

# 'Towards a Pollution Free Planet' Preparation of the background document

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3<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Environment Assembly

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# Key aspects of the background report development

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- Scientific accuracy:
    - ✓ Scientifically based sections (1 and 2) largely developed in consultation with the GEO6 authors
    - ✓ A group of experts to review and provide guidance to early draft of the report
    - ✓ Peer review
  - Draft 1 in house review
  - Draft 2 consultations and inputs from UN agencies, Multilateral Environmental Agreements.
  - Regional and stakeholder consultations to provide inputs and feedback (based on powerpoint presentations)
  - Final Draft for public consultation
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# Key milestones

15 May (2 weeks consultation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the report sent to MEAs and UN agencies, and key experts for comments and feedback.</li><li>• Virtual meetings with 1) key technical experts, 2) MEAs 3) UN Agencies</li></ul>
24 May	Presentation of key finding of the report to the CPR
Mid June	Commitments platform available on line (UNEA 3 website)
26 June	Draft report sent to Member states for comments until 14 July (3 weeks)
Week of 17 July	Finalisation of the report
End July – beginning September	Final review, sign off by Head of UN Environment, final editing, design and layout
15 September	Early release/launch of the English version of the report
30th September and 30th November	Reporting and analysis of the commitments received

# Structure of the report

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- **Introduction**
- **Section 1- Evidence of a polluted planet: the science, impacts and economic costs**
  - ✓ Air; marine and coastal; land and soil; freshwater; cross-cutting sources: chemicals and waste
  - ✓ Economic costs
- **Section 2- A Pollution Free Planet: Agenda 2030 and Multilateral Environmental Agreements**
  - ✓ Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs
  - ✓ Concerted actions through multilateral and regional environmental agreements
  - ✓ Economic benefits of action on pollution
- **Section 3- A Framework for Transition to a Pollution Free Planet**
  - ✓ Gaps
  - ✓ Principles
  - ✓ Key system wide areas of change (actions and enablers)
  - ✓ Targetted interventions

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## **Conclusion**

# Section 1: Evidence of a polluted planet: the science, impacts and economic costs

- Based on the GEO regional reports, GEO-6 thematic drafts, and other sources
- Combining state, trends and impact analysis per pollution theme
- To be further shortened by focusing on priority issues and using infographics

# Major forms of pollution and key sectoral sources

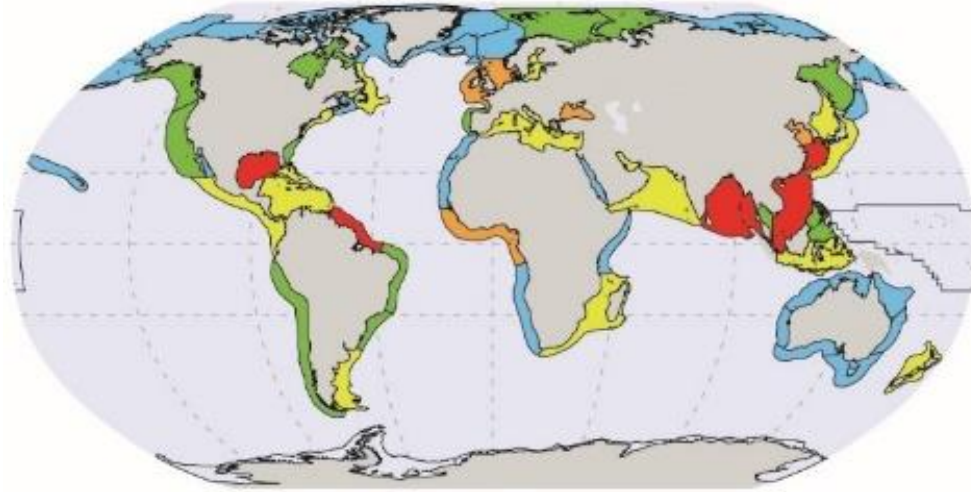
## Environmental Media

AIR	FRESHWATER	MARINE	LAND	ALL
Particulate Matter	Nitrates	Nitrates	Nitrates	Polychlorinated biphenyls
Black carbon	Nutrients (phosphates)	Toxic waste	Heavy metals	Persistent organic pollutants
Nitrogen oxides	Hazardous chemicals	(including oil, plastics)	Pharmaceuticals	Perchloroethylene
Sulphur dioxide	Endocrine disrupting chemicals			Tetrachloroethylene
Ozone	Heavy metals			Radioactive waste
Heavy metals	Pharmaceuticals			
Noise				

## Pollution Sources

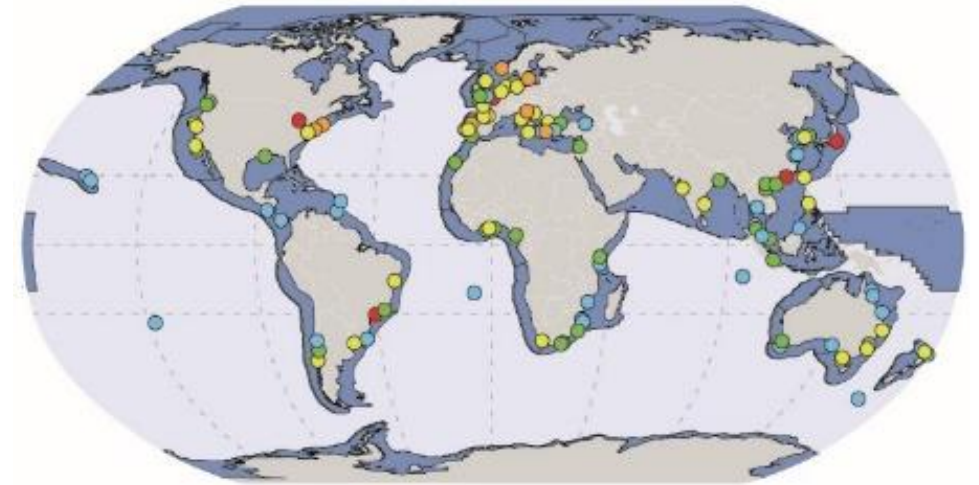
<b>Waste</b>	E-waste, food waste; wastewater; municipal solid waste; open-burning; plastics; hazardous; construction and demolition
<b>Transport</b>	Fuel use and-supply; engine emissions; road: tyres, surface; shipping; aviation
<b>Energy</b>	Combustion plants; fossil fuels; biomass
<b>Service</b>	Tourism; hospitals; water; retail
<b>Industry</b>	Chemicals; Pharmaceuticals; Extractives; Agriculture; Forestry; Fisheries
<b>Urban</b>	Buildings; households; mobility

# Mapping key risks: nutrient, PCBs, plastic debris



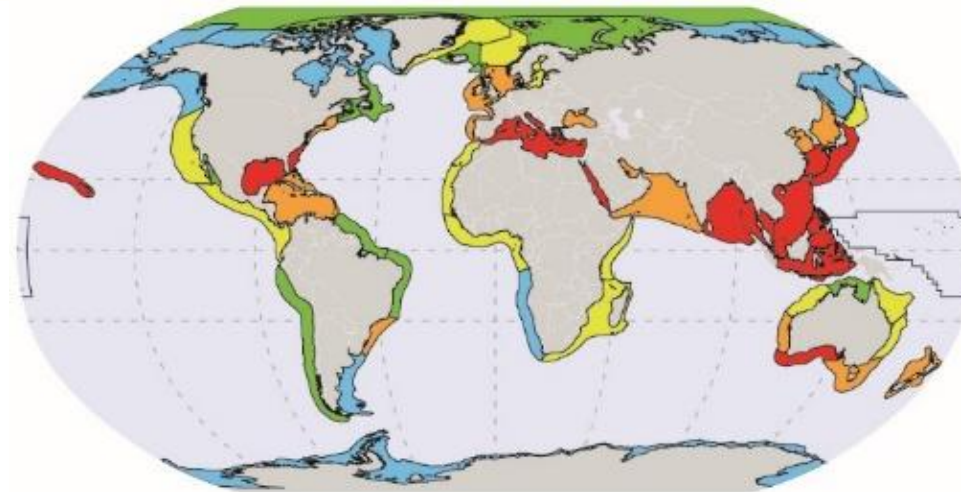
**Nutrient risk indicator categories**

Lowest Low Medium High Highest



**PCBs concentration range (nanograms per gram pellet)**

<10 10-50 50-200 200-500

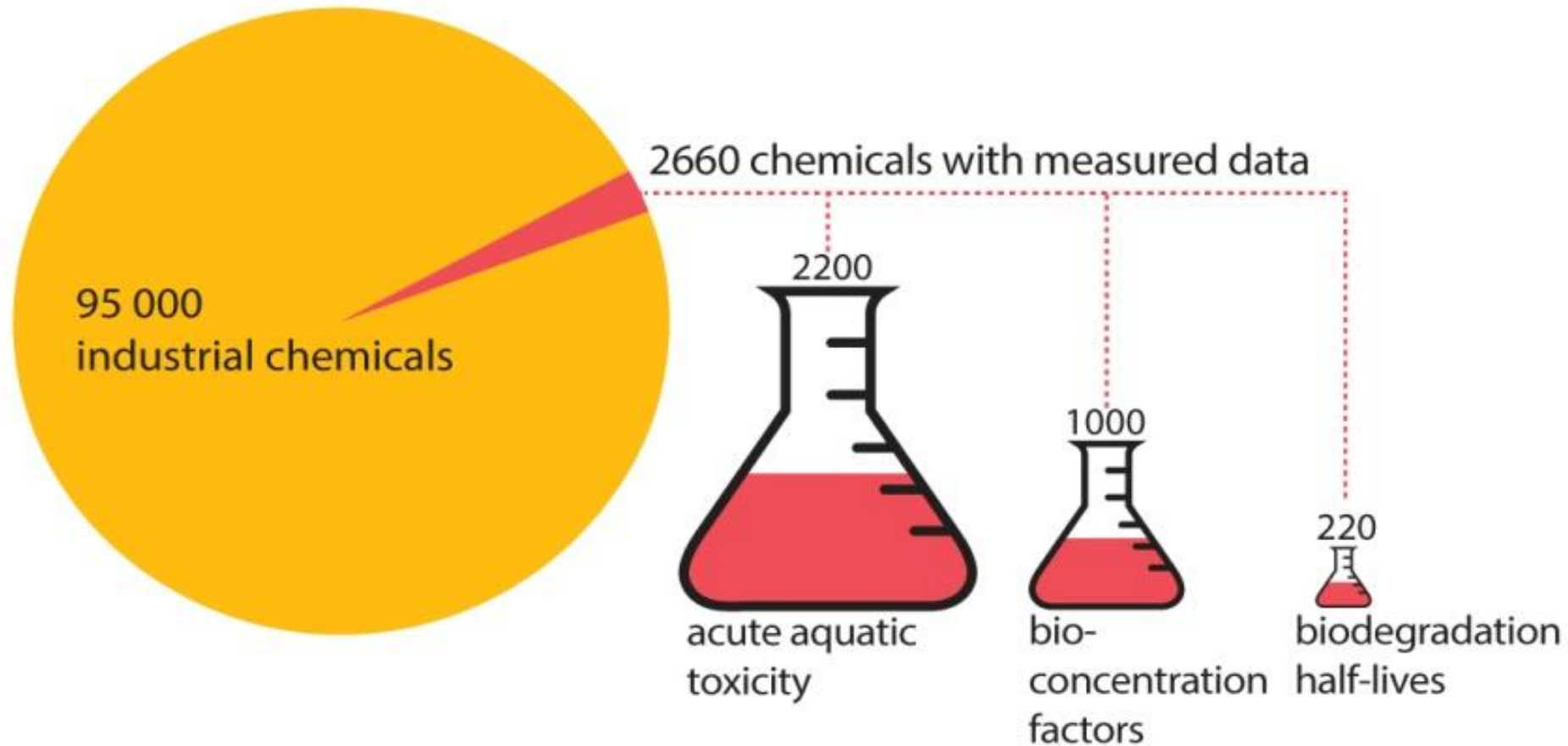


**Floating plastic debris risk categories**

Lowest Low Medium High Highest

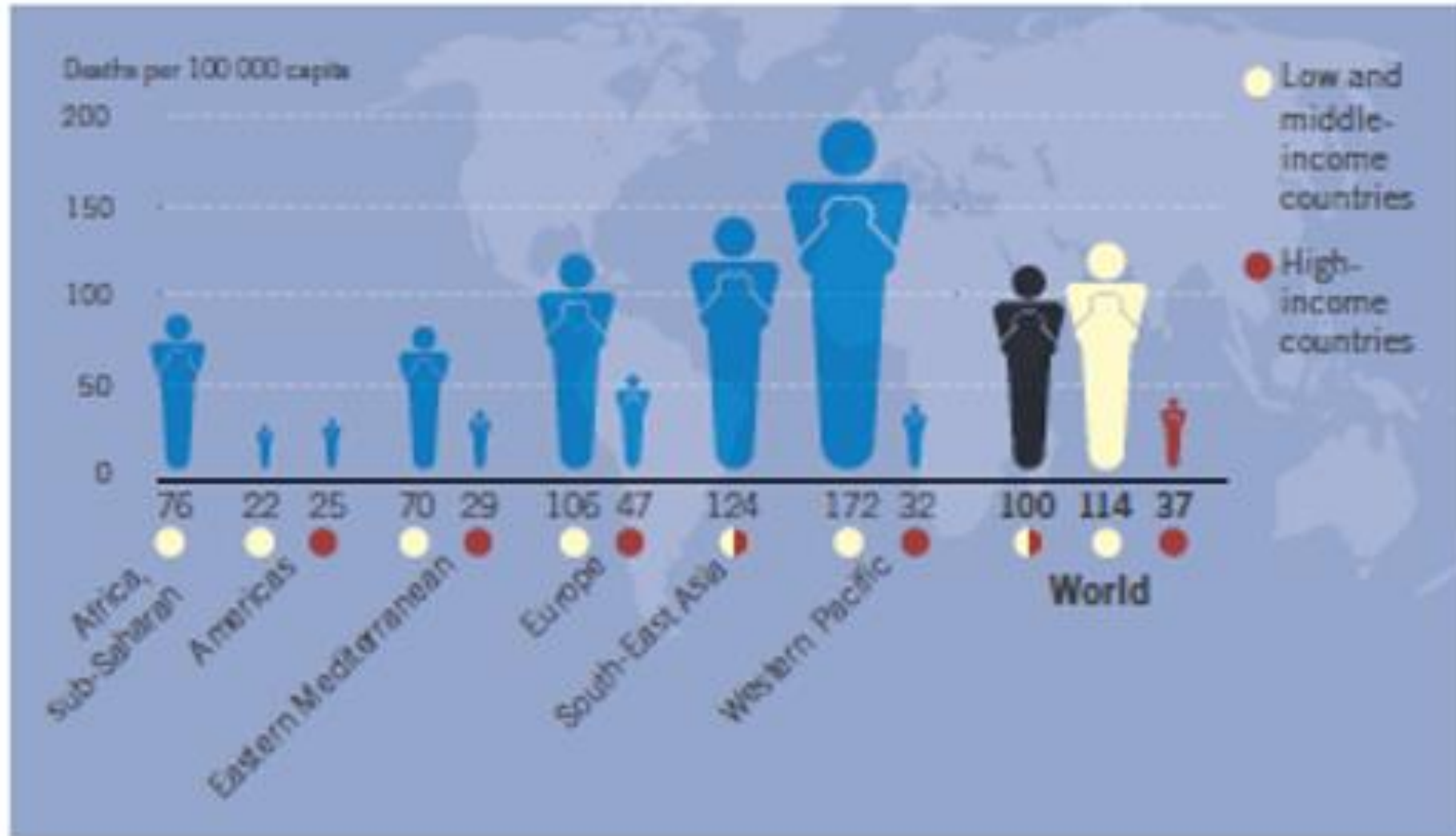
# Testing of chemicals

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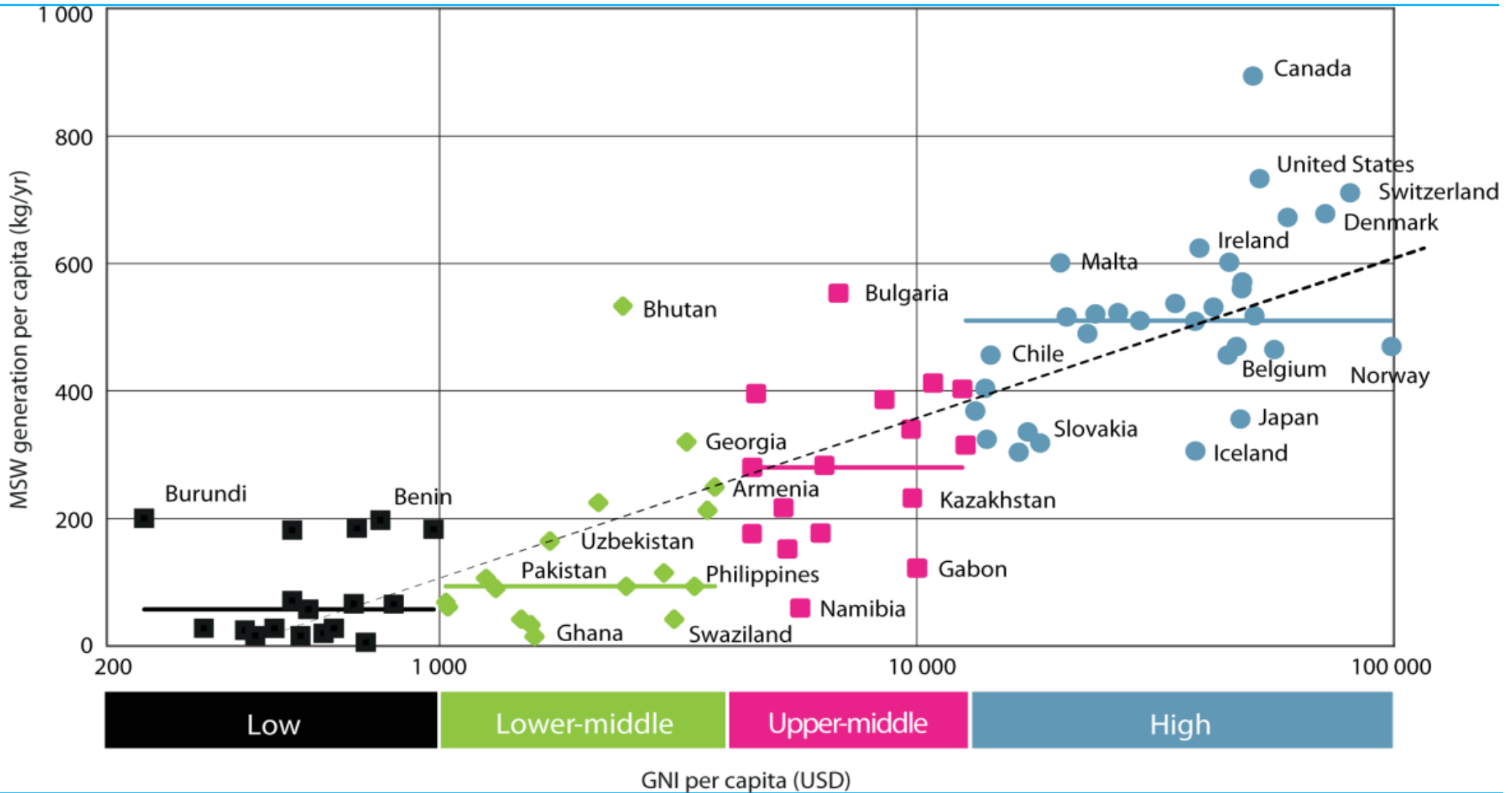




# Deaths per capita attributable to joint effects of household and ambient air pollution in 2012, by region

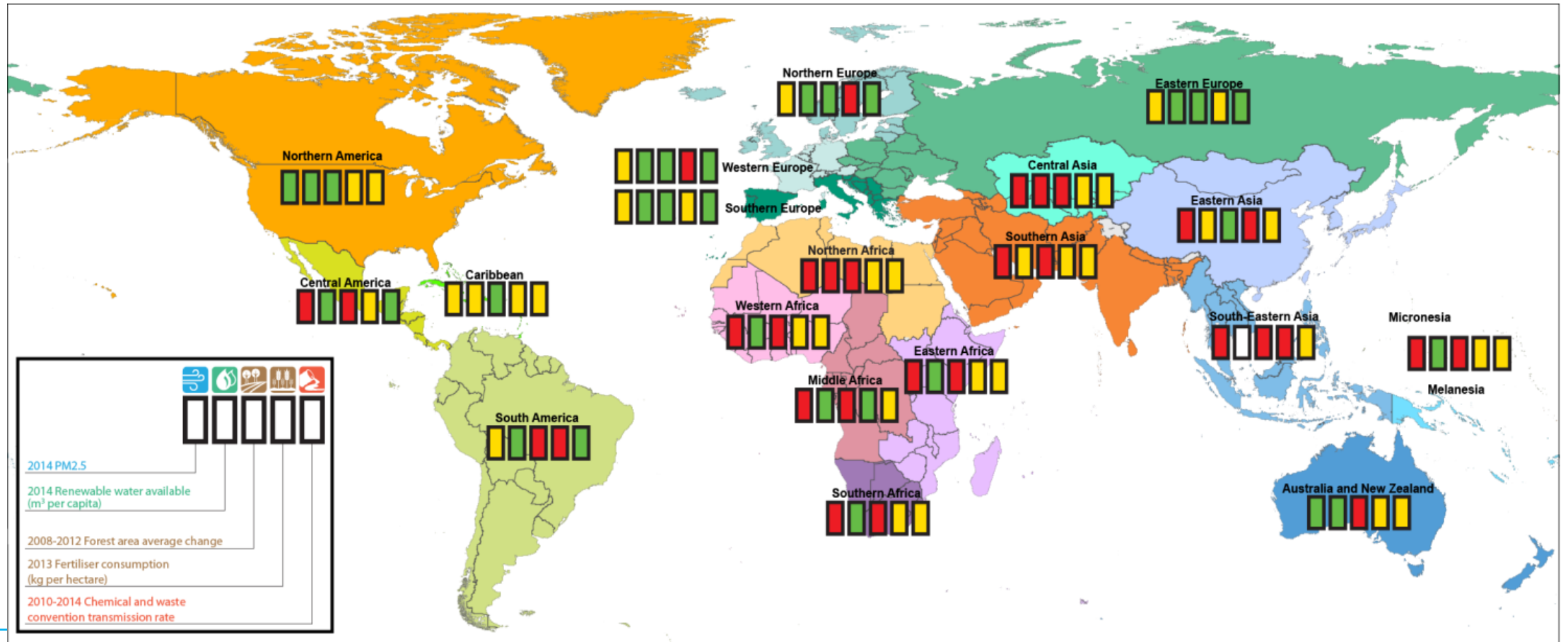


# Waste generation by income level



# Selected pollution indicators by UN sub region

- Based on review of pollution data emanating from the GEO-6 Regional Assessment.
- Assessment by region to be followed by assessment by theme and expert review



## **Section 2: A pollution free planet: Agenda 2030 and Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

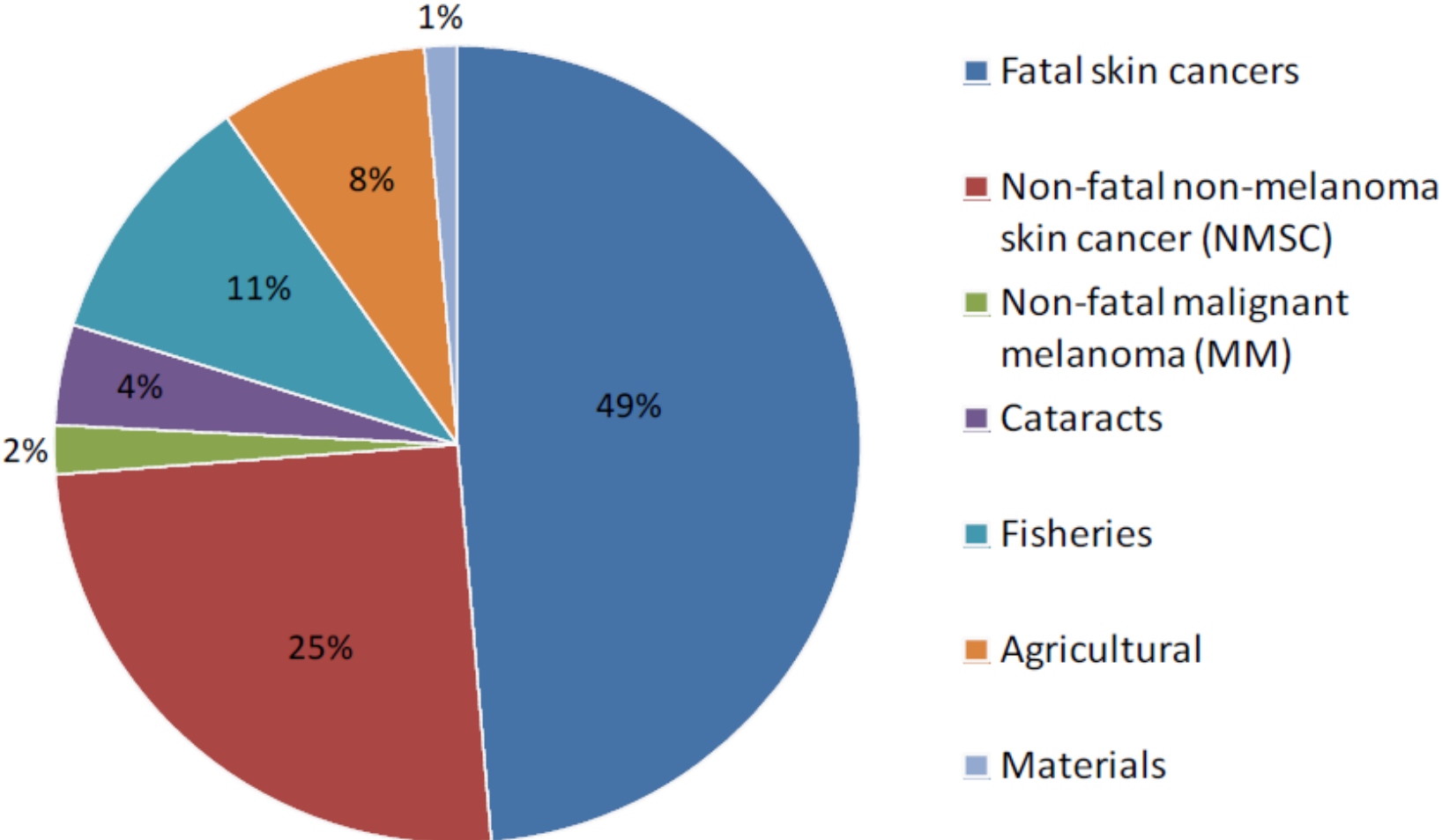
- Mapping of SDG linkages ongoing per pollution theme
- Demonstrating how addressing pollution is contributing to achieving multiple Sustainable Development Goals and targets

# Demonstrating how addressing air pollution through selected MEAs and global initiatives is contributing to achieving multiple SDGs



# Some success stories: the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

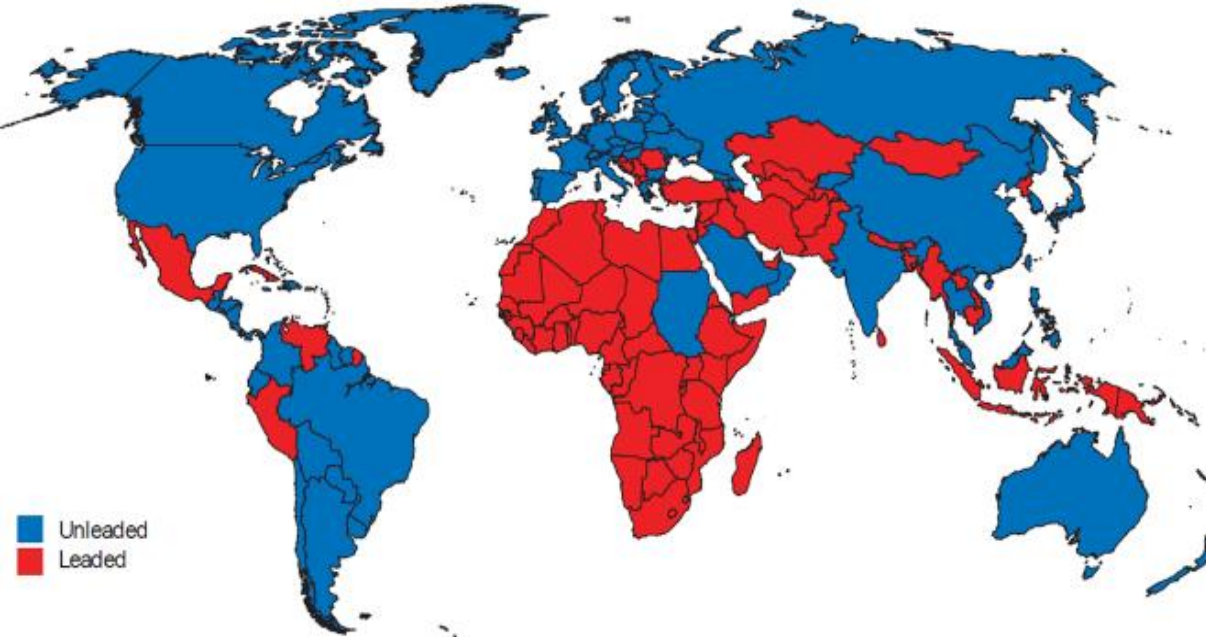
Health benefits represent 80% of total economic benefit of the Montreal Protocol\*, estimated to be US\$1.8 trillion by 2060.



# Some Success stories: Lead in fuels



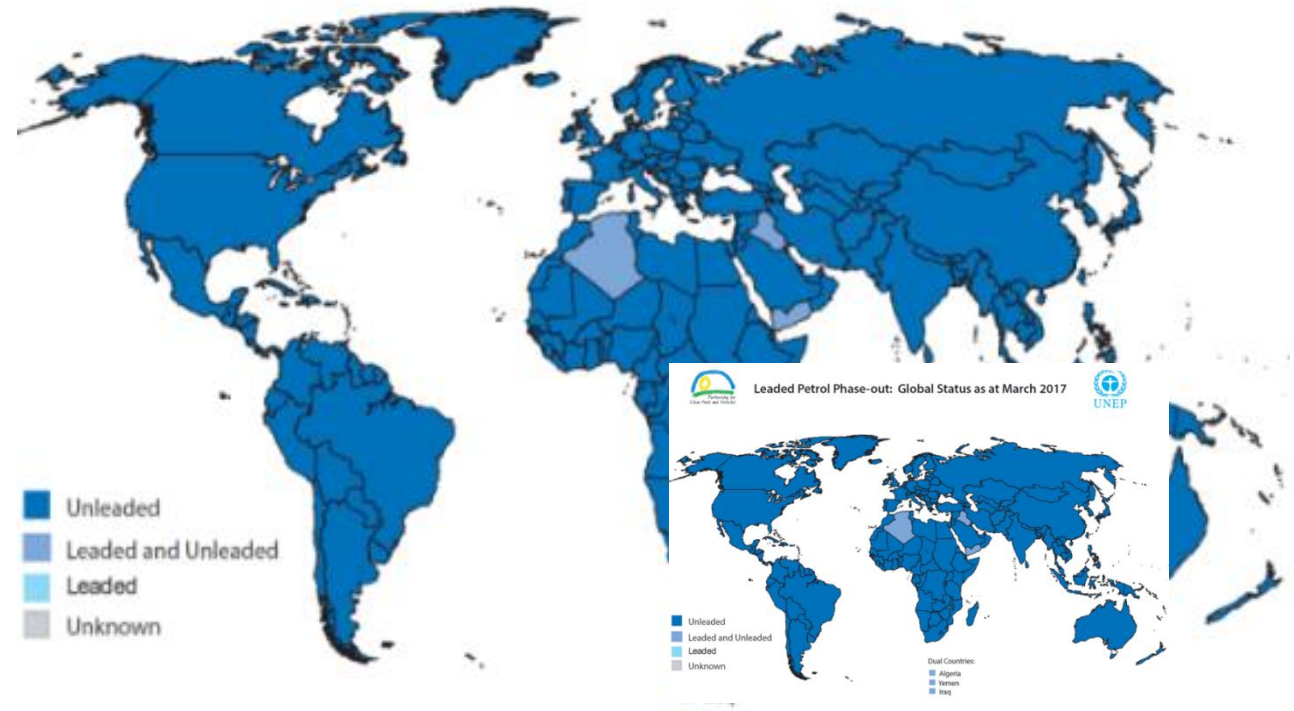
Leaded Petrol Phase-Out: Global Status



Status as of End 2002



Leaded Petrol Phase-out: Global Status as at March 2017



## Section 3: A Framework for a Transition to a Pollution Free Planet

- Analysing Gaps and Issues
- Defining Principles
- Identifying main Actions and Enablers
- Highlighting targetting actions for pollution risk areas



# Why is pollution so pervasive?

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Sections 1 and 2 suggest the following:

- Important sectoral misalignments, behavioral choices, institutional and regulatory deficits, absence of information, missing markets and resources
  - Absence of property rights or enforceable rights on the environment, for example on oceans, atmosphere, on many open lands, result in them being treated as dumping grounds
  - New and emerging chemicals are however rising; this tends to be associated more with higher income countries, but not enough information is available on their impacts.
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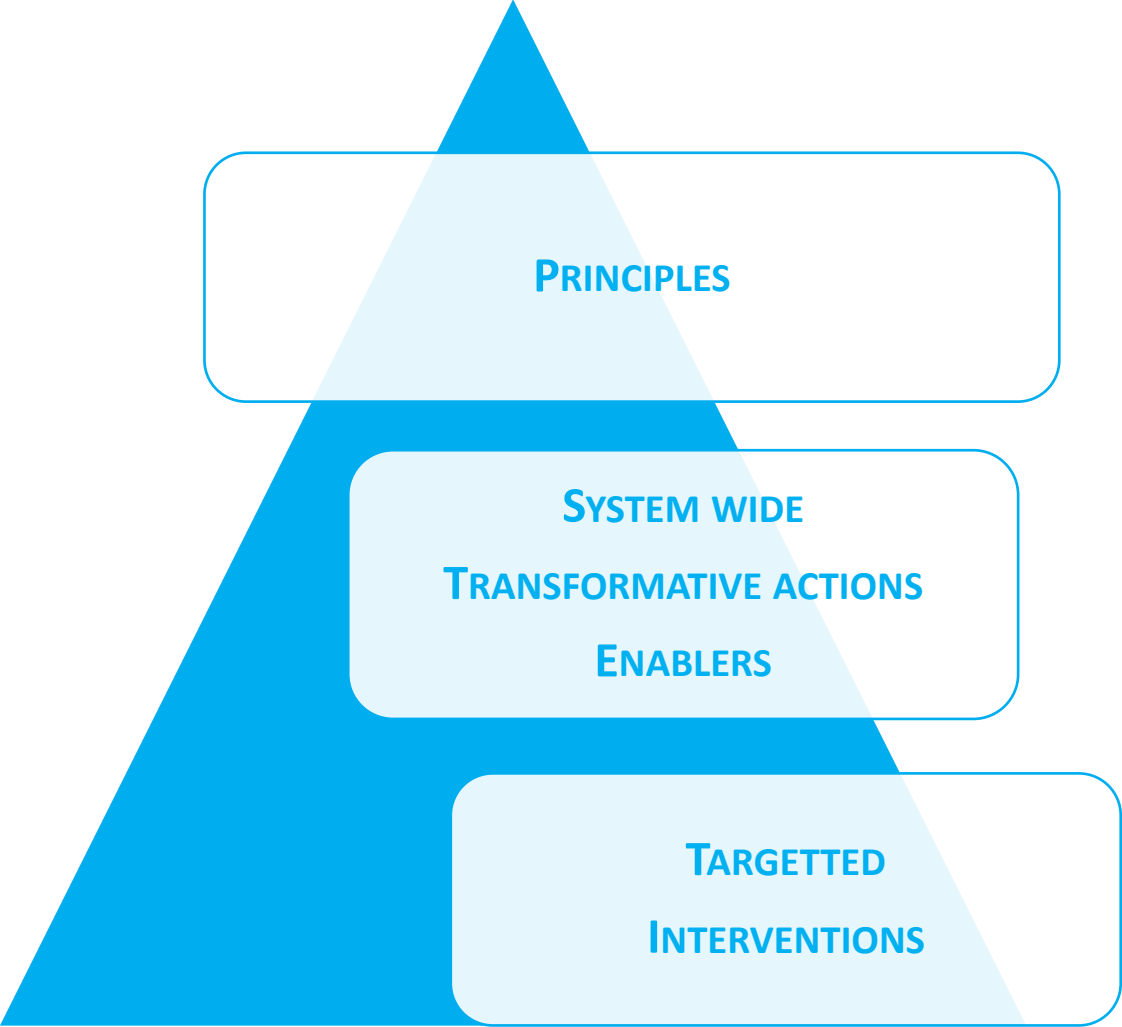
# Gaps

Issues/gaps have been identified which require attention which is both system wide and targeted to the pollution areas through transformative actions and enablers

1. Inadequate awareness & information on pollution sources, pathways, impacts, alternatives
2. Poor regulatory & institutional functioning
3. Absence of infrastructure to manage and control pollution
4. Lack of data on pollutants for improved choices, regulation and decisions
5. Limited finance & industry leadership on pollution matters
6. Knowledge and experience sharing on what has worked
7. Capacity, funding and technologies
8. Absence of internalization of pollution costs in decision making
9. Mispricing and invisibility of ecosystem values so their degradation goes unnoticed
10. Behavior of citizens and non-recognition that choices have pollution consequences

# A Framework for a Transition towards a Pollution Free Planet

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# Principles

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- 1. All sections of society have the responsibility to ensure a pollution free planet.** While national governments have a clear role in enabling and guiding actions including pollution management into development agendas, the state and local authorities, communities, businesses, multi stake holder partnerships and citizens have a clear responsibility to act
  - 2. A preventive approach is central given the multiple risks to human health and well-being and to ecosystem health.** The Precautionary Principle and the Polluter Pays Principle are key to guide change, as these ensure not just responsibility but stewardship by different societal actors
  - 3. Multiple benefits of action on pollution need to be recognized** for political leadership to prioritize action on pollution give many demands on scarce political and administrative resources and short time horizons in which to make the case. This will require a 'whole-of-government' approach.
  - 4. Decision making needs to take into account multiple risks to health and ecosystems of pollutants,** reduce policy uncertainty and centre stage innovation
  - 5. Access to environmental information and data, education and public participation** are key to effective actions and environmental justice
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# Enablers and Transformative Actions

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## TRANSFORMATIVE ACTIONS

- Finance and Investments
- Innovations and Technology
- Production and Supply chains
- City level actions: Sectoral integration to tackle pollution
- Sustainable consumption practices

## ENABLERS

- Evidence-based decision-making
  - Enhanced governance
  - Economic instruments
  - Education for Change
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Thank you

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