

## Content



#### Presentation includes:

- Civil Society Engagement at UNEP: Basis for Engagement
- The Nine Major Groups
- Why Engage Civil Society: The Added Value
- Levels of Engagement
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- The UN Environment Assembly and Related Events



# Civil Society Engagement at UNEP: Basis for Engagement



**ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31** on Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations

Rio+20 Outcome Document "The Future We Want": "ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society"

Rule 70 of the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Environment Assembly



# The Nine Major Groups

- The Nine Major Groups
- Women
- Children and Youth
- Indigenous Peoples
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Local Authorities
- Workers and Trade Unions
- Business and Industry
- Scientific and Technological
- Community
- Farmers

Calls to Add Faith Based Organization and Disabled.





# Why Engage Civil Society: The Added Value



- Represent those most likely to be directly affected by environmental problems and related policies
- Adds Legitimacy & Transparency
- **Expertise and knowledge** enriches the intergovernmental decision making
- Awareness raising on emerging issues
- Implementation of decisions, including by providing financial means and expertise



# Levels of Engagement

# Three levels of engagement



#### Agenda-setting

- · Policy shaping
- Global political agenda setting
- · UNEA agenda setting



#### Decisionmaking/shaping

- Policy deliberations leading to decision-making
- Transparency and accessto-information



#### Implementation

- Strategic partnerships for implementation of UNEP's policies
- Strategic partnerships for achieving sustainable development

Expert input and advice



# Partners for implementation

Civil society is crucial for the implementation of projects and activities:

- Climate Change
- Disasters and Conflicts
- Ecosystem Management
- Environmental Governance
- Chemicals and Waste
- Resource Efficiency
- Environment under Review





# Accredited Organizations at meetings of the United Nations Environment Assembly and its subsidiary bodies



- Accredited organizations only, reserved seats for the nine Major Groups and Regional Facilitators
- Opportunity for written and oral interventions
- Accredited organizations receive relevant documentation and have access to the CPR portal
- Interactive online participation



# Major Groups Engagement at UNEP

Major Group Facilitating Committee (elected by accredited organizations for a 2 year term)

Major Group
representatives (2
representatives per major group)

Regional representatives (2
representatives per region)
Observer status

Main Role: Facilitate Major Group and Stakeholder Engagement with UNEP



# The UN Environment Assembly and Related Events

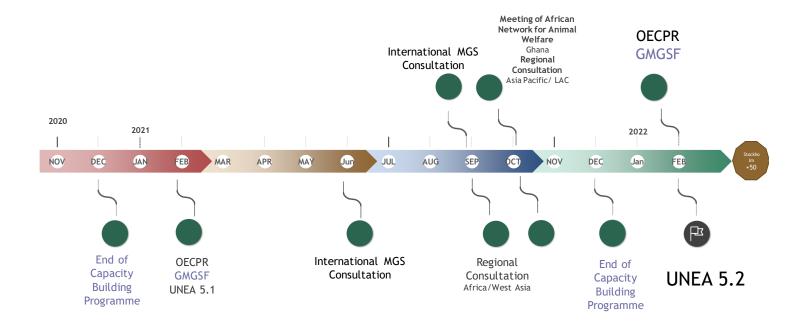
- Open Ended CPR
- Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum
- Science-Policy-Business Forum
- UNEA
- Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
- Green Tent
- Sustainable Innovation Expo





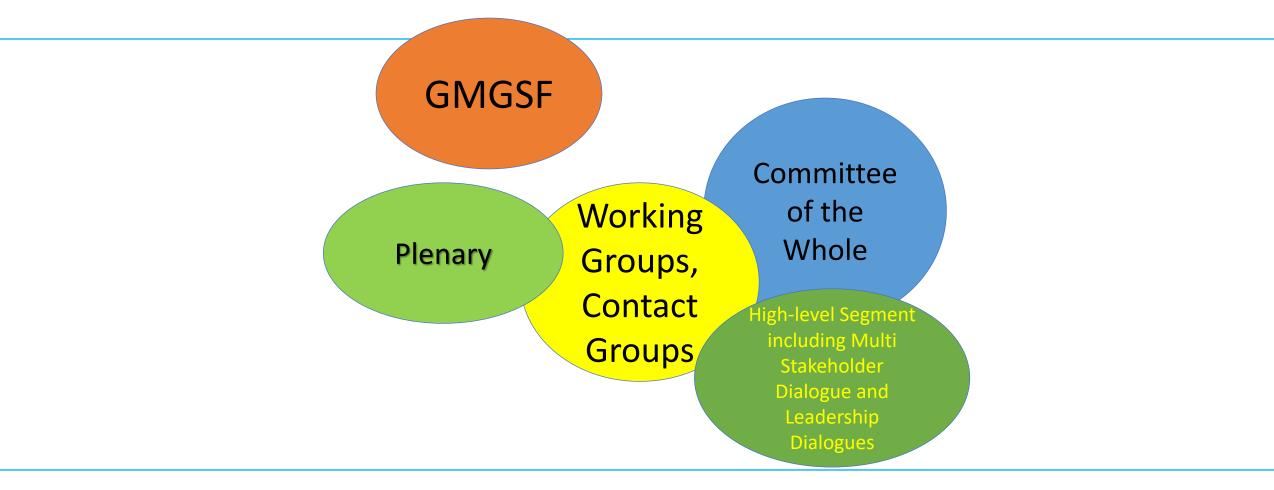
# Stakeholders Roadmap

#### Major Groups Roadmap towards UNEA 5





## Components of United Nations Environment Assembly.





# Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum



- Organized in corporation with Civil society organization from a particular region. Next year's GMGSF will be organized by an organization consortium of WECF and EEB from Europe
- Open for accredited and non-accredited organisations
- Members States and UN staff may participate as observers
- Preparatory Meeting for UNEA
  - Capacity building
  - Development of joint positions
  - Drafting of statements
  - · Review of resolutions
  - Exchange with member states



#### Open Ended Meeting of the CPR and Assembly

- Access for accredited organisations to all public meetings
- Opportunities for intervention at the discretion of Chair
- Seats for 9 Major Groups (1+1) and Regional Facilitators (1+1)
- Coordination of seating arrangements and interventions by Major Groups Facilitating Committee
- Access to all in-session documents, decisions, meeting online portal (UNEA paper smart system)
- Oral statements and written inputs: inform the Secretariat
- Limited time for interventions, prepare consolidated, short and joint statements if possible





### Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

- A session that brings together major groups and governments
- The theme is defined with UNEP in consultations with the Major groups
- The theme is driven by the main theme of UNEA
- The setting is not formal, and the delegates debate issues freely
- Discussants/Respondents from Governments and Major Groups





#### **Green Tent**



- This is a space for civil society organizations. They develop the agenda for the tent and run it.
- It is usually managed by Major Groups Facilitating Committee/Regional Facilitators
- For meetings (morning meeting), capacity building, events, presentations



#### **Side Events**

- These are events that take place in parallel to UNEA.
- They must be in tandem with the theme of UNEA
- At UNEA 4 for instance, we had 14 Approved Official Side Events
- They take place during Lunch Break and Early Evening





#### UN Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment



- This is an event organized by the science division. This is a space for scientists and civil society to discuss environment issues from a scientific perspective
- Target groups: Science, Policy, Business sectors as well as civil society (Registration open for everybody)
- The theme of the of the forum is guided by the main theme of UNEA.

Contacts: Shereen Zorba: Shereen.Zorba@un.org



#### Resources

- UNEP Website: <a href="https://www.unep.org">https://www.unep.org</a>
- Documents, agendas, draft resolutions: <a href="https://www.unep.org/cpr">https://www.unep.org/cpr</a>
- UNEA Website: <a href="https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/">https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/</a>
- Resources for Major Groups: <a href="https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/meetings">https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/meetings</a>
- Upcoming Major Group Meetings: <a href="https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/meetings">https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/meetings</a>
- Stakeholder Engagement Handbook: shorturl.at/hEP23



