

UN environment

Alternative ways to #BeatPlasticPollution

Every year 13 million tonnes of plastic leak into the ocean harming our:

- BIODIVERSITY
- ECONOMIES
- HEALTH

Drowning in plastic packaging

- Plastic packaging accounts for 38% of plastic waste
- United States, European Union and Japan are the world's largest plastic packaging producers
- China is the world's largest plastic packaging consumer
- Only 9% of the 1 billion tonnes of plastic produced is recycled

At this rate by 2050

- 12 billion tonnes of plastic flow will end up in landfills and the environment
- The plastic industry will invest in 20% of world oil consumption

Did you know?

- Biodegradable** (often only) degrades in anaerobic and not in an aerobic environment
- Bioplastics** is made from plants, animals and algae, sugar cane
- It takes 1000 years to degrade in landfills and oceans (biodegradable)
- It can save 200 million plastic bottles per minute

Microplastics are found in:

- FISH
- SALT
- BOTTLED WATER

Alternatives to plastic

Natural polymers and organic materials that biodegrade rapidly

Examples: Coffee capsules, Milk, Juice, Paper, Cotton, Bamboo, Wood, Cardboard, Compost, Paper and cardboard

Biomass based compostable bio-polymers

STARCH

- WHEAT
- MAIZE
- POTATO
- CASSAVA

Starch based products are used to produce packaged goods in transit. Starch based material is readily compostable.

NON-STARCH THERMOPLASTIC BIO-COMPOSITE

- CELLULOSE (paper, cardboard)
- WAX (candle, wax)
- WPC (wood plastic composite)

Reusable objects

- Re-sealable coffee cups
- Product dispensing systems
- Metal drinking bottles
- Metal food containers
- Sustainable clothing using natural fabrics
- Re-sealing chipsticks

5 Plastic alternatives

- PLASTIC FREE**: Natural packaging option from fungus and agricultural waste.
- PLASTIC FREE**: Engineered with 50% natural materials to clear plastic bottles.
- PLASTIC FREE**: Phosphate bottles and containers for water.
- PLASTIC FREE**: Made from mycelium-based material and soil fungi.

What can you do?

PUT PRESSURE ON:

- YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT** to improve waste management
- INDUSTRY** to invest in research and development for alternatives
- INDUSTRY** to use agricultural and horticultural waste as a source of natural fibres and biomass to produce biopolymers
- INDUSTRY** to promote clear labelling of packaging, transparency and accountability

UN environment

#BeatPlasticPollution #CleanSeas