



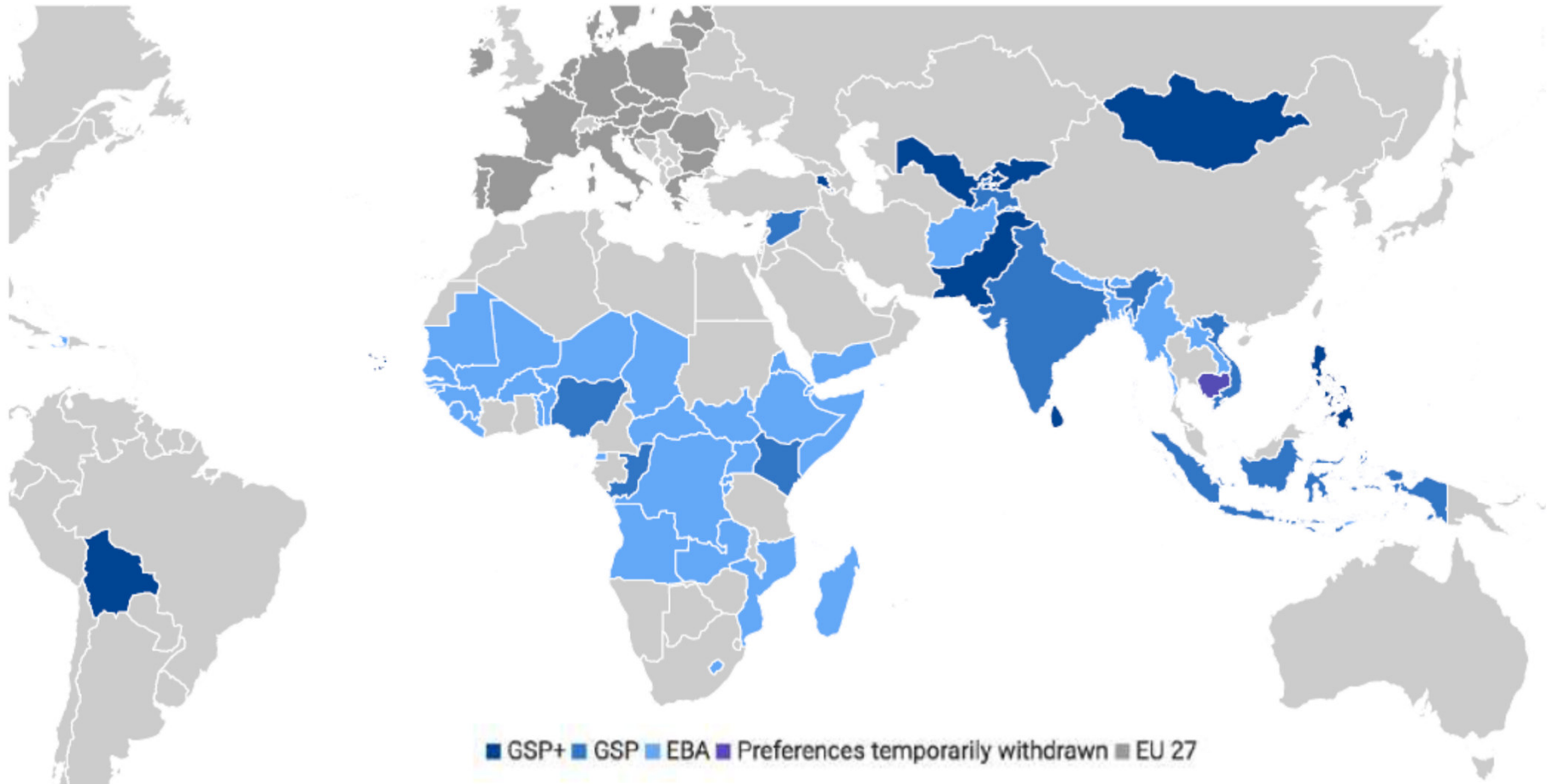
# Introduction to GSP+

## Objectives, mechanisms, stakeholders

GSP Hub Workshop, Vientiane/Brussels, 16-17 September 2021

*Disclaimer: This presentation is not a legal document and has been prepared exclusively for information purposes. This should not be used by any party as a basis for any decisions with legal implications. The exclusive legal basis for GSP is Regulation (EU) No 978/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council*

## Beneficiary Countries of the EU's GSP



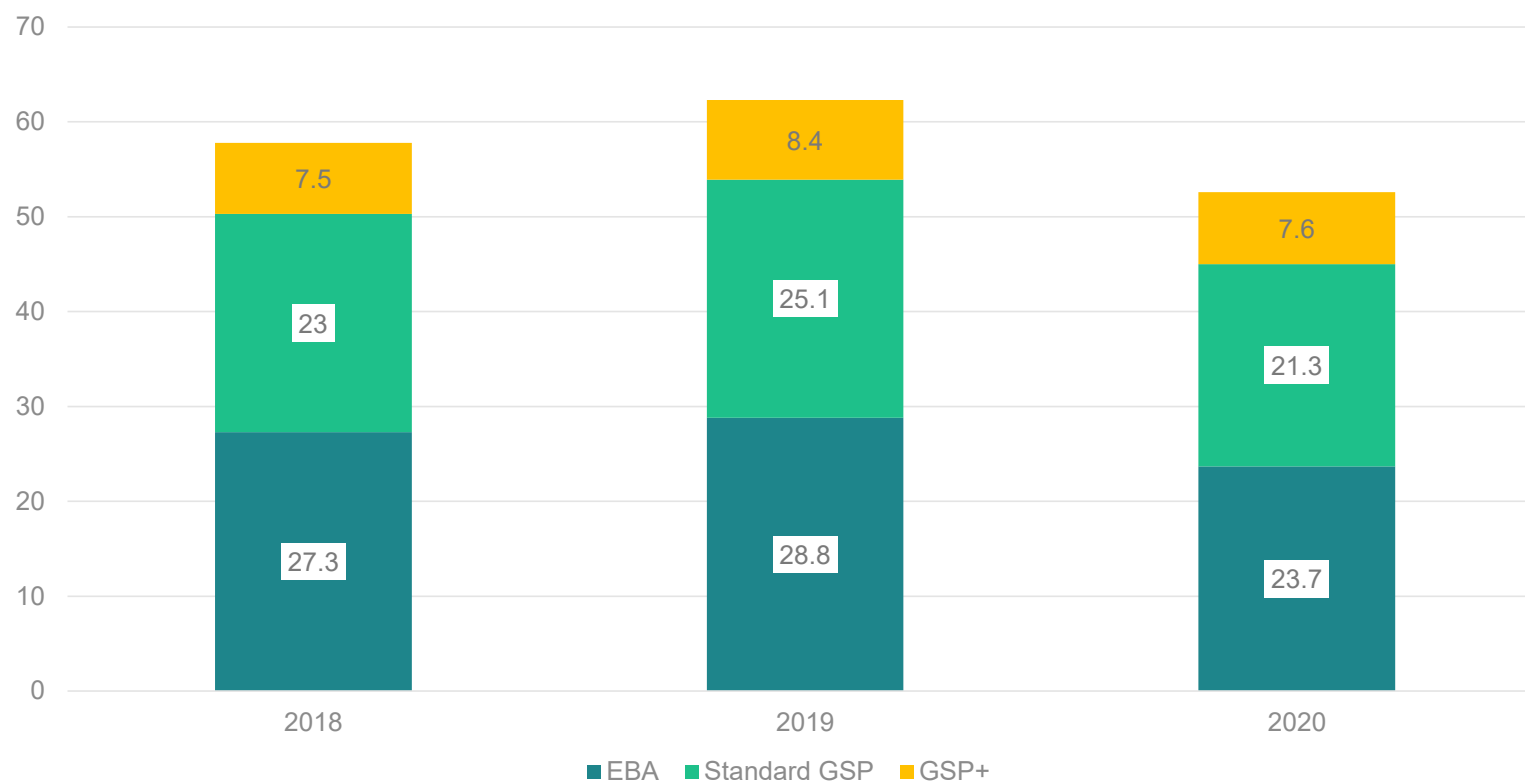
The EU's first GSP scheme was introduced in 1971. Regulation (EU) No 978/2012 established the current scheme, preferences under which started to apply on 1 January 2014 and will be effective for 10 years (EBA is open-ended).

## GSP – 3 Arrangements

	Standard GSP	GSP+	EBA
Beneficiaries	Low or lower-middle income countries	Standard GSP beneficiaries that are vulnerable (in terms of export diversification, export volumes) and have ratified 27 international core conventions and commit to effectively implement them	LDCs
Number of beneficiaries	14	9	47
Tariff preferences	duty suspension (non-sensitive goods) or duty reduction (sensitive goods) for around 66% of all EU tariff lines	duty suspension for around 66% of all EU tariff lines	duty suspension for all goods with the exception of arms and ammunition

# GSP imports per regime 2018 - 2020

GSP imports per regime, 2018-2020, bln EUR

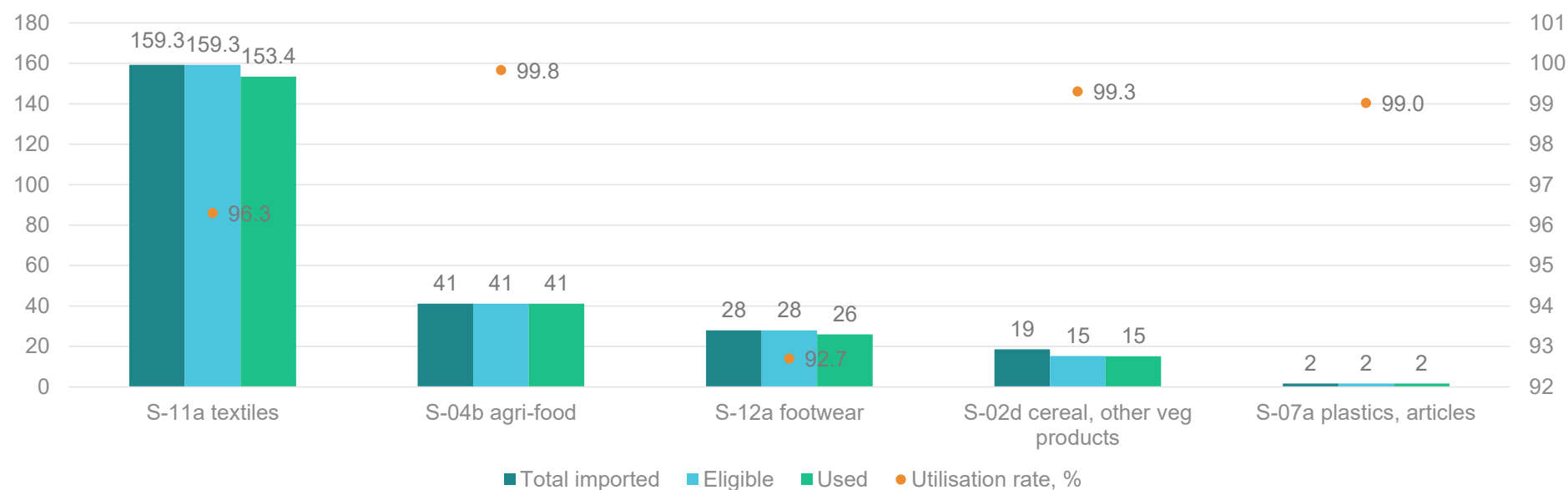


# LDC graduation and GSP

- LDCs as classified by the UN benefit from the Everything But Arms (EBA) arrangement
- After LDC graduation, countries continue to benefit from EBA for a transitional period of 3 years
- After EBA graduation, countries that are Lower-Middle Income or below according to the World Bank benefit from Standard GSP
- Standard GSP beneficiaries can apply for the Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance (GSP+)

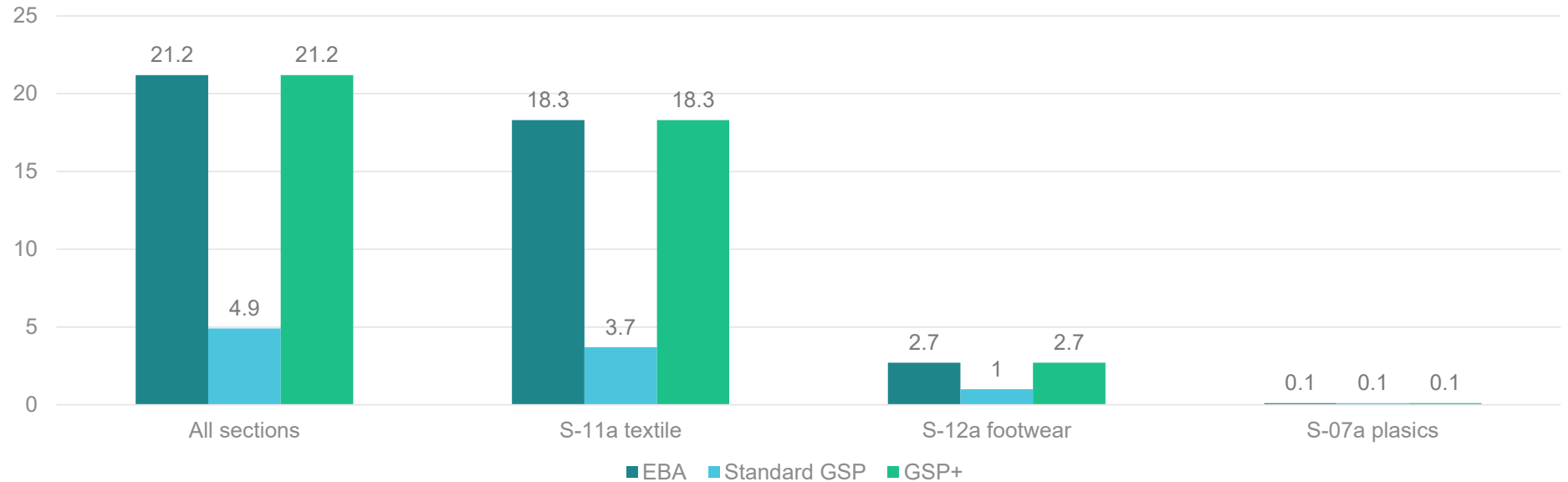
# Lao PDR: GSP top sections 2020

Lao PDR EU GSP imports and utilisation per section, 2020, mio EUR



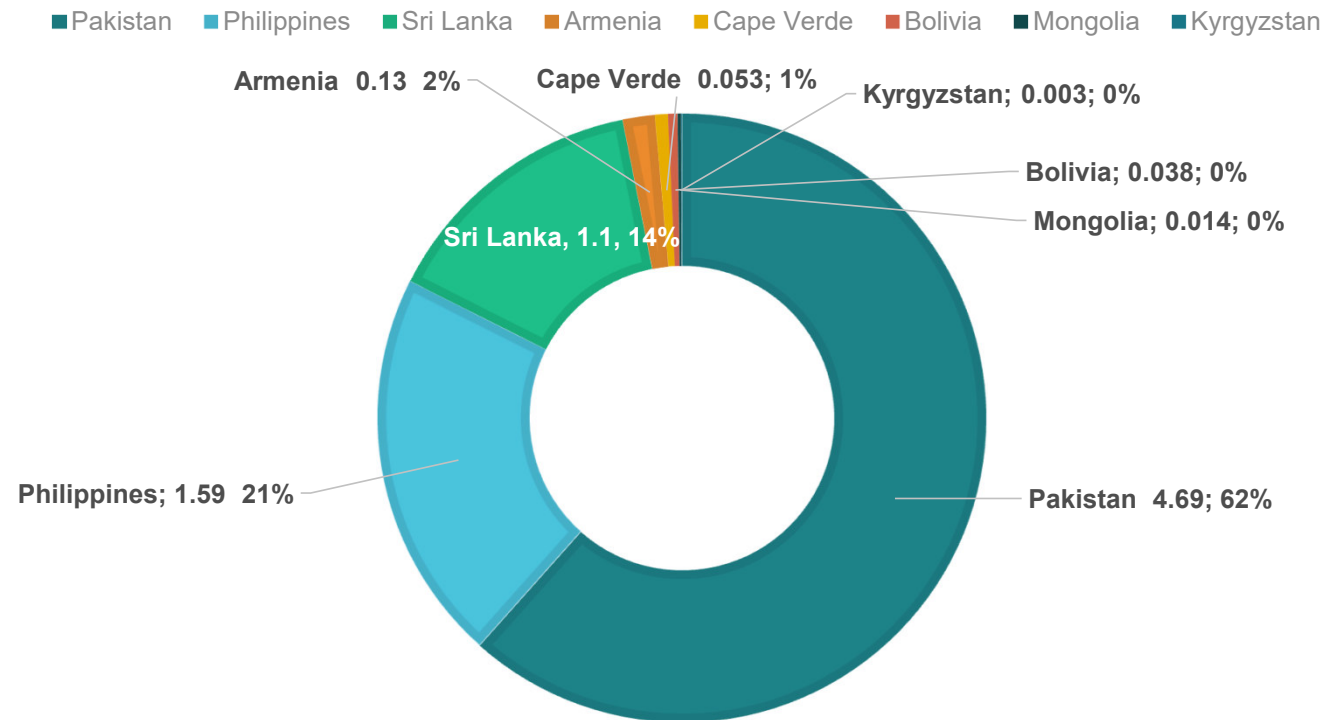
# Lao PDR potential tariff reduction gains

GSP EU Revenue loss by regime, Lao PDR, 2020, mio EUR



# Beneficiaries GSP+ imports 2020

BENEFICIARIES, GSP+ IMPORTS, 2020, BLN EUR



# GSP+ Eligibility (Reg. 978/2012, Art 9.1)

## Vulnerability (9.1 (a), Annex VII)

- Diversification: top 7 GSP import sections > 75% of total over 3 years
- Size: GSP imports from country < 7.6% of total GSP imports over 3 years

## Conventions (9.1 (b), (c))

- All 27 GSP conventions ratified
- Most recent available monitoring body conclusions do not identify 'serious failure to implement'
- No prohibited/incompatible reservations

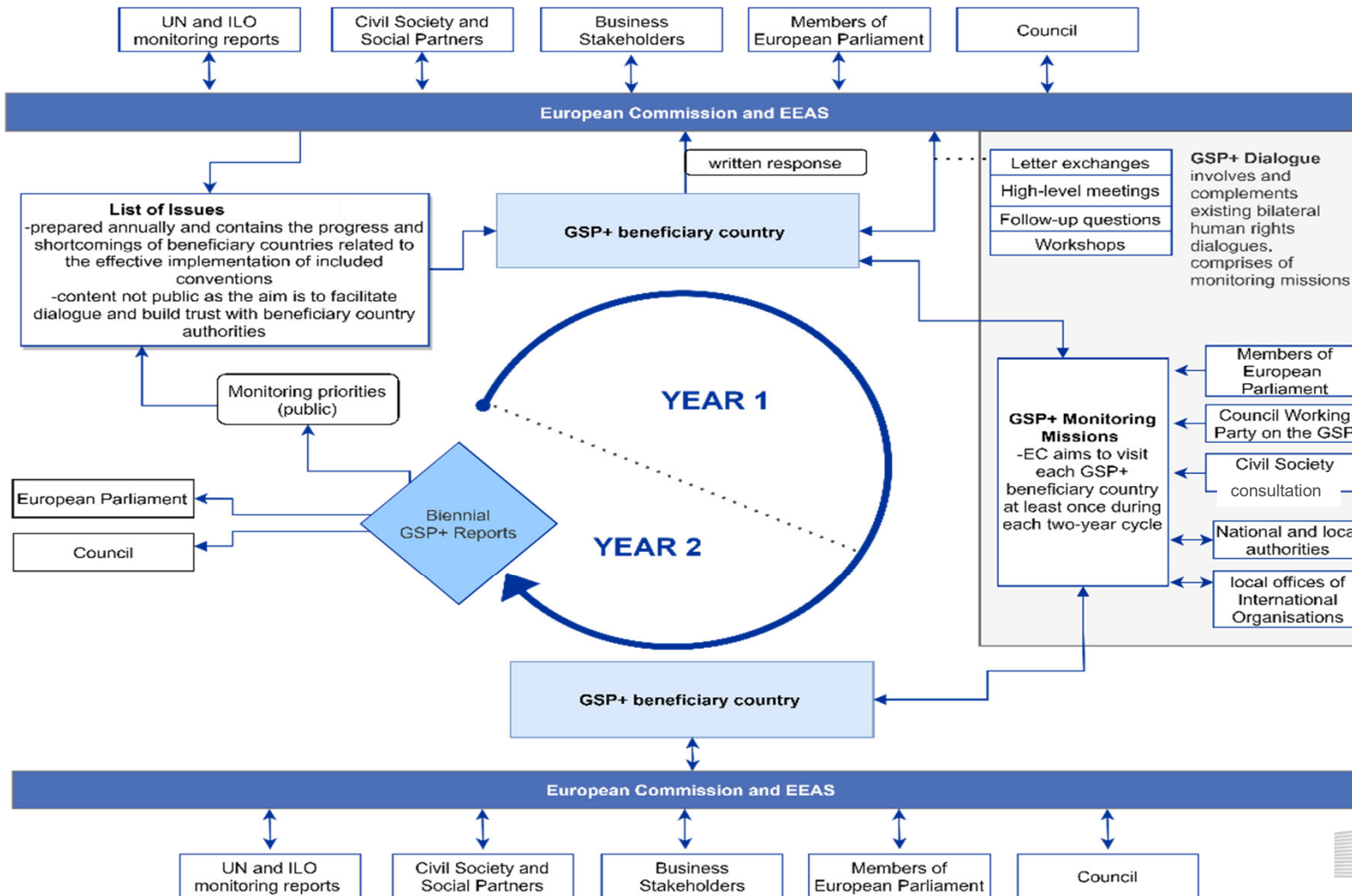
## Binding Undertaking

- To maintain ratification and ensure effective implementation
- To accept reporting requirements and regular monitoring of implementation
- To participate in and cooperate with GSP monitoring procedure

# GSP+ and international standards

Human Rights	Labour Rights	Climate and Environment	Good Governance
Genocide (1948)	Forced Labour No29	CITES (1973)	Narcotic Drugs (1961)
Racial Discrimination (1965)	Freedom of Association No87	Montreal Protocol (1987)	Psychotropic Substances (1971)
Civil and Political Rights (1966)	Right to Organise No 98	Basel Convention (1989)	Illicit Traffic (1988)
Economic Social and Cultural Rights (1966)	Equal Remuneration (No 100)	Biodiversity convention (1992)	UN Convention against Corruption (2004)
Discrimination against Women (1979)	Forced Labour No105	UNFCCC (1992)	
Torture (1989)	Discrimination No111	Cartagena Protocol (2000)	
Rights of the Child (1989)	Minimum Age No138	Stockholm Convention (2001)	
	Worst Forms of Child Labour No182	Kyoto Protocol (1998)	

## The two-year GSP+ Monitoring Cycle



# GSP Review

- The current GSP Regulation expires on 31 December 2023.
- The Commission will shortly make a proposal for a new Regulation, which the European Parliament and the Council will discuss next.
- The aim is to have the new GSP Regulation adopted by 2022, with application from 1 January 2024, to ensure predictability and a smooth transition.

## Where to find more information:

- Access to Market Trade Assistant:  
<https://trade.ec.europa.eu/access-to-markets/en/home>
- REX:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/rules-origin/general-aspects-preferential-origin/arrangements-list/generalised-system-preferences/the\\_register\\_exporter\\_system\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/rules-origin/general-aspects-preferential-origin/arrangements-list/generalised-system-preferences/the_register_exporter_system_en)
- GSP Hub: <https://gsphub.eu/> and Insights:  
<https://gsphub.eu/news/gspinsights>
- GSP Handbook (UNCTAD):  
[https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/itcdtsbmisc25rev4\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/itcdtsbmisc25rev4_en.pdf)
- GSP+ list of conventions and eligible products (Annex VIII and IX of GSP Regulation): <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2012/978/2021-01-01>

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# Thank you



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