

Plastic Free Mauritius: Defining the Roadmap



Theme : Single Use plastic Products

Caudan Arts Centre 18 October 2021

Mr. Shiv Seewoobaduth Ag. Director of Environment Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change



Outline of Presentation

- 1. Where are we now?
- 2. Where do we want to go?
- 3. How to reach there?

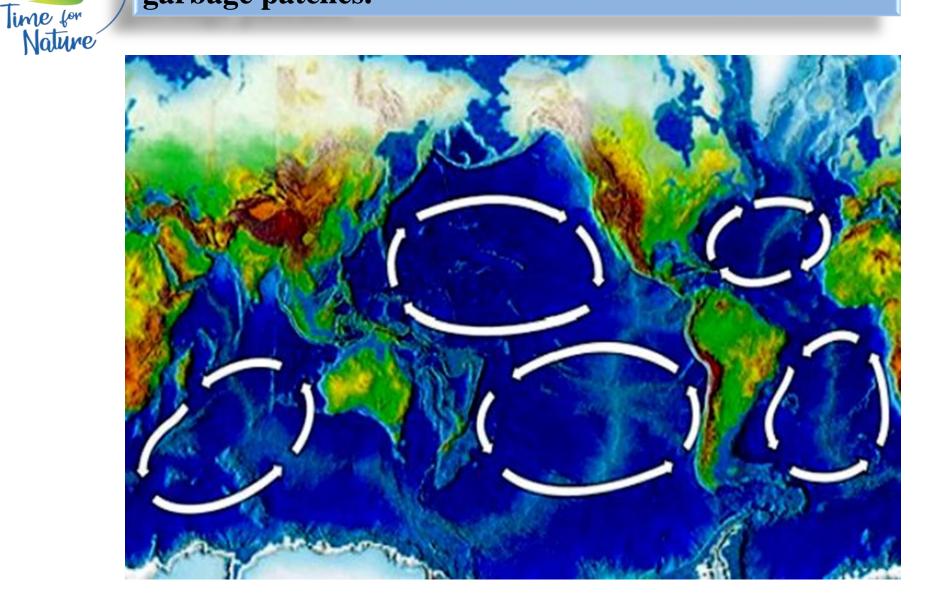




Where are we now? – some key International Facts

- Global: 2 M tons in 1950, 8.3 B tons in 2017 and 34 B tons in 2050;
- ✓ Half of all plastic have been produced the last 15 years:
- ✓ About 60% of plastic landed either in landfills or natural envt;
- \checkmark 50% of plastic produced globally are meant for single use;
- ✓ 80% plastic that are ending up in the seas comes from land based sources;
- Plastics pollution and microplastics are impacting all three dimensions of Sustainable Development; and
- ✓ Global initiative to reduce or eliminate the consumption of single use plastic products is gaining momentum.

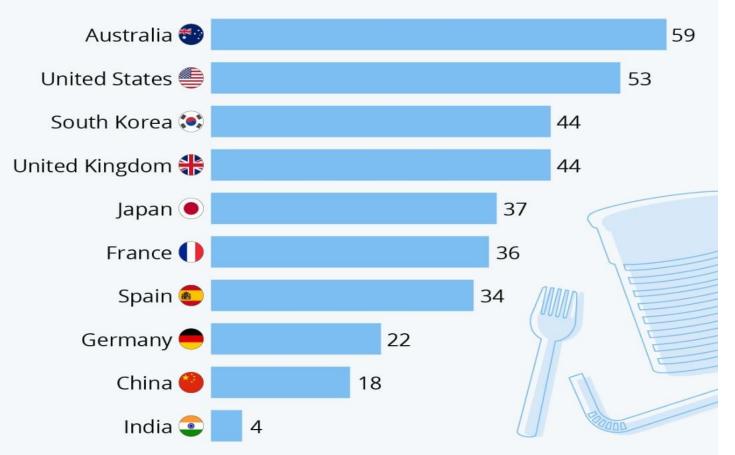
The five main ocean 'Gyres' have become plastic garbage patches.





How Much Single-Use Plastic Waste Do Countries Generate?

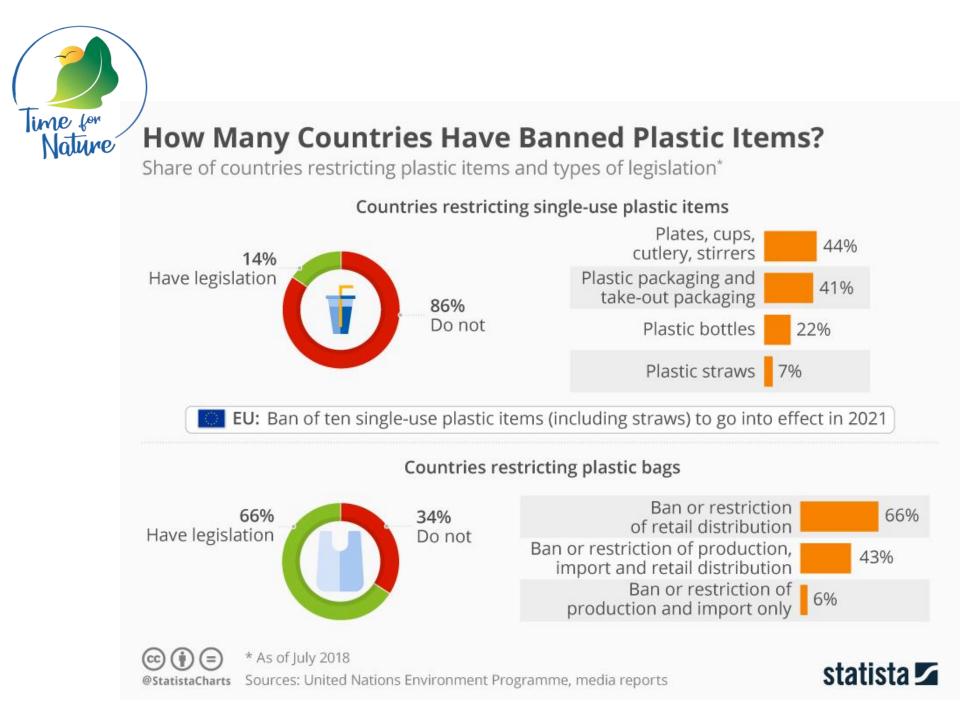
Single-use plastic waste generated per person in selected countries in 2019 (in kilograms)



Source: The Plastic Waste Makers Index by The Mindaroo Foundation







Countries in Africa with legislation on plastics





Local Context

First regulation on plastic (bags) in 2004

- Levy Rs 2 as from 1st February 2019 implemented as from 2nd May 2019 on plastic products
- 16/17 December 2019 : Assise de L'Environnement : "Theme Control des déchets plastic"
- 1st July 2020 : Environment Protection (Control of Single Use Plastic products) Regulation 2020
- 2 key Principles : Alternatives & Affordability
- Into force as from 15 January 2021

Alternatives to single use plastic products





























Single Use Biodegradable Products : Imported 15 January 2021 to 30 September 2021



•	
Cutlery (spoon , fork , knife)	2,339,192
Plate	1,421,237
Сир	12,006,172
Bowl	3,916,001
Tray	3,027,967
Straw	2,267,512
Beverage stirrer	110,000
Hinged container (e.g takeaway)	12,966,000
Cup lid	700,207
Receptacles of any shape made (e.g noodle, sandwich & cake boxes and so on)	5,043,460



Time for Nature

Forthcoming

Establish **level playing field** : control imported single use plastic containers forming an integral part of packaging through <u>Amendment of Consumer Protection (Control of imports)</u> <u>Regulations 2017</u> for packed food items in single use plastic products (plate, bowl, cup, tray, hinged container)

- ✓ List of packed food items to be imported in biodegradable containers under consideration;
- ✓ **Splitting of HS codes** for:
- I. Biodegradable containers (PLA, bagasse, pulp, kraft paper, cellulose, starch.....)
- **II. Others** (non-biodegradable such as plastic (not single use, metal, glass, rubber, etc)
- ✓ Shift on trade-net system to ease doing business iro processing of clearances for import.



Where we want to go?

A CLEAN & SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Vision:

- To prevent and reduce plastics pollution in <u>the environment</u>, including microplastics, by promoting <u>Circular Economy</u> and addressing all the stages of the <u>life cycle of plastics</u>;
- Need to also address land based sources as well as sea based sources focusing on both upstream and downstream activities and measures.





- A comprehensive and integrated Framework to Prevent and Reduce plastics pollution in the environment, including microplastics (by promoting Circular Economy and addressing the full lifecycle of Plastics);
- 2. Banning of single use plastic product for which alternatives are available and affordable;
- 3. Partnership at all level and champions;
- 4. Financial Incentives and Schemes ;



5. Technological Transfer



- 6. Support Research and Development;
- 7. Promote Circular Economy for Problematic Plastic Products (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle);
- 8. Institutional Strengthening and Enhanced Enforcement;
- 9. Promote **Sustainable Consumption and Production** and **ecolabels** for bio products, and
- 10. Sustained Education and awareness raising for a **Change Culture.**



THANK YOU

11

///

///