

EUROCORD

(European Association of Rope, Twine and Netting manufacturers,
their suppliers and their affiliate industries)

Circular Design of Plastics in Ropes and Nets

PLASTIC RECYCLING FACT SHEET

GLOBAL PLASTIC PRODUCTION

368 Mt

WORLD'S LARGEST GENERATOR OF PLASTIC WASTE

United States

ESTIMATED QUANTITY OF PLASTIC IN NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

2tn pieces

COUNTRY THAT GENERATES THE MOST PLASTIC WASTE

United States

LARGEST PRODUCER OF PLASTIC WASTE PER CAPITA IN EUROPE

United Kingdom

LARGEST SINGLE-USE PLASTIC WASTE GENERATING COUNTRY

China

GENERATION

Main source of plastic waste generation in Europe

Packaging industry

Plastic packaging waste generation in the EU

17.2m mt

Largest plastic packaging waste producer in the EU

Germany

Some comparison

EUROPE

TRADE

Plastic waste exported by the EU in 2020

2.37m mt

Main destination for EU plastic waste exports

Turkey

Top exporter of plastic waste in the EU

Germany

U S A

TRADE

Exports of scrap plastic from the U.S. in 2020

1.37bn lbs

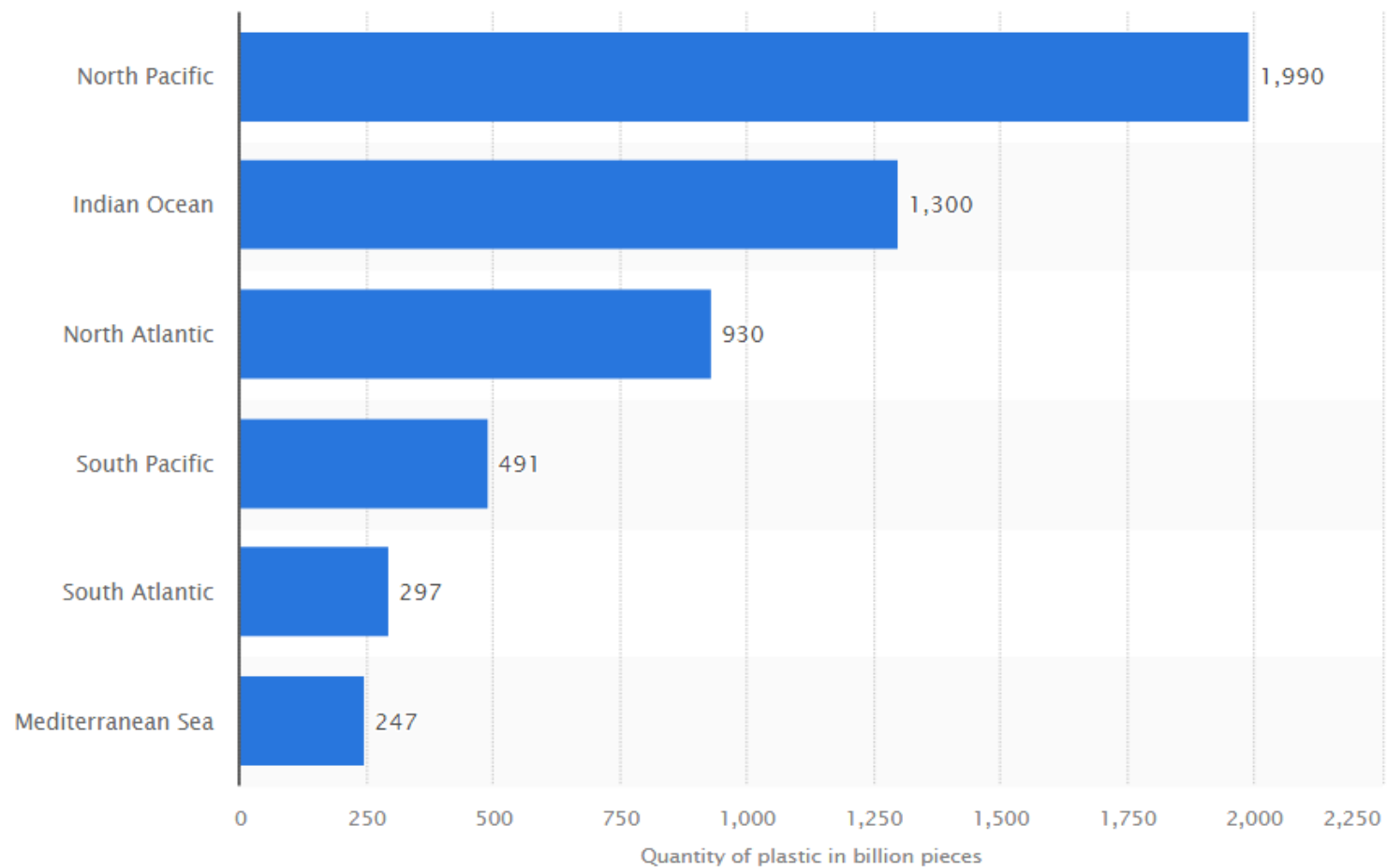
Top destination for U.S. scrap plastic exports

Canada

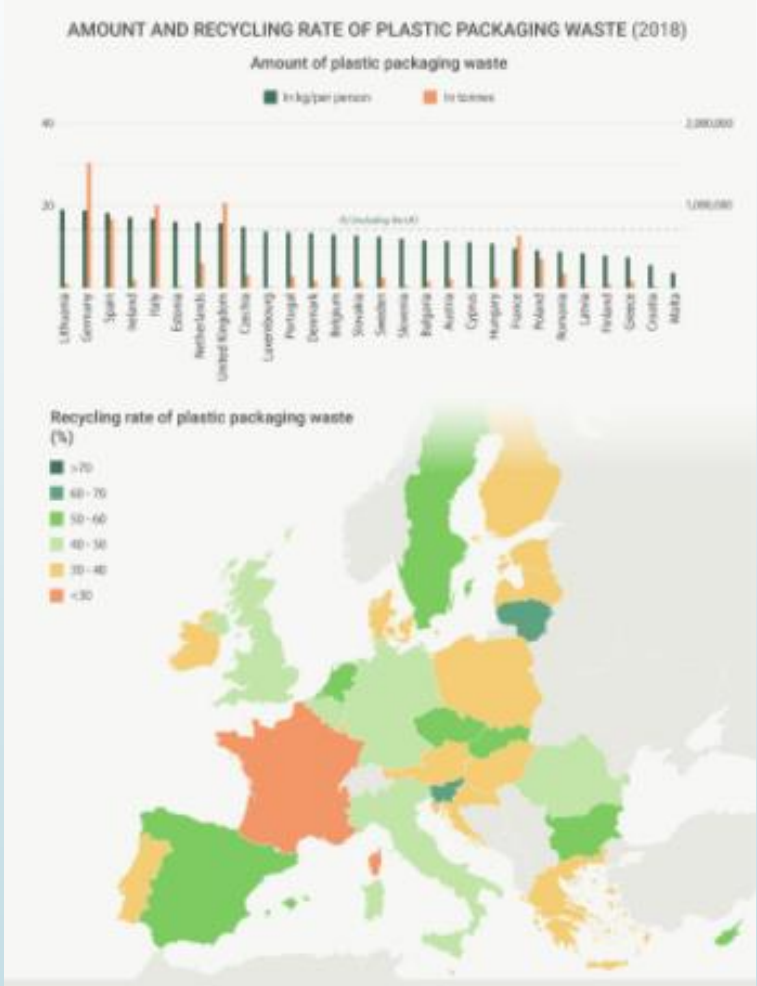
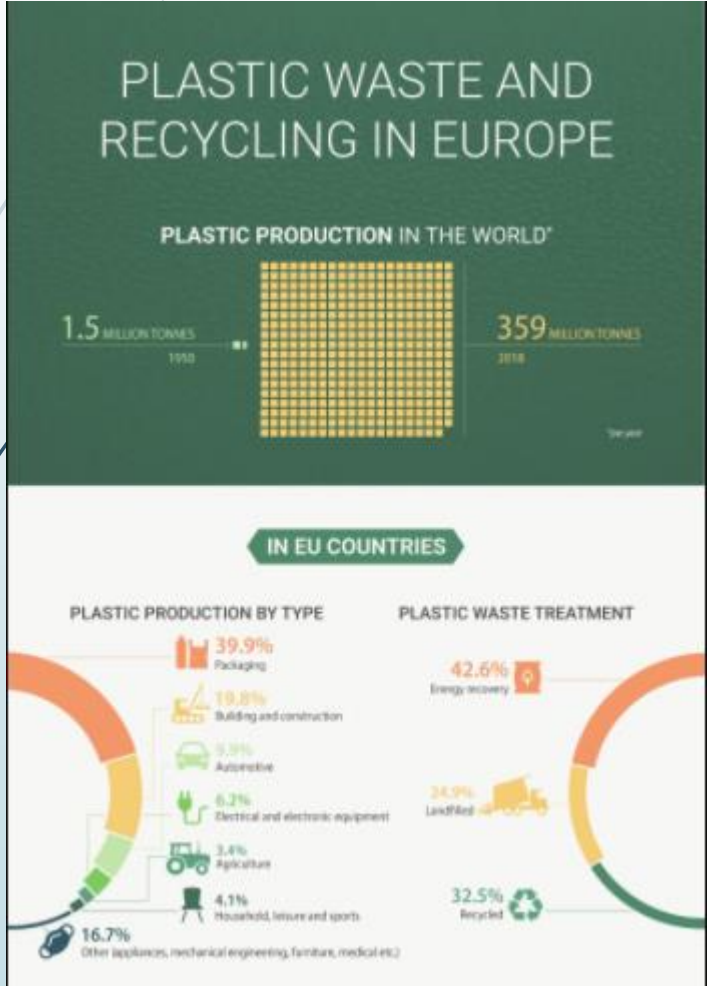
Share of U.S. scrap plastic exported to Malaysia

19%

Estimated quantities of plastic in major marine areas (in billion pieces)



European State of Play



For Eurocord, we have 2 distinct areas of action (within the EU 27):

Marine Ropes and Nets

- ❖ Listed as a “stakeholder in the Directive
- ❖ Gear litter is transboundary (== > international)
- ❖ Size of market : +/- 45.000 T
- ❖ Intensive use of high density materials
- ❖ Scattered initiatives, not industry-organized
- ❖ Legislation still vague
- ❖ Eurocord only transnational body
- ❖ Silent member of CPA*
- ❖ No country has committed yet

* CPA = Circular Plastics Alliance

Agriculture Ropes, Nets and Twines

Not specifically mentioned
Domestic use
Size of market : 1.175.000 T
Pretty much low-end materials
Systems in place for decades
Legislation precise (a.o. fees)
APE / Eurocord together
Active member of CPA*
11 countries are fully committed (80%)

(Sweden 2002, Ireland 2001, France 2002, Germany 2013, Spain 2014
UK 2019, Holland – Belgium – Finland 2021, Poland under way, Italy spoken-
out intention... but difficult to get correct stats!!)

European State of Play Agriculture

The European Commission launched the Circular Plastics Alliance in December 2018 to help plastic value chains boost the EU market for recycled plastics to **10 million tonnes** by 2025.

European market for Agricultural Plastic

European market survey	Tons New	%	Tons Used	%
Films	547 000	76%	927 500	79%
Pipe	40 000	6%	48 000	4%
Net	54 500	8%	79 950	7%
Twines	80 000	11%	120 000	10%
LDPE	587 000	81%	975 500	83%
HDPE	54 500	8%	79 950	7%
PP	80 000	11%	120 000	10%
Gran total	721 500	100%	1 175 450	100%

European market Survey Results so far (based on 8 countries early 2020)

European market survey	Polymer	Tons New	%	Soilage	Tons Used	%	Collected tons	Soil Content	Pastic waste	Recyded material available for integration	
Plasticulture for Vegetable production											
Greenhouses	LDPE	120 000	17%	1,25	150 000	13%	90%	135 000	27 000	108 000	102 600
Small tunnels	LDPE	56 000	8%	2	112 000	10%	80%	89 600	44 800	44 800	42 560
Mulching	LDPE	83 000	12%	3	249 000	21%	80%	199 200	132 800	66 400	
Bio	Deg.	5 000	1%		-	0%			-		0
Oxo	Deg.	8 000	1%		-	0%			-		0
Irrigation pipe <400µ	LDPE	20 000	3%	1,2	24 000	2%	50%	12 000	2 000	10 000	9 500
Tube with driper	LDPE	20 000	3%	1,2	24 000	2%	50%	12 000	2 000	10 000	9 500
Non woven	PP	8 000	1%	2	16 000	1%	50%	8 000	4 000	4 000	3 800
Protective net	HDPE	4 500	1%	1,1	4 950	0%	50%	2 475	225	2 250	2 138
Total		324 500	45%	1,79	579 950	49%	79%	458 275	212 825	245 450	170 098
Plasticulture for Animal production											
Silages	LD	121 000	17%	1,5	181 500	15%	50%	90 750	30 250	60 500	57 475
Stretch film	LD	146 000	20%	1,5	219 000	19%	50%	109 500	36 500	73 000	69 350
Bale net	HDPE	50 000	7%	1,5	75 000	6%	50%	37 500	12 500	25 000	
Twine	PP	80 000	11%	1,5	120 000	10%	50%	60 000	20 000	40 000	38 000
Total		397 000	55%	1,50	595 500	51%	50%	297 750	99 250	198 500	164 825
Films		547 000	76%	1,70	927 500	79%	68%	632 050	275 350	356 700	275 785
Pipe		40 000	6%	1,20	48 000	4%	50%	24 000	4 000	20 000	19 000
Net		54 500	8%	1,47	79 950	7%	50%	39 975	12 725	27 250	2 138
Twines		80 000	11%	1,50	120 000	10%	50%	60 000	20 000	40 000	38 000
LDPE		587 000	81%	1,66	975 500	83%	66%	648 050	275 350	372 700	290 985
HDPE		54 500	8%	1,47	79 950	7%	50%	39 975	12 725	27 250	2 138
PP		80 000	11%	1,50	120 000	10%	57%	68 000	24 000	44 000	41 800
Gran total		721 500	100%	1,63	1 175 450	100%	64%	756 025	312 075	443 950	334 923

**European State of Play
Agriculture**

European market Survey Results so far (based on 11 countries early 2021)

Financial contribution of players

○ Sweden: SvegRetur	€ 74 / Tonne	340 collection points
○ Ireland : Irish Farm Film Producers Group	€ 130 – 190 / Tonne	200 collection points
○ France : A.D.I. Valor	€ 80 – 270 / Tonne	4.500 collection sites
○ Germany : ERDE	€ 35 / Tonne	1.200 collection points
○ Spain : MAPLA	<i>start 2021</i>	All over the country
○ UK : APE UK	€ 20 / Tonne	6 Regional Collections
○ Holland	Good collection rates Already scattered collection centers available Under investigation	Limited (small size) Probably all farmers centers
○ Belgium		
○ Finland		
○ Italy		
○ Poland		

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European State of Play Marine

Objective

There are 5,250 billion plastic particles floating on the surface on the world's seas and oceans, equivalent to 268,940 metric tons of waste. These fragments move with the currents before washing up on beaches, islands, coral atolls or one of the five great ocean gyres. Because MP cannot be removed from oceans, proactive action regarding research on plastic alternatives and strategies to prevent plastic entering the environment should be taken promptly. Despite the research increasing, there is still a lack of suitable and validated analytical methods for detection and quantification of small micro- and nano plastics (SMNP) evidencing a huge obstacle for large-scale monitoring. There is also a lack of hazard and fate data which would allow their risk assessment.

SUP Directive (2019/904 published June 2020) / PRF Directive (2000/59 reviewed 2019/883)

Member States shall :

- Establish “Extended Producer Responsibility” for fishing gear
- Set national minimum collection rate of fishing gear containing plastic
- Report 6-monthly to the Commission
- Ensure that producers of fishing gear cover the cost of separate collection
- Implement awareness raising measures
- Encourage re-usable alternatives

12 Control Regulators shall inform the competent authorities of the flag Member State of:

- Identification of the fishing vessel
- Type of lost gear
- Time when the gear was lost
- Position where the gear was lost
- Measures undertaken to retrieve it
- Ensure a proper counting of in- and outgoing vessels and its equipment

**European State of Play
Marine**

Problems faced :

- ✓ Correct definition of ropes, nets, accessories, and of their main raw material
- ✓ No reliable national data available on domestic production
- ✓ Questionable data on import/export data of ropes and nets (EUROSTAT)
- ✓ Huge communication effort : 1.200 commercial seaports in 23 coastal countries
(120 ports located in the UK, biggest coastal fishing waters)

Table 2: Feedback from MS data collection on data available at national level (out of 23 coastal MS)

Is the following data available in your MS?	No. of MS stating they have some data	No. of MS stating they have data at national level
Data on fishing gear placed on the market?	3	3
Data on aquaculture gear placed on the market?	3	2
Data on passively fished waste ?	7	5
Data on EoL fishing gear?	4	3
Data on the disposal of fishing gear?	3	3
Data on the disposal of passively fished waste?	3	2
Data on recycling of fishing gear?	3	1
Data on recycling of other plastic waste landed in ports?	2	1

Source: Feedback from MS reporters

European State of Play Marine

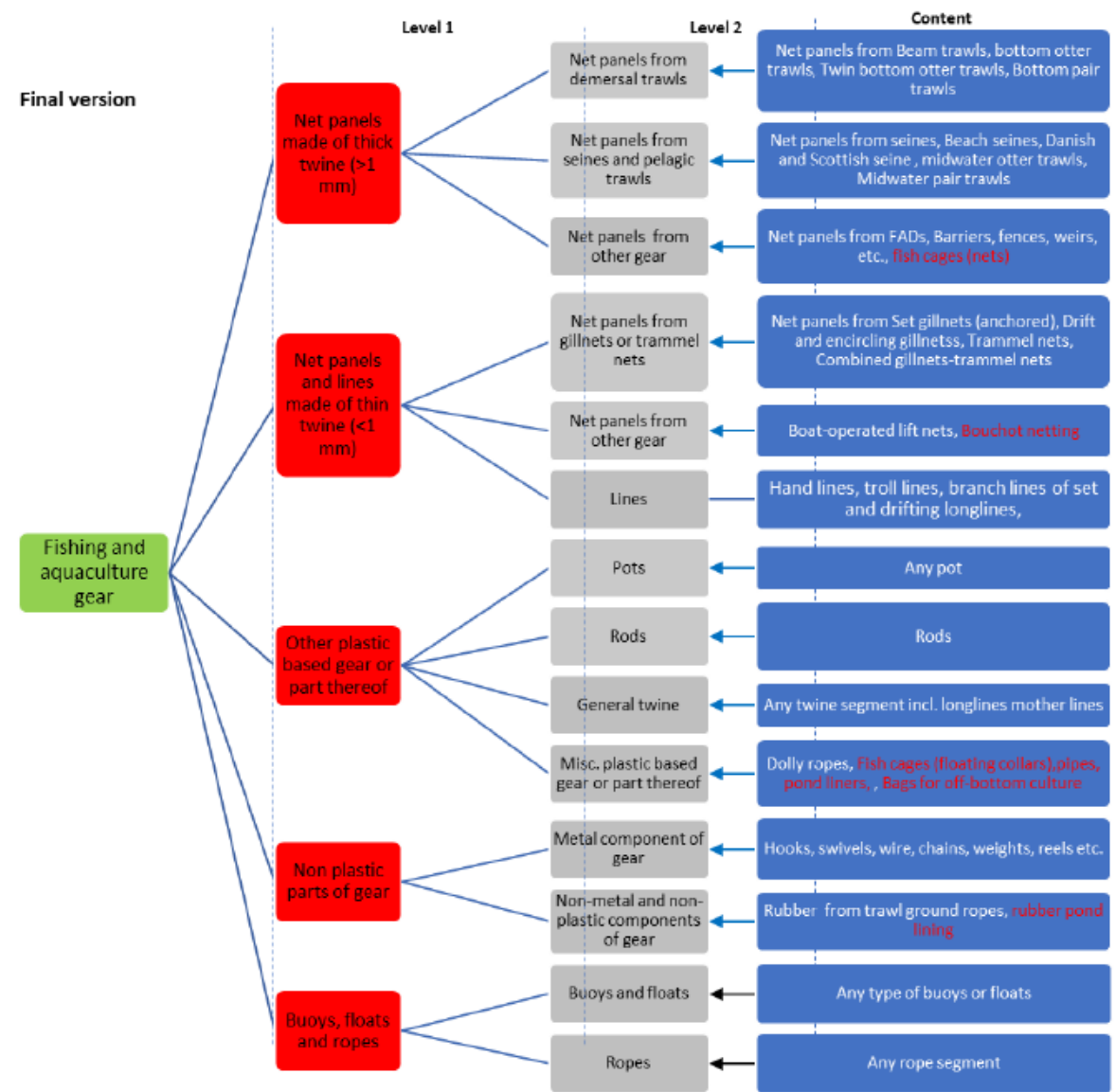
Difficulty in classification...

+ Majority of EoL fishing gear goes into landfill

+ Diverse used material types

- Polypropylene
- Polyethylene
- Polystyrene
- HMPE
- Nylon
- Other

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Marine applications

- Set-up of TC Plastic Waste Management **
- Awareness raising of worldwide members
- Continue to liaise with all stakeholders (Manufacturers, distributors, fishermen, ports authorities, collection organizations, recycling facilities, ...)
- Promoting R&D on alternative materials (Glaukos, own members, etc...)
- Chairing and keeping control of EU standardization initiatives through CEN TC 466

Agriculture applications

- Active participation in CPA
- Proactive collaboration with APE

- Participate in the development of a new EU standardization committee CEN TC 249, WG 7 "Agriculture", very much based on French existing standards (AFNOR)

**** Technical Committee 3 - Plastic Waste Management (created 2018)**

- Consolidate its role of stakeholder towards the EU
- Collect reliable data on plastics at sea from fishing
- Participate in the organization of collection schemes with other stakeholders (fishermen, cooperatives, ports, etc)
- Bring on board recycling processors
- Eurocord contribution on:
 - Segregate waste for a better recycling
 - Organize workshops to raise awareness / best practises
 - Find alternative applications for recycle materials

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First Vice-President Frans **Timmermans**, responsible for sustainable development, said: "To get to a circular plastics economy, it is essential that more recycled plastics find their way into new products. While we are very grateful for the variety of contributions we received from different industry representatives, more needs to be done. We will now analyse which should be the next steps to further boost the uptake of recycled plastics and close the gap between supply and demand. This is not only necessary for safeguarding our natural environment but also good for our economy as Europe leads the way."