UK Intervention Agenda 3c – Support to monitoring and evaluation of progress in, and effectiveness of implementation and national reporting

- The UK believes that uncertainty in existing information should not prevent us from taking action on plastic pollution. We need a pathway towards harmonised and comparable data that allows decisions under the future treaty to be made on the basis of robust evidence. This is needed to be able to assess the effectiveness of our interventions and measure progress against the treaty’s objective.
- The UK believes monitoring should provide us with an assessment across the full life cycle. This might not be straightforward – after many years we still haven’t found a solution to measuring progress against Sustainable Development Goal 14.1.1.b on plastic debris density on the sea surface, but we do believe that technological advancements such as remote sensing and satellite imagery, may support progress under the treaty.
- We should also have a clear reporting mechanism that provides information particularly at the upstream and mid-stream parts of the life-cycle. The UK has signed up to the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment. This Global Commitment has mobilised government and businesses to build a circular economy for plastics, but it has also set a positive example on how and what can be reported. The reporting should include national reporting as part of National Action Plans, but could also be supplemented by reporting from data available to international organisations that are more transboundary in nature.