



# **OUR AMBITION: TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC POLLUTION**

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**Championing a global agreement  
for a sustainable, circular economy.**

[PlasticsCircularity.org](https://PlasticsCircularity.org)

# The Global Partners for Plastics Circularity is supported by



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**AN ENABLING GLOBAL  
AGREEMENT ON PLASTIC  
POLLUTION CAN UNLEASH  
INNOVATION AND HELP ACHIEVE  
A CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR  
PLASTICS AROUND THE GLOBE.**

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## Unmanaged plastic waste ends up as pollution.

As many communities throughout the world lack even basic systems to collect waste, used materials are often discarded onto land and into rivers and oceans. This unmanaged waste can cause serious environmental and economic damage. While most refuse sinks, many plastics are buoyant and can circle the globe on ocean currents. In a planet with limited resources we must keep these plastics in our economy and out of our environment.

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## We envision a world without plastic pollution.

A world in which plastics are sustainably produced, designed, used, reused and recycled in a circular economy and don't become pollution. And a world where plastics contribute significantly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including a lower carbon future.

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## We support governments' ambition\* to eliminate additional plastic pollution by 2040.

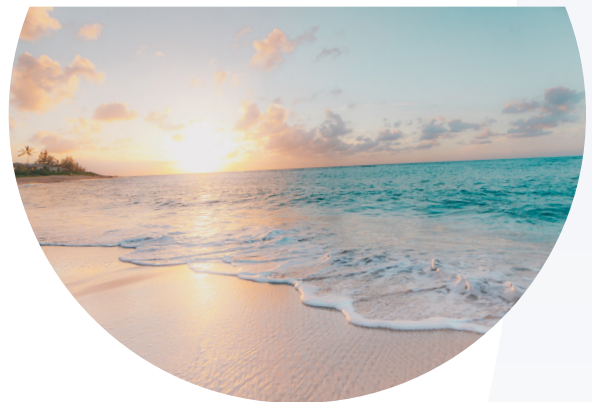
To get there, we need to accelerate a circular economy in which plastic products and packaging are **sustainably reused or recycled instead of discarded**, enabled by a global agreement that unlocks industry innovation and global investment in plastics circularity.

\* G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Ministers Communiqué, 2023.

### THE CHALLENGE



### OUR VISION



### OUR AMBITION



# We're a global affiliation of companies that make, use and recycle plastics.

We are advocating a global agreement that will eliminate additional leakage of plastic waste into the environment and help enable a sustainable, circular economy for plastics. These modern plastic materials are used around the world to create essential and often life-saving products, many of which are critical to a **lower carbon, more sustainable future.**



## We want these materials back after use so they can be remade into new plastics.

Lightweight turbine blades and protective panels that deliver wind and solar energy more efficiently.



Fuel-efficient components for our cars and trucks.



Energy-efficient insulation to make our homes livable.



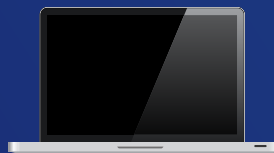
Healthcare supplies and personal protective equipment that helps keep us safe and healthy.



Efficient packaging that helps prevent food waste.



Electronic devices that keep us connected.



## Plastic pollution creates environmental problems that a circular economy can help solve.

So we are innovating and transforming many of our business approaches to enable a circular economy. At the same time, we are committed to collaborating with governments, our value chains and civil society on a global agreement that promotes innovation, unleashes public-private investments and addresses gaps in the waste management ecosystem.

## Our Progress Toward Circularity

We're already taking significant steps - and tracking these efforts - to accelerate a circular economy for plastics including:

- **Investing substantially around the globe** in multiple recycling systems and technologies to significantly increase the types and amount of plastics that can be recycled,
- **Creating new business approaches** to enable circularity and designing new products made with recycled plastics, and
- **Redesigning packaging** for longer use, reuse and recyclability.

In short, we're partnering and investing across the plastics value chains to secure greater access to used plastics, to enable circular feedstocks in the production of plastics and to increase recycled content in plastic products.

### OUR PROGRESS



Visit  
[PlasticsCircularity.org](https://PlasticsCircularity.org)  
to track these efforts.



**An enabling global agreement** can jumpstart this transition, unleash our global industry's innovation and help achieve a circular economy for plastics around the globe.

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# Our Approach to a Global Agreement



We agree with the importance of **sustainable consumption and production** and creating **well-designed** plastic products that enable waste minimization. We also agree that creating universal access to collection and environmentally sound waste management is a key step toward circularity. Eliminating plastic pollution is not achievable until we close this gap and create a circular economy in which used plastics are no longer perceived as waste.

We're championing a global agreement to achieve the **goal of eliminating additional plastic pollution while retaining the societal benefits of plastics**. Our approach reflects our vision and ambition, as well as our unique knowledge and technical capabilities as innovators and solution providers. It also reflects the need to respect each country's unique situation and work collaboratively to accelerate progress toward eliminating plastic pollution.



Approximately  
**3 billion people**  
lack access to basic waste management.



**To eliminate additional plastic pollution by 2040\*, a global agreement must recognize the importance of:**

## Circularity

- Sustainable consumption and production
- Products designed for longer use, reusability and recyclability
- High recycling rates that return plastics to new production



## Eliminating plastic pollution

- Universal access to waste management
- Unlocking public-private investments
- Economic incentives to prevent loss of plastics to the environment

**Smart public policies can enable circularity and help eliminate plastic pollution.**



## Social impacts

- Participation and social advancement of the informal sector waste/recycling workers
- Behavioral change among all stakeholders



This transition to a circular economy will **reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions**, increase resource efficiency, **enhance economic development** and **create jobs, especially in the global South.**

\* G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Ministers Communiqué, 2023.

# Key Elements of a Global Agreement...

To help end additional plastic pollution and accelerate a circular economy for plastics, the agreement should incentivize actions by all stakeholders, include specific global measures supporting effective implementation, foster multistakeholder participation in financing, and enable flexibility for national action plans while holding countries accountable. We believe measures to address the problem of plastic pollution are most efficient when based on a plastics application approach.

## ...and a Call to Action

And to achieve success, multiple stakeholders will need to take collective action and act in partnership on these elements. We call on all stakeholders to join forces and align on a common vision.



Governments



Plastic makers/converters



Financial institutions



Brands/retailers/users of plastics



Recyclers/waste management



Scientific/academic institutions

# Key Elements

Visit [PlasticsCircularity.org](https://PlasticsCircularity.org) for more detail.

1.

## GLOBAL MEASURES & ACTIONS

A requirement for globally harmonized measures that promote effective implementation of the agreement, while recognizing national and local circumstances.

A requirement for governmental action plans and enabling policies with national targets for reducing plastic waste, increasing the use of recycled content, and prioritizing high leakage applications, with specific rates and dates.

2.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

National assessments and progress reports on plastic waste reduction, based on universal methodology.

3.

## PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Mechanisms to accelerate use of recycled plastics through public-private partnerships and blended finance.

4.

## GUIDANCE

Guidance to accelerate a circular economy, such as best practices on waste minimization, product design by application, informal recycling economy and public policies.

5.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building to support environmentally sound materials and waste management.

6.

## PELLET CONTAINMENT

Mandated participation in a certified program to help prevent plastic materials in the value chain from entering the environment (e.g., Operation Clean Sweep®).

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# Enabling Actions (by stakeholder)

Visit [PlasticsCircularity.org](https://PlasticsCircularity.org) for more detail.

## GOVERNMENTS

**Government actions will contribute to key elements: #1 Action Plans, #2 Progress Reports, #3 Public-Private Partnerships, #4 Guidance, #5 Capacity Building.**

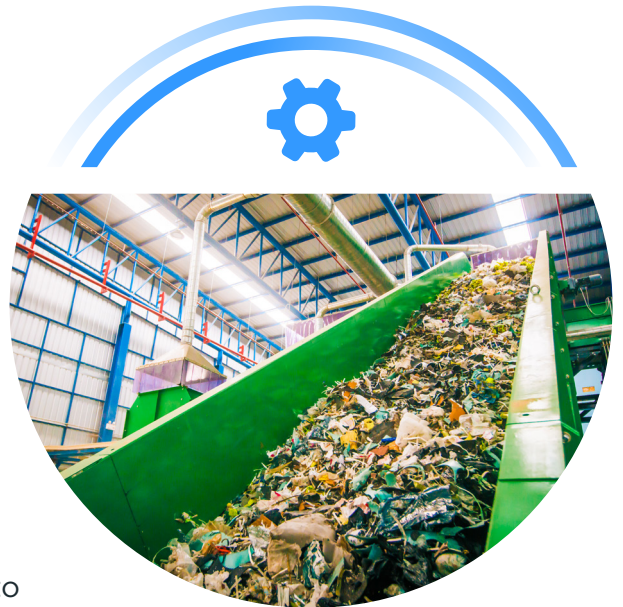
- Support policies based on well-established scientific principles that enable circularity and reduce the environmental footprint of products and packaging
- Develop ambitious rates and dates for circularity goals, including eliminating plastic pollution in the environment, and measure success
- Establish/facilitate investment in nationwide access to waste collection/sortation (and reuse/repair services) to enable reuse of all plastics and to grow jobs, including informal sector waste/recycling workers
- Encourage innovative recycling technologies
- Implement policies and financing mechanisms that enable regional capacity building
- Increase consumer engagement and incentives to change behavior



## PLASTIC MAKERS/ CONVERTERS

**Plastic maker/converter actions will contribute to key elements: #1 Action Plans, #3 Public-Private Partnerships, #4 Guidance, #5 Capacity Building, #6 Pellet Containment.**

- Create plastics and design products based on circular and sustainable principles, focused on reuse and recyclability of plastics
- Partner and invest across the plastics ecosystem to secure greater access to used plastics, to enable circular feedstocks in the production of plastics and to increase recycled content in plastic products
- Develop ambitious rates and dates for circularity goals
- Design/utilize additives in plastics using sustainable chemistry principles that enable broad recycling; support increased transparency on additives across the value chain
- Participate in certified program to prevent plastic pellet/materials loss throughout the value chain



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## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

**Financial institution actions will contribute to key elements: #3 Public-Private Partnerships, #5 Capacity Building.**

- Support with investments to unlock plastics collection, sortation and recycling technologies
- Set up managed funds focused on accelerating the circular economy



## BRANDS/RETAILERS/ USERS OF PLASTICS

**Brand/retailers/users of plastics actions will contribute to key elements: #4 Guidance, #5 Capacity Building.**

- Choose materials based on a life-cycle approach that reduce the total environmental footprint, including, where appropriate, alternative solutions to single-use plastics
- Design products/packaging based on circular and sustainable principles, including use of recycled plastics and recyclable products
- Promote advanced labeling systems and EPR (extended producer responsibility) systems to improve collection, sortation and recycling



## RECYCLERS/WASTE MANAGEMENT

**Recycler/waste management actions will contribute to key elements: #4 Guidance, #5 Capacity Building, #6 Pellet Containment.**

- Increase plastics recycling yields, reliability and quality through technology advancements in collection, sorting, and recycling
- Help create markets for post-use plastics
- Participate in certified program to prevent plastic pellet/materials loss (reprocessors)



## SCIENTIFIC/ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

**Academic/scientific institution actions will contribute to the key element: #4 Guidance.**

- Conduct environmental footprint studies on the life cycle of plastics compared to alternative materials
- Conduct research on creating behavior change at all points in the plastics ecosystem
- Research new business models and paradigms
- Conduct research on microplastics; develop standardized monitoring/reporting methodology



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## Success = A Circular Economy for Plastics

- ✓ Used plastics become inputs for circular plastic production.
- ✓ Products are designed with circularity in mind, including a focus on reuse.
- ✓ Smart policies, technologies and financing close the gap in the materials/waste management ecosystem, including collection, sortation and recycling.
- ✓ Markets for used plastics grow as infrastructure develops; markets are economically self-sustaining, supported by national policies and harmonized global criteria.



**An enabling global agreement on plastic pollution can unleash innovation and help achieve a circular economy for plastics around the globe.**

# Plastics Circularity

In a circular economy, actions by each player in the plastics recycling chain enables the other players... and builds circularity. For example, investments in collection and sortation enable re-processors and plastic material makers to make more recycled plastics.



TO LEARN MORE, VISIT:  
**PlasticsCircularity.org**