## **Towards Ending Plastic Pollution by 2040**

## 15 Global Policy Interventions for Systems Change

microplastics and reduce microplastics releases into the environment

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 outer ture tics 15 global policy interventions Mitigation and Targets to reduce removal programmes Assumed to be virgin plastic for legacy plastics in legally-binding, volumes the environment concurrent, Standards on the implemented 13 1 controlled disposal of Virgin plastic fees to across all fund solutions across waste that cannot be regions, and the plastic prevented or safely recycled lifecycle across the plastic lifecycle: PILLAR D PILLAR A Controlled Reduce Disposal virgin plastic production and Application-Restrictions on of waste that cannot 3 11 specific levers to plastic waste be prevented or consumption reduce plastic trade safely recycled consumption The state of the s a Q 2 10 Controls for a just PILLAR C transition for the **Expand Safe Eliminate** informal sector Circularity avoidable and problematic plastics via reuse, durability and recycling and chemicals Modulated EPR schemes applied 8 across sectors avoidable single-use Targets for collection and Phaseout criteria for recycling rates TRANSVERSAL PILLAR E Design rules for problematic plastics, safe reuse, repair, polymer applications durability and and chemicals of **Microplastics** cost-effective concern Prevent the use of recycling

## The Global Rules Scenario would result in...

Slobal Rules Scenario 2040 301 Million tonnes
Virgin plastic produced
130% vs 2019

13 Million tonnes
Mismanaged plastic

190% vs 2019

1.9 Gigatonnes CO2e GHG emitted



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



430%
Annual virgin plastic production by 2040 relative to 2019
60% reduction relative to the Business-as-Usual Scenario



Despite all efforts, controlled disposal capacity would still be required

Declining in regions

**146**%

... but increasing where infrastructure is lacking today

with well-developed infrastructure



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

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

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