



Working toward a global plastic pollution treaty:

Process and possibilities

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GET INVOLVED NOW. POLLUTION HURTS ALL OF US.

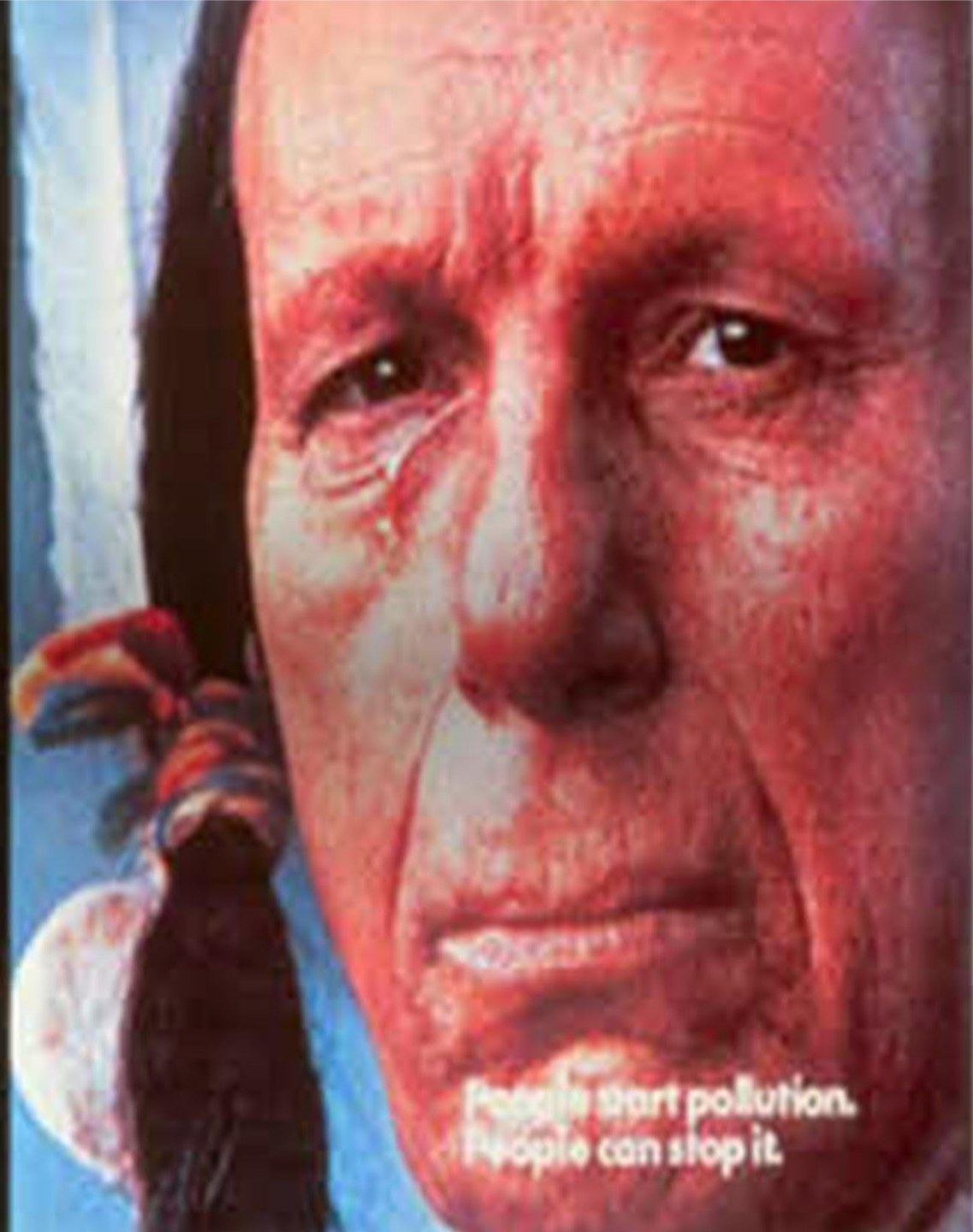
You can help by becoming a community volunteer. Write:



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People start pollution.
People can stop it.

From 'litter'
to
'pollution'



A photograph showing a large, overflowing pile of plastic waste and debris in a concrete drainage ditch. The waste includes various colored plastic fragments, bottle caps, and other unidentifiable plastic pieces. The pile is situated between two concrete walls, and the background shows a glimpse of a blue sky.

This is not a 'litter' problem.

This is a global system problem

No one lives here.

Plastic pollution is a
transboundary
problem.

Not a matter of
individual consumer
responsibility.





Neither 'marine' nor 'litter'



A photograph of two children in a vast landfill. The child in the foreground is a young boy with dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He is shirtless and holding a thin metal rod. The child in the background is a younger boy, also shirtless, wearing red shorts and green rubber boots, carrying a large white sack on his back. The ground is covered in a sea of colorful plastic waste and debris. In the distance, other figures can be seen on the horizon under a grey sky.

Can waste 'management' scale up to the size of the problem?



Is this how we manage plastic waste?

Or this?



We are bailing
out the
bathwater with
a spoon while
industry turns
the tap on
harder...



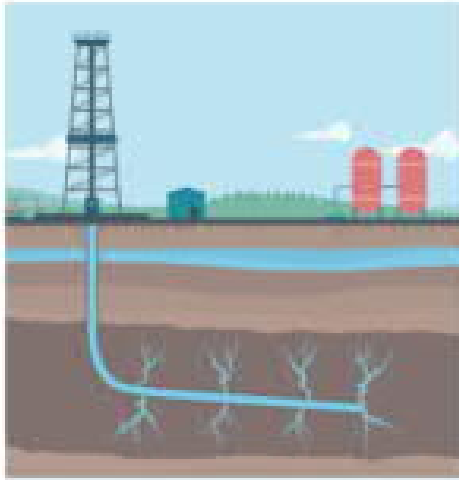
An underwater photograph showing a dense kelp forest. The water is a deep blue-green color. Several small, dark fish are swimming around the kelp. The kelp has long, thin, green blades that are swaying. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Call for a global
#PlasticPollutionTreaty

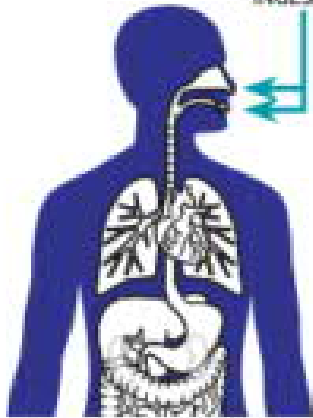
Gaps in current global governance



Extraction & Transport



INHALATION
INGESTION



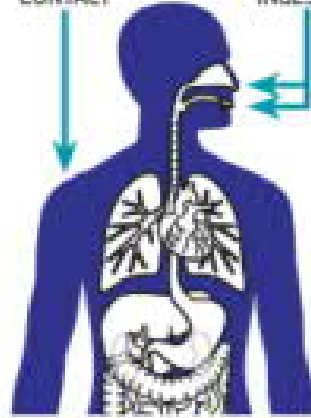
- **Emissions:** include Benzene, VOCs, and 170+ toxic chemicals in fracking fluid
- **Exposure:** inhalation and

Refining & Manufacture



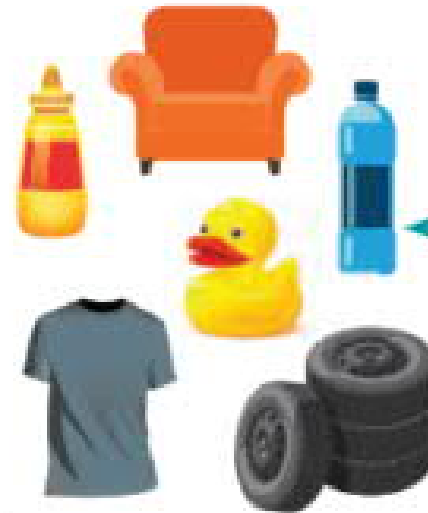
SKIN
CONTACT

INHALATION
INGESTION



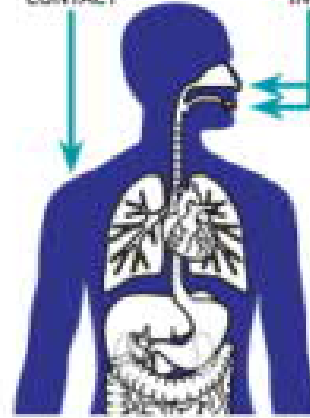
- **Emissions:** include Benzene, PAHs, and Styrene
- **Exposure:** inhalation,

Consumer Use



SKIN
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INGESTION



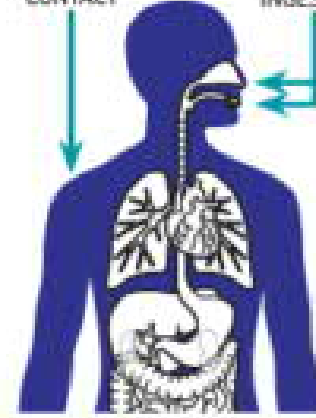
- **Emissions:** include heavy metals, POPs, carcinogens, EDCs, and microplastics
- **Exposure:** inhalation,

Waste Management



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- **Emissions:** include heavy metals, dioxins and furans, PAHs, toxic recycling

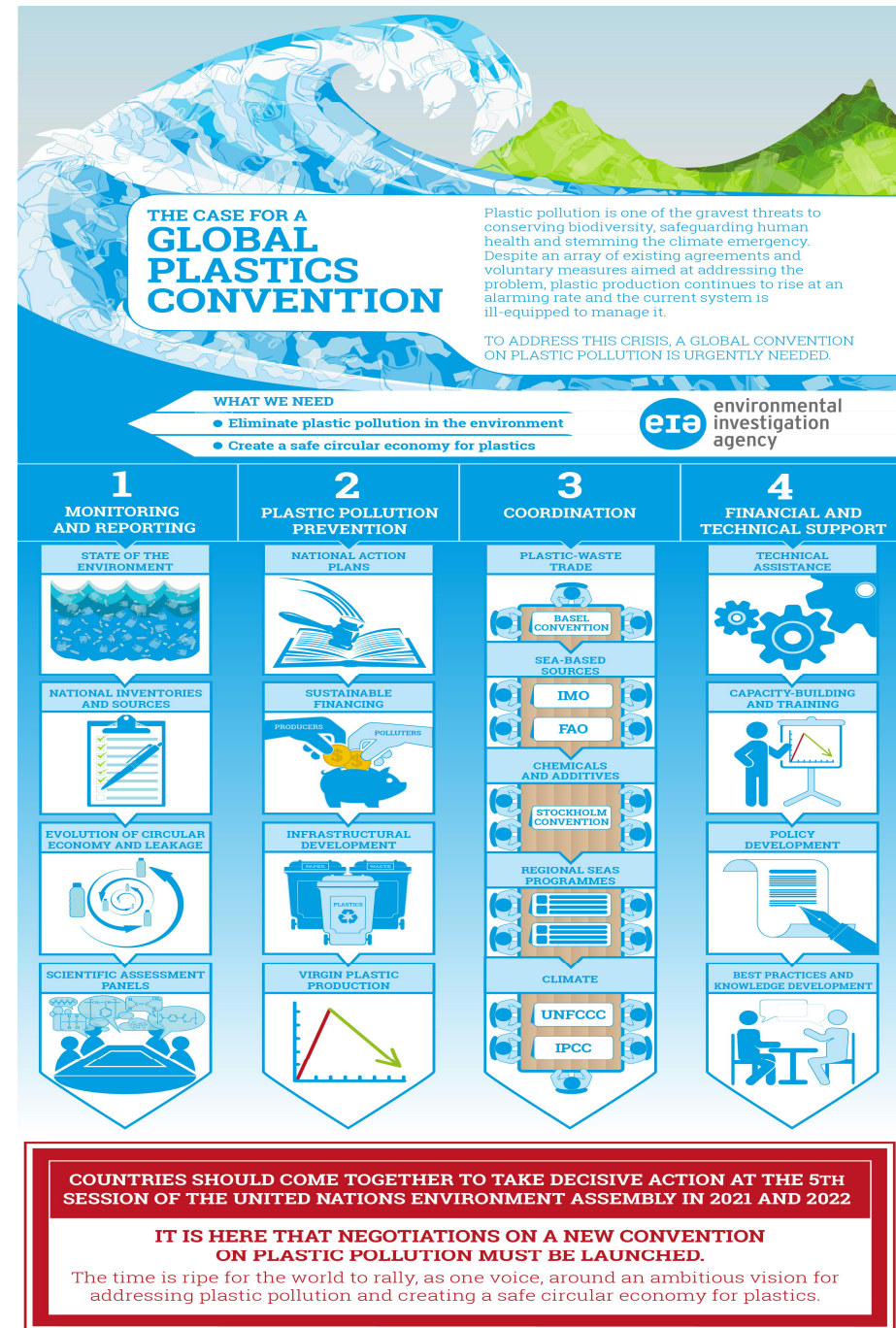
An aerial photograph of a body of water, likely a river or ocean, showing intense turbulence and white foam from a large wave or current. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the foam is bright white, creating a high-contrast, textured appearance. The perspective is from directly above, looking down into the churning water.

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR A UN TREATY ON PLASTIC POLLUTION

A close-up photograph of a hand turning a chrome faucet handle. The faucet is wet, with water droplets visible on its surface. A single drop of water is falling from the spout. The background is blurred, showing green foliage and a light sky. The text "Prevention is better than cure" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

Prevention is better than cure

Environmental Investigation Agency

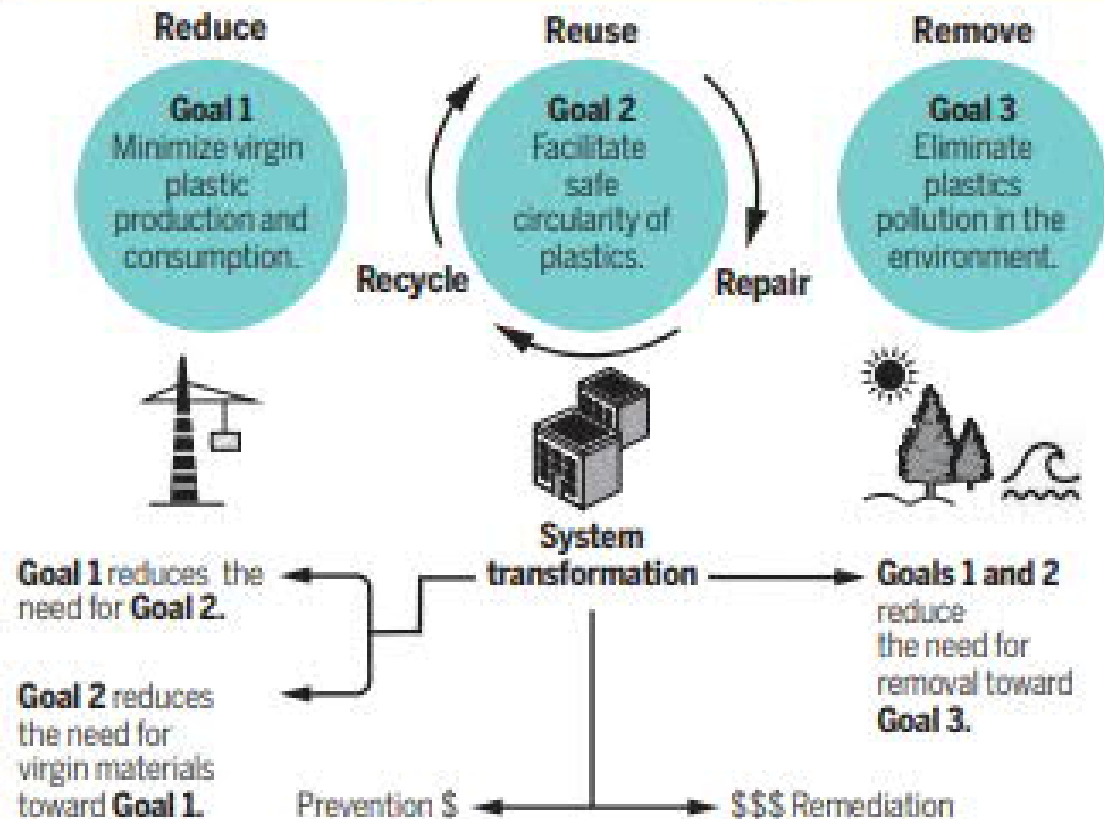


Core goals of a plastics agreement

368 million metric tons of virgin plastics are produced annually, with production expected to double by 2040.

Only 9% of all plastics ever produced have been recycled, and 12% have been incinerated.

79% of all plastics produced have accumulated in landfills or the environment.



Goal One: Minimize plastic
production and consumption



A photograph of two glass bottles on a wooden table. In the background is a wooden crate with the text "MAKE YOUR EMPTY BOTTLES GO ANOTHER ROUND" painted on it. The bottle on the left is dark brown and contains a dark liquid. The bottle on the right is clear and contains a light-colored liquid. The text "Goal 2: Facilitate safe circular economy for plastics" is overlaid in white on the image.

Goal 2: Facilitate safe circular economy for plastics



Standards, eco-labelling, freedom of information

Goal 3: Eliminate plastic pollution in the environment



Rio Principle 7



"States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities..."

National Plastic Pollution Prevention Plans (N4Ps)

Describe how countries will meet the core goals.

Ambitious and measurable targets.

Horizontal policy coherence

Include targets, baselines for indicators, implementation and time frames, harmonized monitoring methodologies.

Reflect increasing levels of ambition over time.

Regular reporting from governments to the secretariat (including meaningful qual and quant data)

A national implementation authority

Global reporting

Iterative global reviews and reporting of performance and impacts back to member states

Transparent compliance mechanism

Deal with cases of noncompliance including reporting

State countries' rights to prohibit imports of plastic products from noncompliant parties due to unacceptable risk

Supporting mechanisms

Funding from both domestic budgets, private sources, and international support

- - additional support for developing countries
- - funds from plastics industry (polluter pays)

Clearing-house to share information about accessing funds.

Funds should promote polluter pays market-based instruments so that countries internalize their own externalities.

A framework for further action

A governing body

Subsidiary bodies – scientific and technical support

Stakeholder engagement mechanism



Next steps – A 'start and strengthen' approach

Thank you co-sponsors

