



## Agenda

# The Regional Forum on Chemicals in Plastics for Eastern Europe and Global Workshop on Plastic Waste in the Mountains

7-9 November 2024  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Zoom link for the meetings: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 831 6244 7760 | Passcode: 903170

### Introduction

#### 1. “Chemicals in Plastics Forum” for the Eastern European region

Plastics contain numerous harmful chemicals, including carcinogens and endocrine disruptors, which pose significant risks to human health and the environment. Addressing chemicals in plastics is a crucial aspect of ongoing negotiations by UN Member States to develop an international legally binding instrument, as mandated by UNEA Resolution 5/14, to tackle plastic pollution.

Identifying the health risks associated with chemicals in plastics is essential for a global approach. UNEP and the BRS Conventions have collaborated to publish key reports on these chemicals, underscoring the need for comprehensive governance and regulation throughout the plastic life cycle.

The "Chemicals in Plastics Forum" for the Eastern European region will raise awareness among policymakers in Tajikistan and other regional Parties to the Conventions. The forum will emphasize the importance of globally harmonized, legally binding requirements for chemical transparency and traceability, along with the benefits for trade, health, workers' rights, and justice. Discussions may include recommendations for prioritizing certain chemicals and enhancing communication across the supply chain.

#### 2. Global Workshop on Plastic Waste in the Mountains

The "Plastic Waste in Remote and Mountainous Areas" project, launched in 2019 with generous financial support from the Governments of France and Norway, addresses the pressing issue of plastic waste in these vulnerable regions. Given the geographical characteristics of remote and mountainous areas, these regions require specific approaches to waste management. The project has progressed through three stages, each building upon the previous phase's accomplishments.

In the first stage, the project conducted data collection and analysis to develop a comprehensive report on plastic waste in remote and mountainous areas. This report compiled information on the sources and pathways of plastic waste, identified hotspots, assessed waste management capacities, and highlighted success stories. It identified tourism as one of the major contributors to the plastic waste crisis in these regions, compounded by insufficient infrastructure to manage the increasing waste.



The second stage involved finalizing the report as an internal baseline document. This baseline report has been instrumental in shaping various educational and outreach materials<sup>1</sup> aimed at enhancing the capacities of targeted audiences. The lessons learned and insights gained have been applied to pilot projects in multiple countries.

During the implementation stage, eight projects are currently funded across nine countries: Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Nepal, North Macedonia, Peru, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. These projects aim to enhance the capacity, knowledge, and expertise of decision-makers and relevant stakeholders in managing plastic waste in remote and mountainous areas. Activities include piloting initiatives, conducting clean-up campaigns, analyzing national legal and policy frameworks in line with the Basel Convention's Plastic Waste Amendments,<sup>2</sup> and developing comprehensive national inventories of plastic waste.

### **Objective and structure of the Regional Forum on Chemicals in Plastics and Global Workshop on Plastic Waste in the Mountains**

Hosted by the Committee for Environmental Protection (CIIP CEP) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, this three-day event in Dushanbe focuses on chemicals in plastics and plastic waste in remote and mountainous areas.

Day 1 features the "Global Workshop on Plastic Waste in the Mountains," aimed at fostering collaboration and discussion to identify, prioritize, and manage chemicals in plastic waste in an environmentally sound manner. Day 2 is dedicated to the "Chemicals in Plastics Forum for Eastern Europe". On Day 3, a field trip will enhance the capacity, knowledge, and expertise of relevant decision-makers in the environmentally sound management (ESM) of plastic waste and in reducing plastic waste generation in remote and mountainous areas.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Plasticwaste/Technicalassistance/Projects/RemotelandMountainousAreas>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Plasticwaste/Amendments/Overview/tabid/8426/Default.aspx>.

**Day 1: Plastic Waste in the Mountains Workshop**  
**Thursday, 7 November 2024**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Speaker/Presenter</i>
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and introduction, objectives and structure of three days meetings  Opening speech, CEP  Opening speech, BRS Conventions	<b>Muhibullo Junaidzoda</b> (Director of CIIP, CEP)  CEP high-level management representative <b>Rolph Payet</b> (BRS Executive Secretary)
09:15 – 09:30	Round of self-introduction	All participants
<i>Group photo &amp; Coffee break (30 min)</i>		
<b>Session 1: Country presentation including, results and lessons learned from funded projects.</b> Moderator: Mehrnoosh Azodi, BRS Secretariat		
09:30 – 09:45	Plastic waste in the remote and mountainous areas: Keeping our mountains plastic waste free	<b>Mehrnoosh Azodi</b> , BRS Secretariat
09:45 – 10:30	Project overview /status of plastic waste Amendment implementation (if relevant) presentations (10 min each, 5 min Q&A)	<b>Naim Nematzoda</b> (CEP expert, Tajikistan) <b>Timurlan Aymuratov</b> (Uzbekistan, State Ecological Expertise Center) <b>Ana Stojanovska</b> (PLANKTONIUM, North Macedonia)
10:30 – 11:15	Project overview /status of plastic waste Amendment implementation (if relevant) (10 min each, 5 min Q&A)	<b>Thabo Tšasanyane</b> (Ministry of Environment and Forestry Lesotho) <b>Lenny Bamboche</b> (Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment Seychelles) <b>Sergio Milovan Dinklang Lanfranco</b> (The Ministry of the Environment Peru)
11:15-11:35	Q&A and discussion	All participants
11:35-12:00	Quantifying tire abrasion and microplastics emissions from mountain and gravel bike tires – Research findings	<b>Fabian Sommer</b> (University of Bayreuth)
<i>Lunch (90 min)</i>		
<b>Session 2: Plastic waste in the remote and mountainous areas: challenges and solutions</b>		

<i>Moderator – BRS Secretariat</i>		
13:30 - 13:45	Solid waste management in remote Arctic communities, with a focus on plastic waste	<b>Timo Seppälä</b> (Finland)
13:45 – 15:00	Panel discussion, mountain protection and plastic waste in the mountains, challenges and solutions (10 min each, 5 min Q&A)	<b>Ansgar Fellendorf</b> (UNEP) <b>Asel Arstanbekova</b> (ESG Central Asia) <b>Daire O’Connell</b> (Interski International/ISIA/IAESS) <b>Surayo Vohidova</b> (Shiver Tajikistan) <b>Yuri Skochilov</b> (Public organization “Youth Ecological Center” Tajikistan)
<i>Coffee break (30 min)</i>		
15:30– 16:30	Discussions among participants (moderated round-table discussions)	All participants Moderator, BRS Secretariat
16:30 – 17:10	Present the result of the deliberations during round table (5 min each group)	All participants Moderator, BRS Secretariat
17:10– 17:15	Wrap up and conclusions of day 2	<b>Ulugov U.</b> (CEP)



**Day 2: Technical Workshop: Chemicals in Plastic Forum for Eastern Europe**  
**Friday, 8 November 2024**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Facilitator</i>
09:00 – 09:15	<i>Registration</i>	
09:15 – 09:30	Opening, objective, and structure of day 2	Moderator - BRS Secretariat
09:30 – 10:00	“Plastic waste in remote and mountainous areas” in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan	<b>Zhanibek Mukhanov</b> (Center for Sustainable Development, Kazakhstan)
<i>Coffee break (30 min)</i>		
10:30 – 11:00	Presentation by Tajikistan: Need for managing chemicals in plastics in Tajikistan	<b>Ulugov U.</b> (Director SI “National Stockholm convention Center”)
11:00 – 12:00	Lessons learned from existing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) on chemicals in plastics and plastic products: Addressing coverage, gaps, and processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which plastic products and chemicals or chemical groups are currently covered by existing MEAs?</li> <li>• What lessons have been learned from MEA processes regarding plastic products and chemicals?</li> <li>• Q&amp;A session</li> </ul>	<b>Kei Ohno Woodall</b> (BRS Secretariat)
<i>Lunch (90 min)</i>		
13:30 – 14:00	Chemicals in food contact plastics and health impacts	<b>Jane Muncke</b> (Food Packaging Forum Foundation) – online
14:00 – 14:30	PlastChem state-of-the-science report on plastic chemicals, identifying and addressing chemicals and polymers of concern	<b>Laura Monclus Anglada</b> (Norwegian Geotechnical Institute) – online
<i>Coffee break (30 min)</i>		
15:00 – 15:30	Enhancing transparency and traceability of chemicals in plastics	<b>John Norman</b> (American Chemistry Council) – online
15:30 – 16:00	Limiting the recycling of hazardous additives in plastics within a circular economy: An overview of EU approaches and considerations on PBDE Limit Values	<b>Timo Seppälä</b> (Finland)
15:30 – 16:00	Discussions among participants (moderated round-table discussions)	BRS Secretariat
16:00 – 16:10	Wrap up day 2 Brief explanation about the field trip	CEP



**Day 3: Field visit and reception**  
**Saturday, 9 November 2024**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Facilitator</i>
13:00 – 13:20	Gathering of participants at Hilton Hotel Dushanbe and travel to the field trip areas	CEP
13:30 – 14:00	Arrival at and visit the plastic waste collection facility (private company)	
14:10 – 14:40	Arrival at the plastic waste recycling facility (private company)	
15:00 – 15:30	Departure to the historical site “Hissar Fortress”	
15:30 – 16:30	Introduction with the historical site “Hisar Fortress”	
16:30 – 17:00	Departure to the Dushanbe city	
17:00-19:00	Gala dinner and reception at Anzur Restaurant Dushanbe	
19:00-19:30	Departure to the hotel	