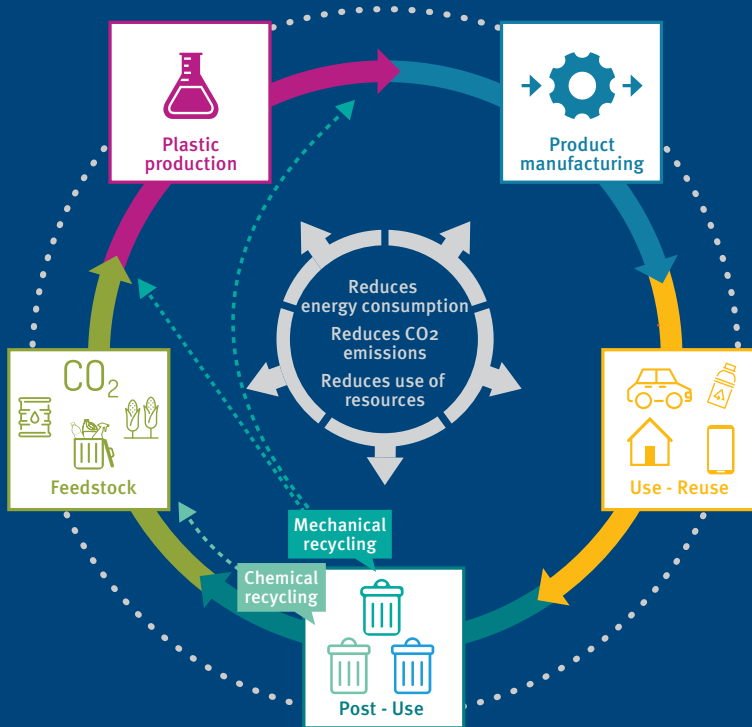


Working Together Towards More Sustainable Plastics

A Joint Call for Action



The Circular Plastics Value Chain



Key figures of the European plastics industry*



More than

€ 30
billion

The European plastics industry contributed € 32.5 billion to **public finances** and **welfare** in 2017.



Over

60,000
companies

An industry in which more than 60,000 companies operate, **most of them SMEs.**

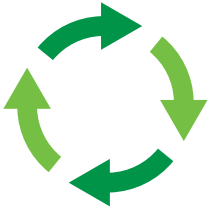


Over

1.5
million
people

The plastics industry gives **direct employment** to more than 1.5 million people in Europe.

* Figures include Plastics Producers, Plastics Converters and Plastics Machinery Manufacturers



Circularity

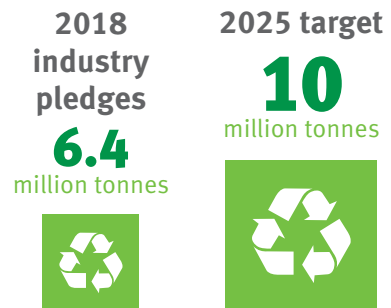
The European plastics industry is working to improve the circularity of plastics and therefore supports the European Commission's policy initiatives, including the European Plastics Strategy.

The Circular Plastics Alliance is an initiative launched in December 2018 by the European Commission. It involves more than 30 stakeholder organisations along the plastics value chain working together to create the conditions which will allow at least 10 million tonnes of recycled plastics to find their way to the market by 2025.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support and invest in the improvement of separate collection and sorting and phase out landfilling of plastics
- Monitor and ensure the enforcement of the Waste Package

Use of recycled plastics



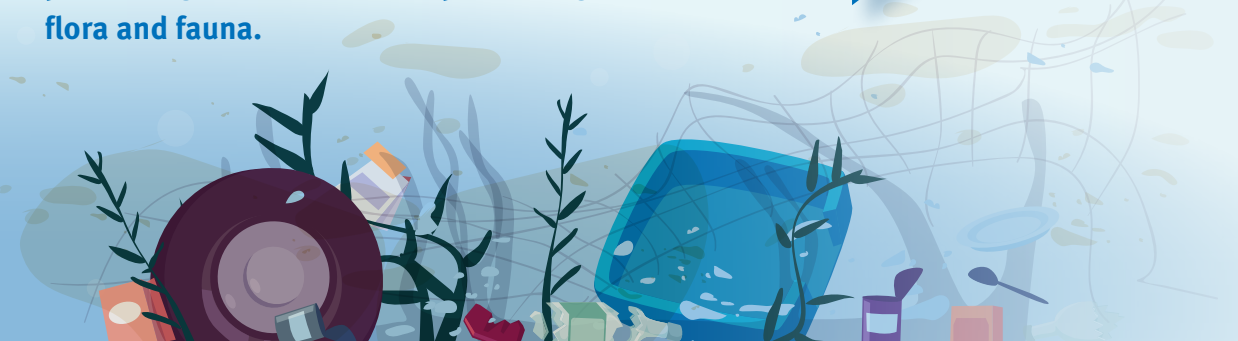
Marine Litter

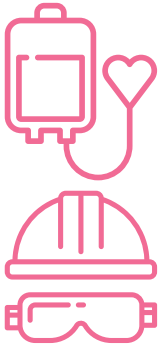
Marine litter is a global challenge and any waste entering our rivers and oceans is unacceptable. We are taking action to stop plastic waste from being littered and leaking into the environment.

In addition, the plastics industry is actively engaged in global initiatives aimed at preventing marine litter and preserving marine flora and fauna.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Drive a culture of clean environment to achieve zero litter in Europe by exchange and enforcement of best practices





Health and Safety

Health and safety come first: before a plastic product ever reaches a consumer, industry must comply with science-based regulations for chemicals and products. The EU has the most complex and complete set of provisions worldwide on public protection.



Plastics applications contribute to healthier and longer lives: blood transfusion bags, flexible catheters and many other breakthrough technologies all rely on plastic materials. They are all crucial to ensure safety and wellbeing across Europe and beyond. Plastic pipes contribute to the prevention of waterborne diseases, by enabling the transport and distribution of clean water.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain the science and risk-based regulatory framework, valuing innovation and progress
- Support the scientific expertise of the EU agencies
- Re-confirm the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors



Loss of plastic pellets and discharge into the aquatic environment are unacceptable.

Operation Clean Sweep® (OCS) is being implemented across the entire plastics industry value chain to eliminate pellet spillage and releases into the aquatic environment.

PlasticsEurope has made it compulsory for all its members to have signed up to the OCS programme by end of 2019, thereby becoming the first trade association in the world to incorporate OCS as a core value.

www.opcleansweep.eu



The European Plastics Converters Association (EuPC) supports **Waste Free Oceans** in its mission in Europe, the Americas and Asia to collect and recycle ocean plastics to:

- transform them into new products
- raise awareness on the issue of ocean plastics
- change behaviours that lead to litter ending up in waters

www.wastefreeoceans.org



Climate Change

Climate change is a global challenge that requires a systemic approach. Plastics play a key role in the transition to a low-carbon and resource efficient economy. CO₂ emissions are reduced by the use of plastics in most applications.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

Achieve systems change by taking policy decisions based on full life cycle assessment

Plastic packaging helps reduce food waste as it protects and preserves food and drinks. CO₂ emissions and energy consumption can be reduced through lightweight bodywork of cars while new insulation techniques for window frames and building envelopes can reduce the need for heating or air conditioning.

Furthermore, windmill blades and solar panels, primarily made of plastic materials, can foster clean and renewable energy.

Our actions to increase the circularity of plastics, their resource efficiency and the diversification of raw materials (e.g. bio-based) will further improve the carbon footprint of plastics and reduce consumption of fossil resources.



GLOBAL
PLASTICS
ALLIANCE

ALLIANCE TO
END PLASTIC WASTE

Together with 75 other plastics associations across the globe, PlasticsEurope signed a Global Declaration to combat the causes of marine litter, in the framework of the **Global Plastics Alliance**. To date, more than 355 marine litter projects have been planned, are underway or have been completed around the globe. Projects include investments in municipal solid waste collection and recycling programmes in Asia, increased public bins, better collection and awareness raising.

www.marinelittersolutions.com

The **Alliance to End Plastic Waste**

is made up of nearly 40 major global companies. They have committed over \$ 1 billion with the goal of investing \$ 1.5 billion over the next five years to develop, deploy and bring to scale solutions that will minimise and manage plastic waste and promote post-use solutions. These can be recycling, reuse and repurposing of plastics to keep waste out of the environment.

www.endplasticwaste.org



PlasticsEurope
Association of Plastics Manufacturers



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SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS FOR EUROPE