

# WELCOME!

## KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE PROJECT BIOPLASTICS EUROPE



# Some facts about HAW Hamburg



Founded in 1970, ca. 17.000 students

Four Faculties: Media and Design, IT, Economics and Social Sciences & **Life Sciences**

Hosts the Research and Transfer Centre  
“Sustainability and Climate Change Management”

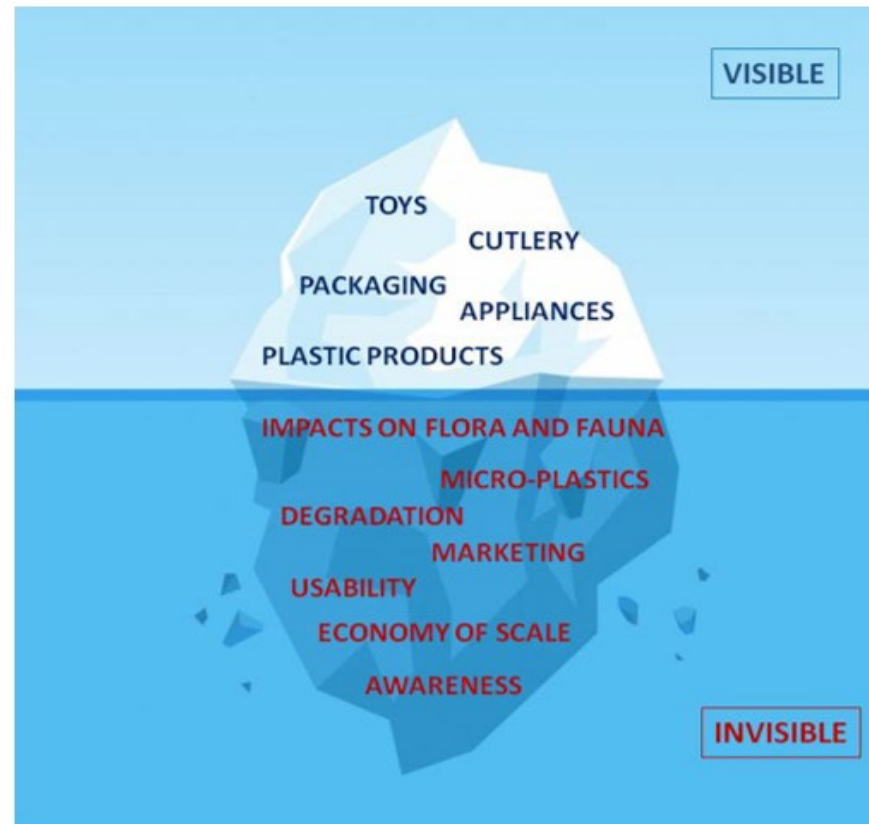


# The complexity of the „plastic problem“

## Types:

- Polyethylene terephthalate (PET or PETE)
- High-density polyethylene (HDPE)
- Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
- Low-density polyethylene (LDPE)
- Polypropylene (PP)
- Polystyrene (PS)

€ 359 billion /Year  
7th largest industry  
(Car: € 423 billion)  
1,5m jobs  
ca. 60.000 companies



EU: 25 Mio. t/year  
24,6% in Germany  
(UK: 7,5%)

50% burned  
20% recycled

12,7 Mio. t/year  
in the sea

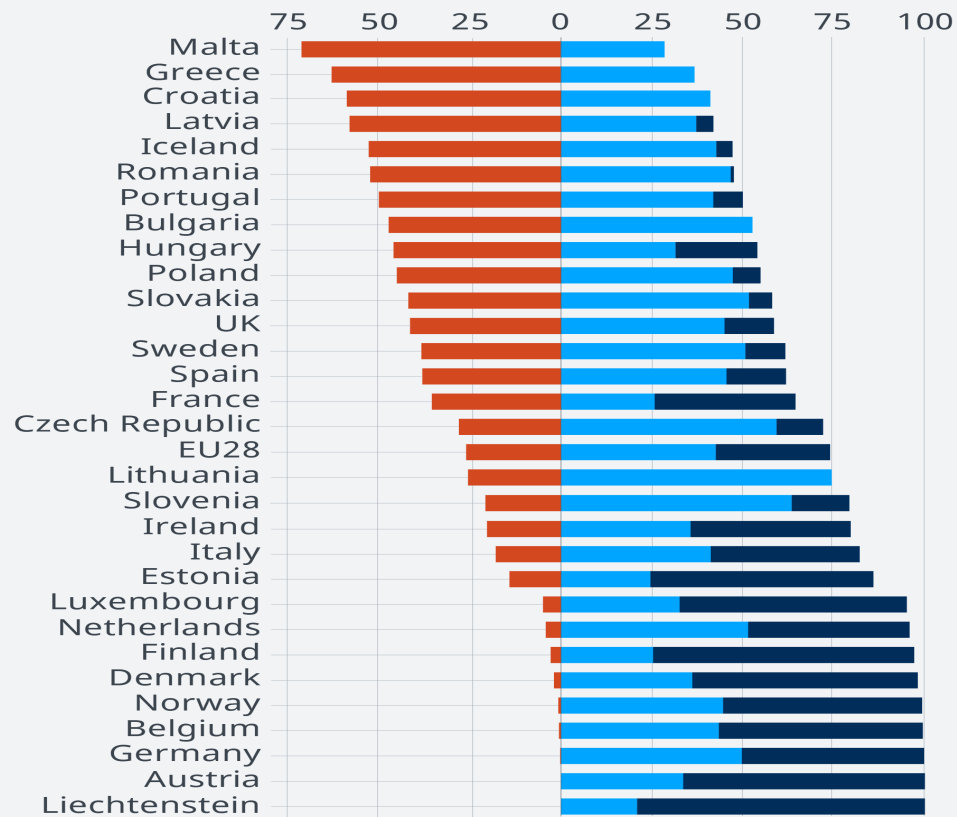
Packaging: ca. 60%



## Plastic: Wasted or recovered?

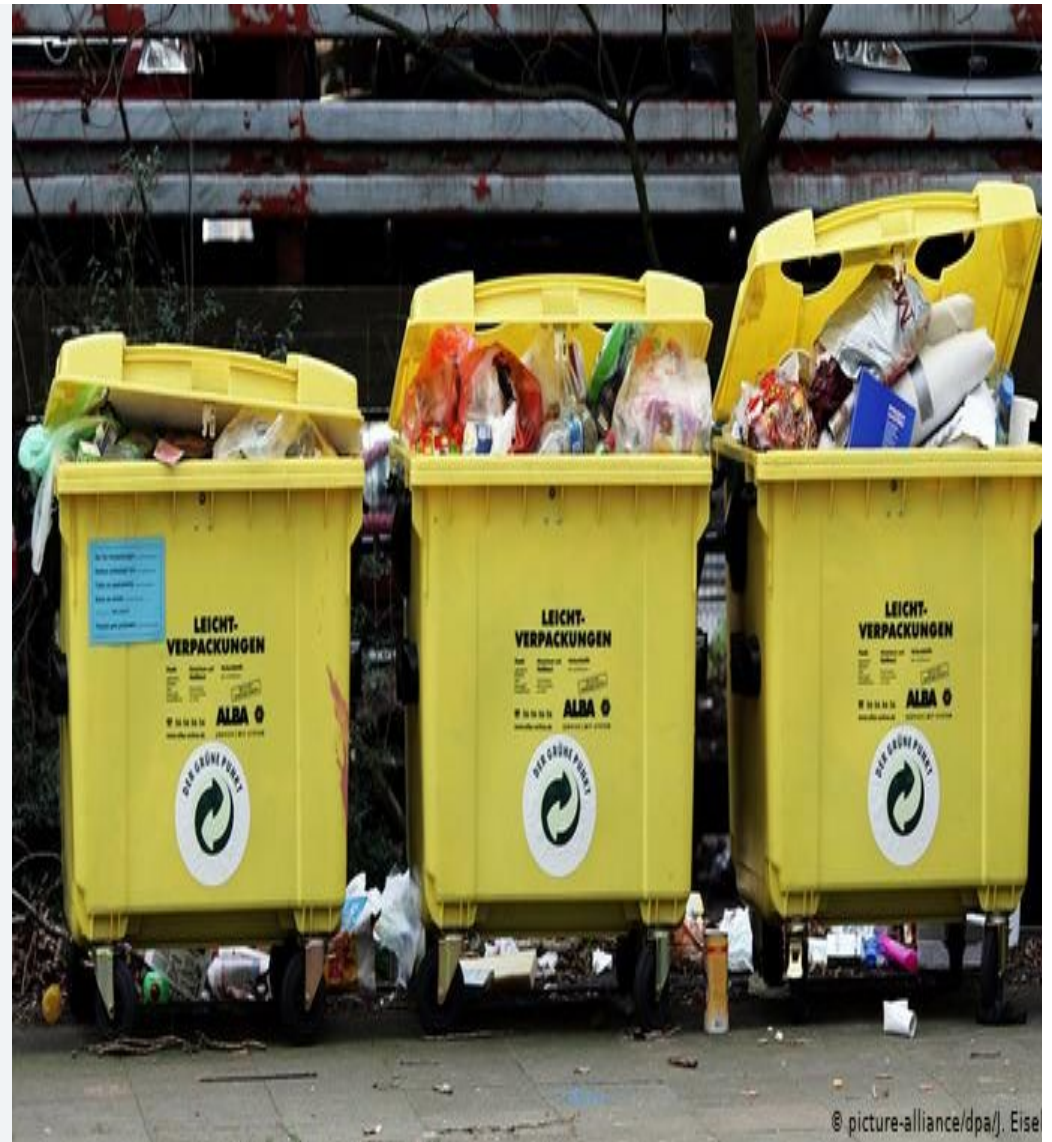
Share of plastic packaging waste that is

- Not recovered (e.g. ends up in landfills)
- Recycled (e.g. materials reused)
- Otherwise recovered (e.g. incinerated for energy)



Source: Eurostat (env\_waspac), latest available data for each country (2015 or 2016)

© DW



© picture-alliance/dpa/Eise

# The project BIO-PLASTICS Europe



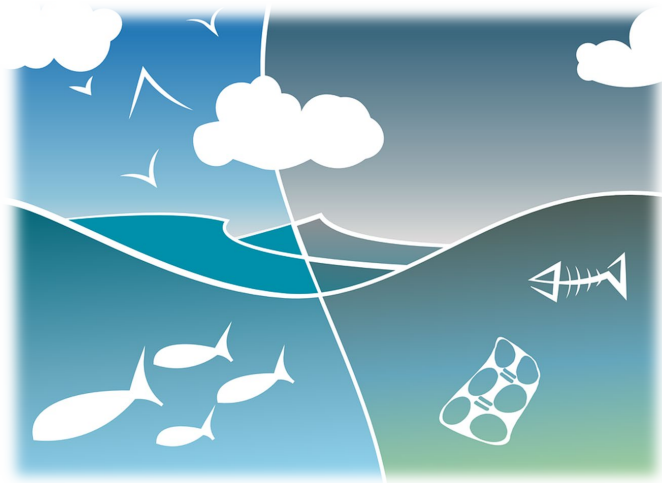
- Started on 1st October 2019
  - Duration: Oct 2019- Sep 2023
  - 22 Partners from 13 countries
  - Budget: ca. 8,4m
  - HAW Hamburg as Coordinator
- 
- Aims: to optimise the management of plastic waste and foster the development of innovation on bioplastics, i.e. new bio-based materials which can be biodegradable.



# Plastic Europe: 100% by 2040 New ideas to move away from fossil fuels based plastic!



# Aims of the kick-off meeting



- Discuss the project implementation and management/financial issues
- Introduce the work at WP level
- Fine-tune the procedures and schedule
- Get to know each other better
- Complemented by an open meeting tomorrow



# We wish us all a great project and a productive time together!

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences  
Research and Transfer Centre „Sustainability and Climate Change Management“  
Ulmenliet 20  
21033 Hamburg

[www.haw-hamburg.de/ftz-nk.html](http://www.haw-hamburg.de/ftz-nk.html)



[ftz-nk@ls.haw-hamburg.de](mailto:ftz-nk@ls.haw-hamburg.de)



[@FTZ\\_NK Hamburg](https://twitter.com/FTZ_NK_Hamburg)







#InvestEUresearch

# Horizon 2020 Work Programme for Research & Innovation 2018-2020

**Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy**

## Biodegradability of polymeric products: links to EU regulation

Silvia MALTAGLIATI

Policy Officer – Seconded National Expert

European Commission

DG RTD.C1 Circular Economy & Biobased Systems

Research and  
Innovation

*“..activities shall contribute to building a biodegradable plastics sustainability framework.. by mapping and focusing on the applications where biodegradable and compostable solutions could support public policies”*

## **EU 2018 Plastic Strategy**

**- Curbing plastic waste and littering**

*“Establishing a clear regulatory framework for plastics with biodegradable properties”*

**- Driving innovation and investment towards circular solutions**

*“The Commission is particularly attentive to innovation on materials that fully biodegrade in seawater and freshwater and are harmless for the environment and ecosystems.”*

## **Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment**

**Calls for an assessment of the scientific and technical progress concerning criteria or a standard for biodegradability in the marine environment applicable to single-use plastic products.... within a timescale short enough for the plastics not to be harmful to marine life and not to lead to an accumulation of plastics in the environment.**



## **REGULATION (EU) 2019/1009 laying down rules on the making available on the market of EU fertilising products**

In the new regulation on fertilising products the Commission shall assess biodegradability criteria for polymers used as coating agent and, where appropriate, shall adopt delegated acts establishing biodegradability criteria(\*). Moreover, the Commission shall assess the possibility of determining biodegradability criteria of mulch films, and the possibility of incorporating them into component material category.



# ANNEX XV

## RESTRICTION REPORT

### PROPOSAL FOR A RESTRICTION – August 2019

The European Chemical Agency (ECHA) has issued a restriction dossier for intentionally added microplastics (microbeads) in products that result in releases to the environment an which includes a number of derogations such as polymers that are (bio)degradable in the environment and dedicates a section on “(Bio)degradability criteria” including

- Demonstrating (bio)degradability using screening criteria (1-3)
- Demonstrating (bio)degradability using higher tier assessment (5)
- Demonstrating (bio)degradability if microplastics are deliberately applied to soil or foliage (*to assess the (bio)degradability of microplastics that are directly applied to soils, e.g. controlled release fertilising products.*)
- Test material in (bio)degradation tests

## EU 2018 Plastic Strategy

- Curbing plastic waste and littering  
*"The rising problem of microplastics"*

## Environmental and Health Risks of Microplastic Pollution - Group of Chief Scientific Advisors 2019

The scientific opinion delivered by the European Commission's Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) Group of Chief Scientific Advisors provides recommendations to policy on fighting pollution from microplastics, based on scientific evidence including on biodegradability of plastics.

*From a regulatory perspective (on biodegradability) ...precise criteria on: a) which timeframe...b) in which environments.. c) what about other degradation processes... d) against what standards or references ...*

## Conclusions

**Consider current/under scrutiny regulation requirements and indications (criteria) to address:**

- **Consistency with criteria**
- **Focus on regulation requirements (environments, products, uses, ..)**
- **Communication: policy, social community, ..**



# Thank you!

More information:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/plastic\\_waste.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/plastic_waste.htm)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019L0904>

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1009/oj>

<https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-restriction-intentions/-/dislist/details/0b0236e18244cd73>

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/environmental-and-health-risks-microplastic-pollution\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/environmental-and-health-risks-microplastic-pollution_en)