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BEST PRACTICES IN PLASTIC WASTE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT IN POLAND



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Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

- EPR system was introduced in Poland in 2002.
- Entrepreneurs placing products in packaging on the market are obliged to achieve certain recovery (61 %) and recycling (56 %) targets of packaging waste.
- Most of the obligations in Poland are achieved by Packaging Recovery Organizations.
- For plastic packaging waste recycling target equals 23,5 %.
- In recent years recycling target for plastic packaging waste was achieved, in 2015 – 32,1 %, in 2016 – 47,4 %.

Plastic carrier bags

- Lightweight plastic carrier bags because of its small mass and size are easily carried by the wind what results in littering. Because of its properties this waste is a threat to animals and marine environment.
- Poland has adopted the European directive on reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags (with wall thickness below 50 microns).
- An additional charge for lightweight plastic carrier bags have been introduced since the beginning of 2018.
- Similar approaches in other EU member states proved that the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags might be reduced up to 90 %.

Separate collection

- Since 2017 in Poland the new rules on municipal waste separate collection are successively introduced. All municipalities are obliged to adopt new rules by 2021 at the latest.
- According to the new rules a waste of: paper, glass, metals, plastics and bio waste are collected separately.
- We expect that the new rules on separate collection will significantly improve quality of collected municipal waste and therefore positively affect achieved recycling targets.



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