

AFRIPAC: Effective Capacity Building for Global Plastics Treaty in Africa

Funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

Goal

To empower and increase negotiators' knowledge and capacity, and increase collaboration in Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, and Sierra Leone for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, by 2024.

Project aims

To support the five countries to:

- Ensure global commitments to end plastic pollution are strengthened,
- Improve National action plans and policies, and
- Align global policy to the national and regional instruments to prevent marine litter.

Why is there a need for this project?

In March 2022, 175 nations agreed to develop a legally binding agreement to end plastic pollution by end of 2024, prompting a major step towards reducing plastic pollution. The resolution addresses the full lifecycle of plastic, including its production, design and disposal.

Developing countries face unique challenges and often lack specialised skills to negotiate these types of treaties. To be effective participants in the UN Global Plastics Treaty negotiations, Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries will need to have access to the most coherent and relevant knowledge and data to support their positions. The project will remove barriers to facilitate effective action. Strengthening the negotiation skills of national representatives is key to ensuring that the relevant international, regional, and national legal and policy are implemented well to end plastic pollution.

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Desired outcomes

Outcome 1. Target States and Stakeholders are included in Global Plastics Treaty negotiations in Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee processes.

Outcome 2. Plastic pollution mitigation processes of Target States integrate Circular Economy principles in Waste Management practices.