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TOMORROW
BEAUTIFUL
OVAM



Flanders
State of the Art

Global recycling challenge for plastics and textiles

The European Context

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What are the problems?

- 1. Irreversible loss of valuable materials**
- 2. Low share of secondary raw materials on the market**
 1. Poor waste management
 2. Poor (or uncertain) quality
 3. Legacy chemicals
 4. Poor supply / demand



What is the EU's response?

- ▶ **Circular Economy Action Plan 2015, with its 54 actions**
- ▶ **EU Plastics Strategy**
- ▶ **Focus on Plastics as a priority area**
- ▶ **No focus on textiles yet... something for the coming years?**



Circular Economy Action Plan

- 1. Boosting the use of secondary raw materials**
- 2. Improving quality of secondary raw materials**
- 3. Addressing legacy chemicals**

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Comprehensive EU response to the plastics challenge – the EU Plastics Strategy and the new Directive on Single-Use Plastics and Fishing Gear

1. **Improve the economics and quality of plastic recycling**
2. **Curb plastic waste and littering**
3. **Drive investments and innovation in the value chain**
4. **Call for global action to reduce plastics pollution**

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Textiles – clear candidate for action

1. **Some measures already in place (separate collection obligation, promotion of waste prevention)**
2. **GPP and EU Ecolabel address textiles**
3. **Critical mass - untapped potential?**



Thank you for your attention.

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