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Plastic packaging

How to curb its climate impact

Fanny Rateau | Programme Manager | 27/09/2022

ECOS

Environmental Coalition on Standards

is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies, and laws.

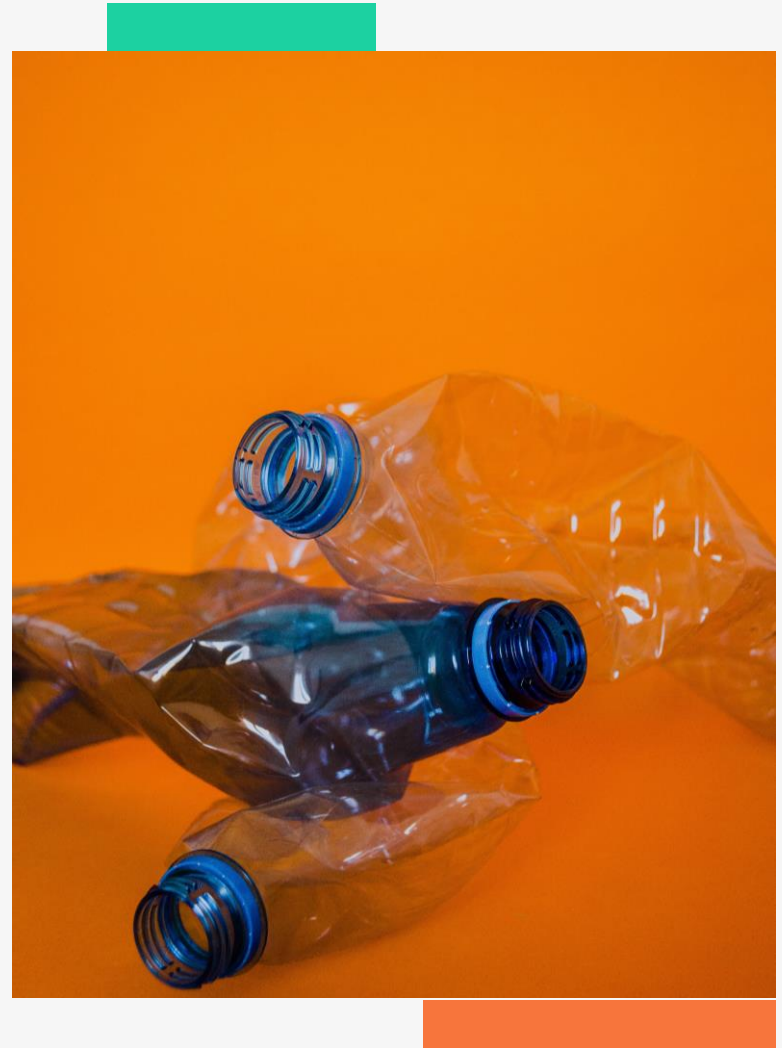


In a nutshell



Plastic packaging

How to curb its
climate change
impacts



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5 key asks

1. Reduce, reuse and refill
2. Give priority to mechanical recycling
3. Set the definitions right
4. Get rid of hazardous substances
5. Fully disclose environmental impacts

Reduce – Reuse – Refill

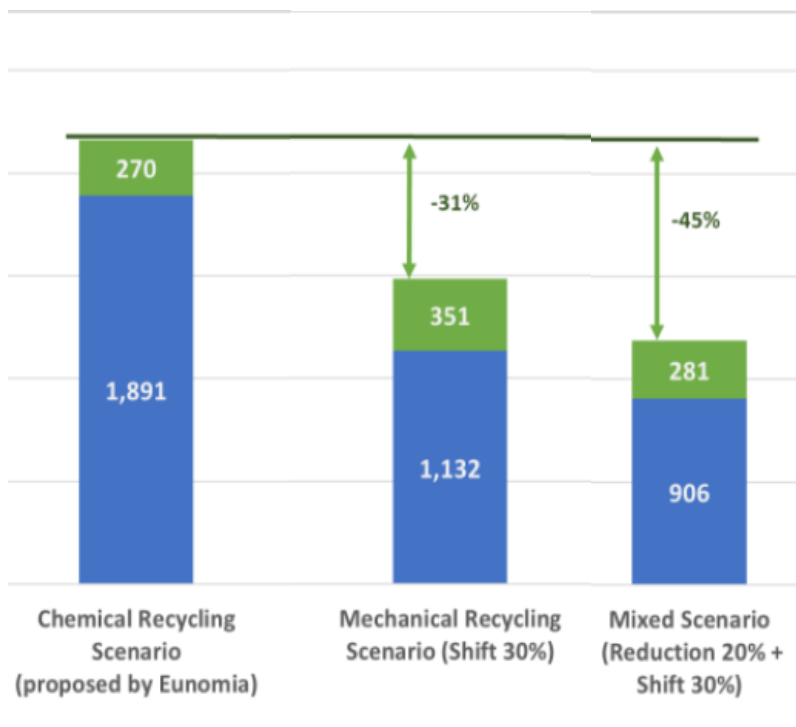
Eliminate unnecessary packaging and transition from single-use to reusable (plastic) packaging in revised PPWD

- reduction targets + overall cap on single-use packaging
- reusable packaging targets
- strong design-for-reuse requirements



Source: RPa publication 'What Is Reuse?'

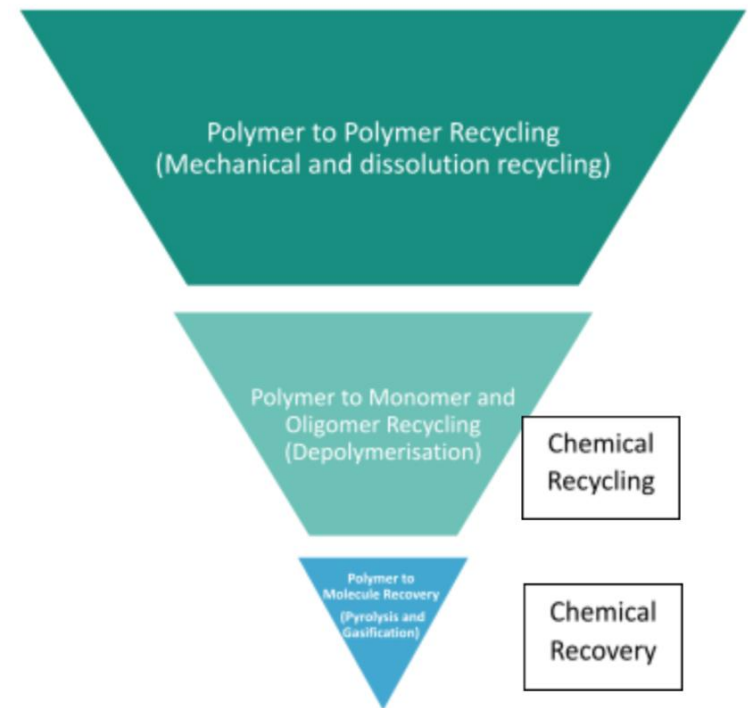
Priority to mechanical recycling



- Mechanical recycling (MR) emits 9 X less than chemical recycling (CR) / pyrolysis.
- MR has the lowest global warming impact as compared to CR for plastic packaging waste recycling.

Set the definitions right

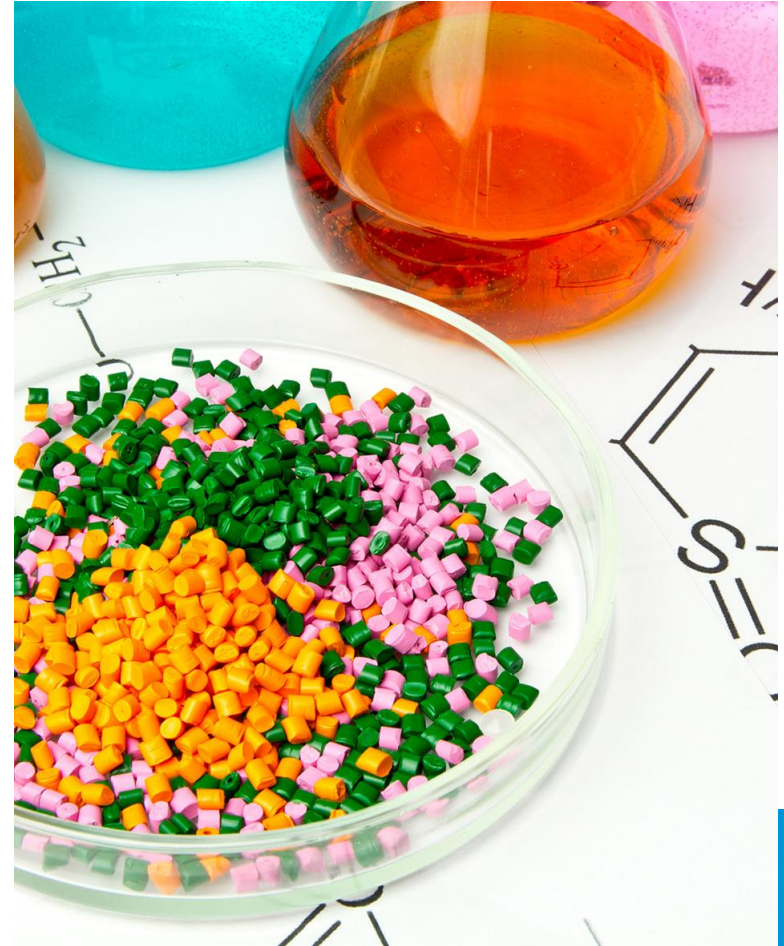
- Define clearly the different recycling technologies, especially CR ones
- Distinguish chemical recycling from chemical recovery
- Exclude any internal & external energy output from recycling calculation



Get rid of hazardous substances

Ensure toxic-free packaging by design

- Restrict the use of harmful chemicals in packaging
- Restrict the use of chemicals & practices impeding packaging recycling



Disclose environmental impacts



- Improve transparency on substances of concern in chemical recycling (CR) plants
- Debunk CR ability to remove hazardous chemicals, esp. for food contact packaging
- Pass on substance information in the plastic supply chain

Thank you

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