



UN Environment

UN Environment is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. UN Environment has worked on marine litter issues since 1995 through the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities.

UN Environment's work on Marine Litter

In 2012, UN Environment led the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter. The partnership brings together policymakers, business community and civil society actors to catalyze action. Activities include massive open online courses, but also support to the development and implementation of regional and national action plans on marine litter. In addition, the partnership has also been instrumental in the implementation of the three UN Resolutions that have been passed on marine plastic pollution.

#CleanSeas

Stepping up its marine plastic pollution work even further, UN Environment launched the #CleanSeas campaign in February 2017. The campaign brings together governments, the private sector, civil society actors and the general public to take action to help stem the tide of plastic entering our oceans. Since the launch of the campaign, forty-one countries have joined, including Indonesia, which pledged to cut plastic waste by 70 per cent by the end of 2025, and Kenya, which banned plastic bags last year. In addition, more than 70 000 people have pledged to take action to reduce their own plastic footprints.