EPA’s National Recycling Strategy

Building a Circular Economy for All

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March 3, 2022
“A circular economy is an industrial system that is **restorative or regenerative** by design. It is a change to the **linear model**...A circular economy **reduces** materials use, **redesigns** materials and products to be less resource **intensive**, and **recaptures** ‘waste’ as a resource.”

- Michael Regan, EPA Administrator
Strategy Overview

Released November 2021

Supports National Recycling Goal of 50% recycling rate by 2030

Highlights climate change and environmental justice

5 objectives, 50 unique actions

Part 1 of 6: plastics, organics, electronics, buildings, and textiles
Recycling Strategy Objectives

A. Improve Markets
Analyze end markets, increase domestic use, support R&D

B. Increase Collection & Improve Infrastructure
Funding access, optimization, technological demonstrations

C. Reduce Contamination
Enhance education and outreach, ensure resource availability

D. Enhance Circularity
Strengthen policies and programs, study challenges, share best practices

E. Standardize Data Collection
Develop definitions, targets, reporting plan, and increase transparency
## Actions & Implementation Plan Online Platform

### Filter by Objective:

- All

### Search:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Title</th>
<th>Action Number</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Conduct a study on reflecting environmental and social costs in product pricing</td>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Not started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Conduct an analysis of different policies that could address recycling challenges</td>
<td>D2</td>
<td>Not started</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Coordinate domestic and international interests</td>
<td>D6</td>
<td>Not started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Increase awareness of and continue voluntary public-private partnerships</td>
<td>D4</td>
<td>Not started</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Share best practices on policies, programs, funding opportunities and outreach through a free, publicly accessible online clearinghouse</td>
<td>D5</td>
<td>Not started</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhance Policies and Programs</td>
<td>Strengthen federal coordination to support and encourage actions to improve the U.S. recycling system</td>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Not started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Markets</td>
<td>Conduct market development workshops and dialogues</td>
<td>A1.1</td>
<td>Not started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Markets</td>
<td>Continue to support research and development of technologies and products that will expand market opportunities</td>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Not started</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve Markets</td>
<td>Create a &quot;Demand Challenge&quot; partnership program to encourage the use of recycled materials in products</td>
<td>A1.6</td>
<td>Not started</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve Markets</td>
<td>Create market development toolkits for communities</td>
<td>A1.4</td>
<td>Not started</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Showing 1 to 10 of 48 entries
Focus on Issues: Plastics

• What’s recyclable

• Environmental justice

• Product design

• Market improvement
Stakeholders

Public, Private, Government, Tribal Nations, Universities...

**Lead**
- Plan development
- Convey progress
- Coordinate supporters

**Support**
- Implementation
- Provide data
- Open-ended
DNR Action – Expressed Interest

• B1.1. Create a national map of existing recycling infrastructure to depict available recycling system capacity

• B5. Optimize processing efficiencies at materials recovery facilities

• B6.1. Engage in outreach efforts to increase participation in recycling

• C1.1. Develop messaging and educational materials about the importance and value of recycling

• C1.6. Develop a plan to assist state and local governments with contamination

• E.1 Develop and implement national recycling definitions, measures, targets, and performance indicators
Getting Involved

• Receive updates for recycling, food waste, and the circular economy
  https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected

• Lead or support an action

• Propose a new action
Indicating Interest

No specified timeline

EPA will connect those interested this spring and on ongoing basis

Fill out the form: https://www.epa.gov/recyclings-trategy/forms/take-action
Find Out More

Full Strategy Text

Executive Summary

FAQ
https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/frequent-questions-about-national-recycling-strategy#Organization%20Recycling