

Streamlining EPR implementations

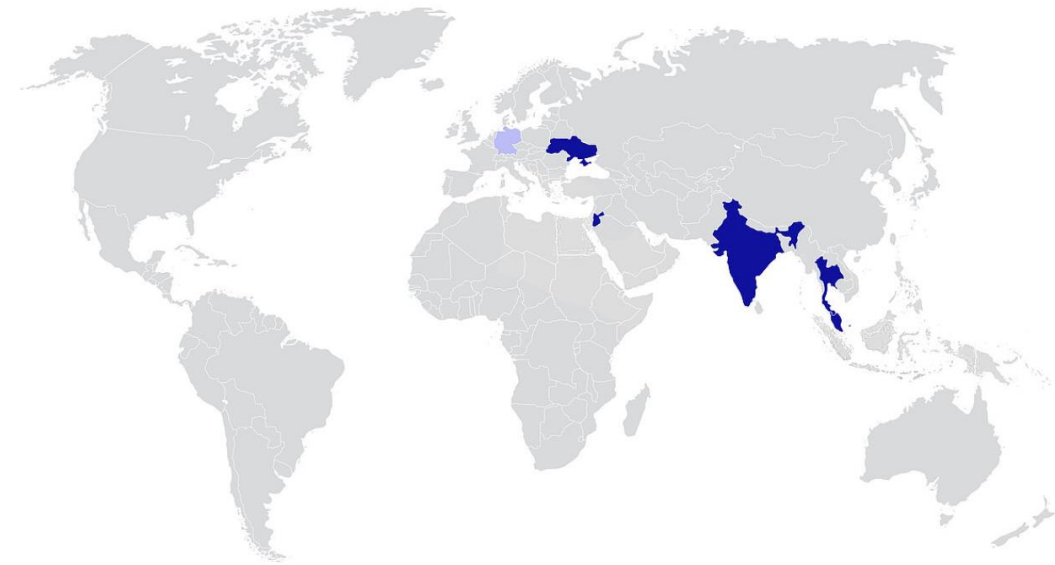
Dorothee Bürkle

GIZ Future Forum, 26.09.2023



About the Export Initiative Environmental Protection

- Export Initiative Environmental Protection is a funding program of the BMUV since 2016
- Goal: Support sustainable infrastructures for more environmental protection worldwide
- Target groups: German companies (esp. SMEs), civil society actors and scientific institutions active in the field of environmental infrastructure implementation abroad
- GIZ is a strategic partner with the Global Project “Environmental Protection Worldwide” together with the German RETech Partnership, the Chambers for Greentech (by DIHK) and NOW.



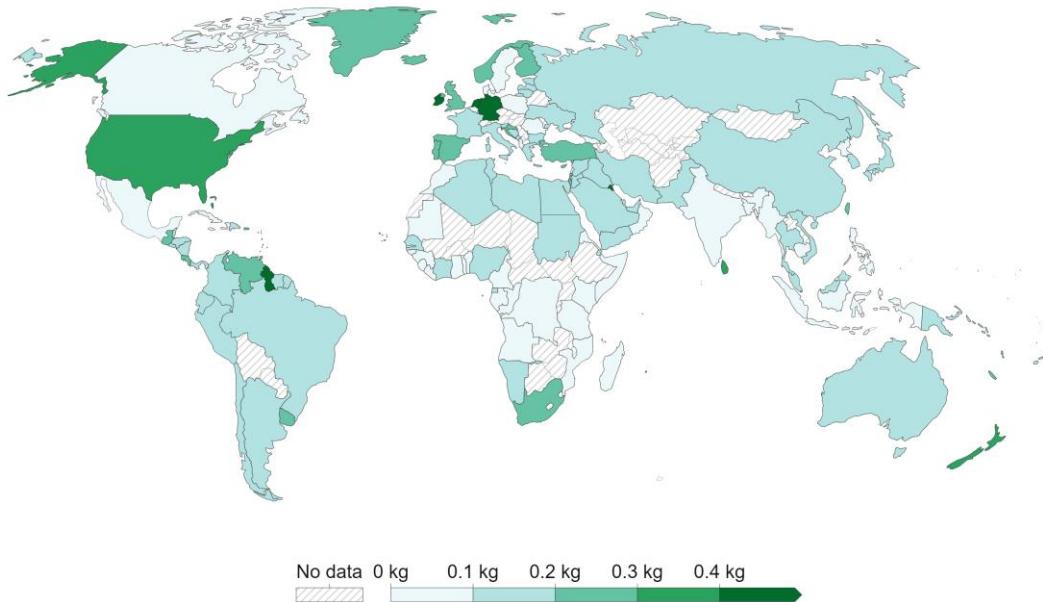
Partner Countries of the GIZ Global Project „Environmental Protection Worldwide“ are Ukraine, Jordan, India, Thailand and Malaysia

How is plastic disposed?

Plastic waste generation per person, 2010

Daily plastic waste generation per person, measured in kilograms per person per day. This measures the overall per capita plastic waste generation rate prior to waste management, recycling or incineration. It does not therefore directly indicate the risk of pollution to waterways or marine environments.

Our World
in Data



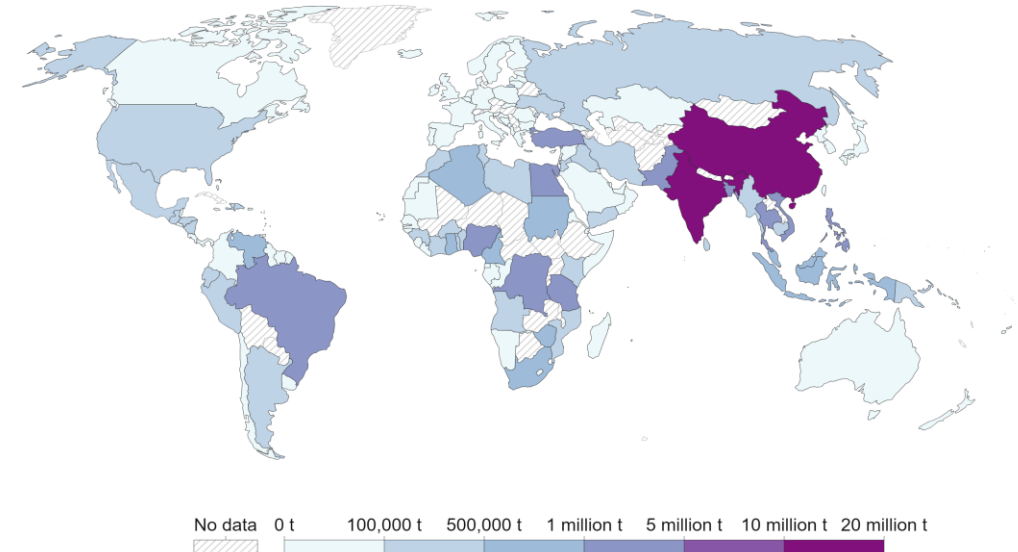
Source: Jambeck et al. (2015)

OurWorldInData.org/plastic-pollution • CC BY

Mismanaged plastic waste, 2019

Mismanaged plastic waste is plastic that is either littered or inadequately disposed¹. A country's total does not include waste that is exported overseas, where it may be mismanaged.

Our World
in Data



Source: Meijer et al. (2021). More than 1000 rivers account for 80% of global riverine plastic emissions into the ocean. Science Advances. OurWorldInData.org/plastic-pollution • CC BY

1. Inadequately disposed plastic waste: Inadequately disposed plastic waste is not formally managed and includes disposal in dumps or open, uncontrolled landfills, where it is not fully contained. This makes it at a much higher risk of leaking into the natural environment, rivers, or the ocean.

Extended Producer Responsibility

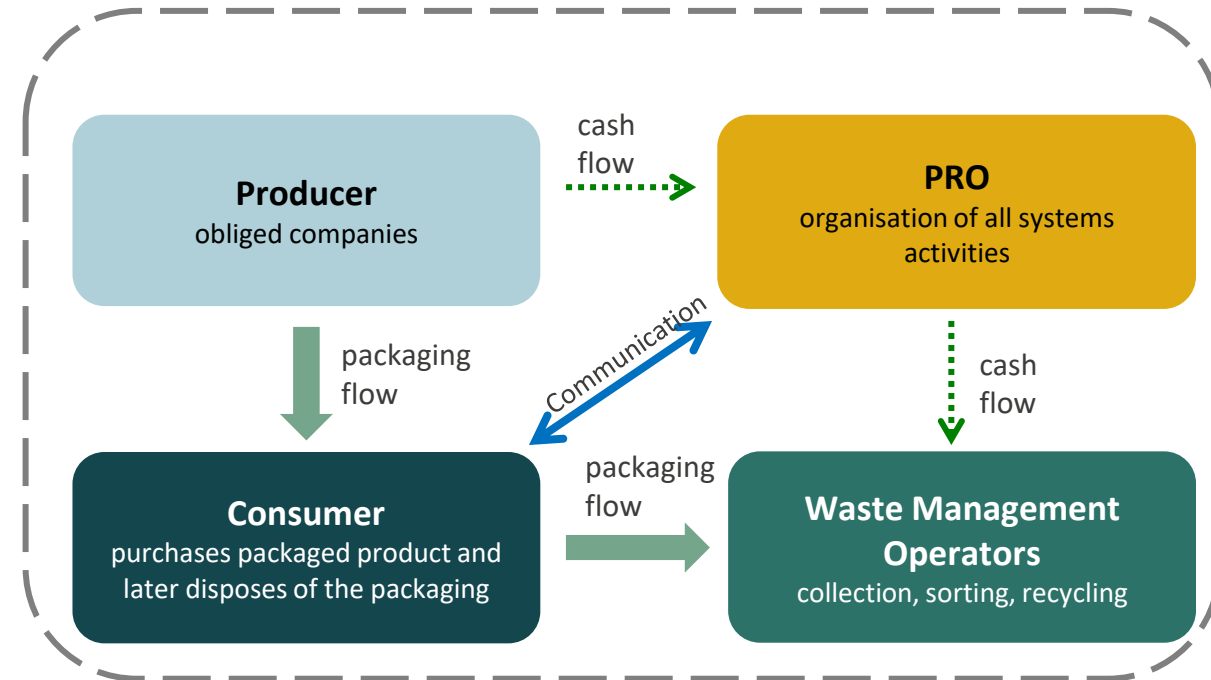
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle (**Polluter Pays Principle**)
- EPR is the shifting of responsibility upstream towards the producer and **away from municipalities**
- EPR can provide incentives to producers to take into account environmental considerations (**design for recycling or reuse**)



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The principle of an EPR System

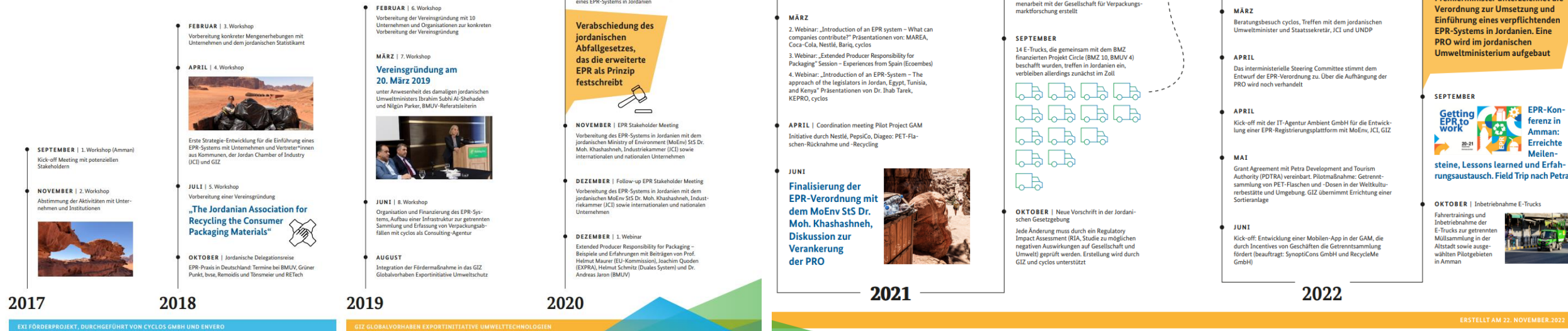
- An EPR system basically consists of four main actors: producers, consumers, waste management operators and one or several Producer Responsibility Organizations (PRO).
- The basic principles are compiled in the [EPR Toolbox from the PREVENT Waste Alliance](#) on 250 PPT slides
- Translated in Chinese, Bahasa (Indonesia), Thai, Vietnamese and Arabic (coming soon)



Source: EPR Toolbox

Different settings and approaches: Jordan

SCHRITTE & MEILENSTEINE BEI DER EINFÜHRUNG EINES EPR-Systems in Jordanien



Different settings and approaches: Malaysia

- Non-for-profit voluntary PRO – aspiring to become the national PRO for post-consumer packaging
- First EPR implementation methods are pilots in the following months
- Based on the Malaysian Plastics Sustainability Roadmap, published by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC)
 - a voluntary EPR stage is to be developed from 2022 to 2025
 - with a **mandatory EPR system from 2026** onwards covering packaging materials



Challenges in setting up an EPR system

- **Political will for an EPR system and the capacity to set the framework conditions**
- Expertise in EPR among both policymakers and the private sector
- Awareness raising among the population to create and increase acceptance to separate waste at source
- Establishment of a separate collection system
- Establishment of sorting facilities
- Establishment of a recycling sector or marketing of recyclable materials



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Global Action Partnership for EPR

A collaborative partnership between UNEP, WWF, OECD, and GIZ. Hosted by PREVENT Waste Alliance



Reasons for the Collaboration

- Momentum for EPR through prominent role during negotiations for an internationally binding plastics treaty
- More and more countries are putting EPR on their agendas and an increasing number of organisations are working on the topic
- Need for technical and practical support in setting up EPR legislation and enforcing these
- Need to offer coordinated support



Three Pillars: Modules of the GAP for EPR



A Common Understanding

Create a common understanding on EPR and promote EPR as a policy tool



Technical support

Provide coordinated and tailored technical support to policy makers and other relevant stakeholders (such as PROs) for the operationalization of EPR



EPR Community

Join an international EPR community to:

- Facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned
- Think ahead jointly to innovate EPR
- Contribute to relevant international processes on EPR

EPR Helpdesk

The secretariat channels requests received through the website either to:

01

Community of Practice

Set up of peer-learning sessions. This is a free service. Additional and more detailed support could be requested through the expert pool.

02

Expert Pool

The expert pool provides three levels of support:

- Short-Term: Short expert engagement session on pre-defined topic
- Medium-term: Consultancy on a concrete case / set of questions
- Long-Term: Holistic engagement and consultancy through a separate expert tender – paid service.



Target Groups

- The GAP for EPR is available to interested partners as a support tool for the development and implementation of their own EPR systems during the different implementation phases.
- **Possible target groups:**
 - Governments of partner countries that want to introduce EPR systems
 - Organizations and institutions that have been mentored by their governments to set up EPR systems, especially PROs
 - Other stakeholders, for instance informal sector representatives
 - Practitioners and experts who seek to exchange with peers

GAP for EPR starts with Two Pilots



01

UNEP Funding

Commissioning party: Norwegian Retailers' Environment Fund

Goal: Support of two countries (government or PRO)

Process: “mini call”: pre-selection of 4 countries, invitation to hand in proposal; selection of two proposals; selection of suitable experts

Duration: 6 months



02

GlZ Funding

Commissioning party: BMZ (Go Circular)

Goal: Hiring expert pool to respond to diverse requests by different stakeholders (government, PRO informal sector associations etc.) more flexible

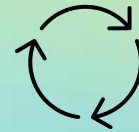
Process: set up of expert pool, collection of requests through online helpdesk; selection of requests, use of expert pool

Duration: about 14 months

Next Steps



Clarification of roles and responsibilities and finalisation of ToR of collaboration



Potential presentation of the GAP for EPR at INC3 in November



Piloting all three pillars



Official launch on October 19, 2PM CEST

[Register here!](#)

Publication of the Website



Acquisition of funds

Focal Points



Feng Wang
Ran Xie



Xin Chen (Vivian)



Peter Boerkey
Andrew Brown
Frithjof Laubinger



PREVENT
Waste Alliance

Nicole Bendsen
Angelina Schreiner
Christopher Speier



Markus Lücke
Dorothee Bürkle



**ELLEN
MACARTHUR
FOUNDATION**

Ellen MacArthur Foundation
(status tbc):

Ambrogio Miserocchi
Valérie Boiten

TES Academy at the Umwelt Bundesamt (UBA)

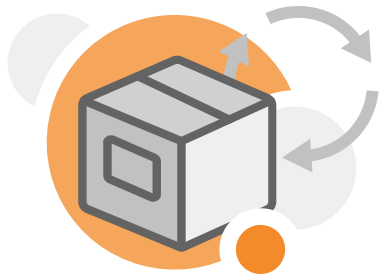
- International Academy
Transformation for Environment and
Sustainability
- Promoting Extended Producer
Responsibility (EPR) in international
law for a sustainable transformation
towards a circular economy



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**Umwelt
Bundesamt**

Already existing Communities of Practice



- Open for all practitioners, policymakers, and entrepreneurs: [Community of Practice for packaging waste](#) (as a part of the GreenTech Knowledge Hub of the Export Initiative Environmental protection)



- Open for members of the PREVENT Waste Alliance: Subworking Group EPR [Prevent Waste Alliance \(prevent-waste.net\)](#)

Further information

- GreenTech Knowledge Hub with communities of practice

<https://greentechknowledgehub.de/>

- PREVENT Waste Alliance

[Prevent Waste Alliance \(prevent-waste.net\)](https://prevent-waste.net)

- GIZ Project „Go circular“

[Circular economy – conserving resources, protecting the climate and oceans - giz.de](https://giz.de/circular-economy)

- GIZ Project “Environmental Protection Worldwide”

[Developing sustainable services and infrastructures for environmental protection worldwide \(giz.de\)](https://giz.de/en/developing-sustainable-services-and-infrastructures-for-environmental-protection-worldwide)

- BMUV Export Initiative Environmental Protection

<https://www.exportinitiative-umweltschutz.de/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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Future Forum 2023



<https://greentechknowledgehub.de/>



On behalf of:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

of the Federal Republic of Germany