



OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC NEUTRALITY CERTIFICATION SUBPROGRAM



THE ISSUE OF PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

From greenhouses, mulches, coating and wiring, to packaging, films, bags and containers, plastics are found in several applications in our daily lives. Plastics production has surged over the past 50 years, from 15 million tons in 1964¹ to 360 million in 2018², and is expected to double over the next 20 years¹.

Nowadays, a world without plastic seems unlikely. However, the production and disposal of plastic are responsible for significant greenhouse gas emissions and, when poorly managed, generate plastics pollution in the natural environment. Around 6,300 million tons of plastics waste are thought to have been generated between 1950 and 2015, of which only 9% were recycled, and 12% incinerated³. Almost 80% of this waste is consequently accumulated in landfills or natural environments, such as live rivers and the ocean.

Improving plastic waste management to reach the goal of “Zero Plastic Oceans” should be pushed to the top of the global policy agenda. Meanwhile, focusing on the mismanaged plastic waste that is non-recyclable, the Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality Certification is a concrete tool that all of us can use to reduce plastic leakage in oceans.

#Take Action: Being certified with the Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality Certification effectively reduces plastic litter in seas while rethinking the value chain of plastic waste management, combining social, ethical, and environmental benefits.

ABOUT PLASTIC POLLUTION

Plastics are composed of monomers bound together to form macromolecules (polymer chains). There are increasing concerns due to their non-biodegradability, their chemical toxicity for human health and the generation of toxic gases, especially in open-air waste burning.



1

World Economic Forum, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and McKinsey & Company, The New Plastics Economy: Rethinking the future of plastics, 2016

2

www.plasticseurope.org

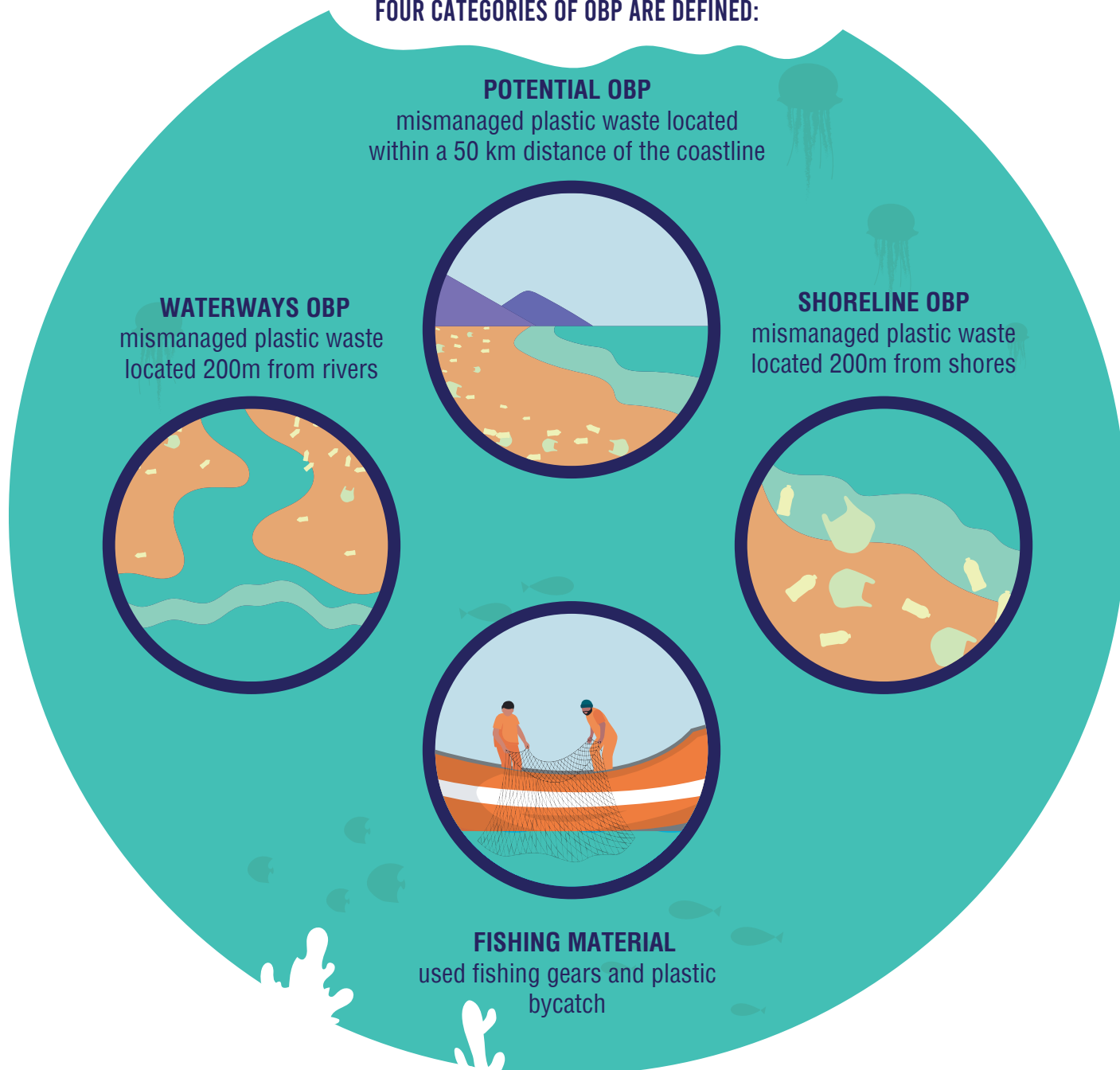
3

OECD, Improving Plastics Management: Trends, policy responses, and the role of international co-operation and trade, OECD Environment Policy

WHAT IS OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC?

Ocean Bound Plastic (OBP) is a type of plastic waste defined as “at risk of ending up in the oceans”. It generates 80% of plastic marine litter and does not have a commercial value most of the time.

FOUR CATEGORIES OF OBP ARE DEFINED:



RETHINKING THE FUTURE OF PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

The **Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality Certification Subprogram** provides a unique opportunity for companies, industries and NGOs to take action on reducing plastic waste in the environment. By supporting beach cleanings, implementing recycling programs and ensuring good disposal of Ocean Bound Plastic waste, stakeholders are rethinking the future of plastic while contributing to a sustainable management of resources.

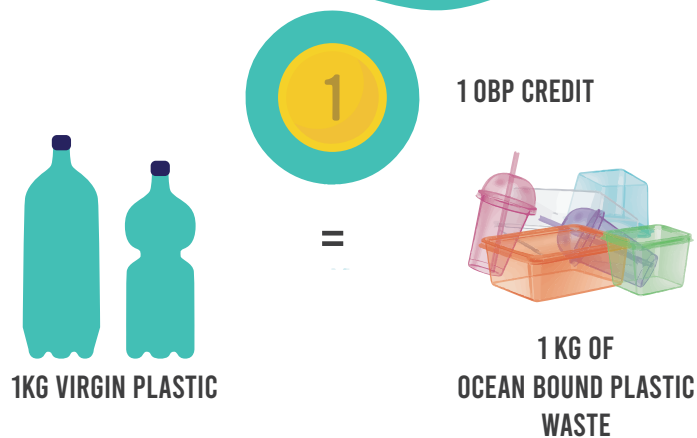
THE OBP NEUTRALITY CERTIFICATION SUBPROGRAM, A SOLUTION TO FIGHT PLASTIC POLLUTION

How to define Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality?

Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality refers to the compensation of virgin plastic usage in a product through the collection and of an equivalent amount of OBP waste.

The compensation is realized by purchasing certified “OBP credits” to an organization in charge of OBP waste collection and treatment.

Once the compensation is realized the organization that purchased the credits can label its products as “certified Ocean Bound Plastic Neutral”.



How is Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality verified and certified?

- Organizations wishing to compensate their use of virgin plastic (and become “OBP Neutral”):

An auditing and certification firm will verify the volume of virgin plastic used by the organization and the “OBP Credits” purchased. They will also ensure that social and environmental requirements (defined in the certification standards) are met by the organization applying for the certification. completed, Once the verification is successfully completed, the organization or its products will be certified as “OBP Neutral”.

- Organizations wishing to collect and manage OBP waste:

An auditing and certification firm will verify that the collection and treatment of OBP is managed according to the appropriate OBP standard. The auditor will also review other social and environmental requirements and full traceability. Additionally, each “OBP Credit” is certified by the certification audit firm and registered by Zero Plastic Oceans before being sold.

Certified organizations may use the OBP Neutral Label.

FRAMEWORK AND REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION OF THE OBP NEUTRALITY CERTIFICATION SUBPROGRAM

STEP 1: COLLECTION OF OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC



STEP 2: APPROPRIATE DISPOSAL OR VALORIZATION OF OCEAN BOUND PLASTIC WASTE

3 OPTIONS: VALORIZATION – PROPER LANFILLING – OTHERS
(UPCYCLING, REUSE)



STEP 3: EMISSION (AND PURCHASE) OF THE OBP CREDITS



STEP 4: THE PURCHASING ORGANIZATION IS GIVEN THE OBP NEUTRAL LABEL



TECHNICAL SHEET:

Objective of the Ocean Bound Plastic Neutrality Certification

Removing non-recyclable Ocean Bound Plastic from the environment.

The label

Ocean Bound Plastic Neutral Label



Why is this certification supporting the United Nations Agenda 2030?

This certification seeks to support interested stakeholders in fostering an efficient approach to the SDG 14 (Life below water) and 15 (Life on land) by:

- **REDUCING** the amount of plastic pollution
- **PROMOTING** social inclusion and environmental sustainability
- **SHARING** best practice and lessons from regional experience on waste management

Benefits

- Solving the issue of non-commercially recyclable OBP, a waste that is never collected because of its lack of value
- Creating a positive environmental impact, ensuring that all OBP is removed
- Improving life of waste pickers by increasing revenues and opportunities

Who can apply?


- Organizations, institutions, NGOS, industries involved in the collection and disposal of OBP
- Organizations and industries specialized in recycling and recovery
- Organizations, institutions, NGOS, industries which are using OBP in their products



Contact

contact@obpcert.org

Social Media

[@Zero Plastic Ocean](#) 

[@zero.plastic.oceans](#) 

Websites

zeroplasticoceans.org

obpcert.org