

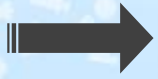
PLASTIC SOUP FOUNDATION



A deep dive into the world
of plastic and it's effects
on SDG-14.

Harmen Spek
Manager Innovations & Solutions
www.plasticsoupfoundation.org

Biobased



1839 - Rubbervulcanisation

(from natural latex to strong car tyres)



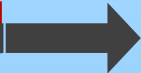
1856 - Celluloid

(from cellulose to solid forms)

1892 - Viscose

(the first 'hand-made' yarn)

Fossilbased



1907 - Bakelite

(the first synthetic plastic – based on fossil oil)



**INDUSTRIAL
REVOLUTION!**



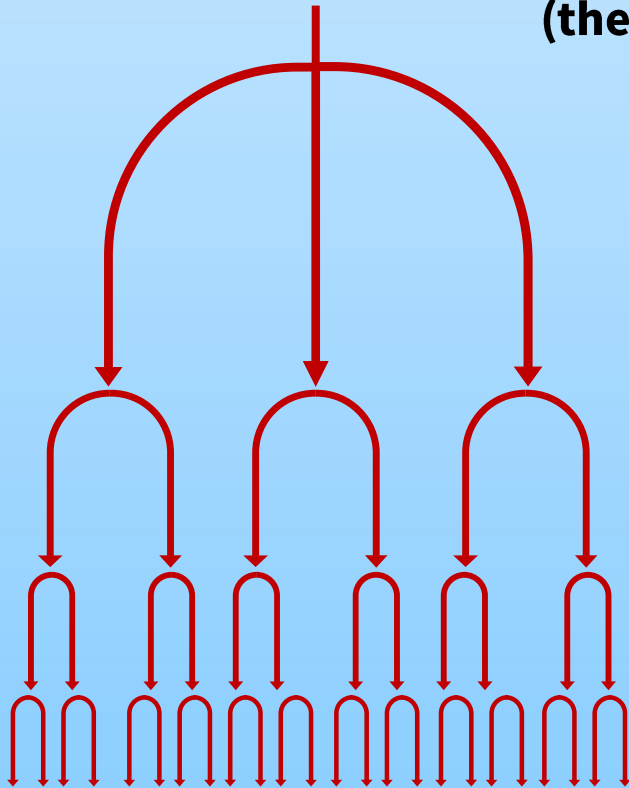
Amsterdam - 1930's

Fossilbased



1933 - Polyethylen

(the first soft and flexible plastic)



**PLASTIC
REVOLUTION!**



LIFE

**Throw Away
Living**

1950



Good things are
twice as good in Cellophane



You see what
you buy ... no
guesswork.



Foods come fresh—
stay fresh longer,
less waste.

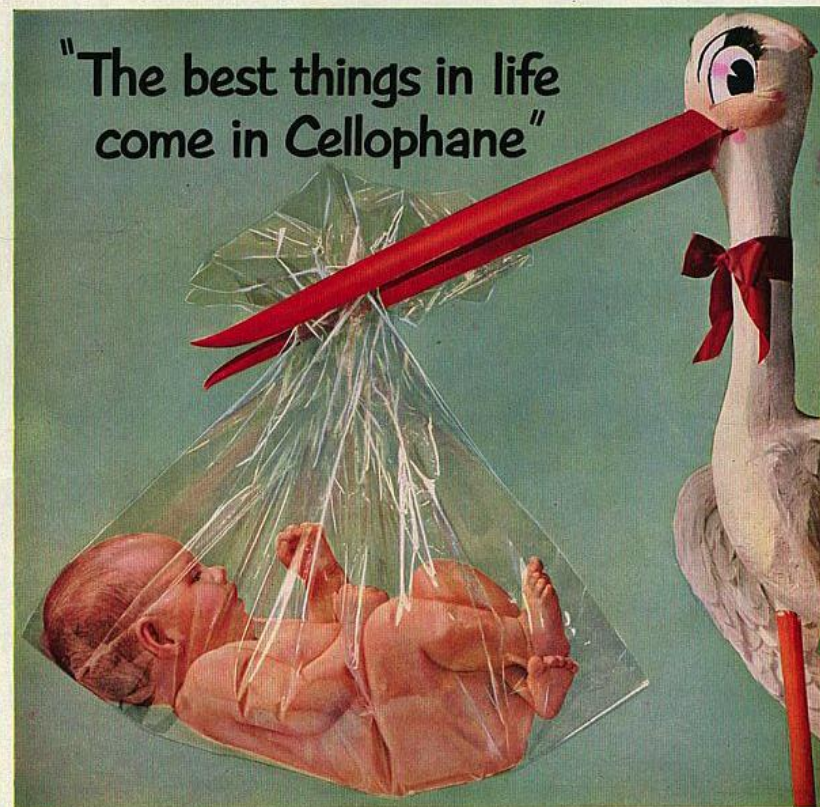


And things in
Cellophane are
clean and sanitary.

DU PONT
Cellophane



BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING...THROUGH CHEMISTRY
Look at "Cavalcade of America" on Television



"The best things in life
come in Cellophane"



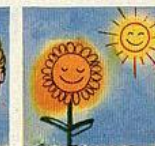
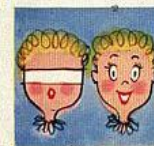
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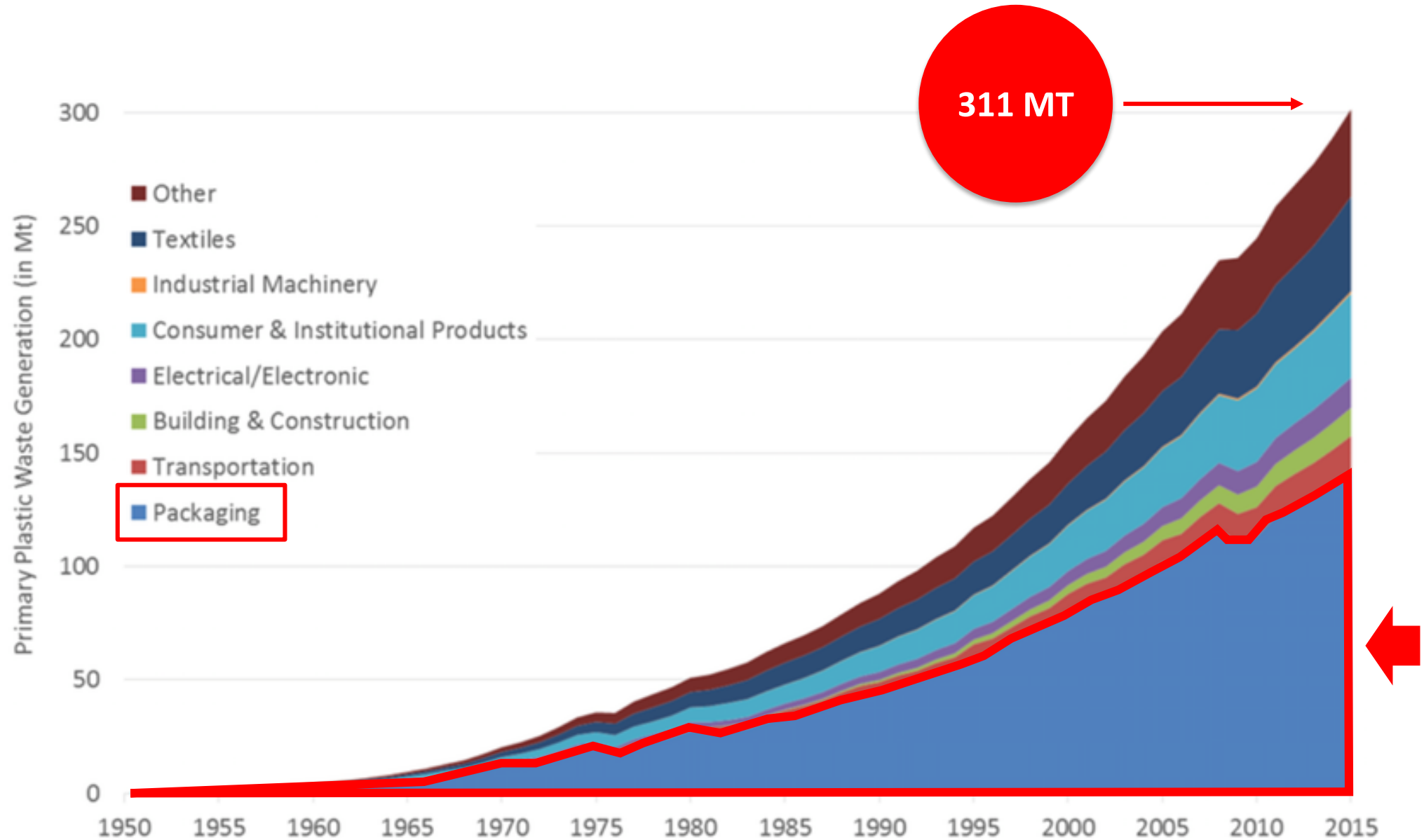
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'OUR OWN' PLASTIC ENVIRONMENT

safety | hygiene | comfort



GROWTH IN GLOBAL PLASTIC PRODUCTION 1950 - 2015



A photograph showing several green recycling bins. The bins are overflowing with various types of waste. On top of the bins, there are large cardboard boxes, plastic bags, and other debris. In front of the bins, there is a large pile of plastic bags in various colors (black, white, blue, yellow, and red). The scene suggests a lack of proper waste management or recycling practices.

***A TOTAL SHIFT IN
WASTE MANAGEMENT!***

OF ALL PLASTIC MATERIAL
EVER PRODUCED

79%

IS DUMPED ON LANDFILLS
WORLDWIDE



MARIANA TRENCH





2050: more plastic than fish in oceans



Midway islands



"The best things in life
come in Cellophane"

"You SEE
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DU PONT
Cellophane

DU PONT
SINCE 1802

BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING... THROUGH CHEMISTRY
Look at "Cavalcade of America" on Television



PLASTIC EMISSION = 3%+ OF ANUAL PRODUCTION

12 MILLION TONNES ANNUALLY



A

Production
and transportation



B

Usage and wear/tear



C

Disposal

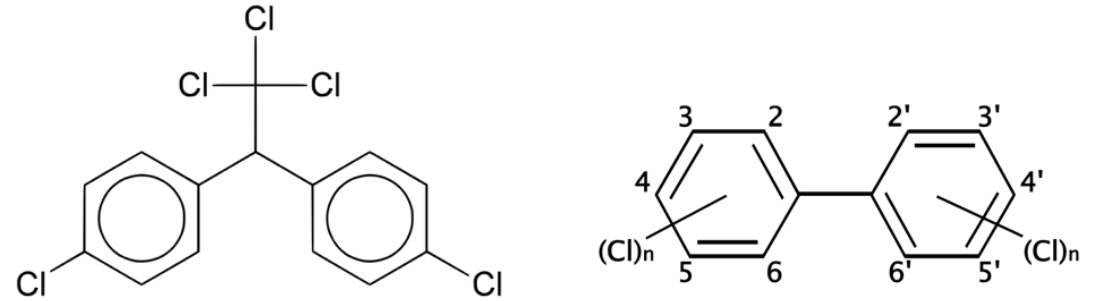
We use it, we lose it!

Microplastics captured at sea



Photo's: 5Gyres.com

- persistent organic pollutants & additives -



At the bottom of the foodchain!

BIGGEST MATERIAL EMISSION OF OUR TIME!



Coronavirus: Venice canals clearer after lockdown

'Wave of silence' spread around world during coronavirus pandemic

Pollution made COVID-19 worse. Now, lockdowns are clearing the air.

Is this the 'Reset Button' for nature?

Covid-19

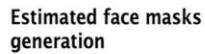
Medical waste According to WHO:

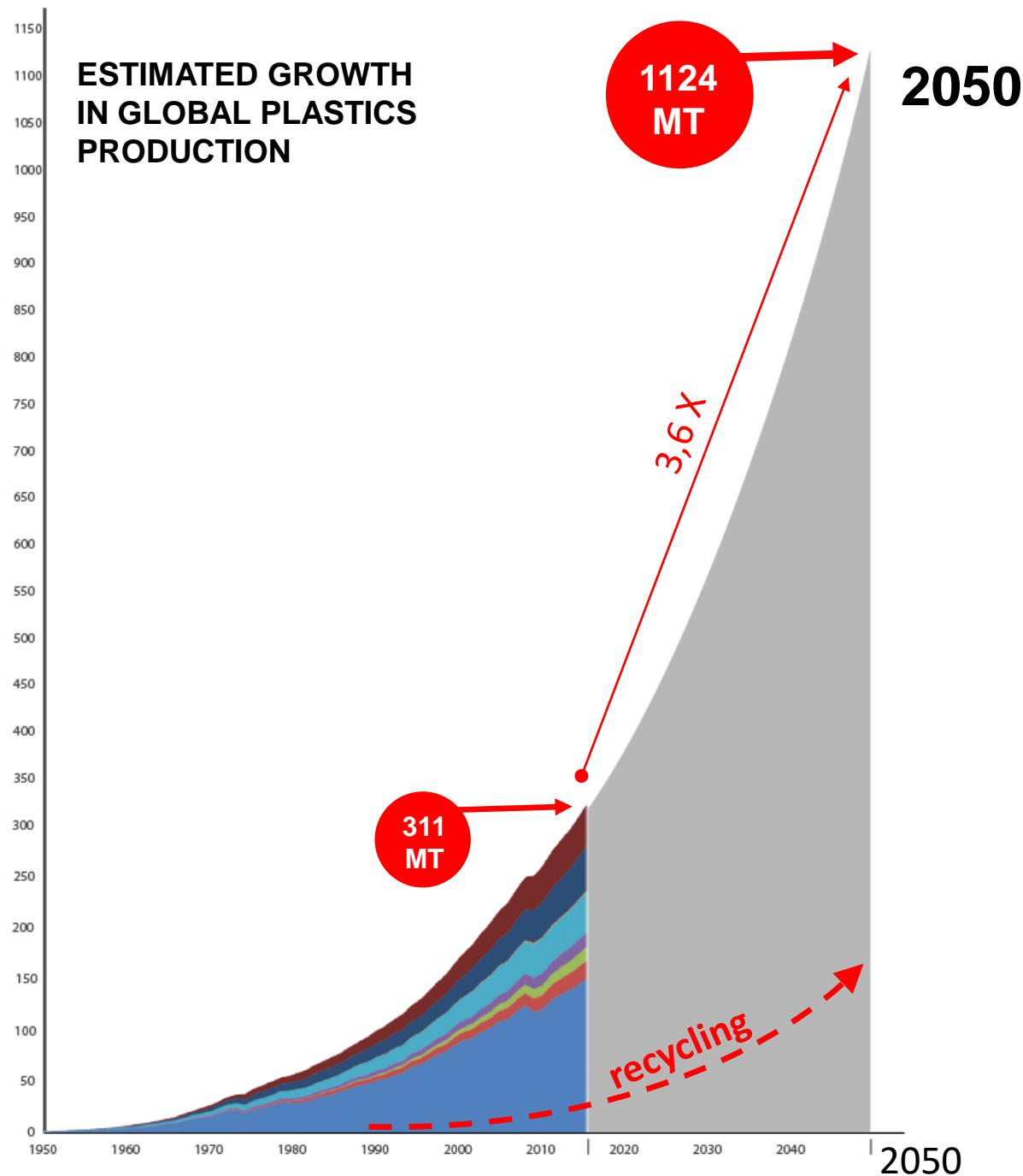
Up to 10x more medical waste is generated globally.

- Hospitals in Wuhan generated **240 tons** of medical waste **per day** compared to 50 tons on average.
- Lots of



Daily face mask generation





Plastic overload!

VOLUMES WIL GET
UNMANAGEABLE!

PLASTIC RECYCLING CHALLENGES:

VOLUME, DIVERSITY AND COMPOSITION

145.000

Plastictypes or 'grades'

Possibly technically recyclable, but economically?



Microplastics

Fiber loss
from textiles



Wear and
sanding dust
from paint



Added
microplastics



Wear
from car tires

The background of the slide features a light blue gradient. At the top, there is a dense pattern of small, white, semi-transparent icons representing various plastic items, such as bottles, containers, and tools. The text is centered on the slide.

Plastics are:

OMNIPRESSENT

Microplastics are found in:

AIR - WATER - SOIL - FOOD

WHAT ABOUT OUR HEALTH?

DOES PLASTICS MAKE US SICK?

More research!

WWW.PLASTICHEALTHCOALITION.ORG



Plastic en health – Plastic Health Summit 2020

1. Plastic in the blood of cows and pigs
2. Plastic uptake by lettuce, apples and carrots
3. White blood cell problems
4. Plastic in the placenta



What insight did Covid-19 pandemic bring us?

1. **Nature showed us that it is resilient and always eager in restoring the balance.**

But the balance between plastics and nature has already been skewed for a very long time.

So, we must restore this balance asap.

2. **We are still addicted to plastic no matter what!**

What change is needed?

1. Cutting down on our plastic consumption habits wherever possible.
2. Development of safer materials that are closer to natural processes and lifespans (or use existing materials that do).
3. Stop the narrative of plastic waste as a 'solvable' businesscase.
4. Stop the plastictrade! And take responsibility for your own waste.
5. Create plastic regulations that respect the environment and the living conditions of us and our fellow earthlings.

COMMON SENSE !



Thank you

