

PLASTIC management

Say farewell to single-use plastics!

DIFFERENT TYPES OF PLASTIC



High-density polyethylene (HDPE)
Four 85-liter jerrycan bags



Low-density polyethylene (LDPE)
Single-use lightweight bags



Linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE)
Shopping bags

EXAMPLES OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS



GOOD, BAD AND UGLY SIDE OF PLASTIC

- Plastics are durable, versatile and cheap
- Plastics degrade slowly
- Lightweight bags are often biodegradable and white
- Plastics bags are among the most common types of marine litter
- Plastics will have more plastic than fish by 2050

PLASTIC ECONOMY



FACTS AND FIGURES

- In Kenya, 40% of cattle that died during the drought had ingested significant amount of plastic bags
- 275 million metric tonnes of waste generated in 192 coastal countries is made of plastic
- Ammonium levels increase exponentially on plots covered by bags
- Marshland covered by plastic bags has lower oxygen level and less organisms
- Between 60% and 80% of litter in oceans is plastic

KENYA AND PLASTIC EVERY YEAR

- 30 plastic manufacturing units sell plastic products for a total \$400 million
- Kenya exports plastic products to Tanzania and Uganda for a total of \$9.52 million
- Supermarkets hand out 100 million single-use plastic bags

Kenya has joined UN Environment's #CleanSea campaign and declared a ban on the use, manufacture and import of all single-use plastic bags

CHAMPION COUNTRIES TACKLING PLASTIC POLLUTION



EXAMPLES OF INTERVENTIONS

- Levy on single-use plastics
- Ban of single-use plastics
- Ban plastic bags and cutlery
- Biologically sourcing material for plastic, cutlery and plates
- Ban on microbeads water pollutants
- Advocate for single-use plastic tax
- Use reusable or biodegradable shopping bags made from starch, corn or potatoes
- Buy unpackaged food
- Pressure companies to use less plastic
- Lobby for plastic management strategies and recycling regulation
- Invest in reusable containers and coffee mug
- Use paper, steel or bamboo straws
- Look for alternative packaging, for example paper

What can you do?