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European
Environmental
Policy

Driving change in products design through EPR schemes

**Can EPR help address the issue of micro-plastics
pollution?**

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*Marine litter: What role for Extended Producer
Responsibility?*

European Parliament

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EPR – Towards circular product design

- Several benefits of EPR in place – but can they be made more ambitious?
- Impact on design: From a cost recovery approach to one that also incentivises a transition to a circular economy
- Eco-modulation of fees based on circularity criteria (e.g. CONAI)



Micro-plastics: a role for EPR?

- Microplastics generated during the life-cycle of products
- Some sources: tyres, clothing, plastic items, fishing gears, agricultural films
- EPR to tackle the issue at the source: Design
 - key to address microplastics
 - Enabling collection, sorting and recycling



The bigger picture

- 80% of products produced, consumed and disposed of on land
- Rate of fragmentation (land/water)
- Increasing applications of plastics to land: poly-tunnels, agricultural films, plastic greenhouses
- Example: EPR schemes for agricultural films?





Thank you for your attention

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