



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Closing the loop

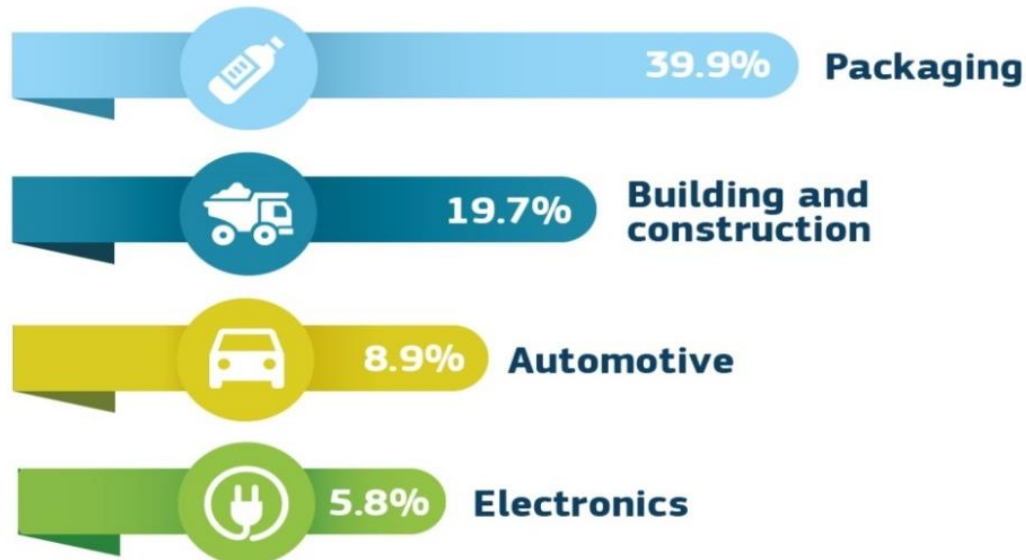
A European Strategy for Plastics in the circular economy

*CDG MILK
Paulo Lemos DG ENVIRONMENT*



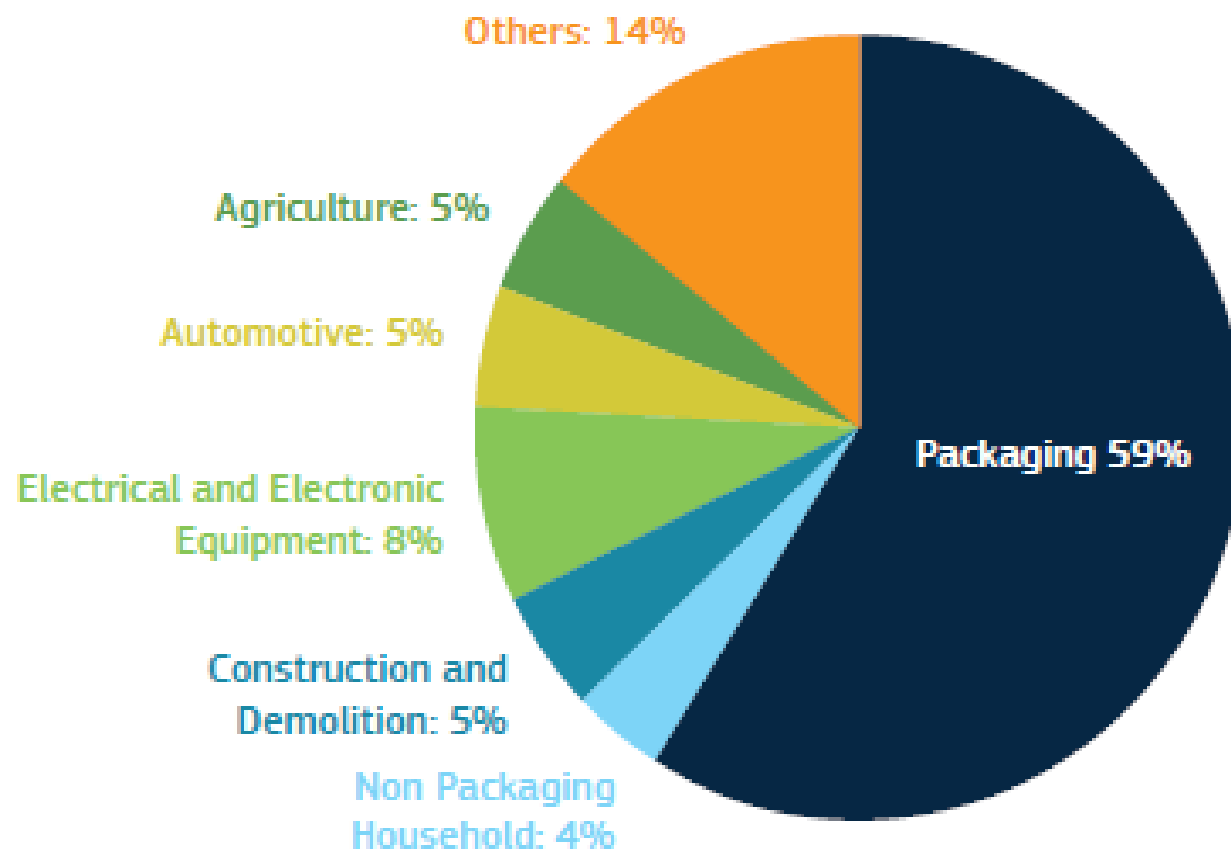
EUROPEAN PLASTICS DEMAND IN 2015

49 million tonnes





EU PLASTIC WASTE GENERATION IN 2015



What do Europeans think about Plastics?

Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (%-EU)



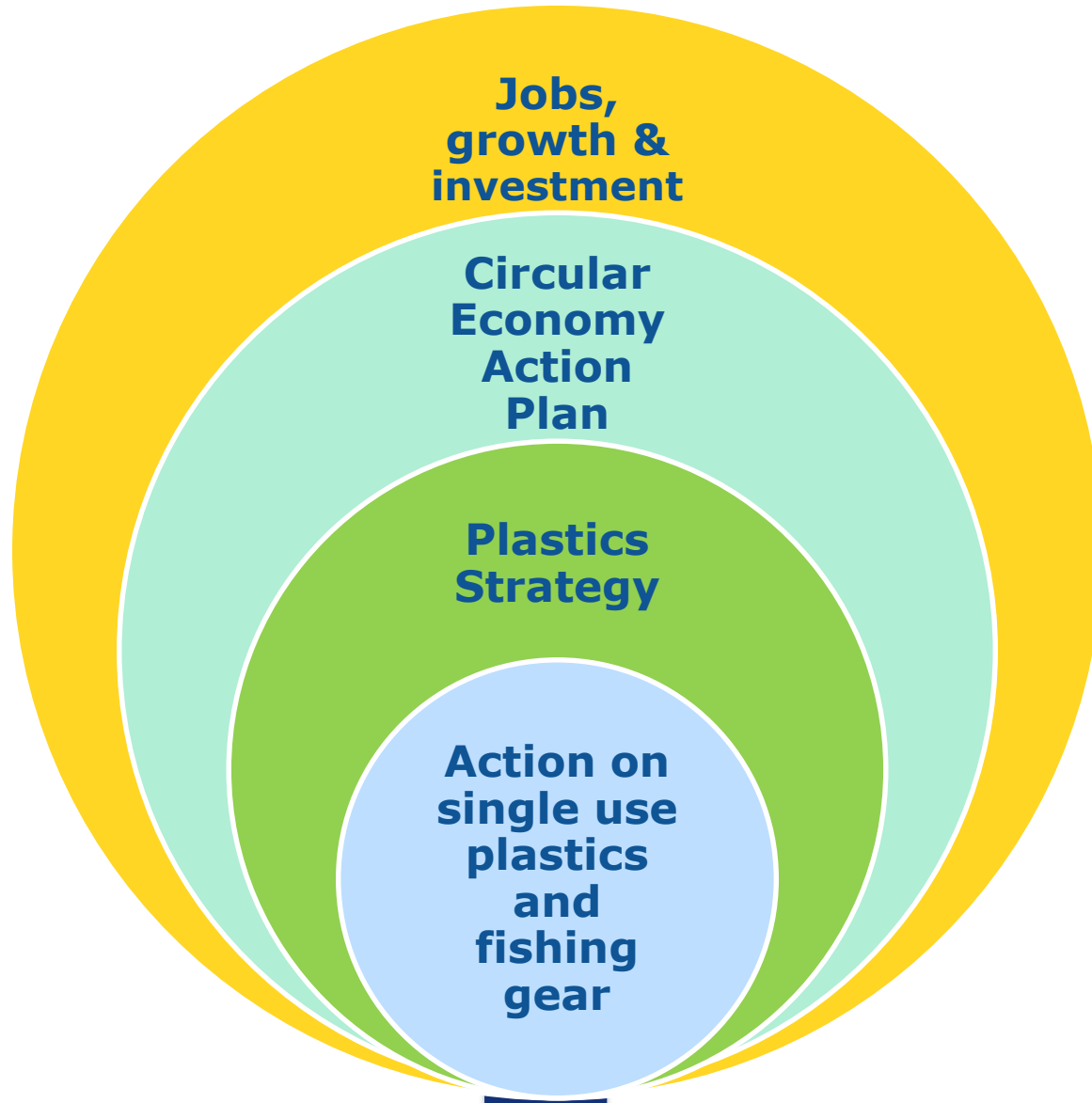
74%
agree
23%
disagree

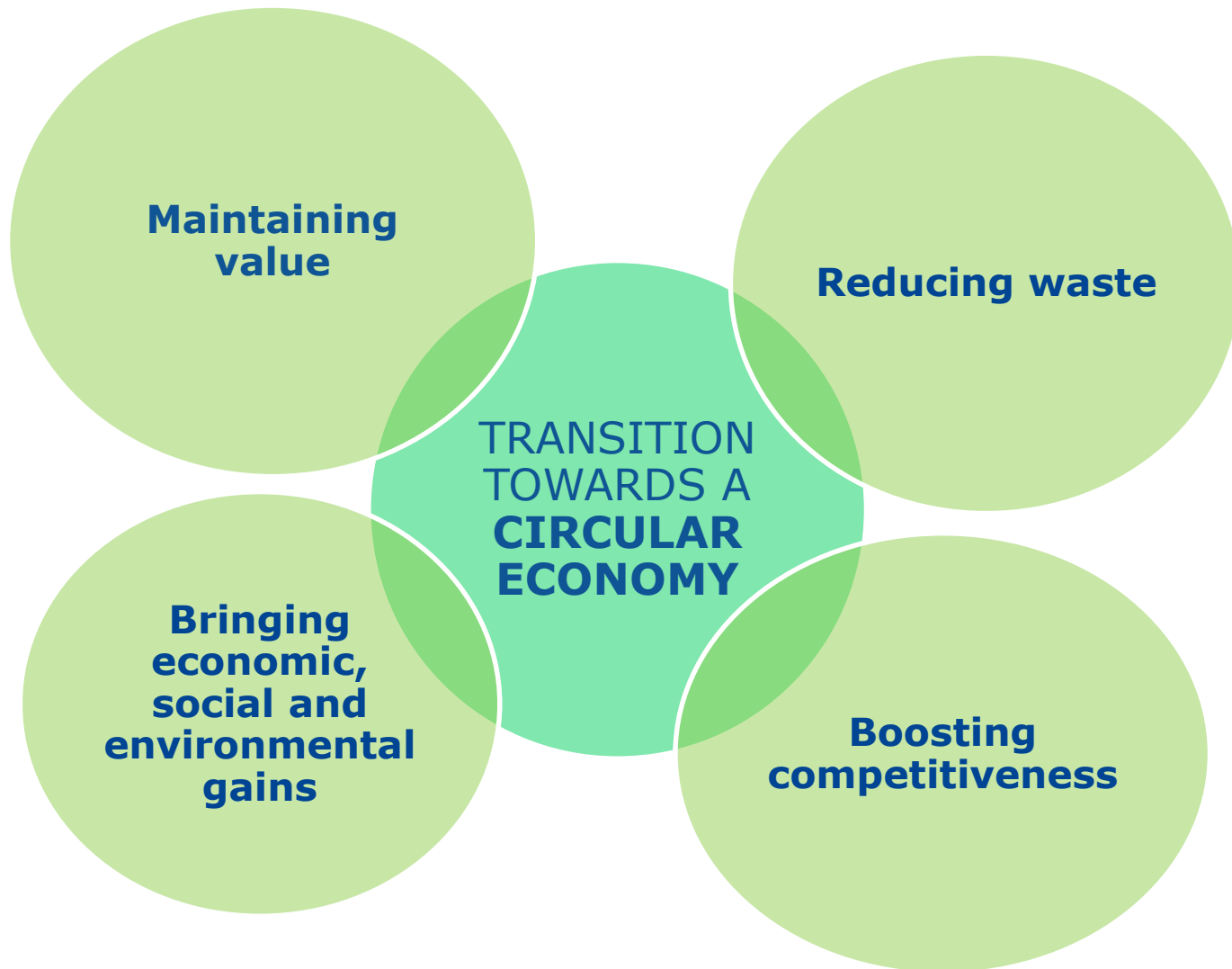
You are worried about the impact on your health
of everyday products made of plastics



87%
agree
11%
disagree

You are worried about the impact on the environment
of everyday products made of plastics







→ **Plastics Strategy** (16th Jan. 2018)



- 
- **Communication & Staff Working Document**
 - **List of EU actions** (39) → most by 2018/2019
 - **Measures recommended** to Member States



New Waste package

A VISION FOR THE CIRCULAR PLASTICS ECONOMY

*The Plastics Industry
of the future*



*Smart
Innovative
Sustainable*

A EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR PLASTICS IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



**Improve
the economics
and quality
of plastics
recycling**



**Curb plastic
waste and
littering**



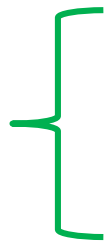
**Drive
investments
and innovation
towards circular
solutions**



**Harness
global
action**



Policy Objectives



- **Stimulate design for circularity**
- **Better separate waste collection**
- **Boosting recycled content**



All plastics packaging reusable or recyclable by 2030



Measures



- Revision of the **essential requirements** in the PPWD
- Working on **food-contact materials**
- Development of **quality standards** (sorted and recycled plastics)
- **Ecolabel and GPP: incentives** for recycled plastics
- **EPR (eco-modulation)/ deposit:** Member States
- Industry **pledges / voluntary commitments**



- **Regulatory framework for biodegradable plastics**
- **Oxo-“degradable” plastics** → REACH
- **Curb microplastics pollution:**
 - Intentionally added to products → REACH
 - Unintentional release, e.g. tyres, textiles and plastic pellets
- **Tackling single use plastics**



- **Strategic Research Innovation Agenda for Plastics** (2018)
- **H2020 additional €100 million investments** (up until 2020)
- **Support the development of alternative feedstocks**
→ **lifecycle assessments** including **biomass**
- **MFF proposal on plastic related "own resources"**



- **Call for global action**
- **Support for multilateral initiatives on plastics**
- **Promote international industry standards development**
- **Development in cooperation funding**

REDUCING MARINE LITTER

Tackling unsustainable use

! NOT against plastics

⇒ **Legal instrument
under this mandate**



10 most common plastic objects found on European beaches



Many of these items are packaging for food and drink and most were designed to be used only once ("single-use plastics"). That's a waste of valuable resources.

Proposal for a Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment

items with available
sustainable alternatives



promote less harmful
alternatives:
market bans

items with no clear alternatives



prevention measures:
design requirements,
consumption reduction,
consumer information



better waste management:
separate collection,
extended producer
responsibility + clean-up



http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en.htm