



United Nations  
Environment Assembly  
of the United Nations  
Environment Programme



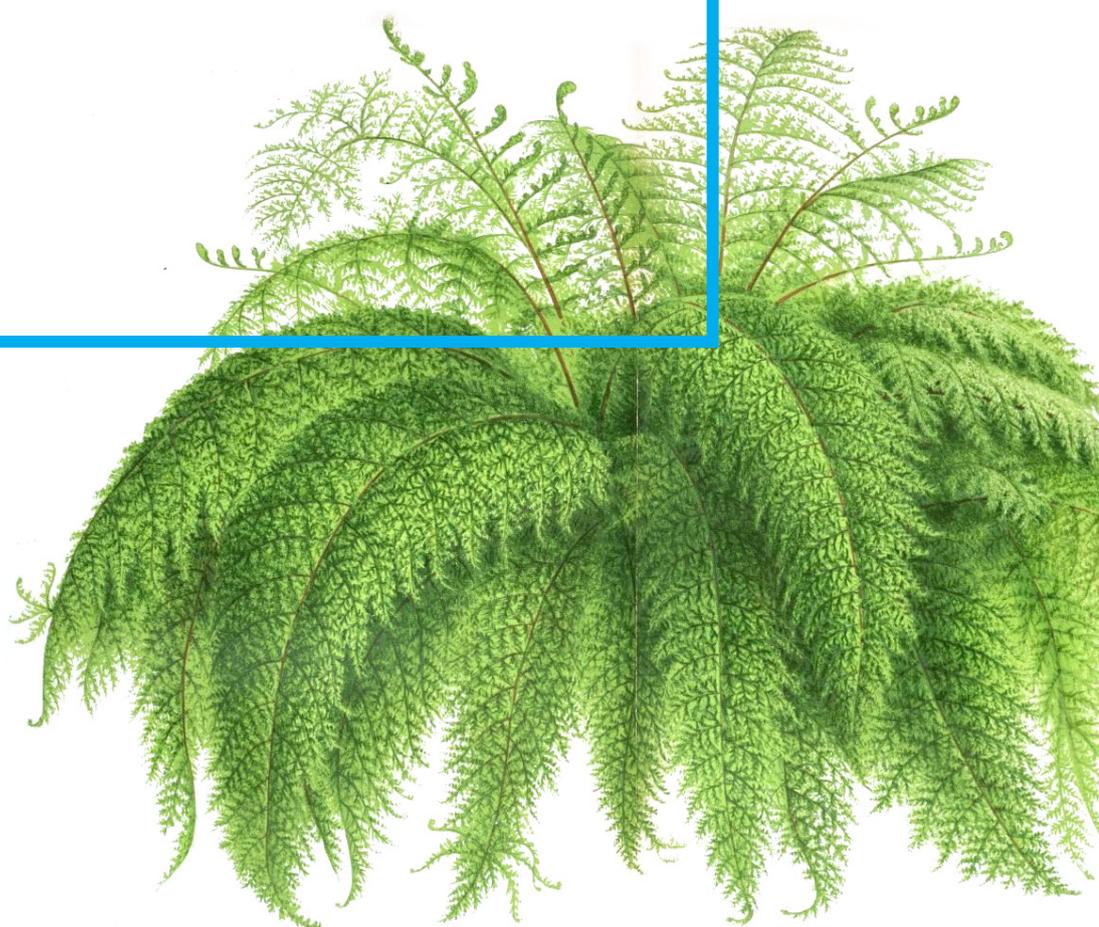
# TOWARDS A POLLUTION-FREE PLANET

4-6 DECEMBER 2017  
NAIROBI, KENYA

The UN Environment Assembly, the world's highest-level decision-making body dedicated to the environment, will gather in Nairobi, Kenya, from 4-6 December 2017 under the overarching theme of "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet".

The UN Environment Assembly enjoys the universal membership of all 193 UN Member States and the full involvement of UN organizations, specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector. In bringing together these varied communities, the Environment Assembly provides a groundbreaking platform for leadership on global environmental policy.

Pollution impacts us all. To find out more, please read our latest stories at: [www.unep.org/environmentassembly](http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly)



The Assembly aims to deliver a number of tangible commitments to end the pollution of our air, land, waterways, and oceans, and to safely manage our chemicals and waste. These will include the following:



**A political declaration on pollution**, linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, to signal that humanity can work together to eliminate the threat of pollution and the destruction of our planet

**Resolutions and decisions** adopted by member States to address specific dimensions of pollution

**Voluntary commitments** by Governments, private sector entities and civil society organizations to clean up the planet

**The Clean Planet Pledge**, a collection of public commitments to end pollution in all its forms

### Shaping Solutions

The Environment Assembly's keynote report, *Towards a Pollution-Free Planet*, provides the latest scientific information on how pollution impacts ecosystems and human health and well-being. It will also identify key transformative actions and solutions.

The report takes into consideration the consultations that take place in the

run-up to the Assembly, including with Member States and representatives. The report is available at [www.unep.org/environmentassembly](http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly).

### Events around the UN Environment Assembly

#### Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (27-28 November 2017)

Organized by Major Groups and Stakeholders accredited to UN Environment, the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum is open to the participation of civil society organizations, the private sector and Member States. The Forum will allow Major Groups and Stakeholders to discuss the outcomes of the Open-ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (29 November – 1 December) and to prepare their input into the Assembly, which is open to the participation of Major Groups accredited to UN Environment (<http://www.unep.org/about/majorgroups/events/global-major-groups-and-stakeholders-forum-gmgsf/17th-global-major-groups-and-stakeholder>).

### Science, Policy and Business Forum (2-3 December 2017)

UN Environment will hold its first Science, Policy and Business Forum on the environment under the banner Science for Green Solutions. The Forum will consist of roundtable and interactive thematic discussions between leading scientists, policymakers, and leaders of private sector and civil society. It provides unique opportunities to promote solutions driven by science to address our planetary challenges and build the alliances necessary to implement them and achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

### Leadership Dialogues (5 December 2017):

The 2017 UN Environment Assembly will include four Leadership Dialogues, which will take place during the high-level segment. The Dialogues, which will be professionally moderated, will bring together Heads of State, ministers of environment, and leaders of private sector and civil society for collective attention to the Assembly's multifaceted theme of pollution. The Dialogues will generate critical discussions among top environment and business leaders, as well as members of the global community who have already made major commitments to tackle pollution and could inspire others to do the same.

The Assembly will hold four interactive professionally moderated *Leadership Dialogues* under the following themes:

- **Science, evidence and citizens awareness for change** This dialogue will set the scene on the key drivers that impact policymaking. Science provides the evidence, facts and figures accessible to stakeholders. It also drives innovation and solutions. Establishing systems for the transparent sharing of relevant data

**UN environment assembly**

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TOWARDS A POLLUTION-FREE PLANET

## What is the UN Environment Assembly?

Highest-level decision-making body on the environment

Global platform for leadership on environmental policy

Convener of UN Member States, civil society and business

2017 theme **Pollution**

Sign the pledge. Together, we can clean up the planet. [BeatPollution.org](http://BeatPollution.org)

and information is a key feature in mobilizing action to tackle pollution. This includes engaging business and industry to integrate big data pollution information into the sustainability reporting cycles of the private sector, including disclosure on pollution.

- **Regulatory frameworks, institutions and the rule of law to address pollution** This dialogue will focus on how legislation and institutions can help or hinder innovation. Specific areas for discussion include how to strengthen the institutions responsible for regulating, monitoring, and enforcing pollution laws; how to implement and enforce multilateral environmental agreements and related instruments; how to build a culture of compliance

culture for tackling pollution; how to link pollution regulations and policies to key planning processes and budgets; and how to use regulatory mechanisms to incentivize and enable innovation and pollution prevention.

- **Practical solutions for a pollution-free planet** This dialogue will address the different facets of the pollution challenge at the national level. For example, at the city level, waste is both a business opportunity and a significant source of hazardous pollution. This dialogue brings together mayors, public and private sectors leaders, and consumers to explore solutions

and barriers to implementing those solutions at scale. The dialogue will not only identify and promote concrete actions to tackle pollution challenges, such as city-level actions, but also look at investment in pollution-management infrastructure.

- **Financing and innovation to combat pollution** This dialogue will speak to the sources of innovation and what makes financial institutions and the public and private sectors invest (or not invest) in transformative technologies. The dialogue will explore ways to promote and establishing proactive policies and incentives that spur innovation and reorient finance and investment around cleaner production and sustainable consumption. Building circularity in production processes and supply chains in key economic sectors will also be central to this dialogue, along with promoting research and development for green technology solutions.



		
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<h2>Tackling pollution, a global threat</h2>		
Annual pollution impacts		
 <p>6.5 million people die from air pollution</p>	 <p>Lead poisoning in children costs the world \$977 billion</p>	 <p>80% of global wastewater enters the environment without proper treatment</p>
 <p>1/3 of food produced worldwide is lost or wasted</p>	 <p>As many as 25 million agricultural workers experience unintentional pesticide poisoning</p>	 <p>And all year long, marine litter is found in 100% of sea turtle species</p>

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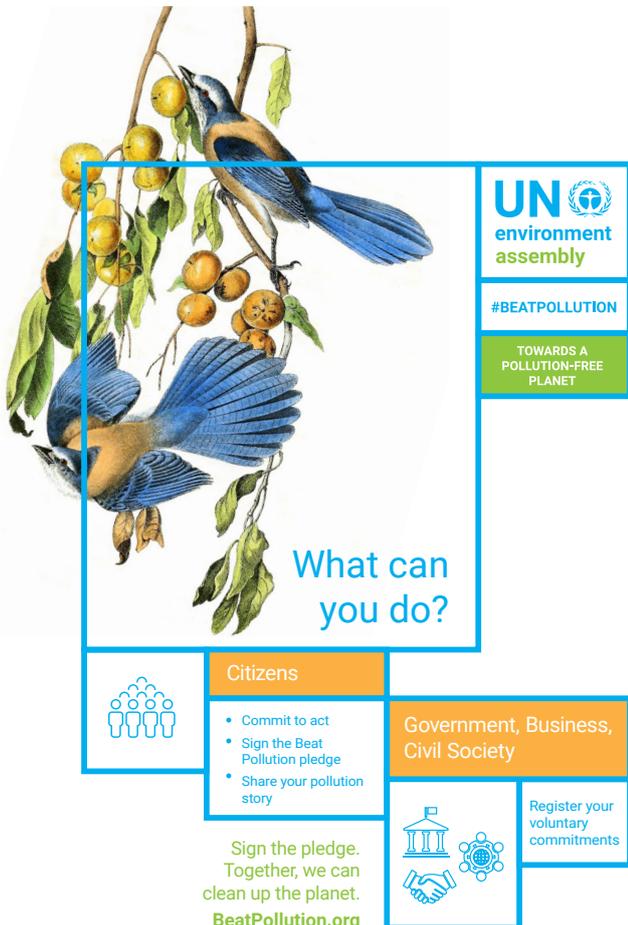
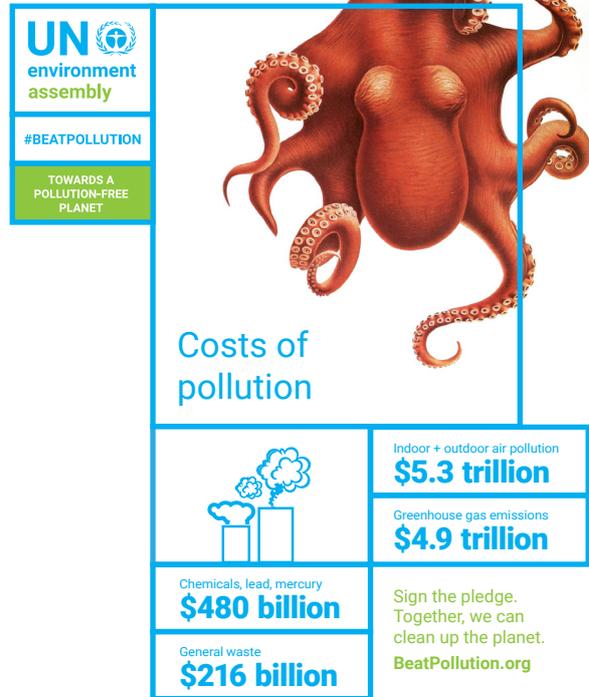
### Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (5 December 2017)

The Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue will be organized under the theme “People and Pollution”. The Dialogue will complement the process of collecting voluntary commitments by providing an opportunity for people to present how pollution affects them and what initiatives they have taken to beat pollution. The Dialogue will also build on the four Leadership Dialogues and incorporate the voice of Major Groups and Stakeholders. The Multistakeholder Dialogue will be an interactive and informal meeting, and an opportunity to celebrate lifestyle champions. Non-governmental and governmental participants will share how pollution affects their communities and how they have successfully fought pollution.

In telling their stories, participants will help to foster a constructive dialogue and bring the pollution theme back to the reality of people on the ground.

**2017 Sustainable Innovation Expo (4-6 December 2017)**

The Sustainable Innovation Expo is the Environment Assembly's platform for sharing some of the latest solutions to the world's most pressing environmental challenges. The 2017 Expo will provide an opportunity for leaders from government, civil society, UN agencies, the private sector and civil society to explore the latest technology and innovation and build new partnerships to tackle pollution and other urgent environmental challenges.



The Expo will take participants on an interactive journey through the challenges presented by pollution, leading them on to an exhibition space that will display the latest innovations and technologies, then finishing in a networking area, where participants can build partnerships to scale up the solutions needed to address the unprecedented pollution challenges our planet faces. Small and medium-size companies and multinationals with solutions to pollution have been invited to apply to the Expo to showcase their products. (<http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/event-details/side-events/apply-participate-2017-sustainable-innovation-expo>).

# Our Collective Responsibility



Promoting engagement with the Environment Assembly and the #BeatPollution Campaign

## What you can do

At the end of a meeting, **ask everyone in the room to take out their phones and head to [BeatPollution.org](https://BeatPollution.org)** to sign the Beat Pollution Pledge. Post images of everyone taking part on social media and ask the government/company/organization to share on their social media channels with #BeatPollution.

**Reach out to contacts in government, civil society and the private sector** and encourage them to register their voluntary pollution-beating commitments on the [Environment Assembly website](https://EnvironmentAssembly.org). Ask them to promote their commitments on their personal and organizational social media accounts using #BeatPollution.

**Make use of infographics and visual assets** produced by the Communication Division, post regularly on social media, directing users to [BeatPollution.org](https://BeatPollution.org) and tagging posts with #BeatPollution. Find these assets here: <https://trello.com/b/hHeZmlfx>

Actively seek support from any individuals who can **expand our reach past the established audience**. This could be a celebrity, private sector leader, or civil society advocate.

## Key messages we want to share

### On Pollution

**Pollution is a universal challenge** that does not respect national boundaries. It affects the air we breathe, the water we drink, the land on which we live, and the oceans on which we depend for food.

### Pollution kills millions of people every year.

Children, pregnant women, marginalized groups and those living in poverty are most vulnerable. Pollution also threatens wildlife and plants, and can devastate entire ecosystems.

**We have a responsibility to act.** Governments, businesses, civil society, and individuals must all be part of the solution. Everyone can start by signing the Beat Pollution Pledge and committing to reduce their own pollution footprint on [BeatPollution.org](https://BeatPollution.org).

### On the Environment Assembly

The UN Environment Assembly is the world's **highest-level decision-making body on the environment**. The 2017 Assembly will serve as a platform for governments, the private sector and civil society to bring the latest insights on how to achieve a pollution-free planet.

The UN Environment Assembly represents **a critical opportunity to drive bold global commitments** to beat pollution. Governments, businesses, civil society and individuals must all pledge to contribute to a cleaner world. If we work together, we can clean up the planet.

## Act Now!

We invite Member States, businesses, individuals, local governments, and civil society organizations to join us in making concrete voluntary pledges to clean up the planet.

Please join us in signing the Beat Pollution pledge and committing to reduce your pollution footprint ([www.unep.org/environmentassembly](http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly)).

All of these pledges will feed into the formulation of the Environment Assembly's Clean Planet Pledge and serve as critical fodder for the discussions that will take place at the Assembly.

We invite non-profit organizations to seek accreditation with UN Environment and the UN Environment Assembly. Accreditation grants your organization a consultative status and allows you to participate in the Assembly and its subsidiary organs (<http://www.unep.org/about/majorgroups/modalities/accreditation>).

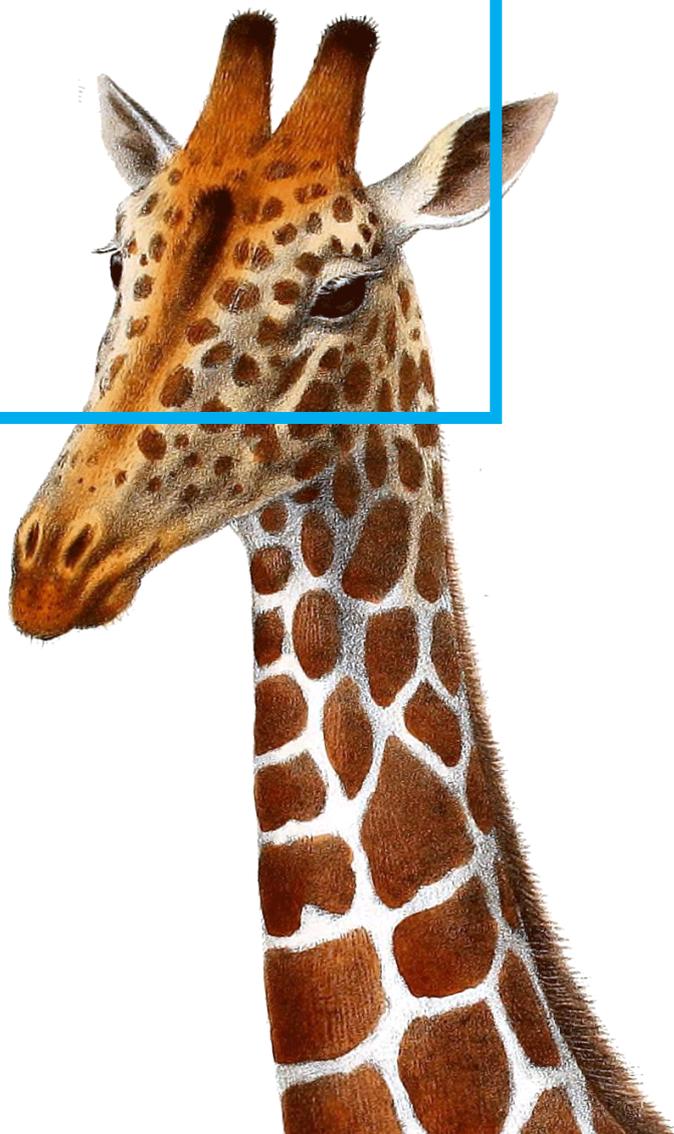
We are also interested in partnering with the private sector. Please contact [private.sector@unenvironment.org](mailto:private.sector@unenvironment.org)

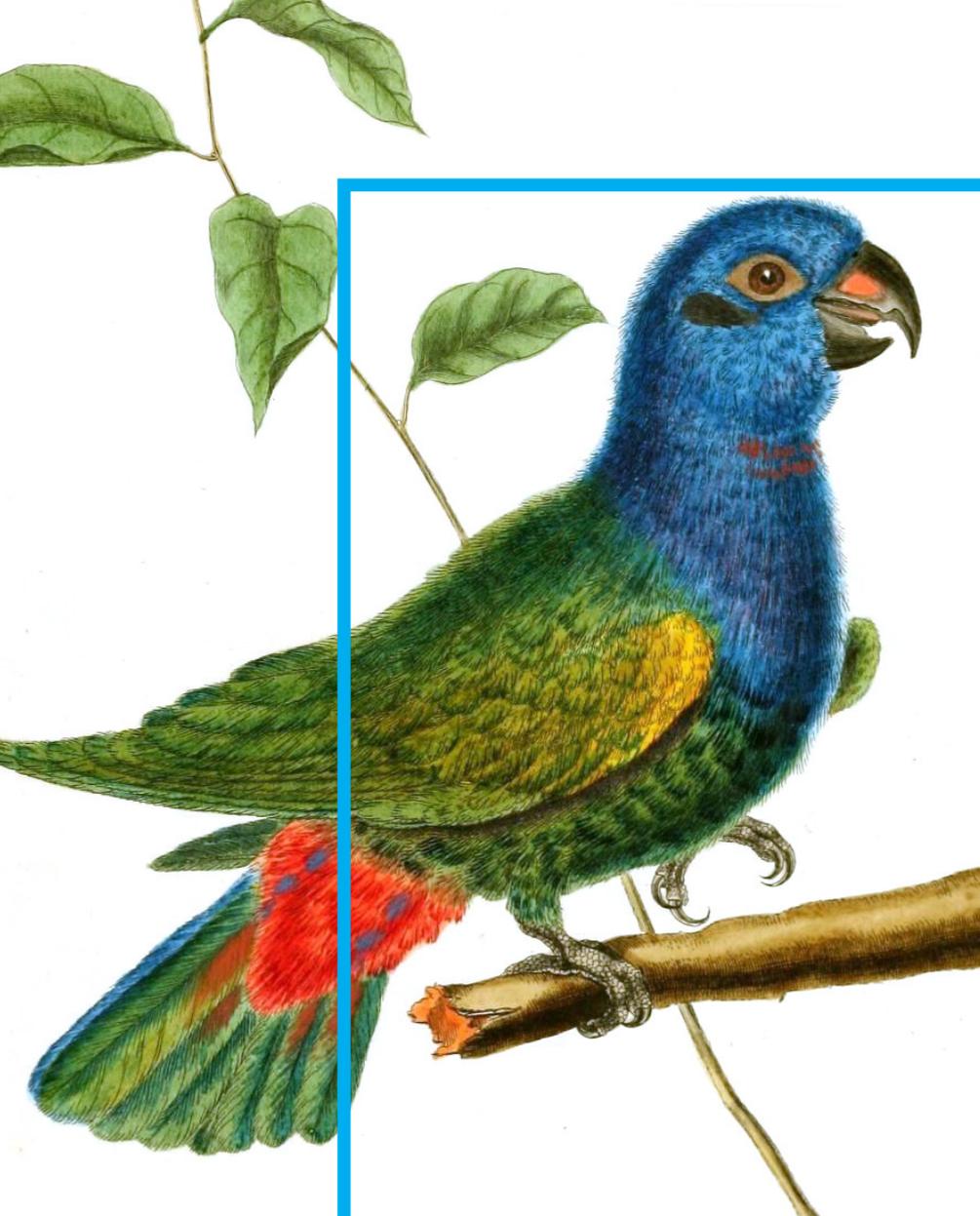
## Join Us. Act Now!

For more information please visit:  
[www.unep.org/environmentassembly](http://www.unep.org/environmentassembly)



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**SIGN THE**  
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