

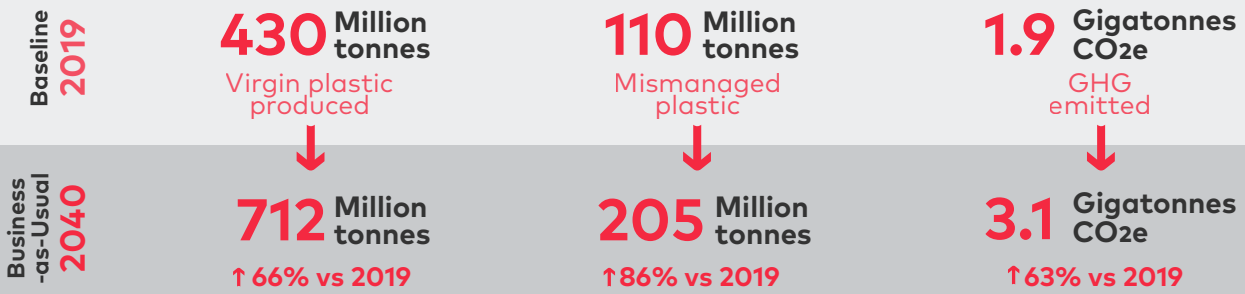
Towards Ending Plastic Pollution by 2040

15 Global Policy Interventions for Systems Change

The report defines 15 global policies across the plastic lifecycle and estimates their impact on plastic stocks and flows, GHG emissions, costs and jobs, in two scenarios



The Business-as-Usual Scenario would lead to a substantial increase in plastic production, mismanaged plastics and GHG emissions



The Global Rules Scenario involves 15 global policy interventions

Assumed to be legally-binding, concurrent, implemented across all regions, and across the plastic lifecycle:



The Global Rules Scenario would result in...

Global Rules Scenario 2040

301 Million tonnes
Virgin plastic produced
↓30% vs 2019

13 Million tonnes
Mismanaged plastic
↓90% vs 2019

1.9 Gigatonnes CO₂e
GHG emitted
no increase vs 2019



↓90%
Annual mismanaged plastic volumes by 2040 relative to 2019
95% reduction relative to the Business-as-Usual Scenario



↓30%
Annual virgin plastic production by 2040 relative to 2019
60% reduction relative to the Business-as-Usual Scenario

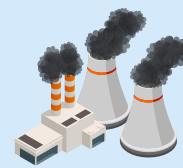


↑7x
Increase in global recycling output 201Mt by 2040 relative to 29Mt in 2019

Despite all efforts, controlled disposal capacity would still be required

↓46% Declining in regions with well-developed infrastructure

↑74% ... but increasing where infrastructure is lacking today



0%
increase in GHG emissions vs 2019
↓ 1.2GtCO₂e relative to Business-as-Usual Scenario

The Global Rules Scenario can be cost effective for governments, resulting in lower public expenditure:

1.5 Trillion US\$
Public Expenditure vs US\$1.7 trillion in Business-as-Usual Scenario (cumulative 2025-2040)

This analysis does not include cost implications from externalities, further savings could be potentially estimated if those externalities were accounted for.

The Global Rules Scenario is presented as a starting point for systems change, **further and stronger measures are required to end all aspects of plastic pollution:**



Eliminate mismanaged plastics



Align with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement



Eliminate negative impacts on health and biodiversity



Ensure a just transition enhancing labour & human rights

Now is the time to act

to scale the necessary level of international action, coordination and collaboration

Explore the report at
<https://pub.norden.org/temanord2023-539>



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