



OECD Workshop on Extended
Producer Responsibility
New Insights and the way forward

9 to 10 May 2023

OECD HQ, Paris

Day 1: Unpackaging EPR for packaging

The packaging sector, the sector with the most mature EPR systems and of high policy relevance also in the context of negotiations for a global treaty on plastic pollution, will be the focus of this first day of the workshop. Discussions will focus on reviewing the lessons learned after more than thirty years of experience with EPR in the packaging sector, on what is needed to establish new EPR systems, including in emerging economies, how to set effective incentives that encourage better product design, as well as what could be done at the level of a global treaty on plastic pollution to support the implementation of EPR approaches across a wider number of countries.

1. Welcome and opening remarks

9:00 to 9:30

- *Opening and welcome remarks from the OECD*

Followed by Q&A (10')

2. Setting the scene for day 1: An overview of EPR for packaging

This session will provide an overview of the use of EPR for packaging across the globe, as well as recent developments in North America and a number of emerging markets.

9:30 to 11:00

- **Peter Börkey** (OECD): *Presentation of the historical context for the use of EPR in the packaging sector*
- **Scott Cassel** (Product Stewardship Institute)
- **Michelle Carvell** (Lorax EPI Compliance)

Followed by Q&A (30')

[20min coffee and health break]

3. Incentivising product design through EPR – Early experience with fee modulation

To date, there is only limited evidence that EPR has served as an effective tool for instigating Design for Environment. Owing to economies of scale, most EPR schemes are frequently organised in an industry-wide way that provides only a limited link between product design and the fees paid by producers per product or per weight of material used. As a consequence, some governments are now requiring EPR systems to differentiate the producer fees that they apply according to product design criteria. This session will present the key opportunities and challenges of fee modulation and take stock of the experience accumulated in a number of EPR systems where it has been applied.

11:20 to 12:50

- **Joachim Quoden** (EXPRA)
 - **Geneviève Dionne** (Éco Entreprises Québec)
 - **Valentin Fournel** (CITEO)
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Followed by panel discussion with **Eugénie Joltreau** (RFF-CMCC European Institute on Economics and the Environment), **Roeland Bracke** (OVAM Belgium), **Philippe Bonningue** (L'Oréal)

[1h lunch break]

4. Starting an EPR program: Considerations for developed and developing markets for implementing a new EPR program

In recent years EPR has gained further policy attention. The geographic scope of EPR continues to grow, with more EPR policies for packaging being implemented in OECD and emerging economies. For example, Chile as well as California, Oregon and Maine in the United States have recently enacted mandatory packaging EPR laws in the form of product take-back requirements with an ADF and several additional US states are currently discussing similar EPR policies. EPR is also being developed by governments in non-OECD member countries, such as in South Africa and Indonesia. This session will provide an overview of good practices for starting a packaging EPR, as well as lessons learned from a few concrete examples.

a. Starting an EPR in developing markets

14:00 to 15:00

- **Angelina Schreiner** (GIZ/Prevent)
- **Tshilidzi Ligaraba** (Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa)

Followed by Q&A (15')

b. Starting an EPR in developed markets

15:00 to 16:00

- **Nicole Portley** (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality)
- **Darla Arians** (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment)
- **Tomás Saieg Páez** (Ministry of Environment, Chile)

Followed by Q&A (30')

[20min coffee and health break]

5. The Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution and how to support the development of EPR for packaging

In February 2022, at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2), member countries adopted a resolution (5/14) to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution with the ambition to complete the negotiations by end of 2024. A first round of negotiations in the framework of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) took place in December 2022 and a second round will take place at the end of May 2023, during which EPR was identified as an important policy approach. In this session a panel of experts will discuss what could be done at the level of the global treaty to support the implementation of EPR approaches across a wider number of countries.

16:20 to 17:30

- Keynote presentation by **Jyoti Mathur-Filipp** (INC Secretariat)
- Followed by panel discussion with **Jean Hornain** (CITEO), **Ambrogio Miserochi** (Ellen MacArthur Foundation), **Laura Griestop** (World Wide Fund for Nature), **Feng Wang** (United Nations Environment Programme), **Anja Gerdung** (Germany)

[Cocktail reception]

Day 2: The “cutting edge” of EPR policy

There is increasing discussion in some governments of expanding the use of EPR to: i) a more widespread implementation of the approach to additional product groups; and ii) a wider scope of producer responsibility, expanding the objective beyond the current focus on waste collection and recycling rates, to additional environmental and social impact categories that occur outside of the end-of-life phase of a product. The second day of the workshop will aim to take stock of and give a forum for continuing some of these debates.

6. Scene Setting - New Aspects to EPR

This session will provide an overview of new areas of application of EPR that are currently being discussed, planned or already implemented by governments.

9:00 to 9:30

- **Andrew Brown** (OECD): Presentation of a forthcoming publication “New Aspects of EPR: Extending producer responsibility to additional product groups and challenges throughout the product lifecycle”

Followed by Q&A (10')

[30 min coffee and health break]

7. Sectoral session 1: EPR for textiles

Textiles constitute a significant and growing share of municipal and other waste streams. Management of this waste stream is costly. Only a very limited share of end-of-life textiles is currently being reused or recycled and most recycling is for lower grade products (e.g. filling materials). Markets with existing EPRs for these waste streams have exhibited relatively high rates of separate collection and recycling and the use of EPR for garments is now also being mandated through the EU's Waste Framework Directive. This session will take stock of experience with the use of EPR in this particular sector.

10:00 to 12:00

- **Véronique Allaire-Spitzer** (Re_fashion)
- **Birgitta Losman** (University of Borås, Sweden)

Followed by panel discussion with **Valérie Boiten** (Ellen MacArthur Foundation), **Flore Berlingen** (GAIA, En Mode Climat), **Mauro Scalia** (EURATEX)

[1h30 lunch break]

8. Keynote address: Restoring the incentives for eco-design EPR – The challenges for eco-modulation

Reid Lifset, widely recognised as one of the academic originators of the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility, will provide a keynote speech on EPR, including a description of his most recent research on restoring incentives for eco-design in EPR and the challenges of eco-modulation.

13:30 to 14:00

- **Reid Lifset** (Yale University School of the Environment)

Followed by comments from **Emmanuel Katrakis** (EuRIC) and Q&A (5')

9. Sectoral session 2: EPR for tobacco product filters and other frequently littered products

Improper disposal and littering of products can generate various environmental, economic and public health externalities. For instance, littered single-use plastic items such as tobacco product filters can cause habitat destruction or have eco-toxicological health effects. Incorporating environmental and other impacts from littering in mandatory EPR schemes of relevant products is one possibility for recovering some of the costs to clean up litter. This session will take stock of recent developments in this field.

14:00 to 15:30

- **Maarten Dubois** (Deloitte Belgium)
- **Hyein Min** (Ministry of Environment, Korea)

- **Nicole Schmidt** (German Environment Agency)
- **Chris Sherrington** (Eunomia)

Followed by Q&A (45')

[30min coffee break]

10. Social and distributional aspects of EPR

This session will discuss some of the social and distributional aspects associated with EPR. One criticism of EPR is that there is a risk that producers will pass on EPR fees to consumers through increased product prices. Incorporating end-of-life costs into essential products, such as food packaging, appears to be a particular concern for some stakeholders in the policy debate, due to its potential impact on low-income households. Recent research has assessed the likelihood of this pass through and attempted to quantify it, which will be discussed during this session. In addition, the session will touch upon social aspects linked to EPR, in particular around the role of the informal sector.

16:00 to 16:45

- **Flavio de Miranda Ribeiro** (Universidade Catolica de Santos, Sao Paolo, Brazil)
- **Satyajit Bose** (Columbia University, US)
- **Henry Smith** (Valpak)

11. Concluding remarks

16:45 to 17:00

[Finish at 17:00]