

Your Voice In Europe: ROADMAP feedback for Communication: Strategy on Plastic in a Circular Economy (including action on marine litter)

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Related document: Communication: Strategy on Plastic in a Circular Economy (including action on marine litter)

Feedback:

The Roadmap recognizes that “biodegradable plastics could be a positive development in specific circumstances”, but to falls short when considers it only under the aspect of “plastic leakage into the environment”. Assobioplastiche – Italian Bioplastic and Biodegradable and Compostable material Association – asks the European Commission to consider the real purposes of biodegradable (and compostable) plastics:

- 1. improvement of the end-of-life management of some plastic products (such as plastic bags, tableware, mulch films, etc.) for which recycling is technically and/or economically not viable and which often contaminates the biowaste recycling stream*
- 2. ensure an efficient set-up and management of biowaste*

Biodegradable and compostable plastics are designed to go with the biowaste stream, this is why we suggest to legally allow certified (according to the European Standard EN 13432) biodegradable and compostable plastics to enter this waste stream. Several successful cases of European cities and regions show compostable plastic waste bags are appealing to consumers and help them to collect more bio-waste. In the City of Milan, Italy, for example the volume of collected bio-waste (food waste) climbed in 2015 up to 137,000 tonnes per year, which is diverted from landfill (102 kg food waste per capita and year is collected separately in the City of Milan).

Feedback file: