



Latest Development on Addressing Marine Litter Pollution: The Malaysian Case

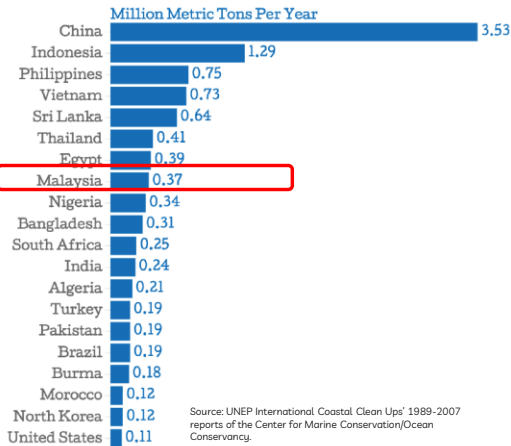
*13th Cooperative Forum (CF),
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: 18-19 July 2022*

Background

- **Practical Approaches to the Protection of the Marine Environment -**
Marine Litter Pollution in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS): Improving cleanliness measurement methods for coastal areas and the way forward
11th CF, Singapore (2018)
- **Protection of Marine Environment in the SOMS: Marine Pollution, Preparedness and Response -**
An Update
12th CF, Indonesia (2019)

GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF MARINE PLASTIC DEBRIS

PLASTIC DEBRIS ENTERING WORLD OCEANS (EST.)



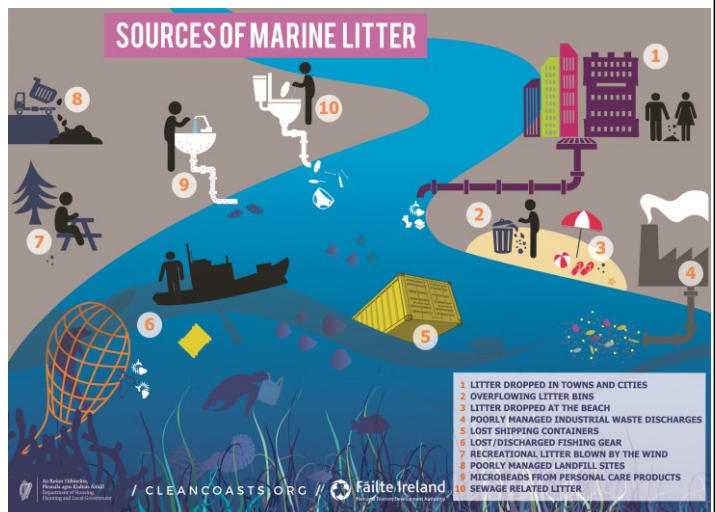
- 8 million tonnes of plastic enter the ocean yearly
- Malaysia ranks 8th amongst the countries with mismanaged plastic waste in the world. There is an annual leakage of 0.14 - 0.37 million tonnes of plastic waste into the oceans from Malaysia.
- Ocean and beaches in the country are threatened by mismanaged solid waste including plastic waste.

TOP TEN MARINE DEBRIS COMPOSITIONS

Debris Items	Number of Items	Percent of Total
Cigarettes/cigarette filters	25,407,457	24.6%
Bags (paper & plastic debris)	9,711,238	9.4%
Caps/lids	9,398,977	9.1%
Food wrappers/containers	9,191,575	8.9%
Cups/plates/forks/knives/spoons	7,426,964	7.2%
Beverage bottles (plastic) <2 litres	5,684,718	5.5%
Beverage Bottles (glass)	4,991,860	4.8%
Beverage cans	4,796,554	4.6%
Straws, stirrers	4,508,085	4.4%
Rope	2,215,329	2.1%
Total debris items	103,247,609	80.7%

Sources of Marine Debris

1. Most comes from poorly-managed solid waste on land (80% land base)
2. 85% from marine debris is plastic
3. 50% comes from small number of rapidly-developing countries that not yet invested in waste management systems
4. Second most prevalent sources is lost or abandoned nets and fishing gear.





Sea-based sources (of pollution):
Pollution that results from the direct release (accidentally or purposely) of substances or materials into the marine environment by maritime activities e.g., shipping, fishing, offshore installations, or dumping of refuse at sea.

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INTERNATIONAL / REGIONAL EFFORTS

BANGKOK DECLARATION

- Bangkok Declaration on Combatting Marine Debris recognising the need to take urgent and concrete actions



Addressing marine plastic litter from ships – action plan adopted



COBSEA RAP MALI



ASEAN RAP

The Regional Action Plan to enhance the coordination at the regional and international level among ASEAN countries



Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter 2019 to guide action on marine litter in the East Asian Seas Region

Marine litter is any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment.

Source-to-Sea Framework for Marine Litter Prevention and Mitigation

- **Highlights priority areas and actions** to address marine litter pollution in Malaysia.
- Contains **6 desired national outcomes**, to be implemented through **17 identified actions** and **103 key activities**, under **5 priority pillars**.

Two core themes:

- Strengthen the **evidence base for informed decision making** to address marine litter by building national capacities to monitor plastic material flows and assessing waste leakage hotspots in line with global best practices.
- Deploy **practical actions in phases** to tackle sources of marine litter pollution in-line with the latest innovations, further developed over time through enhanced evidence-based strategies.



<https://www.kasa.gov.my/resources/alam-sekitar/national-marine-litter-policy/>

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Purpose and objectives

Document concrete steps ahead on tackling marine litter pollution based on scientific evidence and lessons learned from regional and local efforts.

Address marine litter pollution through a robust policy.

Coordinate efforts at every level of the Federal Government, State Government, public, private and social sectors.

Foster further research and innovation to prevent, monitor and tackle marine litter pollution.

Deploy and implement cutting-edge technologies and innovation backed with national standards and guidelines.

Strengthen institutional and legal framework

➤ Promote sharing of best practices and lessons learned, while enhancing regional and international cooperation, and creating awareness and instigating behavioural change.

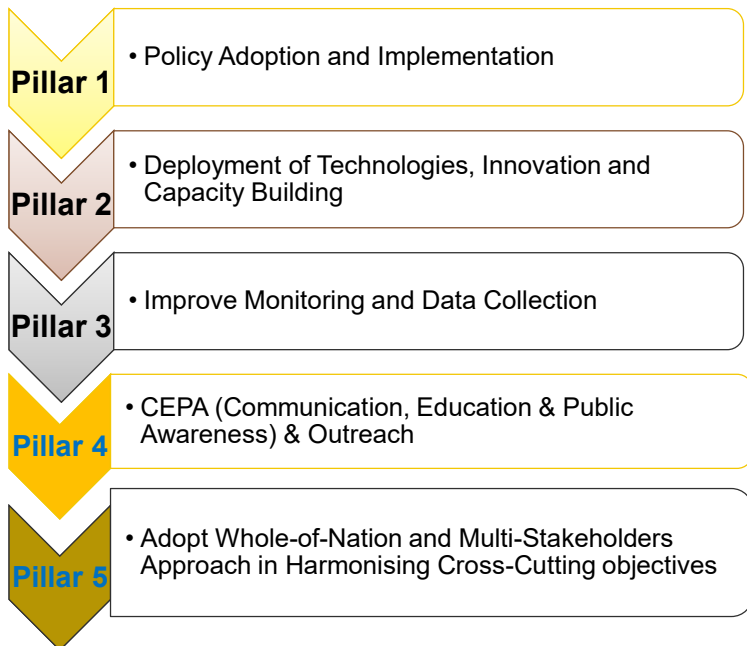
➤ Increase access to finance and facilitating private sector engagement to promote investment, trade and market creation, and market-based incentives in industries and activities that enable marine litter management and prevention.

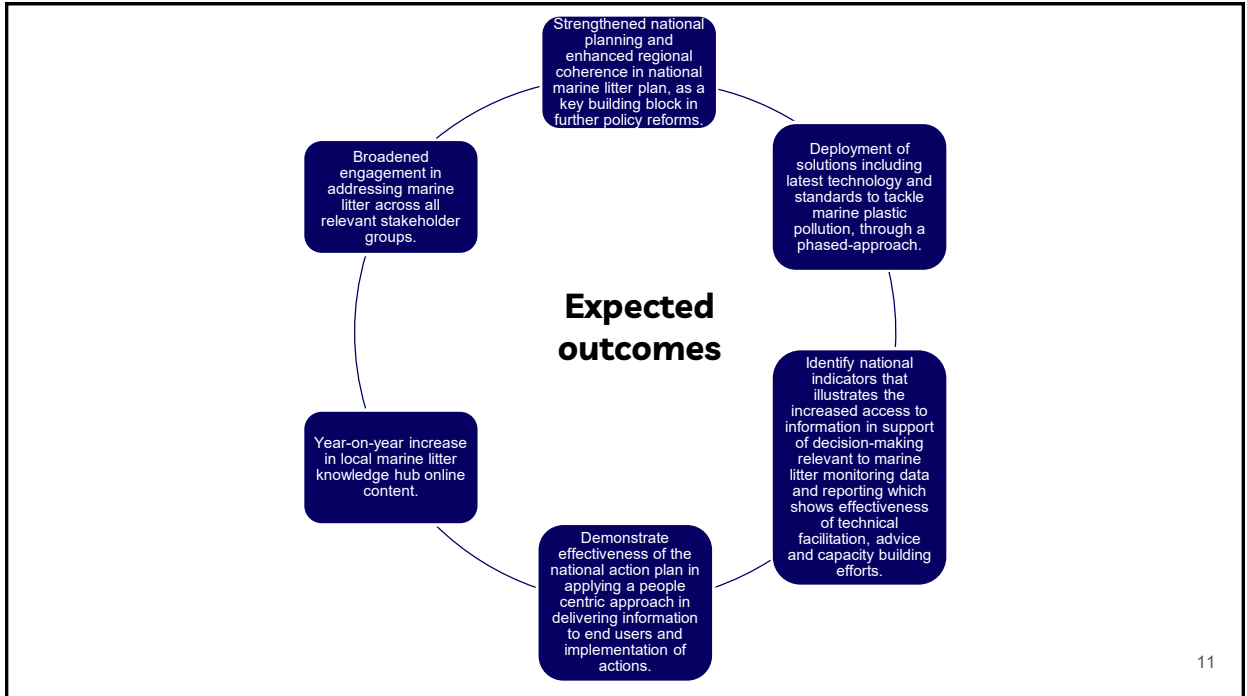
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Principles



Pillars





Activities

Short-term period



2021-2023

Medium-to-longer term period



2024 - 2027

2028 - 2030

National Marine Litter Roadmap, 2021-2030

2021-2023

- Establish National Marine Litter Monitoring Expert Group - **2021**.
- Establish dedicated inter-agencies working group to streamline implementation of national actions - **2021**.
- Mainstream multi-sectoral policy measures – **2021-2023**.
- Develop national standards for private sector innovation, and explore suitable international standards for biodegradation of polyolefins in the open environment - **2023**.
- Promote research and sharing of scientific knowledge, technology and innovation – **2021-2023**.
- Promote science-policy interface to enhance interaction between scientist and policy-makers, and accessibility to scientific information – **2021-2023**.
- Establish national marine litter inventory and national plastic recycling rate - **2022**.
- Identify national marine litter hotspots – **2021-2022**.
- Implement pilot projects (island and inland) to tackle marine litter, through better understanding of the source-to-sea interactions – **2022-2023**.

2024-2027

- National legal framework on addressing marine litter - **2024**.
- Explore and adopt latest tracking technologies for sources, pathways, and impact for evidence-based actions – **2024**.
- Comprehensive integrated waste management systems to prevent plastic pollution through circular economy approaches – **2024-2026**.
- Develop/strengthen upstream and downstream policies for mismanaged plastic leakages such as single-use plastic, ghost nets and abandoned fishing gears, including other sectors which cut across manufacturing, wholesale and retail, tourism, shipping and logistics – **2024-2027**.
- Standardisation of methods for measurement and monitoring of marine litter, based on existing/established protocols with regional and international monitoring framework - **2024-2026**.
- Mainstream private sector support to develop research and innovation to tackle the issue **2024-2027**.

2028-2030

- Move towards digitalisation of marine litter monitoring data through crowdsourcing – **2028**.
- Review the National Marine Litter Action Plan 2021-2030 to assess effectiveness, and incorporate emerging developments and measures - **2030**.

Ongoing...

- Engaging the various levels of key players and stakeholders in their respective roles and functions to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan.

