

Plastic Waste Partnership – Examples of possible pilot project topics

Project Group 2 on collection, recycling and other recovery including financing and related markets

Activity 1: Collect information, best practices and lessons learned to improve collection, separation and recycling systems of plastic waste, including through financing schemes such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), deposit return schemes, taxes, fees and other possible financial tools, e.g. for plastic packaging waste, agricultural films etc.; and on the implementation of such practices; and provide an analysis of these best practices, taking into account the informal sector.

- Replicate best practices of collection schemes and sorting of plastic waste, including those involving the informal sector.
- Pilot the introduction of financing schemes such as EPR and deposit-return schemes, on specific waste streams such as plastic packaging waste.
- Develop and pilot ESM pathways for plastic waste in SIDS.

Activity 2: Collect information on best practices and lessons learned to set up and increase capacity for environmentally sound recycling plastic waste, e.g. through innovative approaches in cooperation with various stakeholders with a special focus on:

- Financing schemes including conditions to enable such schemes;
- Technologies for recycling; and
- Developing markets for plastic waste streams from intermediate recycling steps, taking into account countries' different technical, geographical, possibilities for market access, financial or regulatory circumstances and different waste compositions

- Pilot approaches that facilitate communication along the plastic value chain (e.g. recyclers (downstream) and designers (upstream)) to promote recycling of plastic waste.
- Pilot innovative recycling solutions (e.g. in the tourism sector).

Activity 3: Collect information on best practices on regulatory and voluntary measures, economic, technological tools, and other incentives for promoting the use of non-hazardous recycled plastics and the development of markets for recycled plastics and on the implementation of these measures and incentives.

- Undertake small-/medium-scale pilot projects on the cost-effective use of recycled plastics.
- Pilot the use of regulatory or voluntary incentives, including financial incentives, to increase recyclable content.
- Pilot innovative solutions that give value to plastic waste in developing countries (e.g. plastic banks).
- Pilot approaches for the ESM of types of plastic waste that are difficult to recycle.
- Pilot systems and technologies to disseminate information of chemicals content in plastic through the value chain, from production to waste management.
- Pilot on certification schemes for the use of non-hazardous recycled plastics

Activity 4: Collect information on best practices and innovative technologies for separating or eliminating hazardous substances from plastic wastes during sorting and recycling.

- Test approaches for detecting the presence of hazardous additives in recycled plastic flakes, pellets, products and packaging, and investigating sources of such hazardous additives in plastic wastes that are recycled.
- Test and evaluate innovative technologies for separating or eliminating hazardous substances, or materials containing hazardous substances, from plastic wastes, including from plastic packaging, during sorting and recycling.
- Pilot the recycling of plastic waste containers contaminated with hazardous substances (e.g. agricultural pesticides).