Introduction of the Statistical Guideline for measuring flows of plastic throughout the life cycle

Pilot testing workshop of the statistical guideline for measuring flows of plastic throughout the life cycle for Vietnam

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Introduction

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, UNSD, UNECE, OECD, BRS Secretariat, Statistics Norway, Statistics Denmark, Statistics Canada, University of Wollongong (Australia), the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership, and many others.

Upcoming title: UNEP and UNITAR (2025). Statistical guideline for measuring flows of plastic throughout the life cycle. Nairobi and Bonn, Kenya and Germany.

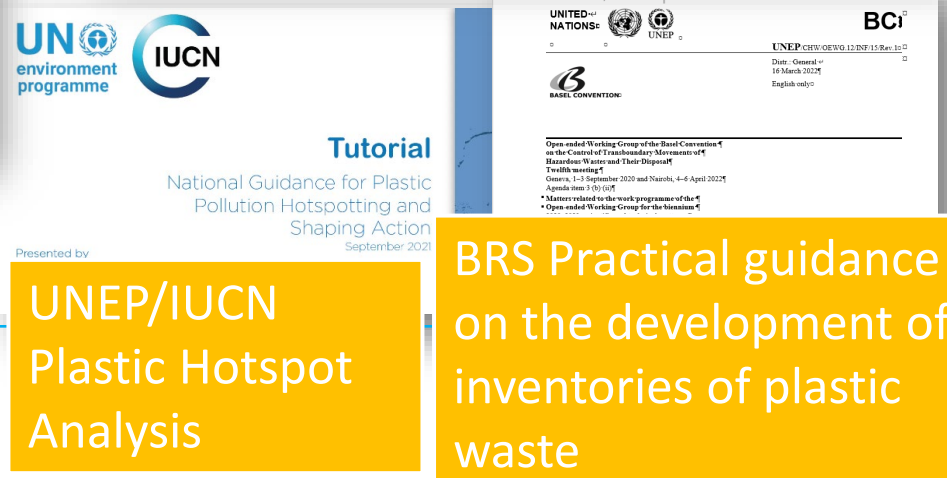
Statistical guideline on plastics: Approach

Statistical guideline on measuring flows of plastic along the lifecycle is based on international approaches, including statistical standards and classifications:

Statistical Frameworks

Statistical Classifications

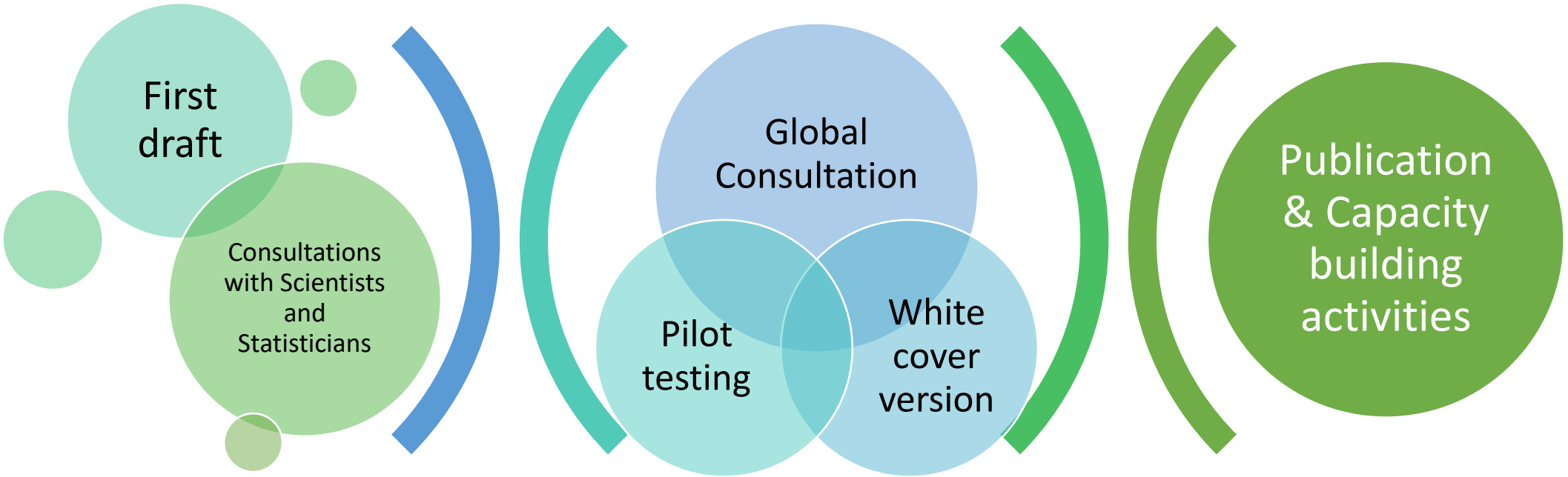
UNCTAD Plastics trade



UNEP/IUCN Plastic Hotspot Analysis

BRS Practical guidance on the development of inventories of plastic waste

Timeline



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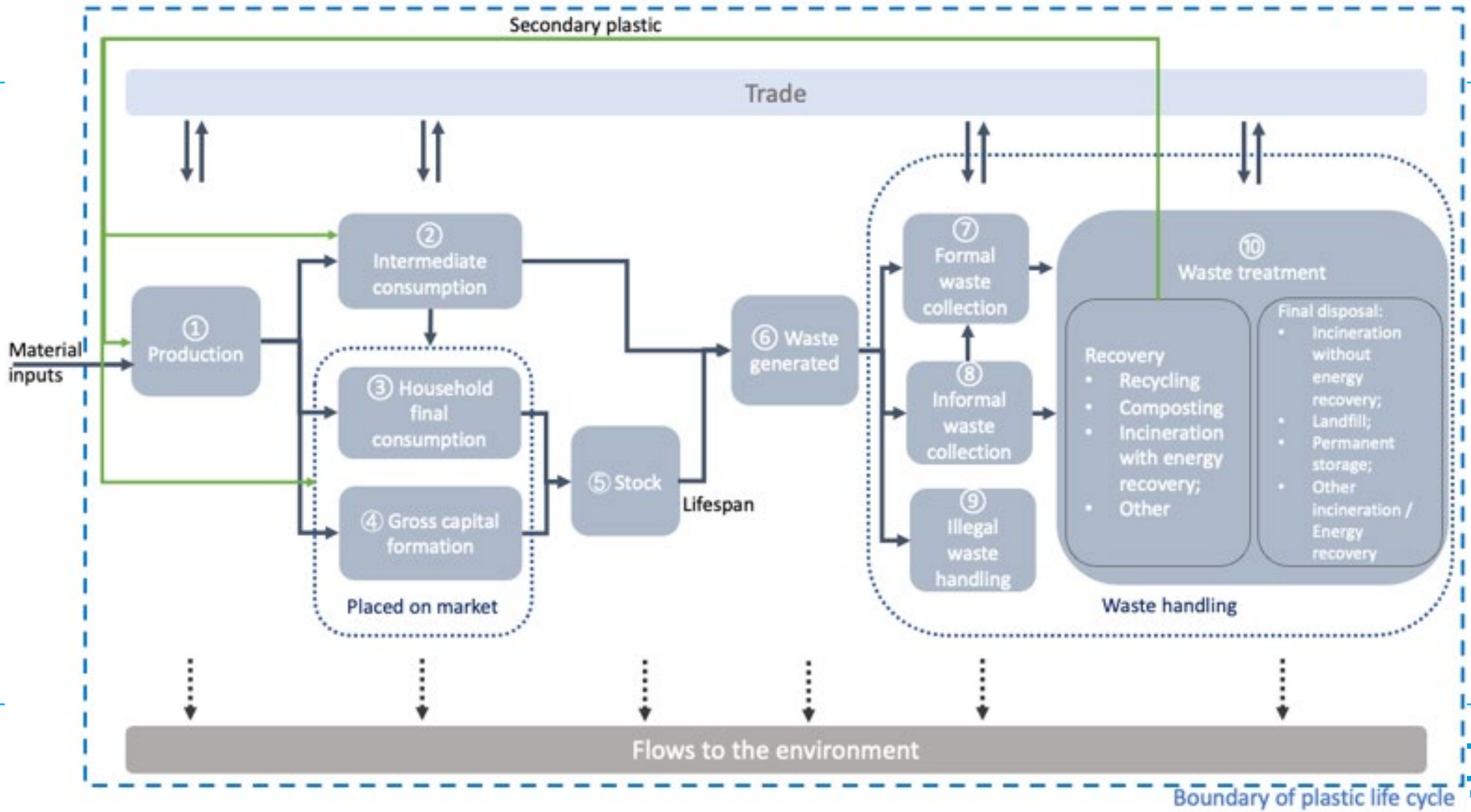
Structure

1. Introduction
    - *The Necessity of a Guideline; Brief Instructions*
2. The Physical Flow Accounting Framework for Plastics
    - *The Scope and Boundary of Plastic's Life Cycle; Terms and Definitions; Flows of plastic through the SEEA; Classifications to support plastic statistics*
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; Plastics 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 and Relevant Policies

Annexes

The experience of the NSOs of Norway, Denmark, Canada and international organizations is included

Plastic life cycle



Research

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Core terms

Plastic

- Plastic in primary forms: polymers, which can eventually be converted and processed, with additives, into plastic goods
- Plastic in semi-finished plastic products: usually used as input for further manufacturing
- Plastic in finished products: consumed in the final consumption phase
  - Finished plastic products
  - Plastic-containing products

Classifications to Support Plastic Statistics

- Central Product Classification (CPC)
- Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)
- Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS)
- International Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (ISIC)

✓ Plastic-KEYs, developed by UNITAR

P1 Packaging
P2 Transport
P3 Building and construction
P4 Electrical and electronic equipment
P5 Consumer and institutional products
P6 Industrial machinery
P7 Apparel and textile furnishing articles
P8 Other

How to use the guideline

There is a modular set-up of the guidelines:

- Countries that are starting to collect plastic statistics are encouraged to work on developing **core indicators**
- Countries with more experience with plastic statistics are encouraged to build **Physical supply and use tables for plastics** (Chapter 2.3)

Chapter 7:

- Plastic Production
- Plastic Imports / Exports, excluding waste
- Apparent Consumption of Plastic
- Plastic Waste Generated / Imported / Exported / Collected in the Economic Territory / Treated
- National Plastic Recycling Rate
- The Share of Secondary Plastic in Production
- Plastic waste handled informally
- Plastic leakages

Physical supply and use tables for plastic

Flows

1. Natural inputs

2. Products: Plastic in primary forms
3. Products: Semi-finished plastic products
4. Products: Total plastic in finished products
    a. Finished plastic products
    b. Plastic embedded in plastic containing products

5. Plastic waste

Table 3.1
General physical supply and use table

Supply table

	Production; generation of residuals		Accumulation
	Production; generation of residuals by industries (including household production on own account), classified by ISIC	Generation of residuals by households	Industries —classified by ISIC
Natural inputs			
Products	C. Output (including sale of recycled and reused products)		
Residuals	I1. Residuals generated by industry (including natural resource residuals)	J. Residuals generated by household final consumption	K1. Residuals from scrapping and demolition of produced assets
	I2. Residuals generated following treatment		K2. Emissions from controlled landfill sites
Total supply			

Use table

	Intermediate consumption of products; use of natural inputs; collection of residuals	Final consumption[a]	Accumulation
	Industries—classified by ISIC	Households	Industries —classified by ISIC
Natural inputs	B. Extraction of natural inputs B1. Extraction used in production B2. Natural resource residuals		
Products	E. Intermediate consumption (including purchase of recycled and reused products)	F. Household final consumption (including purchase of recycled and reused products)	G. Gross capital formation (including fixed assets and inventories)
Residuals	N. Collection and treatment of residuals (excluding accumulation in controlled landfill sites)		O. Accumulation of waste in controlled landfill sites
Total use			

Source: SEEA-Central Framework

Thank you

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