

Environmental pressures on packaging: Some inconvenient realities

André de Ruyter March 2019

Packaging is not waste...

It is part of the solution



Source: CSIR, WWF, Statistics SA



30% **R66.7bn** 1 SSS of all food produced extrapolated loss in in South Africa is lost 2018, valued by CSIR (~2% of GDP) in 2013. or wasted annually. **(?) R21.7bn** + 12m (~20%) 3 ♦ R of all South Africans go average annual cost of household food waste to bed hungry every night. in South Africa.

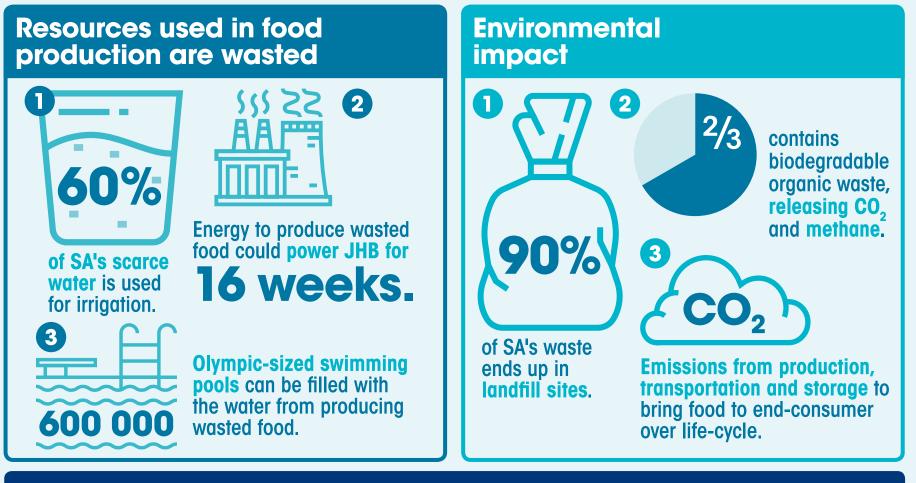
> "As much as half of all food grown globally is lost or wasted before and after it reaches the consumer."

Packaging reduces food waste going to landfills



2

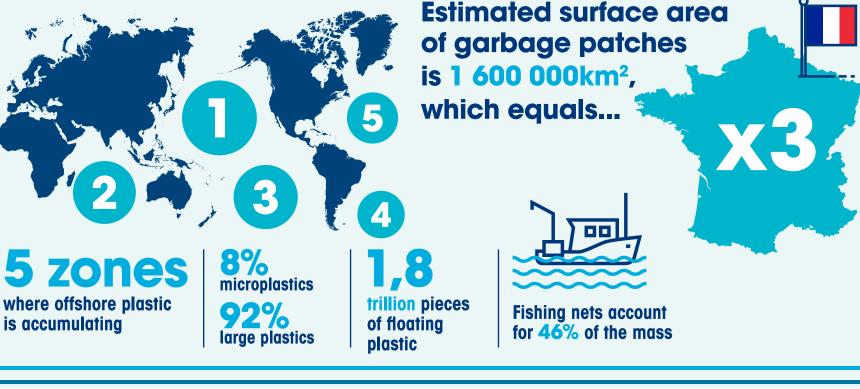
Source: CSIR, WWF, Statistics SA



With a key role in optimising food supply, packaging is part of the solution, not the problem, if handled properly after use.

...but we have a problem.

Great Pacific Garbage Patches raised environmental awareness





3

Source: The Ocean Cleanup Foundation



China's ban on importing certain waste in 2018 highlighted the global lack of recycling infrastructure.





of global exported plastic waste ended up in China for recycling in 2012.

Packaging is a modest part of the waste challenge





is used by packaging.

Source: Packaging SA Waste Weight Energy 6% 9% 8% 0 6% 8% 9% of SA's waste sent to landfill of the weight of the of the energy required to produce and deliver all packaged product sites comes from packaging. products to the household is packaging.

Commitment to review use of packaging

Major brand-owners and retailers committed to reduce plastic use

Major users of packaging moving away from use of plastic

Vision:

World without waste

By 2020: Plan to use PlantBottle[™] packaging for all PET bottles

By 2025:

Offer 100% recyclable packaging

By 2030:

Create packaging with at least 50% recycled material Collect and recycle a bottle or can for every one sold

WOOLWORTHS

Vision:

ZERO packaging waste to landfills

By 2020:

No plastic shopping bags – phasing out single-use plastics

Lightweight plastic bag levy introduced in 2003 has not curbed consumption. In WC: piloting cheaper locally-made reusable bags from recycled material

By 2022:

All packaging recyclable or reusable

Other active brand owners include:











The good news... alternative substrates exist



6

Beverage cans

Aluminium is valuable...

2 Aluminium is infinitely recyclable...

R600m

into SA economy by converting from steel to aluminium cans.

Valuable

to informal sector collecting cans for recycling. recycling rates and increasing each year.

78%

>90%

of aluminium ever produced still in circulation.

95%

energy savings than for primary conversion.

3 Aluminium is **lightweight**...

5%-6%

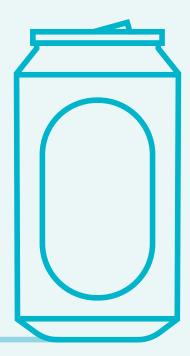
Bevcan weight reduction on 330ml slender and 500ml cans.

1 320 tons

of raw materials spared, saving R62m.



From 2012 all beverage cans converted from steel to aluminium.



Paper is re-emerging as a substrate of choice for liquid packaging

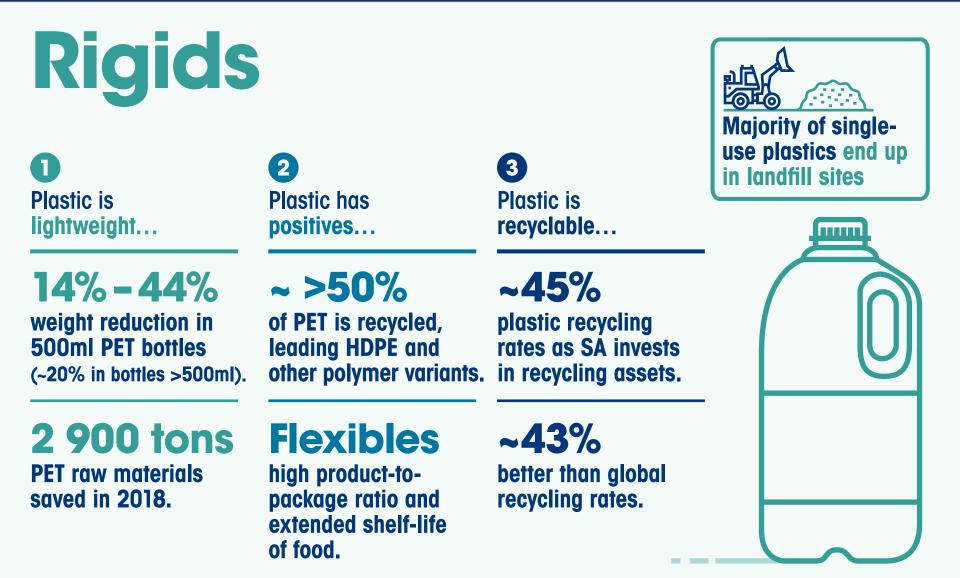




Paper New, growing trees absorb more CO₂ Τ 2 than older trees. Cartons Paper <50% ~66% Renewed interest from consumers GHG emissions vs recycling rates. for innovative new **PET and HDPE bottles.** products. ~100% 87% ~30%-40% improved recycling from renewable recycled from corrugated cardboard rates expected. sources, also and shredded paper. eco-friendly and cost competitive.

There is a place for plastics...





Ultimately we must use and collect end packaging responsibly...

Reduce, reuse, recycle



9

Job creation

1 Design

- Benefits of lightweight
 - Environmental impact reduced compared to steel (water and energy savings)
 - Lightweight HDPE bottles are easy to transport
- Packaging is reusable

2 Collection

- Increase of collection rates
 - No waste collection for 31% of households
- Separation at source
- Higher recycling rates
 - Multiple use of PET bottles with 100% recycled content
- Recycled materials:
 - Lower carbon footprint
 - Save scarce resources

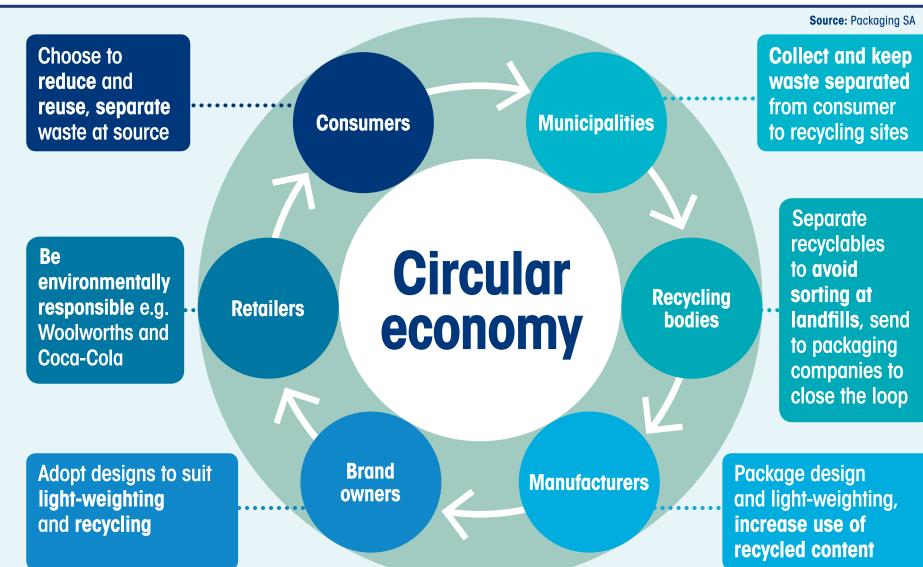
3 Close the loop

- Increase recycled content in manufacturers' raw materials input
- Reduced waste extends lives of landfill sites

Packaging waste is not (only) a producer problem

...we all have a role to play





Local industry is doing a world-class job



11

Source: Packaging SA, BMI, Nampak analysis, Resource Recycling Systems, PAMSA

Producer responsibility organisations include:







Recycling rate>90%Global rate69%

2 Plastics
PET plastic recycling south africa
Plastics SA
Polyco Making waste work
Association of south Africa

Recycling rate46%Global rate43%

B) Paper





MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA (PAMSA)

Recycling rate	66%
Global rate	58%

4 Glass



Recycling rate	44%
Global rate	46%

Recent developments expected to improve recycling rates





A word of warning



Source: WSU

13

Ū

- SA's recycling voluntary programmes work well, initially funded and promoted by packaging producers
- Recycling PROs run on a break-even-basis and generally self-funded

2

Regulations propose
Waste Bureau be funded
by packaging producers

Unintended result of levy

- Packaging producers may pull back on voluntary programmes
- Collapse of recycling circular economy
- Worst affected will be 60 000 to 90 000 informal waste collectors/ sorters who enable and are majority of recycling programmes



Thank you