



The EU Green Deal, its impact on the plastics industry, and what this means for healthcare

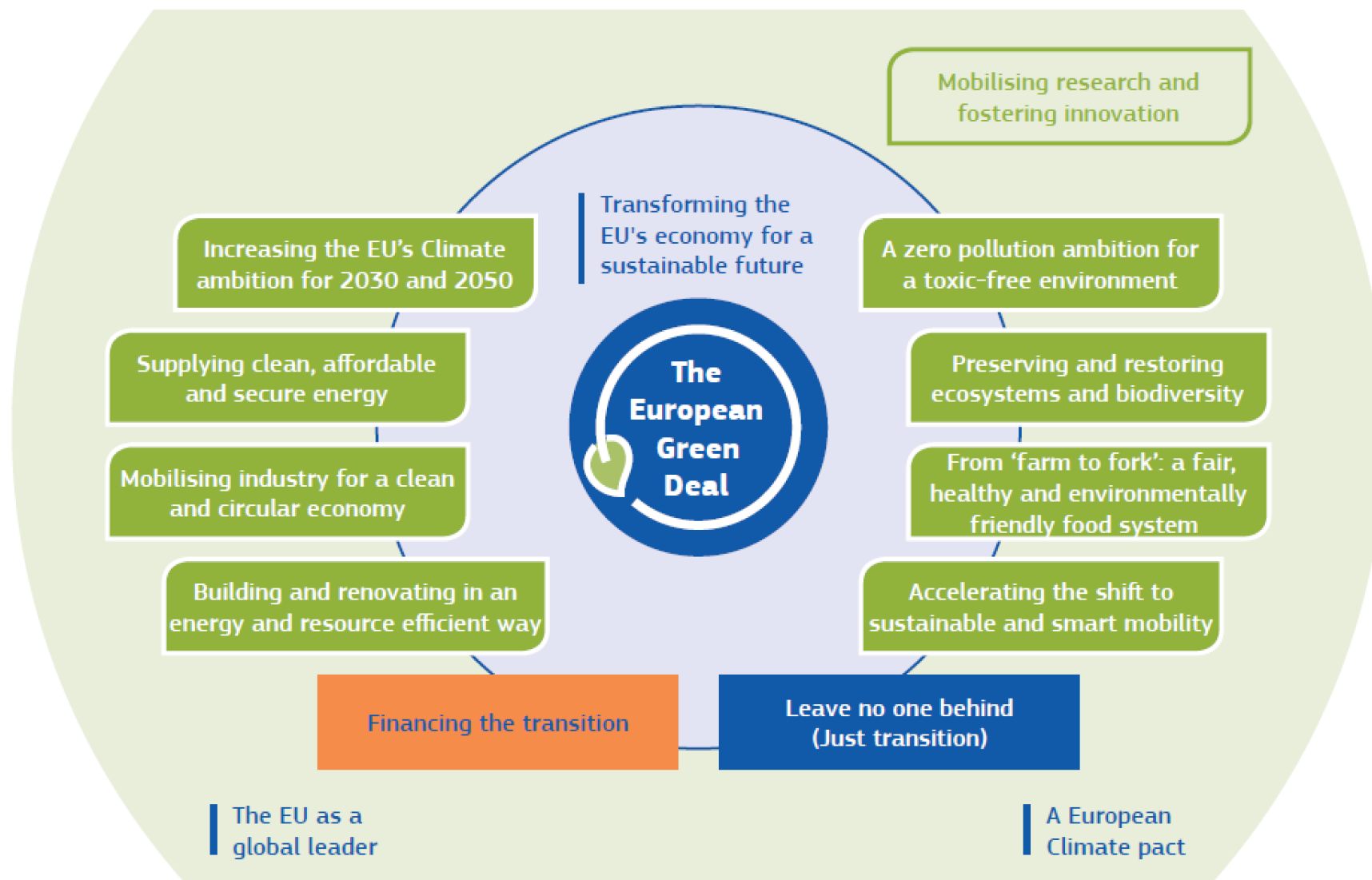
David Carroll

In the next 30 minutes

1. The EU Green Deal - what is it?
2. How does this impact the plastics industry?
3. What does this mean for healthcare?
4. Our asks as Plastics Europe
5. A longer-term perspective



The EU Green Deal - what does it mean?



The EU Green Deal - the objectives?

- Climate neutrality and emissions reduction
- Circular Economy
- Zero Pollution
- Protecting bio-diversity



How this is being translated into concrete policy

Circular Economy Action Plan 2.0

- Redrafting of EU laws covering all main applications of plastics
- “Sustainable Products Initiative”
- A global agreement on plastics

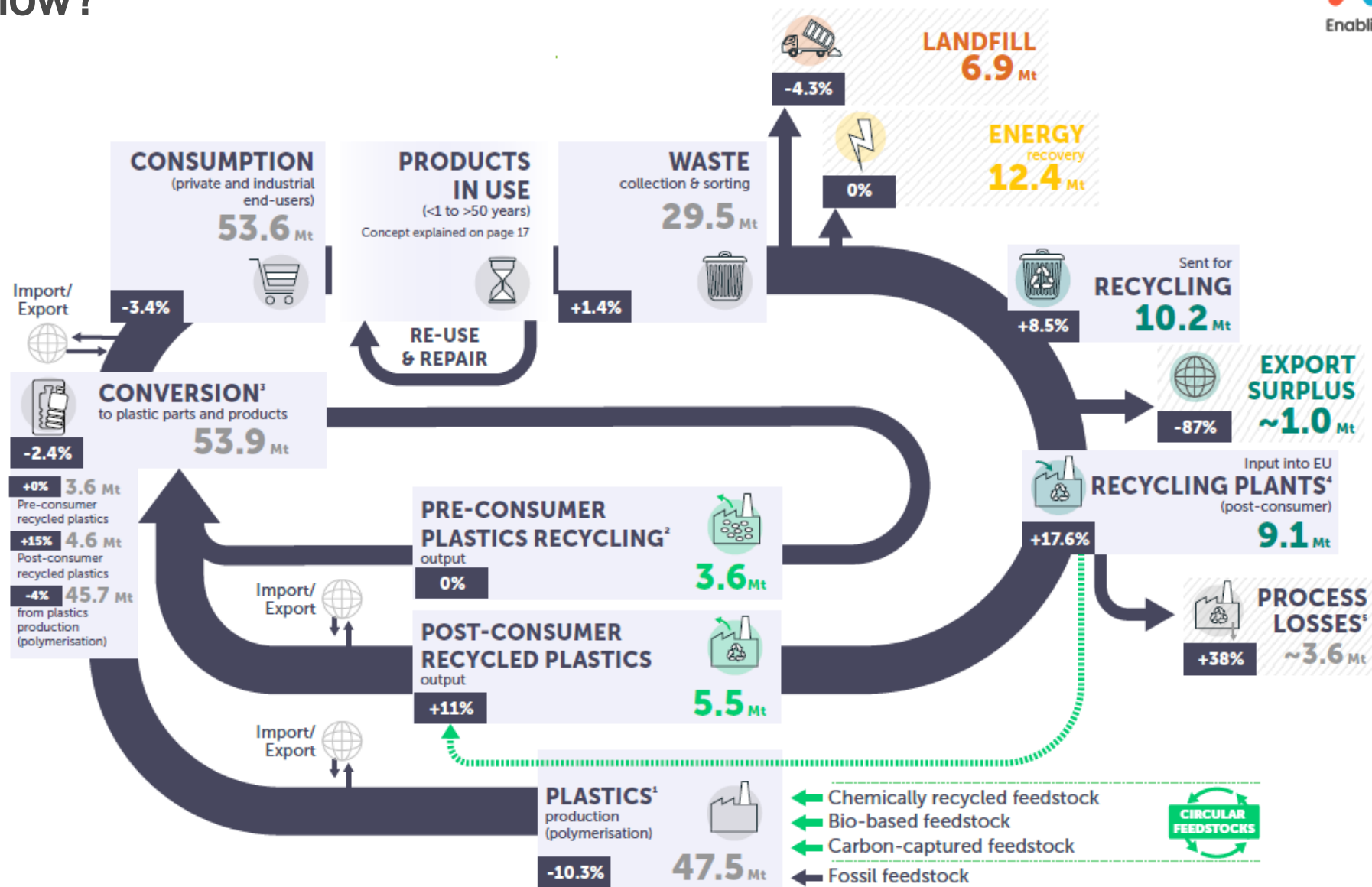
European Climate Law:

- Binding 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets
- Enabling policies to reach these targets

Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

- Microplastics
- Digital Product Passport

The circular economy for plastics - where do we stand now?



¹ Does not include elastomers, adhesives, coatings and sealants. ² Pre-consumer plastics waste is mainly originating from the plastics conversion and from plastics production (polymerisation) to a lesser extend. ³ Compounding of recycled plastics and plastics from polymerization may occur prior conversion. ⁴ Includes chemical recycling. ⁵ Process losses are usually sent to energy recovery or landfill. Parts of plastics residues could be a potential future source of chemical recycling.

Impact on the plastics industry



Where are we in EU plastics regulation?

- New wave of European legislation under development impacting all uses of plastics
- Focus has broadened significantly - debate is no longer limited to plastics waste or plastics in the environment
 - Climate neutrality
 - Safety
 - Circularity as a climate policy
- Member States continuing to try to go further and faster than the European Commission
- Industry's concerns not resonating - and goalposts potentially shifting on what is expected from us



EU targets for plastics - what is agreed to date?

- Circular Plastics Alliance - 10 MT of recycled plastics in new applications
- Landfill restrictions and limitations from 2030/35
- Recycling targets (e.g. for packaging - 55% by 2030)
- Restrictions, bans and reduction targets on certain limited categories of single-use plastic items



What are the EU drivers and what targets can we expect in a climate and circularity transition?

- Regulatory focus on all aspects of the plastics life-cycle - from production and raw materials to end-of-life
 - Diversifying raw materials
 - Reducing emissions from production
 - Ending plastic pellet losses & scrutiny on microplastics
 - Increasing interface with chemicals policy & requirements for products to be safe-and-sustainable by design
 - Much broader recycling targets and design for recycling in all applications
 - Reuse or other reduction targets?
 - Mandatory recycled content requirements
 - Phasing out of landfill and incineration



What does this mean for healthcare?



- Decision makers are open to considering the specific requirements of the healthcare sector when developing policy & creating limited exemptions
- Scale of the transition and level of external scrutiny of the plastics industry means healthcare applications unlikely to be left out of

Our asks and next steps

PlasticsEurope's purpose and strategy

PlasticsEurope is a catalyst for the plastics industry accelerating sustainable solutions valued by society.



Our key asks to policy-makers

1

Create the policy framework which supports the plastics industry's transition to a climate neutral and circular economy

3

A science-based and data driven approach to policy-making

2

Leverage the EU Single Market

4

Greater collaboration along the plastics value chain

A longer-term perspective - ReShaping Plastics

Transitioning the plastics system: a joint journey towards circularity and net zero



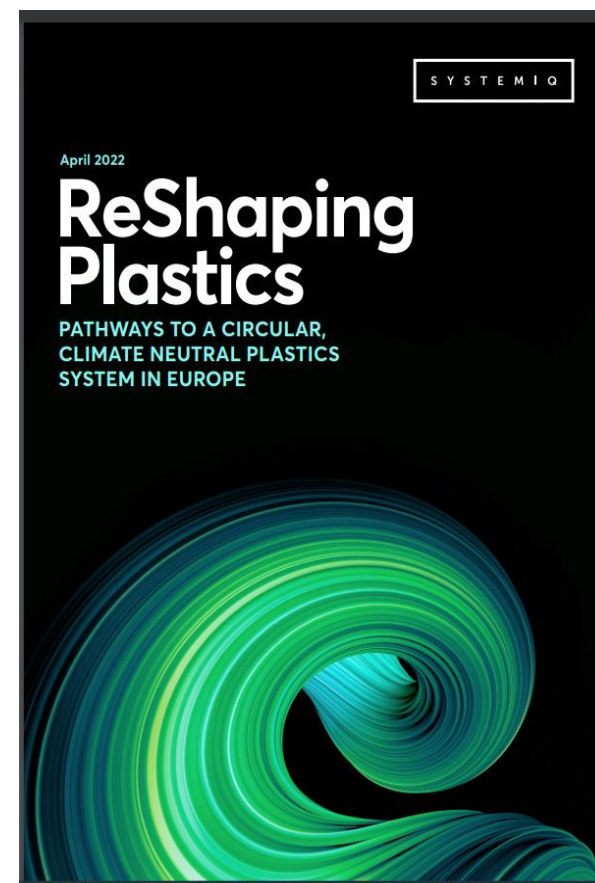
In 2020, The Pew Charitable Trusts and SYSTEMIQ published the report “Breaking the plastic wave” at Davos.



Global reach with focus on plastics pollution



“without immediate and sustained action, the annual flow of plastic into the ocean could nearly triple by 2040.” The study identified solutions that could cut this volume by more than 80% using technologies that are available today, if key decision-makers are willing to make systemwide changes.



ReShaping Plastics - the focus of the report

WHY

Quantify the economic, environmental and social implications of **different strategies, or pathways,**

WHAT

Focuses on **four** of the most important **plastic-using sectors:**



packaging



household goods



automotive



construction

HOW

Across **six system change scenarios**, outlining which **actions should be prioritised** for different plastics applications in order to **meet circularity and climate mitigation goals.**

Overarching report key findings & recommendations



The European plastic system is adapting to address the challenges of climate change mitigation and circularity, but **not yet fast enough**.



There is no **“silver bullet” solution** to significantly reduce waste disposal and GHG emissions.



Ambitious adoption of circular economy **approaches in the plastics value chain – upstream and downstream solutions together - can drive very significant** in the next decade and beyond.



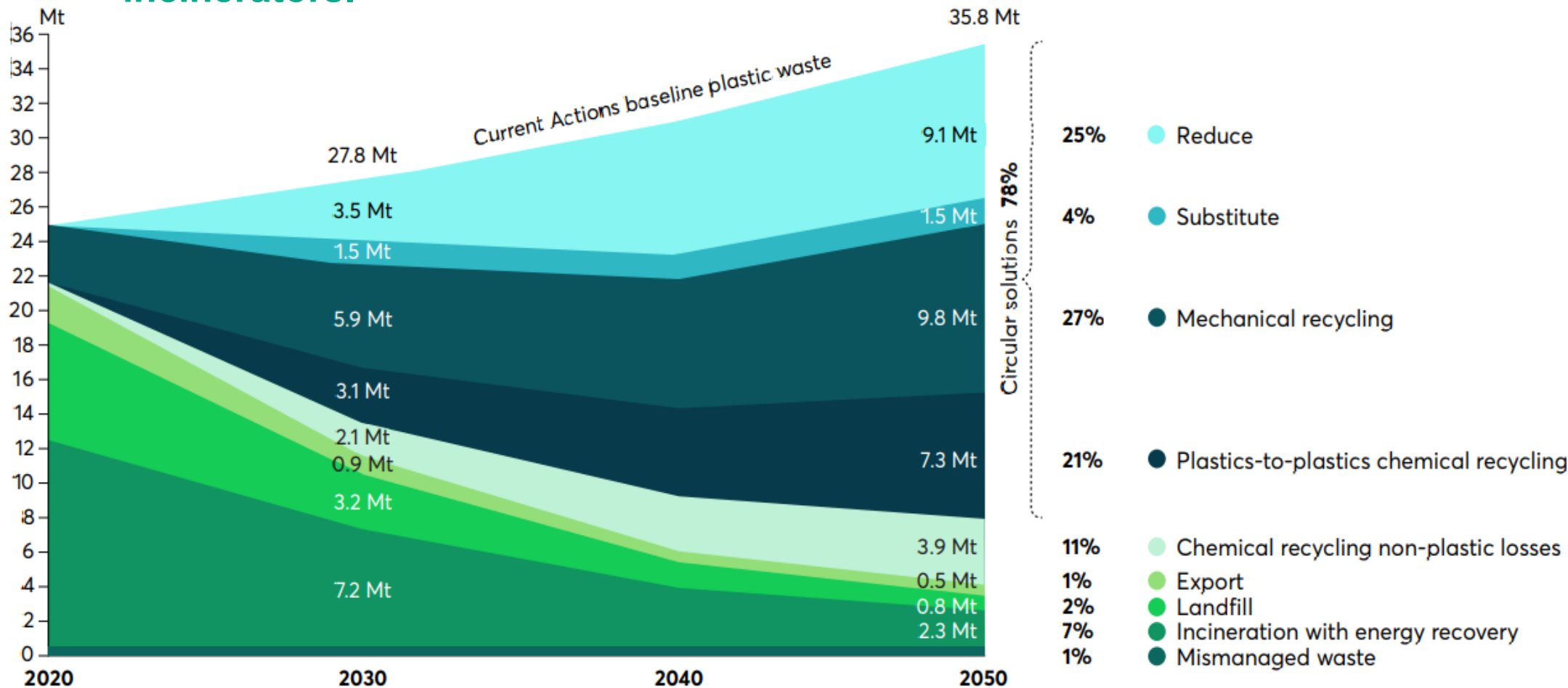
Multiple less mature pathways to develop and deploy innovative technologies and approaches that further decrease GHG emissions and decouple plastics from fossil feedstocks



Decisions taken in the 2020s will determine the possibility for the system to reach waste reduction targets and net zero GHG emissions in 2050.

ReShaping Plastics - Physical fate of plastic waste*

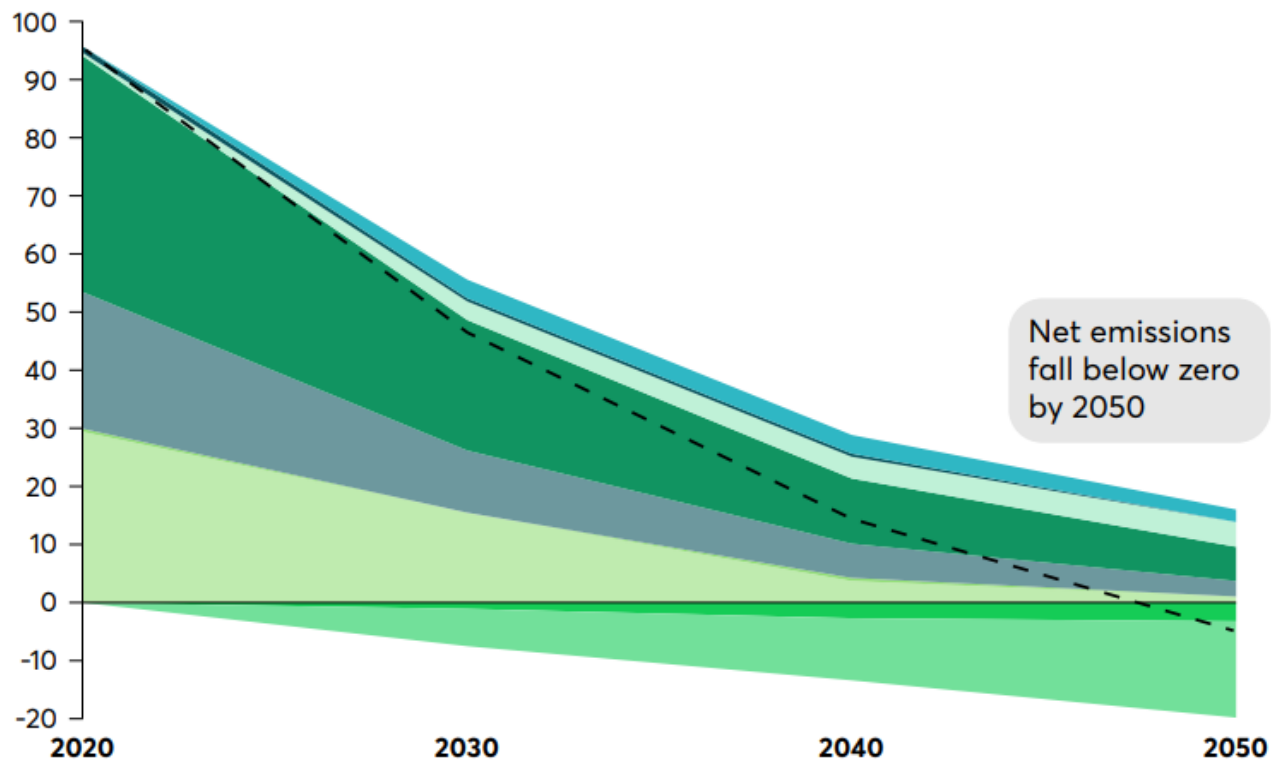
“By 2050, the Plastics system could achieve 78% circularity with 30% of waste avoided through reduction and substitution and 48% being recycled, leaving 9% in landfills and incinerators.”



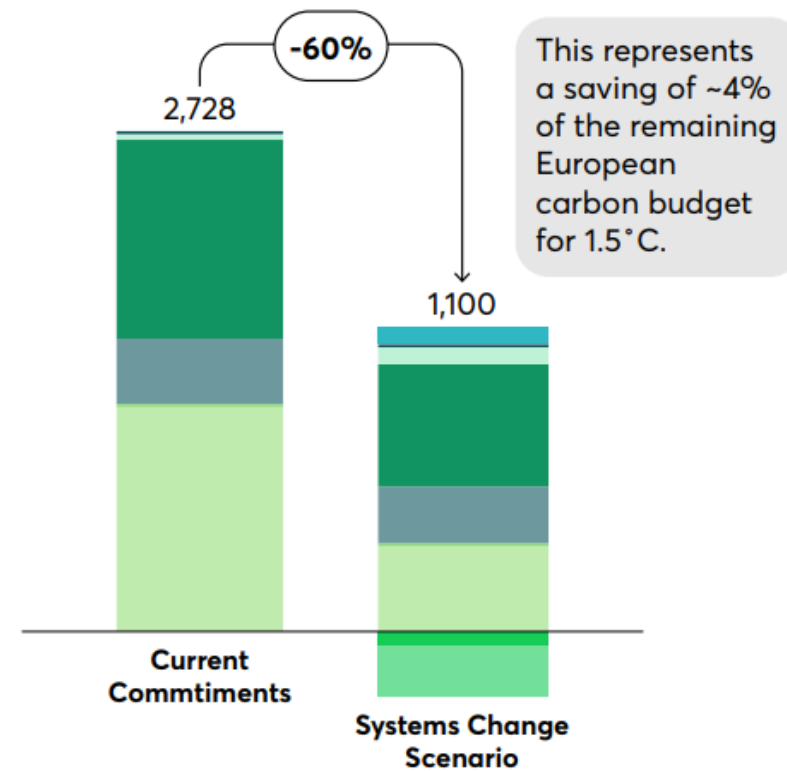
*waste from packaging, household goods, automotive and construction 2020-2050 (Mt)

ReShaping Plastics - Transition of feedstock

Net Zero Scenario Annual GHG Emissions (Mt CO₂e/year)



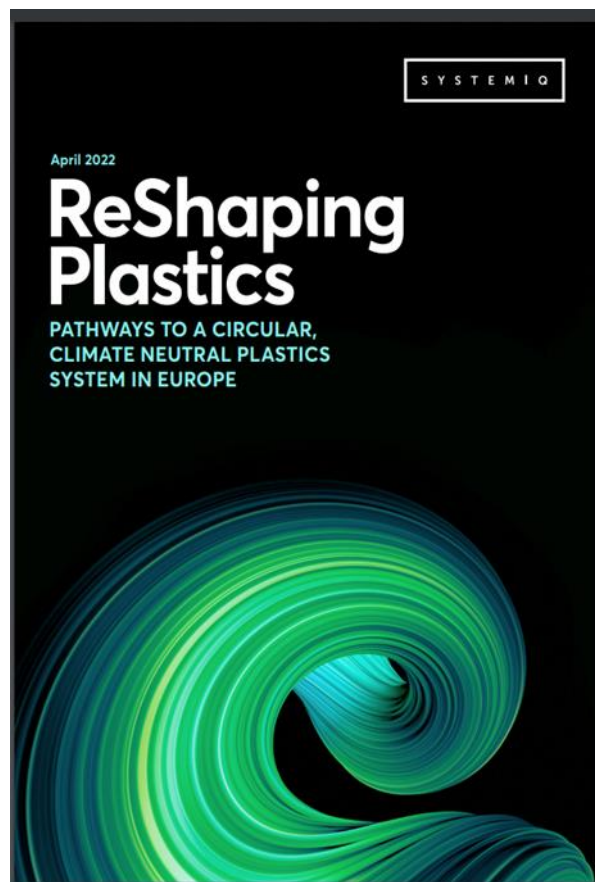
Cumulative emissions 2020-2050 (Mt CO₂e)



- Reduction
- Mechanical recycling
- Virgin fossil production
- Collection and sorting
- CO₂ + H₂
- - - Net emissions
- Substitution
- Chemical recycling
- Polymerisation and conversion
- Disposal
- Biomass

Source: "ReShaping Plastics" model


Find out more



<https://plasticseurope.org/reshaping-plastics/>

“ It is encouraging that the report recognises the vital role plastics play in achieving the EU’s broader net zero emissions goals. They help deliver emissions savings in other key sectors like construction, automotive, packaging and medical, and they are indispensable for the development of renewable energy technologies.

Dr. Markus Steilemann – President of Plastics Europe



Resources

- Full Report
- Executive Summary
- Policy Recommendations
- Press Release
- Infographics
- Media Kit
- POLITICO Op-Ed
- FAQs

