



Global Partnership  
on Plastic Pollution  
and Marine Litter

## Enabling multi-stakeholder action through the Global Partnership on Plastic Pollution Marine Litter (GPML)

UNEP presentation at EUROqCHARM Conference – 11 October 2023

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Source to Sea Pollution Unit, Ecosystems Division UNEP

# GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON PLASTIC POLLUTION AND MARINE LITTER (GPML)

## MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP

- **638** members entities from 96 countries in all regions
- Members come from civil society, private sector, academia & research, government, intergovernmental organisations & more

## STEERING COMMITTEE

### Permanent Members:

UNEP, IMO, FAO, GESAMP

### Non-permanent Members:

Governments: Brazil, Canada, Germany, Seychelles, United States, Sri Lanka

Civil Society: Ocean Conservancy, Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (CEMACS)  
Universiti Sains Malaysia

### Regional Nodes representative:

Mediterranean Action Plan



[www.gpmarinelitter.org](http://www.gpmarinelitter.org)

## OBJECTIVES

- Facilitate **cooperation** between stakeholders
- Raise **awareness**, share information & provide guidance
- Contribute to **action** roadmaps/strategies/plans all levels (local, national, regional)
- **Reduce** the leakage of plastics to the environment and promote circularity
- Support implementation of relevant UN **resolutions & frameworks**

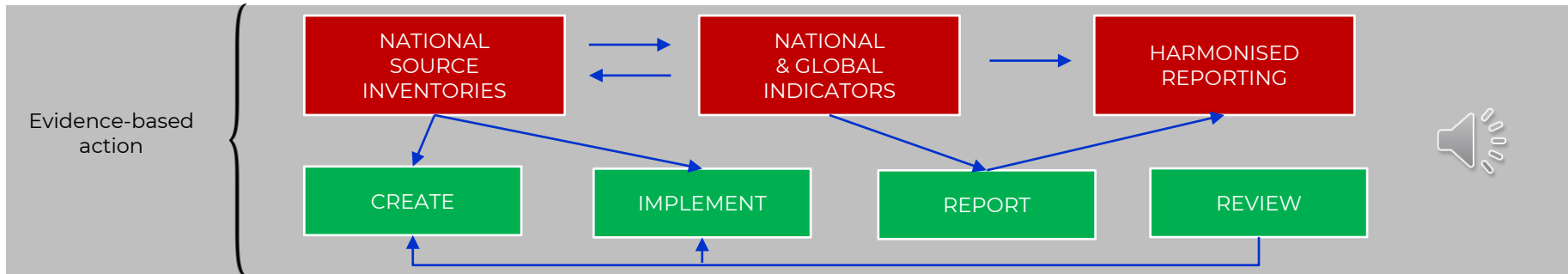
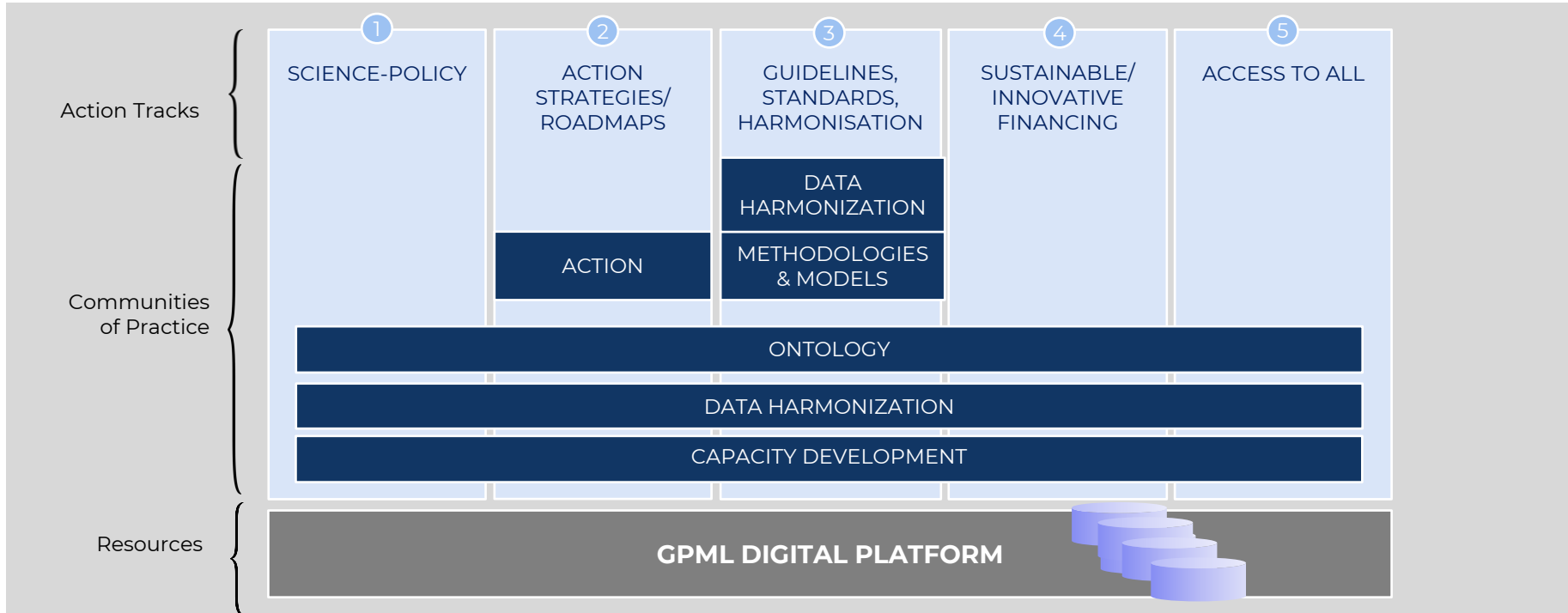
## REGIONAL NODES

Caribbean (UNEP-CEP & GCFI)  
Mediterranean (UNEP-MAP)  
South Asia (SACEP)  
Southeast Asia (COBSEA)  
Northwest Pacific (NOWPAP & DINRAC)  
South Pacific (SPREP)



# GPML ACTION TRACKS - OBJECTIVES

Action Track 1	Action Track 2	Action Track 3	Action Track 4	Action Track 5
<p><b>Science-policy linkages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Advance and update scientific and technical knowledge for plastic pollution and marine litter</li> <li>II. Develop risk frameworks to identify priorities for mitigating economic, ecological and social impacts</li> <li>III. Bridge science, innovation and policy by promoting effective communication and understanding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action strategies/ roadmaps/plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Support the development and implementation of national/regional/sectoral action strategies/ roadmaps/plans</li> <li>II. Identify priority areas for intervention</li> <li>III. Improve monitoring and governance</li> <li>IV. Identify capacity development needs</li> <li>V. Support project development and facilitate partnerships for action</li> </ul>	<p><b>Harmonisation of data, standards and methodologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Support data and metadata documentation, interoperability, and effective use of data</li> <li>II. Explore voluntary schemes including systems for voluntary sustainability standards</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable and innovative financing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Improve coordination of donor financing on priority topics or geographical areas</li> <li>II. Address gaps and opportunities in current funding</li> <li>III. Promote plastic-conscious banking, investment, and insurance</li> </ul>	<p><b>Access for all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Raise awareness of environmental justice in the context of managing plastic pollution and marine litter</li> <li>II. Enable digital transformation and innovation</li> <li>III. Foster transparency and access to information</li> </ul> 



# GPML Communities of Practice on Data and Action



# CoP on the harmonization of plastic flow quantification methodologies and models

Some of the organizations that have been engaged:

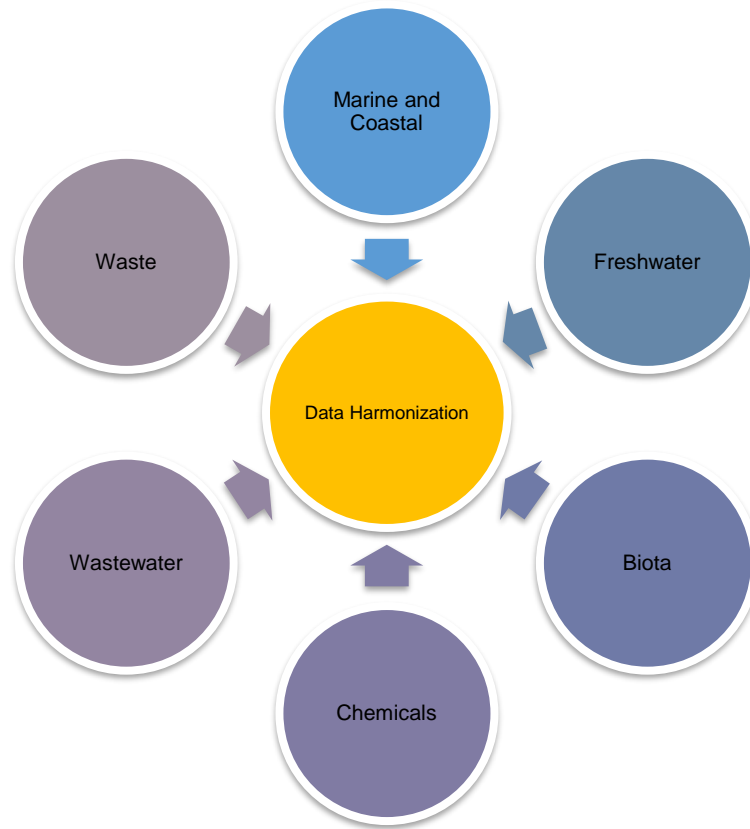


# CoP to harmonize approaches for informing and enabling action on plastic pollution and marine litter

Some of the organizations that have been engaged:



# Data Harmonization CoP – Current structure



UN-HABITAT



**giz**

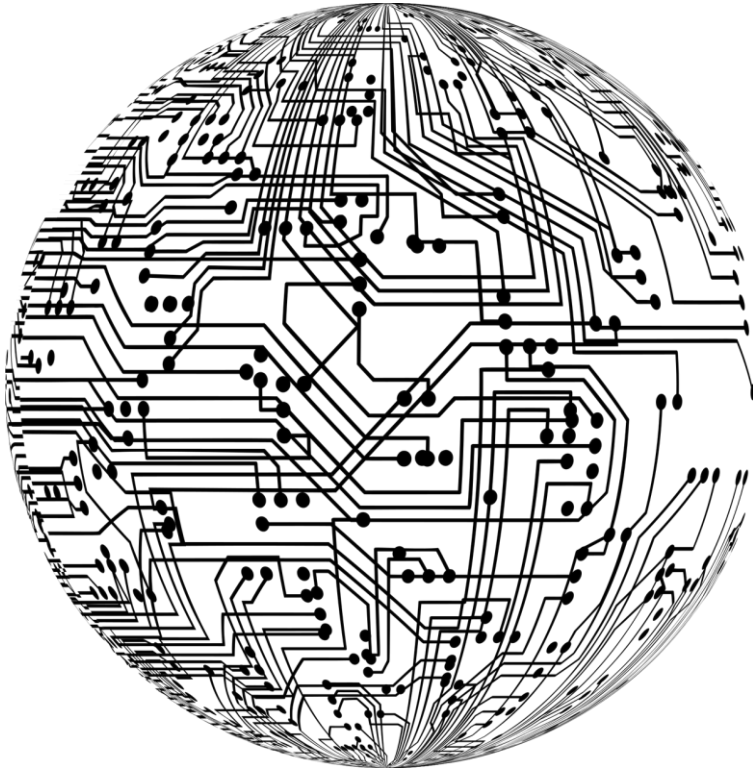
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



# Ontology & Glossary



## Marine litter and Plastic Pollution Ontology

- A set of 70 terms has been identified with their definitions through the first peer review process
- Community of Practice established for peer review. Join!
- Draft terms are already in the Environment Ontology (ENVO) and in the Sustainable Development Goals Interface Ontology (SDGIO)
- Implemented in collaboration with IOC UNESCO Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS)

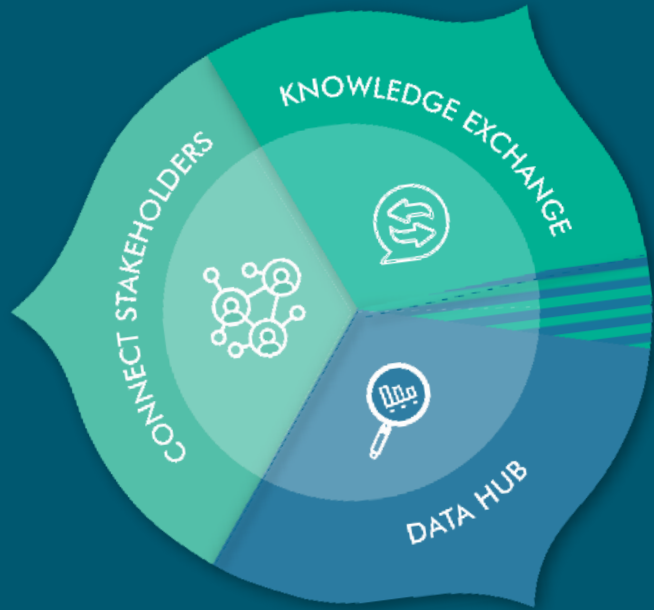




# GPML Digital Platform



# Digital Platform on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter



March 2022

**502**

MEMBERS

27.1% increase

**368**

INDIVIDUALS

253.5%  
increase

**1210**

RESOURCES

100.5 % Increase

**195**

DATA LAYERS

53.8 % Increase

Sept 2023

**638**

MEMBERS

**1301**

INDIVIDUALS

**2426**

RESOURCES

**300**

DATA LAYERS



<https://digital.gpmarinelitter.org/>

# GPML Digital Platform Evolution: Phased Approach

Phases  
**1-4**

## February 2021 – September 2022

1. Visualising Resources & Stakeholders
2. Laying Data Hub foundations and testing matchmaking functionalities
3. Data Analysis, Capacity Development & Case Studies to highlight successes
4. Assessing the Effectiveness of Action by Tracking and Measuring Progress

Phase  
**5**

## 2023 Release

Focus: Driving Change Through Innovation

This will be achieved through the development of:  
Personalized Workspace and Tools

Phase  
**6**

## Final Release 2024

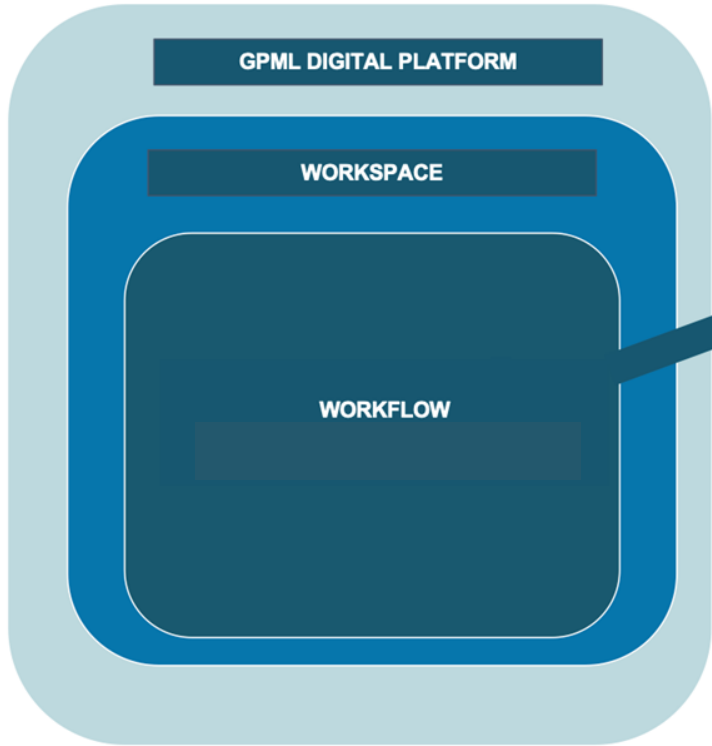
Focus:  
Scaling for Success



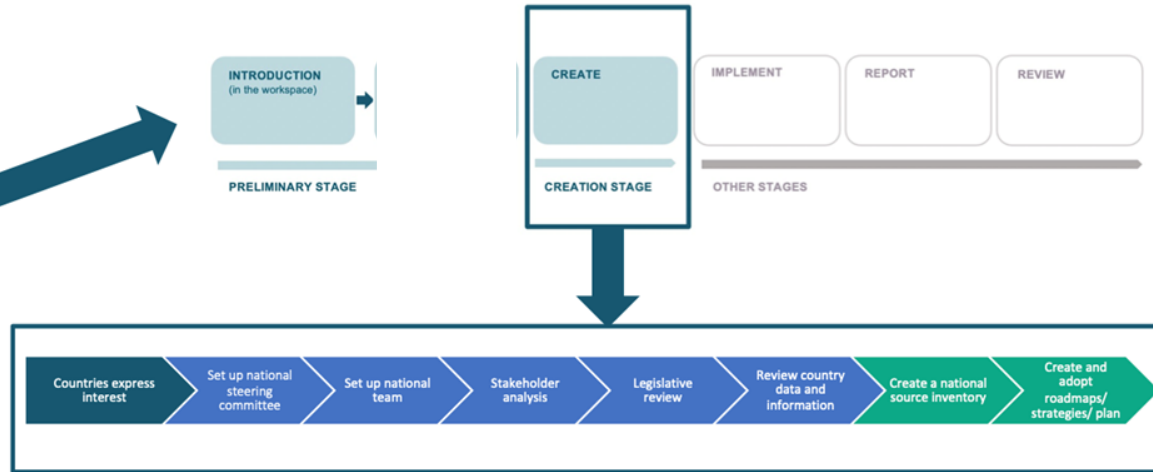
user-centred stakeholder needs and design process



# Concept: Workspace for Governments



We are focusing on the **Creation Stage**.



CREATION STAGE - STEPS OF THE WORKFLOW



# The GPML Digital Platform & countries' data across the lifecycle





MapView

Filter

Dashboard

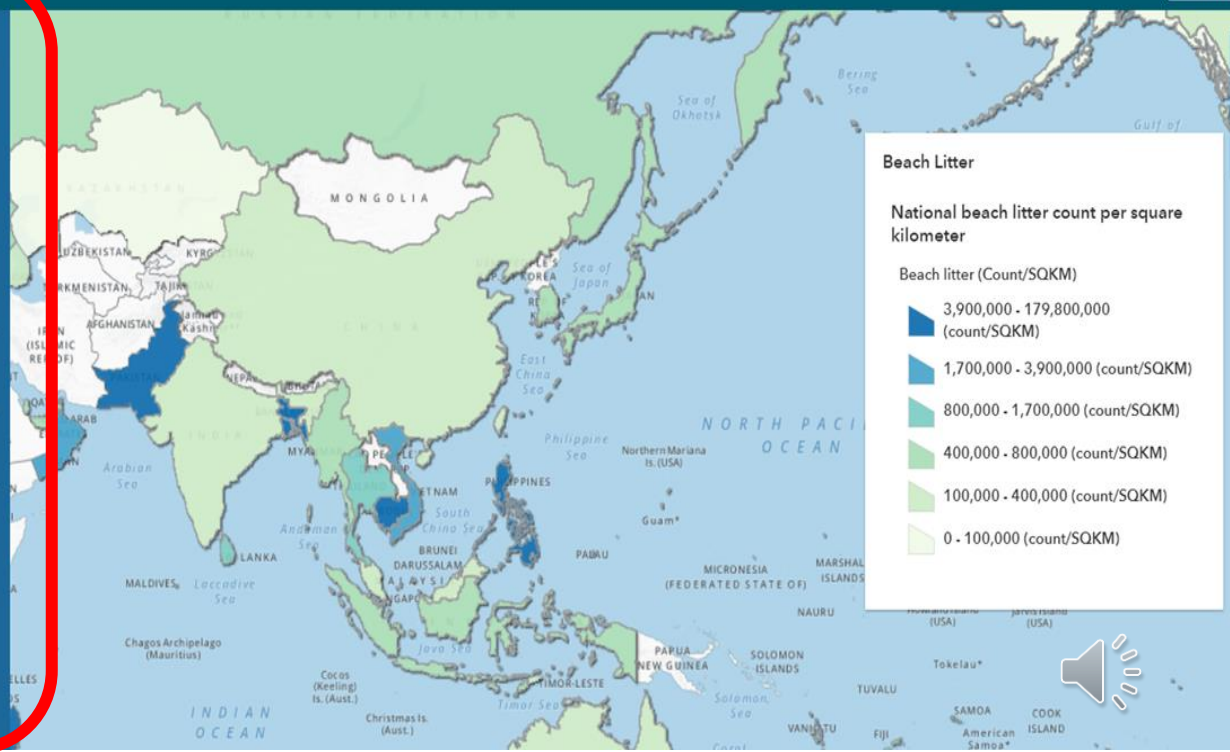
1. Select a topic(s)

Ocean & Coast
  Freshwater
  Soil
  Atmosphere
  Microplastics

GHG emissions
  Natural resources
  Bioto
  Chemicals
  Wastewater

2. Select Data Layer

- Threatened Habitat
- Transport
- Protected Habitat
- Beach Litter
  - National beach litter count per square kilometer
  - Regional beach litter count per square kilometer



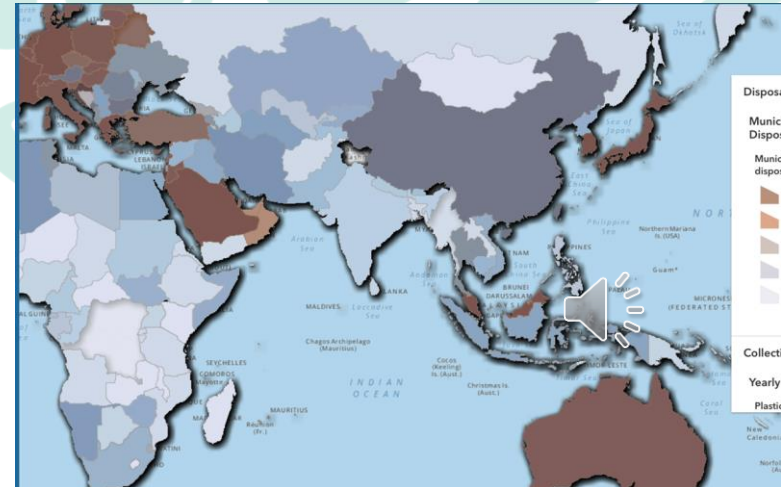
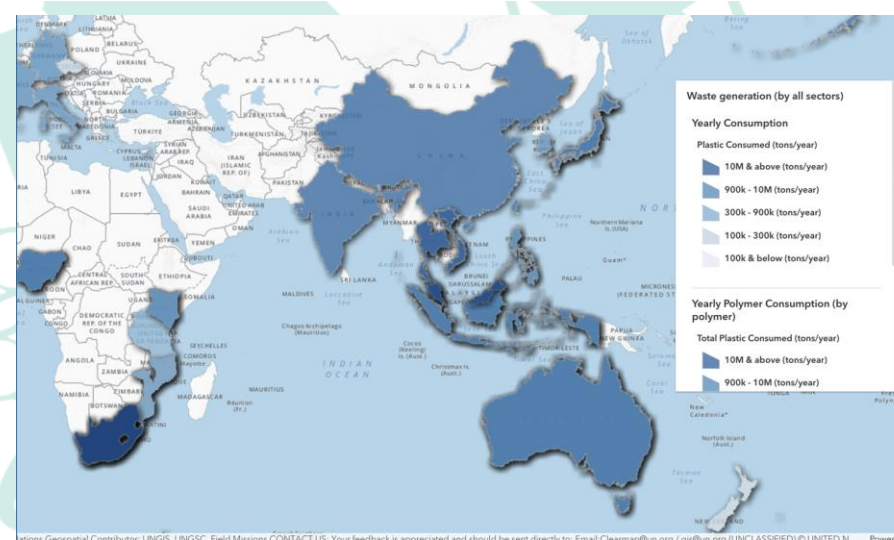
# Consumption & waste

- Yearly consumption (tonnes/year)
- Yearly polymer consumption, by polymer (tonnes/year and % of total)
- Yearly resin consumption, by resin (tonnes/year and % of total)
- Yearly generated plastic waste (tonnes/year)
- Yearly per capita generation (kg/capita/year)
- Yearly plastic waste collection (tonnes/year)
- Yearly per capita collection (kg/capita/year)
- Yearly collected (% of generated)
- Municipal solid waste controlled disposal (% of total generation)

Sources: Alliance to End Plastic Waste & University of Leeds



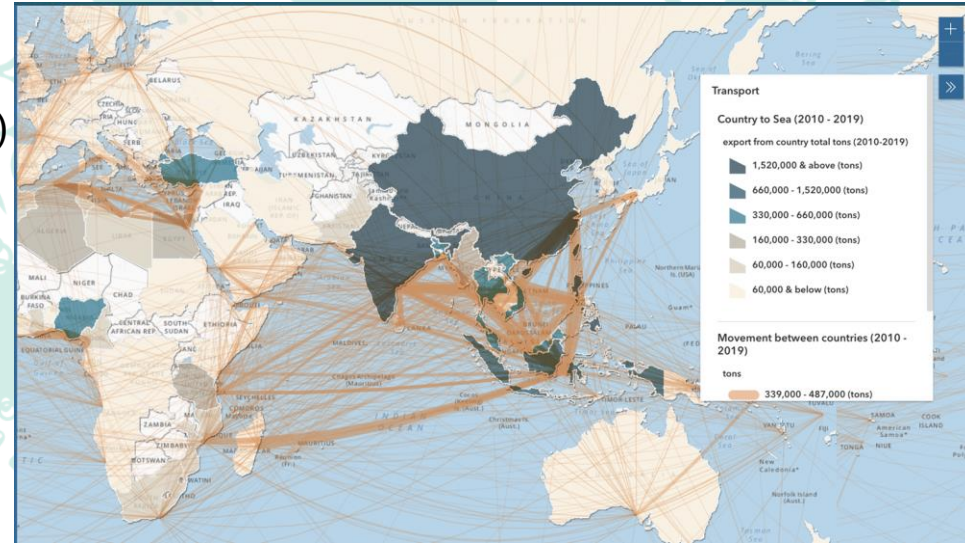
Global Partnership  
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# Plastic transport

- Ocean litter produced (tonnes 2010-2019)
- Litter from country to sea (tonnes 2010-2019)
- Litter from country to coast (tonnes 2010-2019)
- Litter from sea to coast (import) (tonnes 2010-2019)
- Movement of ocean litter between countries (tonnes 2010-2019)
- Litter trajectories
- Plastic transported out of country by rivers that enters the ocean directly (%)
- All plastic transported into ocean by rivers that are emitted directly from country (%)

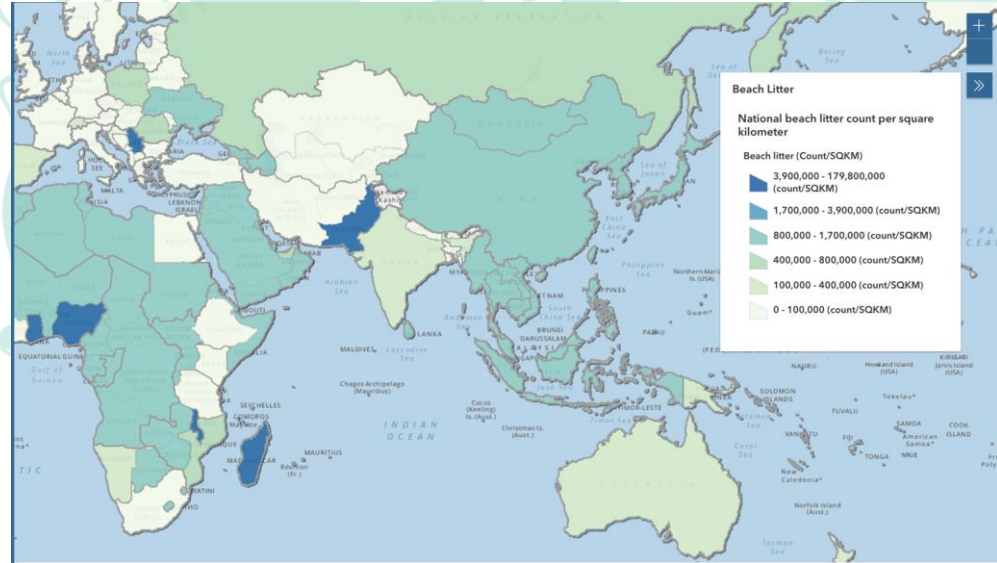
Sources: Florida State University & DHI A/S





# Nature and habitats

- National beach litter count (number/km<sup>2</sup>)
- Regional beach litter count (number/km<sup>2</sup>)
- National protected marine areas (km<sup>2</sup>)
- Regional protected marine areas (km<sup>2</sup>)
- Fraction of national/regional marine areas protected (% of total marine areas)
- Average proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by national/regional protected areas (%)
- Habitats threatened by plastic (threatened/not threatened)

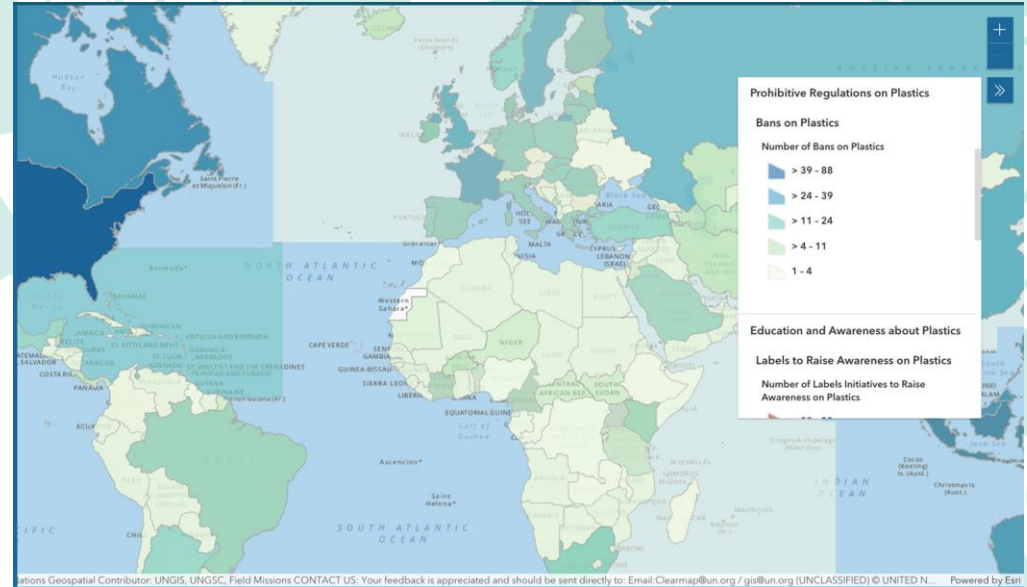


Sources: GRID Arendal, IUCN, Dudley 2008



# Policy data

- Prohibitive and affirmative regulations
- Economic instruments
- Education and awareness
- Action strategies/roadmaps/plans



Sources: Duke University & GPML



# Exploring further ways to enhance data

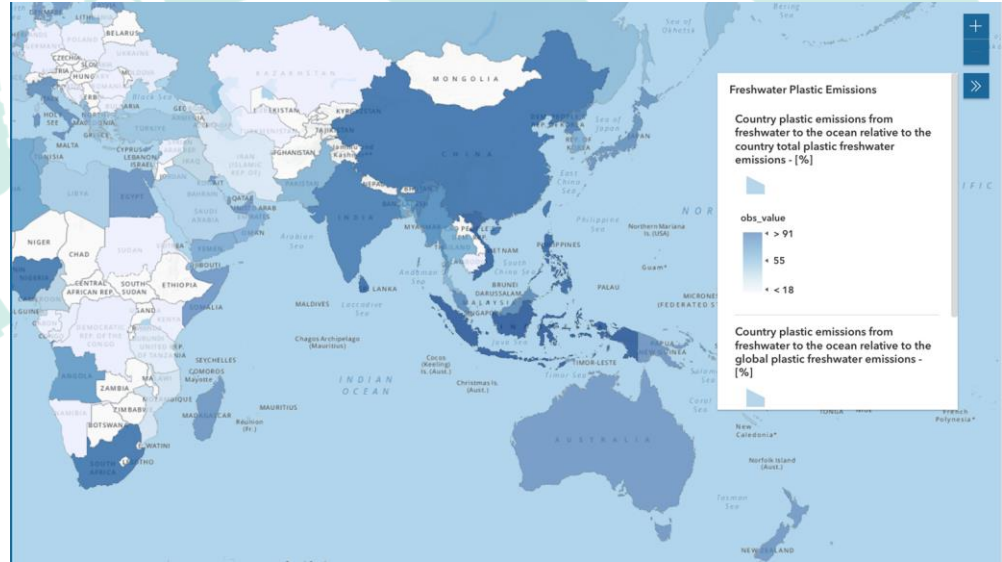
NOAA: Floating microplastic in oceans surrounding USA

EMODnet: Floating microplastic in oceans primarily around Europe

Ministry of Environment Japan: Floating microplastic in oceans surrounding Japan



Harmonized dataset of floating microplastic based on three different underlying datasets



Combining and harmonizing global datasets



# Upload and Incorporation of national datasets in the workspace

Data Analysis / Available Data

Logo All Tools My Account

**PLASTIC STRATEGY South Africa**  
87% COMPLETED

Instructions

National Steering Committee & Project Team 0/2

Stakeholders Consultation Process 0/5

Legislation & Policy Review Report 0/5

Data Analysis 0/7

Intro

Available Tools

Available Data & Statistics

Data Collection

Calculation of Indicators

Summary & Report

National Source Inventory Report 0/2

National Plastic Strategy 0/2

Final Review

Forum chat

**DATA ANALYSIS Available Data & Statistics**


MapView Filter

1. Select a topic(s)

- LIFE CYCLE AND SAFE CIRCULARITY
- ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY
- SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT
- GOVERNANCE
- TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
- CAPACITY BUILDING
- FINANCING

2. Select Data Layer

- Collection
  - Yearly Collection
  - Yearly Per Capita Collection
  - Yearly % Collection of Generated
- Disposal
  - Municipal Solid Waste Controlled Disposal
  - Waste Generation (by value chain)
  - Yearly Generation
  - Yearly Per Capita Generation
  - Waste generation (by all sectors)



Data Analysis / Available Data

Logo All Tools My Account

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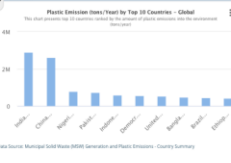
Forum chat

**DATA ANALYSIS Available Data & Statistics**

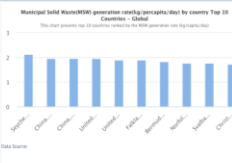
30 Countries Region: Country: Filter

**Production**

Plastic Production (tons/Year) by Top 10 Countries - Global




**Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generation (metric tons/capita/year) by Country Top 10 - Global**

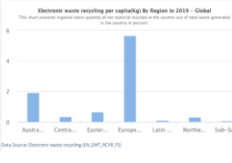


**Waste Management**

Percentage of urban solid waste (USW) sent to landfills or incineration - Global



**Electronic waste recycling per capita (kg) by Region in 2019 - Global**



# Thank you



## We welcome your feedback and engagement!

Contact us at [unep-gpmarinelitter@un.org](mailto:unep-gpmarinelitter@un.org)

Join the Partnership:  
[www.gpmarinelitter.org](http://www.gpmarinelitter.org)

Join the Digital Platform:  
[www.digital.gpmarinelitter.org](http://www.digital.gpmarinelitter.org)

SCAN TO SIGN IN

