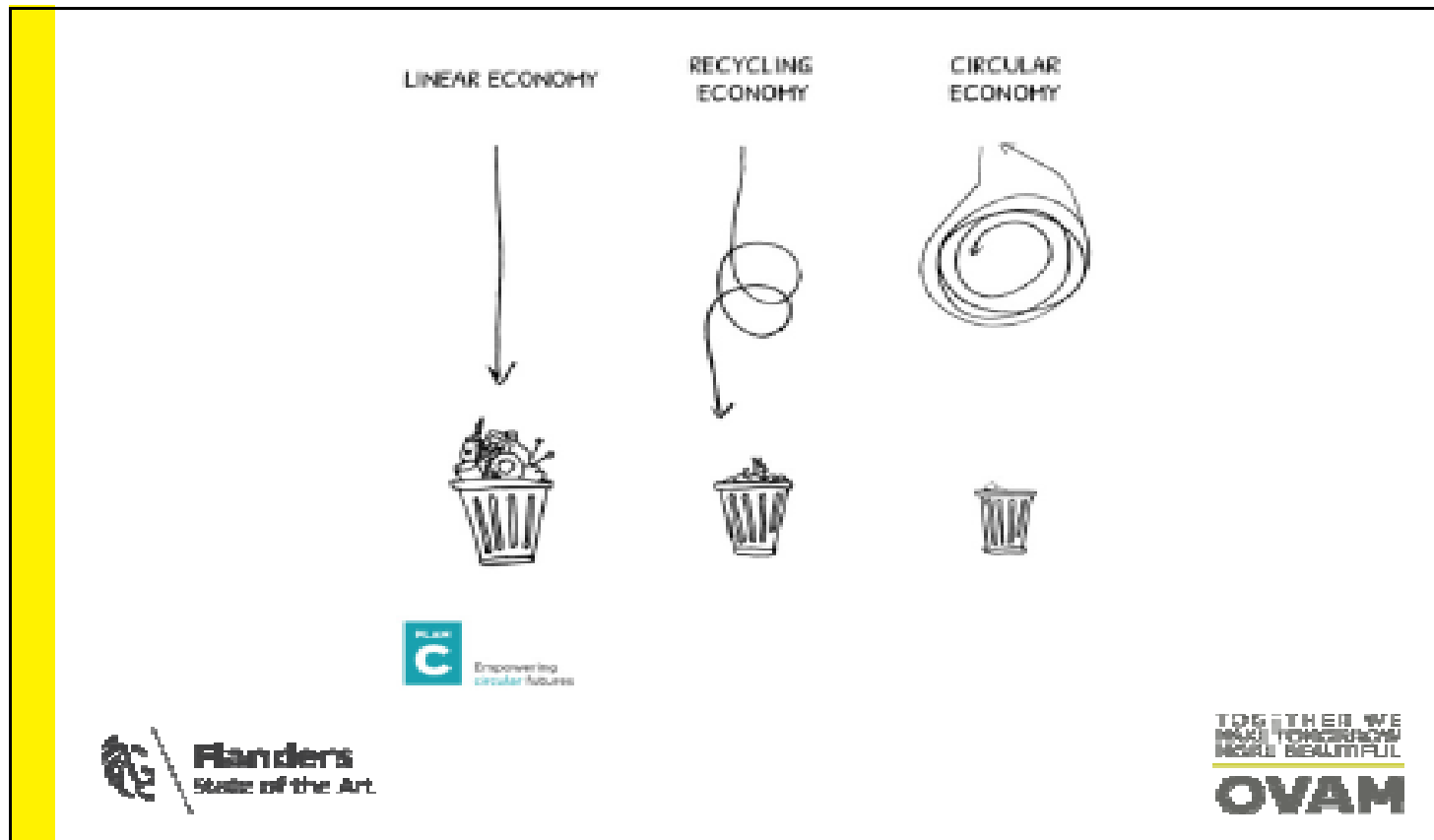




**Plastics – the EU Policy
framework**
**Luxemburg, Greater Region Plastic
Conference, 4/12/2018**
Bettina Lorz
European Commission
DG Environment

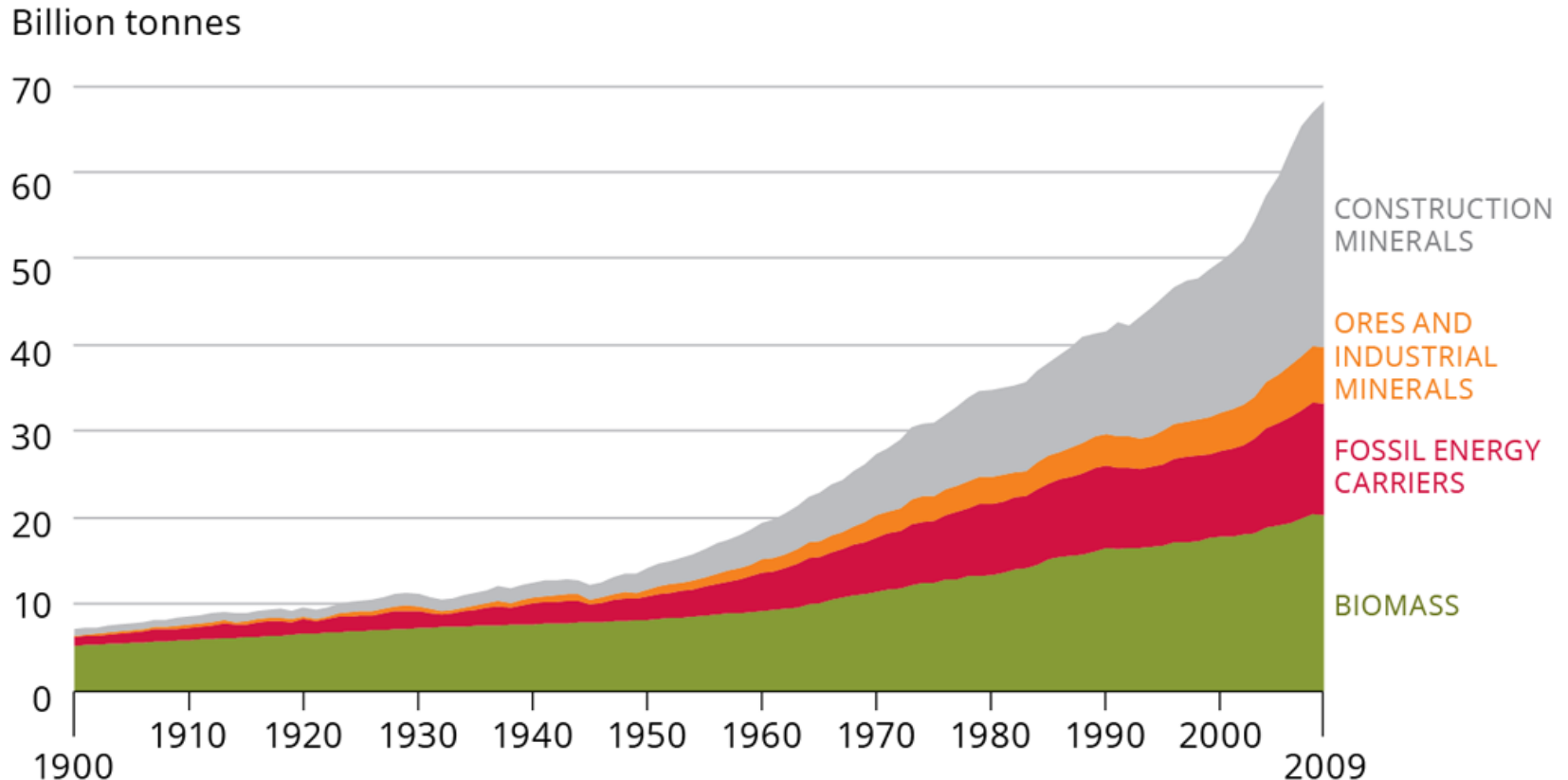
Circular economy - Multiple drivers pointing in the same direction: reduce input, minimize leakage, close loops



Global Material Use

has grown 10-fold since 1900 and may double again by 2030

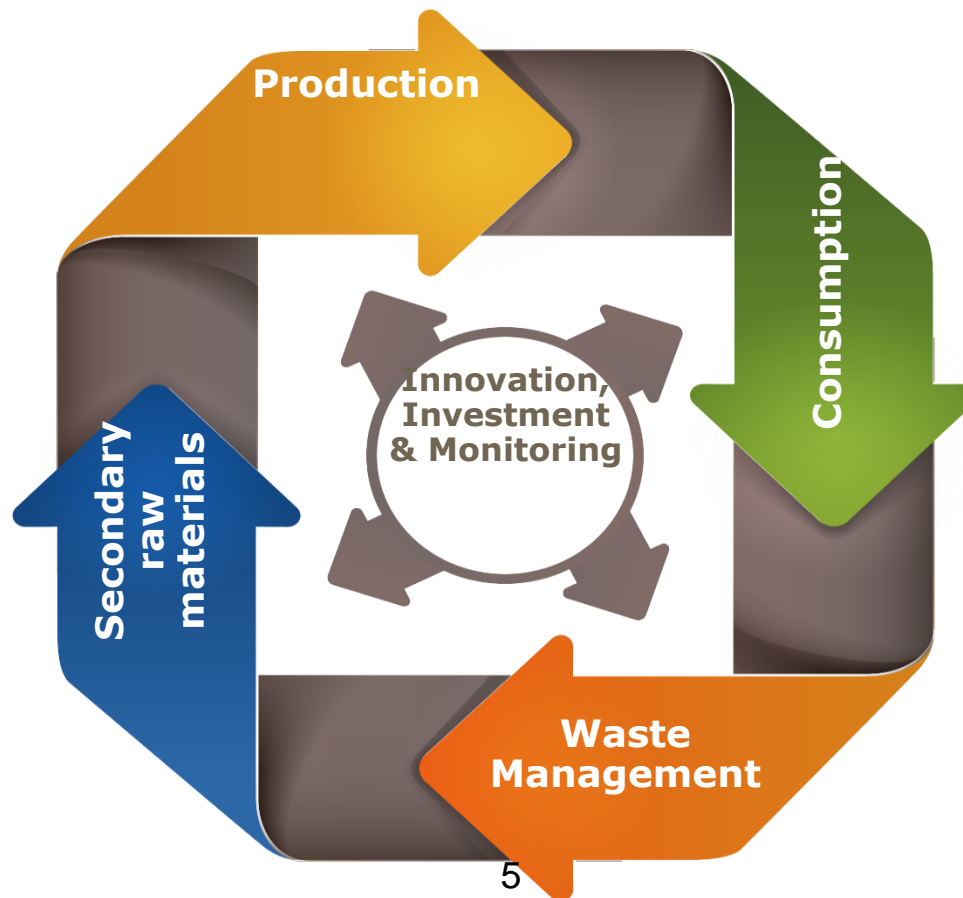
Global total material use by resource type, 1900-2009



Source: Krausmann et al., 2009



CE Action Plan December 2015: over 50 actions across different areas and sectors



Priority sectors

**Biomass &
Bio-based
Products**

Plastics

**Construction
& Demolition**

**Food
Waste**

**Critical
Raw
Materials**

The Circular Economy Action Plan 2015



Actions		Timetable
Production		
Emphasis on circular economy aspects in future product requirements under the Eco-design directive.		2016 onwards
Eco-design work plan 2015-2017 and request to European standardisation organisations to develop standards on material efficiency for setting future Eco-design requirements on durability, reparability and recyclability of products.		December 2015
Proposal for an implementing regulation on bio-based products		End 2015 or beginning 2016
Examine options and actions for more coherent policy framework of the different strands of work of EU product policy in their contribution to the circular economy		2016 onwards
Include guidance on circular economy into Best Available Techniques reference documents (BREFs) for several industrial sectors		2016 onwards
Guidance and promotion of best practices in the mining waste management plans		2016 onwards
Establishing an open, pan-European network of technological infrastructures for SMEs to integrate advanced manufacturing technologies into their production processes		2016 onwards
Examine how to improve the efficiency and uptake of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the pilot programme on environmental technology verification (ETV)		2017 onwards
Develop an improved knowledge base and support to SMEs for the substitution of hazardous substances of very high concern		2018 onwards

Consumption		
Better enforcement of existing guarantees on tangible products, accompanied by a reflection on improvements (upcoming Commission proposal for online sales of goods, and Fitness Check of consumer legislation)		2015-2017
Action on false green claims, including updated guidance on unfair commercial practices		2016 onwards
Analysis of the possibility to propose horizontal requirements on repair information provision in the context of Eco-design		2018 onwards
REFIT of Ecolabel, to be followed by actions to enhance its effectiveness		2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of an independent testing programme on planned obsolescence		2018 onwards
Subject to evaluation of the current ongoing pilots, explore the possible uses of the Product Environmental Footprint to measure and communicate environmental information		2016 onwards
Action on Green Public Procurement: enhanced integration of circular economy requirements, support to higher uptake including through training schemes, reinforcing its use in Commission procurement and EU funds		2016 onwards

Waste management		
Revised legislative proposal on waste		Dec 2015
Improved cooperation with Member States for better implementation of EU waste legislation, and combat illicit shipment of end of life vehicles		2015 onwards
Stepping up enforcement of revised Waste Shipment regulation		2016 onwards
Promotion of industry-led voluntary certification of treatment facilities for key waste/recyclate streams		2018 onwards
Initiative on waste to energy in the framework of the Energy Union		2016 onwards
Identification and dissemination of good practices in waste collection systems		2016 onwards

Market for secondary raw materials		
Development of quality standards for secondary raw materials (in particular for plastics)		2016 onwards
Proposal for a revised fertilisers regulation		Early 2016
Proposed legislation setting minimum requirements for reused water for irrigation and groundwater recharge		2017 onwards
Promotion of safe and cost-effective water reuse, including guidance on the integration of water reuse in water planning and management, inclusion of best practices in relevant BREFs, and support to innovation (through the European Innovation Partnership and Horizon 2020) and investments		2016-2017

Analysis and policy options to address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation, including how to reduce the presence and improve the tracking of chemicals of concern in products		2017 onwards
Measures to facilitate waste shipment across the EU, including electronic data exchange (and possibly other measures)		2016 onwards
Further development of the EU raw materials information system		2016 onwards

Sectoral action		
Plastics		
Strategy on plastics in the circular economy		2017 onwards
Specific action to reduce marine litter implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals		2015 onwards

Food waste		
Development of a common methodology and indicators to measure food waste		2016 onwards
Take-up of a platform to examine how to achieve SDGs goals on food waste, share best practice and evaluate progress		2016 onwards
Clarify and align legislation related to waste, food and feed in order to facilitate food donation and utilisation of former foodstuffs for animal feed		2016 onwards
Explore options for more effective use and understanding of date marking on food		2017 onwards

Critical raw materials		
Report on critical raw materials in the circular economy		2017 onwards
Improve exchange of information between producers and recyclers on electronic products		2016 onwards
European standards for material-efficient recycling of electronic waste, waste batteries and other relevant components and products		2016 onwards
Sharing of best practice for the recovery of critical raw materials from mining waste and landfills		2017 onwards

Construction and demolition		
Pre-demolition assessment guidelines for the construction sector		2016 onwards
Voluntary industry-wide recycling protocol for construction and demolition waste		2016 onwards
Core indicators for the assessment of the lifecycle environmental performance of a building, and incentives for their use		2017 onwards

Biomass and bio-based materials		
Guidance and dissemination of best practice on the cascading use of biomass and support to innovation in this domain through Horizon 2020		2018-2019
Ensuring coherence and synergies with the circular economy when examining the sustainability of bioenergy under the Energy Union		2016 onwards
Assessment of the contribution of the 2012 Bio-economy Strategy to the circular economy and possible review		2016 onwards

Innovation and investments		
Initiative "Industry 2020 and the circular economy" under Horizon 2020		October 2015
Pilot project for "innovation deals" to address possible regulatory obstacles for innovators		2016 onwards
Targeted outreach to encourage applications for funding under EFSI, and support the development of projects and investment platforms relevant to the circular economy		2016 onwards
Targeted outreach and communication activities to assist Member States and regions for the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds for the circular economy		2016 onwards
Support to Member States and regions to strengthen innovation for the circular economy through smart specialisation		2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of launching a platform together with the EIB and national banks to support the financing of the circular economy		2016 onwards
Engagement with stakeholders in the implementation of this action plan through existing fora in key sectors		2016 onwards
Support to a range of stakeholders through actions on public-private partnerships, cooperation platforms, support to voluntary business approaches, and exchanges of best practices		2015 onwards

Monitoring		
Development of a monitoring framework for the circular economy		2017 onwards

85% of actions delivered



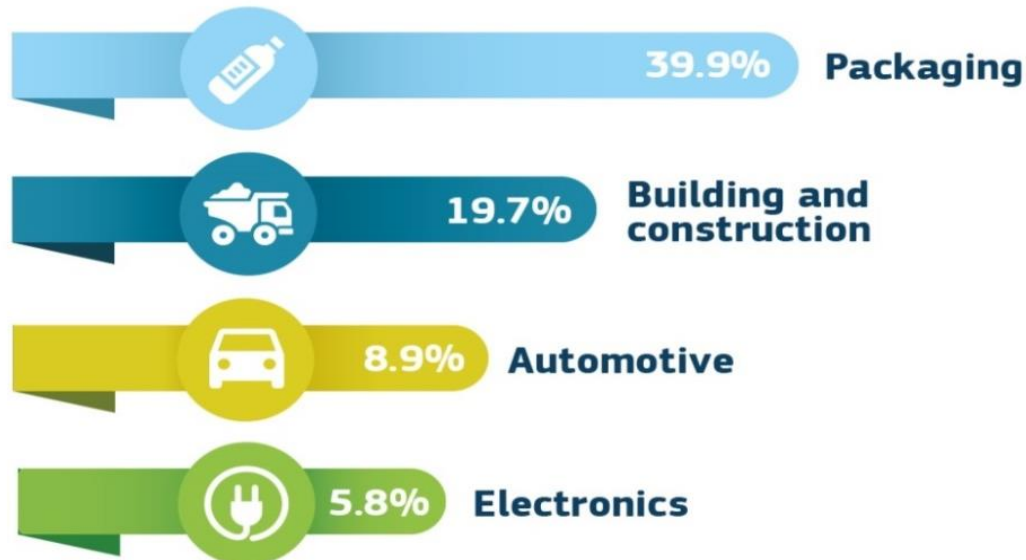
2018 Circular Economy Package





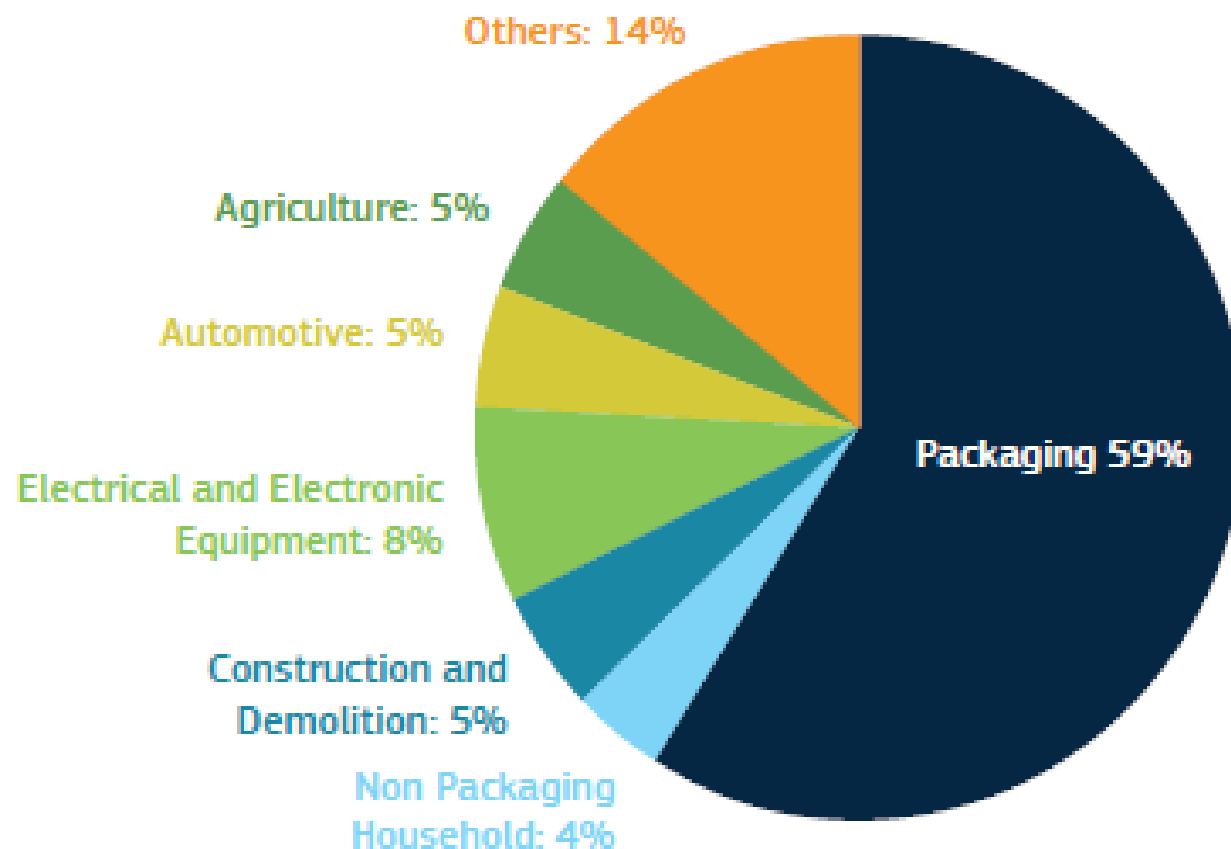
EUROPEAN PLASTICS DEMAND IN 2015

49 million tonnes





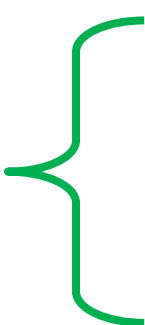
EU PLASTIC WASTE GENERATION IN 2015





→ Plastics Strategy (16th Jan. 2018)



- 
- Communication & Staff Working Document
 - List of EU actions (39) → most by 2018/2019
 - Measures recommended to Member States



New Waste package

A VISION FOR THE CIRCULAR PLASTICS ECONOMY

*The Plastics Industry
of the future*



*Smart
Innovative
Sustainable*

- Economic incentives
- Strategy for jobs
- Investment in infrastructure and innovation
- More integrated value chain
- Design for recyclability ⇔ Growing market for recycled content
- Alternative feedstock & innovative & sustainable materials
- Growth decoupled from plastic waste generation
- More sustainable consumption patterns

A EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR PLASTICS IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY





- Stimulate design for circularity
- Better separate waste collection
- Boosting recycled content

➡ By 2030 all plastics packaging reusable or recyclable



MS measures



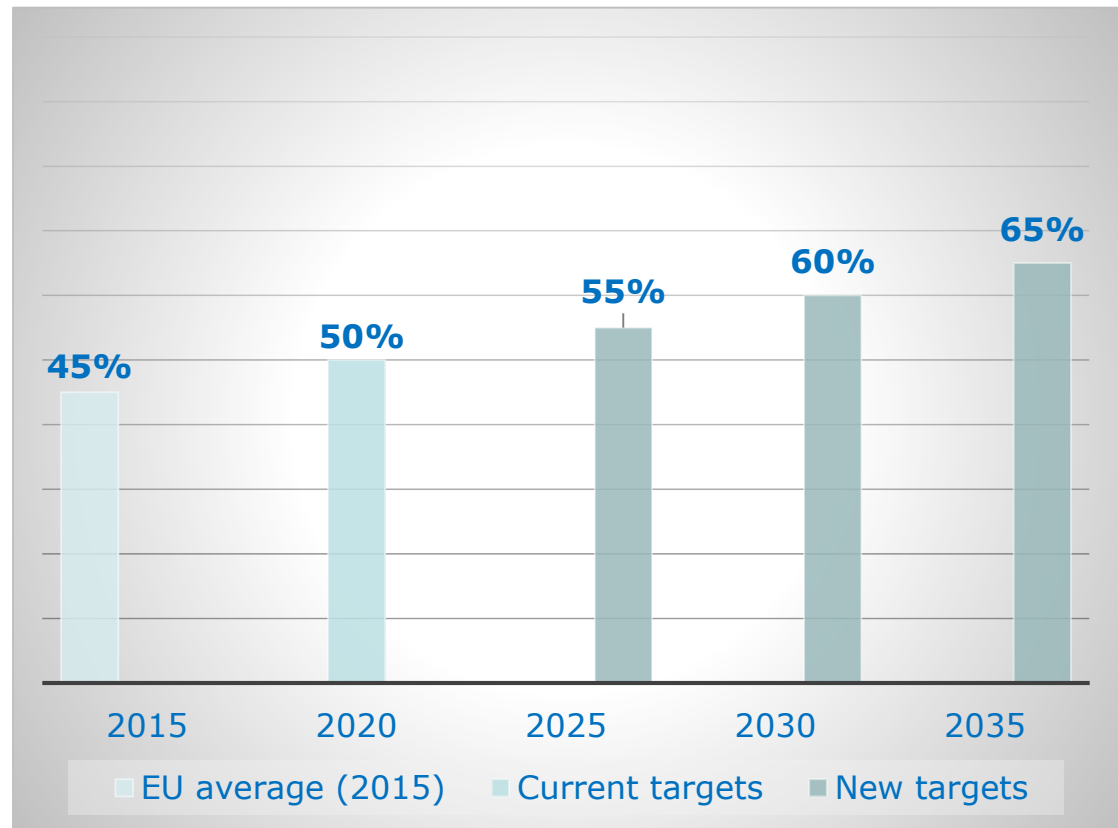
- **GPP:** uptake recycled plastics
- **Economic instruments (taxation)**
 - Reuse > recycling > landfilling & incineration
 - Separate collection
- **EPR / deposit**
- **Voluntary commitments**

The Circular Economy Waste Package

- December 2015: proposal by the Commission
- March 2017: EP opinion
- May 2017: Coreper mandate
- May to December 2017: informal political trilogues and technical meetings
- December 2017: provisional agreement
- *14 June 2018: publication OJ*
- *5 July 2018: entry into force*
- *5 July 2020: transposition into national law*

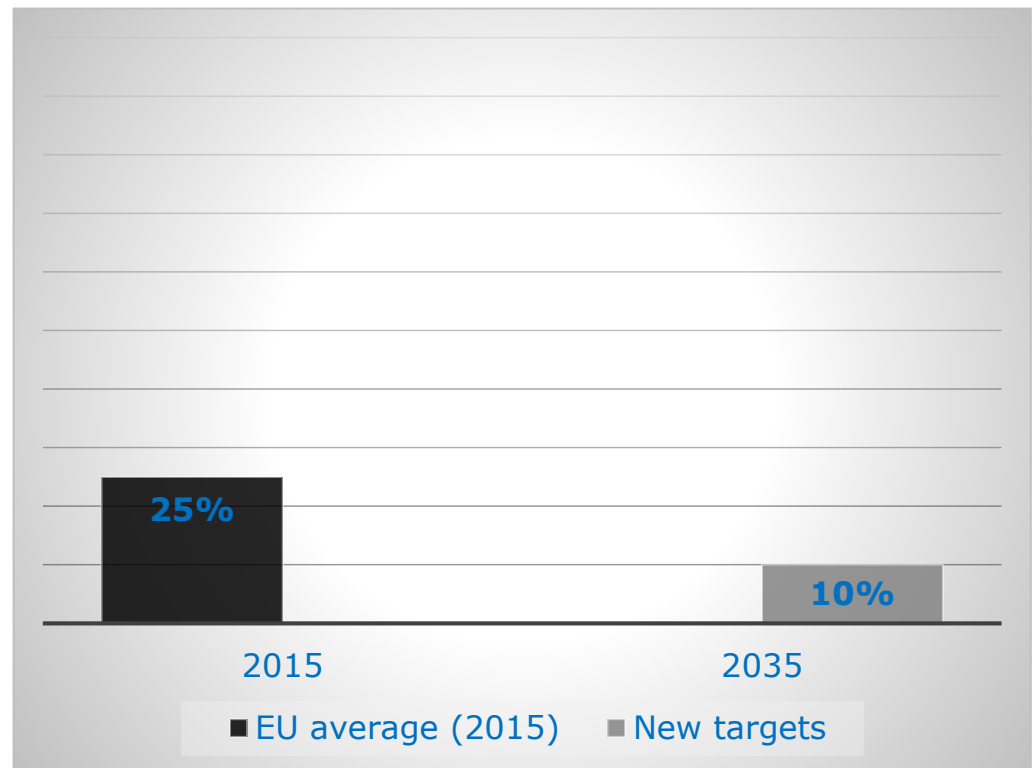
Waste Framework Directive review- Municipal waste recycling

- *5-year extension for countries with a low starting point*
 - **11 MS: EE, EL, HR, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, RO, SK, BG**
 - **Implementation plans + interim targets**
- *Single calculation method*
 - **harmonised definition of municipal waste**
 - **reporting input to recycling**
- *High-quality recycling of biowaste*
 - **counting only separately collected and recycled bio-waste as of 2027**



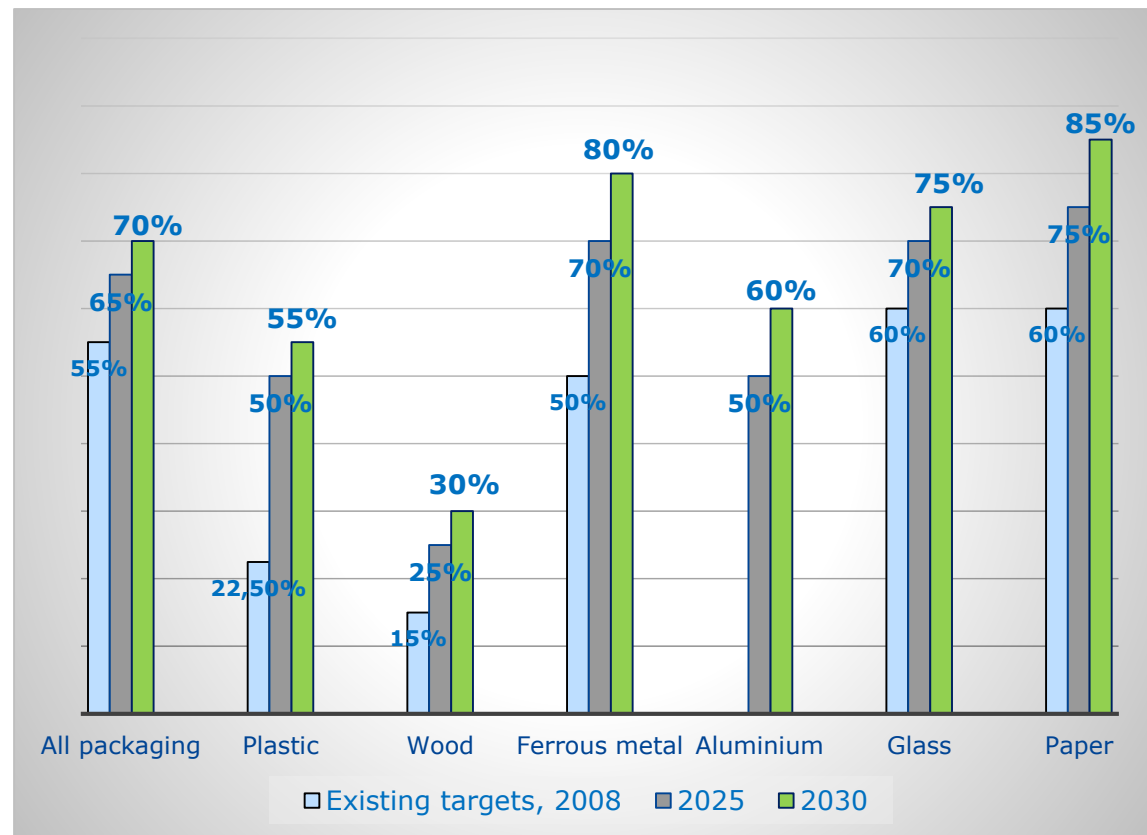
Landfill Directive review - Municipal Waste Landfilling

- *5-year extension for countries with high landfill rates*
 - **10 MS: EL, HR, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, RO, SK, BG**
 - **Implementation plan + interim targets**
- *Calculation rules for landfilling*
- ***Landfill restrictions for separately collected waste***
- ***Towards no landfilling of waste suitable for recovery by 2030***



The 'waste package'- Higher targets Packaging waste recycling

- *5-year derogations (15% on a single target or divided between two targets)*
- *Taking account of re-use (max. 5%)*
- *Harmonised reporting: input to recycling*
- *Ambitious targets for plastics*
- *New targets for aluminium*
- *Review of targets end 2024*



Increasing separate collection of PPW **Revised Waste Framework Directive**

- pre-condition and currently the biggest barrier for creation of viable markets for recycled plastics
- significant part of plastic packaging is not separately collected
- separately collected waste is often sent to landfills or incinerators: contamination, composite plastic packaging
- separate collection under the “old” WFD by 2015 for plastic, paper, metal and glass.
- revised WFD strengthens the separate collection requirements (derogations, prohibition of landfilling/incinerating separately collected waste, textiles, bio-waste): MS report in 2021
- Guidance on separate collection of waste
- additional impetus: higher recycling targets, mandatory EPR schemes; SUP proposal)

Reuse

- Possible **to adjust recycling targets** for a given year by taking into account average share (max. 5%), in preceding 3 years of reusable sales packaging, reused as part of a system to reuse packaging
- **Member States to encourage increase in share of reusable packaging, inter alia:**
 - Use of deposit/return systems
 - Setting of qualitative or quantitative targets
 - Economic instruments (taxation)
 - Setting of a minimum percentage of reusable packaging placed on the market for each packaging stream

Economic Instruments and EPR

Current rules

***Polluter-pays principle:** the costs of waste management shall be borne by the original waste producer or by the current or previous waste holders (Art. 14 WFD)*

New rules

*MS to put in place **economic instruments** to promote waste hierarchy; new Annex with an indicative list of such instruments*

MS to introduce mandatory EPR schemes for all packaging by end 2024

General minimum requirements for all EPR schemes; producers to cover the majority of costs

*Specific requirements in **waste management plans***

Minimum requirements for EPR schemes (revised WFD)

- **improved transparency and governance** of the EPR schemes;
- obligation to **eco-modulate** EPR fees: durability, reparability, reusability and recyclability, presence of hazardous substances;
- **Guidelines** are being developed: end of 2019
- **Incentivise good circular packaging design**
 - RecyClass Platform developed by Plastic Recyclers Europe
 - DIALOGUE (industry, PRO, local authorities, waste collectors, recyclers); bottom-up definition of rules

Other important provisions

Strengthened waste prevention measures, in particular:

- Requirement to measure and prevent food waste
- Requirement to tackle litter and to halt the generation of marine litter

*MS to ensure that waste is **decontaminated** prior/during recovery to facilitate **high quality recycling***

*MS to ensure that **separately collected waste is not incinerated** unless incineration delivers a better environmental outcome*

*Waste operators to have **access to information on SVHC in articles** through a database to be set up by ECHA*

Essential Requirements of PPWD

Packaging placed on the EU market must comply with essential requirements, Art. 9 and Annex II of PPWD (first objective: prevention!)

- *specific to the manufacturing and composition of packaging,*
- *to the reusable nature of packaging and*
- *the recoverable nature of packaging (either in the form of material recycling, energy recovery or composting) whether it is reusable or not.*
- *on the presence of noxious and other hazardous substances.*

Related CEN standards: presumption of compliance

Revised PPWD asks the Commission to, by 31/12/2020:

(1) examine the feasibility of reinforcing the ER with a view to, inter alia, improving design for re-use and promoting high quality recycling, as well as strengthening their enforcement.

(2) submit a report to EP and the Council, accompanied, if appropriate, by a legislative proposal.

Study about to be launched!

Recycled content

- addressing the **demand for recycled plastics**;
- only **4-6% of plastics in new products comes from recyclates**: Plastic Strategy aims to **quadruple** this figure;
- **Communication on the Interface between Chemicals, Products and Waste Legislation**: improve the level of information about substances of concern in products, waste and recycled plastics
- particular issue for *food contact materials*
- **EU Pledging Campaign**: call on the industry to pledge to boost the uptake of recycled plastics to 10 M tons/year by 2025;
- assessment in the upcoming **CE Implementation Report**
- need to complement by **regulatory actions**: packaging construction and electronics sectors; BUT ALSO
- essential requirements review, fees under EPR schemes, separate collection, green public procurement, Ecolabel criteria...



- Reduce macroplastics pollution: SUP & fishing gear
- Regulatory framework for biodegradable plastics
- Curb microplastics pollution:
 - Intentionally added to products → REACH
 - Unintentional release, e.g. tyres, textiles and plastic pellets
 - Report on oxo-degradable plastics → REACH/ECHA for restriction

Marine litter: the challenge



Health concerns



Degradation of marine ecosystems (13 billion Euros a year)



Impact on fisheries and aquaculture (1-5% of total fleet revenue) and ports/shipping



Tourism and coastal communities (\approx 630 million euros)



The need to act



EU's contribution to the problem



Innovation race



Single Market

The Telegraph

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★ News

Balearic Islands to ban plastic by 2020 in bid to clean its beaches

share | | |

News > World > Europe

Hamburg bans coffee pods and disposable packaging

A Nespresso spokesperson said: "We are frequently asked whether individual of aluminium contradict sustainability - in our opinion, the opposite is the case"



Home > 30th > Portugal: Parliament to discuss banning disposable plates in restaurants

30th 30th Edition

Portugal: Parliament to discuss banning disposable plates in restaurants

By LUSA - February 2, 2018 302

LEADS: WASHING TONALITY: PHOTOGRAPHY: LUNA

Strengthening EU legislation



What do Europeans think about Plastics?

Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (%-EU)



74%
agree

23%
disagree

You are worried about the impact on your health
of everyday products made of plastics



87%
agree

11%
disagree

You are worried about the impact on the environment
of everyday products made of plastics



70%

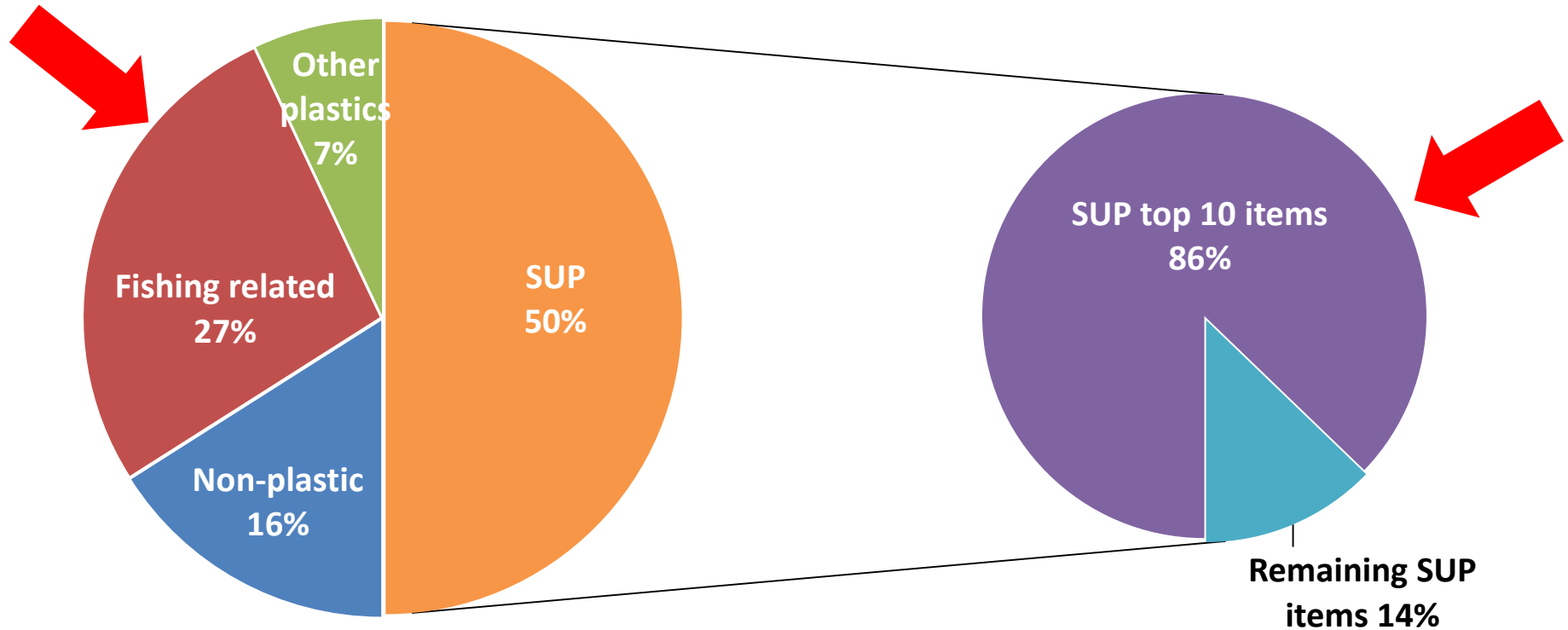
use fewer
single-use plastic bags



34%

avoid single-use goods
like cutlery & cups

Most found marine litter items on European beaches



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



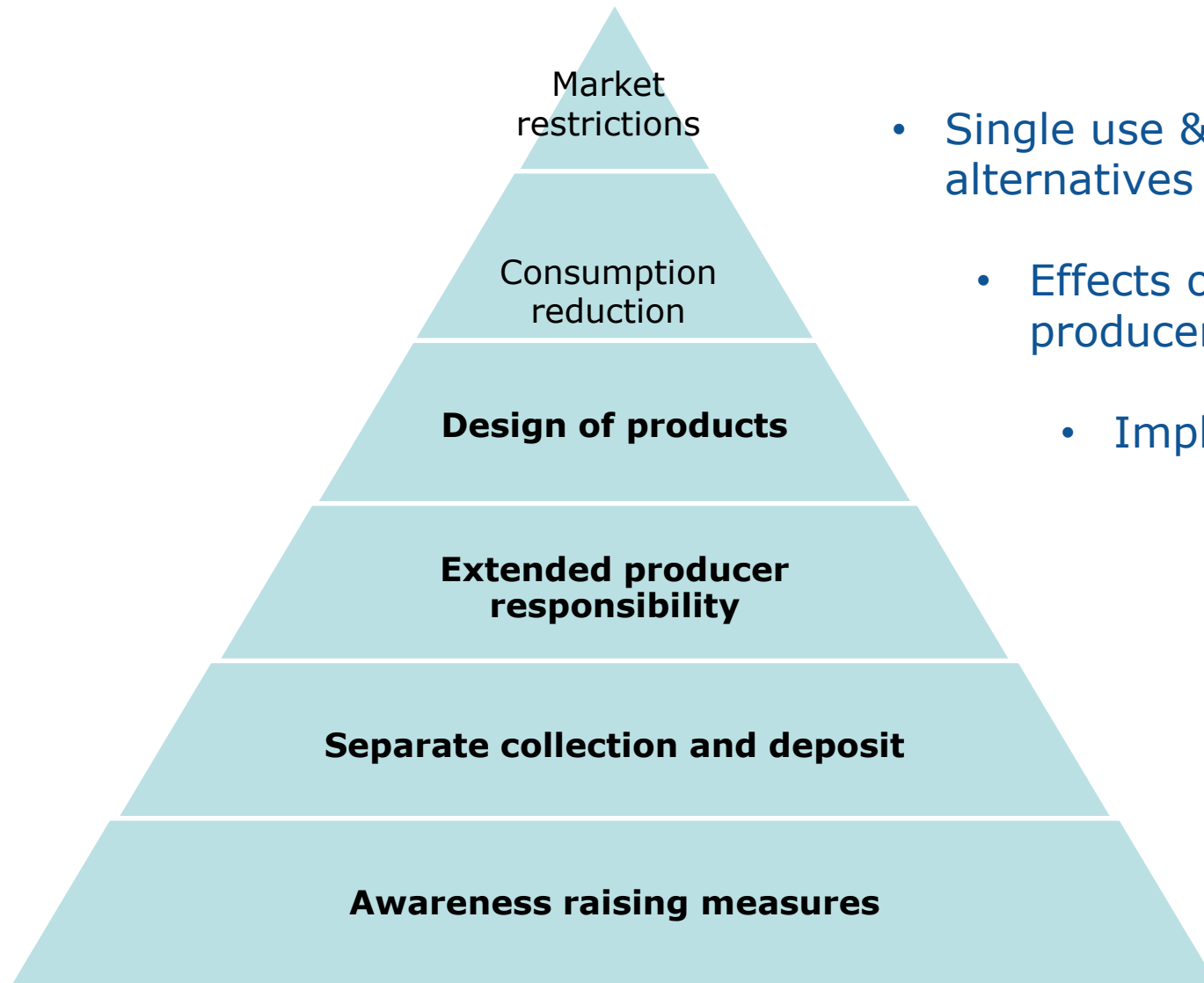
Measures to facilitate prevention, re-use, collection and recovery of:

- single-use items that are wholly or partially made of plastics, which are major contributors to marine litter
- fishing gear wholly or partially made of plastics



Definition of plastic: Polymer as defined in REACH with the exception of natural polymers that have not been chemically modified

Ranking	Item
1	Drinks bottles, caps and lids
2	Cigarette butts
3	Cotton buds sticks
4	Crisp packets / sweet wrappers
5	Sanitary applications
6	Plastic bags
7	Cutlery, straws and stirrers
8	Drinks cups and cup lids
9	Balloons and balloon sticks
10	Food containers including fast food packaging



- Single use & multi use alternatives
- Effects on consumers & producers
- Implementation



European
Commission

	Consumption reduction	Market restriction	Product design requirement	Marking requirements	Extended producer responsibility	Separate collection objective	Awareness raising measures
Food containers	X				X		X
Cups for beverages	X				X		X
Cotton bud sticks		X					
Cutlery, plates, stirrers, straws		X					
Sticks for balloons		X					
Balloons				X	X		X
Packets & wrappers					X		X
Beverage containers, their caps & lids			X		X		X
- Beverage bottles			X		X	X	X
Tobacco product filters					X		X
Sanitary items: - Wet wipes				X	X		X
- Sanitary towels				X			X
Plastic carrier bags					X		X
Fishing gear					X		X



- Guidance on eco-modulation of EPR fees
- H2020 additional €100 million investments (up until 2020)
- Support the development of alternative feedstocks
→ lifecycle assessments including biomass



- Support for multilateral initiatives on plastics: Basel Convention, UNEP/UNEA, G7/G20, Regional Seas Conventions...
- Incentivising commitments: Global Plastics Platform (09/2018)
- Promote international industry standards development
- Bilateral dialogues, Development cooperation funding



http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm