

# Towards a UNEA3 Implementation Plan “Towards a Pollution-Free Planet”

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Presentation for the CPR subcommittee

24 April 2018

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# Key messages (1/2)

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- Paragraph 14 of the Third Session of the UN Environment Assembly's Ministerial Declaration calls for

*“the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment programme to submit a plan for implementation in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, for [Member States] consideration by no later than the next United Nations Environment Assembly”,  
“building on the outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the United Nations Environment Assembly”.*

- This presentation includes:
    - 1) proposed consultative process
    - 2) Suggested building blocks
  - The Plan will build on the outcomes of UNEA3:
    - a) the Ministerial Declaration;
    - b) the 9 resolutions as well as those relevant to pollution from UNEA 1 and 2;
    - c) the Voluntary Commitments
    - d) the #BeatPollution campaign
    - e) the key messages from the science-policy-business forum and leadership dialogues.
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## Key messages (2/2)

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- The Plan will also:
    - ✓ seek to address the gaps and challenges to addressing pollution identified in the Executive Director's report to UNEA3
    - ✓ have a forward-looking, positive, innovative approach. It will be designed with potential to raise the level of ambition.
  - Key building blocks from the Plan will be based on the analysis of the mandates of the UNEA3 resolutions and those relevant to pollution from UNEA1 and 2
    - ✓ Key elements of the Plan could include: leadership and partnership; raise awareness; provide evidence for policy; technology, finance, policy and institutional and regulatory innovations; sustainable consumption and production and clean investments; and perhaps allow the flexibility to engage with emerging issues on pollution, environment and health.
  - The Plan could include a dimension to collect information to show progress on voluntary commitments and on progress made to move towards a pollution-free planet
  - It is proposed for the Plan to be linked with the Sustainable Development Goals.
    - ✓ The proposed time horizon for the Plan is thus 2030 but concrete activities could be defined for shorter timeframes, i.e. in line with the Medium Term Strategy (2018-2021) and UNEA5
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# **UNEA3 Implementation Plan « Towards a Pollution-Free Planet »**

## **Proposed process for development**

# Developing the UNEA3 Implementation Plan « Towards a Pollution-Free Planet »

**Member States & stakeholders consultations to develop an implementation plan**

## Objectives

Accelerate implementation of Assembly's Ministerial Declaration and resolutions addressing pollution

Sustain and increase global awareness of pollution

Raise the level of ambition from Member States, business and stakeholders to prevent and address pollution

Have an ongoing programme of actions on pollution based on the voluntary commitments

# Engaging and consulting stakeholders and private sector

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## ▪ **Types of consultations:**

- ✓ Virtual, through webinars and bilateral engagement when needed
- ✓ In person events bringing together key stakeholders

## ▪ **Consultations objectives:**

- ✓ Drafting and preparation of the plan of implementation
- ✓ Obtain endorsement of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
- ✓ Support for flagship partnerships in some key/priority areas where action is possible
- ✓ Support actions to sustain efforts post 2019

## ▪ **Expected outcomes include:**

- ✓ enhanced partnerships, perhaps through a platform
  - ✓ Accelerated actions on areas covered by relevant resolutions on pollution which can be reported in the context of indicators set out in the POW;
  - ✓ A well-accepted plan of implementation on pollution
  - ✓ Increased resources for implementation
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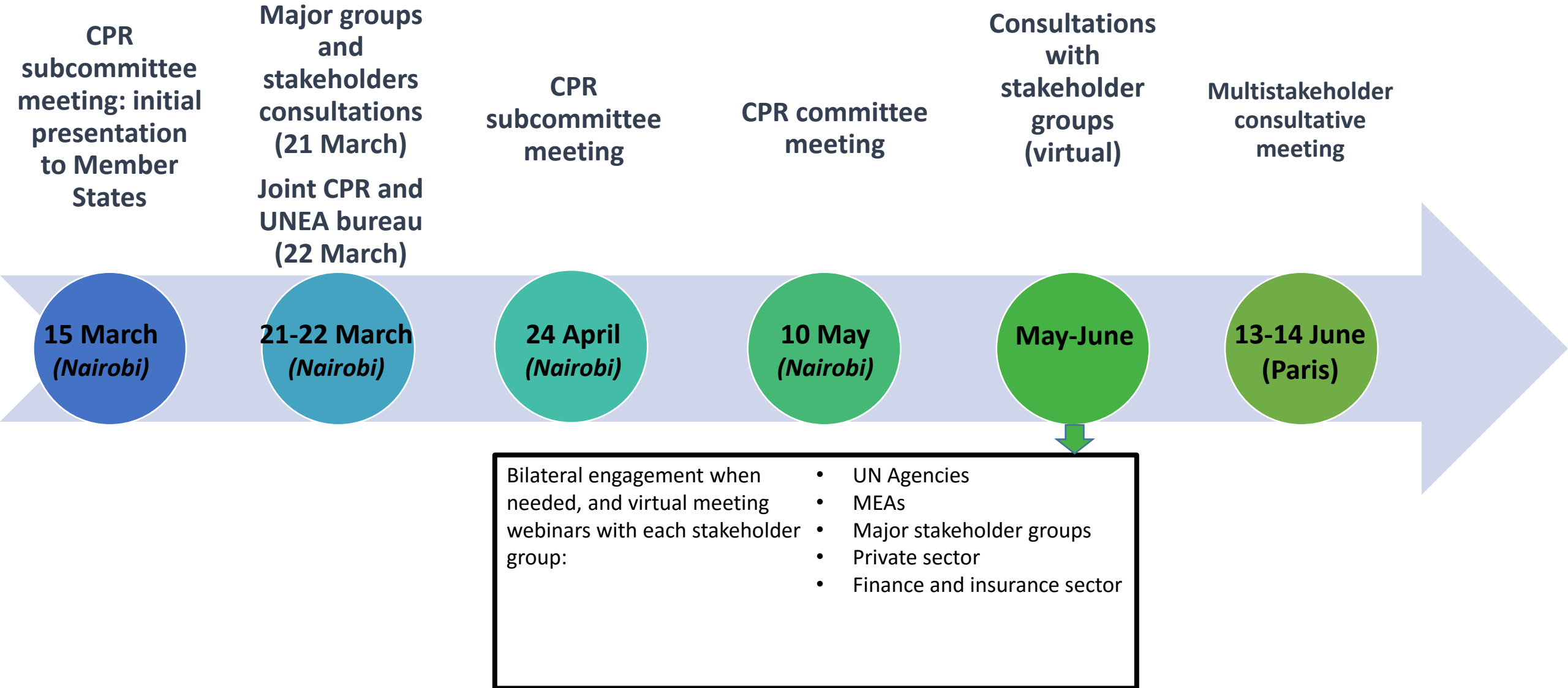
# Who should be involved?

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- ✓ **Representatives of Major Groups and Stakeholders** to ensure that involvement of grass roots organizations are considered in the plan of implementation
  - ✓ **Targeted organizations** (*advocacy organizations, issues-based and interest-based coalitions/organizations, think tanks, foundations organizations of parliamentarians and local authorities*) **with recognized global expertise on pollution matters** and with capacity to influence policies as well as partner with UN Environment
  - ✓ **A representative group of private sector companies** with interest in specific areas,
  - ✓ **Financing institutions** interested in pollution
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# UNEA3 implementation plan development: proposed stakeholders consultation process

*(a mix of consultations per stakeholder groups and 1 meeting with multistakeholder representatives)*

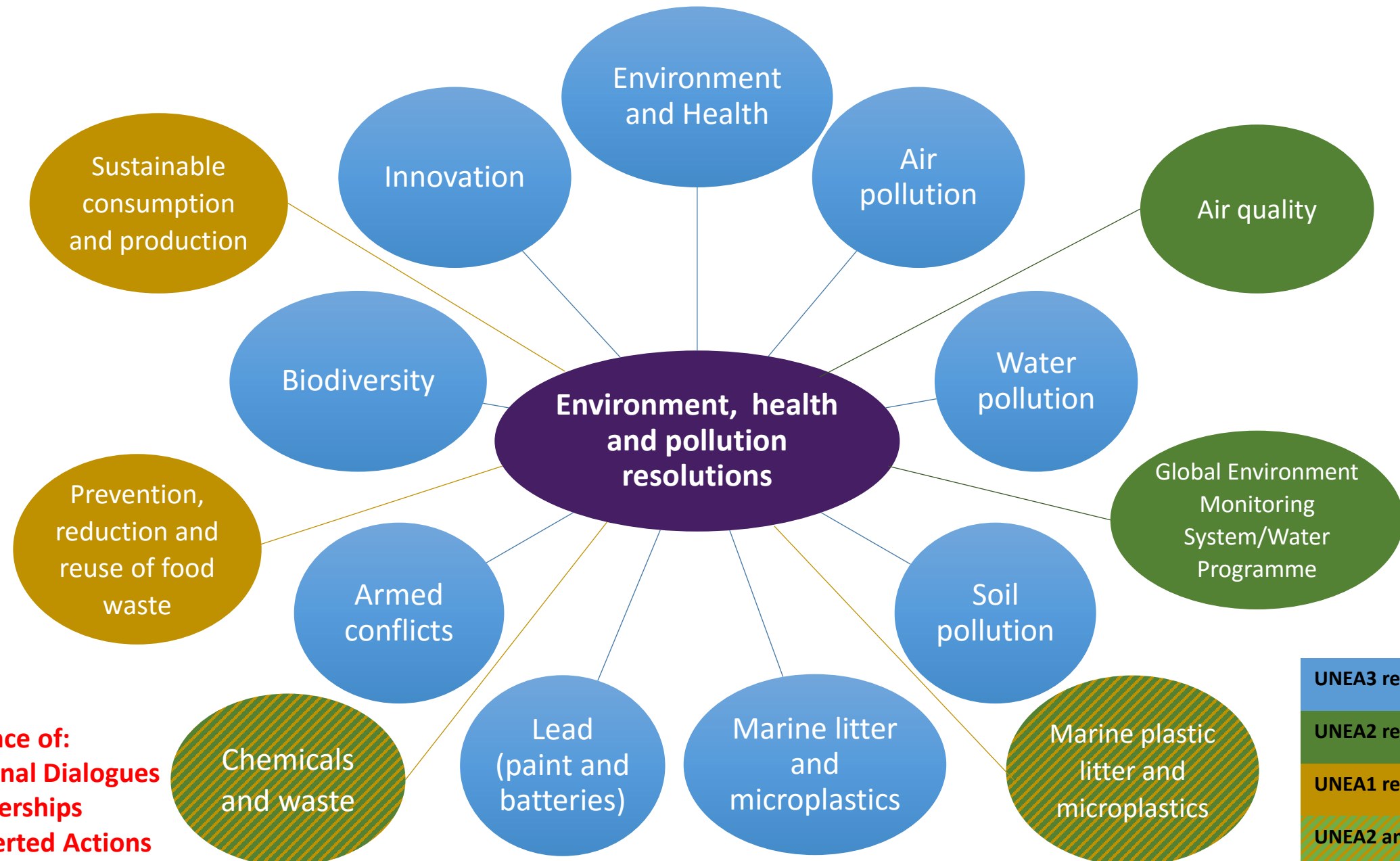




# **Framing the UNEA3 Implementation Plan**

## **Part 1: Key outcomes of UNEA3**

# « Pollution-relevant » resolutions from UNEA1, 2 and 3



# Key outcomes from UNEA3: Voluntary Commitments

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- 405 Voluntary Commitments were submitted by the end of December 2017 from governments, civil society and business as part of UN Environment's #BeatPollution.
- A total of 69 governments, 97 civil society organization and 23 businesses provided details of their current and future actions for tackling pollution.

## Commitments fall into four broad categories:

- A. Expanding existing pollution reduction and control activities and policies;
  - B. Removing barriers to depolluting activities;
  - C. Increasing awareness through education and targeted, public awareness campaigns;
  - D. Investing in research and development
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The scale and timeframes of the Voluntary Commitments are wide ranging. They include one-off events targeting neighbourhood pollution, short-term implementation of national abatement guidelines, and longer-term activities out to 2040, such as setting more ambitious targets within existing international environmental agreements, greening global supply chains and reducing the resource footprint of countries and global corporations

# Key outcomes from UNEA3: #BeatPollution campaign

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## Objectives

- ✓ Raise awareness of the many existing forms of pollution
- ✓ Encourage individuals, governments, businesses and civil society to act

## Results

- ✓ Almost 2.5 million pledges were made on web and social media
  - ✓ The #BeatPollution social media posts from UN Environment were seen over 35 million times on social media, the #BeatPollution hashtag was used 14,000 times during the Assembly itself (4-6 December 2017)
  - ✓ #BeatPollution has since maintained its momentum in the social conversation and has been used an average of 682 times daily on Twitter
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# Key messages and next steps from the science-policy-business forum, the multistakeholder and four leadership dialogues

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- **Science, technology and innovation are key enablers to respond to environmental challenges**

Despite the massive proliferation of big data, real-time data flows & monitoring systems, making information accessible to citizens and particularly the most vulnerable remains a key barrier.

- **Legal and regulatory frameworks are essential for tackling pollution**

Greater regional and international cooperation is needed as well as the adoption and enforcement of national legislations and sanctions for pollution-related crimes.

- **Conducive policy instruments are available**

Holistic intersectoral policy approaches bringing together ministries of agriculture, energy, environment and finance have proven more impactful.

- **Strengthening partnerships with the civil society, the private sector and public decision-making entities is imperative**

Build public awareness, communicate and build capacity of all citizens – notably among the youth – can prove essential to mobilize political will on pollution issues.

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# **Framing the UNEA3 Implementation Plan**

## **Part 2: Suggested key building blocks**

# Action on pollution can contribute to achieve many Sustainable Development Goals

 <p><b>1 NO POVERTY</b></p>	Cleaner environments improve health and worker productivity and work days	 <p><b>2 ZERO HUNGER</b></p>	Growing food on non-contaminated soils helps to fight hunger and ensure the provision of safe food round	 <p><b>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</b></p>	Actions on pollution substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination
 <p><b>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</b></p>	A clean environment enables quality education and education enables acquisition of knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles	 <p><b>5 GENDER EQUALITY</b></p>	Pollution reduction as well as equality, for example through reduced burden of fetching clean water, cleaner indoor air quality and better health enable gender equality	 <p><b>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</b></p>	Better managed freshwater ecosystems and cleaner water significantly reduce the number of deaths from diarrhoeal diseases
 <p><b>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</b></p>	Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy can cut air pollution indoors, which will particularly benefit women and children	 <p><b>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</b></p>	Reduced exposure to pollution leads to improved health and well-being of workers and therefore increased productivity and economic growth	 <p><b>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p>	Pollution avoidance through adoption of green technologies and ecosystem based solutions fosters innovation and sustainability in industry and infrastructural sectors
 <p><b>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</b></p>	Pollution governance and actions can ensure that no group or community is made to bear a disproportionate share of the harmful effects of pollution	 <p><b>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</b></p>	Sustainable transport, waste management, buildings and industry lead to cleaner air in cities	 <p><b>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</b></p>	Resource efficiency and circularity in materials and input use reduce pollution and waste and contribute to sustainable consumption and production
 <p><b>13 CLIMATE ACTION</b></p>	Clean energy and low carbon policies reduce air pollution and mitigate climate change impact at the same time	 <p><b>14 LIFE BELOW WATER</b></p>	Action on marine pollution reduces potential bioaccumulation of toxic substances as well as habitat destruction, and help maintain healthy fisheries and ecosystems	 <p><b>15 LIFE ON LAND</b></p>	Integrating ecosystem and biodiversity values into development plans and poverty reduction strategies supports better land management and avoids pollution
 <p><b>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</b></p>	Good "pollution-related" governance reduces environmental burdens and injustices and can enhance availability of 'saved' resources for the underserved	 <p><b>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</b></p>	Global partnerships to address pollution can have positive implications to health, jobs, worker productivity, planet and well-being		

# Analysing the UNEA3 resolutions to form the building blocks of the implementation plan

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## Main common categories of activities of UNEA3 resolutions

Science, data, access  
to information,  
reporting, SDGs

Standards, regulations  
and integrated policy  
development

Industry, private  
sector engagement,  
(incl. circular  
economy/lifecycle)  
and NGO engagement

Methodologies and  
tools development,  
Capacity-building,  
strengthening of  
technical and  
institutional capacity

Education, training

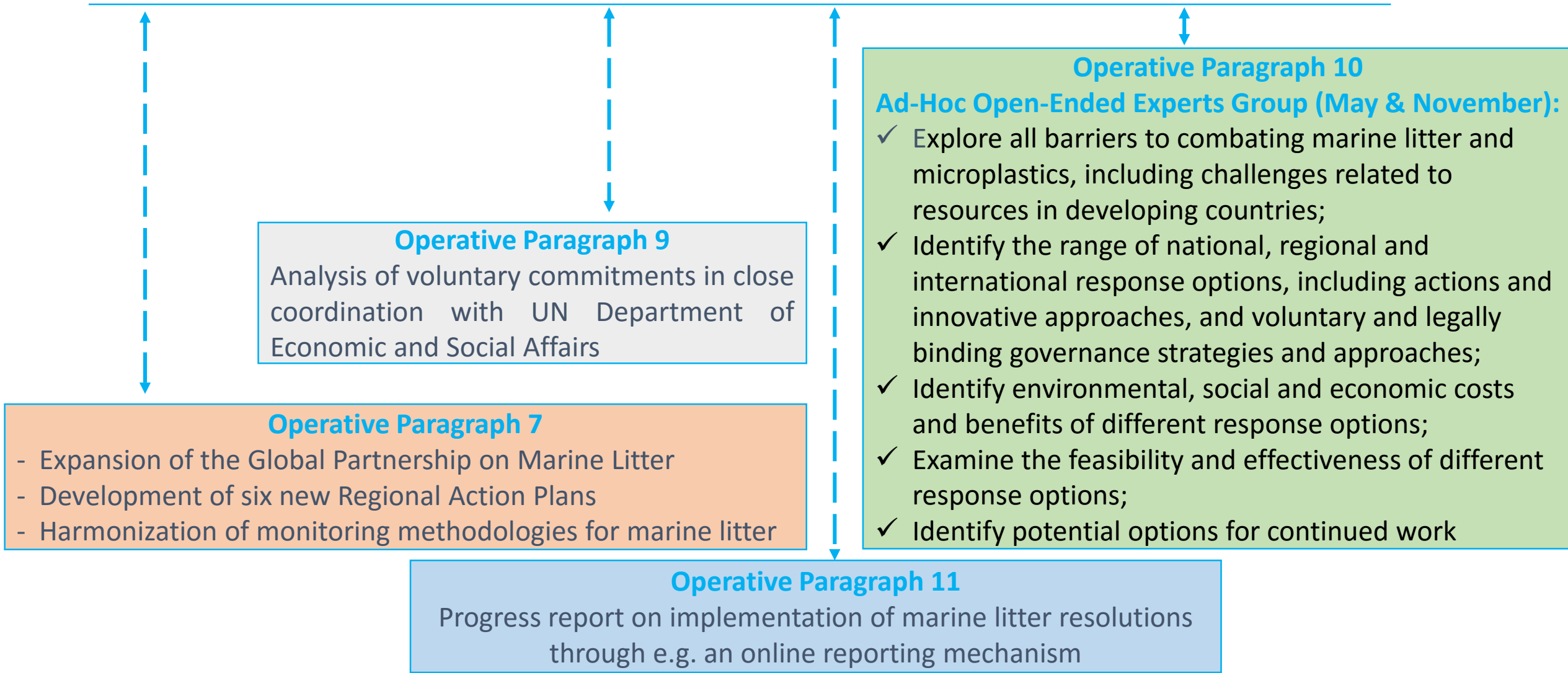
Communication

Regional cooperation, partnership building with all, incl. UN Agencies

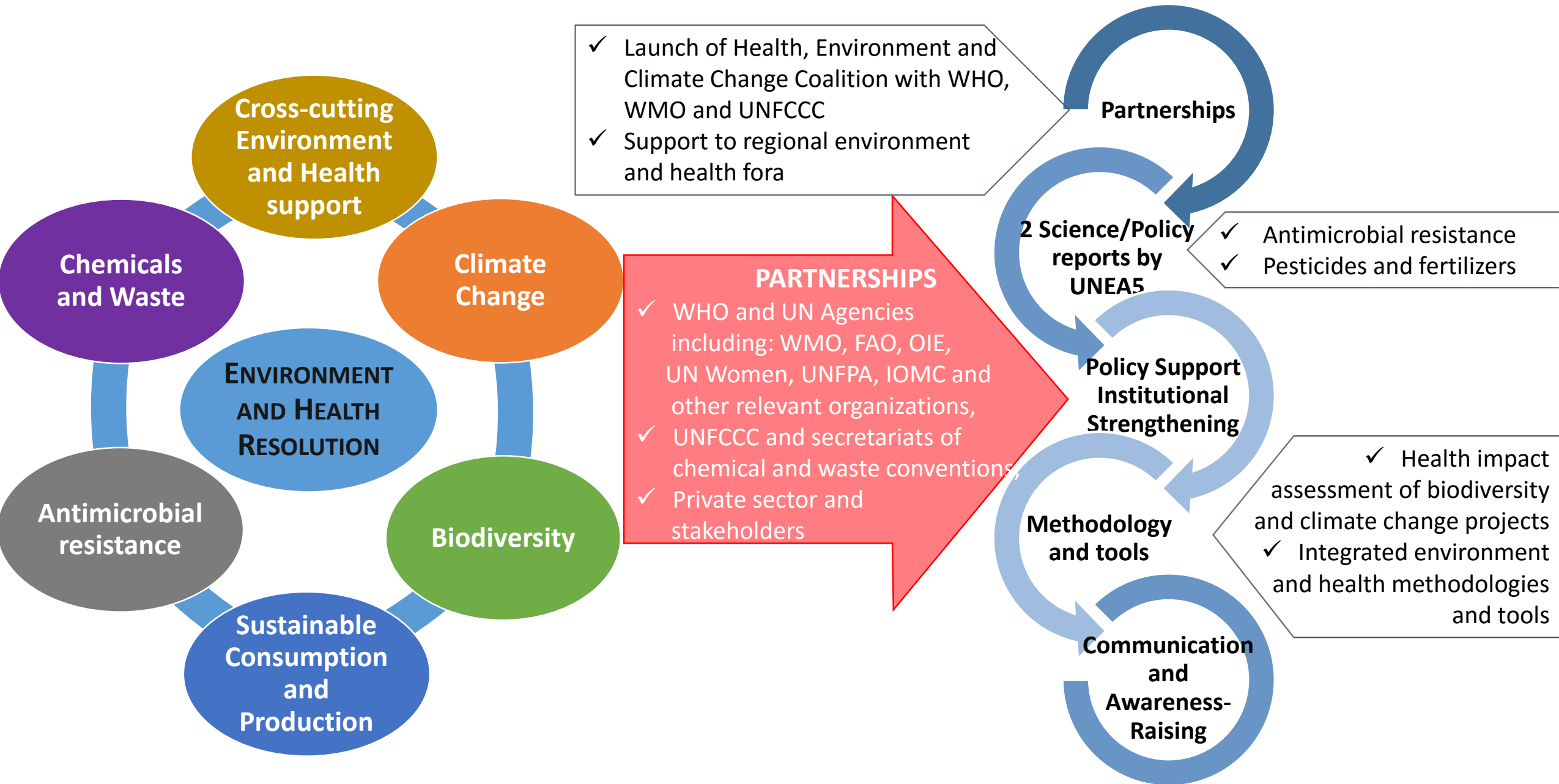
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# Example: Implementation of the Marine Litter and Micro Plastics Resolution



# Example: Implementation of the Environment & Health Resolution



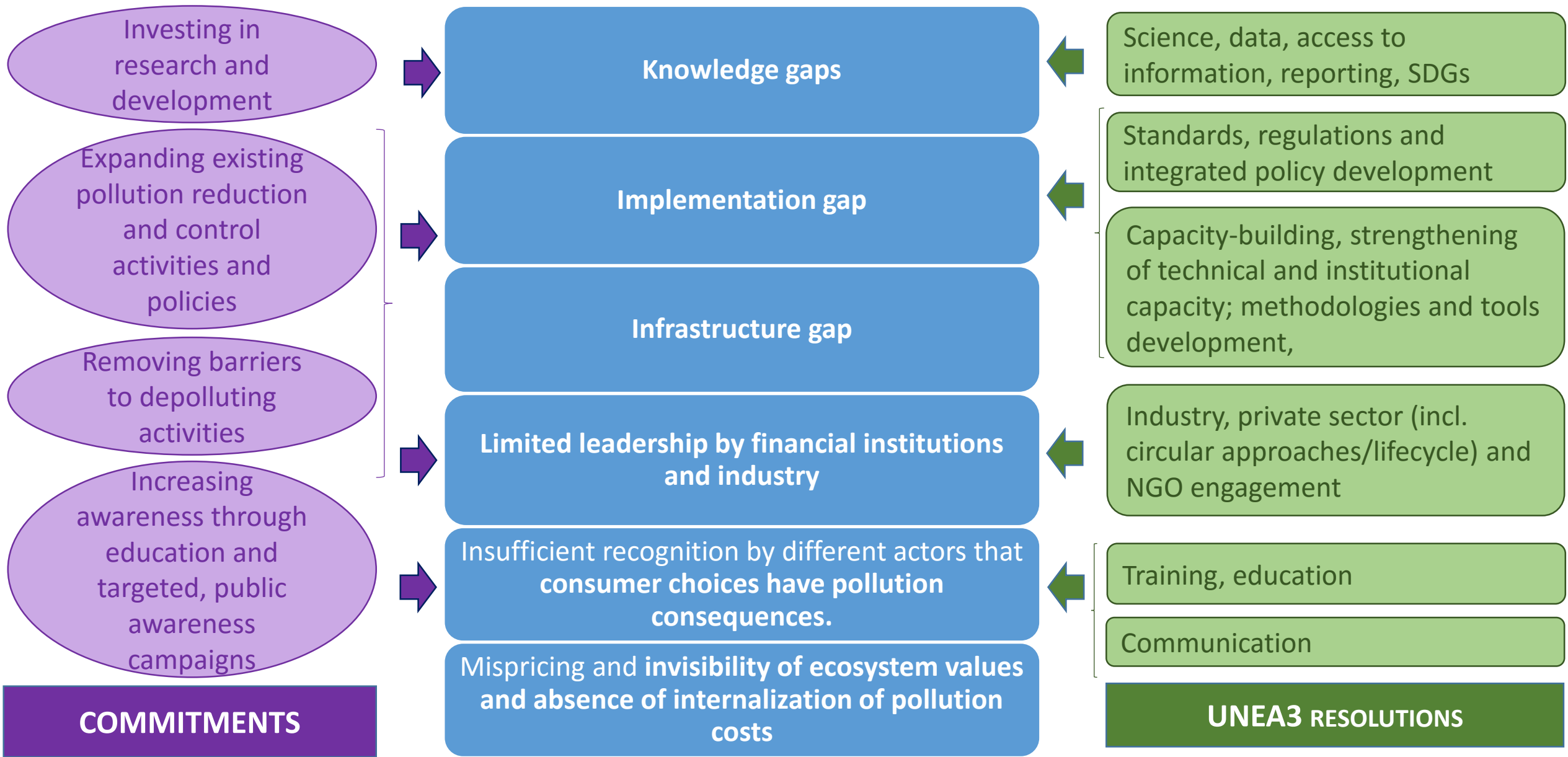
# Example: Implementation of the Air Quality Resolution

In response to the **UNEA-3 Resolution L23**, UN Environment is developing a global Air Quality programme to support low and middle-income countries, with a menu of integrated services according to their needs. The programme:

- ❑ Builds from UN Environment work in regions (e.g. Asia Pacific Clean Air Partnership, Regional Forums on Environment and Health, etc.)
- ❑ Expands/supports key partnerships with other UN organizations (World Health Organisation, World Meteorological Organization, Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, UNICEF, etc.), private sector, NGOs and academia
- ❑ Links with Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC): in particular with the sectoral interventions of the eleven initiatives (e.g. urban health, municipal solid waste, agriculture, bricks, diesel, household energy, etc.)
- ❑ Also links with existing sectoral interventions i.e. fuels and vehicles, public transport, e-mobility, waste burning, clean industry, indoor air pollution, sand and dust storms
- ❑ Supports country & city level strategies with various components i.e. low-cost monitoring, assessments, support to legislation and standards, policy support, education and awareness-raising on air quality
- ❑ Further supports global programmes including campaigns and advocacy efforts such as BreatheLife

UN Environment's new Air Quality Programme Coordination Economy Division (Air Quality & Mobility Unit)		
AIR QUALITY MONITORING (Science Policy component)	Support countries and cities with developing and implementing simple cost effective Air Quality monitoring to help develop interventions	Lead: Science Division with support of Economy Division and Regional Offices
AIR QUALITY ACTION PLANS (Institutional strengthening)	Support countries and cities develop concrete Air Quality programmes and strategies with sectoral priority interventions (transport, waste, industry)	Lead: Economy Division with support of Science, Ecosystems, Law Division and Regional Offices
AIR QUALITY AWARENESS AND COMMS (Outreach)	Create country and city networks and programs to raise awareness of and priority for Air Quality management	Lead: Communication Division With support of Economy Division and Regional Offices

# UNEA3 resolutions and voluntary commitments: Addressing the Gaps



# UNEA3 Implementation Plan: main suggested action areas

## Science for Policy

- ✓ Identification and access to pollution data
- ✓ Science-policy reports
- ✓ Assessments
- ✓ Knowledge sharing

## Incentives and Good Practices

- ✓ Methodologies and tools, capacity-building and institutional strengthening
- ✓ Economics of pollution
- ✓ Fiscal policies
- ✓ Standards and regulations
- ✓ Technology access
- ✓ Cleaning legacy sites

## Advocacy

- ✓ Campaigns: #Beat Pollution
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Sharing of Good Practices

## Measuring Progress

- ✓ #Beatpollution monitoring and reporting framework

## Mobilizing Leaders and Partnerships

- ✓ Financial investors
- ✓ Private sector partners
- ✓ Existing partnerships
- ✓ Regional for a as leaders
- ✓ South-south cooperation
- ✓ Triangular cooperation

# Measuring progress

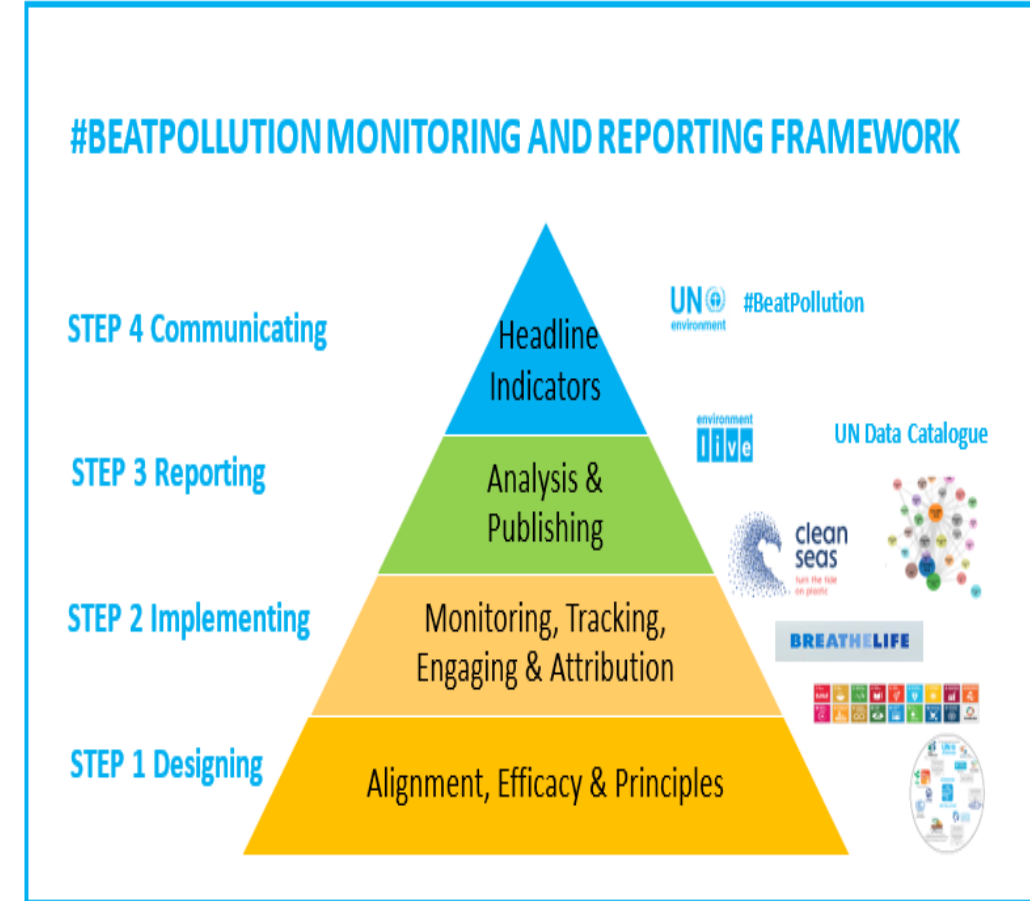
## 2 key questions to be addressed:

- ✓ Is there evidence to show that the Voluntary Commitments are making a difference?
- ✓ Is #BeatPollution moving the world towards a pollution-free Planet?

➤ **Information and data on the different types of activities and progress made need to be brought together in a comprehensive and transparent way.**

The creation of a #BeatPollution Monitoring and Reporting Framework is proposed. Major expected gains:

- ✓ be able to raise the profile of the Voluntary Commitments and
- ✓ encourage others to participate through showing progress and success stories and catalyse existing participants to do more.



# #Beatpollution- An umbrella campaign

(that comprises: Breathelife, Cleanseas, Sustainable lifestyles, etc.)

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- ✓ use #CleanSeas and #BreatheLife campaigns to expand awareness and engagement
  - ✓ showcase the implementation of the voluntary commitments
  - ✓ Use World Environment Day to raise awareness on plastics
  - ✓ create a solution-based #BeatPollution narrative using available and new data
  - ✓ put in place a compelling content, media, social media and multimedia strategy to expand the campaign reach
  - ✓ storytelling - encouraging policy and decision makers at all levels to take action and bring about the necessary change
  - ✓ ask Member States to champion the different dimensions of pollution and share their work and achievements
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# Key success factor: Accelerating Delivery through Partnerships



Note: The above logos are meant to be illustrative and do not provide an exhaustive picture of current initiatives and partnerships addressing pollution.



Thank you

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