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SIDE EVENT

The Plastic Waste Partnership: Sharing insights and building foresight

Monday, May 8 | 13:15-14:45 | Room B

Organized by the Plastic Waste Partnership

Countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

Outreach and awareness-raising on
prevention, minimization, and recycling
options for plastic waste

About us

Health and Environment Justice Support aims to achieve a healthy environment and environmental justice for affected people.

www.hej-support.org



Project goal and specific objectives

Project overall objective: to achieve a significant reduction in plastic pollution in the targeted countries.

Project specific objectives: to raise awareness and empower key stakeholders and the public to develop, assess and implement feasible solutions to address plastic crisis and contribute to toxic-free circular economy.



Chemical
Safety
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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION



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Problems to be addressed

- All target countries have a low level of post-consumer plastic waste recycling primarily due to the unorganized system of waste separation, the low level of awareness about the dangers of plastic waste, and the lack of necessary recycling facilities.
- Some target countries adopted regulations to control the production and use of single-use plastic, including shopping bags, food containers, and disposable plastic cutlery. However, these initiatives are at the initial stage of development and are poorly enforced.
- The level of awareness about toxic plastic additives is low in the target countries. As a result, the existing recycling facilities do not distinguish between toxic-free or contaminated plastic waste.



Project activities: Data collection for information sharing



- Develop national inventories of the primary sources of plastic pollution, including plastic waste generation, import and export to inform governments, the private sector and civil society on ways to prevent and reduce plastic waste;
- Develop a report based on the assessment of the availability of sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics in the target countries to encourage their use;
- Prepare information document on the content of toxic additives in plastics to serve a clean toxic-free circular economy, based on publicly available data and information;
- Based on interviews with manufacturers, prepare analysis of prospects for reducing plastic pollution in the target countries.

Project activities: Development and dissemination of information materials on plastic waste and pollution

- Based on collected data and information in activity 1, prepare factsheets on e.g plastic packaging, single-use plastic products, toxic additives, safer alternatives for further dissemination
- Develop an online course (e.g. plastic packaging, single-use plastic products, toxic additives, safer alternatives) with the goal to promote the prevention and reduction of plastic waste as a step towards a toxic-free circular economy.
- Develop a project clearing house website for information sharing
- Disseminate the information materials via clearing house, social media, stakeholders, project partners channels, media.



Project activities: Conduct a capacity building and awareness raising campaign on reuse, recycling, and/or disposal options for plastic waste

- Conduct national webinars for different stakeholder groups
- Holding an online (or hybrid) regional meeting for project partners and key stakeholders
- Preparing a joint statement with recommendations (NGO demands) for policy makers, consumers, and industry



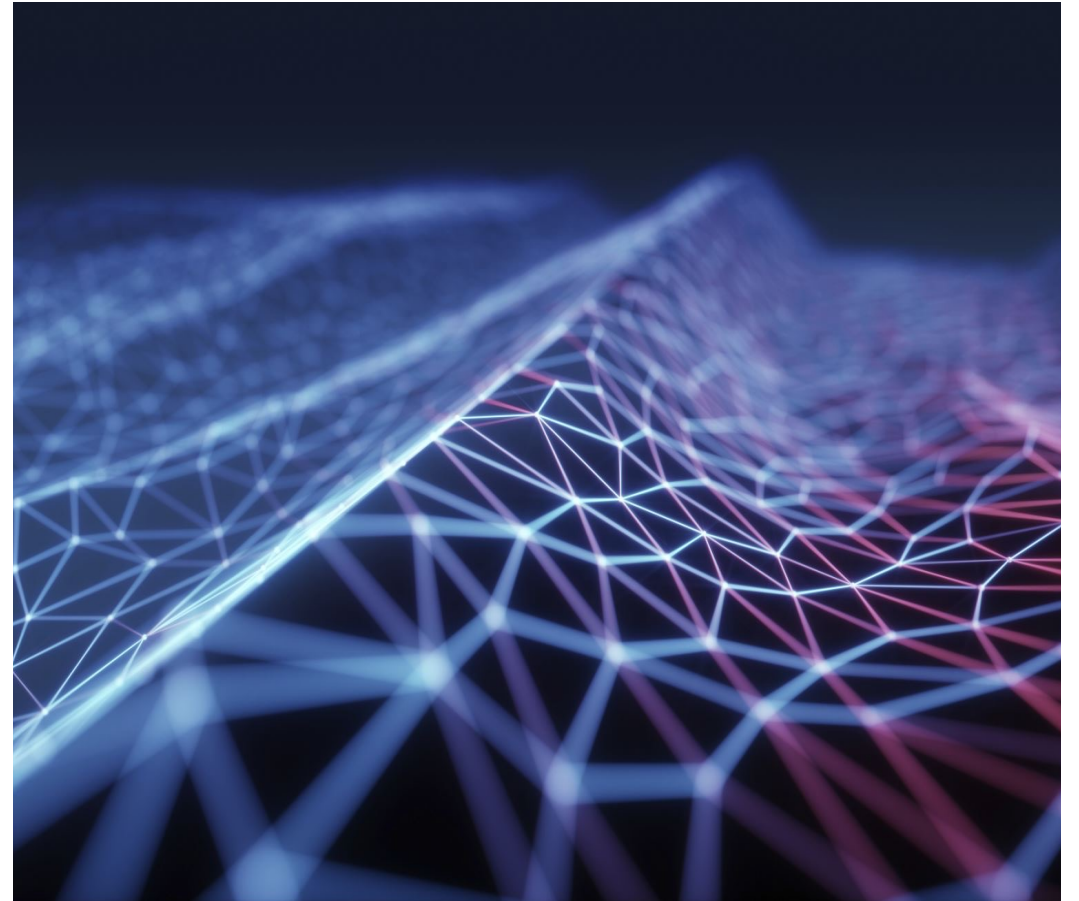
Expected outcomes

- Data generated within the project will provide a clear picture of the primary sources of plastic pollution, including plastic waste generation, import and export.
- The assessment of the availability of sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics will encourage their use in the target countries and in the EECCA region thus reducing the production and use of single use plastic and discharge of associated waste into the environment.
- The information document on the content of toxic additives in plastics will raise the awareness of plastic manufacturers, consumers, and recyclers about plastic threat to people's health and the wildlife.
- The online course will raise capacity of stakeholders on environmentally sound management of plastic waste and ways to prevent and minimize their generation. It will promote environmentally sound management of plastic waste with the focus on toxic-free circular economy.
- A clearinghouse mechanism will facilitate information sharing among stakeholders. It will also help better coordinate advocacy work to achieve ambitious plastic waste regulation and plastic waste minimization.
- We hope this project will help the EECCA countries effectively implement Basel plastic amendments, encourage them to actively participate in the negotiations of the plastic treaty and ensure its further fruitful implementation at the national level.



Transferability

Transferability	Project can be replicated in other EECCA countries:
Share and adapt	Share and adapt materials to their needs;
Provide	Provide access to the online course and clearinghouse mechanism;
Invite	Invite to project meetings and discussions;
Inspire	Inspire innovations to substitute single-use plastic, develop ambitious plastic waste regulations and plastic waste minimization



The project contributes to the implementation of the following SDGs and associated targets



- **SDG 3.9** (By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination) – the project activities include the work on raising awareness on toxic additives in plastic and associated health hazards and risks. Information developed in the frame of the project will contribute to the minimization of toxic chemicals use in plastic products, reduce risk of toxic chemicals recycling and their appearance in new products made of recycled plastic.
- **SDG 12.4** (By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment) – the project is aimed at raising stakeholder awareness on the importance of a toxic-free circular economy, minimization with eventual elimination of single-use plastic, identification of pollution sources and sharing good practice examples. All these activities contribute to meeting SDG 12.4.
- **SDG 12.5** (By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse) – project activities are focused on meeting the overall goal of raising awareness-raising on prevention, minimization, and recycling options for plastic waste. This goal is inline with SDG 12.5, and all project activities contribute to achieving the goal and thus SDG 12.5.



Contact and additional information

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