

# ZERO WASTE EUROPE LIVE!

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Introduction on the new EU plastics legislation

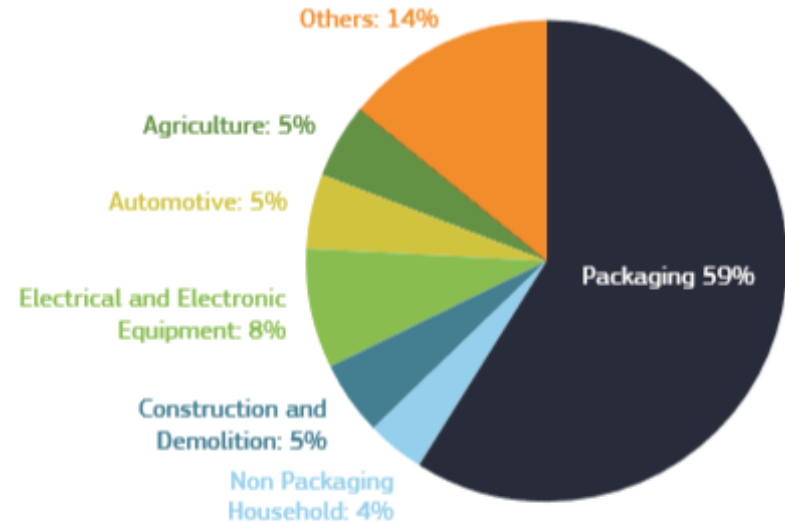


PLASTIC WASTE PREVENTION IN ACTION!

# The crisis...

- Plastics as a global pollution crisis – one of fastest growing pollutants in the world
- Every year 25.8 million tonnes of plastic waste are generated in Europe
- Less than 30% of such waste is collected or recycled (w 40% exported), 40% incinerated and 30% landfilled
- Main application = packaging at almost 60%; BUT 95% value of packaging lost after a single use, i.e. incinerated or landfilled

## EU PLASTIC WASTE GENERATION IN 2015



# The opportunity...

**EU Response:** EU Circular Economy Action Plan 2015 -- EU Strategy on Plastics 2018 – Single-use plastics Directive 2018

## **EU Single-use Plastics Directive:**

- Dedicated legislation on single use plastic items most commonly found on Europe's beaches.
- Specific aim to reduce marine plastic pollution.
- Mix of measures, from 'phase outs', reduction targets, labelling and extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes.



# EU Single Use Plastic Directive

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



Source: Joint Research Centre, European Commission (2017)

# EU Single Use Plastic Directive

National governments have 2 years to transpose into national law – by mid 2021

- **Bans:** 8 items in total: single-use plastic straws, cutlery and plates, cotton bud sticks, beverage stirrers, balloon sticks, polystyrene food and drinks containers, oxo-degradable plastics
- **‘Significant’ reductions in consumption of:** single-use plastic food containers and cups within 6 years
- A **2029** target of **90%** separate collection of plastic bottles up to 3 liters
- **Labelling** on tobacco products, sanitary items, wipes and cups informing people of negative environmental impact of inappropriate disposal
- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes** for all non-banned items apart from sanitary items – including coverage of awareness raising, waste management and litter clean up costs

# Next steps...

**EU Commission:** Follow up to the plastics strategy (eg.: microplastics, product design, chemicals interface, etc.)

**National governments:** Ensure an ambitious implementation – go beyond!

**Businesses:** Rethink their business models

**Citizens and local initiatives to reduce plastics:**

- Rise in package free stores and against overpackaging in supermarkets
- Cup and food container local reuse scheme
- Water refill points – mapping

**All:** Continue work on plastic waste prevention and beyond SUP!





THANK YOU!

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