



Plastic from source to sea

Rivers: conveyor belts of plastic pollution



IUCN Water Programme

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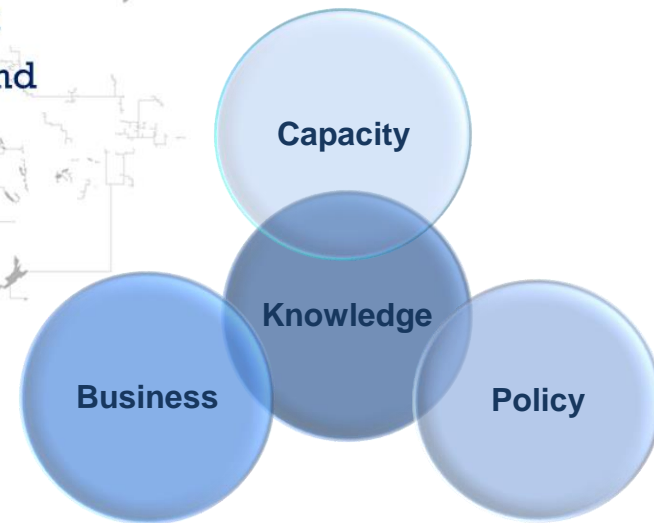


The 10 rivers that carry 93 % of plastic waste into our oceans are the Yangtze, Yellow, Hai, Pearl, Amur, Mekong, Indus and Ganges in Asia, and the Niger and Nile in Africa



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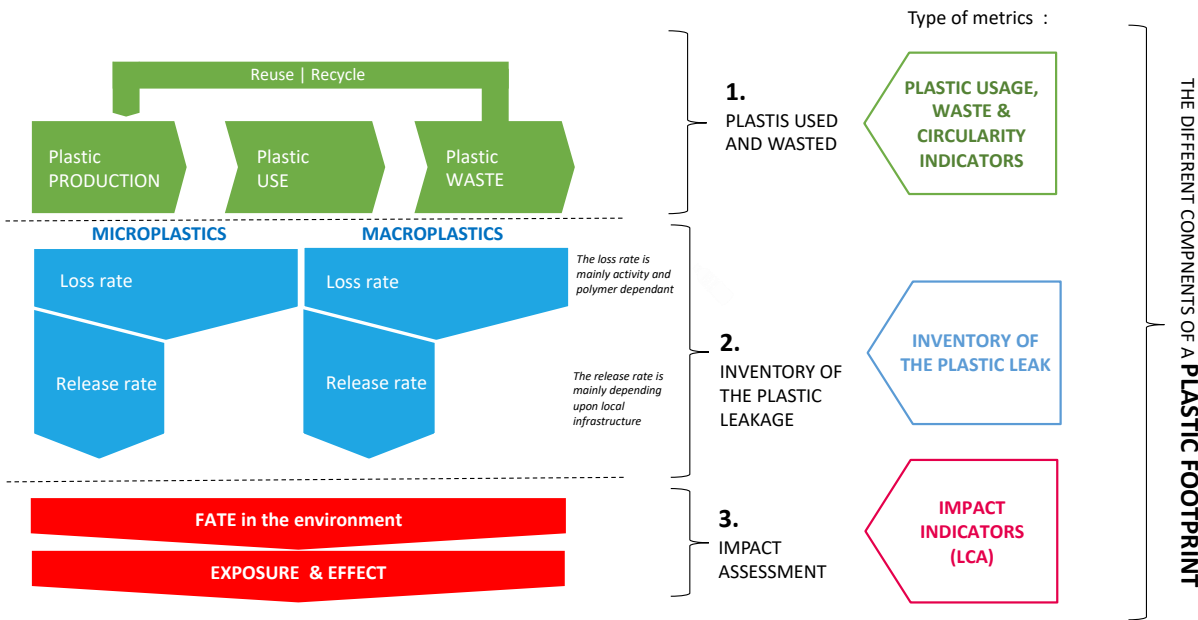
IUCN integrated source-to-sea approach to combat plastic pollution



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A sound footprint method is necessary to understand the plastic leakage along its life cycle



...but better metrics are missing





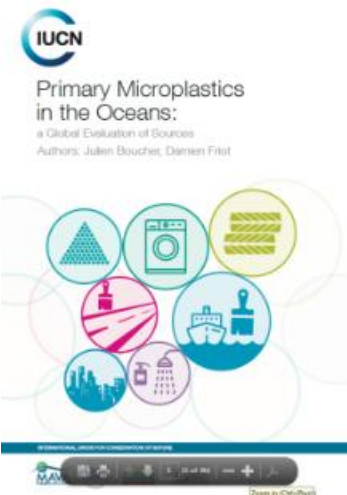
Plastic leakage in to the environment is a global challenge...

GLOBAL RELEASES TO THE WORLD OCEANS:

COMPARISON WITH PLASTICS ORIGINATING FROM MISMANAGED WASTES



... with different regional and national realities



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An aerial photograph of a coastal city, likely New York City, showing a large harbor with a red cargo ship, a breakwater, and a sandy beach. The city skyline is visible in the background.

With up to 13 million tonnes of plastic finding its way to the seas every year, scientists predict that the amount of plastic in our oceans could outweigh fish by 2050.