



Public Consultation Submissions & Responses

Intent & Objectives: Single-Use Plastic Products Strategy for Malta, 2019 - 2025 –

Rethink Plastic

May 2019

Environment & Resources Authority



CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Ref No.	Name of Stakeholder / Date	Comments Received	Response / Remarks
1	Martin Bugeja 23/01/2019	<p>I suggest you embark on a massive educational campaign, starting with our primary schools. That way one hopes that the megatons of discarded plastic will start to be reduced and more people will be encouraged to live their lives in accordance with the 3Rs principle i.e. Reuse - Reduce - Recycle.</p> <p>Although you only have my word for it, my family and I do our very best in this regard</p> <p>Needless to say, ERA must strive to persuade and incentivise the catering and fast food companies to do away with plastic cutlery, straws, cups, geblo containers etc.</p> <p>As for what needs to be done to vastly increase the amount of locally recycled plastic from the present pathetic figure of around 6%, I honestly have no idea but I'm sure ERA can solicit expert advice and assistance from pertinent European countries.</p>	Comment considered. Some measures are intended to address the points raised.
2	Alfred Falzon 28/01/2019	<p>My opinion is that we should revert to the old waste system before the advent of plastic. The use of buckets instead of the BLACK or WHITE plastic bags which the Local Council is providing and saying which plastic bag one has to use on each day of the week. Special mention is being made with regards to the BLACK plastic bag used for general waste.</p>	Comment has been noted. Measures on single-use plastic bags are included in the strategy.

3	Rob 04/02/2019	<p><u>The aim here is the reduction of SUP items in the Maltese Islands by Q1 2020:</u></p> <p>The Objectives of this Strategy are to:</p> <p>1. Reduce consumption of single-use plastic (SUP) products;</p> <p>A change in Law for single-use non-biodegradable plastic bags from Shops and Grocery Stores as an initial focal point. These are the places where the majority of the single-use plastics are originating from.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A ban for single-use plastics in all stores and grocery-stores. A single strike and we will have data points a month later to assess effectiveness. 2. A mandatory rule for consumers to bring their own re-usable/carry-on bags for groceries into the stores, like the rules applied in Germanic/Scandinavian countries. 3. A framework with such rules above will allow for innovative businesses to emerge with new concepts for packaging, storing and transporting goods. 4. A fee of 50 cents per bag shall be applied towards the consumer during til checkout at any shop/grocery store. 5. Perhaps, invasive and controversial, and implicating strict privacy regulations: A scan of a consumer's ID ONLY in the event of repeated, continuous purchase of new SUP bags, allowing the Store's PoS system to report the accounting ERP system, for which data is reported onto Environmental Authority for taxation purposes. 	Comments have been noted and taken into consideration.
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		<p>etc) in order for consumers to understand and businesses to innovate upon the data and extract actionable insights.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. De-monopolize the Recycling/Waste Management industry. The more players to share the pie, the more innovation becomes possible and we will see less pressure of Waste in the environment. 4. Projects which are already taking a very innovative approach to fix the problem and already positioning themselves quite rapidly in the market, however failing to capture the attention to educate the consumer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WaterPoint - Reduces plastic bottles by a huge volume if more people purchase clean Water from the machines. • GreenPak - Great initiative for a cooperatives, we need more of them as well as an appealing business model for more people to join. • WasteServ - Public Utility Company, shall re-distribute profits from Sale of Recyclables back to consumers as tax incentives on a cumulative point-based application. (The same integrated system used in the idea point in the first objective above, for the grocery stores and shops for monitorization of SUP's or other materials which are non-biodegradable.) <p>The real aim, in my opinion, shall be to ELIMINATE the LEAKS OF MATERIAL RESOURCES in the current LINEAR ECONOMIC MODEL and MOVE TOWARDS CLOSING THE RESOURCE LOOP in a CIRCULAR FASHION by starting treating WASTE, as a VALUABLE RESOURCE.</p> <p>I am trying to carry my Proof of Concept in order to</p>	
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4	Melanie Mizzi 06/02/19	<p>1. other countries lessen single- use plastic by regulating restaurants (especially fastfoods like Mc Donald's, KFC, Burger King, etc) to use plastic utensils and plates for dine in customers. they should provide washable plates, cups, glasses, etc with proper cleaning and disinfecting after use. This is being done even in developing countries and so I strongly thing with the strict implementation of this, it is possible in Malta</p> <p>2. provide more refilling stations for water (there are already a few in Malta) -- may it be a full government effort or in cooperation with private business owners. it can be sustained with some fees to those who want to refill water containers (for sure it will lessen plastic wastes very much as plastic water bottles are one of the highest contributors of single- use plastic</p> <p>3. give incentives to businesses who advocates products/ use of alternates to single- use plastic</p> <p>4. make advocacy campaign on TV for the general public. It is one of the most influential strategy of reducing single use plastic... I suggest to not use leaflets as most people will just throw them away without reading... which also adds to mote waste.. and wastage of resources on paper and printing.</p>	Comments have been noted and taken into consideration.

