

PCBs elimination goals under the scope of the Stockholm Convention, the BRS programme of work, and progress in Asia

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Stockholm Convention goals on PCB elimination

- Parties to ban the production, commerce and new uses of PCB;
- Parties to make determined efforts to identify, label and remove from use equipment (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks) containing PCB by 2025;
- Parties to make determined efforts designed to lead to environmentally sound waste management of liquids containing PCB and equipment contaminated with PCB as soon as possible but no later than 2028;
- Parties to identify other articles containing PCB (open applications) and manage them in an environmentally sound manner; and
- Parties to allow export or import PCB only for the purpose of environmentally sound waste management



12th Conference of the Parties – outcomes on PCBs: Decision 12-3



- Welcomes the **updated guidance** for the development of inventories of PCBs and analysis of PCBs (UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/10), as well as the strategy to enable Parties to the Stockholm Convention to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals on PCBs elimination of the Convention UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/10.
- Urges Parties:
 - To implement measures to meet their obligations under the Stockholm Convention, in particular with respect to paragraphs (a) and (e) of part II of Annex A to the Convention, taking into account the strategy for PCBs towards meeting the 2025 and 2028 goals, and to **develop, update and maintain national inventories of PCBs**, following the updated guidance.
 - To endeavour to **identify articles containing more than 0.005 per cent (50ppm) PCBs in open applications**, such as cable sheaths, cured caulk and painted objects, and to manage them in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6
 - To **report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures taken** to implement part II of Annex A to the Convention, including quantitative information on PCBs, in their national reports pursuant to Article 15 and encourages them to enhance synergies at the national level with focal points and competent authorities of the Basel Convention in the preparation of their national reports to ensure consistency in the information submitted, as appropriate, and to ensure the environmentally sound management of polychlorinated biphenyls
- Requests the Secretariat:
 - To continue to **provide technical assistance** to strengthen developing countries national and regional capacities for the elimination and reporting of PCBs
 - To **collaborate with UNEP's Chemicals and Health Branch**
- Recalls Decision 11-3 on the re-establishment of the Small intersessional working group established to assist the Secretariat on the preparation of:
 - Revised guidance on PCB environmentally sound management
 - An **updated report on the progress towards the elimination of PCBs**.



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UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/11



**Stockholm Convention
on Persistent Organic
Pollutants**

Distr.: General
3 February 2025
English only

Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Twelfth meeting
Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2025
Item 5 (a) (iii) of the provisional agenda*

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention:
measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional
production and use: polychlorinated biphenyls

Revised strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals on polychlorinated biphenyls of the Stockholm Convention

Note by the Secretariat

As is mentioned in the note by the Secretariat on polychlorinated biphenyls (UNEP/POPS/COP.12/6), the annex to the present note sets out a revised strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals on polychlorinated biphenyls of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants prepared by the Secretariat in collaboration with the small intersessional working group on polychlorinated biphenyls re-established in paragraph 6 of decision SC-9/3. The present note, including its annex, has not been formally edited.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.12/1.

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UNEP/POPS/COP.12/INF/11

Annex

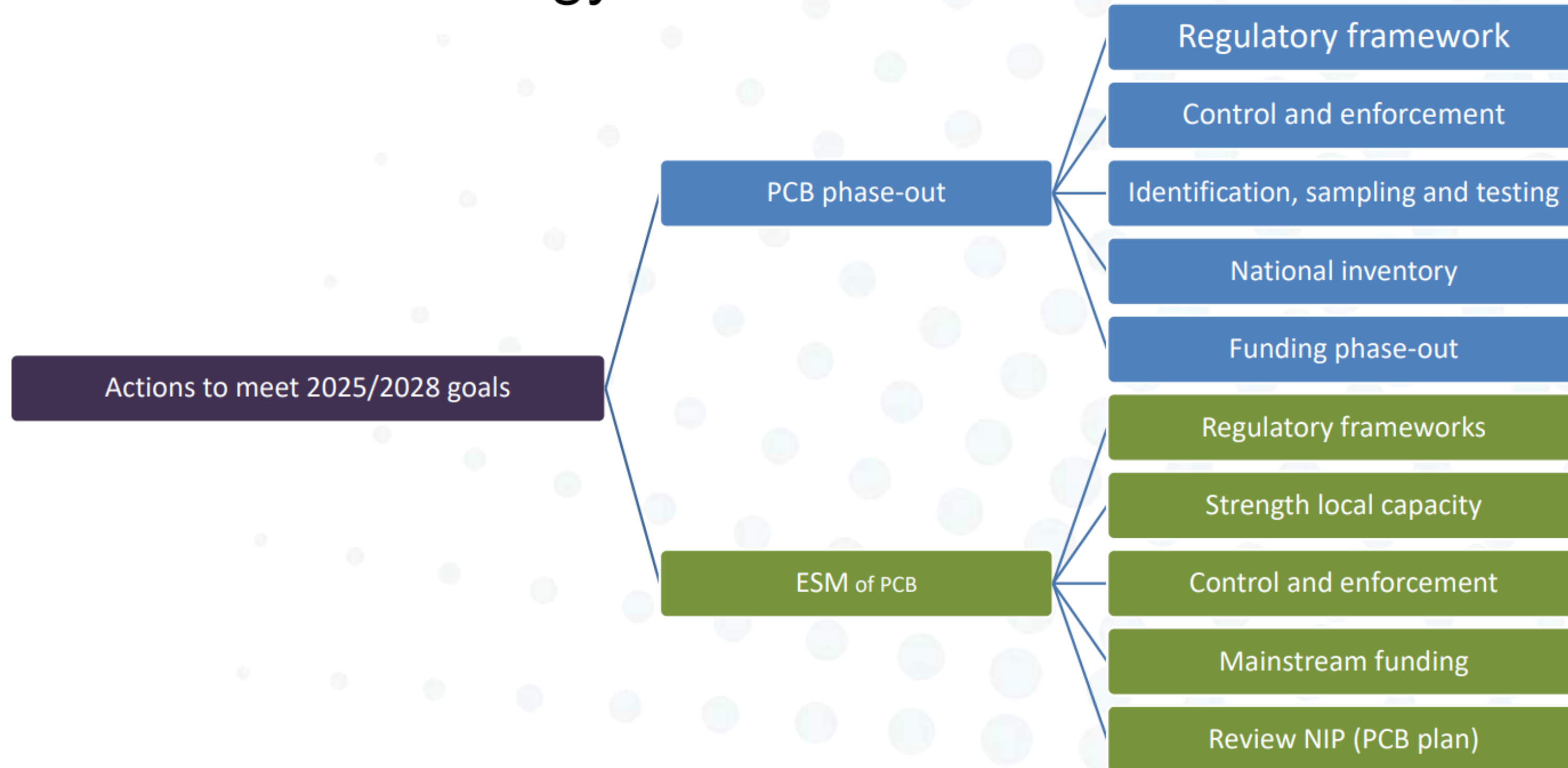
Revised strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals on polychlorinated biphenyls of the Stockholm Convention*

December 2024

* The studies and other information referred to in the strategy do not necessarily reflect the views of the Secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) or the United Nations. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in such studies and references do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat, UNEP or the United Nations concerning geopolitical situations or the legal status of any country, territory, area or city or its authorities.

<https://www.pops.int/TheConvention/ConferenceoftheParties/Meetings/COP12/tabid/9744/ctl/Download/mid/28019/Default.aspx?id=14&ObjID=34752>

Structure of the strategy document



Considerations in the regulatory framework for phase-out of PCB equipment



Align the national regulatory framework with the legal obligations and objectives derived from the Stockholm Convention

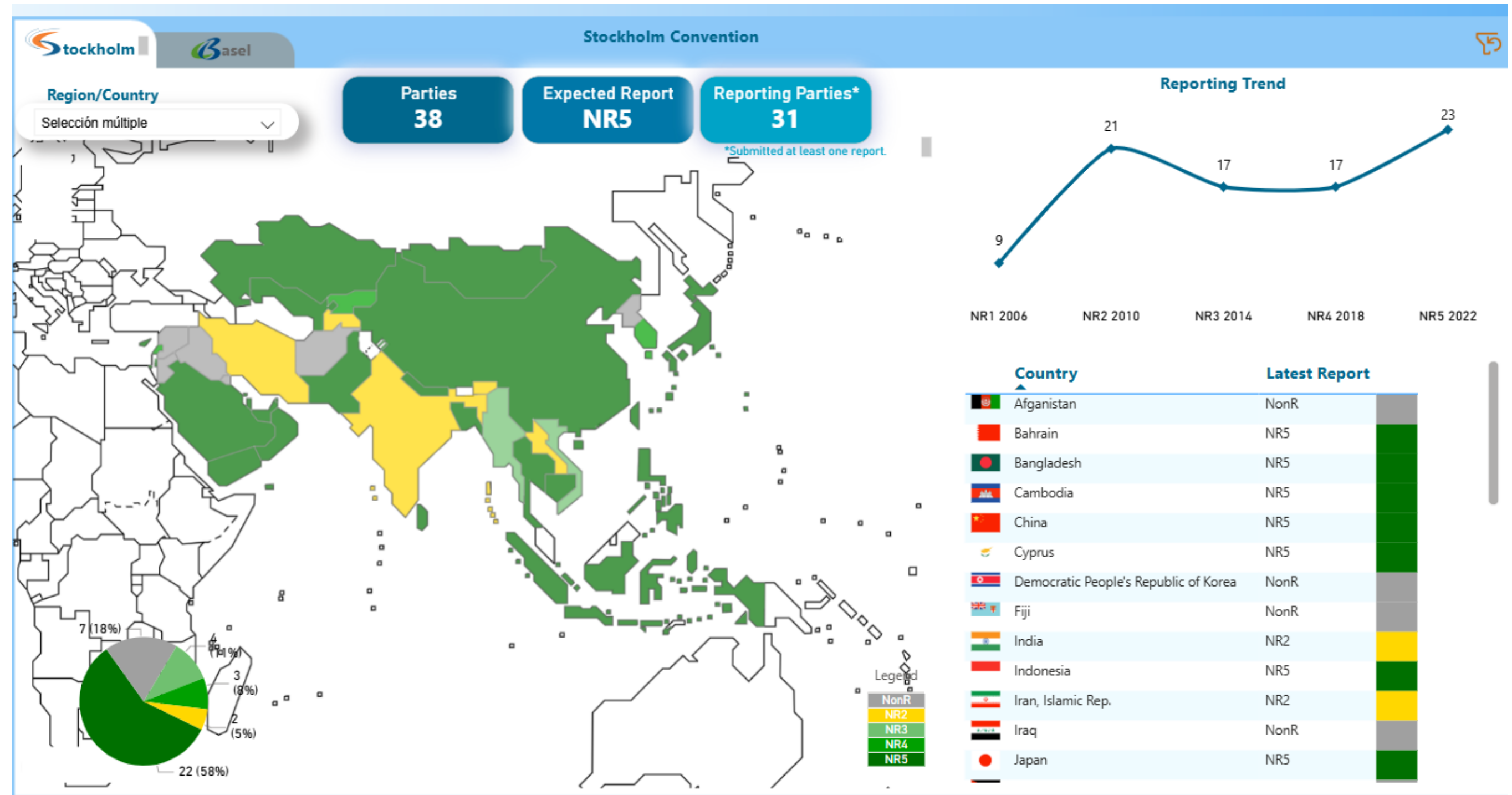
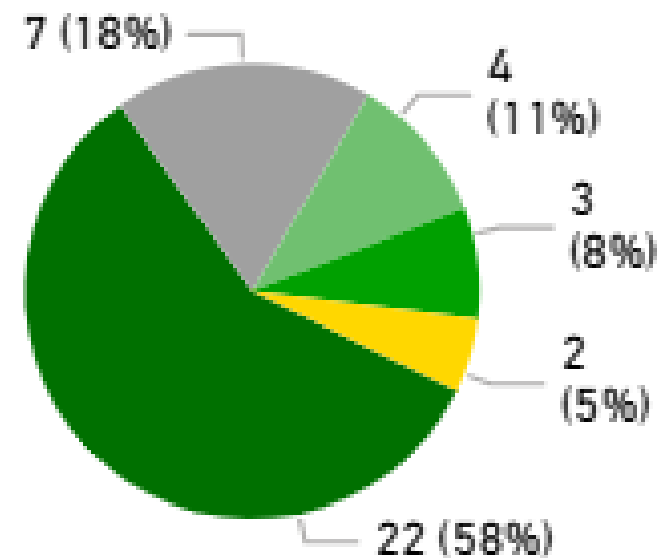
Include mandatory testing, periodical reporting of inventories and development of phase-out plans as an obligation under national regulatory frameworks to owners and holders.

Periodically review and update regulations, promoting open consultations while issuing and updating environmental regulations

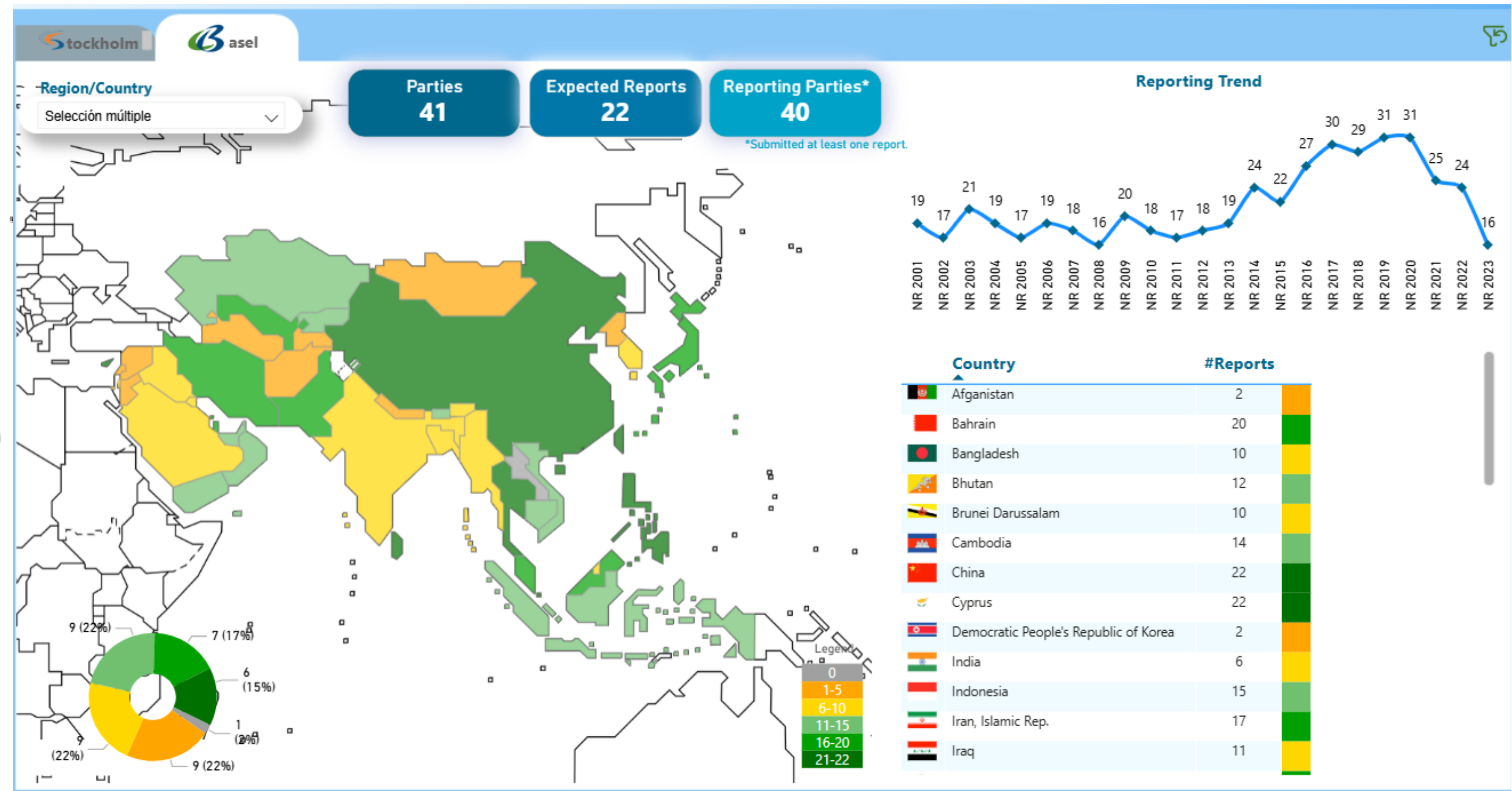
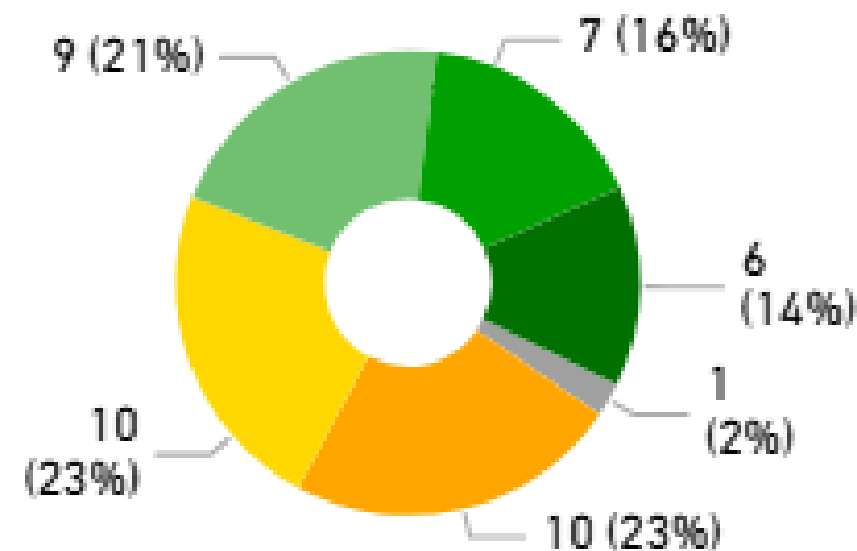
Involve the authorities of the energy and utilities sectors to develop viable alternatives to be implemented by utilities in these sectors when suspending services during sampling, treatment, and elimination of electrical equipment.

Set proper spaces with stakeholders to gather and analyse their interests, needs and circumstances, progress made, and gaps to be closed.

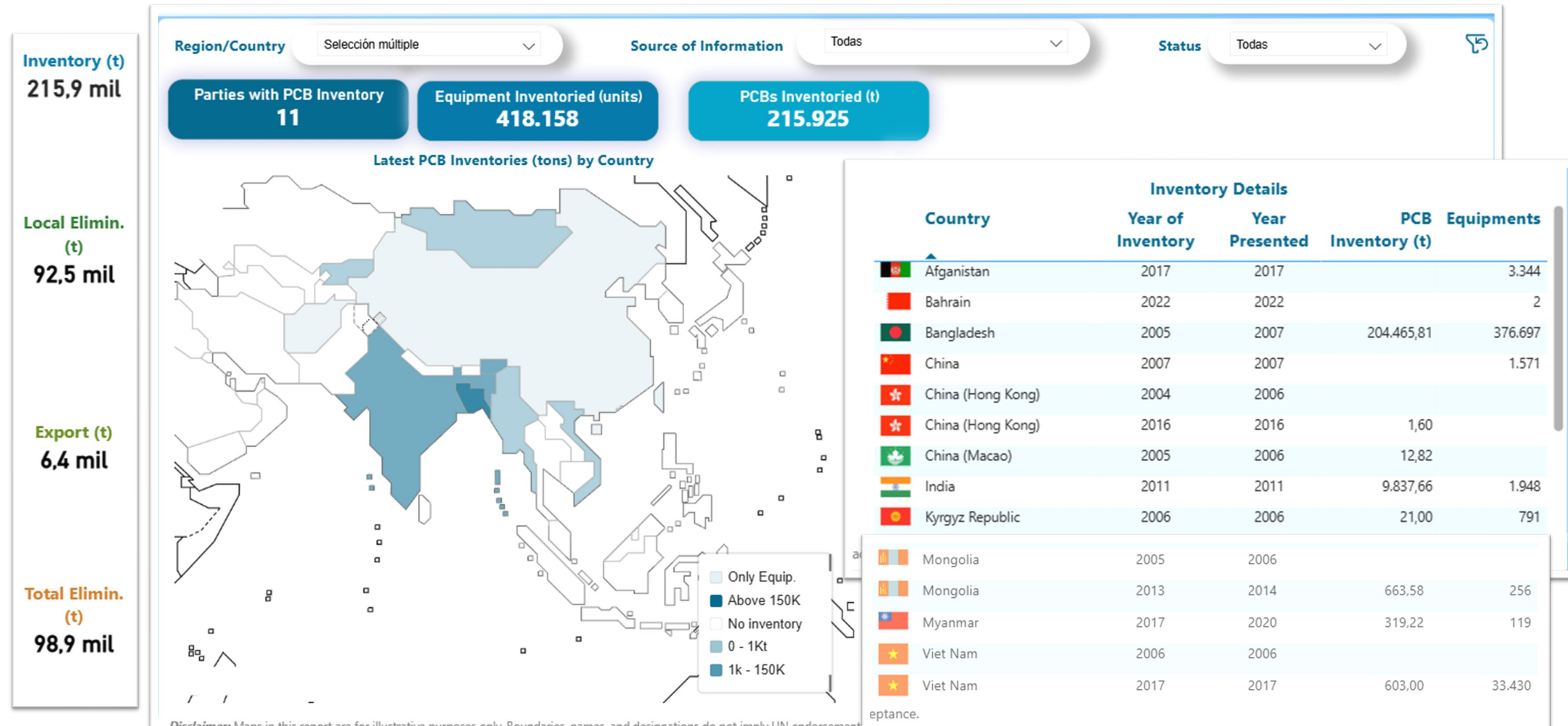
Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination – National Reports



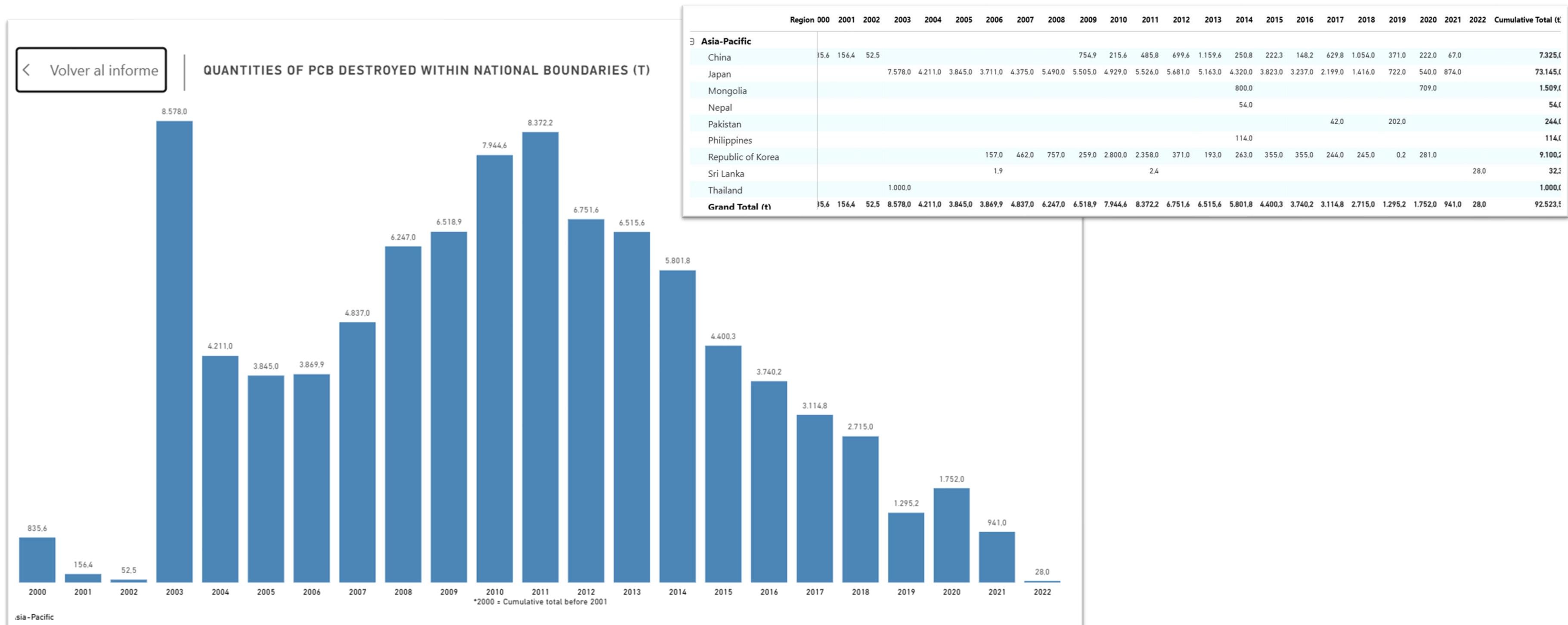
Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination – National Reports



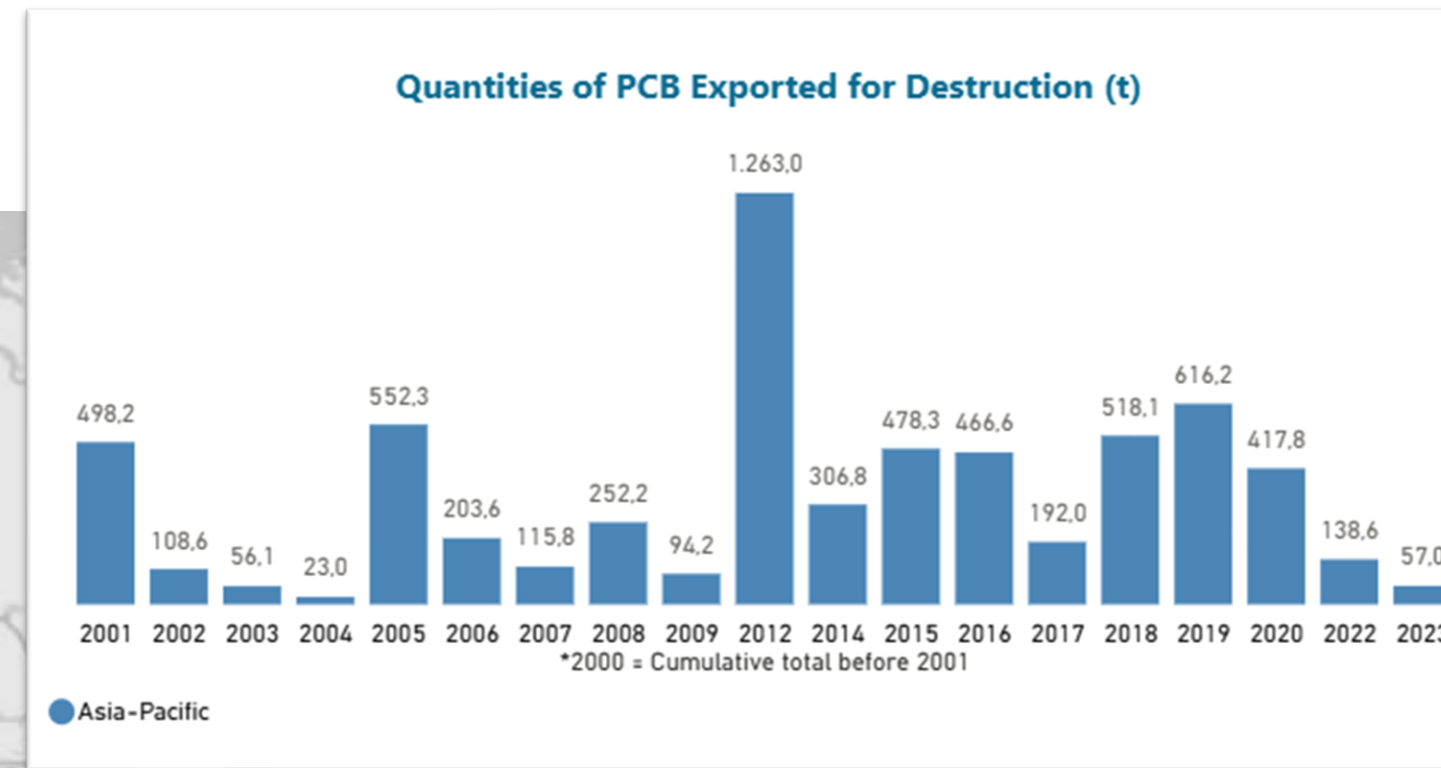
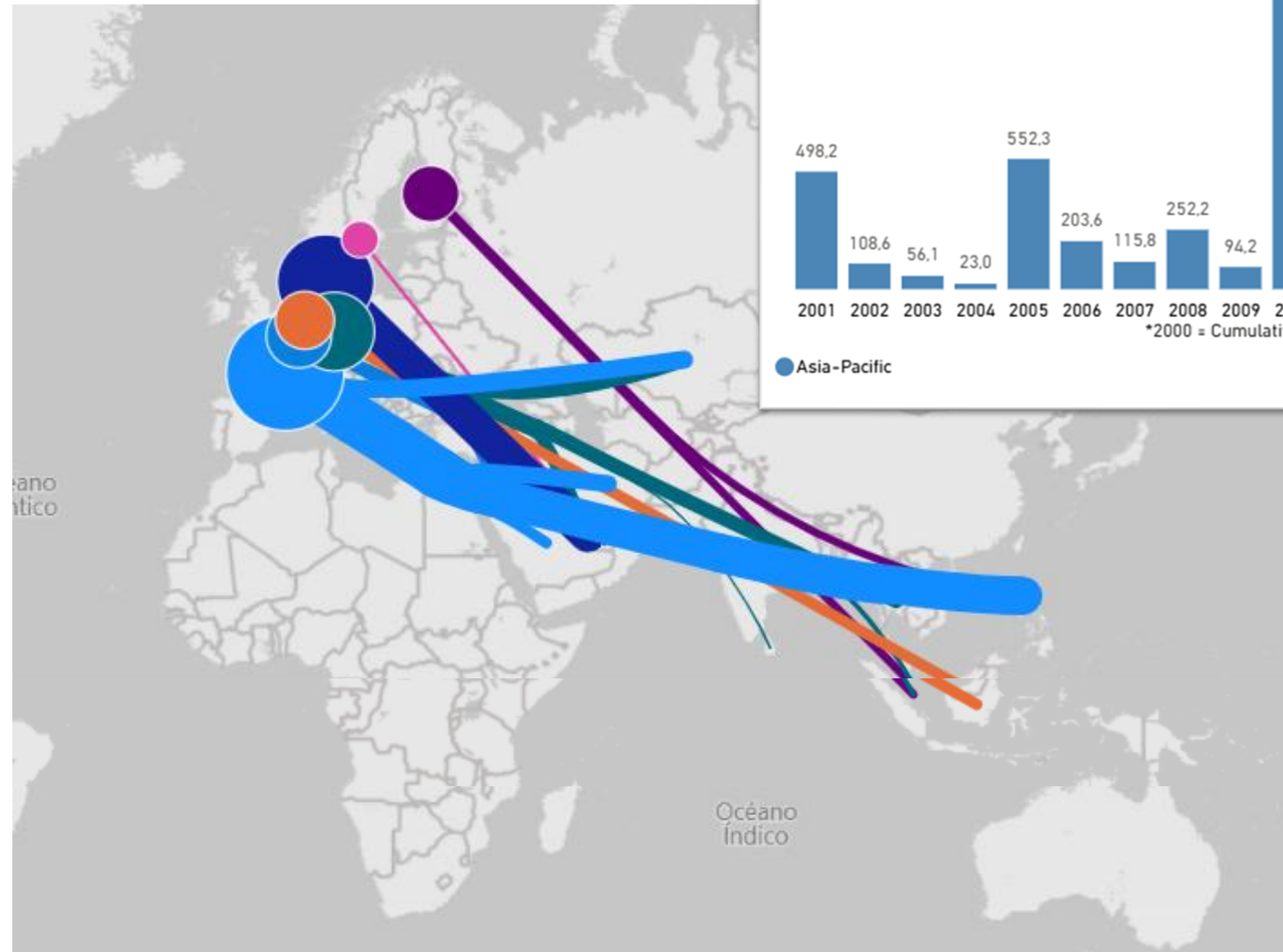
Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination – PCB inventories



Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination – local elimination

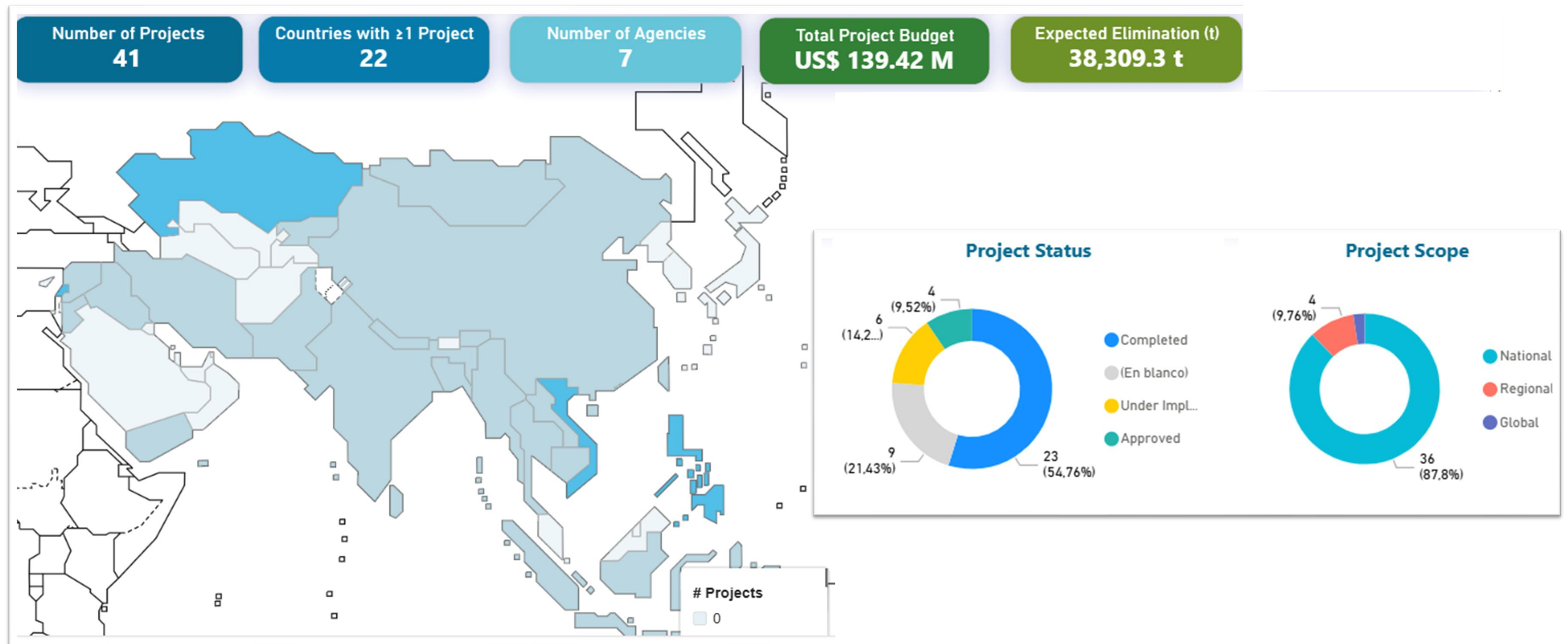


Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination – Local elimination



Exporter	Importer	Amount (t)
Thailand	France	6,7
Thailand	Germany	175,5
Singapore	Finland	46,7
Singapore	Germany	9,1
Saudi Arabia	France	98,5
Qatar	Denmark	1,263,0
Qatar	Germany	134,1
Philippines	Belgium	19,0
Philippines	Finland	39,9
Philippines	France	1,542,5
Sri Lanka	Germany	0,1
Lebanon	France	390,0
Republic of Korea	Belgium	146,4
Republic of Korea	France	68,6
Republic of Korea	Netherlands	932,3
Kazakhstan	Belgium	91,7
Kazakhstan	France	304,0
Kazakhstan	Germany	196,3
Jordan	Belgium	60,7
Jordan	France	452,9
Iran	France	266,9
Indonesia	Netherlands	103,1
United Arab Emirates	Belgium	7,0
United Arab Emirates	Sweden	3,5

Overview of Asian efforts on PCB elimination - GEF projects



Next steps and actions

Regional assessment on the capacities of the region on the environmentally sound management of PCBs

- Desktop study: NIPs + Projects
- Survey
- Report (inputs to the PCB SIWG)

With the support of the regional Centre in **Indonesia**



Next steps and actions

- **6th National Reports** - by 31 August 2026
- **Updating on National Implementation Plans** - continuous
- **SC Compliance Committee to start their work**
- **COP 13 (2027) to review the progress on PCBs elimination**
 - report developed by the SIWG on PCBs (nominations accepted)
- **GEF 9 replenishment**
- **Secretariat technical assistance and capacity building activities:** Webinars, workshops and trainings, pilot projects...



Thank you!

For more information, visit the PCBs site
under the Stockholm Convention website:

<https://www.pops.int/tabid/273/Default.aspx>

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