

Calendar 2022-2023

Plastic is Forever



**BASEL / ROTTERDAM / STOCKHOLM
CONVENTIONS**



PLASTIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP
A PARTNERSHIP OF THE BASEL CONVENTION



BASEL CONVENTION



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Plastic is Forever

For decades, we have relied on plastics to keep us safe, insulate our homes, and make sure our food stays fresh. From cell phones to car parts, PPE to syringes, the use of plastics has made our lives easier and safer.

But when does the life of plastics come to an end, and where do plastics end up?

Consider this figure: 8.3 billion tonnes. This is the total amount of plastics ever made, half of which has been produced within the last 13 years. [These 8.3 billion tonnes of plastics are as heavy as 25,000 Empire State Buildings in New York or one billion elephants!](#)¹

Yet of all discarded plastics, just 12% has been incinerated, only 9% has been recycled, and the remainder has either been disposed of in landfills or released into the environment.

Plastic waste can take anywhere from [20 to 500 years to decompose](#)², and even then, it never fully disappears; it just gets smaller and smaller.

Microplastics have been found in every corner of the globe, from the peak of [Mount Everest](#)³ to the trough of the [Mariana Trench](#)⁴. In fact, it has been estimated that humans ingest [a credit card worth of plastic per week](#).⁵

We need to reduce the amount of single-use plastics we are using; reuse and recycle those plastics we can; and ensure that items we can't reuse or recycle end up being disposed of properly and not dumped into the environment.

This year, we asked people from all walks of life, all over the world, to share with us photos that showcase how the indiscriminate use of plastics and all the resultant waste are impacting on their daily lives and surroundings. We are proud to present you with the top-tier entries.

Let's work together to find a sustainable way to co-exist with plastics. If [#PlasticsForever](#), then society needs to re-think and re-shape its relationship with this complex, useful, but everlasting and ubiquitous material.

[#PlasticWastePartnership](#)

[#PlasticsForever](#)

The Basel Convention on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal, the UN's multilateral environmental global treaty that addresses the prevention, minimisation, international trade control and environmentally sound management of waste, provides a platform that unites stakeholders from governments, international organisations, industry, NGOs and academia towards the common objective of eliminating the leakage of plastic waste into our environment.

References:

1 [Earth is becoming 'Planet Plastic' - BBC News](#)

2 [The lifecycle of plastics - WWF-Australia](#)

3 [Reaching New Heights in Plastic Pollution - Preliminary Findings of Microplastics on Mount Everest: One Earth \(cell.com\)](#)

4 <https://www.geochemicalperspectivesletters.org/article1829/>

5 [Plastic ingestion by people could be equating to a credit card a week / Featured news / Newsroom / The University of Newcastle, Australia](#)



Photo taken by Vincent Kneefel (Netherlands) in Bali, Indonesia

June

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07 / July 2022

August

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Photo taken by Amdad Hossain (Bangladesh) in Chittagong, Bangladesh

July

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08 / August 2022

September

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Photo taken by Maggi Macoun (Germany) in the Java sea, Indonesia

August

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09 / September 2022

October

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Photo taken by Muntaka Chasant (Ghana) in Ghana

September

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10 / October 2022

November

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Photo taken by Muntaka Chasant (Ghana) in the Korle Lagoon, Ghana

October

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11 / November 2022

December

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Photo taken by Sienna Goldstein (Seychelles) at the Anse Royale Church lawn, Seychelles

November						
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12 / December 2022

January						
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Photo taken by Heidi Acampora (Brazil) in Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

December

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01 / January 2023

February

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Photo taken by Jophel Ybioso (Philippines) in Bocaue, Philippines

January						
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02 / February 2023

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Photo taken by Md.Nor FakirMohamad (Malaysia) in Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia

February

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03 / March 2023

April

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Photo taken by Vincent Kneefel (Netherlands) in Muncar, Java, Indonesia

March

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04 / April 2023

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Photo taken by Fakhrizal Setiawan (Indonesia) in Tiworo Island, Indonesia

April

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05 / May 2023

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Photo taken by Goran Doric (Croatia) in Adriatic

May						
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06 / June 2023

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Photo taken by Jacqueline Elbing-Omania (Germany) in Berkeley, California, USA

June						
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07 / July 2023

August						
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Photo taken by James Wakibia (Kenya) in Nakuru, Kenya

July

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08 / August 2023

September

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Photo taken by Muhammad Amdad Hossain (Bangladesh) in Dhaka, Bangladesh

August

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09 / September 2023

October

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Photo taken by Shahriar Hossain (Bangladesh) in Dhaka, Bangladesh

September

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10 / October 2023

November

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Photo taken by Shannon Switzer Swanson (USA) in the Banggai Archipelago, Indonesia

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11 / November 2023

December						
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Photo taken by Sufyan Arshad (Pakistan) in Mandi Bahauddin Punjab, Pakistan

November

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12 / December 2023

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Photo taken by Jurgita Šukienė (Lithuania) in Lithuania



Photo taken by Fully Syafi Handoko (Indonesia) in Malang, Indonesia



Photo taken by Paula Porobija (Croatia) in Croatia



Photo taken by Céline Bellanger (France) in Plouharnel, France



Photo taken by Alexandra Rudiak (Germany) in Tuscany, Italy



Photo taken by Paul Elias (Tanzania)



Photo taken by Mauricio Ruiz (Uruguay)



Photo taken by Sophie Dingwall (United Kingdom) in Panama



Photo taken by Anita Bubalo (Croatia) in Trstenik, Croatia




Photo taken by Đurđica Milosavljević (Croatia) in Split, Croatia


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