

Policy for reducing marine pollution

Marine plastic pollution has been a growing concern for decades. Transports chemical and nutrient pollutants interferes with human uses of river, marine and coastal environments. 80% of the solid waste require massive improvements in solid waste management to address this problem. The annual discharge of plastic into the ocean is estimated to be 11 million tonnes. To deliver the necessary changes for the plastics economy, efforts should be done to accelerate its work on marine plastic litter as a priority.

Objectives

- Understanding national ministry roles to address marine litter and solid waste management.
- Addressing gaps or inadequacies in policies and enforcement.

UCP focuses on

1. Efforts should focus on bilateral technical assistance to improve solid waste management, by facilitating enabling environments for improvements to solid waste management infrastructure, including recycling
2. Avoid or ban use of plastic bags.
3. The international trade in plastic waste should be regulated to protect people and nature.
4. Actions that are known to reduce marine plastic litter should be encouraged, shared and scaled up immediately. These include moving from linear to circular plastic production and consumption by designing out waste, incentivising reuse, and exploiting market-based instruments. These will generate ‘quick wins’ to inspire further policy action and provide a context that encourages innovation and improving solid waste management on land, especially waste collection.
5. Preventing and reducing litter from entering waterways through litter capture and removal.
6. Promoting multi-stakeholder approaches for addressing marine litter
7. Measures should be taken to individually and collectively protect and preserve the marine environment from all sources of pollution and take effective measures, according to their scientific, technical and economic capabilities, to prevent, reduce and

where practicable eliminate pollution caused by dumping or incineration at sea of wastes or other matter.