

# UNEP's work on plastic statistics

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Agenda item 5. Ongoing developments with relevance for the work of the Joint Task Force  
Twentieth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators

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# UNEA Resolution 5/14

End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument

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Underlining that further international action is needed by **developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution**, including in the marine environment,

Requests the Executive Director to convene an **intergovernmental negotiating committee**, to begin its work during the second half of 2022, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024

Requests **strengthening of methodologies** for monitoring and calls upon all Member States to continue and step up activities, and to develop and implement national action plans, and, on a voluntary basis, to **provide statistical information** on the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, as appropriate, taking into account national circumstances

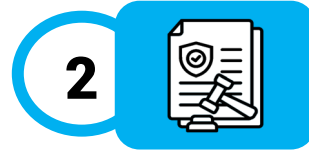
# ONE Plastics Initiative

2023 – 2027



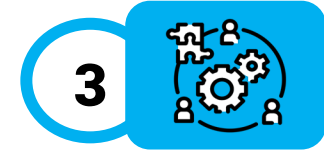
## INDUSTRY

Inspiring & supporting industry action



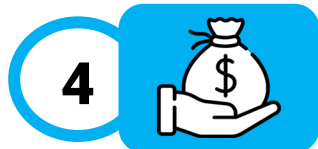
## REGULATION & POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Enabling national & local regulatory frameworks



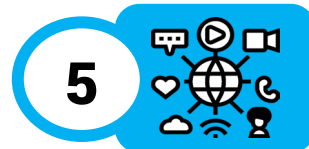
## PLANNING

Enabling coordinated & concerted actions



## FINANCE

Supporting finance action



## COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Activating behaviour change & social action



## KNOWLEDGE MAN. & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Supporting capacity development & informed decisions

# Statistical guideline on plastics (1/4)

## Introduction

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### Statistical guideline on measuring flows of plastic along the lifecycle

**Purpose:** To provide policy-makers with high-quality statistics on plastics that are comparable at the national, regional and global levels to inform policies on responsible consumption and production, the circular economy and others

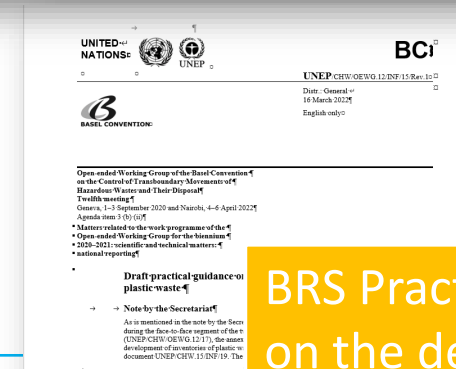
**Target users:** National statistical offices and other relevant organizations responsible for production of statistics on plastics

**Partners:** **UNEP** and **UNITAR** in collaboration with UNCTAD, UNECE, UNSD, OECD, Eurostat, BRS, University of Leeds, NILU, and many others

# Statistical guideline on plastics (2/4)

## Methodology

Statistical guideline on measuring flows of plastic along the lifecycle will be based on international statistical standards and classifications:



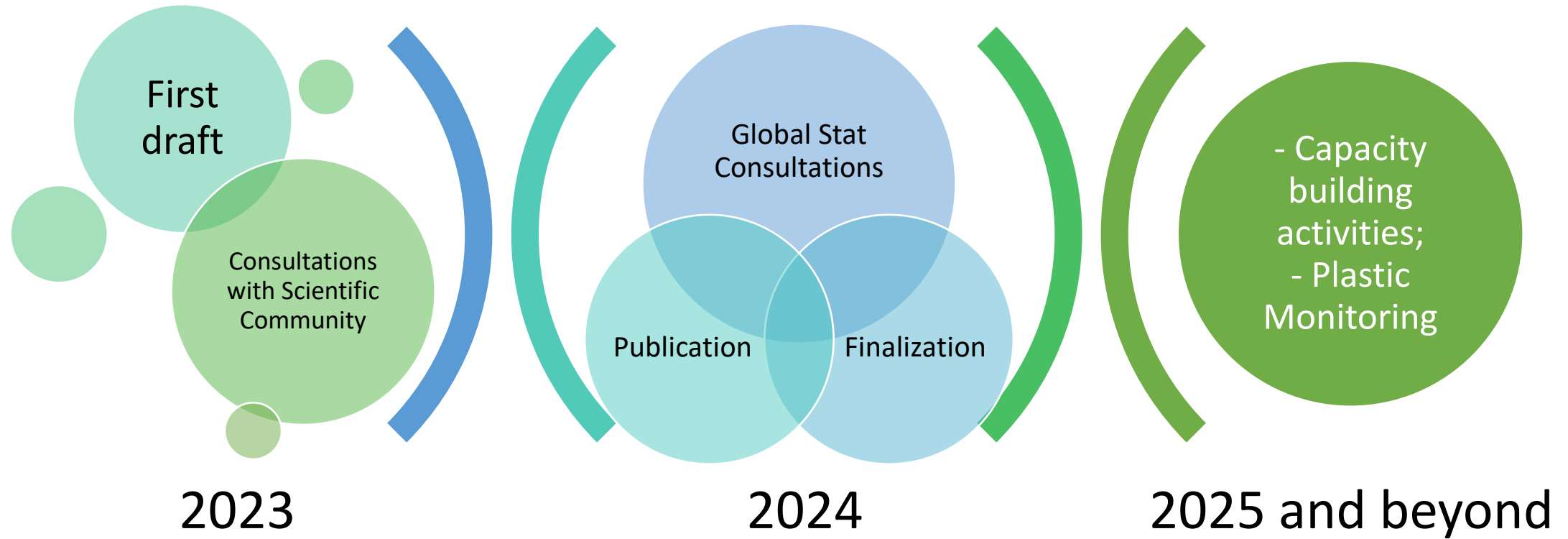
5 Statistical Frameworks

Statistical Classifications

BRS Practical guidance on the development of inventories of plastic waste

# Statistical guideline on plastic (3/4)

## Timeline





# Statistical guideline on plastic (4/4)

## First Draft: Structure

### 1. Introduction

- *Necessity of this work; how to use the guideline*

### 2. The physical flow accounting framework for plastic

- *Scope and boundary of plastic lifecycle; Terms and definitions; Plastic flows through the System of Environmental- Economic Accounting; Classifications to support statistics on plastic*

### 3. Accounting for plastic supply

- *Production; Imports*

### 4. Accounting for plastic use

- *Consumption; Exports*

### 5. Accounting for plastic waste

- *Plastic waste generated; Plastic waste handling; Plastic waste trade; Plastic to the environment*

### 6. Potential data sources and units of measurement

- *Data sources of plastic supply and use; Data sources of plastic waste; Units of measurement*

### 7. Core Indicators

### 8. Overview of scientific approaches

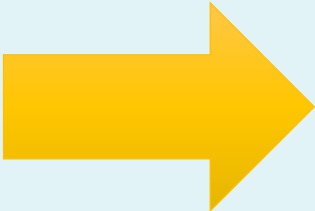
### Annexes

- Plastic Production
- Plastic Imports
- Plastic Exports
- Apparent Plastic Consumption
- Plastic Waste Generated
- Plastic Waste Collected
- Plastic Waste Treated
- Plastic to the Environment

# Capacity building activities

Upcoming

**Statistical  
guideline  
on measuring  
flows of plastic  
along the lifecycle**



- National Source Inventory on Plastics:
  - 2024 – 2025: Peru, Ecuador, Trinidad & Tobago, Senegal, Mauritius, Cote d'Ivoire, South Africa, Guinea, Cambodia and Solomon Islands
- Plastic statistics
- The Circular Economy
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



# SDG indicators on plastic

## 14.1.1b Plastic debris density

### Level 1: Global

- Plastic patches greater than 10 meters
- Beach litter originating from national land-based sources

### Level 2: National

- Beach litter
- Floating plastics
- Water column plastics
- Seafloor litter

# 14.1.1b Plastic debris density

## Global Estimates



Sub-indicator: **Beach litter originating from national land-based sources**

- Disaggregation: ends in the beach; ends in the ocean
- Covered all costal countries
- Provided by the Florida State University
- Data are available in the Global SDG Database

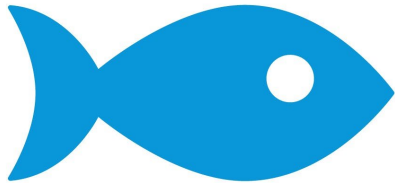
Sub-indicator: **Plastic patches greater than 10 meters**

- Provided by the University of Oldenburg
- Data will be available in the Global SDG Database in 2024

# 14.1.1b Plastic debris density

## Country Data

### 14 LIFE BELOW WATER



- Data collection launched by UNEP in August 2023
  - First, UNEP worked closely with the Regional Seas Programme to reduce countries' reporting burden
- Starting from October 5, UNEP began sending out questionnaires to countries
  - Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) countries will receive the questionnaire a little later as UNEP prepares pre-filled questionnaires for them using country data received from the MAP

# Thank you



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