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**PRESS RELEASE**

**POST-PARADE RECYCLING OPERATION IN LIMASSOL, CYPRUS**

Within the framework of the project #StopThePlasticFlow, which benefits from the assistance of **Beyond Plastic Med**, Friends of the Earth Cyprus have organised a campaign for waste prevention and recycling before, during, and after the big carnival parade which took place **10 March 2019** in Limassol, Cyprus.

The campaign involved awareness raising for carnivalists and spectators and culminated with a **Post-Parade Recycling Operation**. The operation started at 3pm and lasted 4 hours. 23 volunteers took part in it by following the last float of the parade, accompanied by a truck, and covering a total distance of 2.5 kilometres.

The Post-Parade Recycling Operation was effected **in collaboration with Limassol Municipality**, who provided the truck for the collection of recyclable materials, and was supported by **Green Dot Cyprus<sup>1</sup>**, who set up recycling points for PMD and glass at the start and end of the parade.

Using an electronic scale, the volunteers calculated **the weight of recyclable materials collected at 2,800 kg** (almost 3 tonnes), consisting mainly of empty spray cans, aluminium cans, single-use plastic bottles, drink cartons and glass.

It was clearly an odd race against time, considering the fact that carnivalists and spectators exceeded 140,000 people this year. According to the most optimistic scenario, the materials collected correspond to **20% of the total quantity of recyclable materials** discarded during the big carnival parade.

**Photographs from the event can be found here:**

[www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2295064610516878&type=1&l=9e38cc9396](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.2295064610516878&type=1&l=9e38cc9396)

**A short, time-lapse video can be found here:**

<https://tinyurl.com/y34e4wh7>

**Facebook event with all relevant posts can be found here:**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/641366226333785/>

**For further information or clarifications please contact** (+357) 99813126 (Anastasia)

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<sup>1</sup> Green Dot is the licenced recycling operator for Limassol city.