

Working Group on Plastic and Microplastic Pollution, including the Marine Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean

Plan of Activities 2023

Draft concept note session 1:

1. About the webinars

The *Working Group on Plastic and Microplastic Pollution, including the marine environment in Latin America and the Caribbean*, aims to strengthen capacities and facilitate the exchange of knowledge on policies, instruments, projects, and technical elements, among others, in the area of plastic and microplastic pollution in marine environments, considering the realities and interests of the Member States of the working group.

In this sense, two virtual activities will be developed, whose **objective** will be to generate the exchange of information, experiences, and good practices in the following thematic areas, which were agreed upon by the group's focal points of government:

- i. Regulatory frameworks and policy advocacy
- ii. Monitoring and research
- iii. Education, training, and awareness
- iv. Guidelines towards a circular economy

Modality: Two virtual sessions will be developed, each one of them contemplating two thematic axes and with a duration of 1 hour and 15 minutes.

When: October 3, and 10, 2023.

Audience: The general public, including the governmental focal points of the Working Group on Plastic and Microplastic Pollution, including the marine environment.

Language: Spanish – English with simultaneous translation.

2. About Session I

Experiences in tackling marine litter and plastic pollution through research and awareness-raising.

The first session will present experiences related to the monitoring and research of marine litter in marine and freshwater environments in Costa Rica. At the same time, a multi-stakeholder initiative to curb plastic pollution in Ecuador will be presented, where knowledge generation, dialogue, and collaboration are key to addressing this problem.

This session aims to make visible the articulation of monitoring and research in the generation of knowledge and awareness of the community on the problem of marine litter and plastic pollution.

There will be a question-and-answer session at the end of the presentations, to exchange knowledge and ideas between the audience and the speakers.

Date: October 3rd, 2023.

Connection details: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-R0Y8kXHQtWHQ_TRqHJe5w

– Zoom platform.

Thematic areas addressed in the session: Monitoring and research, and Education, training, and awareness-raising.

2.1 Draft agenda

9:00 – 9:05 am	Welcoming remarks – Cochair(s) of the working group.
9:05 – 9:10 am	Introduction UNEP
9:10 – 9:25 am	Best practices in marine debris monitoring Presence of microplastics and other types of waste in marine and freshwater environments in Cocos Island National Park. Stage I. - Cocos Island Friends Foundation (FAICO, <i>Fundación Amigos Isla del Coco in Spanish</i>) <i>[Confirmed]</i>
9:25 – 9:40 am	Knowledge generation and action roadmaps. Platform of Action for Plastics in Ecuador - WWF Ecuador <i>[Confirmed]</i>
9:40 – 9:55 am	Discussion session with panelists.
9:55 – 10:00 am	Closure • Cochair(s) / UNEP (<i>tbc</i>)