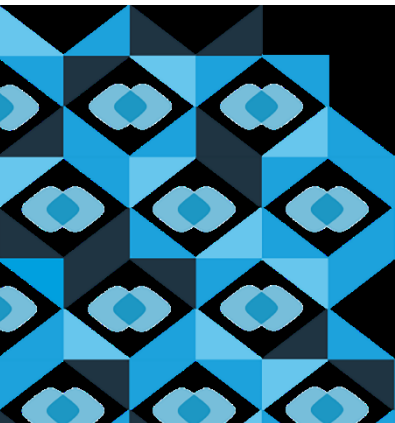


## *Plastic: A Sustainable Vision*

Kevin Ross  
17<sup>th</sup> December 2018



# Why me?

## Impact Laboratories

17025 accredited test lab

Research & development from reactor to recycle

## Impact Recycling

Owns & runs a recycling plant in Newcastle

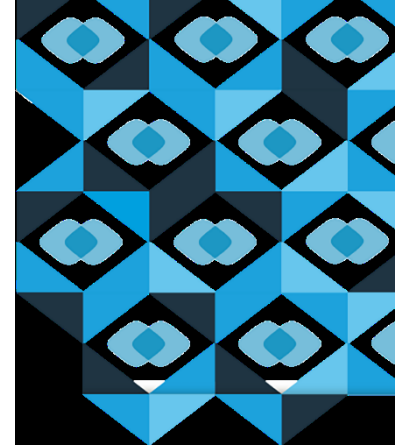
One of the technologies in Project Beacon.

## SPRoE

Growing & supporting the recycling industry

## Impact Certification

Notified body services to EU27

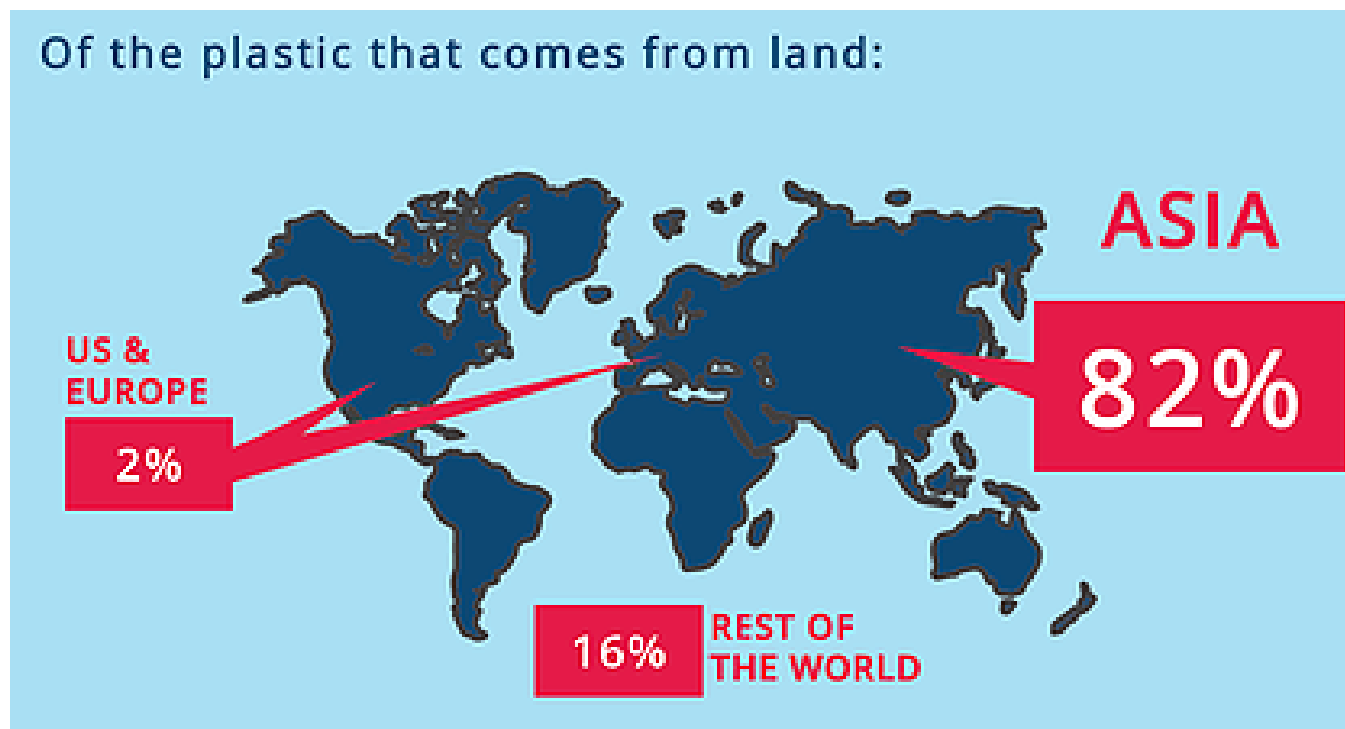




# Currently: The Media is driving the agenda:



## 80% of marine based litter comes from the land



88–95% of plastic in the ocean comes from just 10 rivers  
Yangtze River alone puts as much plastic in the ocean  
each year as Ineos Grangemouth produces



# Driving brand decisions

Many are introducing Recycled content, using “green polymers” or Greenwashing

A TOY STORY

**Lego wants to solve the world's plastics problem with a biomaterial that can survive generations of play**



UNCATEGORIZED

**NESTE & IKEA take leadership in bio-based home furniture**

**Nestlé and Danone team up to produce green plastic**

Food and drinks groups commit funding to develop plastic from waste such as sawdust



**Your Big Mac will have greener packaging by 2025**

McDonald's Corp., fresh off news that the company is discontinuing use of expanded polystyrene packaging in 2018, is now vowing to...

\* Offer **eco-friendly**, **ATEX-Certified** hand-protection options:

- **100% Recyclable**
- **Oxo-Biodegradable**
- **Compostable**



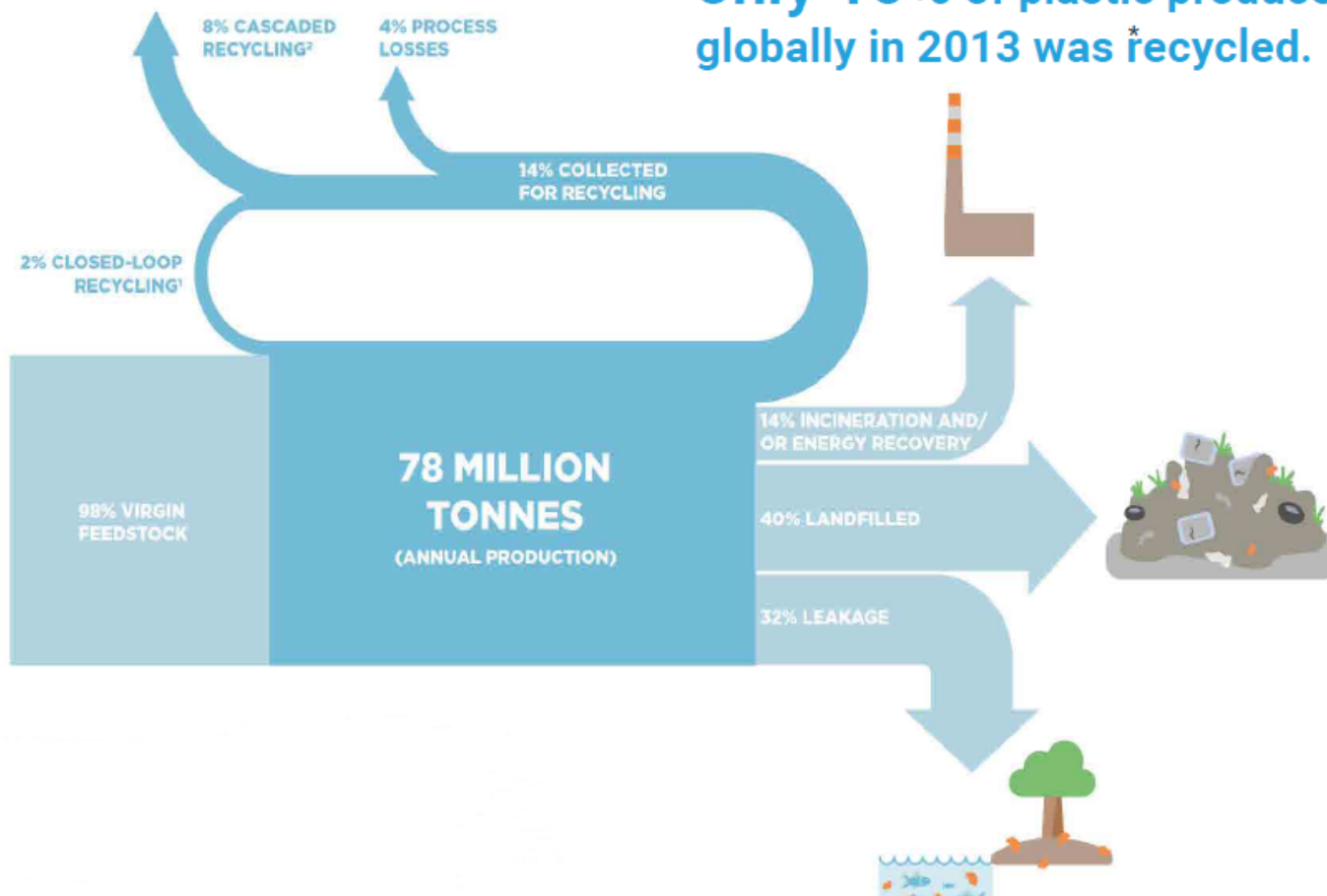
and Driving legislation & Politics





# Ellen Macarthur Foundation

**only 10% of plastic produced globally in 2013 was recycled.\***



# Should we be surprised at just 10%?

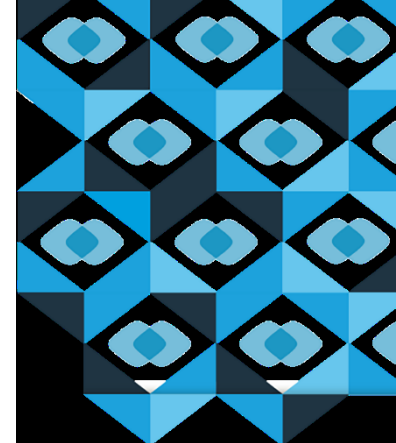
**Post industrial** – much simpler supply chain

- Either post process or end of Life
- Key is it known material & “reasonably clean”

“Waste” Plastic is often “traded” and can pass through several hands before it eventually ends up being reprocessed into a recycled plastic.

**Post Consumer** – Once mixed its can be difficult / expensive to separate

- Often scavenged eg bottles, window frames etc
- Often very dirty or food contaminated
- In reality limited to PET, PO and to a limited amount PS (PTT)
- Some UK LA have stopped collecting plastic



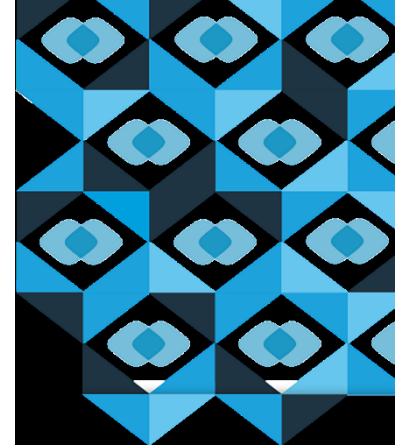
# Why is so little plastic recycled?

Investment in recycling capability.

- Why bother when you can export it
  - PRN system – incentivises the export of waste

Polluter pays system which means that any manufacture that uses Packaging material needs to buy PRN to offset their use.

- PRN are generated by recyclers and manufacturers who turn packaging waste into products.
- Plastic PRN's are currently £70 Tonne, but is only generated on clean pure plastic – traditionally on 1<sup>st</sup> melt
- EPRN's are also £70 per Tonne but they are based on exported weight



# Why is so little plastic recycled?

Investment in recycling capability.

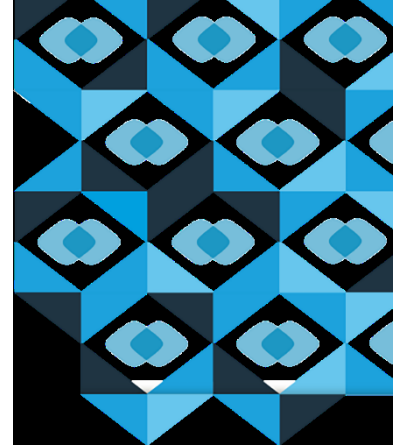
- Why bother when you can export it
  - PRN system – incentivises the export of waste
- Cost of recycling vs cost of virgin

Once plastic is mixed it is expensive to separate

Expectation is that recycled plastic is cheap

– Recycled plastic is not linked to oil price but is highly volatile

Recycled plastic is often a “mixture” giving slower cycle times





# Why is so little plastic recycled?

Investment in recycling capability.

- Why bother when you can export it
  - PRN system – incentivises the export of waste
- Cost of recycling vs cost of virgin
- Scale of recycling vs virgin – product pull

The Ineos Grangemouth site is no longer a world scale site at 1.5MTpA

Our Newcastle plant is a respectable size at 1.5TpH ie 5,500 TpA

Batch to batch variability is an issue for large moulders as one recycling plant cant keep up with supply

# Why is so little plastic recycled?

Investment in recycling capability.

- Why bother when you can export it
  - PRN system – incentivises the export of waste
- Cost of recycling vs cost of virgin
- Scale of recycling vs virgin– product pull
- Inconstant feed stock – Collection Strategy
  - Household Recycling Charter – introduced in 2015 to produce a common collection strategy across Scotland
- Contracts – long term stifles innovation and entrants.



# Why bother recycling?

**EFW:** Traditionally an outlet for dirty post consumer plastic which is similar in cost to landfill – PVC content critical  
Is this the best use for a high spec polymer  
With the growth in renewables does it have a future?

**Chemical Recycling:** Pyrolysis type plants – Plastic to Fuel / Feedstock  
High gate fees and very high capital cost, but may be a solution to difficult to recycle plastic

# What does the future hold?

## Actually quite Rosy:

Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) will produce good quality feedstock

- The key question is how will this get into the market.
- How will it effect non DRS plastic recycling.

Pull from manufacturers & consumers for increased recycled content.

- Probably the biggest single difference

Resin producers are becoming vertically integrated

- Borealis purchased MTM a German recycler (30KTPA)
- Daplen : >50% PCR content marketed at the automotive market

New Technologies are starting to be commercialised to compete with Optical sorters