



PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

FINAL REPORT FOR the Kyrgyz Republic

December 2022



With support from



This work allowed to identify plastic pollution hotspots in the Kyrgyz Republic, with a focus on montaineous areas. It is based on the methodology developped by UNEP/IUCN "National Guidance for Plastic Pollution Hotspotting and Shaping Action" but is adaped to local level and complemented with field data-collection..

The guidance was applied at **national level** in order to provide a detailed assessment of plastic leakage across nine distinct yet complementary hotspots categories and draws clear statements to help shaping action.

Once the national assessment was established, it was downscaled to the local level and complemented by **field assessment** with the help of Independent Ecological Expertise (IEE), a local expert. The main outcome of this work consists in a local assessment of plastic leakage across 13 locations and a preliminary set of possible interventions and instruments.

APPLYING THE GUIDANCE AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Provides a detailed assessment of plastic leakage across five distinct yet complementary hotspots categories and draws clear statements to help shape action.

ZOOMING AT LOCAL LEVEL THROUGHT A FIELD ASSESSMENT IN MOUTAIN AREAS

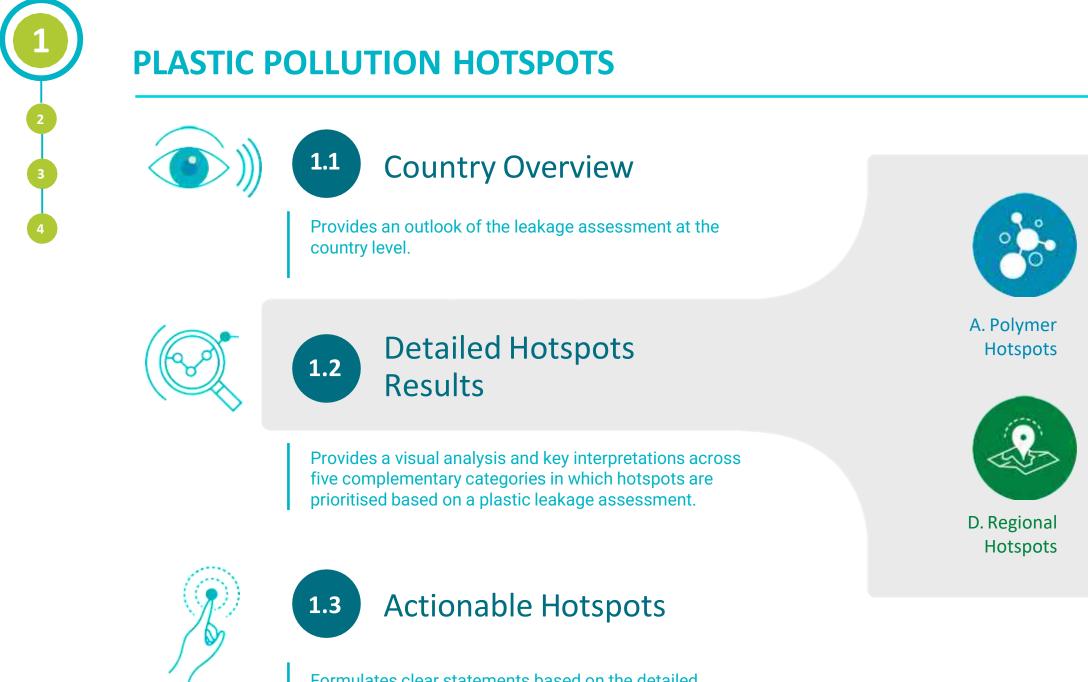
Provide a local assessment of plastic leakage accross 13 locations and a preliminary set of possible interventions and instruments in line with the plastic pollution hotspots results.

APPENDICES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

4

Provides additional information including, methodology used, results data tables, hotspot score assessments and modelling assumptions.



Formulates clear statements based on the detailed hotspot analysis to help shape action towards plastic leakage abatement.



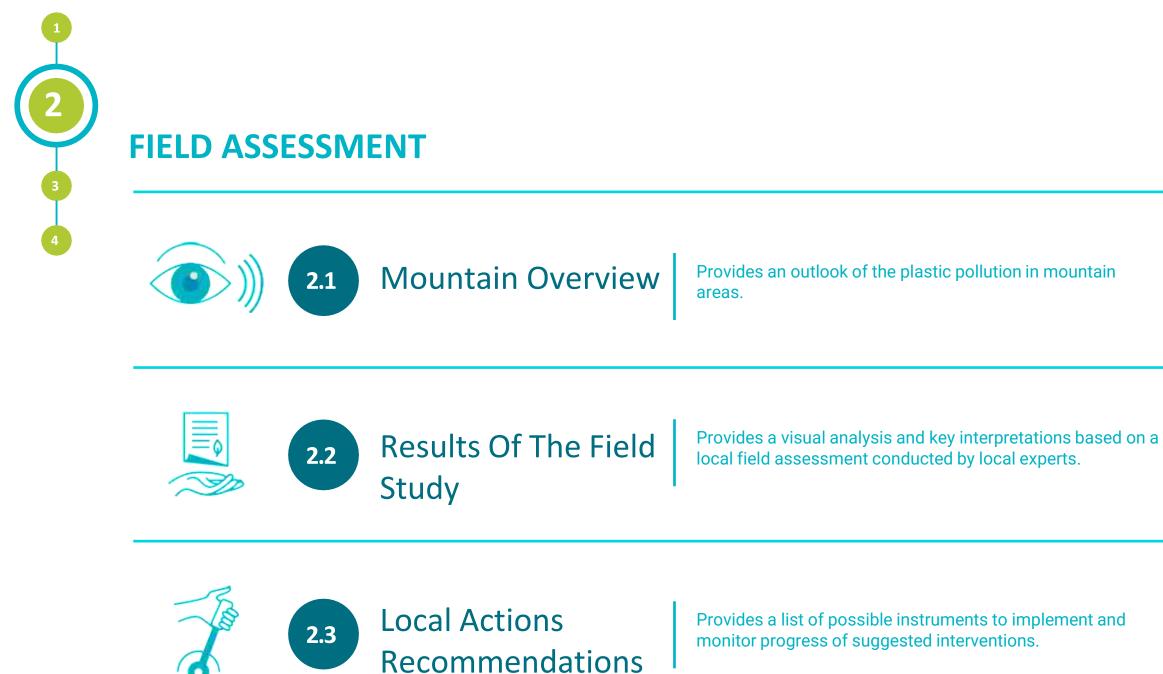
B. Application Hotspots

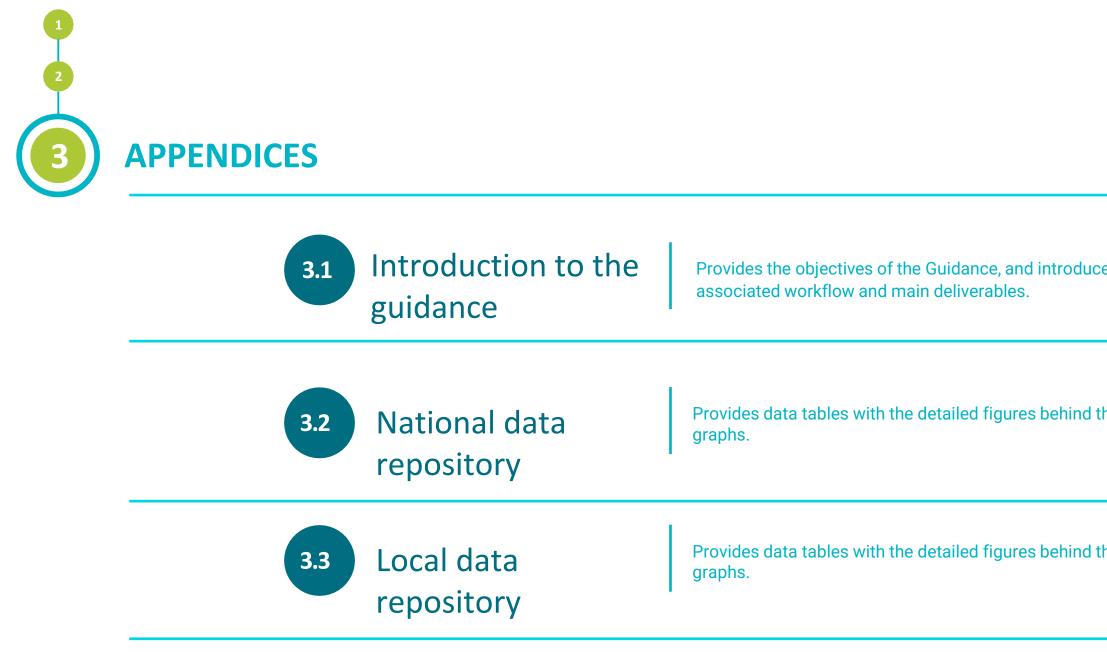


C. Sector Hotspots



E. Waste Management Hotspots







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the	

ICONS AND COLOUR CODE TO GUIDE THE READER



Reference to the methodology (module/tool)



Learnings, that complement the key take aways with more details, of information that is not necessarily visible on the graph



Reference to the appendices



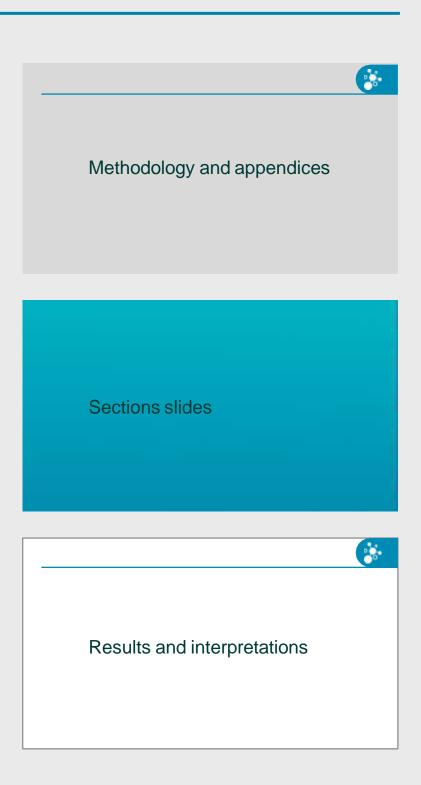
Limitations of the study, can be inaccurate data or gap in the modelling



Key take away as the main conclusion of a graph or result in a writen format



Things we foresee to unlock the limitations. They can serve as guidance for future studies



KEY DEFINITIONS

Hotspots: They refer to the most relevant plastic polymers, applications, industrial sectors, regions or waste management stages causing the leakage of plastics into the environment (including land, air, water and marine environment), as well as associated impacts, through the life cycle of plastic products.

Interventions: They are tangible actions that can be taken to mitigate hotspots and are to be prioritised and designed to address the most influential hotspots in the plastic value chain.

Instruments: They are the ways an intervention may be practically implemented through specific regulatory, financial or informative measures, in light of context factors such as country dynamics and existing measures. As an illustrative example, a country may identify "mismanaged polyethylene bottles" as one of its hotspots. A relevant intervention may be an increase in bottle collection rate. A relevant instrument may be to instate a bottle return deposit scheme.

Properly disposed: Waste fraction that is disposed in a waste management system where no leakage is expected to occur, such as an incineration facility or a sanitary landfill. We define a sanitary landfill as a particular area where large quantities of waste are deliberately disposed in a controlled manner (e.g., waste being covered on a daily basis, as well as the bottom of the landfill designed in a way to prevent waste from leaching out). Landfilling is mainly the result of a formal collection sector.

Improperly disposed: Waste fraction that is disposed in a waste management system where leakage is expected to occur, such as a dumpsite or an unsanitary landfill. A dumpsite is a particular area where large quantities of waste are deliberately disposed in an uncontrolled manner, and can be the result of both the formal and informal sectors. A landfill is considered as unsanitary when waste management quality standards are not met, thus entailing a potential for leakage.

Littering: Incorrect disposal of small, one-off items, such as: throwing a cigarette, dropping a crisp packet, or a drink cup. Most of the time these items end-up on the road or side-ways. They may or may not be collected by municipal street cleaning.

Uncollected: Waste fraction (including littering) that is not collected by the formal sector.

Mismanaged waste: It is defined as the sum of uncollected and improperly managed waste. The mismanaged waste index is the ratio of the mismanaged waste and the total waste. It is abbreviated as MWI and its value given in percentage.

Leakage: Plastic that is released to the environment, specifically to rivers and oceans. The leakage rate is ratio between leakage and total waste generated, and its value is given in percentage.

Release rate: It is defined as the ratio between leakage and total mismanaged waste, and its value is given in percentage.

Macro-plastic: Large plastic waste readily visible and with dimensions larger than 5 mm, typically plastic packaging, plastic infrastructure or fishing nets.

Micro-plastic: Small plastic particulates below 5 mm in size and above 1 mm. Two types of micro-plastics are contaminating the world's oceans: primary and secondary micro-plastics. In this study, we focus on primary micro-plastics which are are plastics directly released into the environment in the form of small particulates.

Mass balance: Mass balancing is a mathematical process aiming at equalising inputs and outputs of a given material flow across a system boundary. In our case, inputs consist of domestic production and imports while outputs consists of exports, waste generation and increase of stock. A mass balance allows to check data consistency and helps reconcile different datasets when needed.

Formal sector: Waste management activities planned, sponsored, financed, carried out or regulated and/or recognized by the local authorities or their agents, usually through contracts, licenses or concessions

Informal sector: Individuals or a group of individuals who are involved in waste management activities, but are not formally registered or formally responsible for providing waste management services. Newly established formalized organizations of such individuals; for example, cooperatives, social enterprises and programs led by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), can also be considered as the informal sector for the purpose of this methodology.

For additional definitions, please refer to the publication: United Nations Environment Programme (2020). National guidance for plastic pollution hotspotting and shaping action - Introduction report. Boucher J.,; M. Zgola, et al. United Nations Environment Programme. Nairobi, Kenya. Definitions of formal and informal sector are taken from: United Nations Framework Convention On Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic Climate Change - Clean Development Mechanism (UNFCCC-CDM), 2010, AMS-III.AJ. EB70, Annex 28 - Small-scale Methodology: Recovery and Recycling of Materials from Solid Wastes.

WHAT WE MEAN BY PLASTIC LEAKAGE / IMPACTS



By <u>plastic leakage</u> we refer to a quantity of plastic entering rivers and the oceans



By <u>plastic impact</u> we refer to a potential effect the leaked plastic may have on ecosystems and/or human health

Parameters ruling the leakage quantification in the model

- General waste management
- Recycling
- Wastewater and run-off water management
- Plastic consumption patterns
- Population density
- Value of the polymer
- Size of application
- Type of use
- Distance to shore and rivers
- Hydrological patterns

Parameters ruling qualitative impact assessment

- Beach clean-up data
- Size and shape of applications
- Presence of toxic substances in polymers or additives



Leaked plastic stems from uncollected and improperly disposed waste.

Note that the rest of the uncollected and improperly disposed plastic may be leaking into other environmental compartments such as "soil", "air" or "other terrestrial compartment" as defined in the Plastic Leak Project (PLP) guidance.

This information is not required to shape action but could be calculated using the PLP guidance.

to the PLP guidance



LEAKAGE PATHWAY AT A GLANCE

1. Mass of macroplastic waste	2. Collection	3. Waste management	
Land sources of plastic waste (including imports and exports, domestic production and change of stock)	Collected (through the formal waste collection system or informal sector)	Collected for recycling Properly disposed * Sanitary landfills * Incineration facilities	Domestic → recycling → Export of → waste
		Improperly disposed * Dumpsites * Unsanitary landfills	→ Mismanaged
	→ Uncollected	→ Uncollected	



KEY ABBREVIATIONS AND UNITS

Polymer abbreviations

NAME	ABBREVIATION
Polyethylene Terephthalate	PET*
Polypropylene	PP
Low-density Polyethylene	LDPE
High-density Polyethylene	HDPE
Polystyrene	PS
Polyvinyl Chloride	PVC

Calculation variables

NAME	ABBREVIATION		NAME	SYMBO
Mismanaged waste index	MWI		Gram	g
Leakage rate	LR		Kilogram	kg
Release rate	RR	-	Tonne	t
			Kilo tonne (or thousand tonne)	kt
			Mega tonne (or million tonne)	Mt
			Kilometer	km
			Square kilometer	km ²

*In this study, PET resins are distinguished from Polyester which includes polyester fibres, polyester films and polyester engineered resins.

Key units



APPLYING THE GUIDANCE AT NATIONAL LEVEL NATIONAL POLLUTION HOTSPOTS

Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic 12





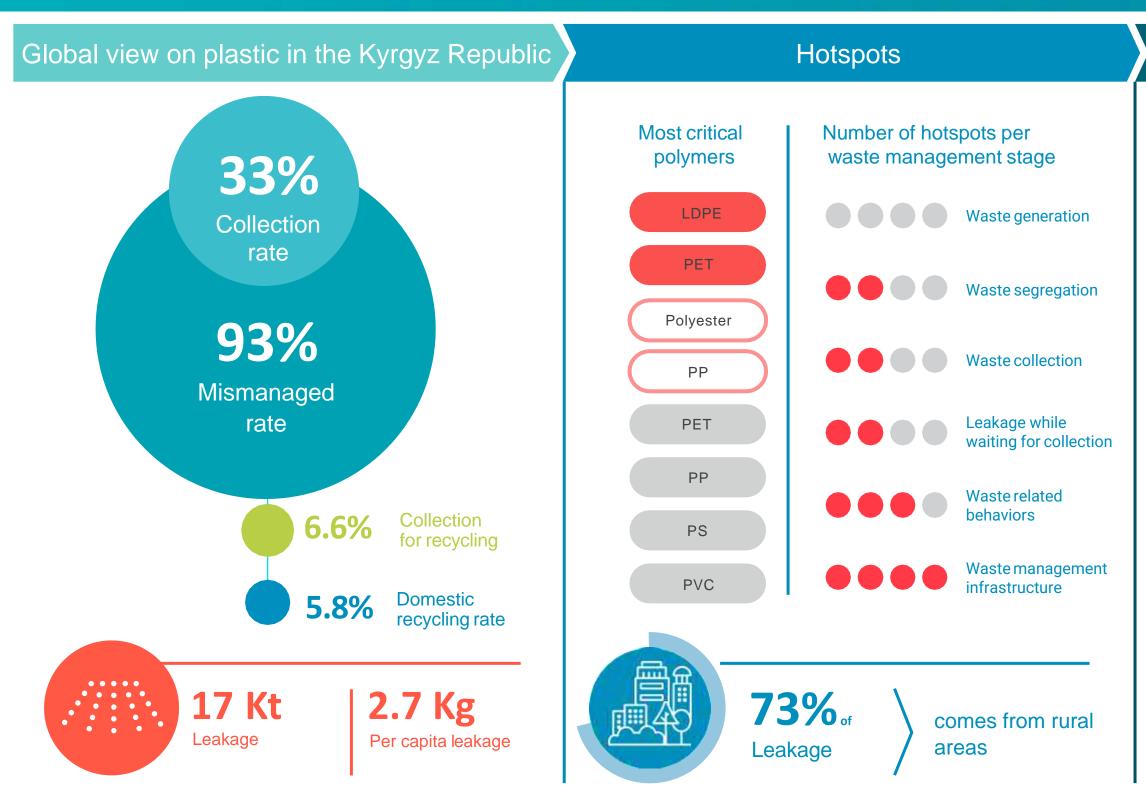
COUNTRY OVERVIEW

ea

4 Bibliography

Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic 13

SUMMARY AT A GLANCE

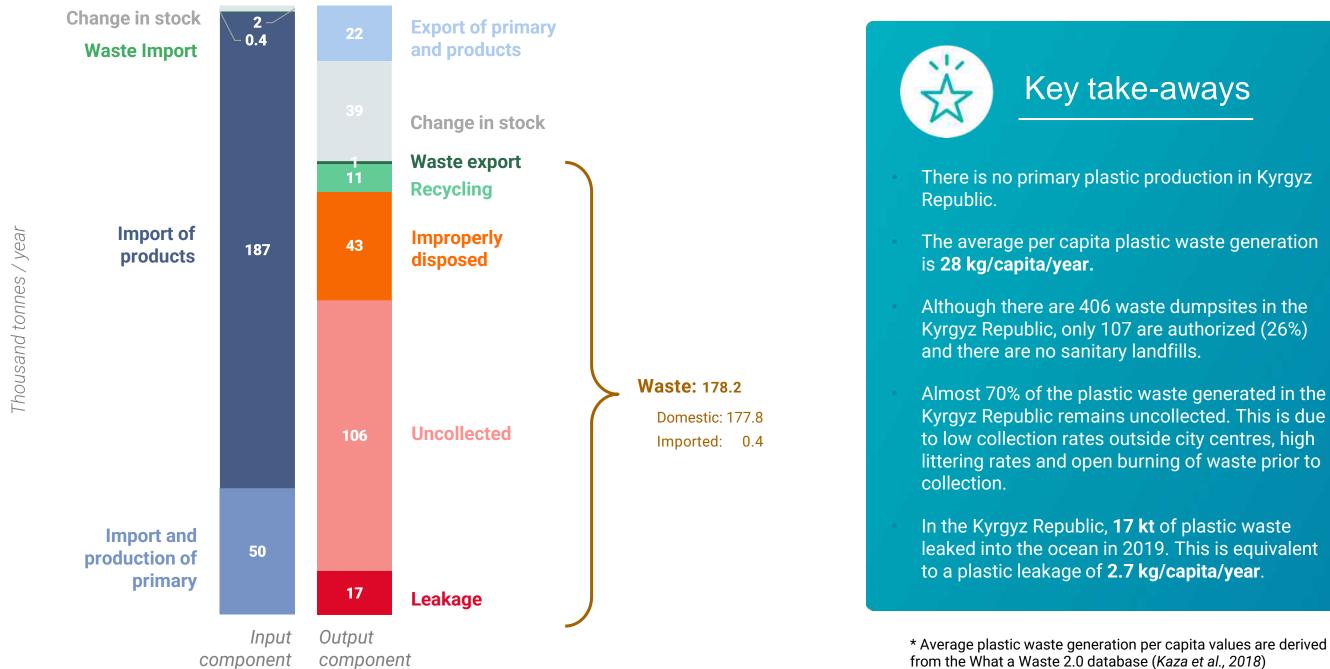


Shaping action from the hotspots



COUNTRY PLASTIC MATERIAL FLOW [2019]

Summary of the results for all plastics in the country



The "improperly disposed" waste encompasses waste disposed at unsanitary landfills and dumpsites. For simplicity, in this figure, we removed part of the "leakage" from the "improperly disposed" and "uncollected".



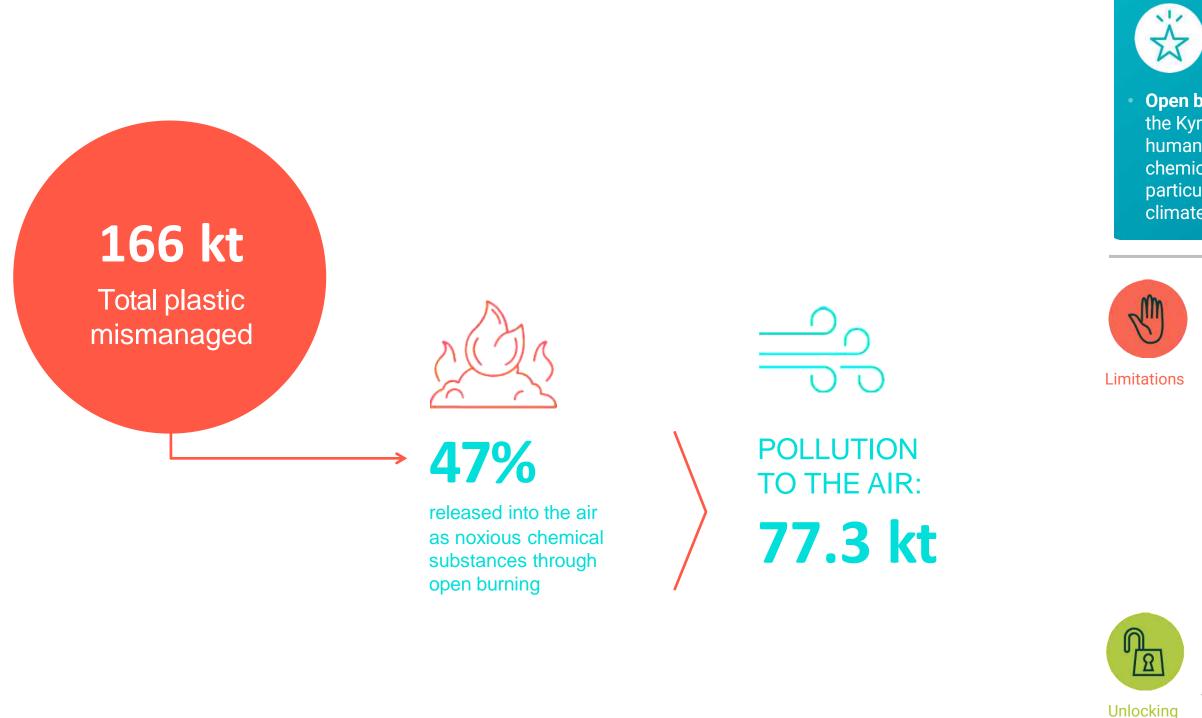
There is no primary plastic production in Kyrgyz

Although there are 406 waste dumpsites in the Kyrgyz Republic, only 107 are authorized (26%)

Almost 70% of the plastic waste generated in the Kyrgyz Republic remains uncollected. This is due to low collection rates outside city centres, high littering rates and open burning of waste prior to

In the Kyrgyz Republic, **17 kt** of plastic waste leaked into the ocean in 2019. This is equivalent

OPEN BURNING: A ROUGH ESTIMATE



limitations



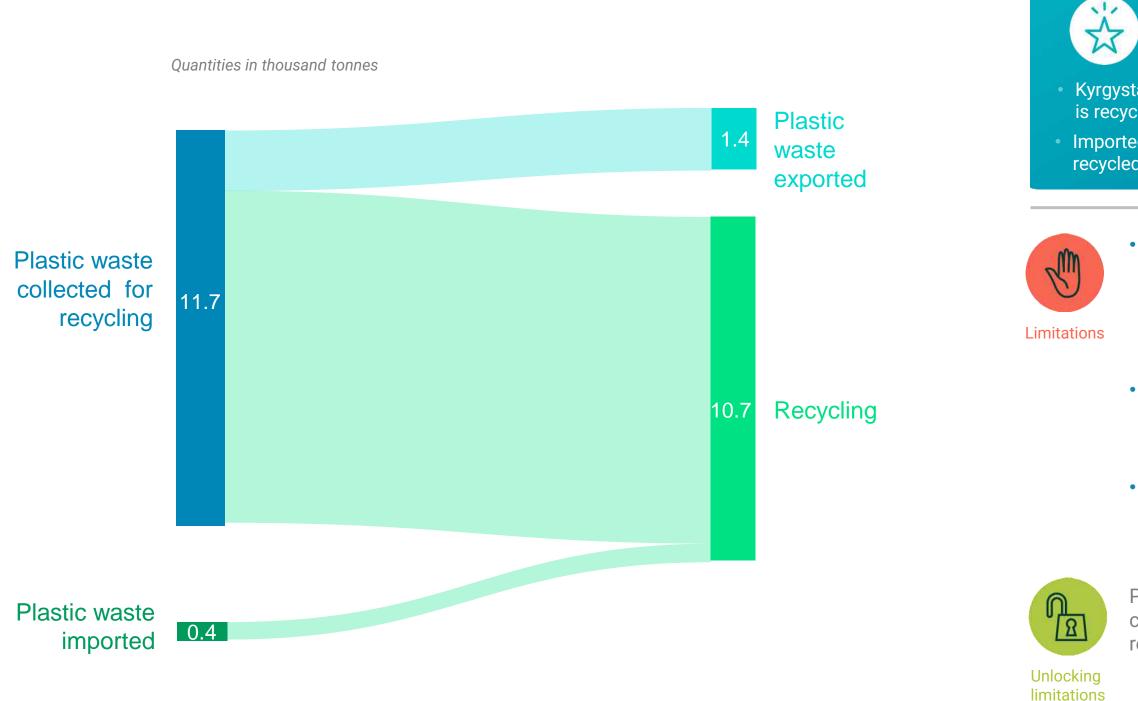
Key take-aways

Open burning of mismanaged plastic waste in the Kyrgyz Republic poses significant risks for human health (due to the release of noxious chemical substances such as dioxine and particulate matters) and directly contributes to climate change.

Although we do not have specific data on burning, we suggest a rough estimate of how much plastic could be polluting the air by using the assumptions made in the Breaking the Plastic Wave report (Lau et al, 2020): 60% of uncollected plastic waste and 13 % of plastic waste at dumpsites are burnt on average worldwide. In the case of the Kyrgyz Republic, it leads to an estimate of 47% of the total plastic mismanaged contributing to air pollution through open burning.

Investigate open burning practices and conduct field studies to estimate the amount of mismanaged plastic waste that is burned.

RECYCLING: IMPORT OF WASTE AND RECYCLING CAPACITY



Key take-aways

Kyrgystan collects 11.7 kt of plastic for recycling, the majority is recycled in the country and the rest is exported. Imported waste is minor (0.4 kt), and it is assumed to be recycled in the country.

- There are no official data on plastic recycling in Kyrgyzstan. Plastic for recycling is collected by the informal sector, and sorting and recycling facilities are mainly small businesses, half of which are non-registered companies (*Sim et al., 2013*).
- The only two existing estimates of volumes of plastic collected for recycling were inconsistent with respect to the estimated waste generation volumes.
- Personal communication with Independent Ecological Expertise (IEE) highlighted illegal export of waste as common practice that could not be captured in this assessment.

Put in place a reporting system for recycling companies in order to gain better insight onto the recycling sector. Investigate waste trade.



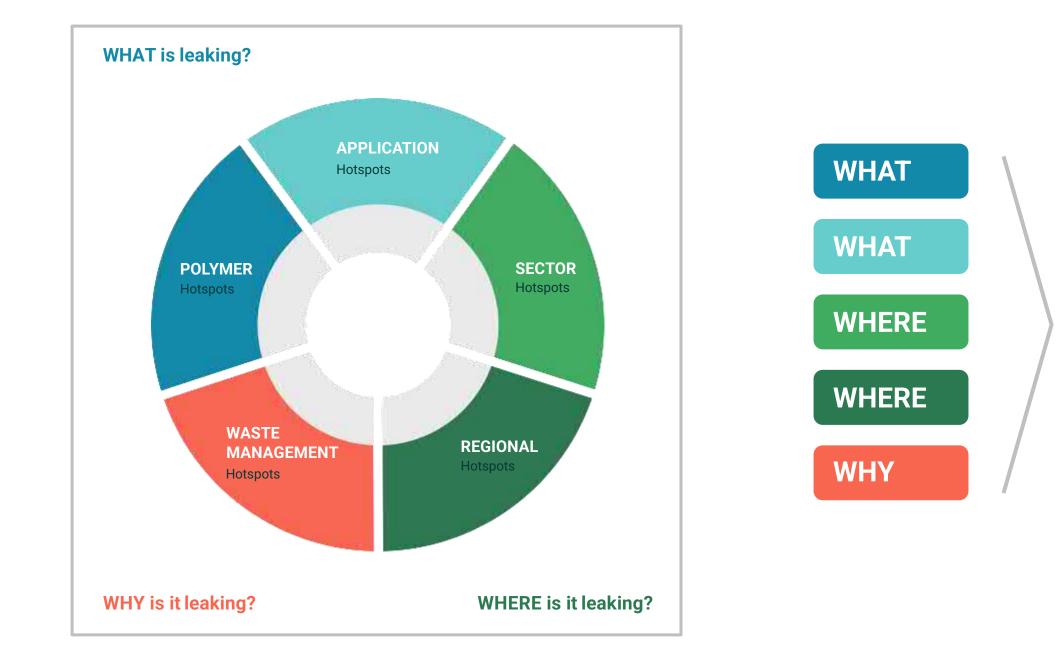


1.2 DETAILED HOTSPOTS NATIONAL RESULTS

4 Bibliography

Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic 18

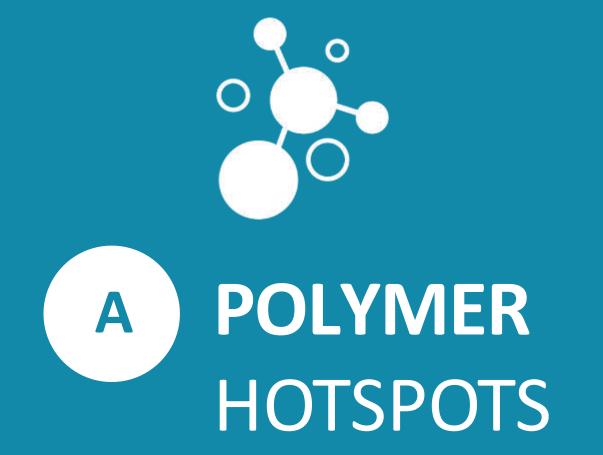
5 CATEGORIES OF HOTSPOTS





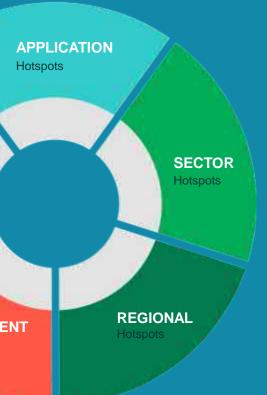
ACTIONABLE HOTSPOTS FORMULATION





WASTE MANAGEMENT Hotspots

POLYMER Hotspots

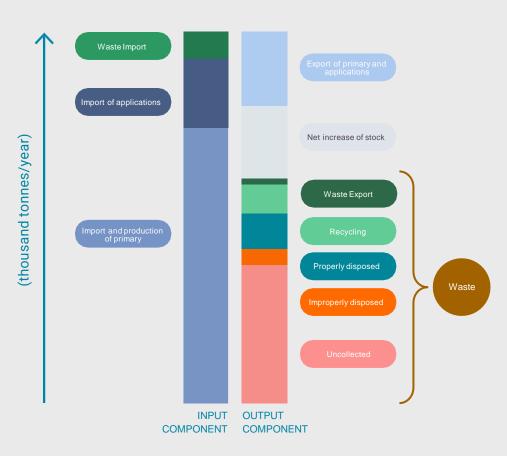


OBJECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

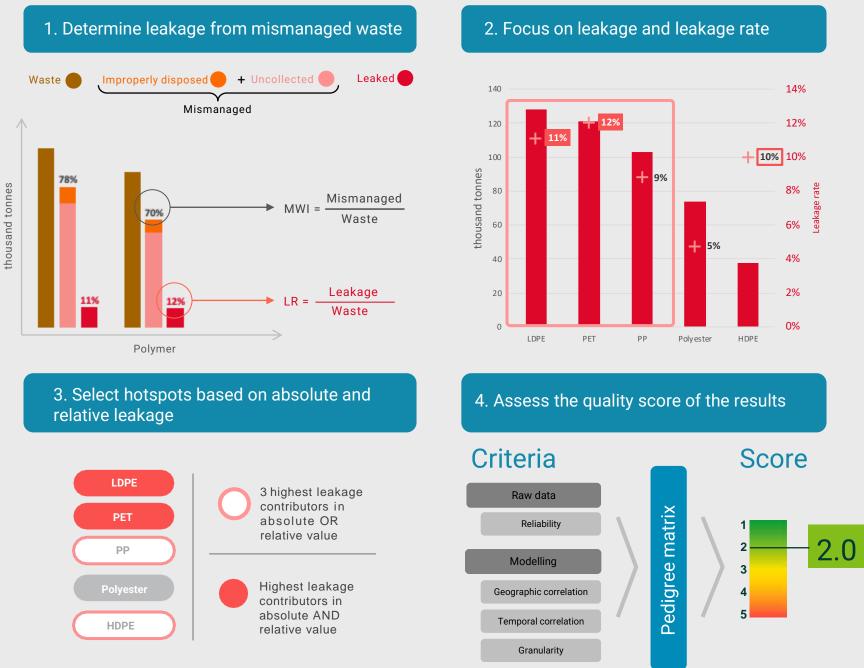
Key question answered:

Which polymers are most critical in the country regarding plastic leakage?

What are the bar components of the polymer mass balance graph?



How to read the polymer hotspot graph?

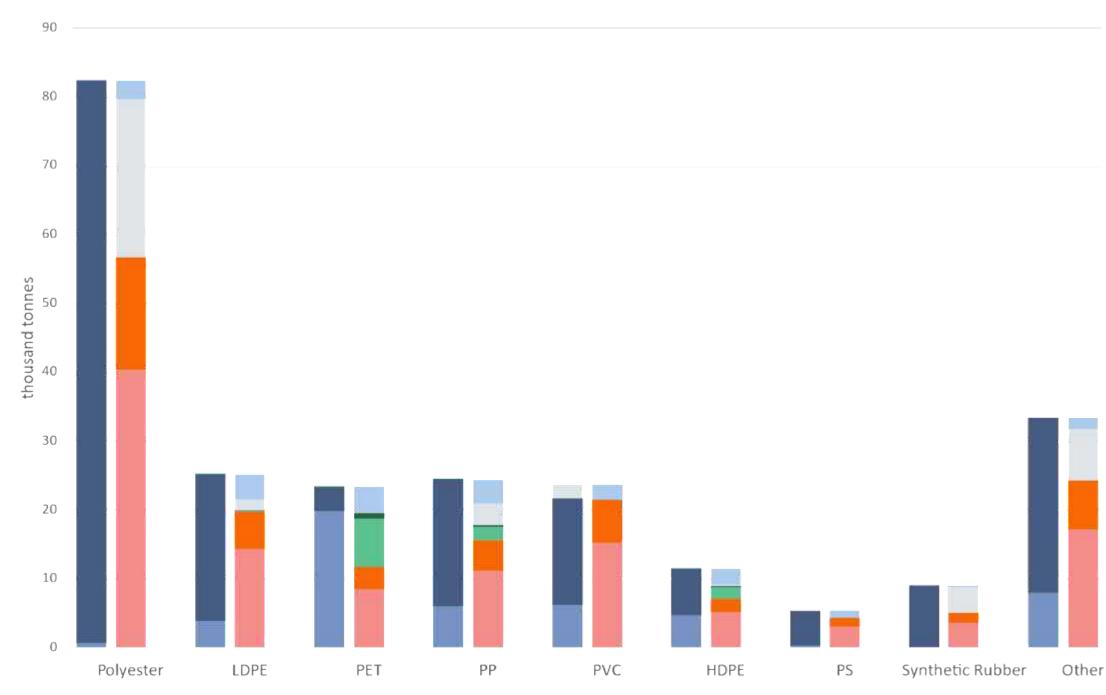




For more details, please read the Methodology



MASS BALANCE BY POLYMER [2018]





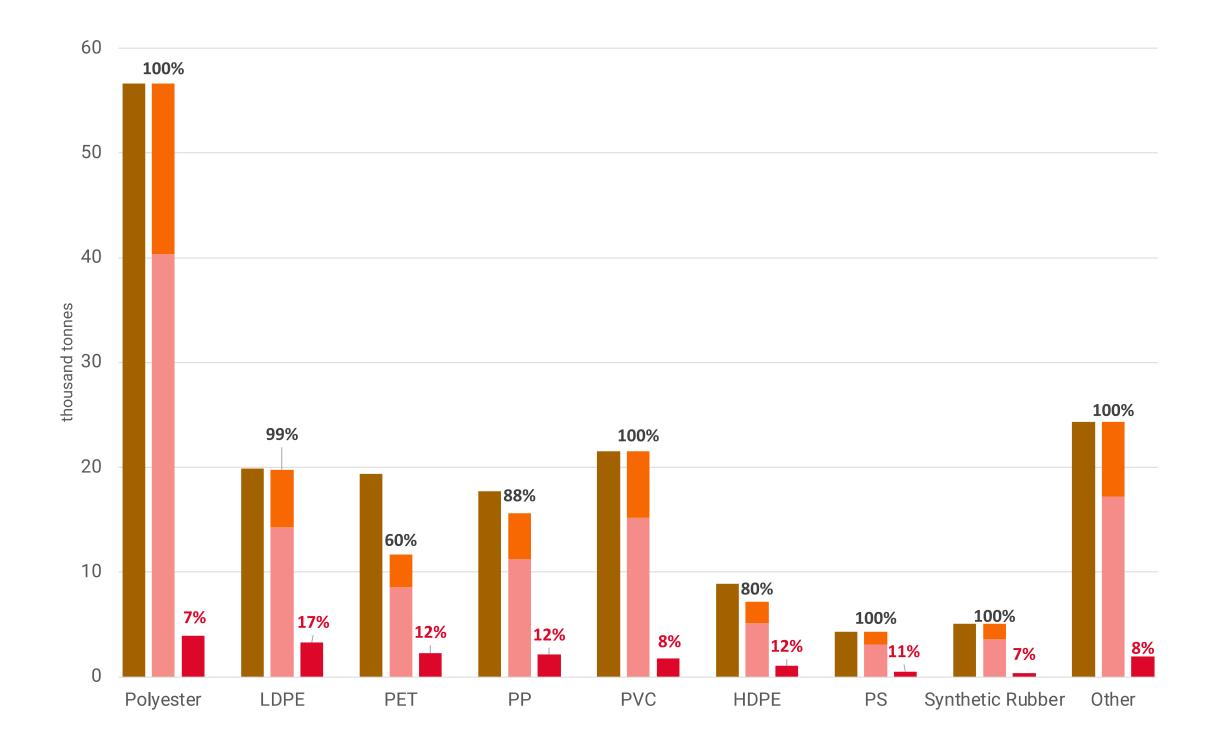
Quality Score



INPUT



MISMANAGED WASTE AND LEAKAGE BY POLYMER [2018]





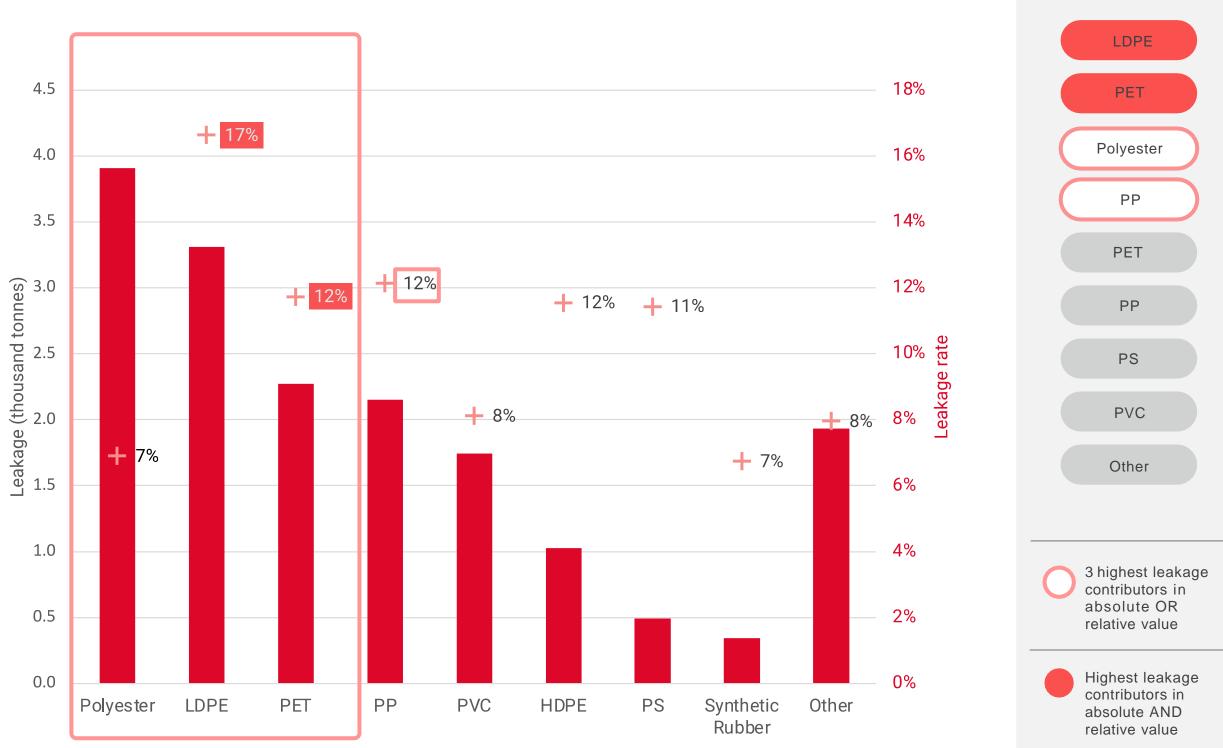
Quality Score





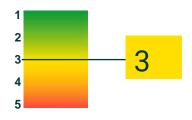
X% | Mismanaged Waste Index (MWI) X% | Leakage Rate (LR)

POLYMER HOTSPOTS [2018]





Quality Score





- Polyester, extensively used in textiles, is the top contributor in absolute leakage (3.9 kt), with a leakage rate of 7%.
- **LDPE** is the 2nd contributor to leakage (3.3 kt), and at 17% it has the highest leakage rate.
- **PET** is the 3rd polymer by absolute leakage (34 kt) and by relative leakage.
- **PP** is a hotspot due to its high relative leakage (12%).

POLYMER HOTSPOTS: INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATIONS

All polymers



- Export of plastic products from the Kyrgyz Republic is limited, since there is no plastic production in the country, the country relies on import of finished products and raw material.
- Most plastic is imported in the country in the form of • finished products, except for PET that is imported mostly as raw material, with manufacturing taking place within the country.
- There is no proper disposal of plastic in the Kyrgyz • Republic, since there are no sanitary landfill or incineration facilities.
- Recycling takes place only for certain products and • polymers. PET bottles are the most recycled, followed by PP and HDPE containers.
- Polyester, LDPE, PET and PP are the main contributors to • plastic leakage in the Kyrgyz Republic. LDPE has a particularly high leakage rate due to the fact that it is not recycled and that its release rate from land to river is high.



- polymer is high.
- not known.



Unlocking limitations

- sector.
- imported waste.



Recycling volumes by polymer were modelled based on total recycling capacity (extrapolated by Sim et al., 2013) and on the type of applications that are accepted at plastic collection points in Bishkek (Tazar app). Therefore, the uncertainty on the recycling rates by

Data on collection rates are available only for the municipal solid waste (Sim et al., 2013, International Solid Waste Association, 2017). We assume that collection rates are similar across all sectors, which is reflected in similar collection rates across all polymers.

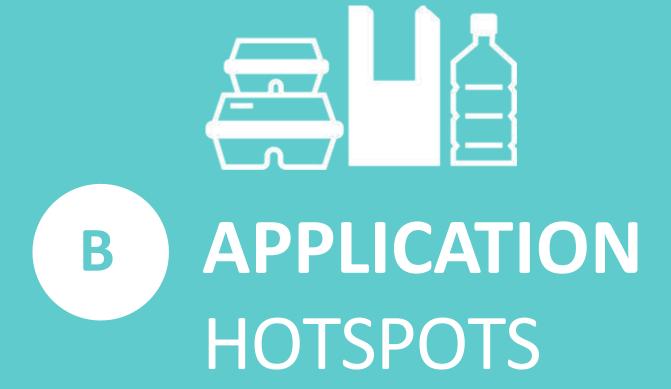
According to a personal communication with Independent Ecological Expertise (IEE), illegal import and export of plastic waste are common practice in the Kyrgyz Republic, but estimates are not available. Furthermore, the fate of imported and exported waste is

Gather insight on collection rates and fate of waste by

• Implement reporting on recycling volumes by polymer.

• Limit illegal trade of waste and shed light on fate of





POLYMER Hotspots

> WASTE MANAGEMENT Hotspots

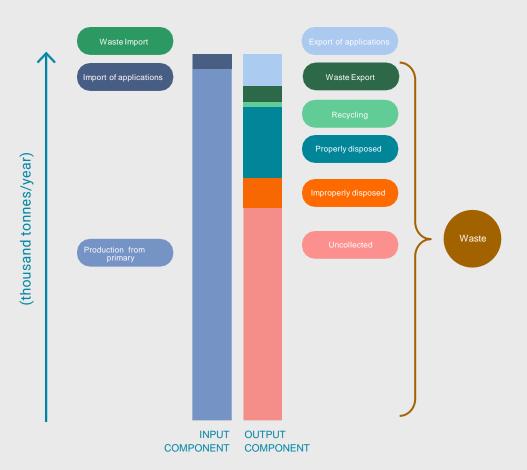


OBJECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

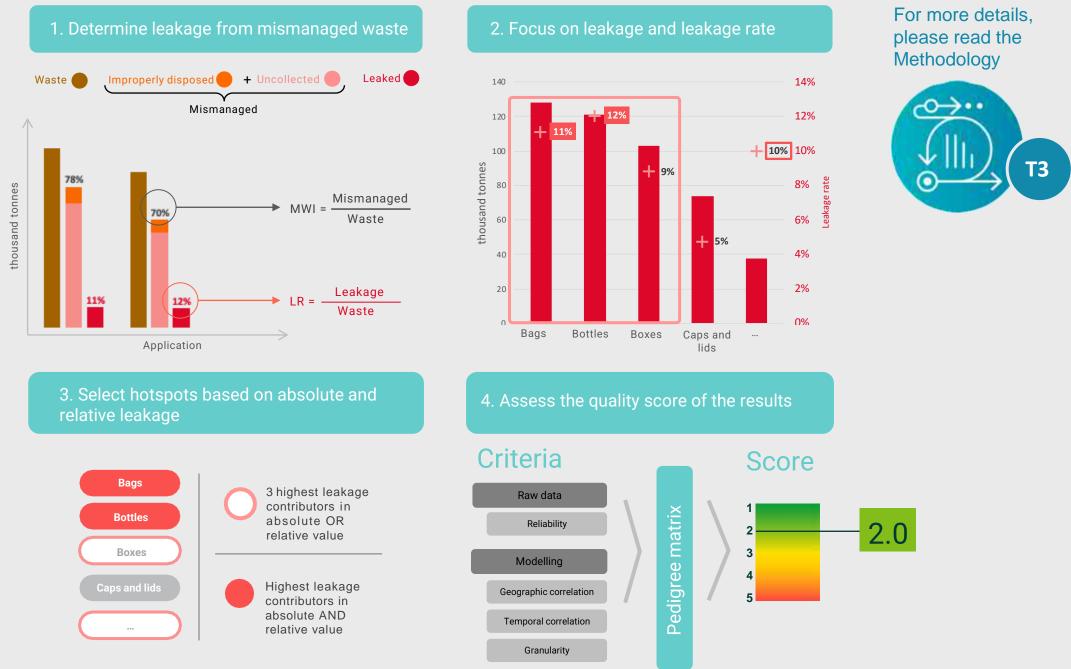
Key question answered:

Which applications are most critical in the country regarding plastic leakage?

What are the bar components of the application mass balance graph?



How to read the application hotspot graph?

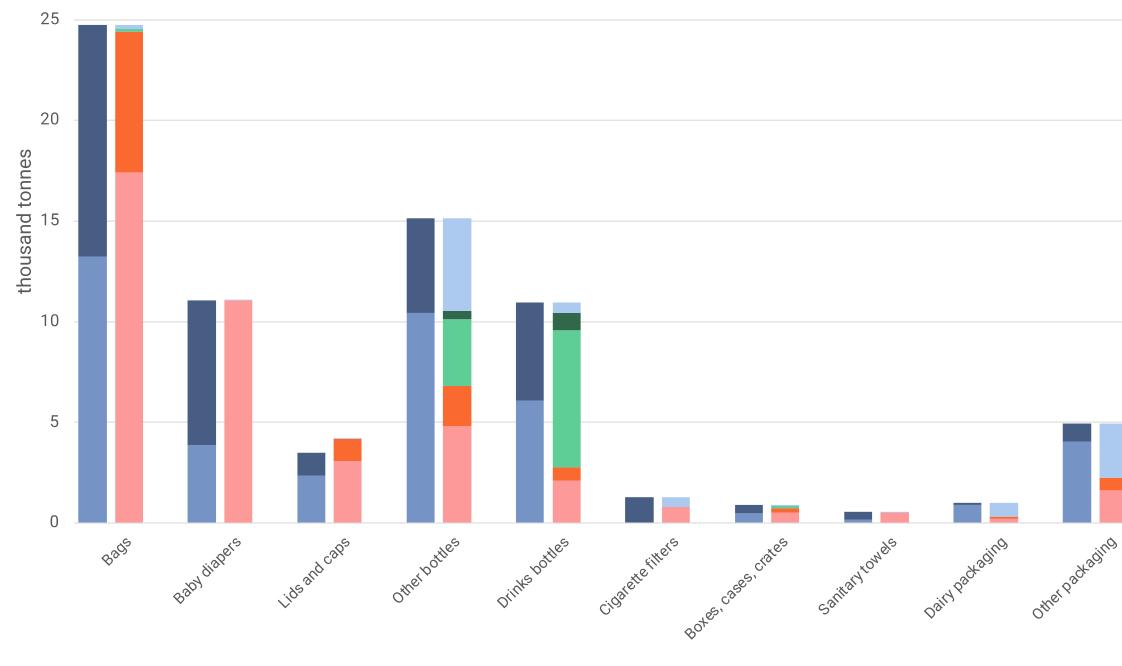




MASS BALANCE BY APPLICATION [2019]

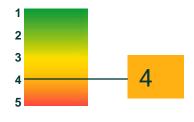


The application analysis covers most of known short-lived products, which corresponds to 37% of total plastic waste generated in the country in 2019.





Quality Score

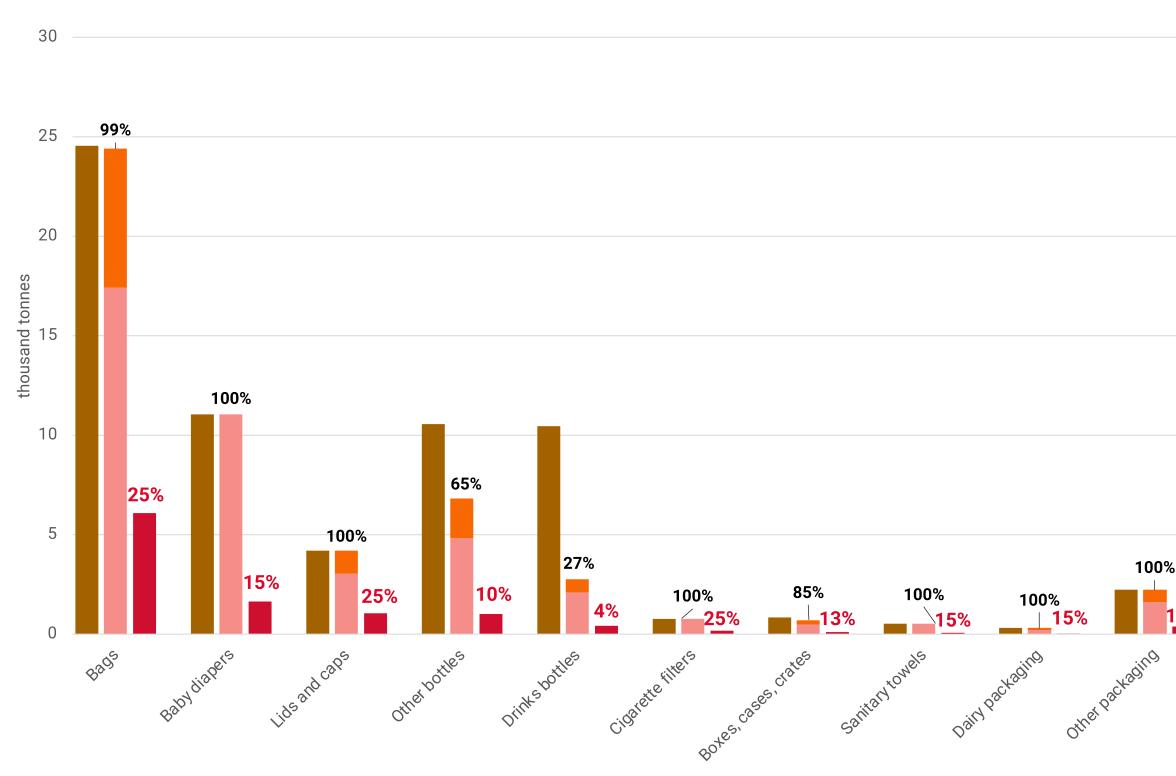


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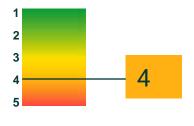


MISMANAGED WASTE AND LEAKAGE BY APPLICATION [2019]





Quality Score

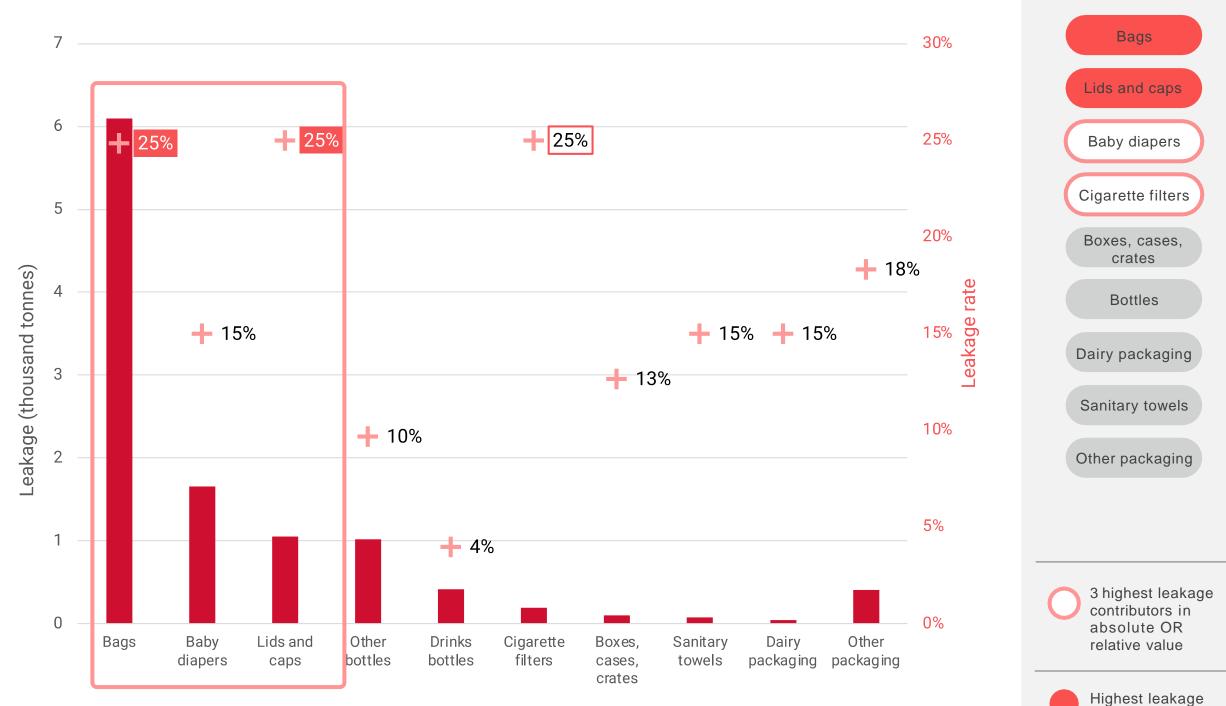






X% | Mismanaged Waste Index (MWI) X% | Leakage Rate (LR)

APPLICATION HOTSPOTS [2019]

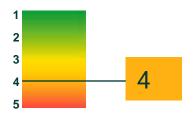


*The impact assessment uses data from the coastal clean-up report from Ocean Conservancy (2019)



contributors in absolute AND relative value

Quality Score





Key take-aways

- Plastic bags are by far the highest contributors in absolute leakage (6.1 kt), with a high leakage rate (25%).
- Baby diapers are the 2nd highest contributor in absolute leakage (1.7 kt).
- Lids anc caps are 3rd in absolute leakage (1.0 kt), with a high leakage rate (25%).
- Although **cigarette filters** rank low in absolute leakage (0.2 kt), their leakage rate is high at 25%.

APPLICATION HOTSPOTS: INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATIONS

All applications



- The Kyrgyz Republic mostly recycle drink bottles and • other bottles (e.g. shampoo, detergent, etc).
- Bags are overwhelmingly the lead cause of plastic • pollution to waterways, due to their low value for recycling (due to their low density) and high mobility.
- Baby diapers are the second contributor to leakage • absolute terms, this is due to high consumption rates, low collection rates and improper disposal in unsanitary landfills
- Cigarette filters have the highest leakage rate. In the Kyrgyz Republic, one in four cigarette filters leaks to waterways. This is due to the fact that they are often litters outdoor and their small size causes them to be easily transported by water and wind.



•

- assessed here.
- only at a qualitative level.



Unlocking

limitations

- type.



We found no data available on production quantities by applications type in the Kyrgyz Republic. The production guantities have been estimated using the assumption that the relative importance in the country production was reflected in the relative importance in trade.

The application selected only cover 37% of all plastic applications. It is possible that other items, e.g. clothing, have a high contribution to the total leakage, which is not

Information on recycling by application type are available

Implement reporting on recycling volumes by application

Collect information of plastic converters in the country to understand which type of plastic application are produced domestically from primary plastic material.

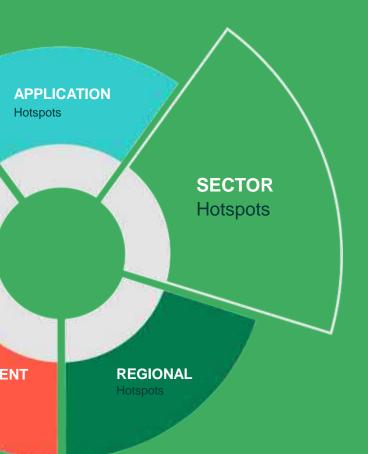




WASTE MANAGEMENT Hotspots

POLYMER

Hotspots

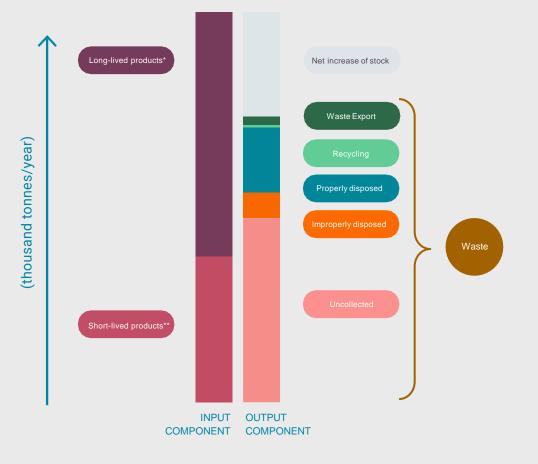


OBJECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

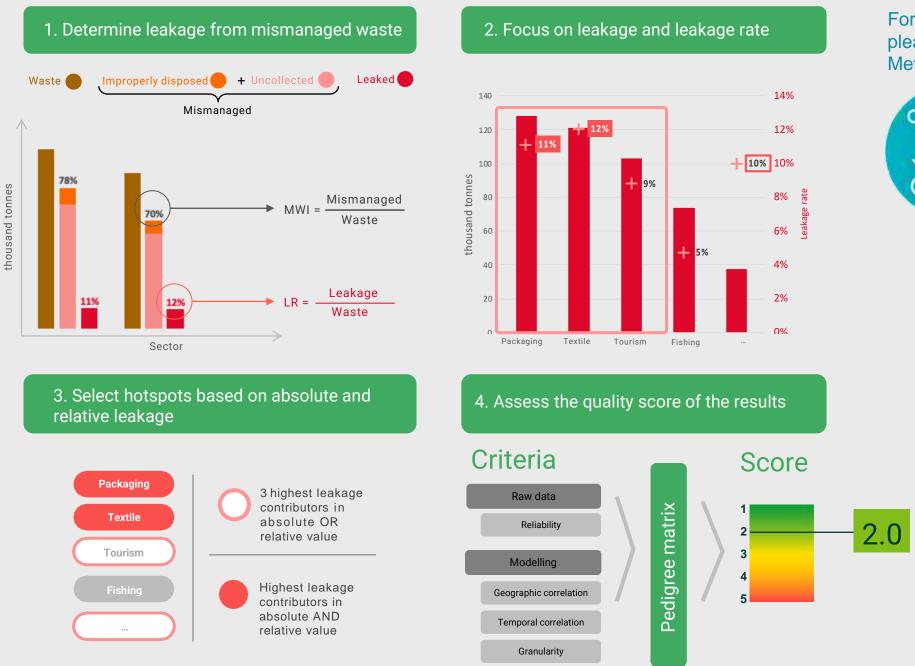
Key question answered:

Which sectors are most critical in the country regarding plastic leakage?

What are the bar components of the sector mass balance graph?



How to read the sector hotspot graph?



* Short-lived products: products that are disposed within the year of study (Life-time < 1 year)

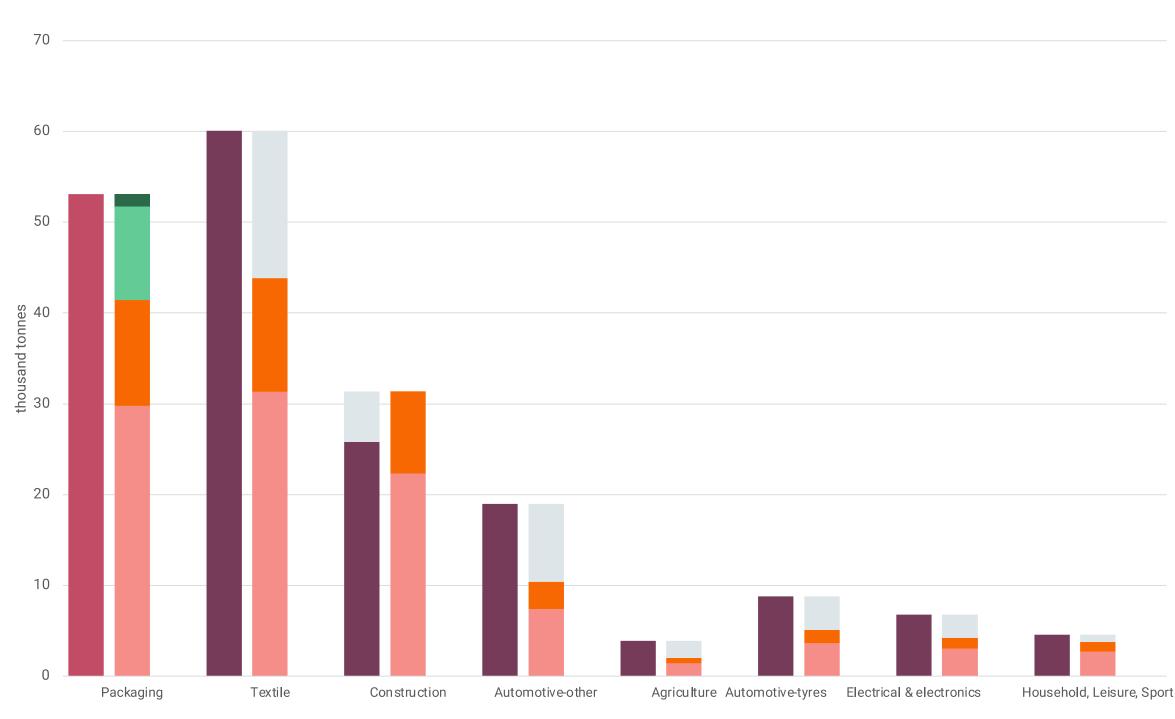
** Long-lived products: products that are disposed after the year of study (Life-time > 1 year)



For more details, please read the Methodology



MASS BALANCE BY SECTOR [2019]





Quality Score



INPUT

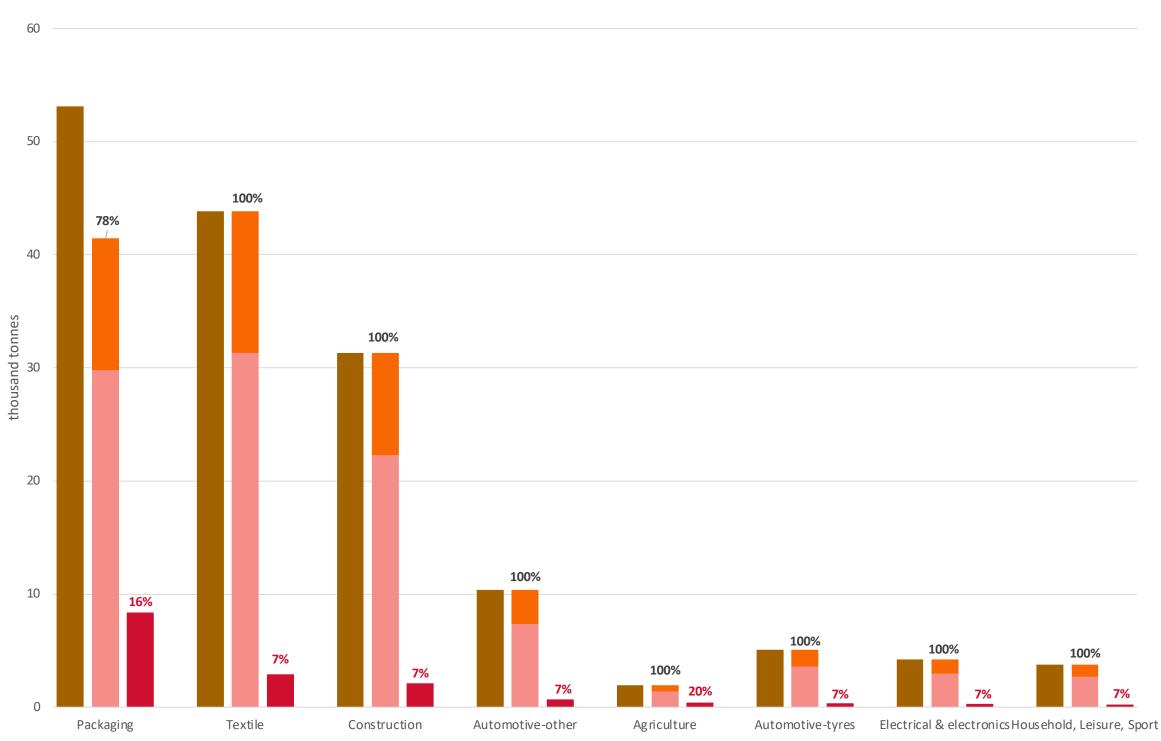
- Short-lived products
- Long-lived products

OUTPUT

- Charge in stock
- Waste export
- Export of primary and products
- Recycling
- Properly disposed
- Improperly disposed
- Uncollected

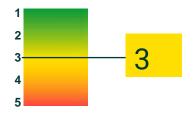


MISMANAGED WASTE AND LEAKAGE BY SECTOR [2019]





Quality Score

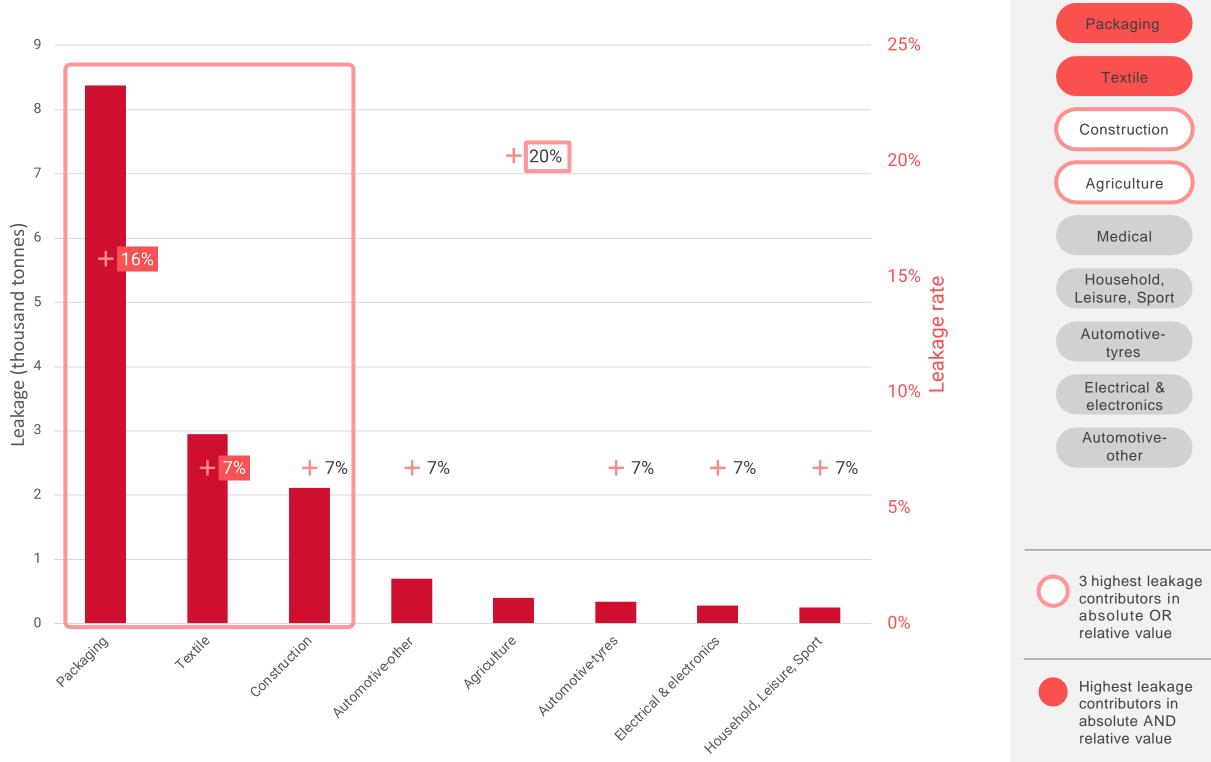




X% | Mismanaged Waste Index (MWI) X% | Leakage Rate (LR)

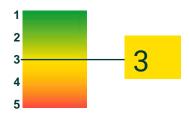
7%

SECTOR HOTSPOTS [2019]





Quality Score





Key take-aways

- The packaging sector contributes to 54% of the total plastic leakage with 8.4 kt of packaging waste leaking into oceans and waterways.
- **The textile sector** is the 2nd highest contributor to plastic leakage in absolute value (2.9 kt).
- **Construction** is the third contributor to plastic leakage to waterways with 2.1 kt.
- The Agriculture sector has the highest leakage rate, with 20% of the plastic used in agriculture being leaked.

SECTOR HOTSPOTS: INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATIONS

All sectors



- Most of the plastic input on the market in the Kyrgyz Republic is used in the textile sector, since clothes are used more than one year and Kyrgyz economy is growing, the plastic waste generation from the textile sector is lower than the input on the market. Ultimately the main sector by plastic waste generation is the packaging sector.
- The packaging sector is the main contributor to plastic leakage in the Kyrgyz Republic. Most of the plastic waste comes from the packaging sector, and since
- The agriculture sector has a high leakage rate, due to the • use of LDPE polymer which is not recycled in the Kyrgyz Republic and which, due to its low density, can be more easily transported (high release rate).



Limitations

- assessement.



•

electronics.

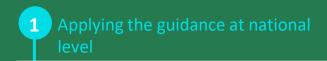
Unlocking limitations



Data on collection rates are available only for the municipal solid waste, which usually includes waste from "packaging" sector, "household, leisure, sport" sector, and "textiles" sector (Sim et al., 2013, International Solid Waste Association, 2017). For the other sectors the collection rates are not reported, therefore we assume that they will be similar to those used in other sectors.

The information available on Tazar app suggests that recycling is only limited to packaging applications (bottles, containers, boxes), therefore, we assure that there is no packaging recycling from other sectors. Nonetheless, there could still be unreported recycling from other sectors that is not captured in this

Investigate waste disposal practices for industrial sectors such as automorive, construction, electrical and

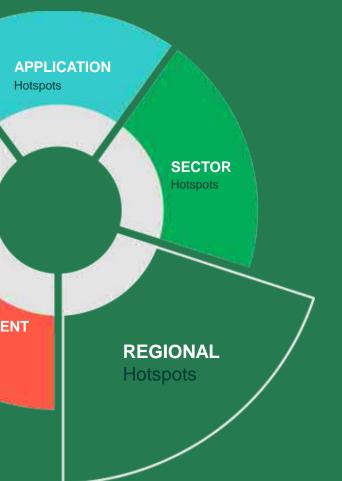




POLYMER

Hotspots

WASTE MANAGEMENT Hotspots

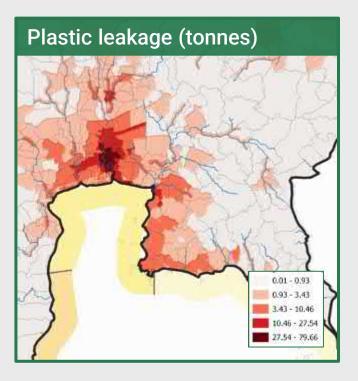


OBJECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

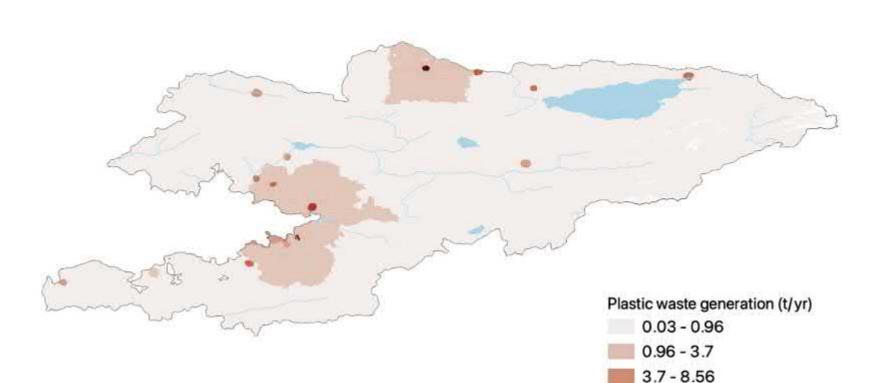
Waste Generation (tonnes) Key question answered: Which areas are most critical in the country regarding plastic leakage? Waste Collection Rate (%) 6 1) Overlaying different Mismanaged Waste Index (%) information available at city / district / subdistrict level and/of modelled through archetypes... 2) ... and using geographic, hydrographic and demographic information...



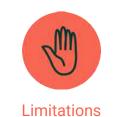
3) ... allows to compute a leakage map and identify regional hotspots



WASTE GENERATION: MAP AND INTERPRETATIONS









Unlocking limitations



8.56 - 15.49

15.49 - 97.93

97.93 - 283.52

283.52 - 365.22

More details available in **Appendices**



Key take-aways

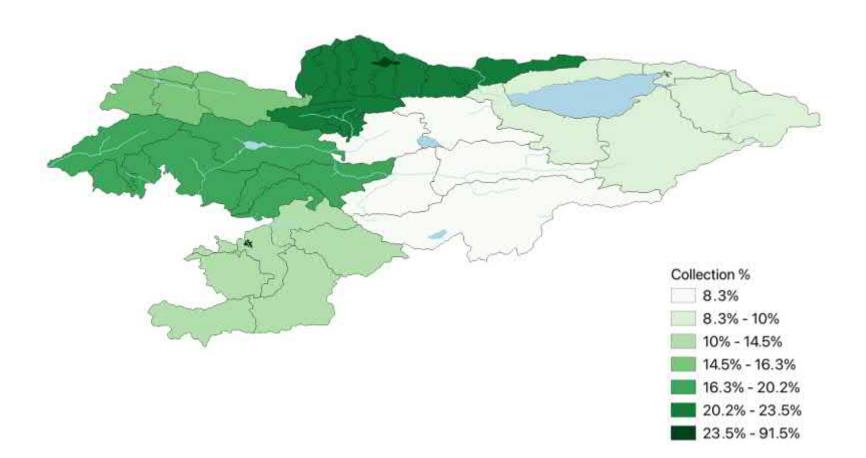
Plastic waste generation is concentrated around urban areas, where the population density is higher.

• The main rivers and lakes are represented to highlight the areas that are more at risk of contributing to plastic pollution to waterways.

> The waste generation estimates displayed on the map are based on population densities. Here we assume the per capita waste generation is the same everywhere, although the per capita waste generation is likely higher than the rural waste generation.

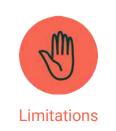
Waste carachterisation studies should be conducted in rural and urban areas to determine the difference is waste generation rates.

WASTE COLLECTION: MAP AND INTERPRETATIONS





- burnt.







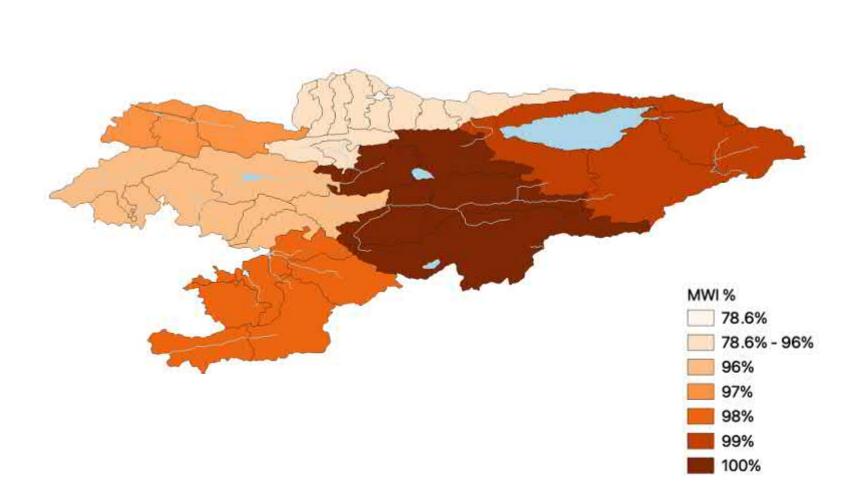
Key take-aways

• In urban areas, waste collection coverage is at 85%. In addition, waste pickers collect waste from the street for recycling. Overall, 91% of the plastic is collected in urban areas.

• In rural areas, 7.5% of the plastic waste is collected. The remainder is disposed in illegal dumpsites or

> The information regarding waste collection rates is very limited. Here, data from a waste managment study conducted in Bishkek (Sim et al., 2013) and were used as a proxy for all urban areas. The collection rates in rural areas were determined so that the national collection coverage is 30% (International Solid Waste Association, 2017).

MISMANAGED WASTE INDEX: MAP AND INTERPRETATIONS









• The average MWI in Kyrgyz Republic is 93%.

Learning





Key take-aways

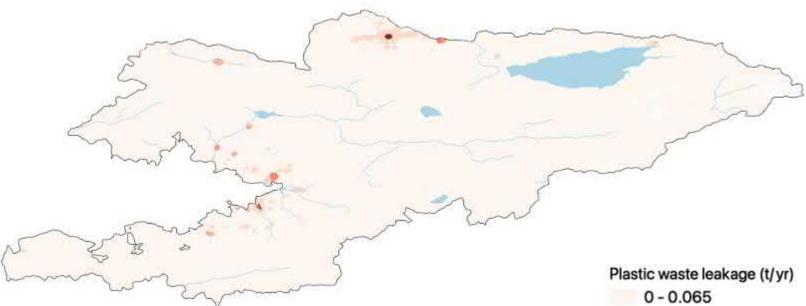
• Since there are no sanitary landfill or incineration facilities, the only plastic that is not mismanaged is the one that is recycled.

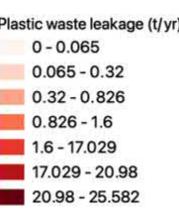
• Urban areas have the lowest MWI, at 79%. MWI in rural areas is 100%.

> The landfill in Bishkek is sometimes described as a sanitary landfill, but it is not operated as such (Sim et al., 2013), and there is visual evidence of open burning of waste on site (UNEP, IEE, 2022).

> It is assume that collection of plastic for recycling in rural areas is negligeable. In rural areas the waste is more geographically dispersed and transport costs reduce the economical profitability of waste recycling. Nonetheless, no information was found to support or contest this hypothesis.

REGIONAL LEAKAGE: MAP AND INTERPRETATIONS







- tonnes.
- urban areas.







More details available in **Appendices**



Key take-aways

• Annual leakage of mismanaged waste: 17.2 thousands

• 73% of the leakage comes from rural areas, which mirrors the population distribution between rural and

> The main drivers of leakage in the Kyrgyz • Republic are the low collection rates and the disposal of waste at unsanitary landfills and dumpsites. This lead to large quantities of plastic being mismanaged, part of which leaks to rivers and lakes across the country.

Water runoff data by watershed were not available for the Kyrgyz Republic, therefore release rates are based only on the distance to river or lake-shore.

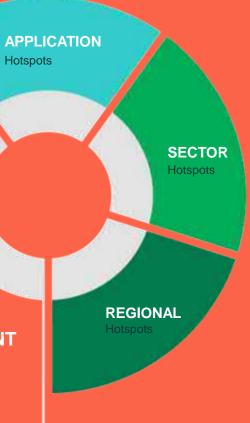




WASTE MANAGEMENT Hotspots

POLYMER

Hotspots



OBJECTIVE AND INSTRUCTIONS

Key question answered:

Which waste management stages are most critical in the country regarding plastic leakage?

1) Decide for each element* of the waste management system if its contribution to leakage mitigation is positive (coolspot), neutral or negative (hotspot)

Waste management stage	Potential hotpsot	Is it a hotspot?	Justification	Source
	Plastic waste import	HOTSPOT	Only 7% of the waste recycled in the country is locally sourced, the remaining 93% in imported: The formal sector only recycles imported waste (around il50kt a year) and it does not recycled domestic waste (cit. VPA, VCCI). Domestic waste is recycled by the informal sector in improper conditions.	VPA Interview and VCCI report VN_r14
Waste generation	Plastic waste export			
	Plastic waste per capita generation		Vietnam produces around 50 kg of plastic waste per person per year	EA - Country baseline analysis
	Share of plastic in waste stream	HOTSPOT	Vietnam is a LMC (8% of plastic in waste stream on average), but the share of plastic in the waste stream is from 15% to 20% depending on the source	VN_r10 GA Circular summarises the waste characterisation studies

2) Understand at a glance the status of the waste management system in the country



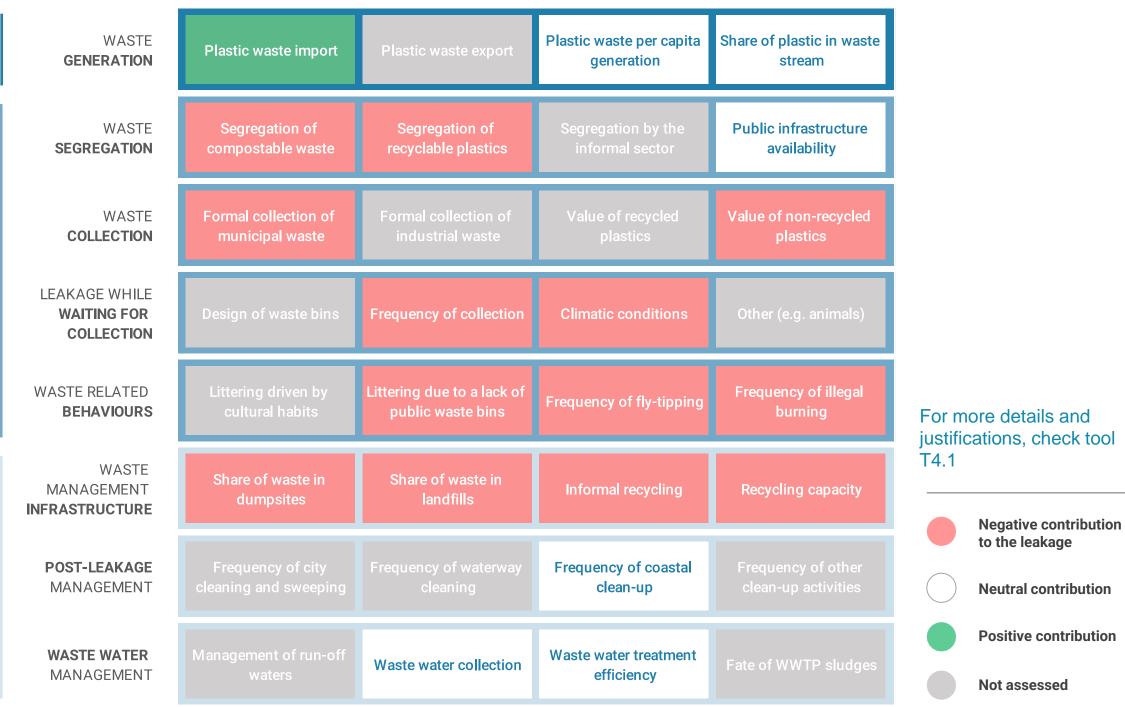


Plastic waste export	Plastic waste per capita generation	Share of plastic in waste stream	
Segregation of recyclable plastics	Segregation by the informal sector	Public infrastructure availability	
Formal collection of Industrial waste	Value of recycled plastics	Value of non-recycled plastics	
requency of collection.	Climatic conditions	Other (e.g. animals)	
ttering due to a lack of public waste bins	Frequency of fly-tipping	Frequency of illegal burning	
Share of waste in landfills	Informal recycling	Recycling capacity	
requency of waterway cleaning	Frequency of coastal clean-up	Frequency of other clean-up activities	
	Waste water treatment efficiency		

*For detailed element descriptions and methodology, refer to tool T4.1

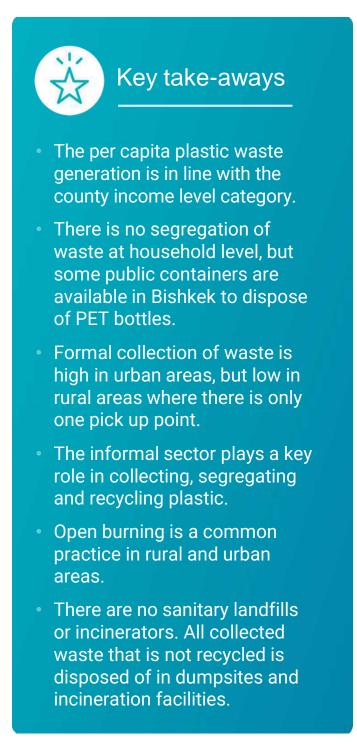


WASTE MANAGEMENT HOTSPOTS



* Average plastic waste generation per capita values are derived from the What a Waste 2.0 database (Kaza et al., 2019)



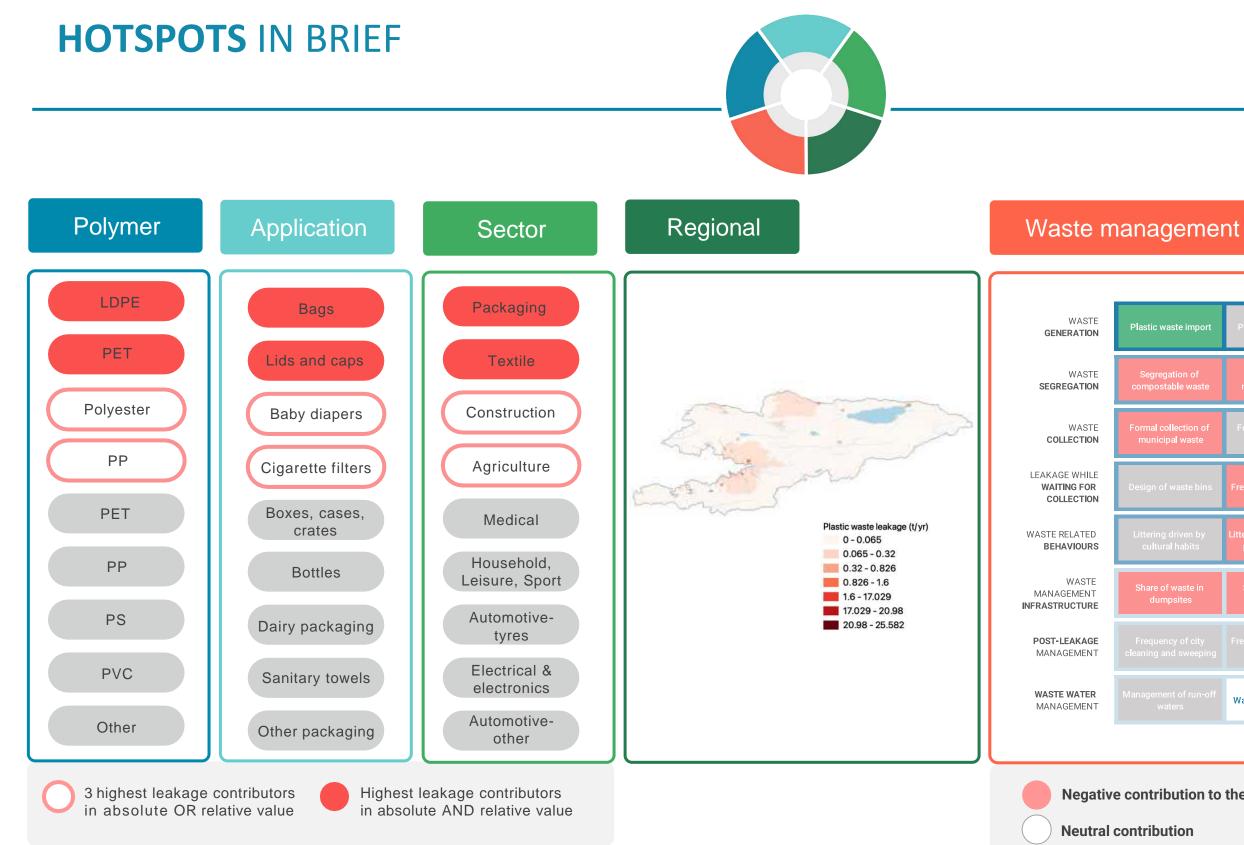




1.3

ACTIONABLE HOTSPOTS

4 Bibliography





astic waste import	Plastic waste export	Plastic waste per capita generation	Share of plastic in waste stream	
Segregation of mpostable waste	Segregation of recyclable plastics	Segregation by the informal sector	Public infrastructure availability	
rmal collection of nunicipal waste	Formal collection of industrial waste	Value of recycled plastics	Value of non-recycled plastics	
sign of waste bins	Frequency of collection	Climatic conditions	Other (e.g. animals)	
ttering driven by cultural habits	Littering due to a lack of public waste bins	Frequency of fly-tipping	Frequency of illegal burning	
hare of waste in dumpsites	Share of waste in Iandfills	Informal recycling	Recycling capacity	
		Frequency of coastal clean-up		
	Waste water collection	Waste water treatment efficiency		
ntribution to the leakage Positive contribution				
ribution		Not assessed		

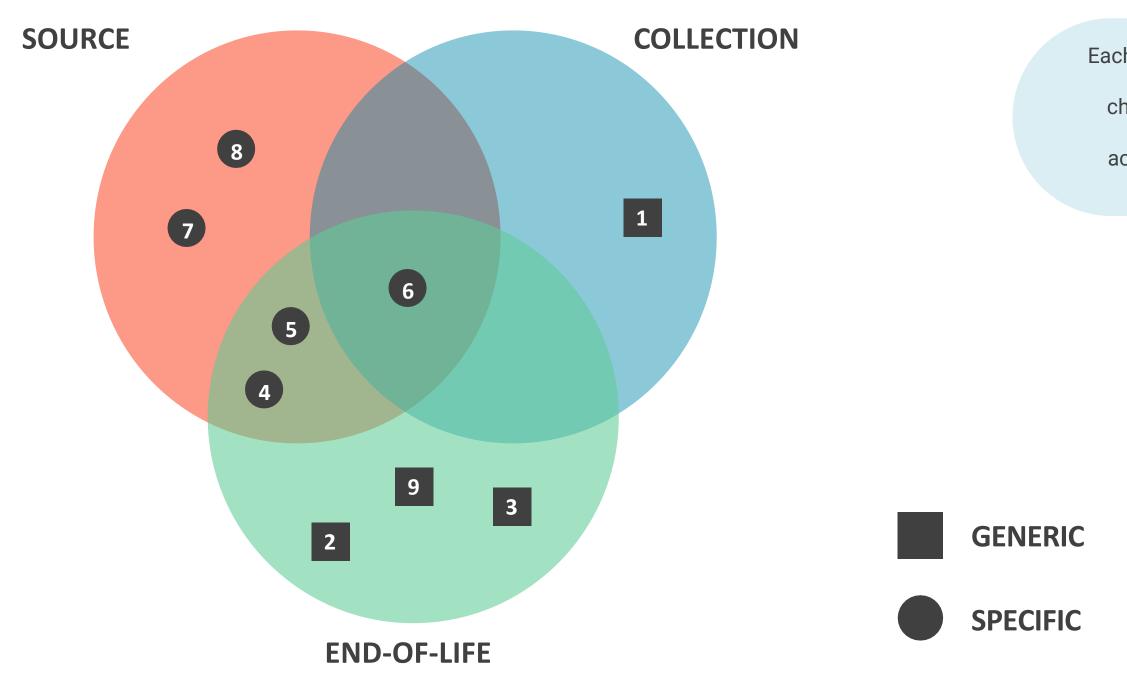
ACTIONABLE HOTSPOTS LIST

[#]	[ACTIONABLE HOTSPOT]
1	The low collection rates in rural areas (8%) is a root cause of plastic pollution in the environment.
2	The absence of sanitary landfills and incinerators means that all waste disposed of at dumpsite is susceptible to leakage.
3	It is estimated that almost half of the plastic waste in the Kyrgyz Republic is burnt leading to dangerous air pollution.
4	LDPE leaks to waterways because it is the most used polymer by the packaging sector and it is not recycled.
5	Plastic bags leak because they are the most consumed plastic packaging item and they are not likely to be collected for recycling by th their low per item value.
6	Plastic from the packaging sector leaks to waterways due to high single-use packaging consumption, littering and release rate.
7	Plastic is used in large volumes in the textile sector, possibly because of the low average temperatures in Kyrgyzstan.
8	Polyester polymer, used mainly for synthetic textile, is the highest contributor to plastic leakage due to the high consumption quantity.
9	Although the Kyrgyz Republic is a land-locked country, pollution to waterways happens due to presence of rivers and lakes that originat



	[∎/●]
the informal sector due to	
у.	
nates from glaciers.	

ACTIONABLE HOTSPOTS CHARACTERISATION





Each actionable hotspot can address plastic pollution at one or multiple stages along the plastic value chain. We notice that the list of actionable hotspots for the Kyrgyz Republic calls for a set of actions across the value chain, yet with an emphasis on the end-of-life.

(Concerns all plastic types and all regions)

(Concerns specific plastic types or regions)

2 ZOOMING AT LOCAL LEVEL FIELD ASSESSMENT IN MOUTAIN AREAS





2.1 MOUNTAIN OVERVIEW

4 Bibliography

WHAT CHALLENGES DO WE FACE ?



Formal waste management system often do not exist in remote mountainous areas.



Low collection rate.

Transportation of the waste is costly and difficult.



Volumes of waste are increasing because of intensive tourism, with no adequate waste management system in place.



Pollution of waterways at the source and therefore the population's water resources.



WHERE DOES THE PLASTIC WASTE COME FROM ?





Tourism in high mountain areas that comes in masses into areas without a waste management infrastructure.

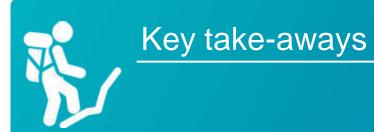
Pollution from **resident** population in low mountain areas due to increase of single-use plastic consumption and poor waste management system.



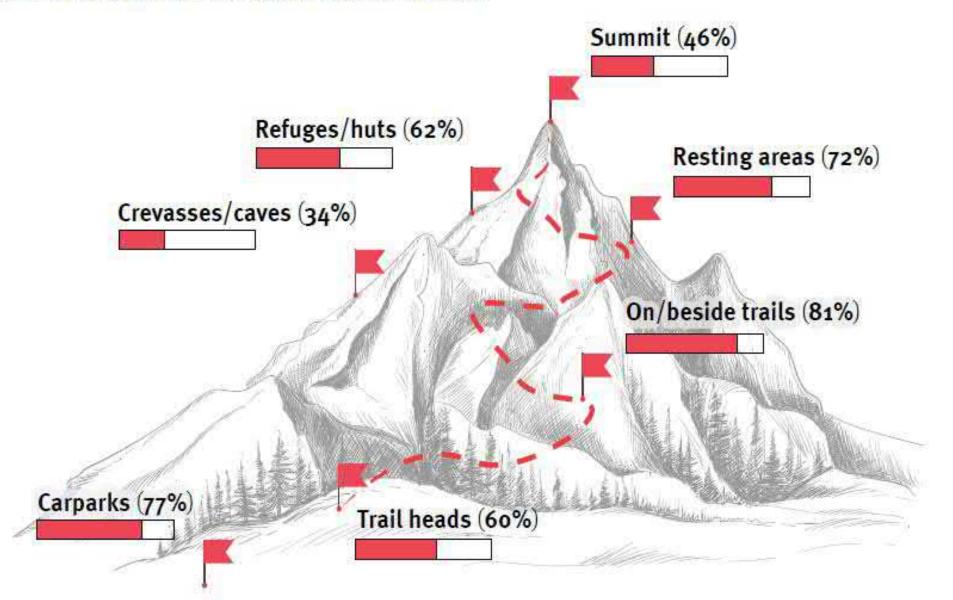
WHERE IS PLASTIC WASTE FOUND IN THE HIGH MOUNTAIN AREAS?

Where is waste seen on mountains?

Percentage of survey respondents having seen waste in such places



- A recent survey asked communities of mountain enthusiasts from around the globe to share their experience and what plastic waste they see during a typical mountain trip.
- Results found that the participants find waste almost everywhere on the trails, but the most common location for waste to be seen in mountains are:
 - On or beside trails (81.5%)
 - In car parks (77.4%)
 - In resting areas (72.6%)



Sources: The 2021 Mountain Waste Survey; Mountain drawing Harryarts/Freepik Partners: UNEP, MRI, IFMGA, UIAA; Kilian Jomet Foundation, UIMLA, Secretariat of BRS Conventions



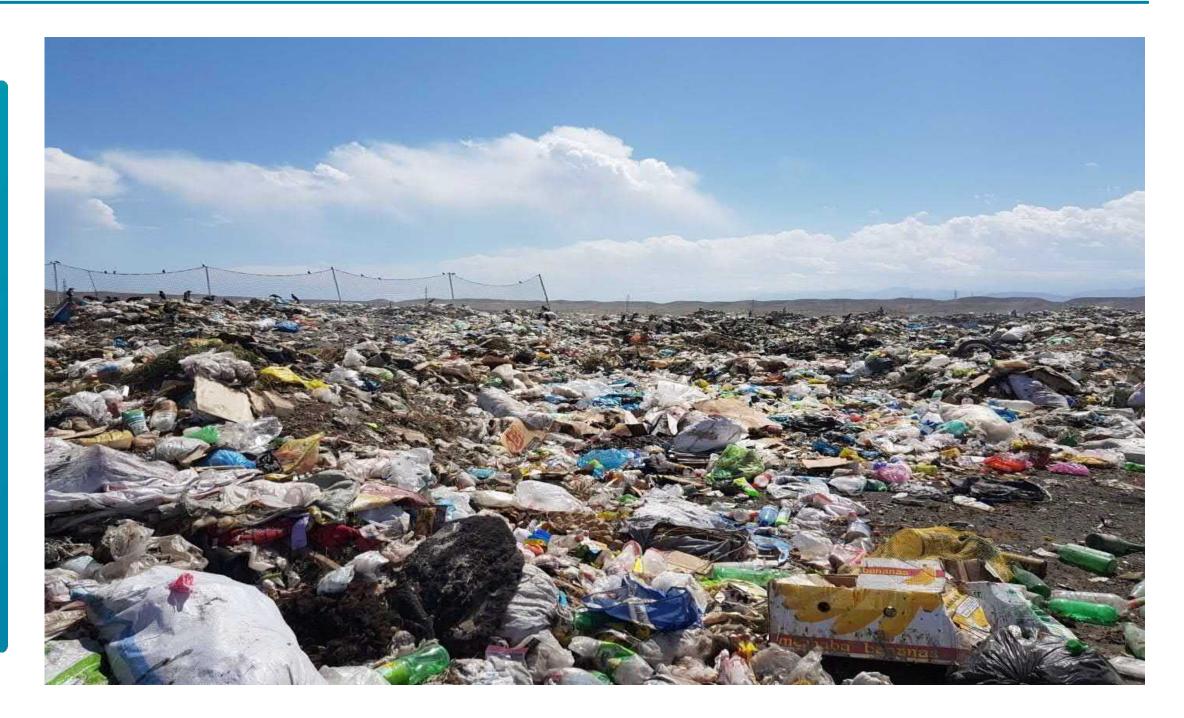


GRID-Arendal (2021)

WHERE IS PLASTIC WASTE FOUND IN THE LOW MOUNTAINS AREAS ?

Key take-aways

- Medium sized mountain towns (with a population range between 3400 and 51500, and at an altitutde between 1600m and 1780m) are dominated by the resident population.
- Those towns benefit from landfill, but the waste management system is quite poor.
- The picture on the right shows an example of dumpsite : the dumpsite of Balykchy in the province of Issyk-Kul (UNEP, IEE, 2022).





CURRENTLY, THERE ARE NO ACCURATE DATA AVAILABLE IN LITERATURE ON THE **EXTENT OF PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE MOUNTAINS OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC.**



A local assessment was performed with the help of the "Independent Ecological Expertise" organization to address this limitation.

Focus on two types of areas :

- High mountain areas (>3000m) that welcome a lot of tourists/alpinists (average of 22'000/year), but few residents.
- Medium size mountain towns (<3000m) which are dominated by the resident population.



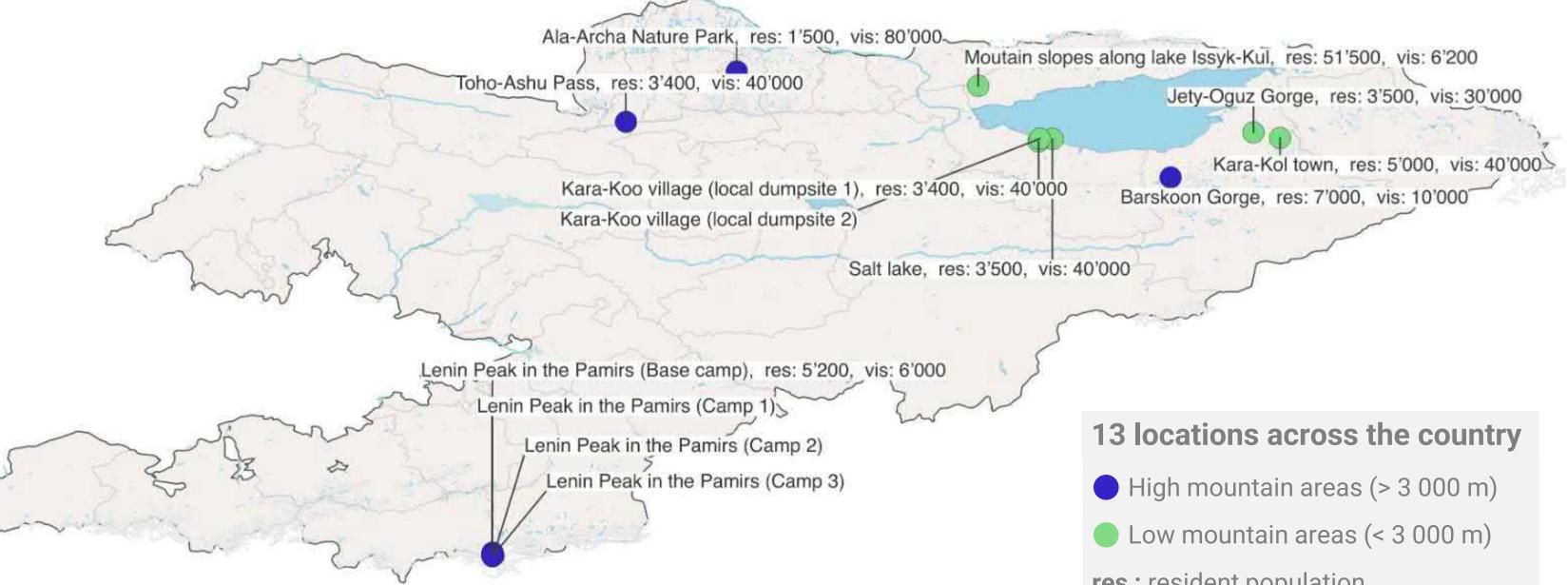




2.2 RESULTS OF THE FIELD STUDY

4 Bibliography

Assessed locations by Independent Ecological Expertise



- res: resident population
- vis: yearly visitors

Assessed locations by Independent Ecological Expertise







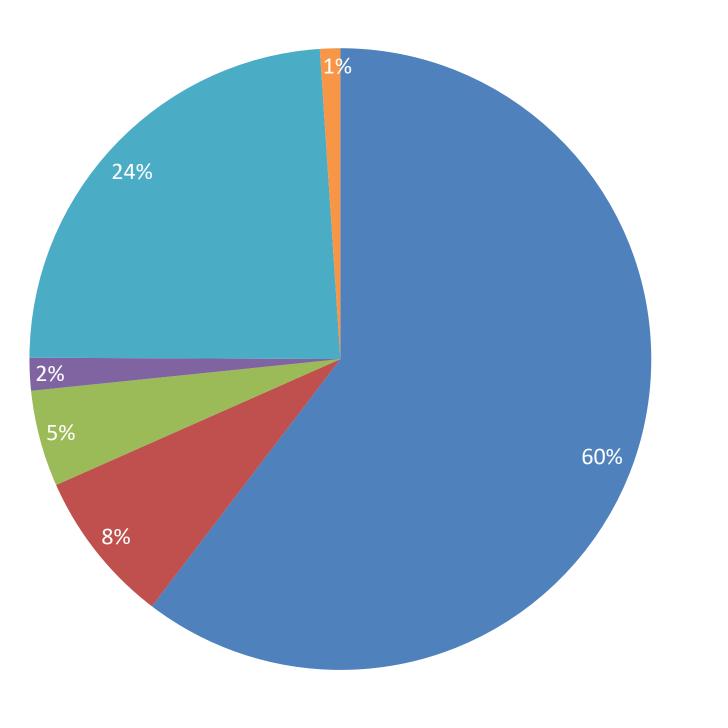
Kara-Kol town







Mismanaged waste composition in high mountain areas (%) assessed by Independent Ecological Expertise





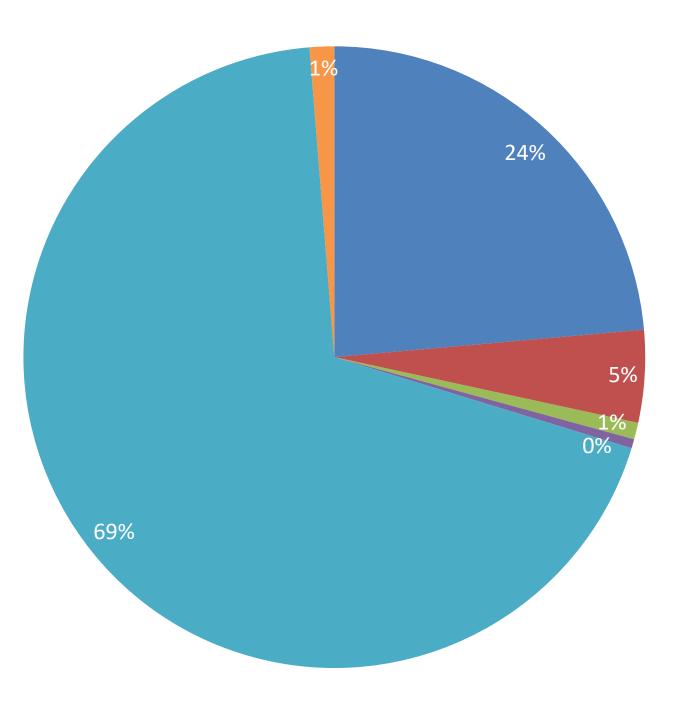




Key take-aways

- The waste encountered in high mountain areas is mostly due to **touristic activities.**
- The most common polymer found are PET (60%), which usually corresponds to bottles, and LDPE (24%), which corresponds to canisters, packaging and bags.
- The waste generated per capita is 11 kg per year, which is close to the results we found at national level (7.26 kg/capita per year). This is most likely because during the field study it was possible to assess all waste sites in the high mountain areas.

Mismanaged waste composition in low mountain areas (%) assessed by Independent Ecological Expertise





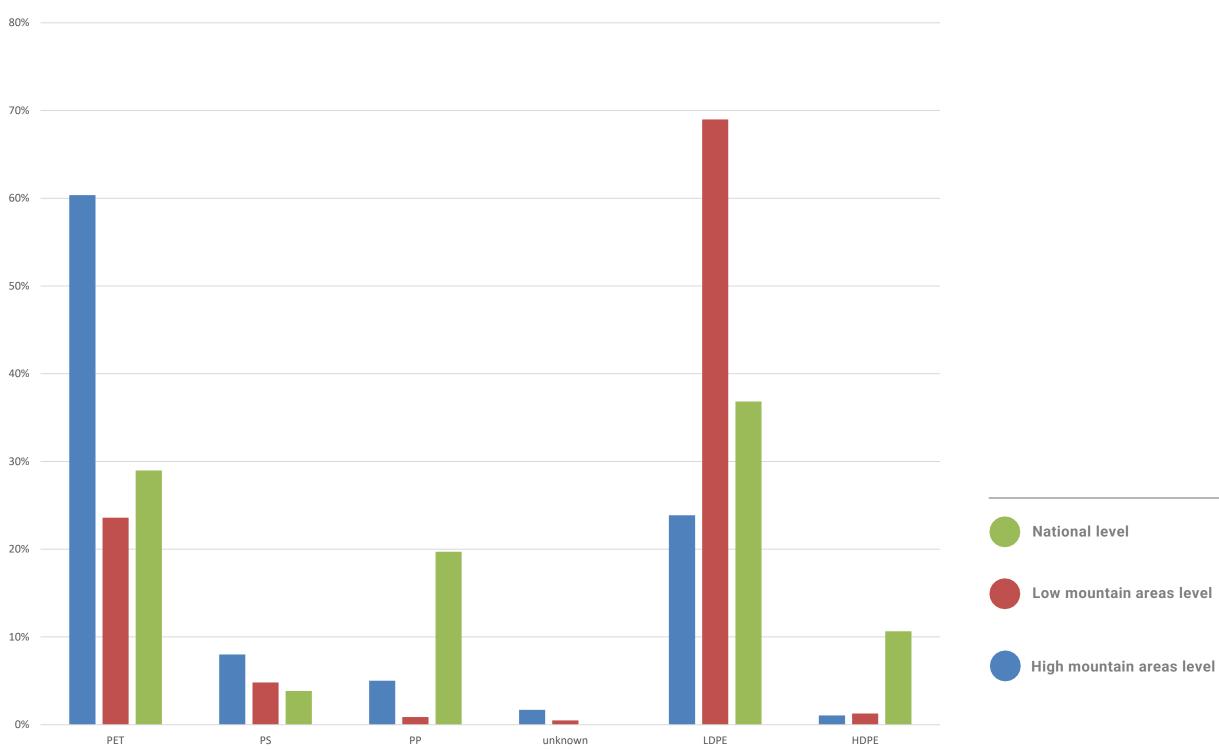




Key take-aways

- The waste encountered in low mountain areas is due to the resident population and the touristic activities.
- The most common polymer encountered are LDPE (69%), which corresponds to canisters, packaging and bags, and PET (24%), which usually corresponds to bottles.
- The waste generated per capita is 0.87 kg per year, which is far from the results we found at national level (7.26 kg/capita per year). This difference is probably due to the impossibility of covering all dumpsites of the residential areas during the field assessment.

Comparison on mismanaged waste composition with the national assessment (%)







Key take-aways

For residential low mountain regions, touristic high mountain region and national assessment, the main packaging polymer found in nature are PET and LDPE.

According to the national assessment PP and HDPE should also play an important role, but according to the field assessment they are only found in minor quantities.





2.3 LOCAL ACTIONS RECOMMANDATION

4 Bibliography

WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT PLASTIC WASTE ?



Key take-aways

- Going back to the recent survey, communities of mountain enthusiasts were asked how to reduce waste in the mountains and who should be responsible for the mountains clean-up activities.
- In order to reduce the waste the top 3 actions proposed where :
 - Principle of take in take out : people take back everything they bring on a mountain trip and dispose of it in the proper waste management system.
 - Act on the **educational** side with awareness campaigns for example.
 - Choose more **sustainable** and reusable **alternative** to waste.
- As for the responsible sector or people for mountains clean-ups, we find the individual responsibility at the top of the podium, followed by the tourism and trekking associations.

Solutions to the waste issue in mountains

Percentage of the total number of respondents

How can we reduce or eliminate waste in the mountains ?

79% More education on impacts of litter

Who should be responsible for mountain clean-up activities ?

56% Tourism and trekking associations

49% Private sector

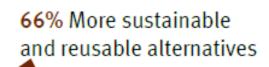
2nd

1st

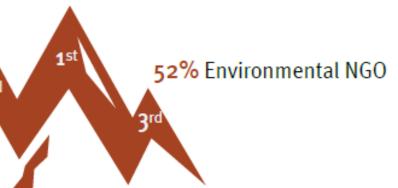
Sources: The 2021 Mountain Waste Survey; icons from Vecteezy.com



90% Adoption of the principles Take in, Take out / Leave no trace



86% Individuals



RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXPERTS

Stakeholders Responsability			Ir
Policy	• State	 Creation of a legislative framework Control and supervision of compliance with legislation in the field of waste management 	 Methods of state regulations of plastic waste for which nat Instate administrative and/or to set there camp (in high mo location
Financing	StateManufacturersSuppliers	 Fund scientific research Organize and finance of system related to the circulation of plastic waste 	 Targeted subsidies for recycl waste
Infrastructure	 State Tracking companies Tourism operators 	 Develop small-scale solutions adapted to the mountain communities Implement waste monitoring and management programs 	 Increase capacity for proper upstream solutions cannot be Deposit-refund mechanisms processing of certain type of Creation of an association of Make sure there are way the areas of the base can be fine an area were the
Outreach	• Tourism operators	 Implicate the public in actions against plastic pollution Raise awarness among the citizen and the tourists 	 Widespread practice of produ Clean polluted areas

Mr. Oleg Pecheniuk, Independent Ecological Expertise Dr. Vladimir Komissarov, Silk Road Tourism Association Structure based on the GRID-Arendal and al. (2002) Policy Brief, BRS

Interventions

s of the level of collection and processing ational programs are being developped or criminal punishment to anyone willing ountain areas) in an unauthorized

cling or supporting recycling of plastic

er waste disposal (sanitary landfills if other be applied)

s in order to organize the collection and of plastic

of tourism operators to:

aste collection containers and toilets in camps

ne tents are allowed

luctis and importer responsability





3.1

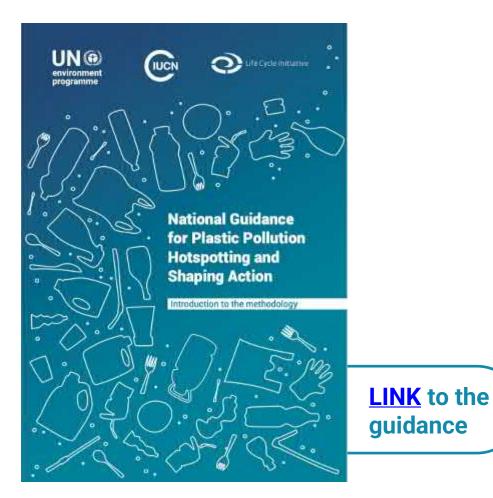
INTRODUCTION TO THE GUIDANCE

4 Bibliography

SCHEMATIC OF THE GUIDANCE

The guidance allows users to:

- 1. Generate country-specific plastic waste management datasets
- 2. Identify plastic leakage and pollution hotspots
- 3. Prioritise actions







RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOTSPOTS, INTERVENTIONS AND **INSTRUMENTS**

The guidance is built upon the backbone of three questions: where to act? (Hotspots), what to do? (Interventions) and how to do it? (Instruments)

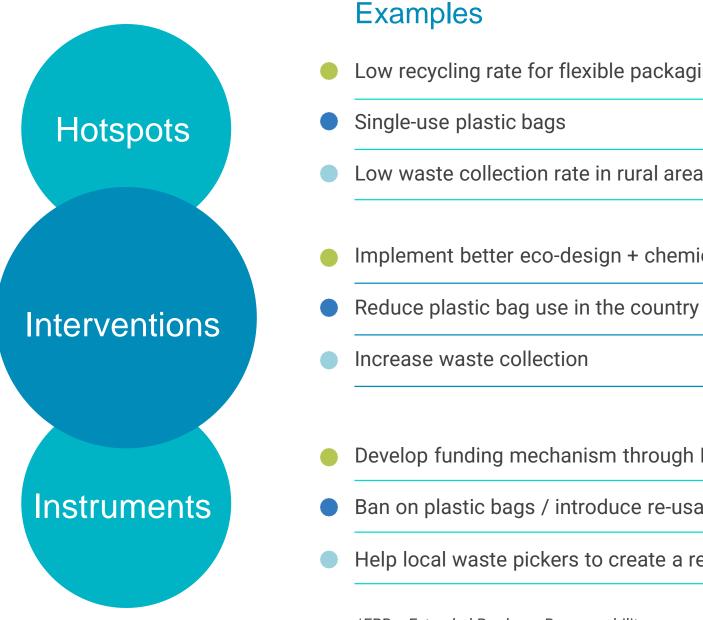


A component of the system that directly or indirectly contributes to the magnitude of plastic leakage and/or its impacts. It can be a component of the system, a type of product/polymer or a region within the country.

An action that can be taken to mitigate the leakage from a given hotspot or reduce its impacts.



A practical way to implement the intervention and enable progress.





Low recycling rate for flexible packaging

Low waste collection rate in rural areas

Implement better eco-design + chemical recycling

Develop funding mechanism through EPR* scheme

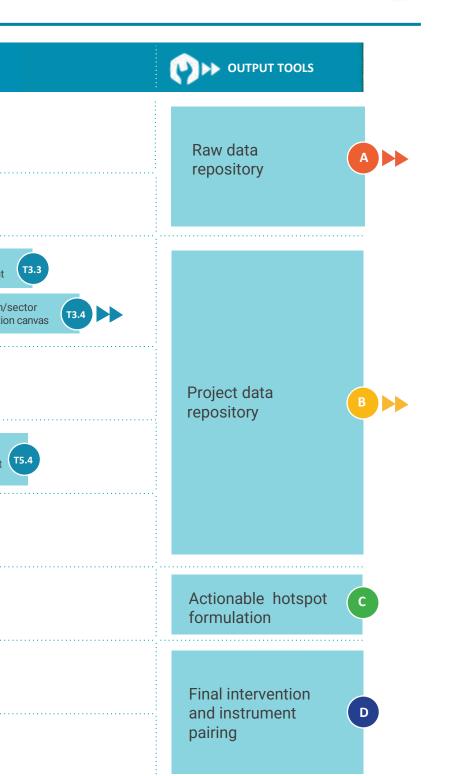
Ban on plastic bags / introduce re-usable alternative

Help local waste pickers to create a revenue stream

*EPR = Extended Producer Responsability

STRUCTURE OF TOOLS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH MODULE

				ASSESSMENT TOOLS
T1	INVENTORY OF PLASTIC FLOWS	Inventory of data sources	COMTRADE data extraction	
T2	CHARACTERISATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT	and data gaps T2.1 templates Waste model canvas T2.3		
ТЗ	MODELLING POLYMER/APPLICATION/ SECTOR HOTSPOTS		Fisheries leakage calculation	Polymer application/ sector MFA & leakage calculation
T4	IDENTIFICATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT HOTSPOTS		Waste management hotspot canvas	
T5	MODELLING REGIONAL HOTPOTS	Waste data by archetype	GIS model T5.2	Leakage calculation T5.3 GIS modelling quality assessment
Тб	ASSESSING IMPACTS		Plastic application impact assessment	
S1	ACTIONABLE HOTSPOT FORMULATION	T3.4 B		
52	INTERVENTION IDENTIFICATION	Interventions library 52.1	Interventions selection s2.2	Interventions s2.3 prioritisation
53	INSTRUMENT ALIGNMENT	Instruments library template	Instruments selection \$3.2	Instruments prioritisation 53.3



DISCLAIMER

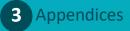


This report intends to present **only the results of the analysis** and not the detailed modelling process.



Additional information on the methodology and modelling process can be found directly in the **modules and tools** associated with the guidance and highlighted by this icon.





3.1

NATIONAL DATA REPOSITORY

4 Bibliography

Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic **73**

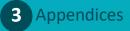
DETAILED SHARES BY POLYMER

Polymer Type	Waste produced in country	Domestic recycling of collected	Export of collected	Properly disposed	Improperly disposed	Uncollected	Tot	Collected	Mismanaged	Leaked	Waste produced and imported	Domestic recycling incl imported
PET	19	35%	5%	0%	16%	44%	100%	56%	60%	12%	20	36%
PP	18	11%	1%	0%	25%	63%	100%	37%	88%	12%	18	11%
Polyester	57	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	100%	29%	100%	7%	57	0%
LDPE	20	1%	0%	0%	27%	72%	100%	28%	99%	17%	20	1%
HDPE	9	17%	2%	0%	22%	58%	100%	42%	80%	12%	9	18%
PS	4	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	100%	29%	100%	11%	4	0%
Other	24	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	100%	29%	100%	8%	24	0%
Synthetic Rubber	5	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	100%	29%	100%	7%	5	0%
PVC	22	0%	0%	0%	29%	71%	100%	29%	100%	8%	22	0%
Total	178	6%	1%	0%	27%	67%	100%	33%	93%	10%	20	6%

- Waste = Collected + Uncollected
- Collected = Domestic recycling of collected + Export of collected + Properly managed + Improperly managed
- **Mismanaged** = Improperly managed + Uncollected

WASTE MANAGEMENT BY REGION

Region	Population 2019	Generated t	ICollected t	Collected for recycling t	Mismanaged t	ll eaked t			Generated	Collected for recycling kg/cap
Batken	491046	13663	2233	309	13354	1232	16%	98%	28	0.6
Biškek	1056450	29395	26874	6294	23102	2310	91%	79%	28	6.0
Chüy	893956	24874	5836	1015	23859	2430	23%	96%	28	1.1
Jalal-Abad	1242056	34560	7962	1372	33187	3420	23%	96%	28	1.1
Naryn	316408	8804	730	19	8785	902	8%	100%	28	0.1
Osh	1351096	37594	5444	673	36921	3814	14%	98%	28	0.5
Osh (city)	286310	7966	7283	1706	6261	901	91%	79%	28	6.0
Talas	263917	7343	1480	238	7106	740	20%	97%	28	0.9
Ysyk-Köl	488260	13586	1356	87	13498	1440	10%	99%	28	0.2



3.1 LOCAL DATA REPOSITORY

4 Bibliography

Plastic pollution hotspots: Kyrgyz Republic **76**

DETAILED SHARES BY POLYMER OF MISMANAGED WASTE

Polymer	Total quantity (pcs)	Total volume (m3)	Total mass (kg)
PET	163 300.00	163.30	6 532.00
PS	27 940.00	28.05	1 139.40
PP	20 450.00	10.60	363.50
unknown	3 480.00	35.40	153.30
LDPE	1 528 200.00	77.30	12 324.00
HDPE	3 950.00	7.32	255.60

DETAILED SHARES BY TYPE OF PLASTIC OF MISMANAGED WASTE

Type of plastic	Polymer	Total quantity (pcs)	Total volume (m3)	Total mass (kg)
Bottles	PET	163 300.00		6 532.00
Canisters	LDPE	200.00	0.20	30.00
Cups	PS	6 440.00	6.55	64.40
Cups, containers	PS	21 500.00	21.50	1 075.00
Hygiene products (diapers), unidentify typ	е			
of plastic	unknown	80.00	0.30	4.80
Hygiene products, pieces of equipment (tents, ropes, personal items), unidentify				
type of plastic	unknown	80.00	1.90	46.00
Hygiene products, unidentify type of plasti	C,			
nylon bags, adhesive tape, packaging	unknown	70.00	1.00	5.00
Lids, cheese wrappers	PP	20 450.00	10.60	363.50
Packaging	LDPE	1 523 000.00	76.80	12 194.00
Scotch tape, packaging	unknown	3 250.00	32.20	97.50
Shampoo bottles	HDPE	1 200.00	1.20	67.00
Soap cleansers	HDPE	2 750.00	6.12	188.60
Tight bags, polyethylene film	LDPE	5 000.00	0.30	100.00

DETAILED SHARES BY POLYMER OF MISMANAGED WASTE IN HIGH MOUNTAIN AREAS

Polymer	Total To quantity (pcs) (m			Specific weight kg/m3)		Total mass per capita (%)
PET	67 000.00	67.00	2 680.00	40.00	2.30	60%
PS	8 700.00	8.70	355.00	40.80	0.16	8%
PP	11 050.00	6.60	222.50	33.71	0.19	5%
unknown	930.00	10.45	75.30	7.21	0.04	. 2%
LDPE	120 200.00	6.40	1 060.00	165.63	0.71	24%
HDPE	220.00	3.55	46.80	13.18	0.06	1%

DETAILED SHARES BY TYPE OF PLASTIC OF MISMANAGED WASTE IN HIGH MOUNTAIN AREAS

		Total quantity	Total volume		Specific weight	Total mass per	Fotal mass per
Type of plastic	Polymer	(pcs)	<u>(m3)</u>	Fotal mass (kg) ((kg/m3)	capita (kg/cap) 💦 🧿	capita (%)
Bottles	PET	67 000.00	67.00	2 680.00	40.00	2.30	37%
Canisters	LDPE	200.00	0.20	30.00	150.00	0.09	2%
Cups	PS	2 000.00	2.00	20.00	10.00	0.02	1%
Cups, containers	PS	6 700.00	6.70	335.00	50.00	0.29	7%
Hygiene products (diapers), unidentify type of plastic	unknown	30.00	0.05	1.80	36.00	0.00	0%
Hygiene products, pieces of equipment (tents, ropes, personal items), unidentify							
type of plastic	unknown	80.00	1.90	46.00	24.21	0.31	7%
Hygiene products,unidentify type of plastic, nylon bags, adhesive tape, packaging	unknown	70.00	1.00	5.00	5.00	0.10	3%
Lids, cheese wrappers	PP	11 050.00		222.50	33.71	0.10	6%
Packaging	LDPE	115 000.00		930.00	157.63	0.83	23%
Scotch tape, packaging	unknown	750.00	7.50	22.50	3.00	0.02	1%
Shampoo bottles	HDPE	0.00	0.00	0.00	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Soap cleansers	HDPE	220.00	3.55	46.80	13.18	0.06	2%
Tight bags, polyethylene film	LDPE	5 000.00	0.30	100.00	333.33	2.03	not applicable

DETAILED SHARES BY POLYMER OF MISMANAGED WASTE IN LOW MOUNTAIN AREAS

Delumer				Specific weight		Total mass per
Polymer	quantity (pcs)(m3	3) ((kg) ((kg/m3)	capita (kg/cap)	capita (%)
PET	96 300.00	96.30	3 852.00	40.00	0.06	24%
PS	19 240.00	19.35	784.40	40.54	0.01	5%
PP	9 400.00	4.00	141.00	35.25	0.00	1%
unknown	2 550.00	24.95	78.00	3.13	0.00	0%
LDPE	1 408 000.00	70.90	11 264.00	158.87	0.19	69%
HDPE	3 730.00	3.77	208.80	55.38	0.00	1%



DETAILED SHARES BY TYPE OF PLASTIC OF MISMANAGED WASTE IN LOW MOUNTAIN AREAS

		Total quantity T	otal volume	S	Specific weight	Total mass per	Fotal mass per
Type of plastic	Polymer	(pcs) (I	m3) [·]	Total mass (kg) (kg/m3)	capita (kg/cap) 💦 🧿	capita (%)
Bottles	PET	96 300.00	96.30	3 852.00	40.00	0.06	0.23
Canisters	LDPE	0.00	0.00	0.00	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Cups	PS	4 440.00	4.55	44.40	9.76	0.00	0.04
Cups, containers	PS	14 800.00	14.80	740.00	50.00	0.01	0.68
Hygiene products (diapers), unidentify type of plastic	unknown	50.00	0.25	3.00	12.00	0.01	0.06
Hygiene products, pieces of equipment (tents, ropes, personal items), unidentify type of plastic	unknown	0.00	0.00	0.00	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Hygiene products, unidentify type of plastic, nylon bags, adhesive tape, packaging	unknown	0.00	0.00	0.00	not applicable		
	PP	9 400.00	4.00	141.00	35.25		not applicable 0.01
Lids, cheese wrappers							
Packaging	LDPE	1 408 000.00	70.90	11 264.00	158.87	0.19	0.39
Scotch tape, packaging	unknown	2 500.00	24.70	75.00	3.04		0.00
Shampoo bottles	HDPE	1 200.00	1.20	67.00	55.83	0.00	0.00
Soap cleansers	HDPE	2 530.00	2.57	141.80	55.18	0.00	0.00
Tight bags, polyethylene film	LDPE	0.00	0.00	0.00	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable

DETAILED SHARES BY TYPE OF POLYMER AND LOCATIONS OF MISMANAGED WASTE

Location	PET	PS	PP	unkno	own LDPE	HDI	PE
Ala-Archa Nature Park (Racek hut - Aksai glacier, alpin camp)		77%	7%	4%	1%	12%	0%
Toho-Ashu Pass		64%	4%	5%	1%	27%	0%
Moutain slopes along lake Issyk-Kul (neighborhood of Balykchy)		22%	4%	1%	0%	73%	0%
Salt lake		68%	6%	3%	3%	17%	3%
Kara-Kol town (gorge and ski base)		50%	13%	0%	15%	20%	2%
Jety-Oguz Gorge		73%	6%	2%	2%	18%	0%
Barskoon Gorge		83%	2%	2%	0%	12%	0%
Kara-Koo village (local dumpsite 1)		48%	2%	1%	0%	48%	1%
Kara-Koo village (local dumpsite 2)		19%	2%	1%	1%	77%	1%
Lenin Peak in the Pamirs (Base camp - Ashik Tash - 3623m)		69%	12%	6%	1%	12%	1%
Lenin Peak in the Pamirs (Camp - 4418m)		67%	10%	10%	1%	6%	6%
Lenin Peak in the Pamirs (Camp - 5381m)		0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
Lenin Peak in the Pamirs (Camp - 5570m)		0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%

Toho-Ashu Pass





Ala-Archa Nature Park







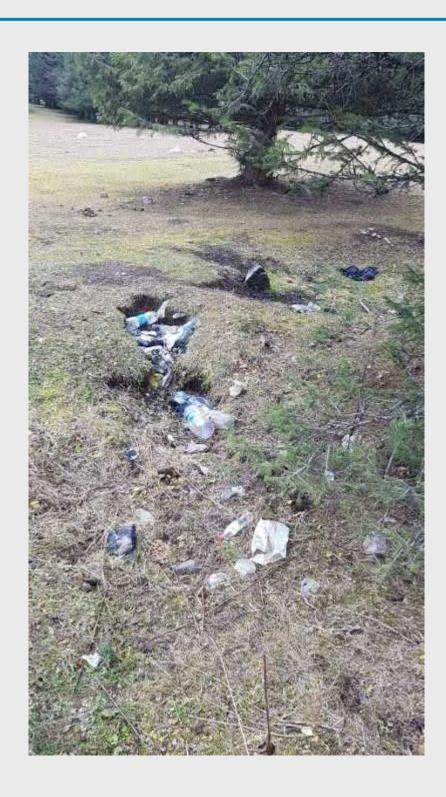
Moutain slopes along lake Issyk-Kul





Jety-Oguz Gorge





Kara-Kol town



Barskoon Gorge





Salt lake





Kara-Koo village (local dumpsite 1)





Kara-Koo village (local dumpsite 2)





Lenin Peak in the Pamirs





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