



Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit  
Barcelona Convention Secretariat



## Proposal for the development of improvements on the solid waste management indicators in use

Webinar on the implementation of the Shared  
Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and  
practices on the ENP Sought region" (ENP-SEIS)

26/9/2017

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## Scope of work

- To open the discussion on the use of proper indicators that will link marine litter (ML) and municipal solid waste management (SWM).
- To identify the improvements required in order to have indicators that will be:
  - Better describe and reflect the linkages between SWM and ML
  - Representative of the recent findings on ML quantities and composition
  - Linked with the shift to Circular Economy (CE)
  - Suitable for decision makers and decision takers



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## A. Indicators in use in H2020

### IND 1 - Municipal waste generation

- IND 1.A Municipal waste composition

### IND 2 - Collected and treated municipal waste

- IND 2.A Number, type and location of landfills



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## Indicators in use in NAPs

EO	Proposed core NAPs indicators	NAPs Update Guideline Indicator /H2002 Ref. No	IMAP Indicator Ref. No	SDG Indicator Ref. No	Common priority measures
EO10	11. Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities			11.6.1	Establish/ reinforce collection of municipal waste Construct/ upgrade municipal solid waste landfills
	12. Share of recycled, landfilled and incinerated municipal waste with respect to collected amount	MW05		12.5.1	Strengthen waste collection and disposal systems
	13. Amounts/trends of marine litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines, including analysis of its composition, spatial distribution and, where possible, source.	MW01	22 (10.1.1)		
	14. Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density			14.1.1	
	15. Share of existing illegal solid waste dumpsites on land that have been closed (in past 10 years) with respect to the total number	MW07			Close and rehabilitate illegal dump sites



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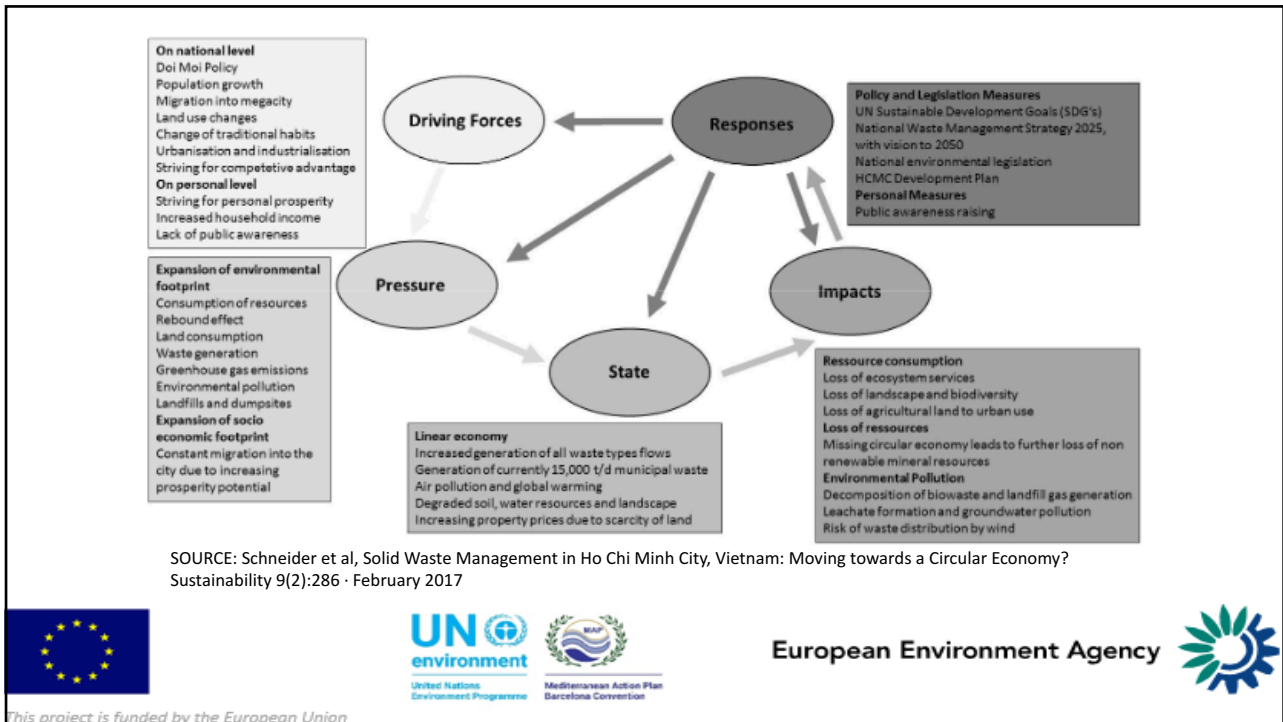
INDICATORS	Drivers	Pressures	State	Impacts	Responses
IND 1 - Municipal waste generation IND 1.A Municipal waste composition		X			
IND 2 - Collected and treated municipal waste IND 2.A Number, type and location of landfills		X	X		
NAP 11: Proportion of urban SW regularly collected and with appropriate final discharge out of total urban waste generated by cities		X	X		
NAP 12: Share of recycled, landfilled or incinerated municipal waste with respect to collected amount			X		
NAP 13: Amounts /trends of marine litter washed ashore and or deposited in coastlines, including analysis of composition, spatial distribution and where possible, source			X	X	
NAP 14: Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density			X	X	
NAP 15: Share of existing illegal solid waste dumpsites on land that have been closed (in past 10 years) with respect to the total number			X		



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## B. Experiences gained

INSIGHTS	COMMENTS
<p><b>IND 1: Concerns on the lack of data on waste generation -the indicator is currently based on estimation.</b></p> <p>Need to have project support to develop waste surveys</p> <p>Need to have data on plastics reaching the sea (using existing marine litter projects).</p>	<p>1. The concerns are right. Besides the surveys, there is another way to cross-check the results by adjusted them using the much more reliable and accountable economic statistics like the GDP/cap etc.</p> <p>2. There is definitely a need to measure and monitor plastics as they are the most important element of ML</p>
<p>Participants proposed to split IND 2 in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal waste collected;</li> <li>• Municipal waste treated</li> </ul> <p>Reference should be made to the type of treatment. Suggestion was made to integrate the NAP common indicator 12 (and SDG 12.5.1). New indicator could be labelled as Municipal waste treated, by type of treatment (recycle, landfill, incineration) and share of treatment with respect to collected amount.</p>	<p>1. It seems that mechanical biological treatment and composting are missing from the proposed typology of treatment.</p> <p>2. Usually, collection efficiency is measured separately from treatment and disposal – the reason is that in many cases there is regular waste collection but uncontrolled disposal.</p> <p>3. Do we have a clear definition on recycling? Do we consider informal recycling systems too?</p>


INSIGHTS	COMMENTS
<p>To consider having a separate indicator on recycling.</p> <p>Specific information can be requested for plastics</p>	<p>Recycling is necessary to be measured as a separate indicator, especially for plastics. However, besides a common definition, we need to consider other elements like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal Recycling Systems,</li> <li>• Reuse,</li> <li>• Energy recovery</li> <li>• Waste prevention</li> </ul>
<p>The existing H2020 sub-indicator “number, type and location of landfills” should be a separate Indicator “Number, type and location of landfills”.</p> <p>Under this indicator, the NAP common indicator 15 could be a sub-indicator “share of existing illegal solid waste dumpsites on land that have been closed (in the past 10 years) with respect to the total number. Some countries expressed concerns as regards data availability for this indicator.</p>	<p>There is a need to clarify what is a sanitary landfill and what is a dumpsite.</p> <p>Sanitary landfills are considered legal and safe disposal options. Dumpsites are uncontrolled disposal sites, with no environmental protection.</p> <p>The problem is that in many Mediterranean countries we have an intermediate solution, usually called “engineered landfill” (in contrast with sanitary). I believe that the number of dumpsites in coastal areas is straightforward linked with the ML quantities.</p>




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INSIGHTS	COMMENTS
<p>The countries supported the idea of having an indicator on waste collection efficiency. In this respect, the use of NAP common indicator 11 was suggested for further consideration “Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated by cities”.</p>	<p>There is a need to paint the full picture of waste flows and see where are the most important leakages – collection efficiency is an important factor, but the usual problem is to answer what happens with the non-collected waste. In addition, imagine a case where the collection efficiency might be 100% and then the collected waste is brought to a dumpsite nearby a river or the seashore.</p>
<p>Countries confirmed the usefulness of having waste indicators at coastal level, which require sound statistics of population in coastal areas.</p>	<p>I believe this is a very important point. National figures say very few things for the leakages of waste that is transformed to ML. What we mainly need is to map the coastal cities and their performance, to assess their leakages and provide them suggestions for improvement.</p>
<p>Regarding marine litter, the countries expressed concerns on data availability to properly develop indicators, indicating that further work is needed. It was suggested to consider as well the NAP common indicator 14 (SDG indicator 14.1.1) “Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density”. The country representatives questioned the geographical scale to be applied for marine litter.</p>	<p>The link with the SDGs is a very important point. In addition, we must consider the necessity to link the indicators with the Circular Economy concept, which means to move from the waste view to the resources perspective. This means that we have to consider not only waste, but also Production and Consumption patterns, for a meaningful analysis.</p>



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## C. Marine Litter and Solid Waste Linkages

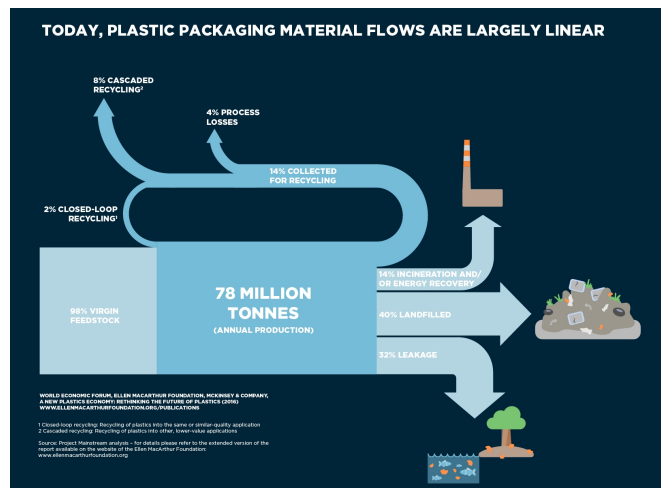
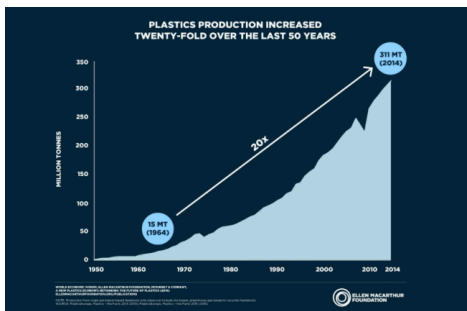
ML is the result of a systemic failure in:

- (I) Uncontrolled plastic use
- (II) Poor SWM services & infrastructure (mainly in the Med South), and insufficient monitoring & law enforcement (mainly in the Med North)
- (III) Problematic and vulnerable markets for secondary plastics
- (IV) Lack of a systemic and in-depth understanding of:
  - The challenges & restrictions of material properties and flows
  - The effects of social consumption patterns and littering behaviours on solid waste generation
  - The impacts of unplanned tourist developments and of the fishing industry.



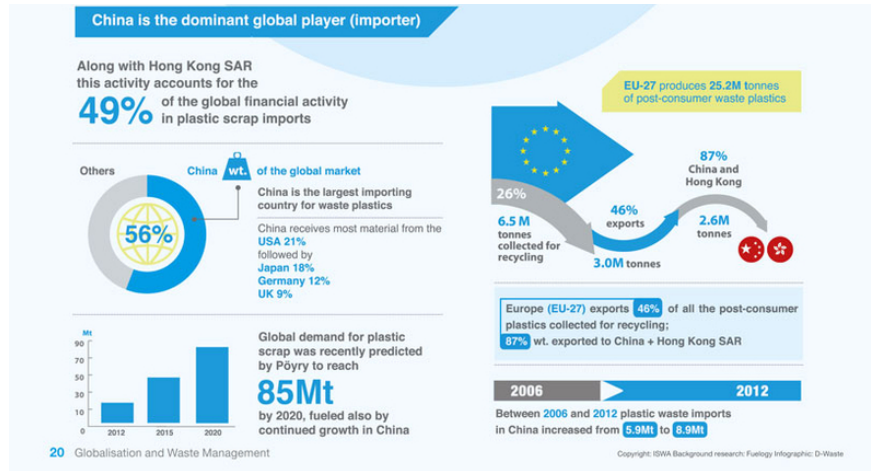
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## Plastic Generation & Flows



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# The role of secondary materials markets



SOURCE: ISWA TFGSWM, GLOBAL RECYCLING MARKETS: PLASTIC WASTE, A STORY FOR ONE PLAYER - CHINA, 2013



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# The role of tourism

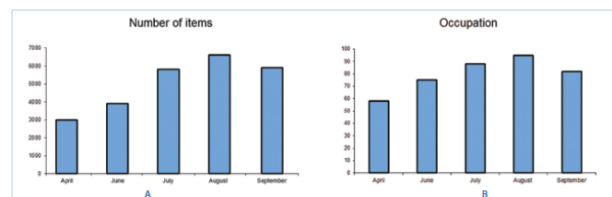
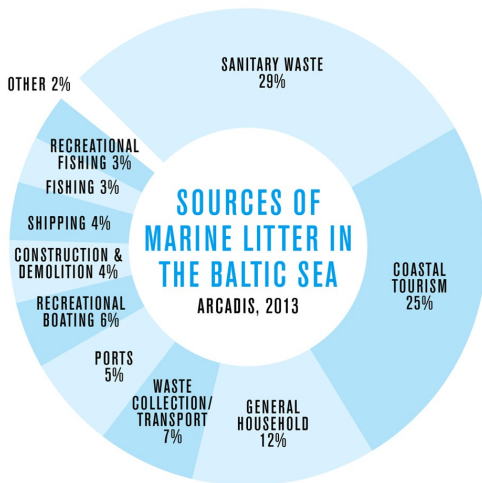


Figure 2.1.1: Monthly variation of debris items (A) and percentage of hotel occupation for the corresponding date (B) in the Balearic Islands (Source Martinez-Ribes et al., 2007).

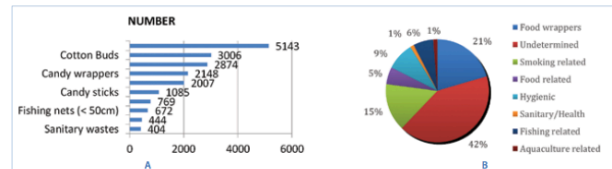


Figure 2.1.1f: Top ten items (A) and main sources of litter (B) collected on 52 beach samples around Marseille between 2008 and 2014 (Source Mer-terre.org).



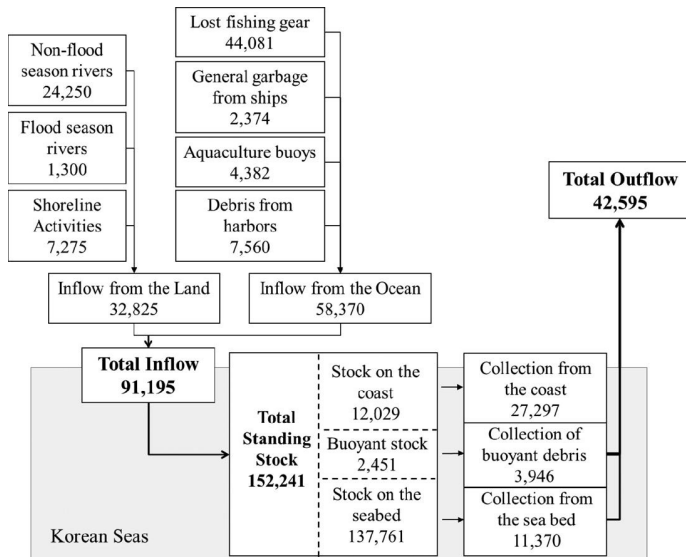
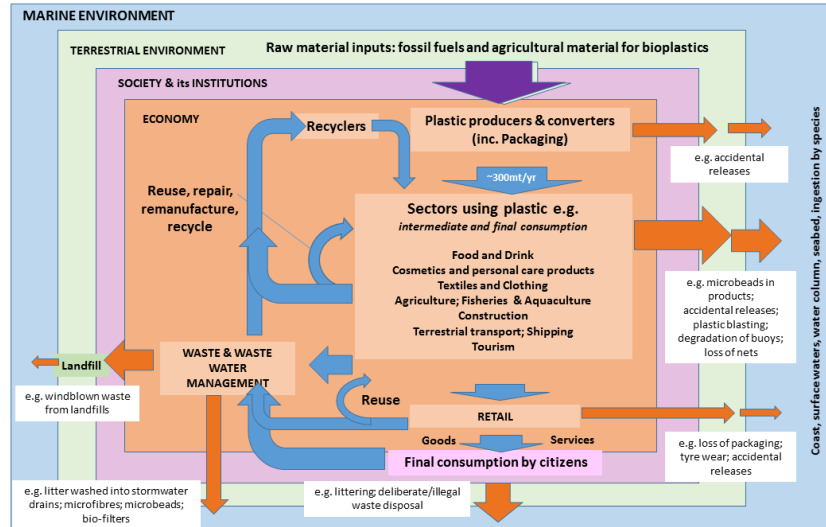
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# Understanding solid waste flows

SOURCE: Patrick ten Brink et al, Circular economy measures to keep plastics and their value in the economy, avoid waste and reduce marine litter, G20 INSIGHTS, May 2017

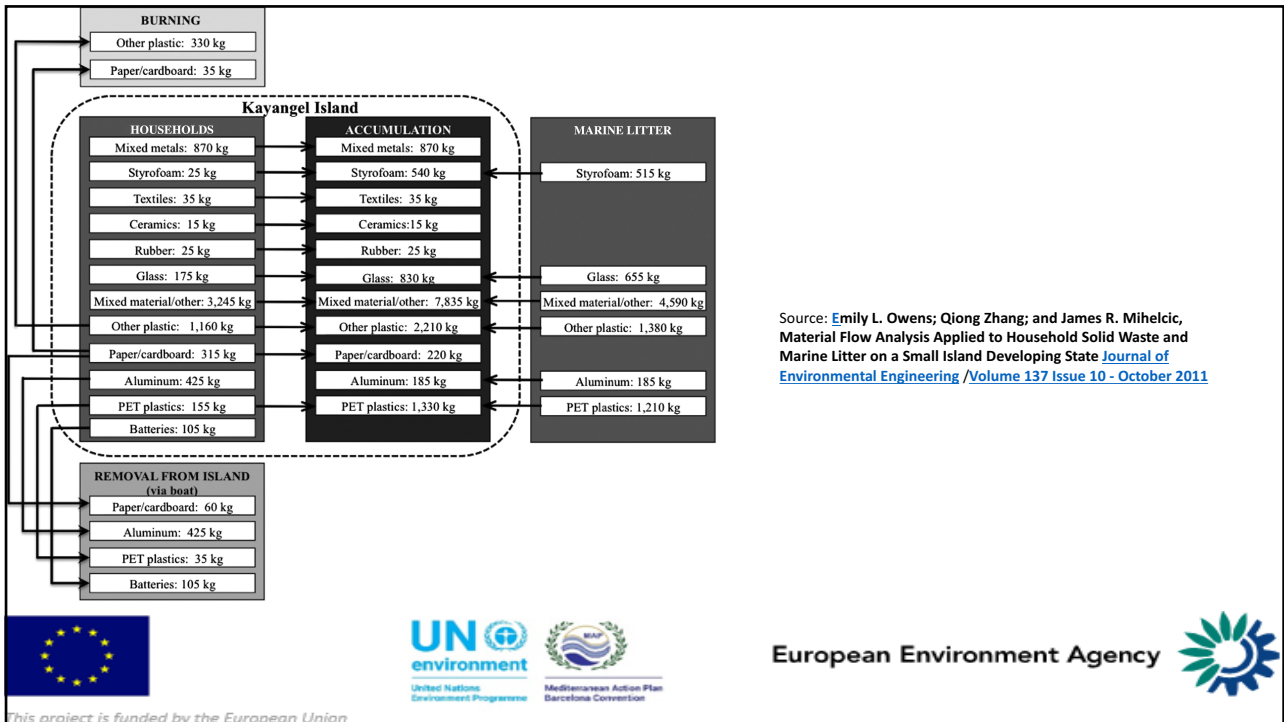


SOURCE: Yong Chang Jang, Estimation of the annual flow and stock of marine debris in South Korea for management purposes, [Marine Pollution Bulletin Volume 86, Issues 1-2](#), 15 September 2014, Pages 505-511



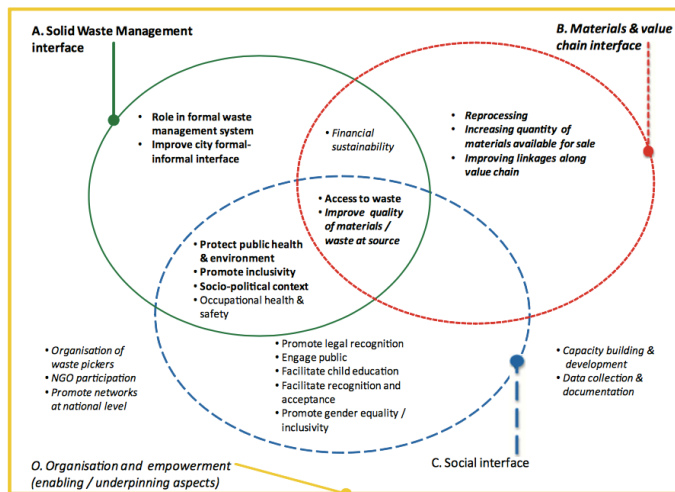
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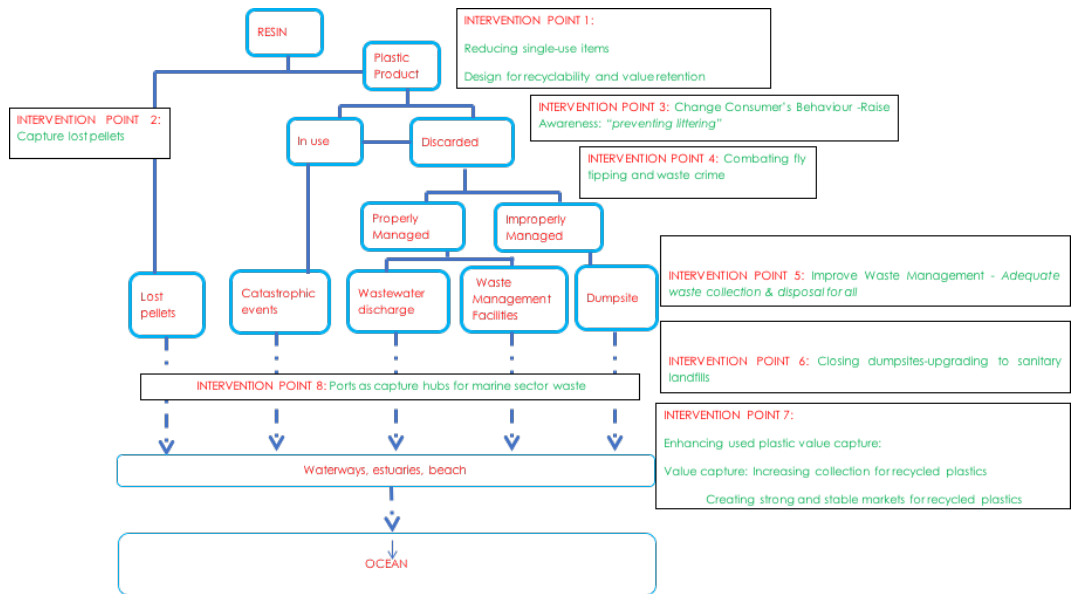


## About the informal sector

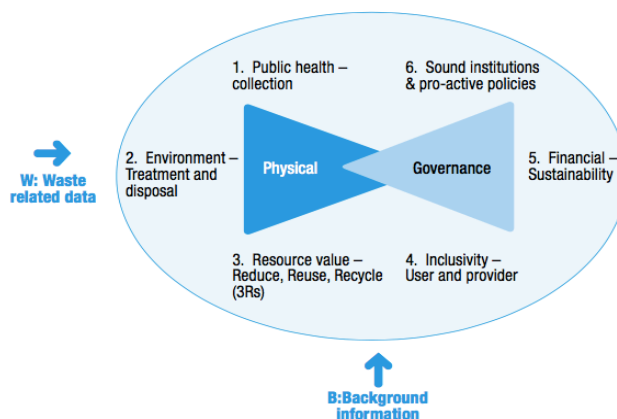
SOURCE: Costas A Velis, David C Wilson, Ondina Rocca, Stephen R Smith, Antonis Mavropoulos and Chris R Cheeseman, An analytical framework and tool ('InteRa') for integrating the informal recycling sector in waste and resource management systems in developing countries, Waste Management & Research 30(9) Supplement 43–66



# Points of intervention



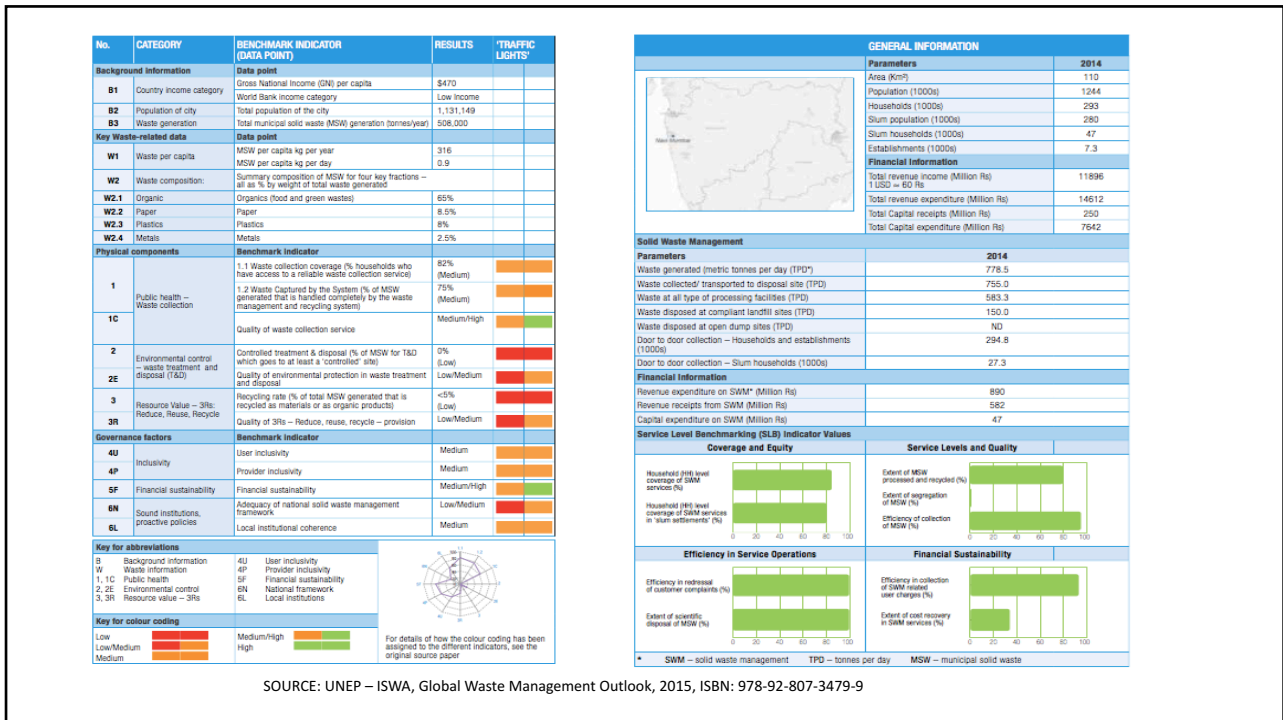
## D. The evolution of indicators



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## E. Proposed Indicators

IND 1 Municipal Waste Generation stays as it is, but special emphasis should be given to:

- Plastic Waste Generation per capita
- Touristic activities, and
- Coastal Areas.

### IND 1 - Municipal waste generation

*IND 1.A Municipal waste composition*

*IND 1.B Plastic waste generation per capita*

*IND 1.C % of population living in Coastal Areas / Total Population*

*IND 1.D % of Tourists / population living in Coastal Areas*



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**IND 2 – “Hardware” of waste management***IND 2.A Waste Collection*

Waste Collection Coverage: % households who have access to a reliable waste collection service.

Waste Captured by the solid waste management and recycling system: % of waste generated that is collected and delivered to an official facility.

*IND 2.B Environmental Control*

Controlled treatment or disposal: % of the total municipal solid waste destined for treatment or disposal which goes to either a waste treatment facility (MRF, thermal, mechanical-biological) or sanitary landfill.

IND 2.B.1 % of waste that goes to uncontrolled dumpsites

IND 2.B.2 Number of uncontrolled dumpsites in Coastal Areas

IND 2.B.3 Quantities of waste going to uncontrolled dumpsites in Coastal Areas

*IND 2.C Resource Recovery*

% of total municipal solid waste generated that is recycled. Includes materials recycling and organics valorization (composting, animal feed, anaerobic digestion).

IND 2.C.1 % of plastic solid waste generated that is recycled. Includes plastic recycled in formal and informal systems, both through source separation and MRFs.



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**IND 3 “Software” of waste management**

*IND 3.A Is there a National Plan for ML? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.B Are there mandatory targets for source separation of plastics? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.C Are there Extended Producer Responsibility obligations and schemes for plastics? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.D Is there legislation to stop the use of single-use plastics? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.E Is there a national plan to close the dumpsites within next 10 years? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.F Is there a government budget for investments in waste management infrastructure for closing the dumpsites, reducing landfilling and promoting recycling and waste treatment? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.G Is there a legal framework for the creation of waste management authorities by municipalities?*

*IND 3.H Are there waste management authorities in the Coastal Areas? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.H Are there green procurement rules in place? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.I Are there policies to support sustainable tourism? (Yes or No)*

*IND 3.J Are there eco-labelling and eco-design procedures? (Yes or No)*



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Thank you



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