



## **CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

Closing the loop

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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

***PETplanet Insider Webinar April 22, 2021***

## Outline:

- 1. Background of the SUP Directive**
- 2. Main provisions of the SUPD**
- 3. Implementation of the SUPD**



Health concerns



Degradation of marine ecosystems (cost: 13 billion Euros a year)



Impact on fisheries and aquaculture (1-5% of total fleet revenue) and ports/shipping



Tourism and coastal communities (cost:  $\approx$  630 million euros)





**Smart**

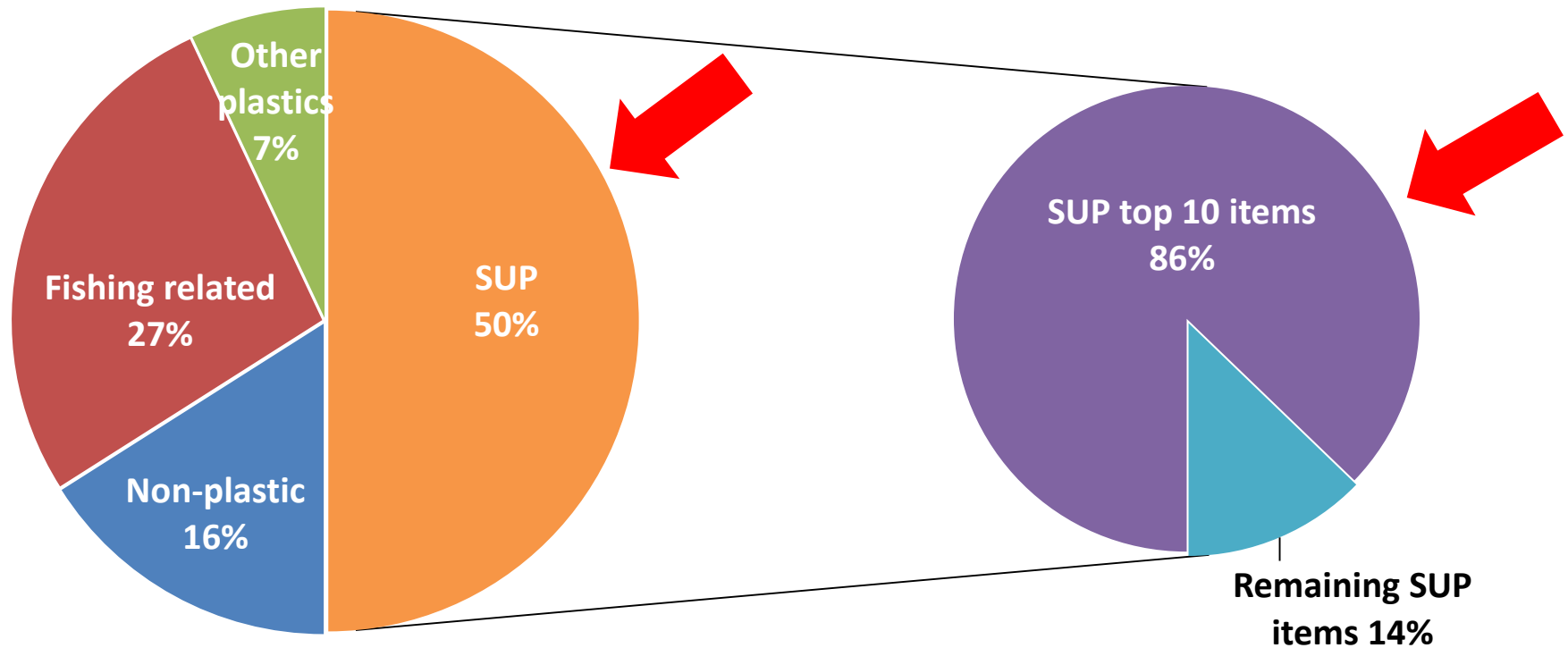
**Innovative**

**Sustainable**



**EU Plastics Strategy - 4 priority areas**

## Most found marine litter items on European beaches (count)



- SUPD: 70% marine litter covered: top 10 SUP (43%) + fishing gear (27%)
- Source: - Marine Strategy Framework Directive - Joint Research Center  
- European Regional Seas Conventions

# 10 most found items



<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Item</b>
<b>1</b>	Drinks bottles, caps and lids
<b>2</b>	Cigarette butts
<b>3</b>	Cotton buds sticks
<b>4</b>	Crisp packets / sweet wrappers
<b>5</b>	Sanitary applications
<b>6</b>	Plastic bags
<b>7</b>	Cutlery, straws and stirrers
<b>8</b>	Drinks cups and cup lids
<b>9</b>	Balloons and balloon sticks
<b>10</b>	Food containers including fast food packaging



## *Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of certain plastic products on the environment of 5 June 2019*

### Objectives:

- Prevent and reduce the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, in particular the aquatic environment and on human health
- Promote the transition to a circular economy with innovative and sustainable business models, products and materials
- Contributing to the efficient functioning of the internal market

**Not against plastics, but tackling its unsustainable use.**



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## ***Different SUP products – different measures***

items with available  
sustainable alternatives



promote less harmful  
alternatives:  
market bans

items with no clear alternatives



prevention measures:  
design requirements,  
consumption reduction,  
consumer information



better waste management:  
separate collection,  
extended producer  
responsibility + clean-up

# Consumption reduction (Article 4)



- **Ambitious and sustained** / measurable quantitative reduction in consumption by 2026 compared to 2022 of
  - Food containers
  - Cups for beverages including covers and lids
- **Member States to choose appropriate measures**
  - Consumption reduction targets
  - Economic instruments
  - Increase the availability of alternatives e.g. re-usable
  - Items not provided free of charge
- **National marketing restrictions are possible** for the purposes of preventing those products from becoming litter in order to ensure that they are **substituted with alternatives that are re-usable or do not contain plastic** (derogation from Article 18 of PPWD).

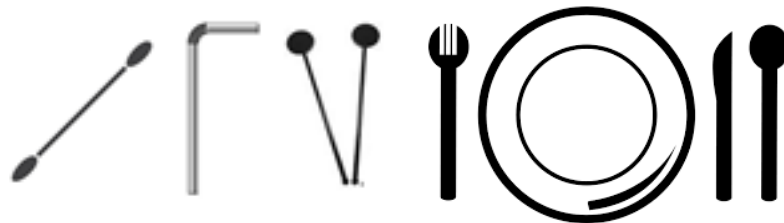


# Market restriction (bans) (Article 5)



- EU bans because of the **plastic content**, not the product
- Only products with **readily available alternatives** (single & multi use):

- **Cotton bud sticks**
- **Cutlery**
- **Plates**
- **Straws**
- **Beverage stirrers**
- **Sticks for balloons**
- **All products made of oxo-degradable plastic**
- **Cups, food and beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene**



# Product design requirements (Article 6)

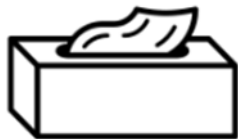


- 1. Tethered caps and lids (to remain attached) for all beverage containers and bottles up to 3 litres**  
*(Standardisation request to CEN);*
- 2. Binding target for Member States to ensure recycled content of single-use plastic beverage bottles placed on the market:**
  - **at least 25%** of recycled plastic for single-use PET beverage bottles from 2025
  - **at least 30%** of recycled content for all single-use plastic beverage bottles from 2030

# Marking Requirements (Article 7)



- **Tobacco products with filters, cups for beverages, wet wipes and sanitary towels** will require a clear and harmonized labelling on the product or on packaging. For cups, the label will be on the product itself.
- The label will indicate the **presence of plastics** in the product, **how waste should not be disposed**, and the **negative environmental impact if disposed inappropriately**.



# Extended producer responsibility (Article 8)



**For food and beverage containers, bottles, cups, packets and wrappers, light weight carrier bags and tobacco products with filters**

**Producers will help cover the costs of:**



- waste prevention (awareness raising);
- waste management (collection and treatment costs of on-the-go waste in public areas);
- litter clean-up and
- data gathering.



For **wet wipes and balloons**, only the waste prevention and litter clean-up costs are covered.

~ minimum requirements for EPR schemes as in Waste Framework Directive

# Separate collection (Article 9)



Separate collection target for plastic beverage bottles

~ Target can be achieved inter alia through EPR or through deposit refund schemes



→ **by 2025 – 77%**



→ **by 2029 – 90%**



- Supporting high quality recyclates and uptake of secondary raw materials
- Supporting plastic packaging recycling target of 55% by 2030

## Provide information to consumers on:



- **Availability of reusable alternatives**, reuse systems and **waste management options**
- **Impact of littering**
- **Impact on sewer network** of inappropriate waste disposal

→ *Achieve reduction in littering of single use plastic products covered and fishing gear*





## Evaluation of the Directive by July 2027 (Article 15)

Report by the Commission on the feasibility to :



- Review the **list of SUPs** in the Annex
- Set **quantitative consumption reduction targets for food containers and beverage cups** and establish binding collection rates for fishing gear
- **Assessment of the change in materials and consumption patterns** (wherever possible, including LCA)
- Assessment of progress for a **standard on biodegradability** of SUP in the marine environment (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)



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## Transposition and Implementation

- MS have two years for bringing into force the national laws and regulations to comply with the Directive:
  - 3 July 2021
- **Article 17** provides specific application deadlines:
  - ✓ **Article 5 (market restrictions)** – from 3 July 2021
  - ✓ **Article 6(1) (product design)** – from 3 July 2024
  - ✓ **Article 7(1) (marking)** – from 3 July 2021
  - ✓ **Article 8 (EPR)** – by 31/12/2024
- *COM is monitoring the transposition and implementation by MS*



## Implementation work (Commission)

- **2 sets of Guidelines:**
  - ❖ SUP Guidelines: what is to be considered a single use plastic product, definitions (art. 12)
  - ❖ Guidelines on EPR: criteria on costs of litter clean up (art. 8)
  
- **2 Standardisation requests (ongoing):**
  - ❖ tethered caps and lids, art. 6 (plastic bottles);
  - ❖ circularity of fishing gear, art. 8(9)
  
- **Several Implementing acts:**
  - ❖ Marking, beverage bottles separate collection, reporting of fishing gear and waste collected
  - ❖ reporting by Member States on measures taken, measuring and reporting consumption reduction
  - ❖ reporting of post consumption waste tobacco products
  - ❖ measuring and reporting of recycled content of SUP beverage bottles

## Example: SUP Marking Requirements (Art. 7)

- The label indicates the presence of plastics in the product, wrong disposal behaviour, and the negative environmental impact, if disposed inappropriately.
- Examples, how it looks like in practice according to the related Implementing Regulation 2020/2151 on harmonised markings of certain SUP products and corrigenda from March 5, 2021
- Pictograms available on DG ENV website:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/topics/plastics/single-use-plastics/sups-marking-specifications\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/topics/plastics/single-use-plastics/sups-marking-specifications_en)



# Recycled content beyond SUP



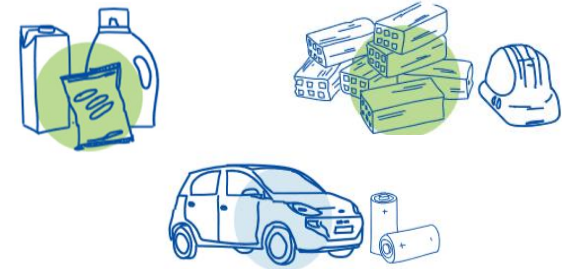
## ***Aim Plastics Strategy:***

**10 million tons of recycled plastics** in new products on the EU market by 2025



## **CEAP:**

**Commission proposals for mandatory requirements for key products such as packaging, construction materials and vehicles**





**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION  
AND YOUR  
QUESTIONS**

***Learn more about this Directive, the plastics strategy and the circular economy:***

***[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm)***