

EPR Maldives

Developing an EPR scheme for plastic and packaging waste in the Maldives
adelphi GmbH | Maldives
March 2021 to May 2023
OIC financing \$233,725

Maldives is mainstreaming and further developing its waste management policies to address the increasing amount of littered plastic waste and unsafe (plastic) waste management practices. adelphi GmbH, in partnership with Zero Waste Maldives and in collaboration with government agencies and various sectors in the Maldives, developed an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme to foster a circular economy, zero-waste innovation, and reduce the amount of plastic and packaging waste generated and disposed of in an uncontrolled manner on a long-term basis.

Key final outputs

- ✓ **A consolidated knowledge base on plastic and packaging waste in the Maldives**, which did not exist prior to this project, that can inform decision-making processes for policymakers and entrepreneurs from the private sector.
- ✓ **Improved understanding of EPR and engagement from a wide range of public, private, and civil society stakeholders** as part of adelphi's input gathering on the EPR scheme and discussing their roles and responsibilities within the emerging scheme.
- ✓ **A comprehensive concept paper for an EPR program in the Maldives** was submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and Technology (MoECCT). It suggests a voluntary program to start, transitioning to a mandatory scheme in four years. This comes with an EPR roadmap with various scenarios. Several aspects of these proposals and groundwork have been considered in the Maldives' Waste Management Act, through Zero Waste Maldives' active engagement with the government
- ✓ **A manual on implementing the EPR scheme in SIDS** and similar contexts.



Current status

Presidential elections were held in the Maldives in September 2023 with the turnout favoring a different party. Despite the recent change in the government administration and some delays, the EPR scheme and roadmap are still playing a crucial role in shaping the EPR framework in the Maldives and progress is still being made towards the realization of EPR.

The Global Plastics Policy Inventory

Tracking government responses: the Global Plastics Policy Inventory
Duke University | Global
March 2021 to April 2023
OIC financing \$100,000 Realized co-financing from other sources \$180,000

A wide range of policy responses has been applied by different countries as they try to address plastic pollution. Duke University's Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability expanded the world's first global plastics policy tracking tool which helps stakeholders at all levels to identify and replicate best practices in plastics policy development and implementation. The [Plastic Policy Inventory](#) is a comprehensive effort to collect and publish public policies aiming to address plastic pollution, and to inform governments, researchers, advocacy groups and stakeholders about how governments on every level are responding to this global problem.

Key final outputs

- ✓ **Updated Plastics Policy Inventory**, which significantly increased from nearly 400 plastic policy documents in 2021 to roughly **900 policy documents** in 2023.
- ✓ A library of **117 studies** showing some measurements of the [effectiveness of plastic pollution policies](#).
- ✓ Published the [2023 Annual Trends in Plastics Policy](#) brief with updated data analytics and visualizations from the Plastics Policy Inventory.
- ✓ [Initial Assessment of Gender Considerations in Plastics Policy](#) which reviews gender mainstreaming in plastic pollution policies and the gender-differentiated impacts of policies.
- ✓ Detailed [review of the effectiveness of plastic policies](#), including the types of indicators used in measurements.
- ✓ **Plastic Pollution Country Profiles** for [Australia](#), [Costa Rica](#), [Estonia](#), [Indonesia](#), [Kenya](#), [Malawi](#), [Maldives](#), [Mexico](#), [Philippines](#) and [Turkey](#).
- ✓ **How-to guide** for [conducting country-specific plastic pollution policy assessment](#).



Current status

Through additional funding, the Nicholas Institute is currently working on a targeted study that uses the inventory to assess how governments are simultaneously trying to address plastic pollution and climate change. At the same time, the lead researchers of Plastics Policy Inventory continue to engage in the discussions in the plastics policy landscape actively, taking part in interviews, podcasts, and events. The Inventory remains an invaluable resource on plastics policy featured in authoritative online platforms such as UNEP's Global Partnership on Plastic Pollution and Marine Litter (GPNL) digital platform and Plastic Toolkit.

