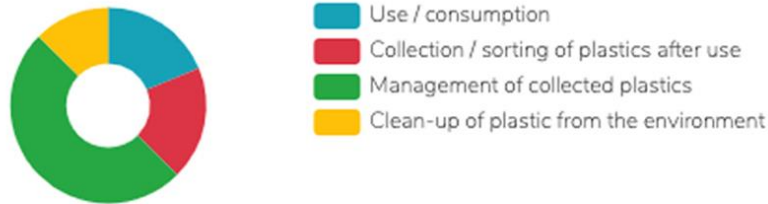
## Funding Sources



## Types Items or Contaminants



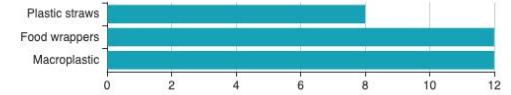
## Target Lifecycle



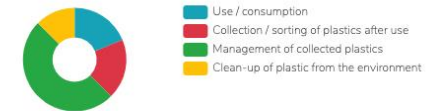
## Impact of Harms



## Types Items or Contaminants



## Target Lifecycle



## Impact of Harms



## Target Sectors



## Funding Sources



UNEP stocktake of existing activities and actions to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

Search Country or Region

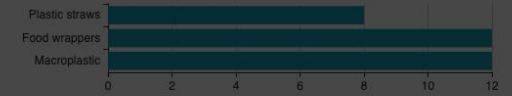


Country  
Global

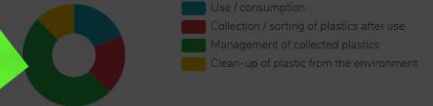


Projects  
32

Types Items or Contaminants



Target Lifecycle



Impact of Harms



Target Sectors



Funding Sources



Project List

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DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	

## Project List

Search



ID	Location	Project	File
DB-0	Indonesia	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-1	Indonesia	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	

Project List

Search



ID	Location	Project	File
DB-0	Indonesia	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-1	Indonesia	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	





Proj

Search



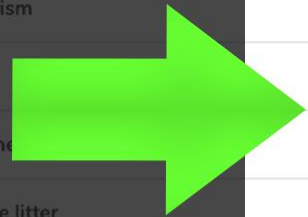
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DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	

# Project List

Search



ID	Location	Project	File
DB-0	Indonesia	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-1	Indonesia	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-3	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	
DB-4	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-5	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-6	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	
DB-7	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-4 Litter in River	





## UNEP stocktake of existing activities and actions to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics.

[Home](#) / [Dashboard](#)

Search Country or Region

Country  
Global

Projects



Types Items or Contaminants



Target Lifecycle



Impact of Harms



Target Sectors



Project List

Search



ID	Location	Project	File
DB-0	Indonesia	Placeholder action-1 Plastics and Clothes	
DB-1	Indonesia	Placeholder action-2 Preventing marine litter	
DB-2	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland	Placeholder action-3 Responsible Tourism	

# Questions for the Breakout Groups

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- i. Do participants wish to include further categories of activities?
- ii. Do participants wish to examine additional cross-cutting themes?
- iii. Which indicators do participants consider the most useful for the stocktaking dashboard?

# Thank you

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Sabine Pahl  
University of Plymouth

Joy Ghosh  
Akvo Foundation

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Third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics  
18-22 November 2019 – Bangkok, Thailand