



Elements of Roadmap- Plastic Bags

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Where are we now?

- ▶ Regulations on plastic ban in place (plastic bags meant for carrying goods [with or without handles], roll-on types, pocket-types, duty free plastic bags and bags manufactured for export) and enforcement ongoing
- ▶ Research on Ecolabel framework & constraints
- ▶ Financial Scheme and other facilities in place to assist SME, manufacturers and companies (0% - low interest rates , different moratorium and repayment periods depending on projects, applicable to MSMEs and manufacturing sectors amongst others)
- ▶ Initiative of private sector to *Rethink, Reduce and Reproduce* and introduction of biodegradable materials in the production chain
- ▶ Ongoing research on converting Waste into Resource in view of finding alternatives to plastics



Where do we want to go?

- ▶ Other plastics bags to be banned(from the exempt list)- packaging of fruits and vegetables
- ▶ Progressive introduction of voluntary reduction strategies: giving enough time for the population to begin changing consumption patterns and adapting to affordable and eco-friendly alternatives
 - ▶ Government to regulate
 - ▶ Businesses to innovate
 - ▶ Individuals to act
- ▶ Inculcating the Ecolabel concept at the conception of plastics alternatives products
- ▶ Stakeholders' engagement (government, industry, retailers, population, waste management authorities and tourism associations)
- ▶ Promotion of eco-friendly, affordable and fit for purpose alternatives by providing incentives to industry



Where do we want to go?

- ▶ Promoting the sharing of knowledge & research findings through public awareness
 - ▶ Amendments of legislation to address loopholes
 - ▶ Impose levies where applicable to ensure level playing ground and discourage plastic on the market
 - ▶ Identify Champions for plastic free businesses, villages, etc.
 - ▶ Greening of public Sector
 - ▶ Mobilisation of funds
 - ▶ Zero plastic to landfill
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How do we get there?

- ▶ Lay emphasis on Circular economy
 - ▶ Promote Extended producer responsibility
 - ▶ Encourage further private/public collaboration, including collaboration with companies to promote/ sponsor eco-friendly /long lasting bags
 - ▶ Assessment of baseline conditions (current cause, extent, impacts)
 - ▶ Analysis of all steps of the life cycle of potential solutions towards sustainable development
 - ▶ Further research on locally available alternatives, biodegradability, etc. and assess impacts of preferred options (social, environment and economic)
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How do we get there?

- ▶ Regulatory, voluntary and economic evaluation
- ▶ Incentivize the industry (tax rebate, keep certain ecofriendly materials tax-free)
- ▶ Ringfence revenues for investment in waste minimization, recycling industry
- ▶ Continued awareness raising and campaigns at all levels, including on the introduction of new policies, legislations and alternatives to plastic
- ▶ Strengthen Enforcement (fines, human resources etc.)
- ▶ Eco labelling – Need to develop an ecolabel for Mauritius