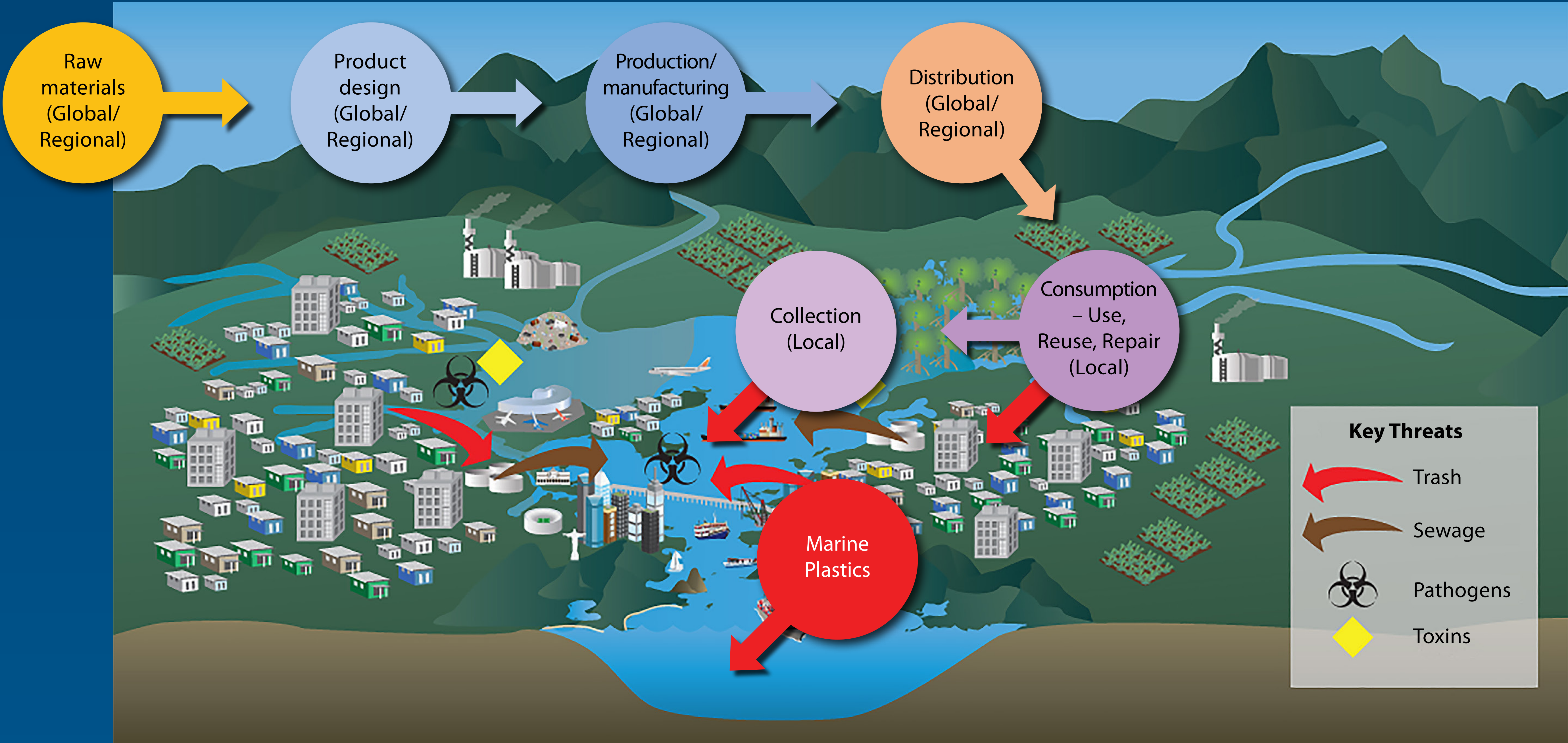
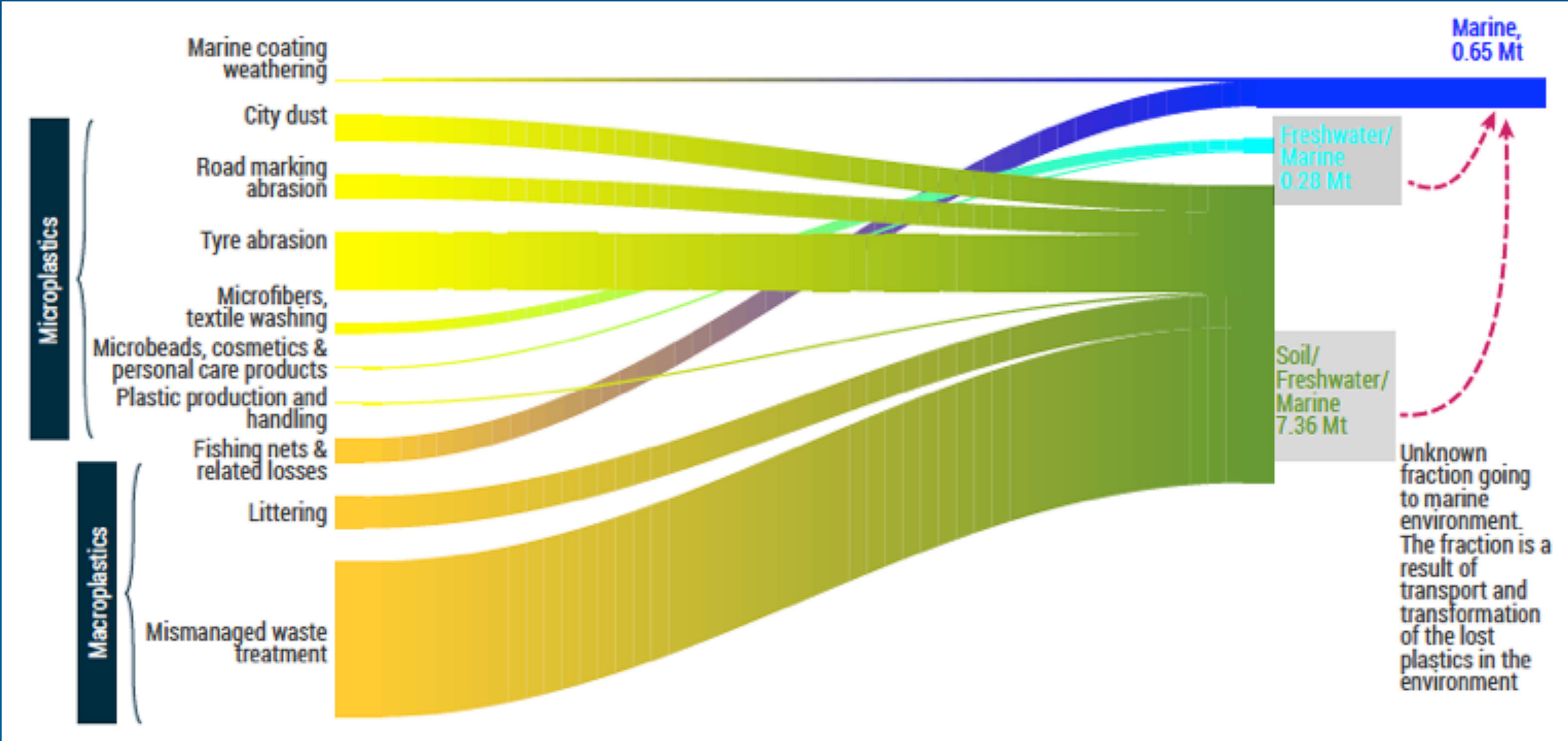


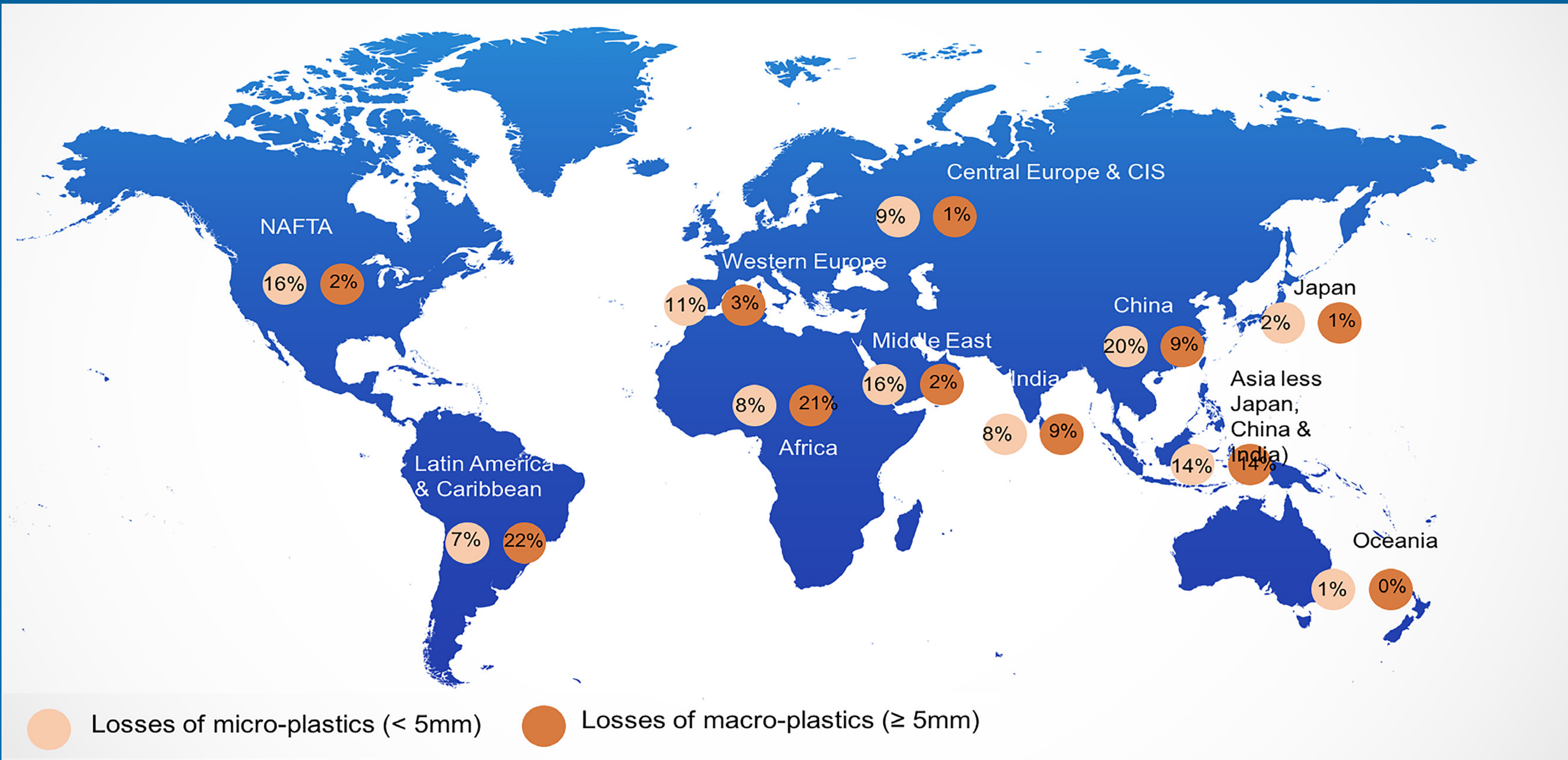
# Losses of plastics to the global environment in a currently linear economy



Flows of plastics through a linear economy – from production to waste – into the ocean, in an idealized watershed.



Losses of micro-plastics and macro-plastics to soil, freshwater and marine environments, aggregated at the global scale in 2015 (UN Environment 2018 by Ryberg et al.)



Losses of micro-plastics and macro-plastics to the environment by world region. Percentages are referenced to a total of about 3.0 million tonnes of micro-plastics and 5.3 million tonnes of macro-plastics that were estimated to be lost to the environment in 2015. Regional percentages are reckoned from these global totals. Worldwide, about 0.6 million tonnes of fishing gear are lost but the data are too sparse to make regional estimates (Data Source: UN Environment 2018 by Ryberg et al.)