

Circular Plastics Alliance (CPA) data measurement points and definitions

Three data measurement points for recyclers:

Recycler's Total Input

The total weight of sorted waste received by Recyclers in Europe during the previous calendar year.

Input to Recycling Operation

Plastic separated by polymers that does not undergo further processing before entering pelletisation extrusion, or moulding operations. Or, plastic flakes, regrind, micronized powder that do not undergo further processing before their use in a final product.

CPA Note 1: This definition is fully set out for municipal waste in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/2004 and for packaging waste in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/665.

CPA Note 2: this definition does not currently cover all recycling technologies and will be updated

Recycler's Total Output

The total weight of Recycled Plastic as output from the recycling process, either sold or used within the same legal entity, during the previous calendar year. CPA Note: some recycling processes may involve more than one actor.

Data measurement points for converters

Converter's Input

The total weight of Recycled Plastic received / bought by a Converter in Europe, and imported /delivered to the Converter from outside Europe, during the previous calendar year.

Converter's Output

The total weight of recycled plastic included in products sold during the previous calendar year.



What is counted to towards the 10 million tons CPA target?

- Post-consumer recycled plastics from EU plastic waste that is sold to the EU+UK
- PVC pre-consumer recycled counts if it originates from Building and Construction which is reported through Recovinyl/VinylPlus

Other useful CPA definitions

Pre-consumer plastic waste

Material diverted during a manufacturing process, excluding re-utilized material, such as rework, regrind or scrap that has been generated in a given process and is capable of being reclaimed within that same process.

Post-consumer plastic waste

Material, generated by the end users of products, that has fulfilled its intended purpose or can no longer be used (including material returned from within the distribution chain).

Recycled Plastic

Plastic prepared by processing plastic waste for the original purpose or other purposes but excluding energy recovery and fuel production.

CPA Note: Recycled plastics excludes new additives (inc. fillers) added before using the material in new products

