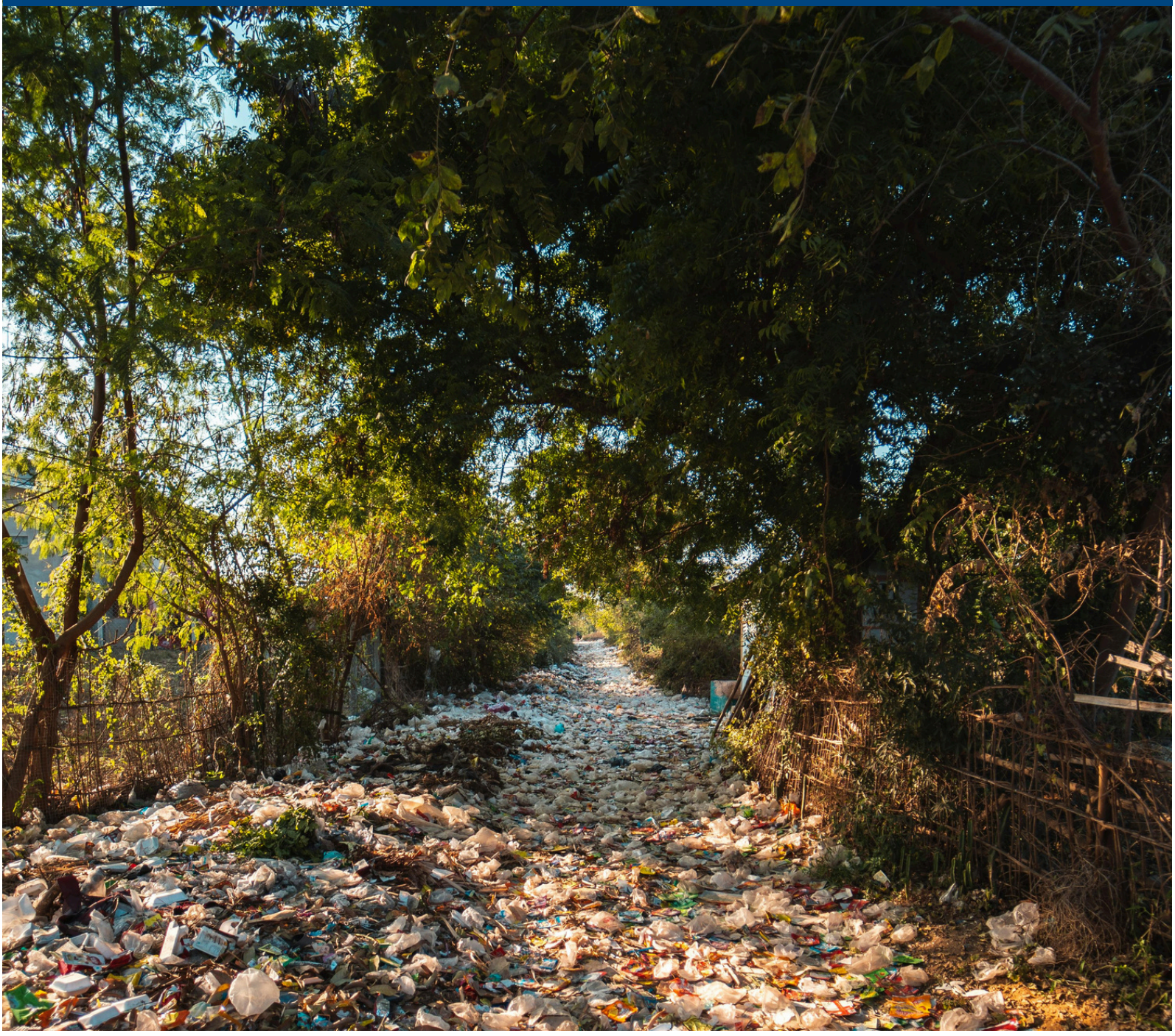
PHTHALATES AND BISPHENOLS IN TANZANIA

MARCH 2026



African Violet

AGENDA

For Environment and Responsible Development

IPEN

for a healthy toxics-free future

APPENDIX 1:

Internal Report Back
Regulating Toxic Plastics: Country Situation Reports on Phthalates, Bisphenols, and the Gaps in Protection in Tanzania

03 March 2026

Authors: Dorah Swai and Clara Benjamin

AGENDA for Environment and Responsible Development (AGENDA) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) registered in Tanzania in 1997 with a mission to promote a culture of responsibility to the environment amongst the general public through awareness, advocacy, capacity building and stakeholders' involvement in Tanzania and beyond. It envisions for attainment of equitable socio-economic development to all members of the public without causing adverse effects on humans and the environment.

At national level, AGENDA works with and coordinate NGOs working on chemicals management including pesticides and wastes and related projects since 2000. It works in close collaboration with government institutions including the Vice President's Office – Division of Environment, and various line Ministries such as the Ministries of Health, Energy, Industry, Minerals, Agriculture, Education, Local Government Authorities and their respective agencies, including the research and academia institutions. Since 2004 AGENDA has been the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) Regional Hub for Anglophone Africa, coordinating and facilitating its participating (member) organizations in projects and policy issues. Priority areas include elimination of toxins in the environment with the aim of enhancing innovation and application of best environmental practices and technologies hence protecting human health and the environment. AGENDA works with the stakeholders in Tanzania to implement the requirements set out in relevant national policies and laws; as well as in the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions, Minamata Convention, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) now the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC).

Contact: agenda@agendatz.org agenda.environment1997@gmail.com

IPEN is a network of over 600 non-governmental organizations working in more than 130 countries to reduce and eliminate the harm to human health and the environment from toxic chemicals (www.ipen.org).

SUMMARY
AGENDA is among the NGOs that are participating in country studies to identify the country situation on Phthalates and Bisphenols. The studies were launched by IPEN in July, 2025.

This report is therefore presenting the findings of the study and related recommendations for Tanzania. The study was mainly carried out through consultations and literature review.

The key findings are (1) Tanzania has regulatory instruments and strategies relevant to chemical management. The key ones are: The Environmental Management (Prohibition of Plastic Carrier Bags and Plastic Bottle Cap Seals) Regulations, 2022; The Industrial and Consumer Chemicals Regulation 2020; The National Strategy for Sound Management of Chemicals and Hazardous Waste 2020–2025; and The National Environmental Policy, 2021 but none that explicitly and comprehensively regulate phthalates or bisphenols; (2) Tanzania-specific empirical evidence is limited to a small number of environmental phthalate studies (coastal monitoring and phthalate migration from PET bottles studies) and institutional responses; (3) There are no published national biomonitoring studies or documented human health outcome studies linking phthalates or bisphenols to reproductive or hormonal outcomes in Tanzanian populations; (4) Government agencies acknowledge gaps and willingness to collaborate, despite the fact that data sharing and inter-agency coordination remain as constraints.

All claims in this report are drawn from project documents, stakeholder questionnaire responses, and project guidance documents; where information was unavailable it is explicitly recorded as missing.

1. Introduction

Phthalates and bisphenols are large groups of hazardous chemicals widely used in plastics and consumer products. They are known endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs), capable of mimicking or blocking hormones and interfering with vital body systems in humans and wildlife. Decades of studies have linked exposure to these chemicals with serious health effects, including cancer, infertility, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and developmental disorders in children. Exposure occurs globally, often without the knowledge or consent of affected populations, through everyday items such as food packaging, medical devices, toys, and household goods if they happen to contain phthalates.

For example, recent research published in The Lancet EBioMedicine found that phthalate exposure (specifically DEHP) contributes to fatal heart disease in older adults, while other studies highlight impacts on neurodevelopment and asthma in children. Despite these risks, global regulations remain fragmented, and many countries still lack comprehensive controls.
Some plastic products are produced in industries located in Tanzania. Among the raw materials used are recycled plastic pellets. The recycled plastic pellets are made from the plastic waste that is collected mainly by informal sector waste collectors, which operate all around the country with higher concentration in major cities such as Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya and also on the Islands including Zanzibar.

Tanzania has taken some steps to regulate plastic and its waste but still very limited. These measures demonstrate growing institutional awareness and regulatory engagement, even though comprehensive national controls on these chemical groups are not yet in place.

2. Methods

2.1 Literature Search

Focused searches were conducted to identify Tanzania-specific scientific studies, actions towards sound management of plastic and national reports. Sources included:

- Publication: Phthalates in marine sediments, seawater, and shellfish along the Tanzanian coast detected DiBP, DBP, DEHP with highest concentrations in Dar es Salaam.
- Publication: Migration of phthalate acid esters from PET and PC bottled drinking water in Mwanza reported DMP, DEP, DBP, DEHP migration, especially under outdoor storage conditions.
- Databases and repositories: ResearchGate, AJOL (African Journals Online), and institutional repositories were used to access full texts.
- National reports: The National Environmental Policy, 2021 and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) publications on plastic ban and The National Strategy for Sound Management of Chemicals and Hazardous Waste 2020-2025.

2.2 Stakeholder Consultations

Tailored questionnaires which are attached below (Annex A), were distributed to key national agencies, followed by phone calls and in-person meetings. Respondents included:

- Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA): Submitted a formal letter and completed questionnaire noting their regulation of phthalates and bisphenols in medical devices through its Compendium.
- Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS): Provided informal responses and reference to the recycled PET food-contact specification (DARS 1721:2024) though this was not available for review.
- Vice President's Office – Division of Environment (VPO-DoE): Shared updates on the National Plastic Action Plan process.
- Ministry of Health (MoH): Confirmed awareness of phthalates/bisphenols issues but reported no biomonitoring datasets available.

- Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups: Noted the absence of gender-disaggregated chemical exposure data.
- National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA): Formal requests submitted; responses still pending.

2.3 Document Review

A systematic review was conducted of all project supplied materials and stakeholder-provided documents. Key sources included:

- Guidance materials and templates: Phthalates and Bisphenols Project – Supporting Document with Background and Templates (July 2025); Executive Summary and Country Situation Report Template; IPEN Gender and EDCs Guidance; CAS Numbers for Phthalates and Bisphenols spreadsheet.
- Stakeholder submissions: Regulatory documents referenced in the Questionnaire for Stakeholders on Phthalates and Bisphenols include: The Environmental Management Regulations, 2019 and 2022; The Industrial and Consumer Chemicals Regulations, 2020; The National Environmental Policy, 2021; and The National Strategy for Sound Management of Chemicals and Hazardous Waste, 2020–2025.
- Institutional responses: TMDA's formal letter and completed medical-devices questionnaire, which outlined regulatory requirements for material characterization, labelling, and risk assessment.

2.4 Trade and market scoping

Reviewed publicly available trade snapshots (e.g., OEC data on phenol imports; 6WResearch market forecast for Tanzania, Tanzania Report Trade, The East African Community Common External Tariff EAC CET) to assess potential entry points of phenol derivatives and BPA precursors.

3. Production and use of phthalates and bisphenols in Tanzania

3.1 National Plastic Production Volumes in Tanzania

Data on how much plastics is produced in Tanzania could not be found. It is also reported that Tanzania does not produce primary plastic.

3.1.1 Domestic Production Capacity and Industry Structure

Authoritative sources confirm that Tanzania does not produce primary plastic resins. The country's plastic industry is characterized by the importation of primary plastic materials (resins and polymers), which are then converted into finished or semi-finished products by local manufacturers. The IUCN-EA-QUANTIS (2020) report states unequivocally: Contrary to other countries, Tanzania does not generate any leakage from primary pellets (due to losses during the production and transport process) since the country does not produce any primary plastic. This assessment is echoed in the regional IUCN hotspotting report, which notes the absence of domestic primary plastic production and highlights Tanzania's reliance on imports for raw materials.

3.1.2 Plastic Waste Generation and Management

In 2018, Tanzania generated approximately 315,000 tonnes of plastic waste, with a per capita generation rate of 5.6 kg/year significantly lower than the global average of 29 kg/year. Only about 40% of this waste is collected, and a mere 4% is recycled. The of absence sound disposal system and facilities means that 96% of plastic waste is mismanaged, leading to substantial environmental leakage. In 2018, an estimated 29,000 tonnes of plastic leaked into oceans, rivers, and lakes, representing about 9% of total plastic waste generated.

Table 1. Key Plastic Waste Metrics for Tanzania (2018)

Metric	Value
Total plastic waste generated	315,000 tonnes
Per capita waste generation	5.6 kg/year
Collection rate	40%
Recycling rate	4%
Mismanaged waste rate	96%
Plastic leakage to water	29,000 tonnes (9%)
Domestic recycling rate	0.5%

The majority of plastic waste **generation and leakage is concentrated in Dar es Salaam**, which accounts for 71% of national leakage. Per capita waste generation in Dar es Salaam approaches 30 kg/year, far above the national average.

3.1.3 Polymer-Specific and Sectoral Data

The most critical polymers in Tanzania, in terms of both consumption and environmental leakage, are:

- Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)
- Polypropylene (PP)
- High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
- Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE)
- Polyester
- Polystyrene (PS)
- Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)
- Synthetic Rubber

The packaging sector is the largest contributor to plastic leakage (62%), followed by textiles and automotive-tyres.

3.2 Import and Export Volumes: Plastics (HS 39)

3. 2.1 Imports

Tanzania imported plastics worth approximately USD 520 million in 2023, according to https://www.reportlinker.com/clp/country/6347/726255 and the import market is projected to reach USD 580 million by 2028, with an average annual growth rate of 1.7%. Imports are dominated by primary forms (resins), packaging materials, household goods, construction materials, and miscellaneous articles (HS 3926).

According to UN Comtrade data, Tanzania's top import partners for plastics (HS 39) include China, India, UAE, South Africa, and Kenya. In 2023, China exported $563.47 million worth of plastics to Tanzania, indicating that a significant portion of Tanzania's plastics imports originate from China. India's plastics exports to Tanzania in 2024 were $79.35 million. The United Arab Emirates exported $70.25 million in plastics to Tanzania in 2023.

3.2.2 Exports

United Republic of Tanzania ranks No.68 in world exports of Plastics And Articles Thereof. It exported plastics worth USD 45.11 million in 2024. The export market is projected to reach USD 210 million by 2028, up from nearly USD 170 million in 2023 (CAGR 3.7%). Exports are primarily to neighboring East African countries and focus on packaging materials, household goods, and construction products.

3.2.3 Trade Balance

According to UN Comtrade and Trading Economics, Tanzania imports significantly more plastics than it exports. It is a net importer of plastics.

3.3 Import and Export of Chemical Additives (Phthalates and Bisphenols)

3.3.1 Phthalates

Dioctyl phthalate (DOP), a common plasticizer, The East African Community Common External Tariff (EAC CET), adopted by Tanzania, explicitly lists it (DOP) under HS 2917.32.00 (which is a group of Acyclic polycarboxylic acids). Trade records confirm importation of DOP into Tanzania:

- Exim Trade Data lists numerous shipments of DOP (HS 291732000000) to Tanzania, including to the Dar es Salaam customs service centre, with detailed shipment records from 2023 and 2024.
- Volza reports 300 import shipments of DOP (HS 291732000000) to Tanzania, with China, South Korea, and Vietnam as major origins, and Dar es Salaam as a key port of entry.
- World Bank WITS data for 2023 shows Tanzania imported $2.82 million worth of dioctyl orthophthalates (HS 291732), totaling over 3 million kg, primarily from China, Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Hong Kong.

Under the EAC CET and Tanzanian customs, DBP and DiBP fall under HS 2917.39.00 (Other esters of orthophthalic acid), while DEHP/DOP is classified under HS 2917.32 (Dioctyl orthophthalates). Tanzania reports trade data only at the 6-digit HS level, with no public access to 8- or 10-digit records. This limits transparency and prevents precise identification of DBP, DiBP, and other phthalates (are likely imported under the same code, but detailed disaggregated data is limited). UN Comtrade and World Bank WITS confirm Tanzania's chemical trade data is available only at the 6-digit level.

3.3.2 Bisphenols

The EAC CET 2022, adopted by Tanzania, explicitly lists BPA under HS 2907.23.00.
Tanzania reports trade data for bisphenol A (BPA) under HS 2907.23 at the 6-digit level (290723), but does not publish disaggregated 8- or 10-digit records. As a result, no public datasets provide country-specific import volumes for BPA at a more granular level. Nevertheless, market intelligence sources confirm its presence in the Tanzanian supply chain.

IndexBox reports the importation and use of epoxide (epoxy) resins, typically synthesized from BPA and epichlorohydrin. Similarly, 6Wresearch (2024–2030 Bisphenol Market Report) highlights BPA as a key input for both polycarbonate and epoxy resin production, confirming its role in domestic manufacturing and imported resin markets. Together, these findings indicate that while official customs data is limited, BPA is actively used in Tanzania through its integration into polycarbonate and epoxy resin supply chains.

No evidence of domestic production of phthalates or bisphenols was found; all such chemicals are imported for use in plastics manufacturing and processing.

4. Regulatory controls in Tanzania

Tanzania has chemical management frameworks and instruments that regulate chemicals and plastics.

- Relevant National instruments:
    - The Environmental Management (Prohibition of Plastic Carrier Bags) Regulations, 2019.
    - The Environmental Management (Prohibition of Plastic Carrier Bags and Plastic Bottle Cap Seals), Regulations 2022.
    - The Industrial and Consumer Chemicals (Management and Control) Regulations, 2020.
    - The National Strategy for Sound Management of Chemicals and Hazardous Waste 2020–2025.
    - The National Environmental Policy, 2021.
    - The Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) notified the WTO of DARS 1721:2024, Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate (rPET) Bottles for Food Contact – Specification, First Edition. This draft African Standard specifies requirements, sampling, and test methods for rPET bottles and recyclates (flakes and pellets) used for food contact applications, excluding industrial rejected PET bottles and non-food grade resins. The notification marked Tanzania's alignment with regional efforts under ARSO to strengthen food contact material safety and trade competitiveness.

However, no national, explicit, comprehensive regulations limiting phthalates or bisphenols by chemical group across the product lifecycle were identified.

- Agency responsibilities (as reported by stakeholders): enforcement and regulatory roles split among several institutions such as NEMC (The National Environment Management Council), GCLA (Government Chemist Laboratory Authority), TBS, TMDA (for medical devices) and TRA (customs/trade). TMDA explicitly regulates critical materials for medical devices through its Compendium for marketing authorization;

they monitor the material characterization, labelling and risk assessment as part of device review through specific device-testing although findings are confidential.

Bans/restrictions: no evidence of nationwide bans that target phthalates or bisphenols as chemical groups (for example, no national limits for DEHP/DBP/DEHP in toys or a full ban on BPA across product categories). Some product-specific or context-specific controls may exist internationally, but not as comprehensive national controls in Tanzania.

- Traceability and labelling: sectoral rules require material declarations during product approvals (for example, TMDA's device authorization and TBS food-contact reviews), and TBS is enhancing laboratory capacity to analyze these chemicals. Chemical products and raw materials relevant to the GCLA Act that are imported into Tanzania are subjected to inspection by GCLA. However, this study could not identify any mandatory national traceability or database that identifies phthalates or bisphenols across such product categories.

5. Impacts of phthalates/bisphenols in Tanzania

a. Studies

There are very few Tanzania-specific studies on phthalates in Tanzania. Available studies confirm the presence and exposure of phthalates in Tanzania's environment and consumer products. A coastal monitoring study detected DiBP, DBP, and DEHP in seawater, sediments, and shellfish, with urban sites such as Dar es Salaam showing the highest concentrations. These findings highlight the risk of marine ecosystem contamination and potential bioaccumulation in seafood consumed by local communities.

In addition, a study conducted in Mwanza demonstrated the migration of phthalate acid esters (DMP, DEP, DBP, DEHP) from PET and polycarbonate bottled drinking water, particularly under outdoor storage conditions. This confirms a direct consumer exposure pathway, as phthalates leach into beverages under typical market and household storage practices.

Together, these studies provide clear evidence that phthalates are present in both environmental matrices and consumer products in Tanzania, with potential risks to ecosystems and human health. While bisphenol A (BPA) has been identified in regional supply chains through its use in polycarbonate and epoxy resins, Tanzania-specific monitoring data for BPA remains limited, underscoring the need for more targeted research.

Biomonitoring

There is no published biomonitoring (urine, blood, breastmilk) or epidemiological studies linking phthalates/bisphenols to reproductive or hormonal disorders in human populations in Tanzania were found during the project literature search; this absence is explicitly recorded as a critical evidence gap.

Environmental monitoring

There is no routine nationwide monitoring program for bisphenols/phthalates in soil, water, air or food was identified; scattered environmental studies like those outlined above exist but no continuous monitoring is carried out.

b. Vulnerable groups and exposure pathways

This study could not establish any specific group of people that are vulnerable to Phthalates and Bisphenols exposure. Tanzania-specific gender-disaggregated data are not available; Ministry responsible for Gender does not maintain gender-chemical datasets currently. However, a coastal monitoring study has shown evidence which supports coastal/urban areas e.g., Coastal Dar es Salaam City to be hotspot for phthalate contamination.

6. National endeavors to phase out bisphenols and/or phthalates

a. Existing national endeavors

- The Vice President's Office - Division of Environment (VPO-DoE) is leading the development of a National Plastic Action Plan, which aims to strengthen Tanzania's overall plastics management framework. While the plan is focused on plastics broadly addressing production, use, and waste, it provides an important policy window to integrate specific concerns about chemical additives such as phthalates and bisphenols.
- **Agency-level activity:**
    - TMDA applies material scrutiny for medical devices; these are entry points for targeted chemical controls but currently do not constitute a national phase-out program for phthalates or bisphenols.
    - TMDA regulates phthalates and bisphenols through the Compendium of Guidelines for Marketing Authorization of Medical Devices, Diagnostics and Laboratory Equipment. The Compendium's materials section requires applicants to provide chemical, biological and physical characterization of device materials; TMDA performs literature review from credible sources during assessment to establish safety and quality aspects.
    - Labelling requirements in the Compendium require applicants to indicate on the label and Instructions for Use (IFU) precautions related to materials that are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic, or could cause sensitization or allergic reactions.
    - TMDA noted to regulate and monitor critical materials used in medical devices, including phthalates and bisphenols, focusing scrutiny on devices that are invasive or transmit fluids where leaching could cause direct or fluid-mediated exposure (examples: blood transfusion tubes, nasogastric tubes, and catheters).
    - TMDA stated that device-specific evaluation findings, testing reports and recall records are confidential and not shareable to third parties to protect customers' rights.

b. Main Challenges in Campaigning for Phasing Out Phthalates/Bisphenols

- Limited data: Authorities with primary responsibilities of safeguarding health and environment usually do not generate or maintain data on phthalates and Bisphenol, and where data exists, it is treated as confidential (to protect customers rights).
- Limited data transparency: Tanzania reports chemical trade only at the 6-digit HS level, making it difficult to isolate imports of specific phthalates (DBP, DEHP, DiBP) or bisphenol A (BPA). This weakens evidence-based advocacy.
- Low public awareness: Phthalates and BPA are technical issues often hidden in consumer products (plastics, resins, packaging). Limited awareness among policymakers, industry, and consumers reduces urgency for regulation.
- Regulatory gaps: Tanzania and many EAC countries lack explicit bans or restrictions on phthalates/BPA, unlike the EU or US. Existing chemical management frameworks do not prioritize these additives.
- Capacity constraints: Limited laboratory infrastructure and monitoring capacity hinder detection of phthalates/BPA in products, water, and food, making enforcement difficult.

c. Recommendations and Project Ideas to Support National Regulation

- Evidence generation projects: Conduct targeted monitoring studies on phthalates/BPA in consumer products (toys, bottled water, food and food packaging) and the environment (coastal waters, sediments, seafood).
- Engage the respective authorities to integrate phthalates/BPA into national chemical safety standards/regulations.
- Enhance capacity to enforcers.
- Improve institutional and regional collaboration in phasing out phthalates and bisphenols.
- Public awareness campaigns: Launch consumer education programs on risks of BPA in baby bottles, food containers, and phthalates in toys. These could engage the use radio, social media, and community forums to highlight safer alternatives.

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ANNEX A: QUESTIONNAIRES
Ministry of Gender, women and special groups

COUNTRY SITUATION ON PHTHALATES, BISPHENOLS, AND THE GAPS IN PROTECTION

STAKEHOLDER'S QUESTIONNAIRE – Gender, women and special groups.

1. Please list any national or local studies or documented cases that show how women, pregnant women, girls, children, or other vulnerable groups are specifically exposed to phthalates and/or bisphenols.
   .....
2. Please list any specific occupational sectors where women are disproportionately exposed to harmful chemicals.
   .....
3. Please list any existing laws, national action plans, or sectoral policies that specifically protect vulnerable populations such as women, pregnant women, children, and workers in high-exposure jobs from phthalates and bisphenols.
   .....
4. Has your Ministry or affiliated institutions conducted public awareness or health campaigns on the effects of plastic chemicals or harmful substances targeting women?
   .....
5. Do you support routine gender-disaggregated data collection related to chemical exposure and health outcomes?
   .....
6. Please mention existing data systems or platforms in your Ministry that could be leveraged for collecting data on (5) above.
   .....
7. Please share any community-based experiences or examples where women or children were affected by phthalates and bisphenols exposure (e.g., from packaging, personal care products, informal work).
   .....
8. In your opinion, is gender currently considered adequately in chemical safety, environmental health, or occupational health policies in Tanzania?
   .....
9. Please recommend actions that will protect women, children, and other vulnerable groups from chemical exposure (e.g., bans, alternatives, labelling, workplace standards).
   .....

GCLA, NEMC, TBS, VPO

COUNTRY SITUATION ON PHTHALATES, BISPHENOLS, AND THE GAPS IN PROTECTION

STAKEHOLDERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What regulations exist related to phthalates and bisphenols in Tanzania?
   .....
2. Which government bodies are responsible for enforcement?
   .....
3. Which national strategies or action plans on chemical safety in general exist?
   .....
4. Which national strategies or action plans or regulations on plastics exist?
   .....
5. Please list any initiatives or any plans to phase out Phthalates and Bisphenols in Tanzania.
   .....
6. List any studies conducted by the government/any other entity on impacts of these chemicals?
   .....
7. Kindly share any research/data on reproductive health or hormonal disorders related to phthalates/bisphenols.
   .....
8. Which policies are in place in promoting chemical traceability (e.g., labelling, consumer rights)?
   .....
9. Are Phthalates and Bisphenols part of regular environmental audits?
   .....
10. Please share with us reports or data sets available on plastic pollution or chemical safety.
    .....
11. Any known high-exposure areas or populations?
    .....
12. Kindly share with us data on phthalates or bisphenols in consumer products (e.g., bottles, toys, cosmetics) in Tanzania.
    .....
13. Are Phthalates and Bisphenols tracked in imports?
    .....
14. Please list existing standards regulating phthalates or bisphenols in plastic products?
    .....
15. Please list any phthalates/bisphenols banned or restricted in specific products (toys, packaging, cosmetics)?
    .....

16. Are manufacturers required to label chemical contents?
    .....
17. Please mention any traceability or consumer information regulations.
    .....
18. What is the volume of plastic production, importation and exportation in the country annually?
    .....
19. How much phthalates and/or bisphenols are produced, imported, and exported in Tanzania?
    .....
20. Do manufacturers import raw plastic resins containing additives?
    .....
21. Are there known industries using phthalates/bisphenols in production?
    .....
22. Which incentives are there for industries adopting safer alternatives?
    .....

Ministry of Health

COUNTRY SITUATION ON PHTHALATES, BISPHENOLS, AND THE GAPS IN PROTECTION

STAKEHOLDER'S QUESTIONNAIRE - Health

1. Please list any national health studies linking exposure to plastic-related chemicals.
   .....
2. Kindly list any existing guidelines, regulations, and/or laws restricting chemical exposure to humans.
   .....
3. Please list any known areas or populations that are highly exposed to phthalates, bisphenols and other plastic chemicals.
   .....
4. Please share with us any reports, surveillance data, research and or/ studies on the health effects of phthalates and bisphenols in Tanzania.
   .....
5. Please share with us any studies or data identified gender-specific health effects or exposure risks of phthalates and bisphenols.
   .....
6. Does the Ministry participate in drafting or implementing regulations that govern chemicals especially phthalates or bisphenols (e.g., in medical devices, food packaging, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics)?
   .....
7. What is the health-based limit values (e.g., maximum allowable concentrations) for phthalates or bisphenols used in Tanzania?
   .....
8. What gaps exist in terms of health monitoring and phthalates and bisphenols exposure surveillance?
   .....
9. Kindly recommend actions to strengthen the national regulations and public protection from harmful chemicals like phthalates and bisphenols.
   .....

TMDA

COUNTRY SITUATION ON PHTHALATES, BISPHENOLS, AND THE GAPS IN PROTECTION

STAKEHOLDER'S QUESTIONNAIRE – Medical devices – in TMDA

1. Kindly list any existing guidelines, regulations, laws or standards that restrict or ban the use of phthalates and bisphenols in medical devices.

   .....

2. Please share with us any findings and reports conducted on the evaluation of medical devices to detect the presence of phthalates and/or bisphenols.

   .....

3. Please share with us any data or records on medical devices recalls, restrictions, or health complaints related to phthalates and bisphenols?

   .....

4. Which control mechanisms e.g. guidelines, standards or others that exist for testing or restricting medical devices that contain phthalates and bisphenols?

   .....

5. Are there labelling requirements or warnings on medical devices to inform users about phthalates and bisphenols and other plastic chemicals risks or exposure?

   .....

6. Does TMDA currently regulate or monitor the presence of phthalates and bisphenols in medical devices, or other health-related products in Tanzania? If yes, please specify the products and regulatory measures?

   .....

7. Kindly recommend actions to strengthen the national regulations and public protection from harmful chemicals like phthalates and bisphenols.

   .....