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CONVENTIONS



MINAMATA
CONVENTION
ON MERCURY



Convention on
Biological Diversity



CBD SIDE EVENT | GENEVA MEETINGS
CHEMICALS, WASTE AND BIODIVERSITY

27 MARCH 2022 | 13:15 CEST | CICG GENEVA (ROOM 14) & ONLINE

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CBD SIDE EVENT

CHEMICALS, WASTE AND BIODIVERSITY



SPEAKERS



Elizabeth MREMA  Convention on Biological Diversity

Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity



Carlos MARTIN-NOVELLA  BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

Deputy Executive Secretary, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions



Neville ASH  UN environment programme WCMC

Director, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre



María Cristina CÁRDENAS-FISCHER  BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM CONVENTIONS

Senior Policy and Strategy Advisor, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Chemicals, Waste and Biodiversity



Elizabeth MREMA

Executive Secretary, Convention on
Biological Diversity



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Chemicals, Waste and Biodiversity



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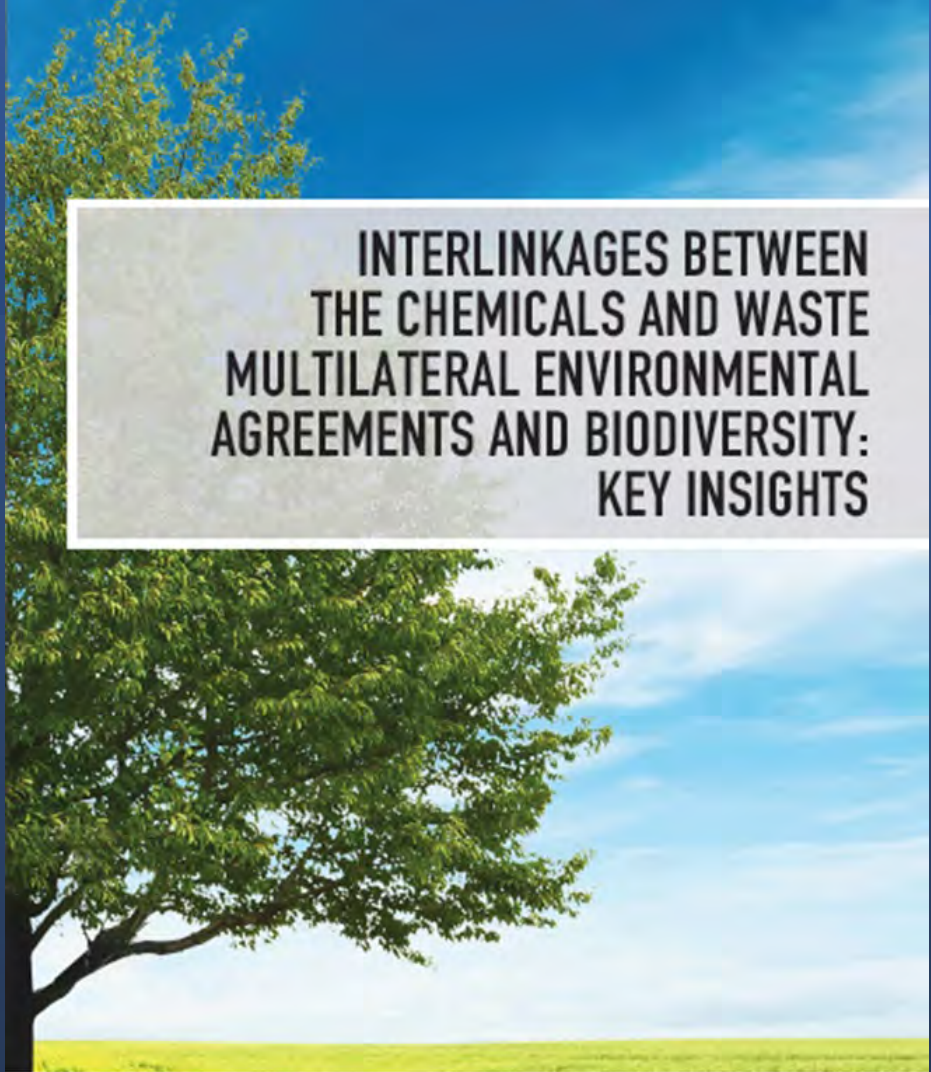
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Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral agreements and biodiversity: Key insights

Joint effort by the secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam, Minamata and Stockholm Conventions in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework discussions



**INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN
THE CHEMICALS AND WASTE
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL
AGREEMENTS AND BIODIVERSITY:
KEY INSIGHTS**



A yellow excavator is positioned on a large pile of garbage, including plastic waste and debris. The background is hazy with palm trees and a building. The scene is set in a tropical environment. A semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing text.

Pollution is one of the key drivers of biodiversity loss.

Chemicals and wastes are ubiquitous in the environment and found all over the globe, they are “invisible”, yet they are part of our daily lives.



Chemicals and wastes are everywhere in our daily lives





12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



SDG 12.4

By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment



Persistent Organic Pollutants - POPs

Travel long distances, they are found in the environment around the globe, including close to industrial and urban settings, but also in remote locations such as the Arctic and Pacific Ocean trenches at 7-10,000 metres below sea level.

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a lush, green forest. The water is a deep blue-green color, reflecting the surrounding trees. The forest is dense and vibrant green, with some areas showing lighter shades of green, possibly indicating different tree species or stages of growth. The river flows from the top right towards the bottom left of the frame.

**Effects of POPs have
been observed in a
range of Ecosystems**

Accumulation of
POPs is associated
with population
decline





Pesticides and biodiversity

Pesticide use is a well-documented threat to birdlife, with bird populations having declined 20-25% since pre-agricultural times with one of the major causes being pesticides.

Pesticide poisoning

Is currently the greatest threat to the Andean condor, and bald eagle populations in North America that declined in part because of exposure to DDT.





By affecting
insects and
pollinators,
pesticides may
impact a wide
range of
ecosystem
services

Currently, 16.5%
of vertebrate
pollinators are
threatened with
global extinction,
rising to 30% for
island species





The global amount of municipal solid waste is estimated to be around 2.1 billion tonnes per year with at least 33% not managed in an environmentally sound manner.

E-Waste is one of the fastest growing waste streams

In 2019, it was estimated that 53.6 million tonnes (Mt) were generated globally, up by 9.2 Mt since 2014, and is expected to grow to 74.7 Mt by 2030.



A photograph of a large industrial facility, likely a steel mill or refinery, with several tall smokestacks emitting thick white plumes of smoke that rise into a clear blue sky. The foreground shows the complex industrial structures, including conveyor belts and scaffolding.

Mercury

Mercury a highly toxic heavy metal, it is transported around the globe through the environment, so its emission and releases affect human health and the environment, including in very remote locations.



Artisanal and small-scale gold mining

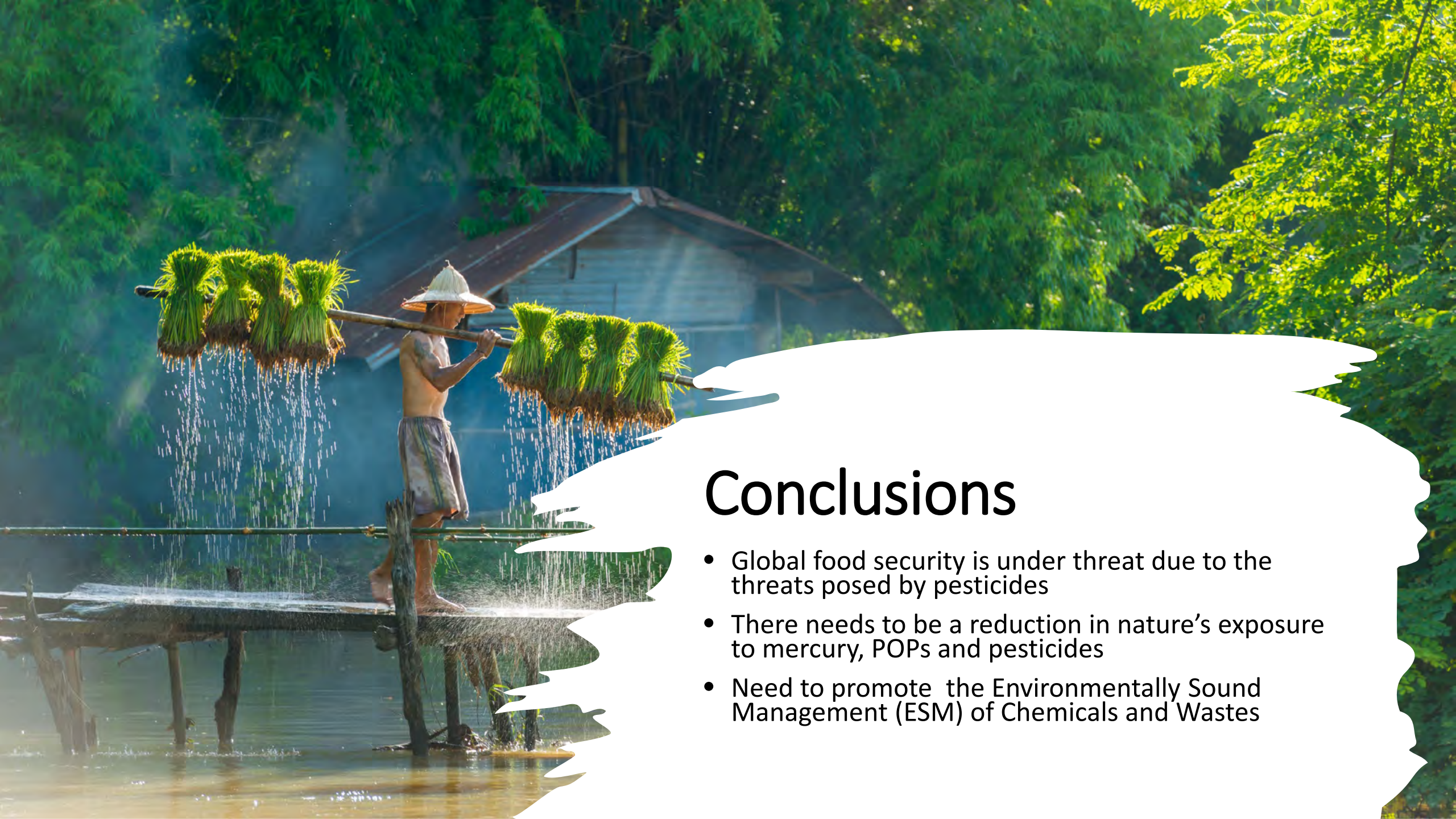
The sector demands the largest source of mercury, with virtually all of the mercury released to the environment.



There are more than 800 marine and coastal species affected by marine debris through ingestion, entanglement, ghost fishing and dispersal by rafting , as well as habitat effects

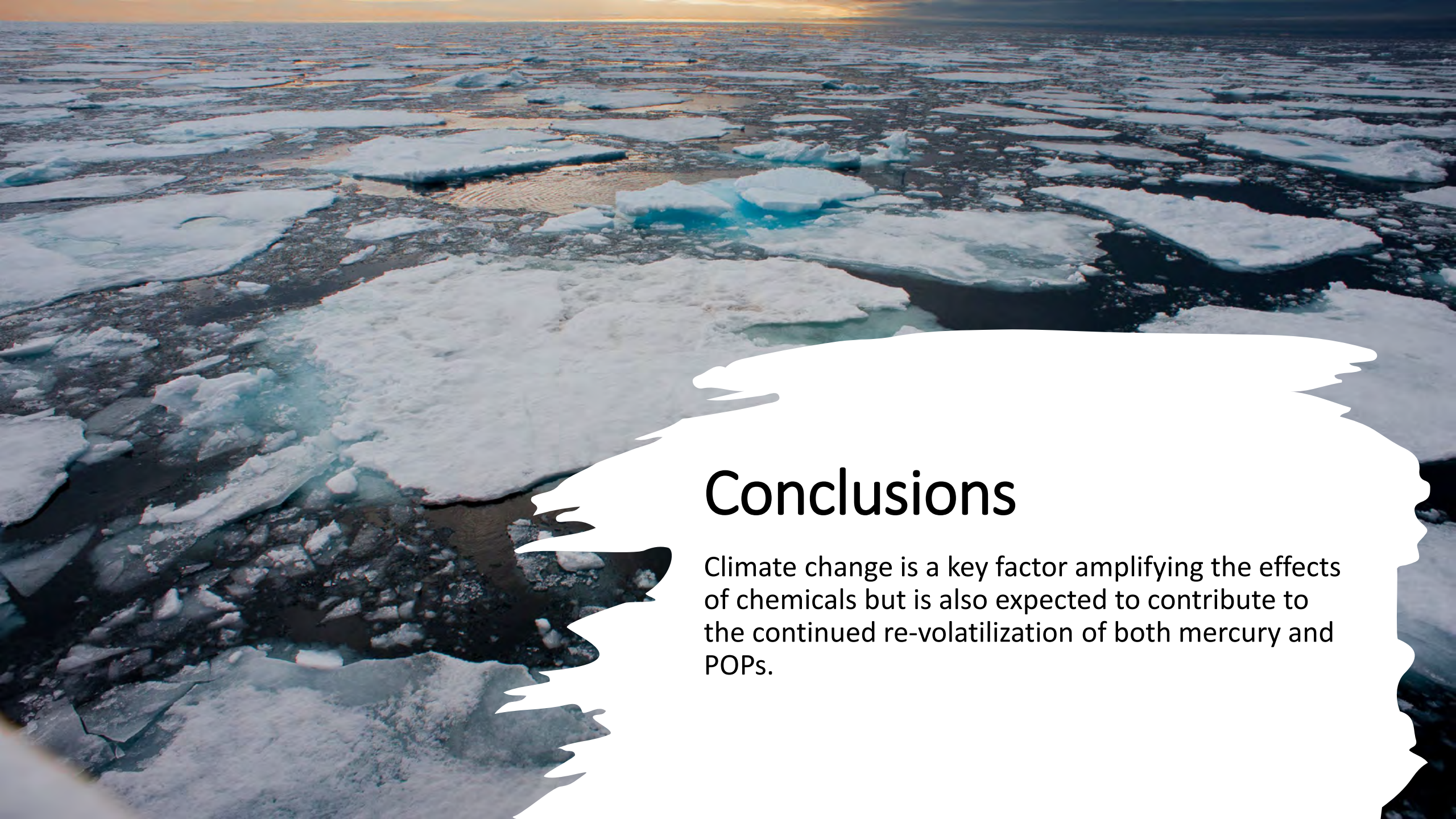
Marine plastic
debris is made
of chemicals
including POPs





Conclusions

- Global food security is under threat due to the threats posed by pesticides
- There needs to be a reduction in nature's exposure to mercury, POPs and pesticides
- Need to promote the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of Chemicals and Wastes



Conclusions

Climate change is a key factor amplifying the effects of chemicals but is also expected to contribute to the continued re-volatilization of both mercury and POPs.

BASEL CONVENTION

ON THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS
OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL

PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION
FOR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM TRANSBOUNDARY
MOVEMENTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL

TEXTS AND ANNEXES

REVISED IN 2019

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

ON THE PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURE
FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS
AND PESTICIDES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

TEXT AND ANNEXES

REVISED IN 2019

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPS)

TEXT AND ANNEXES

REVISED IN 2019

The Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Address some of the most significant chemicals and waste pollution that has been identified over the last several decades and are thus contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. The three conventions aim at protecting human health and environment from chemicals and wastes.

The Minamata Convention on Mercury takes a life cycle approach to protect human **health** and the **environment** from one of the most toxic heavy metals.



MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY



Thank you for your attention

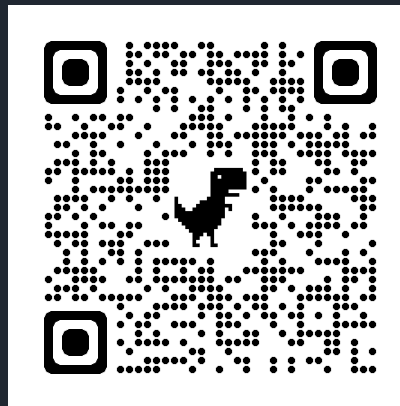
For more information visit us at:



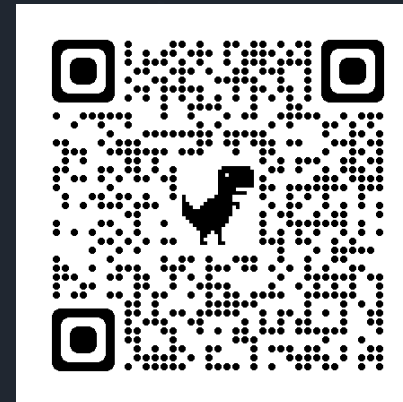
@brsmeas

@minamataMEA

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www.brsmeas.org/



www.mercuryconvention.org



www.brsmeas.org/biodiversity-report/



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Chemicals, Waste and Biodiversity



Neville ASH

Director, UN Environment World
Conservation Monitoring Centre



**Strengthening collaboration and
coordination between biodiversity
and chemicals and waste clusters**

Strengthening collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste cluster

Findings and options for action

Neville Ash
Director, UNEP-WCMC

<https://pub.norden.org/temanord2022-513>

**Strengthening collaboration and
coordination between biodiversity
and chemicals and waste clusters**

The report is based on:

- Desk study carried out by UNEP-WCMC
- Peer review of two drafts of the study report
- Expert consultation workshop convened by UNEP
- Oversight by a steering committee

<https://pub.norden.org/temanord2022-513>

**Strengthening collaboration and
coordination between biodiversity
and chemicals and waste clusters**

<https://pub.norden.org/temanord2022-513>

The report addresses:

- Pollution as a key driver of biodiversity loss
- International policy response to the impacts of pollution
- Current extent of alignment of policy response
- National approaches to implementation
- The post-2020 and beyond 2020 strategy processes
- Options for action

Key areas of mutual interest across clusters...

- Understanding the ***potential impacts*** of chemicals and waste on biodiversity
- Understanding the different ***pathways*** through which chemical and waste enter and move
- Understanding the ***social and financial implications*** of damage to biodiversity
- ***Reducing risks*** to and impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Achieving a more ***integrated cross-sectoral approach*** to managing risk and response
- Promoting ***cooperative action*** to understand, prioritize and address issues of concern
- Using ***biodiversity to reduce the impacts*** of chemicals and waste
- Improving delivery and impact of major ***international initiatives*** already agreed

Characteristics of a successful approach...

- ***Strengthens implementation***, and increases efficiency and cost-effectiveness
- ***Led from the national level***, supported as appropriate internationally
- ***Comprises manageable actions***, using pragmatic approaches to address identified needs
- ***Identifies mutual dependencies***, common issues and targets to focus action more effectively
- ***Respects autonomy*** of the different instruments, and avoids politically charged discussions

Options for action – four strategic approaches

Strengthen implementation mechanisms

Work together to achieve common aims

Coordinate common needs and services

Utilise key international entry points

Options for action

Strengthen implementation mechanisms

Ensure that *national focal points* of the different MEAs and processes know each other, and are able to work together on issues of common interest

Ensure that institutional mechanisms are in place to bring together representatives of *competent national authorities* on issues of common interest

Consider actions that can be taken at national level to increase integration when developing *plans and strategies* for implementing each MEA and SAICM

Consider proposing actions at the international level within each instrument that might *support* increased cooperation and collaboration across clusters

Options for action

Work together to achieve common aims

Cooperate on ***communications*** relating to the interconnections between biodiversity and chemicals and waste, and links to the health agenda

Collaborate in the identification of risk, and in ***contingency planning*** for recognising and mitigating the potential impacts of known risks

Collaborate in improving governance arrangements, ***planning and implementation*** at national and local levels, including through legislation and regulation

Promote and support ***research in key areas*** identified as a being a priority by both the clusters, and facilitate wide access to the results

Initiate ***cross-cluster collaborative projects*** as a vehicle for increasingly working together to achieve common interests in a cost-effective manner

Options for action

Coordinate common needs and services

Explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration in **monitoring and reporting**, particularly with respect to indicators

Consider the potential benefits of increased **coordination of capacity-building**, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer

Facilitate the **sharing** of guidance materials, experience and information relevant to the interface between the two clusters

Collaborate in the development of an effective **science-policy interface** at both national and international levels

Options for action

Utilise key international entry points

Promote the uptake of the findings of the study in the *post-2020 and beyond 2020 processes*, liaising with relevant secretariats

Raise the profile of cross-cluster collaboration through *United National Environment Assembly* and intergovernmental and interagency meetings

Promote *regional cooperation* as a basis for strengthening cooperation in addressing impacts of chemicals and waste on biodiversity

Encourage international *finance institutions and programmes* to support action addressing environmental issues in an integrated manner

Identify ways to collaborate in the context of a '*One Health*' approach, using this as a basis for driving and justifying action

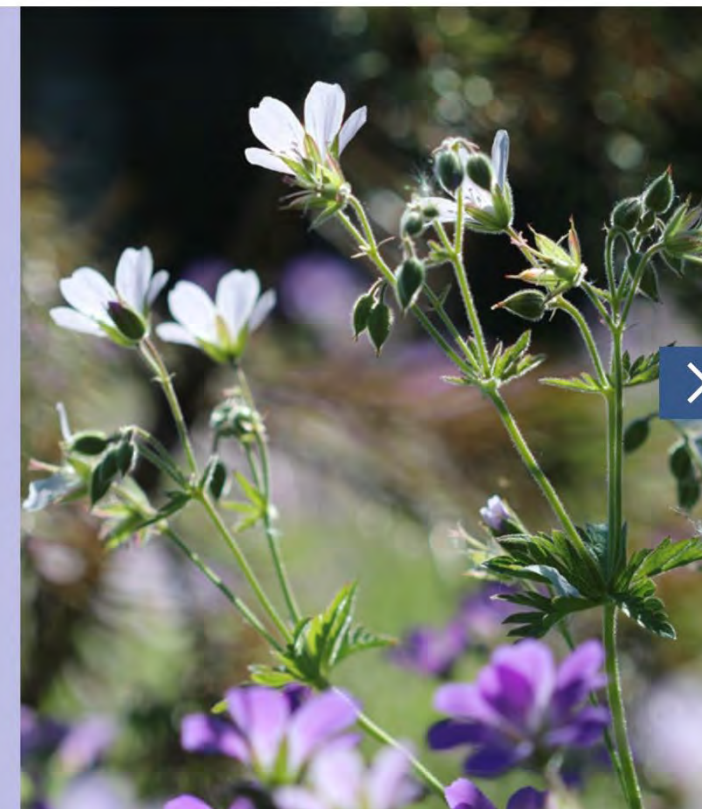
Strengthening collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters

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TemaNord 2022:513

Strengthening collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters



Neville Ash

neville.ash@unep-wcmc.org


UN
environment
programme


WCMC

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THANK YOU!



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SUMMARY, VIDEO, LINKS

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