



# Plastic Free Mauritius: Defining the Roadmap

Recycling of Plastic Wastes- Session 5

19 October 2021, Caudan Arts Centre

# Recycling of Plastic Wastes



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## **Panelists:**

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# Plastic Recycling: Current Situation

## Where we stand?

- ▶ 14.5 % of plastic fractions in our wastes
- ▶ Estimated 75 000 tons of plastics landfilled yearly in Mauritius
- ▶ Plastic recycling rate as low as 4 %
- ▶ Objective: Promote material recovery and reduce landfilling
- ▶ Not all plastics can be recycled!
  - ▶ Recyclable: PET, HDPE, LDPE, PP; Non-recyclable: PVC, E-waste plastics, thermoset plastics



# Plastic Recycling: Current Situation

## Where we stand?

- ▶ 3000 tons of plastic wastes recycled/exported for recycling
- ▶ Local recyclers of plastic wastes: 3
  - ▶ PIMS Ltd, EN Recycling, Surfrider

### Supporting measures:

- ▶ Economic support from Government: Rs 15/kg
- ▶ Civic Amenity Centres (CACs)



# Plastic Recycling: Economic Aspect

- ▶ Plastic management and recycling is not only an engineering problem, but also has economic & social implications
- ▶ Plastic waste generation can reach up to 89 000 tons in case of 6% economic growth in 2030.
- ▶ Plastic wastes (PET, HDPE) recycled into secondary products or additionally into finished products

# Plastic Recycling: Current Situation

## Where we stand?



- ▶ Participation of local recyclers to produce finished products from recycled plastics
  - ▶ Based on level of contamination of plastics
- ▶ Working towards circular economy



# Plastic Recycling: Present Challenges

## Major issues:

- ▶ No segregation at source: mixed/commingled plastic wastes
- ▶ Collection and sorting of plastic wastes is a big hassle!
- ▶ Considerable amount of plastics are landfilled
- ▶ Recyclers recover plastic wastes through their network, collectors & transportation
  - ▶ At their own costs
- ▶ High investment costs ( infrastructure, electricity, equipment)
- ▶ High level of contamination of mixed plastic wastes
- ▶ Market for recycled products not well established



# Plastic Recycling: What do we want?

- ▶ Promote industrial symbiosis
- ▶ More research & development
  - ▶ Products design
- ▶ Effective recovery of plastics: Collection and Segregation of plastic wastes
- ▶ Creation of more job opportunities
- ▶ Ensure health hazards and safety of people involved in the plastic waste management process





# Plastic Recycling: What do we want?

- ▶ Correct management of plastic containers containing chemicals and hazardous components such as paint
- ▶ Collaboration between private & public sectors for better management of plastic wastes
- ▶ Clear & coordinated approach on roadmap



# Plastic Recycling: How to achieve what we want?

- ▶ Promote segregation of plastic wastes at source
  - ▶ Facilitate collection of specific plastic streams
- ▶ Setting up of more CACs (in the future: La Laura, Roche Bois, Poudre D'or)
- ▶ Circular economy:
  - ▶ Develop strategies, policies and infrastructure for recycling
- ▶ Certification of recycled plastics
  - ▶ Promote use of recycled plastics instead of raw materials



# Plastic Recycling: How to achieve what we want?

- ▶ Promote symbiosis among recyclers
- ▶ Provide financial assistance schemes for recycling
  - ▶ Leasing facilities on equipment & infrastructure
  - ▶ Attractive loan conditions for local recyclers
- ▶ Having a clear and coordinated roadmap
  - ▶ Agreed by all the stakeholders



Thank You for your attention