



THE OCEAN FOUNDATION

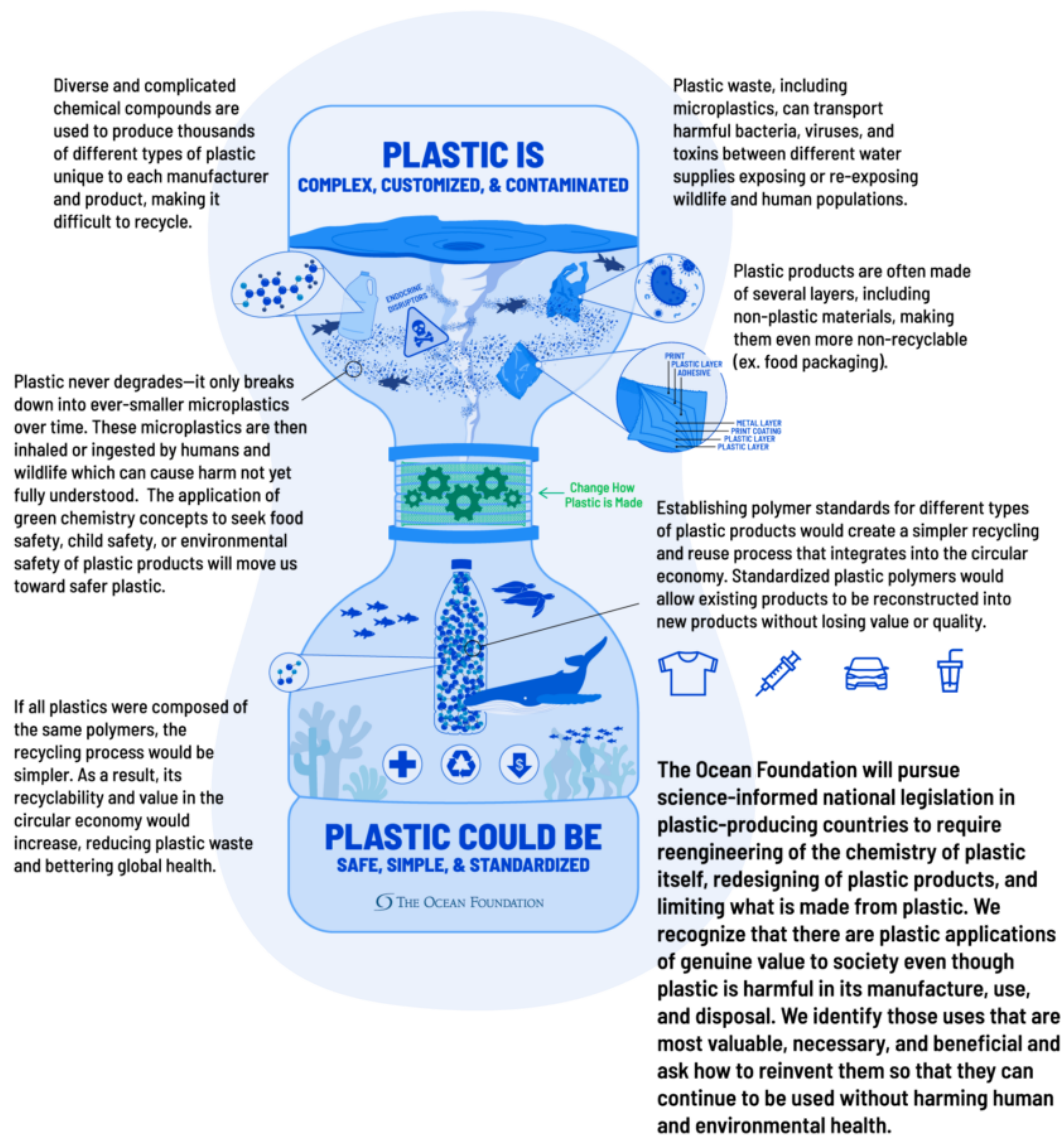
An update from our **Redesigning Plastics Initiative**



Safe, Simple & Standardized

Our solution to plastic pollution in the ocean is quite simple: reduce plastic production and make plastic easier to recycle by standardizing its composition. We envision a global community that only uses plastics when they provide a necessary and essential benefit to society, and where plastics are made from simplified ingredients and formulations that can be as recyclable as aluminium and glass are today. In addition, by taking a green chemistry approach to change the way plastics are made, we can reduce concerns about toxicity to both humans and our environment.

However, this transition to redesign is no easy feat. It requires engaging community members, retailers and plastic manufacturers together so that we can make a just transition- one that makes sense for each community - and educating and collaborating with policy makers and government officials to develop a practical framework that makes sense for our health, our planet and our economy. We have to push the scientific community toward innovation so that we can start asking the right questions about how we can change the way plastics are made and to re-engineer plastics to be simple, safe and standardized.



Exploring Governmental & Private Sector Perspectives on Plastic Pollution

On October 13, The Ocean Foundation co-hosted a virtual event with the Embassy of

Finland, the Embassy of Sweden, the Embassy of Iceland, the Embassy of Denmark and the Embassy of Norway. The event, *Nordic Leadership in Addressing the Global Plastic Pollution Problem: Governmental and Private Sector Perspectives*, was held to continue momentum in stepping up ambitions for beating plastic pollution despite the pandemic.

Moderated by Mark J. Spalding, President of The Ocean Foundation, the event consisted of two highly productive panels to share both governmental perspectives and private sector perspectives. Overall, the meeting called for repairing fundamental gaps in international legal and policy frameworks relevant for combatting ocean plastic pollution by bridging these two perspectives.



The discussion emphasized that waste can be a resource with innovative approaches from the private sector. Clear and efficient frameworks at international, national, and local scales can guide manufacturers while also making it possible to implement recycling programs. Both traditional mechanical recycling and new approaches to chemical recycling are needed to address diverse waste streams that include a variety of mixed polymers and additives. The Ocean Foundation looks forward to continuing discussions with the panelists.

[Read More: Event Highlights & Speakers](#)

Today, The Nordic Council of Environment and Climate Ministers released a Nordic Report: [Possible Elements of a New Global Agreement to Prevent Plastic Pollution](#).



Looking Ahead: Redesigning Plastics Science Advisory Panel

In 2021, The Ocean Foundation will be standing up a Science Advisory Panel comprised of scientific experts from the disciplines of toxicology, materials science, engineering, and chemistry. Through a series of virtual workshops, the panel will work to:

- Identify current research gaps related to the redesign of plastics
- Develop a set of research questions that should be prioritized by the scientific community
- Develop a consensus recommendation document outlining the need for specific research as agreed-upon by the panel.



Learn More About the
[Redesigning Plastics Initiative](#)

The objective of this initiative is to develop original science to inform a suite of legislative standards on the polymers used in the production of plastics to reengineer plastic to be Safe, Simple, and Standardized.



Donate and Join Our Work

[View our Annual Report](#)



Copyright © 2020 The Ocean Foundation, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).