

EU plastic strategy and SUP Directive

Where are EU strategies heading to?

Enzo Favoino



Scuola Agraria del Parco di Monza



Scientific Coordinator - Zero Waste Europe



Top 10 Polluters

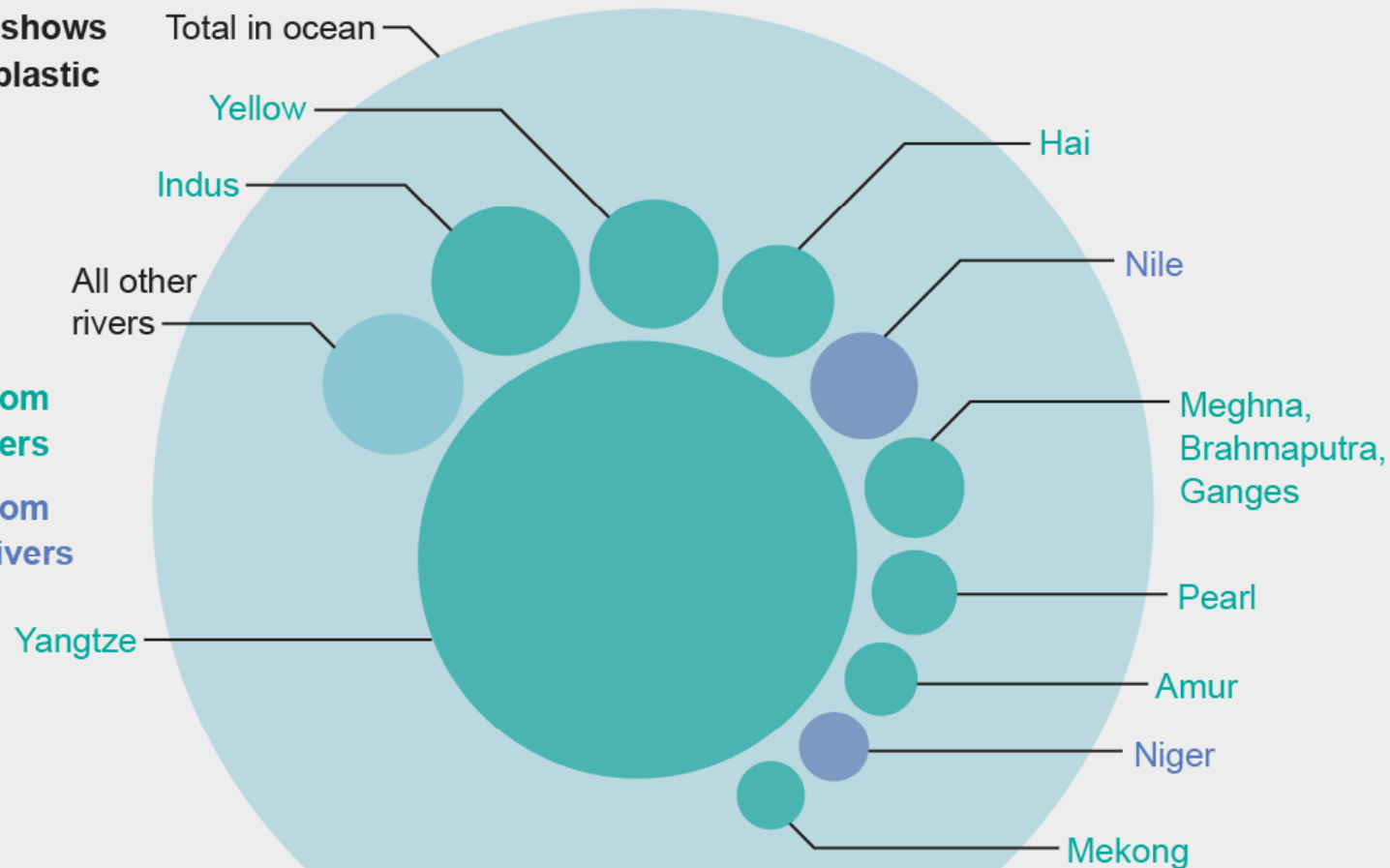
Circle area shows amount of plastic



100,000
metric tons

● Plastic from
Asian rivers

● Plastic from
African rivers



THE TOP 10 CORPORATE PLASTIC POLLUTERS IN GLOBAL BRAND AUDITS

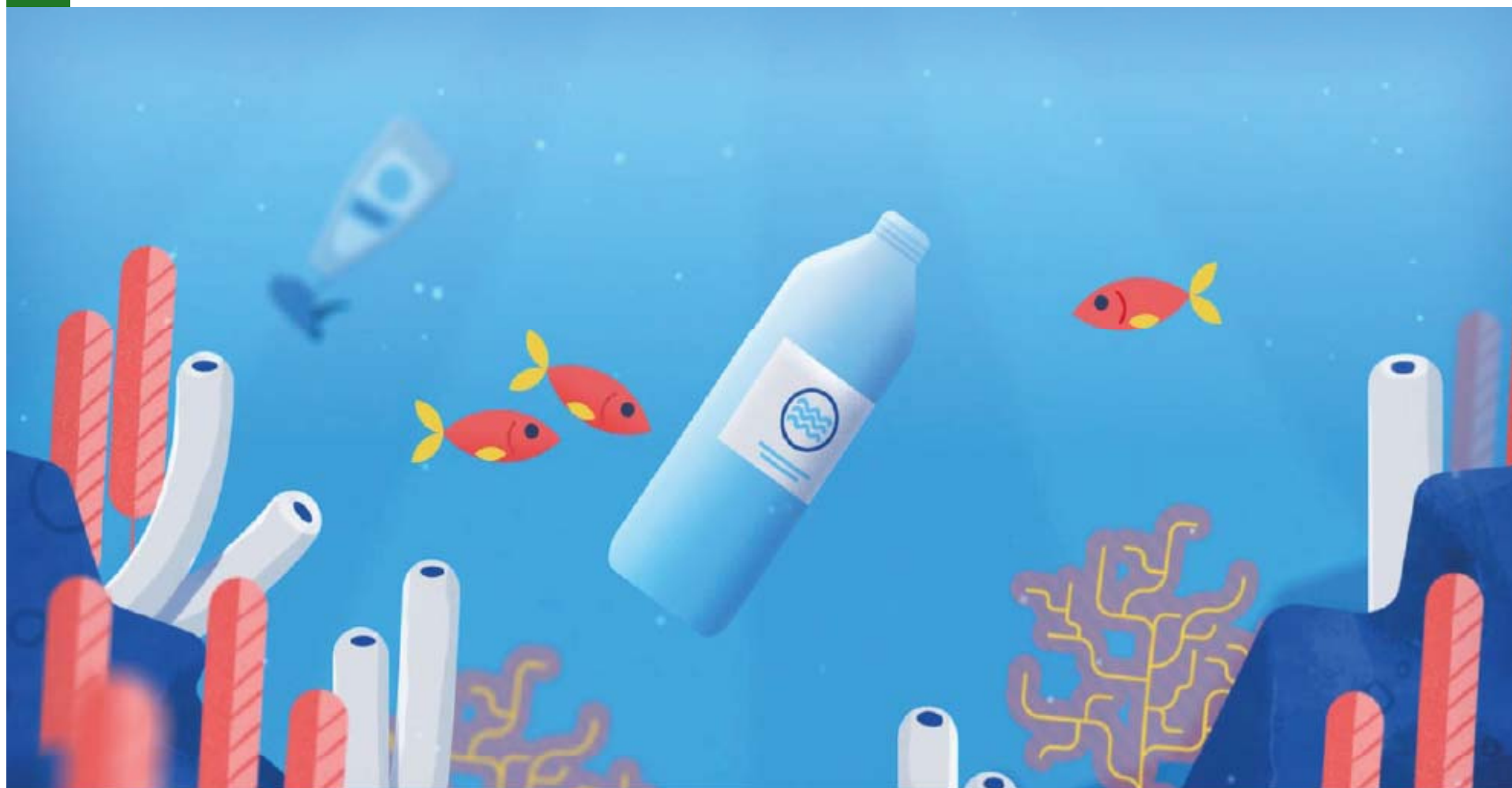


#breakfreefromplastic



≡ TIME | World





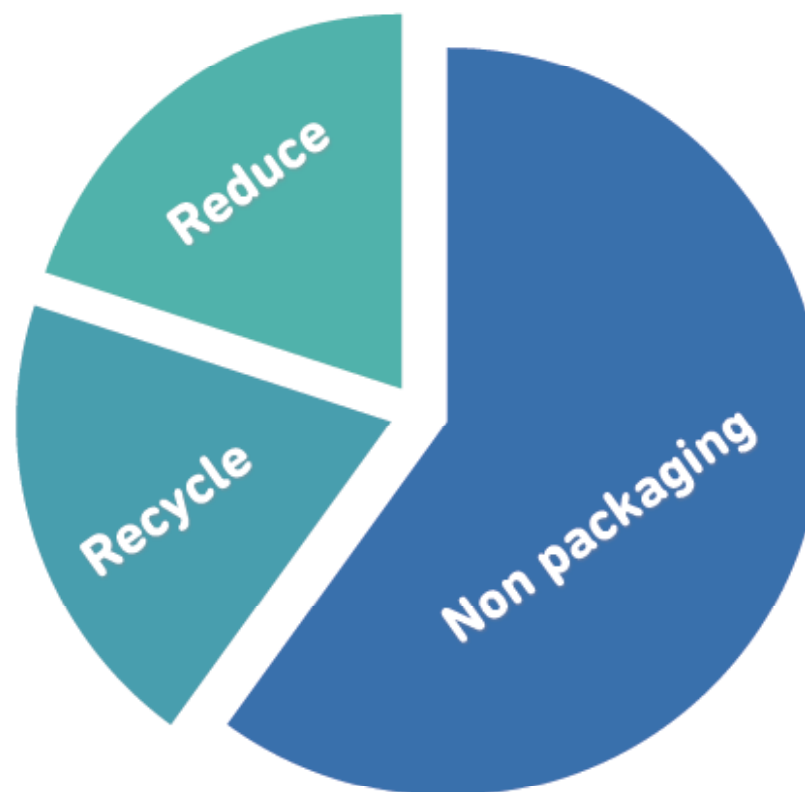
The fastest growing pollutant in the world

Facts and figures

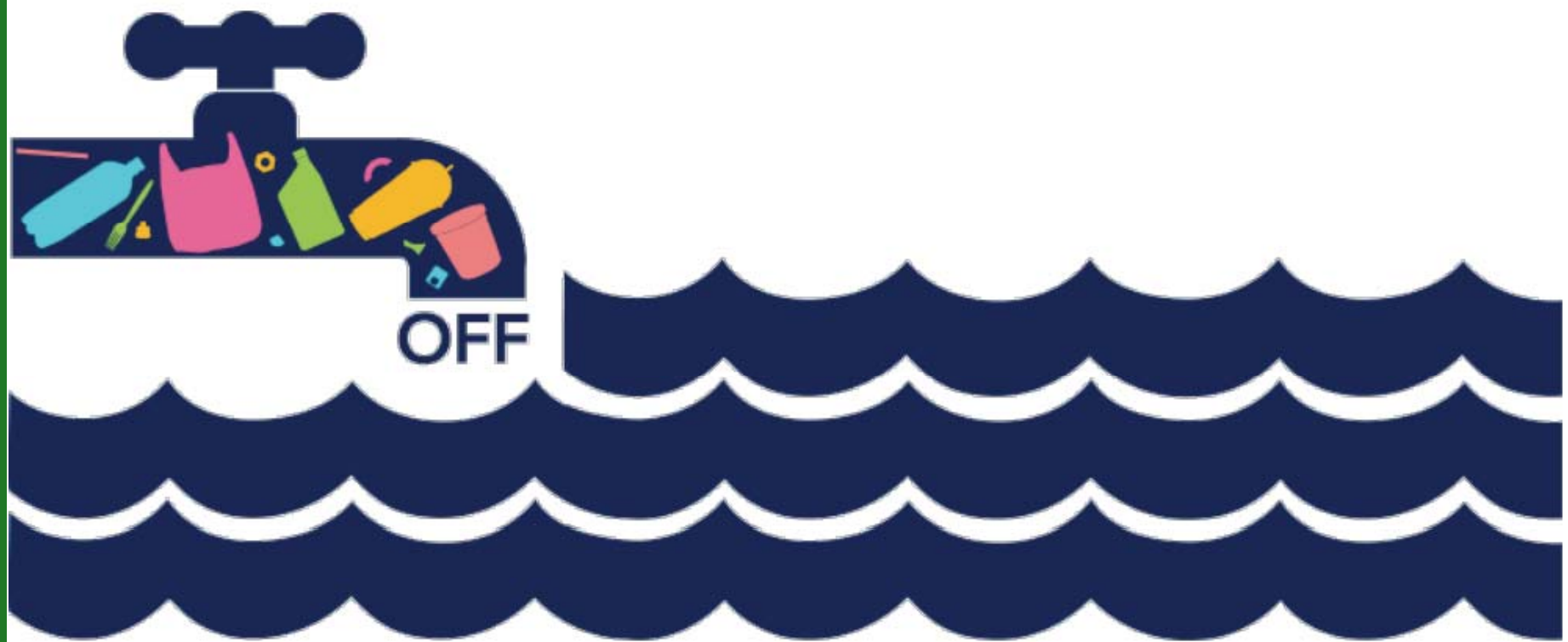
- 80% of plastics that are threatening marine waters, originated by inland sources
- 8 Mt plastics ending up in Oceans a year
- In a BAU scenario, it was calculated that by 2050 plastics in seas will outweigh fish
- Recycling rate in the world : 15% (9% historically)
- Some 350 Mt plastics produced a year (60 Mt in Europe)

40% of plastics is packaging.

**Half of the packaging
can be reduced
via redesign & reuse!**



Aggregato	2017	2018 (previsione)
Immeso al consumo	2.271.000	2.320.000
Riciclo COREPLA	586.786	619.156
Riciclo indipendente	400.000	409.000
TOTALE RICICLO	986.786	1.028.156
<i>Incidenza %</i>	<i>43,5%</i>	<i>44,3%</i>
Recupero energetico COREPLA	324.480	382.442
Recupero energetico da incenerim. RU	584.400	563.510
TOTALE RECUPERO ENERGETICO	908.880	945.952
<i>Incidenza %</i>	<i>40,0%</i>	<i>40,8%</i>
ALTRE DESTINAZIONI	375.334	345.982
<i>(inclusa discarica e dispersione)</i>	<i>16,5%</i>	<i>14,9%</i>



EU Plastic Strategy

- Highlights the issue!
- SUP initiative
- EPR consolidated (increase of the cost share to be born by producers)
- 100% reusability or recyclability of plastic packaging by 2030
- Other tools:
 - DRS
 - MRCs
 - Essential requirements
 - Modulated fees

SUP Directive

a mix of measures

- ✓ Main direction is towards **marked reduction**
- ✓ **Outright bans** for 8 typologies (besides oxo-degradables)
- ✓ **Product Design** – connect the cap, minimum recycled content
- ✓ **Marking** – on proper post-use handling, hazards and impacts
- ✓ **EPR** – it will have to cover management of waste, awareness raising, cleanups to tackle litter
- ✓ **Separate collection (PET bottles)** - 77% 2025, 90% 2029
- ✓ **Awareness raising** – available reusable alternatives

	Consumption reduction	Market restriction	Product design	Marking	EPR	Separate collection	Awareness raising measures
Wet wipes				By mid 2021	By Dec 2024		By mid 2021
Sanitary towels (pads, tampons and applicators)				By mid 2021			By mid 2021
Lightweight plastic carrier bags					By Dec 2024		By mid 2021
Fishing gear			Requirement but no clear deadline		By Dec 2024	Reporting requirement but no EU target	By mid 2021
Oxo-degradable plastic		By mid 2021					
Expanded polystyrene food containers, beverage containers and cups		By mid 2021					

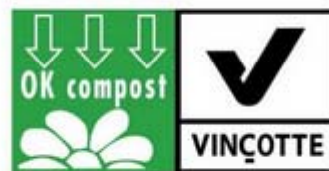
....what about bioplastics?



A few key points

- Bioplastics are not a solution to marine litter
- Bio-based and biodegradable 2 sharply different issues
- We've got solid and reliable standards
- The strategy cannot be comprehensive/widespread, it must be *specified and codified*
 - Only in connection with separate collection of biowaste (heading to industrial composting), and when reusable is not an option
- Compostable bags, closed-loops





Expo 2015 – “feed the Planet”



MILANO 2015
1 MAGGIO • 31 OTTOBRE

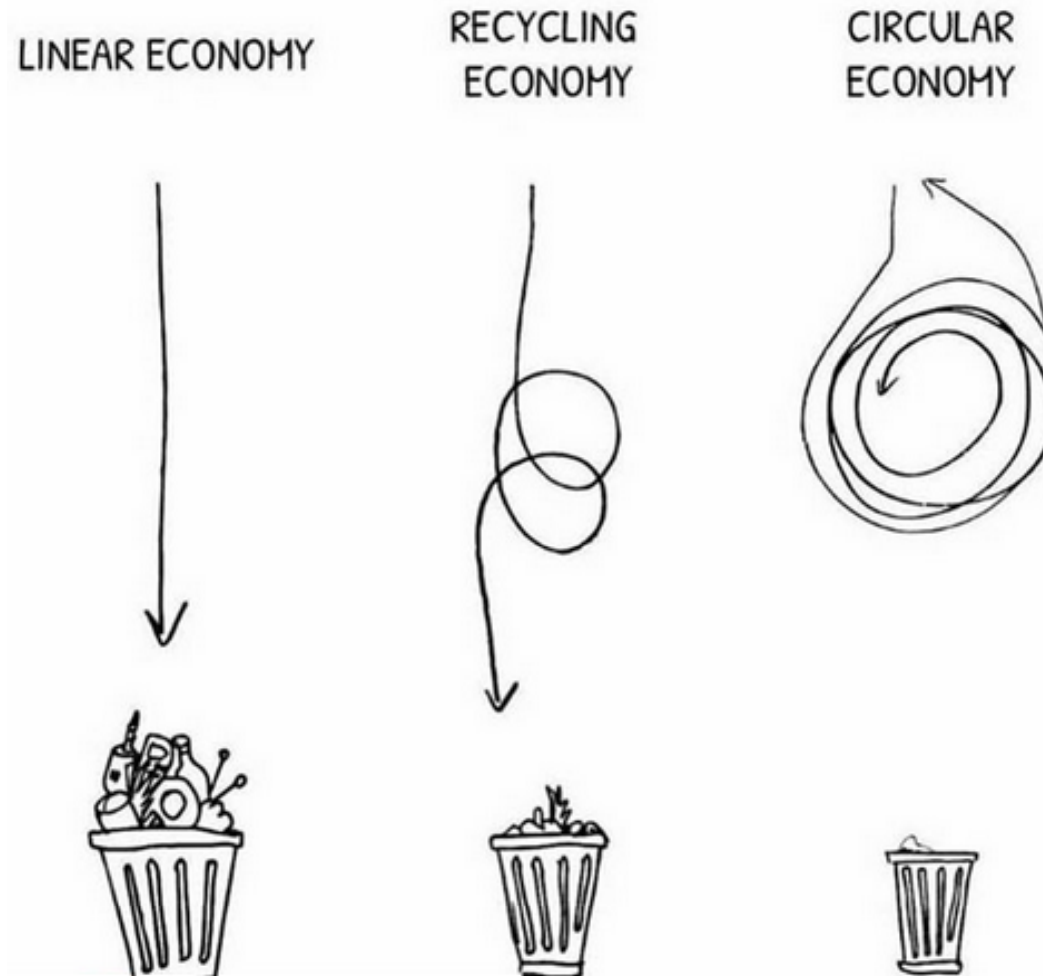


- 21 M visitors
- 72% separate collection
- Key role of organics
- Water fountains
- Reusable tableware for seated meals
- Compostable (EN 13432) for street/finger-food

Widespread adoption? The issues!

- Higher “entropy” in the system
- Operational Issues for management of organics
 - Collection
 - Processing
- Cross-contamination
 - Composting
 - Mechanical recycling
- Not fully sustainable

Circular economy made simple



Thanks

Enzo Favoino



Scuola Agraria del Parco di Monza

335 355446

favoinoenzo@gmail.com