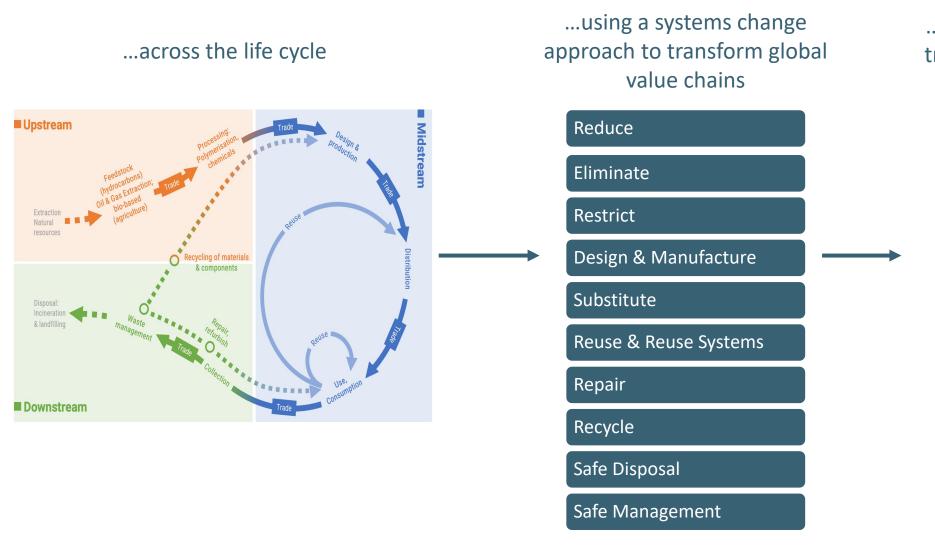
The role of trade measures in the future instrument: challenges and opportunities

Carolyn Deere Birkbeck, Director, TESS 29 May 2023

## TESS Forum on Trade, Environment, & the SDGs



### **Ending Plastic Pollution Requires Trade-related Interventions**



...and cooperation on a variety of trade & trade-related policy tools

Bans

**Restriction Measures** 

**Regulatory Cooperation** 

Fees or Taxes

Standards

**Trade Promotion** 

Trade Facilitation

Customs

Subsidies reform

Government procurement

Transparency & reporting

Non-party trade measures

## Sample of Pathways for Trade Cooperation on Plastic Pollution

#### **MEAS**

- Global Plastics Treaty
- Basel & Stockholm Conventions

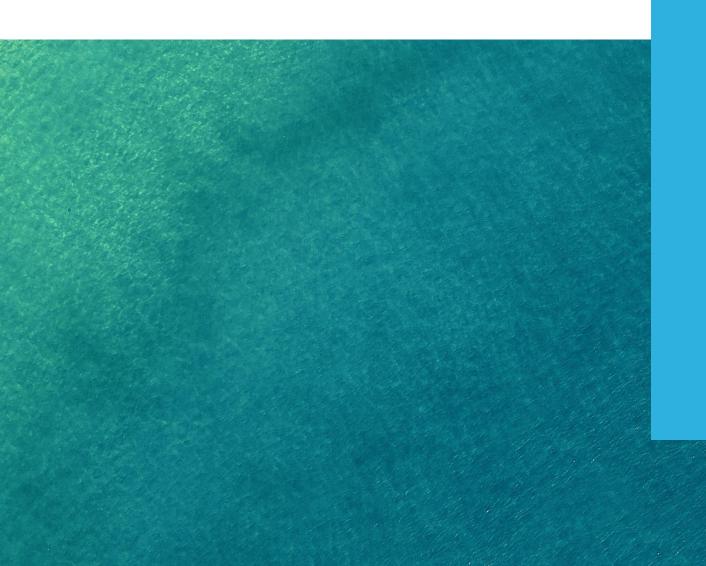
### Range of International Organizations & Processes

- WTO Dialogue on Plastics Pollution
- UNCTAD
- World Customs Organization
- International Organization on Standardization
- International Maritime Organization
- Interpol & UN Office on Drugs & Crime
- Regional organisations and processes
- OECD

## Sample of Potential Trade-related Elements in Plastics Treaty

- Reducing overall supply of primary plastic polymers to sustainable levels.
  - Binding obligations to control the production, import and export of primary plastic polymers & trade with non-parties
- Eliminating & restricting unnecessary, avoidable, problematic plastics harmful to health & environment
  - Binding obligations that restrict, prohibit or control the production, import and export of certain primary plastics polymers, precursors, chemical additives, plastic products and wastes & trade with non-parties
- Regulating plastic products placed on the market
  - Global rules -- only plastic products adhering to agreed criteria produced, imported, exported and put on the market
- Promoting sustainable production & consumption, & safe circularity
  - International cooperation on criteria, targets & standards to drive systems change across global value chains
- Promoting transparency in production and trade
  - Of data on quantities of plastics, materials, chemical and products
  - Of material composition of products and materials that cross borders
  - Traceability and labelling across plastics value chains

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## Thank you!

carolyn.deere@graduateinstitute.ch



tessforum.org



info@tessforum.org



@TESSForum

# Poor transparency trade flows across plastics life cycle

#### Missing data on:

- plastic packaging integral to packaged products
- share of embedded plastics in products
- packaging used for transportation & distribution

#### Limited detail, poor differentiation on:

- primary plastics by polymer & feedstock
- chemical additives
- single-use plastics of high environmental concern
- material composition of plastic products & waste
- plastic wastes



392310	Plastics; boxes, cases, crates and similar articles for the conveyance or packing of goods
392321	Ethylene polymers; sacks and bags (including cones), for the conveyance or packing of goods
392329	Plastics; sacks and bags (including cones), for the conveyance or packing of goods, of plastics other than ethylene polymers
392330	Plastics; carboys, bottles, flasks and similar articles, for the conveyance or packing of goods
392340	Plastics; spools, cops, bobbins and similar supports, for the conveyance or packing of goods
392350	Plastics; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, for the conveyance or packing of goods
392390	Plastics; articles for the conveyance or packing of goods n.e.c. in heading no. 3923
392410	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics
630531	Sacks and bags; of a kind used for the packing of goods, of polyethylene or polypropylene strip or the like
630532	Sacks and bags; of a kind used for the packing of goods, of man-made textile materials, flexible intermediate bulk containers
630533	Sacks and bags; of a kind used for the packing of goods, of man-made textile materials, of polyethylene or polypropylene strip or the like, not flexible intermediate bulk containers
560811	Twine, cordage or rope; fishing nets, made up of man-made textile materials
560819	Other knotted netting of twine, cordage or rope; made-up fishing nets and other made-up nets, of textile materials