

European Plastics Policy



Circular Economy Webinar

***La nueva economía del plástico:
repensando el futuro del plástico y el
empaquetado***

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All plastic packaging reusable or **recyclable** by 2030

Design for circularity → Essential requirements PPWD (recycling: 55% by 2030)

Recycled content: 10 mio tons/2025



Microplastics intentionally added to products → ECHA → restriction by 2021?

Port Reception Facility Directive, SUP and fishing gear Directive. **Plastic packaging recycling target of 55% by 2030**



Strategic **Research** Innovation Agenda for Plastics

Support the development of alternative **feedstocks**: LCAs by 2020



Support to bilateral and multilateral **initiatives** on plastics

Basel Convention: restrictions on trade

Directive on single use plastics and fishing gear: Reducing marine litter:

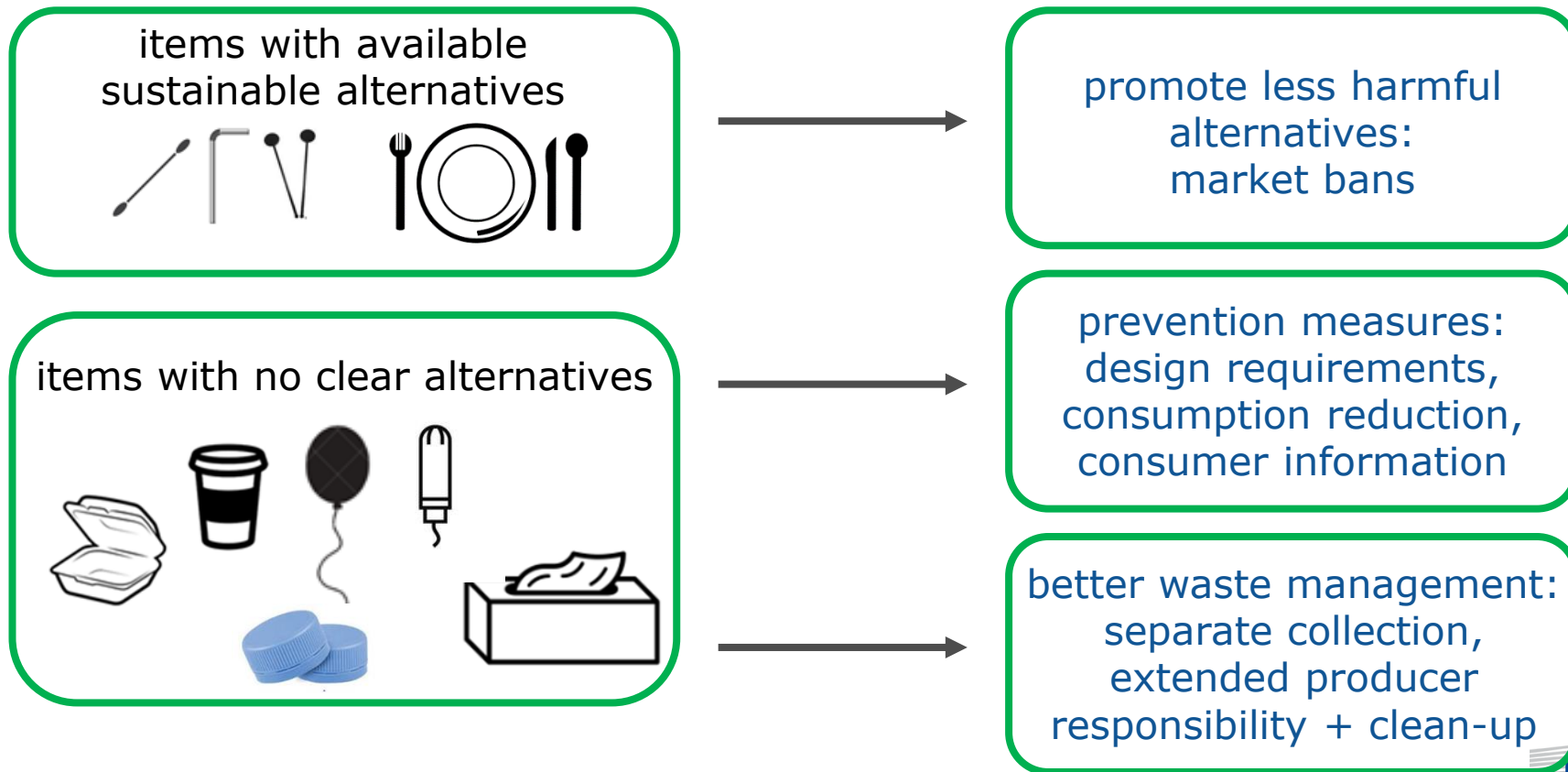
10 most common plastic objects found on European beaches



Source: Based on JRC report

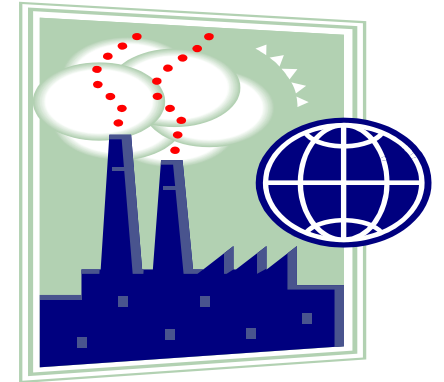
Many of these items are packaging for food and drink and most were designed to be used only once ("single-use plastics"). That's a waste of valuable resources.

Proposal for a Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment



Ongoing studies

1. **LCA on sustainability of alternative feedstock**
2. **Biodegradable and compostable plastic packaging**
3. **Conventional and biodegradable plastics in agriculture**
4. **Biodegradability in the open environment**
5. **PPWD: essential requirements**
6. **Eco-modulation**
7. **Implementing SUP**
8. **Measures on micro-plastics (upcoming)**
9. **Bio-based plastics (upcoming)**





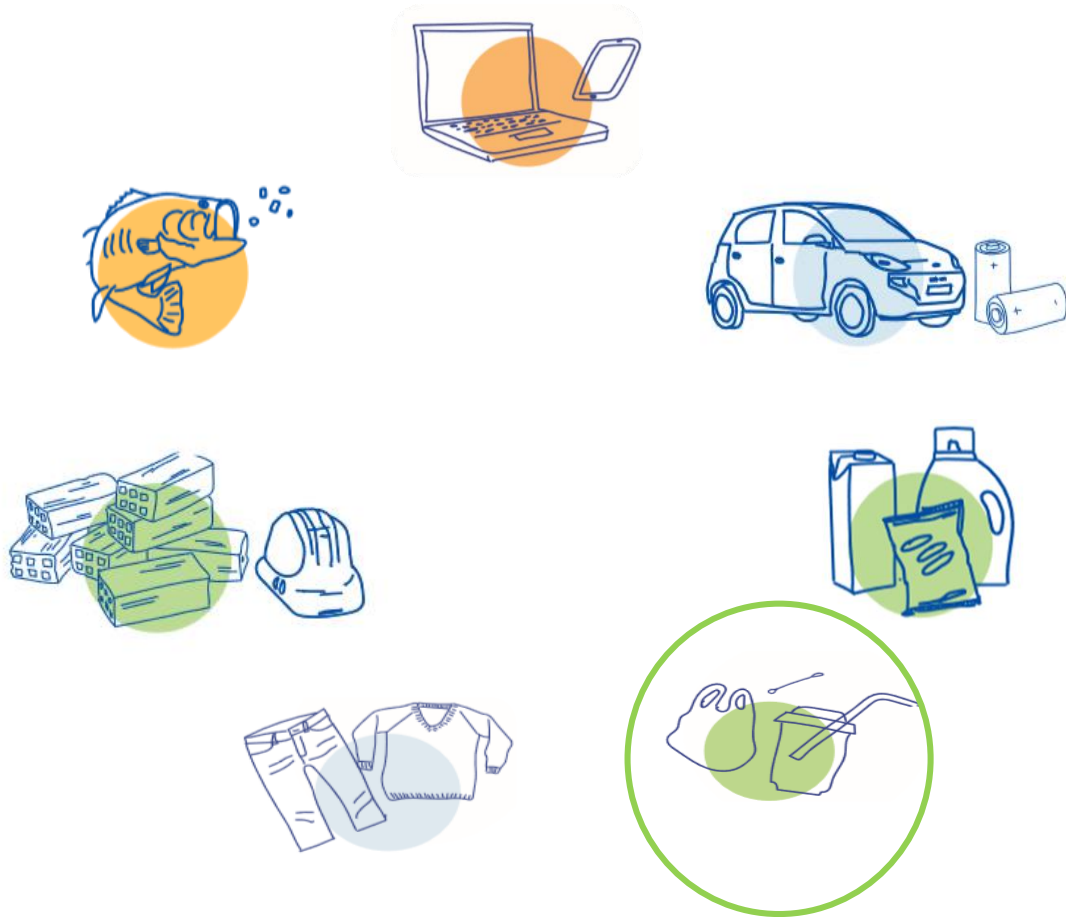
A new vision for Europe



35 actions along the entire life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm in the EU
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus also on key product value chains**
- Ensure **less waste, more value**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions** and **cities**
- **Lead global efforts** on circular economy

Key product value chains



Implementation of the EU Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy

Mandatory requirements for recycled content and waste reduction measures

Address the presence of microplastics in the environment

Policy framework on biodegradable and biobased plastics

Implementation of the new Directive on Single Use Plastic Products



- **Aim Plastics Strategy: 10 million tons of recycled plastics** in new products on the EU market by 2025

70 pledges: Supply side: 11 million tons of recycled plastics

↔ Demand side: 6.4 million tons expected

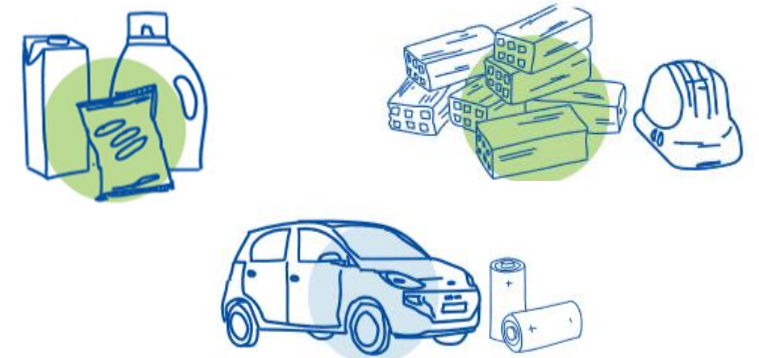
⇒ **Circular Plastics Alliance**

To strengthen the match between supply & demand for recycled plastics

Signature on 20 September 2019 by over 100 organisations

Recycled content

Mandatory requirements
for key products such as
packaging, construction
materials and vehicles



Microplastics

Cosmetics, detergents, paints

- Towards general ban through REACH restriction dossier

Tyres

- Revision Tyre Labeling Regulation
- Standard on tyre abrasion

Pellets

- Chain certification & Permitting
- Operation Clean Sweep

Textiles

- Standard on measuring microplastics releases
- Washing

Microplastics in water

- Science related to risk & occurrence
- Revised Drinking Water Directive
- Evaluation of EU water legislation
- MSFD: monitoring & assessment (*marine*)

Biodegradable and bio-based plastics

Sourcing, labelling and
use of **bio-based plastics**
=> Study



Use of biodegradable plastics

“no license to litter”

⇒ Study by Chief Scientific Advisers

⇒ Study on agricultural plastics

Use of compostable plastics – criteria:

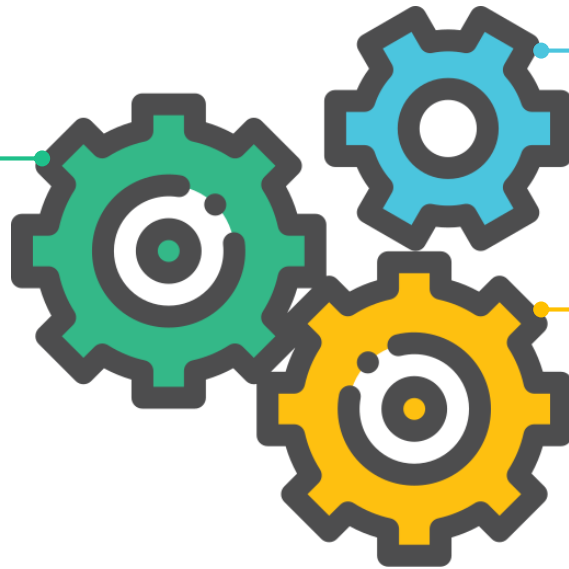
- Environmental benefit over alternative
 - Product not recyclable or reusable
 - Capture of bio-waste
- Quality of compost – contamination with non-compostable plastics

⇒ Study finalised

Single Use Plastics : implementation

Standardisation

- Tethered caps
- Circularity of fishing gear



- **Guidelines:** SUP definitions, product categories
- **Guidelines:** criteria on costs of litter clean up

9 Implementing acts:

- 4 by July 2020: **marking**, separate collection target calculation & reporting, reporting of fishing gear & waste collected
- 2 by Jan. 2021: measuring consumption reduction, reporting consumption reduction
- 3 by Jan. 2022: measuring & reporting on recycled content, reporting of post consumption waste tobacco products

Green Claims

- The Commission will propose that companies substantiate their environmental claims using Product and Organisation Environmental Footprint methods.
- The Commission will test the integration of these methods in the EU Ecolabel and include more systematically durability, recyclability and recycled content in the EU Ecolabel criteria.

Key product value chains



All packaging on the EU market to be reusable or recyclable by 2030

Reinforce the mandatory essential requirements for packaging

EU-wide labelling that facilitates the correct separation of packaging waste

Rules for the safe recycling into food contact materials of plastic materials other than PET

Essential Requirements

Design for reuse & recycling

- Enforceable definition of 'recyclable packaging'
- Some materials only for some applications
- Less complexity of materials & polymers
- Recycled content targets
- Min. mandatory GPP criteria & targets

Prevention

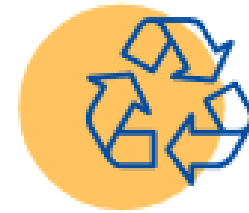
- Packaging waste reduction target
general & material-specific
- Consumption reduction targets on specific packaging
- Reusable packaging
- Address over-packaging,

Less waste, more value



- ✓ **Preventing waste, but if created, transform into high-quality resources**
- ✓ **A toxic-free environment**
- ✓ **A well-functioning EU market for secondary raw materials**

- EPR schemes – Fee Modulation
- Review rules on waste shipments
 - To facilitate recycling or re-use within the EU
 - To restrict exports of waste that cause negative environmental & health impacts
- Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability



Cross-cutting

Getting the economics right

⇒ a new own resource for the EU budget based on the amount of non-recycled plastic packaging waste



Leading efforts at global level

⇒ a global agreement on plastics



Thank you



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