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WORKSHOP REPORT

Practices and lessons learned for the design and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) systems in the Latin American Region

*November 29 to December 1, 2023
Montevideo, Uruguay*

March, 2024



I. Background

Sustainable development has become the pillar of long-term global development, in the quest to ensure environmental protection, as well as social welfare and economic progress. However, current production and consumption patterns based on a linear economy have led to multiple environmental challenges at different levels, where inadequate waste management is linked to environmental degradation and pollution, linked to the triple planetary crisis.

To increase waste prevention and foster circular economy approaches, there are some public-private partnership schemes to improve waste management, such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). EPR is an environmental policy approach that has changed the traditional view of who should be responsible for managing the waste generated. The immediate effect of this approach is an essential change in the allocation of economic and systemic responsibility for waste management, which is transferred from the national and municipal government to the manufacturers, producers or importers of the product in the product value chain.

Legislation in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries has progressively considered the principle of EPR, which is expressed and embodied either in some general waste management laws, or in specific regulations for a particular waste stream, and in waste management plans or strategies. At this stage, several countries have acquired valuable experience and lessons learned in the establishment of EPR schemes.

In this context, and in order to share experiences and practices in the operation of EPR systems, the Ministry of Environment of Uruguay and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in collaboration with the Regional Chapter of ISWA and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), held a workshop between November 29 and December 1, 2023, in Montevideo, Uruguay.

The main objective of the workshop was to exchange best practices, knowledge and challenges for the design and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) systems, with a focus on South American countries. On a previous day, a national workshop was also held to introduce Uruguay's progress in this area, both at the national and municipal levels. During the regional workshop, the regional context of waste management was introduced, as well as the principles and concepts associated with EPR, and the associated trends in the region. During the event, the participating¹ countries presented their respective experiences in order to promote the exchange of knowledge and discussion. The workshop also included the development of a specific panel with different actors, aimed at identifying challenges and opportunities for the implementation of SRR principles, as well as a proposal and discussion session for the development of a regional roadmap, which includes general guidelines for the adoption of such principles by countries in the region. The workshop was attended by government representatives, private sector experts, industry associations, academia and other relevant stakeholders, both in person and remotely. See Annex I: Concept Note and Workshop Agenda.

¹Representatives from Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Peru and Paraguay.



II. Main conclusions and recommendations derived from the workshop.

1. There is **alignment and harmony between regulatory developments and approaches** and regulated products in the countries, as well as in terms of common needs and challenges. This conclusion was considered an important basis for joint regional work.
2. The importance of achieving **traceability** in the amount of waste generated, as well as its transportation and destination (waste route) was discussed. This approach will promote a comprehensive approach to **illicit waste trafficking**, as well as the possibility of delving into a common working framework, since no country has solved this issue in its entirety, as well as at the supranational level, which is of vital importance for the effective implementation of EPR systems.
3. The importance of considering and promoting the **participation of all relevant actors in the value chain and stakeholders** with a cross-sectoral approach, including recycling cooperatives, sectoral, national and subnational authorities from the health, industrial and commercial sectors, as well as non-governmental organizations and academia, among others, was emphasized.
4. It was decided to consider **regional and subregional bodies**, such as the Mercosur Environment Group, as well as to pay due attention to the **relevant international processes** in order to achieve coherence between international decisions and national advances, such as, for example, the negotiations for the development of a legally binding international treaty to put an end to plastic pollution.
5. The need to **identify and unify regional criteria** to discourage or prevent the importation of plastic products containing certain materials based, for example, on European Union regulations.
6. Work on **prevention and precaution**, through different approaches, such as environmental education and promotion of responsible consumption.
7. Consider those **complex geographical areas** that hinder the transboundary movement of products and wastes.
8. **Social inclusion** was highlighted as a fundamental aspect of the EPR schemes and in a cross-cutting manner in all policies, given that these are key actors for their implementation and successful management. Likewise, the work with recyclers under fair conditions has been highlighted.
9. It is recommended that further progress be made in **eco-design and eco-modulation**, in order to make the waste hierarchy effective.
10. A set of priority issues were identified regarding **access to information and transparency of the Management Plans**.
11. It is proposed to promote a **regional group on EPR**, in collaboration with existing initiatives, such as the EPR group of the ISWA Regional Chapter.
12. It was jointly defined the option of promoting the development of a **Roadmap** with general guidelines for the design of SRP principles, containing a structure to be discussed among the workshop participants, and to serve as a model for the rest of the countries in the region that wish to begin a technical/legislative analysis on this topic.



III. Summary of national experiences on the implementation of the EPR.

Argentina

Regulatory framework

The regulatory framework relating to waste in Argentina includes **Law 24051/91** on Hazardous Waste, **Law 25916/04** on Integral Household Waste Management, and its Regulatory Decree 779/2022. The regulation of the Integral Household Waste Management Law redefines in its Annexes the concept of household waste and introduces the circular economy approach. It also highlights technical guidelines, such as **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** and eco-design, as well as special programs to manage specific waste streams, such as paints, solvents, medicines and WEEE. Finally, the regulation approves the unified color code for the classification and identification of household waste fractions in Annex II.

Argentina has also implemented specific resolutions for waste requiring differentiated management, such as 523/2013 for the management of end-of-life tires² and 522/16 for special universally generated waste³. Law 27279, enacted in 2016, introduces for the first time the EPR for phytosanitary packaging⁴, recognizing the producer as the main obligor (in this case, the registrant), although sharing responsibilities with other actors in the chain, such as the consumer.

In 2019, the Ministry of Environment developed joint Resolution No. 2 together with the Ministry of Health on prohibited uses of material recovered from phytosanitary residues⁵. In its Article 24, it creates a unique traceability system for the permanent monitoring of management systems, which is in the process of implementation.

Regarding the management of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), the recent approval of a Manual of good practices and recommendations for the management of WEEE in the national public administration under Resolution 578/2023 stands out. In addition, a survey has been carried out of 27 authorized managers in Argentina with the capacity to manage up to 20,000 tons of WEEE.

Challenges

Argentina recognizes the common challenges with other countries, especially due to its federal structure similar to that of Brazil. The need to advance in specific regulations that comprehensively address the life cycle of products, the importance of having sufficient infrastructure for waste treatment and the urgency of advancing in traceability systems were emphasized. The presentation highlighted Argentina's collaboration and commitment to responsible waste management, underscoring the shared challenges and the importance of regional cooperation.

Next Steps

In June 2023, the bill establishing minimum environmental protection budgets for the management of packaging and post-consumer packaging and integrating inclusive recycling, highlighting the focus on sustainability and proposing different management systems and a National Fund for Packaging Management and Inclusive Recycling (FONAGER) was resubmitted. This project seeks to involve manufacturers and producers, promoting responsible and sustainable practices.

² Resolution No. 523/13 on Sustainable Tire Management. Access [here](#).

³ Resolution E 522/16 that establishes the National Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Universal Generation Special Waste (REGU). Access [here](#).

⁴ Law 27279/16 on Minimum Environmental Protection Requirements for the Management of empty phytosanitary containers. Access [here](#).

⁵ Joint Resolution 2/19 Access [here](#).



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Chile

Regulatory Framework

The regulatory framework in Chile relating to the Circular Economy is made up by the **Law 19.300 on General Bases of the Environment**; the **Law 20.920**, which establishes the framework for Waste Management, Extended Producer Responsibility and the Promotion of Recycling⁶; **Law 21.100**, which prohibits the use of plastic shopping bags throughout the national territory⁷; **Law 21.368**, which regulates the use of single-use plastics and plastic bottles, and amends the legal bodies indicated therein⁸; and its Decrees and regulations. In addition, Chile has strategic planning instruments in the area of circular economy, among which are the following; **the Roadmap for a Circular Chile by 2024**⁹, adopted by the Chilean Congress on Circular Economy in 2021; for which all sectors were involved in its development; the **National Strategy on Organic Waste 2040** (ENRO) and the **Roadmap on Circular Economy and Construction**¹⁰. A Circular Economy Strategy for Textiles is currently being developed.

The framework Law 20.920 for waste management, Extended Producer Responsibility and Promotion of Recycling, aims to "reduce the generation of waste and promote its reuse, recycling and other types of recovery, through the establishment of extended producer responsibility and other waste management instruments, in order to protect people's health and the environment".

Main characteristics:

- a) Establishes Extended Producer Responsibility for 6 priority products, which is implemented through Supreme Decrees that establish collection and recovery goals and other associated obligations for each priority product.
- b) Creates the Recycling Fund (FPR) to finance recycling deal projects that can only be accessed by municipalities and associations of municipalities.
- c) It creates new powers for the Ministry to act on prevention and improvement of valorization.
- d) Includes specifications on basic recyclers.
- e) It leaves open the possibility of introducing other products as priority products.
- f) The regulations for each priority product are at different stages of development or approval:
 - Approved and in force: Tires and Containers and Packaging.
 - Decree approved by the Council of Ministers of Sustainability and Climate Change: Lubricating oils.
 - Proposal of Decree: Batteries and Electrical and Electronic equipment.
 - Beginning of preliminary draft: Batteries.
- g) It establishes a series of incentives for circularity, which are: exception for returnable, prevention plans, eco-modulation of rates (containers that are more difficult to recycle have a higher collection rate), and incentives for reduction through reduction projects. The latter is currently being developed.

Regarding the **specifications of the Law**, it is appropriate to highlight:

⁶ Law 20920/16 which establishes the framework for waste management, extended producer responsibility and recycling promotion. Access [here](#).

⁷ Law 21100/18 prohibiting the delivery of plastic shopping bags throughout the national territory. Access [here](#).

⁸ Law 21368/21 regulating the delivery of single-use plastics and plastic bottles. Access [here](#).

⁹ Roadmap for a circular Chile by 2040. Access [here](#).

¹⁰ Access: [here](#).



- a) **Main instrument:** Extended producer responsibility, where producers are responsible for the organization and financing of waste management.
- b) **Principles:** polluter pays; responsibility of the waste generator; waste management hierarchy; precautionary and preventive; gradualism; traceability; transparency; participation; inclusion; and free competition.
- c) **Priority products:** Lubricating oils; batteries; electrical and electronic equipment; containers and packaging; tires; newspapers and magazines¹¹. The Law establishes that new priority products may be incorporated.
- d) **Process:** The Ministry of the Environment establishes collection and recovery goals through supreme decrees. Producers of priority products organize and finance the collection and recovery of waste, meeting these goals through Management Systems, which can be collective or individual. The Management Systems carry out public tenders for waste managers of priority products, while the Superintendency carries out the supervision. The process of setting up a management system must also be approved by the Free Competition Court.
- e) **Process for establishing goals by Decree for the priority products established in the EPR Law:** 1) Preparation of a preliminary draft goal by the Ministry of the Environment, for which an Expanded Operating Committee is established comprised of all interested parties; 2) Citizen consultation process; 3) Proposal for a Supreme Decree, followed by the pronouncement of the Council of Ministers for Sustainability and Climate change; 4) Signature of the President of the Republic.
- f) **Key actors:** producers of priority products (PPP); individual (e.g. companies that collect and recover the waste that is transformed into the products they place on the market.) or collective (collecting and recovering waste, independently of the producer of those) EPR management systems (SG); consumers; and waste recyclers.
- g) **Other key actors:** Ministry of the Environment (MMA), which prepares the Decrees on Collection and Recovery Goals, and other obligations, and approves the Management Plans of the SGs; Superintendency of the Environment (SMA), whose role is to supervise the normative, supervising the management systems and waste managers; and the municipalities, which organize and coordinate the operation of the waste management systems in their territory, and promote environmental education and separation at source. They may also act as waste managers. Also relevant is the role played by the “*Tribunal de Defensa de la Libre Competencia*”, which approves the statutes of the SGs and their bidding conditions.

Challenges

Among other similar challenges that were identified with the rest of the countries throughout the workshop, progress in eco-design and eco-modulation to make the waste hierarchy effective was highlighted. The importance of linking the discussions derived from the SRP with the process of developing the international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution was also highlighted.

Next Steps

The Ministry of the Environment is studying the inclusion by decree of two new products: **textiles** and **fishing equipment**.

¹¹ In the case of newspapers, periodicals and magazines, they are considered priority products not subject to targets or associated obligations, in accordance with article 11 of Law 20,920.



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Brazil

Regulatory Framework

In 2010, the Brazilian government enacted Law 12305¹², which establishes the National Solid Waste Policy (PNRS). This law aims to promote the integrated and sustainable management of solid waste, focusing on the prevention of generation, reduction, reuse, recycling and energy recovery.

In 2021, the Brazilian government enacted Decree 11413/23, which establishes incentives for waste management¹³. In 2023, a draft decree on plastic packaging waste management was published and is under public consultation. With respect to this last point, a 22% packaging recovery target was established in the current sectoral agreement. The Sectoral Agreements are instruments where waste management goals are indicated. However, there is now a tendency to enact decrees because they have a greater impact since they are mandatory.

Regarding transboundary trade, the PNRS does not prohibit the import of waste, but establishes that it must comply with the requirements established by law. For example, plastic packaging waste must come from countries that have a waste management system similar to that of Brazil.

Waste hierarchy: The PNRS establishes the following waste hierarchy: **1.** Non-generation; **2.** Reduction; **3.** Reuse; **4.** Recycling; **5.** Treatment; and **6.** Final disposal. The objective of this hierarchy is to promote the valorization of waste, preventing it from being destined for final disposal, which is the least sustainable option. The PNRS also establishes principles for solid waste management such as the value of waste, integrated management and shared responsibility.

Instruments: The PNRS establishes a series of instruments to promote integrated solid waste management, including plans, information systems, selective collection, reverse logistics, environmental education, incentives and sectoral agreements.

Key actors: The main actors involved in solid waste management are the states, municipalities, the business sector, communities and recyclers.

Reverse logic: The PNRS promotes reverse logic in waste management, which implies that waste must return to the productive cycle. To this end, the law establishes the obligation of waste producers to assume responsibility for waste management.

Shared Responsibility: a system through which the competencies of each actor are clearly established and in which the entire chain is represented: manufacturers, importers, distributors and traders. For example, consumer responsibility is detailed by means of conscious consumption, separation at source, choosing products with less environmental damage, among others. Likewise, in terms of corporate responsibility, they must be in a position to recycle, disseminate information on how to avoid, recycle, and dispose, and to establish voluntary drop-off points.

Systems implemented: The PNRS has implemented mandatory goals for the management of certain wastes, regulated by Decrees issued by the Federal Government, including the following:

- Sistema de gestión de residuos de pilas y baterías
- Sistema de gestión de residuos de aparatos eléctricos y electrónicos (RAEE)
- Sistema de gestión de residuos de aceites y lubricantes
- Sistema de gestión de residuos de envases y embalajes
- Waste Batteries and Battery Management System

¹² Law 12305/10 which establishes the National Solid Waste Policy. Access [here](#).

¹³ Decree 11413/23 instituting the reverse logistics recycling credit certificate. Access [here](#).



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- Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) management system.
- Oils and lubricants waste management system
- Containers and packaging waste management system

Innovation: Implementation of the use of QR codes to provide information on the content of materials and additives in products. This information can help consumers make more sustainable choices.

Challenges

The PNRS still faces a number of challenges and priorities, among which the implementation of national monitoring systems, the harmonization of state and municipal legislation, the reduction of tax burdens and the establishment of incentives for the use of recycled materials, the implementation of a national circular economy policy and the decentralization of the recycling industry were highlighted.

Next Steps

Among the next steps highlighted, given the national priorities in this area, the hierarchy of waste management through the development of a national circular economy policy to strengthen the 2010 policy, a bill currently before the Senate, was mentioned. The decentralization of the recycling industry and the socio-productive insertion of recyclers were also mentioned, noting that Brazil has more than two thousand formalized recyclers.

Some regulations are in the final stages of development, for example, those that will guarantee payment for recyclers' services. Other priorities highlighted have been the establishment of targets for glass, cardboard and paper, the regulation of logistics credit (for those who have met the targets), the development of a reverse logistics instrument for plastic packaging, as well as the revision of instruments with expired targets. Reducing the tax burden and establishing incentives for the use of recycled material (from 4% to 18%), and the implementation of the national circular economy policy under elaboration have been other distinguished measures.

Paraguay

Regulatory Framework

Paraguay has established a legal basis for integrated solid waste management. **Law 3956/09** on integrated solid waste management stands out¹⁴, followed by specific instruments, such as the National Plan for integrated management of urban solid waste¹⁵, the guide for the development of municipal ISWM plans, and the methodological guide for the characterization of urban solid waste¹⁶. The regulation of this Law 3956 is carried out through **Decree 7391/17**, which establishes plans at departmental and municipal level¹⁷. In addition, since 2019, Paraguay has been working on a EPR Bill.

EPR is specifically implemented in tires, where it is established as a management policy instrument. In the field of agrochemicals¹⁸, **Law 3742/15** on phytosanitary products for agricultural use establishes the obligation to collect the containers, constituting an indirect form of EPR. However, a project to promote shared responsibility in the management of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) was rejected, and a ministerial resolution is currently being worked on. Additional laws include **Law 6953/22**¹⁹, which obliges the Ministry of Public Works to use a percentage of resources from recycling for the construction of

¹⁴ Law 3956 on Integral Solid Waste Management. Access [here](#).

¹⁵ Integrated Urban Solid Waste Management Plan for the year 2020. Access [here](#).

¹⁶ Methodological guide for the characterization of municipal solid waste. Access [here](#)

¹⁷ Decree 7391/17 regulating the Law on Integral Management of Urban Solid Waste.

¹⁸ Law 3742/15 on Control of Phytosanitary Products for Agricultural Use. Access [here](#).

¹⁹ Law 6953/22 on the use of recyclable materials in road works. Access [here](#).



works, **Law 5414/15**, which regulates the consumption of single-use polyethylene bags²⁰, and **Law 1411/19**, which approves the Guide for the management of solid urban waste in institutions²¹, encouraging its use in public management.

Paraguay is also celebrating recent achievements, such as the inauguration of the first Tetra Pak package recycling plant in October 2023, generating employment for 1,000 people and registering 20,000 collectors. The country has also launched campaigns and platforms, such as "Mi Barrio Sin Residuos," "Paraguay Sin Basura," and the "REVIVE" campaign in institutions.

The Chamber of Sustainable Industries of Paraguay states that the internal recycling of PET plastic is 65%. The Chamber brings together more than 1,000 people employed in the collection and recycling sector. To achieve a high level of waste collection, it is specified that the industries are associated in the Chamber and make a profit. Although the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development does not monitor through the EPR, it does so through other mechanisms such as the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), waste law, municipal instruments, and public support.

Challenges and Next Steps

Despite the challenges in enacting legislation, Paraguay shows a continued commitment to proper waste management. The country faces challenges in the enactment of specific laws, such as the draft EPR Law, which is currently limited to technical discussions without consensus or agreement even with the private sector. In addition, the need to advance in the management of WEEE through a ministerial resolution is recognized, and other regulations for the use of recyclable materials in construction sites and plastic bags are highlighted.

Peru

Regulatory Framework

In 2016, the Legislative **Decree on Solid Waste Management No. 1278**²² was enacted, which includes the EPR principle and generates rights and obligations for all persons involved. In 2017, said Law is regulated by Supreme **Decree DS 014-2017**²³.

The first special regimes to establish targets were the special regime for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) under **Supreme Decree N° 009-2019-MINAM**²⁴ and for End-of-Life Tires under **Supreme Decree 024-2021-MINAM**²⁵.

Regarding the special regime for end-of-life tires, voluntary application goals were established for the first two years. After the first two years, producers will be obliged to make an Annual Declaration of the Producer, where they will report how much tire material is entering the market. The first annual declaration will be in 2025; they will also submit the Management Plan and publish mandatory targets in 2026. For now, targets can be credited for prevention activities such as retreading, conditioning activities and recovery activities such as pyrolysis and co-processing.

²⁰ Law 5414 for the promotion of the reduction of the use of polyethylene plastic. Access [here](#).

²¹ Decree 1411/19 approving the Guide for the management of urban solid waste in institutions. Access [here](#).

²² Legislative Decree 1278/16 approving the law on integral solid waste management. Access [here](#).

²³ Supreme Decree 014-2017-MINAM approving the regulations of Legislative Decree 1278. Access [here](#).

²⁴ Supreme Decree 009-2019-MINAM that approves the special regime for the management and handling of waste electrical and electronic equipment. Access [here](#).

²⁵ Supreme Decree 024-2021-MINAM that approves the special regime for the management and handling of end-of-life tires. Access [here](#).



It should be noted that, in compliance with OECD obligations, any instrument that generates obligations must undergo a regulatory impact analysis.

Next Steps

Regulations on oils and lubricants and batteries are under development. Regarding regulations on primary packaging waste, the law was published in November 2023 for public consultation (RM N-355-2023-MINAM), which contains regulations for glass, paper and cardboard, and exempts medical and hazardous waste packaging. A cost-benefit analysis was carried out for the development of these regulations, and the main stakeholders involved are the Ministry of the Environment, municipalities, SENACE, which carries out environmental certification, and OEFA, which is responsible for supervision and oversight.

Challenges

Peru stresses that, when drafting regulations, the goals should not be extremely demanding, but should be consistent with the reality of the stakeholders and achievable by the economic actors, so as to ensure their successful implementation.

Uruguay

Regulatory Framework

The current regulatory framework for waste management has been developed since the 2000s.

Law 17,283 of 2000, the Environmental Protection Law, grants the Ministry of the Environment the authority to issue the necessary provisions and apply the necessary measures to regulate waste management, among other aspects related to environmental protection²⁶. The Ministry of the Environment is the environmental authority in charge of regulating and controlling all waste at the national level, without prejudice to the competencies of the departmental intendancies. Within this framework, the country has made progress in recent decades in the development of regulatory frameworks that regulate the proper management of different waste streams.

The first Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulation in Uruguay dates back to 2003 and regulates the management of used or discarded lead-acid batteries²⁷. This was followed by regulations on packaging and post-consumer packaging waste²⁸, obsolete agrochemical and pesticide packaging, end-of-life tires and inner tubes, and waste lamps and other mercury-containing waste.

In 2019, consolidating the national waste management policy, Uruguay establishes **Law 19.829 of 2019, Law on Integrated Waste Management**²⁹. This regulation classifies waste and legally enshrines under its Article 7 the responsibility of the generator. According to this principle, each generator is responsible for the waste it generates, and only by exception, another actor will be responsible for all or part of the management of the waste generated. An example of these exceptions are special wastes for which the Law establishes, in Article 41, the Extended Responsibility of the manufacturer or importer, or household wastes, for which there is a public service that manages them.

Thus, the EPR has been applied to regulate the management of special waste, i.e. waste that, due to its characteristics, volume generated or composition, requires a differentiated management system. The bases

²⁶ Law 17283/000 Protection of the Environment. Access: [here](#).

²⁷ Norm 373/003 regulate management and disposal of lead-acid batteries. Access: [here](#).

²⁸ Law 17849/004 Container recycling. Access: [here](#). Norm 260/007: <https://www.impo.com.uy/bases/decretos/260-2007>

²⁹ Law 19829/019 norm to the integral waste management. Access: [here](#).



of the EPR model in Uruguay include elements of economic sustainability, information, responsibility for the entire life cycle, social inclusion, effective integration with waste management plans at the departmental level and traceability.

The following are the current challenges in the implementation of the EPR in the country, as well as the next steps to be taken for its development and strengthening.

Challenges

- Develop incentives to promote changes in product design (e.g., to enable and facilitate repair and recycling).
- Ensure high levels of reuse and circularity of materials.
- Establish new national capacities for materials processing.
- Establish and strengthen synergies between special waste management plans and with the waste management plans of the municipalities.
- Promote markets for recycled materials, including international markets.
- Increase the levels of social inclusion of sorters and the creation of decent jobs.
- Strengthen control mechanisms.

Next Steps

- Implementation of the new container management plan and compliance with the recovery goal. Ministerial Resolution 271/021 established a recovery goal of 50% by 2025 for packaging management plans. The VALE Plan (new packaging management plan) plans to incorporate investments and logistical coordination to significantly increase packaging recovery through two systems: the selective collection system and the deposit, return and refund system.
- Regulation of waste electrical and electronic equipment.
- Modification of the lead-acid batteries decree with the aim of incorporating batteries for electric mobility.
- Development, during the period 2024-2025, of new regulatory frameworks under the EPR principle, for plastic waste from the agricultural sector, used oils and end-of-life vehicles.

IV. Access to Workshop Materials

- [EPR Workshop Slides](#)
- [Wednesday Recording - First Part](#)
- [Wednesday Recording - Second Part](#)
- [Thursday Recording - Complete](#)
- [Friday Recording - Complete](#)



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ANNEX I: Concept Note and Workshop Agenda.

Workshop: "Practices and lessons learned for the design and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility systems in Latin America".

1. Background

Sustainable development has become the pillar of long-term global development, in the quest to ensure environmental protection, as well as social welfare and economic progress. However, current production and consumption patterns based on a linear economy have led to multiple environmental challenges at different levels, where proper waste management is linked to environmental degradation, linked to the triple planetary crisis. The waste sector contributes to greenhouse gas emissions in urban settlements and is responsible for biodiversity loss. Despite efforts in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries, which produce 10% of the world's waste generation, about 145,000 t/day end up in landfills and the recovery rate does not exceed 10%.

To increase waste prevention and promote circular economy approaches, there are some public-private partnership schemes to improve waste management such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).

EPR is an environmental policy approach designed to shift the burden of managing certain end-of-life products from municipalities and taxpayers to the producers who place those products on the market. Beyond the end-of-life product management phase, EPR also has the ability to stimulate greater producer engagement in the overall redesign of products and packaging, with the ultimate goal of reducing waste, thereby mitigating environmental and health impacts.

EPR has changed the traditional view of who should be responsible for the management of the waste generated. The immediate effect of this approach is an essential change in the allocation of economic and systemic responsibility for waste management, which is transferred from the national and municipal government to the manufacturers, producers or importers of the product in the product value chain.

In that sense, the application of the ERP principle from direct regulations should operate strongly in a more environmentally friendly design and production, either in the manufacture of more durable and easily recyclable products or with a less hazardous or toxic-free composition.

The duty to prevent pollution, the life cycle concept, the polluter pays principle and the internalization of costs are the four main pillars of the extended producer responsibility principle.

Legislation in LAC countries has progressively taken into account the principle of EPR, which is expressed and embodied either in the general waste management law or in specific regulations for a particular waste stream and in waste management plans or strategies.

expressed and embodied either in the general waste management law or in specific regulations for a particular waste stream and in waste management plans or strategies. At this stage, several countries have acquired valuable experience and lessons learned in the establishment of EPR schemes.

In this context, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in collaboration with the ISWA Regional Chapter and the government of Uruguay, is organizing a workshop aimed at sharing good



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practices, challenges and lessons learned in the design and implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility systems in the LAC region.

2. General Objective

To develop a workshop aimed at generating and sharing knowledge, experiences and practices in the establishment and operation of EPR Systems, with a focus on the plastics and packaging sector¹ and South American countries, ensuring capacity building through mutual learning. The workshop will be attended by government representatives and experts from the private sector, industry associations, academia and other related stakeholders.

3. Modality and duration

Modality and duration Modality: Hybrid event, with live transmission via YouTube, through the Channel of the Ministry of Environment of Uruguay (www.youtube.com/@ministeriodeambienteuruguay) and remote connection for workshop speakers, through the Zoom platform.

Duration: Two and a half days, consisting of a national chapter for Uruguayan actors (afternoon of day 1), and the international segment (days 2 and 3), with representatives from South American countries.

4. Target countries and participants

Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Peru and Paraguay

Representatives of national and local governments, private sector and industry partners, academia and stakeholders.

5. Date and Place

Date: November 29 to December 1

Location: Montevideo, Torre Antel

6. Agenda

Uruguay Time (GMT -3)	Nov 29 (Day 1, afternoon)
National workshop, dedicated to actors from Uruguay	



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Uruguay Time (GMT -3)	Nov 30 (Day 2)
8:45 – 9:00	<i>Welcome to participants</i>
9:00 – 9:30	<p>1. Opening Remarks Ministry of Environment of Uruguay (Minister Robert Bouvier) UNEP Representative (Alberto Pacheco Capella) ISWA Representative (Atilio-ARS/Global Member)</p> <p>Moderating: Chiara Fioretto. Uruguay Ministry of Environment</p>
9:30 – 10:00	<p>2. Regional context of waste management and the EPR approach UNEP (Andrea Brusco and Jordi Pon)</p> <p>Moderating: Maria Candela Zaffiro Tacchetti. UNEP</p>
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Café</i>
10:20 – 11:20	<p>3. Implementation of EPR in the region: experiences and visions from the ISWA working group <i>Marcelo Rosso. ISWA Regional Chapter Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean.</i></p> <p>Moderating: Marco Bravo Arriagada. UNEP</p>
11:20 – 12:20	<p>4. EPR Experiences in LAC Countries part 1 - Chile 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A²</p> <p>Moderating: Marco Bravo Arriagada. UNEP</p>
12:20 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:00	<p>5. EPR experiences in LAC countries part 2 - Uruguay 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A</p> <p>Moderating: Felipe Dall. UNEP</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p>6. EPR experiences in LAC countries part 2 - Brazil 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A</p> <p>Moderating: Felipe Dall. UNEP</p>
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffe</i>
16:15 – 17:15	<p>7. Panel Facilitated by UNIDO and UNEP "Challenges and opportunities for the development of SRP approaches/principles".</p> <p>- Civil society representative: Marisa Cirilo- Executive Director CEMPRE - Academic Sector Representative: Silvia Belvisi - Coordinator</p>



Ministerio
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	<p>General Technologists shared between UTEC-UTU-Udelar - Representative of community organizations: Paulo Núñez- Operational Coordinator of the Durán Classification Cooperative.</p> <p>Moderating: Natalia Mamberto. UNIDO.</p>
17:15 – 17:30	<p>8. First day conclusion Jordi Pon, UNEP</p>
17:30 – 18:00	<i>Coffee/ Bilaterals</i>

Uruguay Time (GMT -3)	Dec 1 (Day3)
8:45 – 9:00	<i>Welcome to participants</i>
9:00 – 9:15	1. Summary of the first day (Andrea Brusco, UNEP)
9:15 – 10:15	<p>2. EPR Experiences in LAC Countries part 4 - Peru 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A</p> <p>Moderating: Felipe Dall. UNEP</p>
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	<p>3. EPR Experiences in LAC Countries part 5 - Paraguay 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A</p> <p>Moderating: Felipe Dall. UNEP</p>
11:30 – 12:30	<p>4. EPR Experiences in LAC Countries part 6 - Argentina 30 min presentation, 30 min Q&A</p> <p>Moderating: Marco Bravo Arriagada. PNUMA</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:30	<p>5. Discussion facilitated by UNEP "Development of a regional roadmap for the development and operationalization of EPR approaches/principles" All participants</p> <p>Moderating: María Candela Zaffiro Tacchetti / Marco Bravo Arriagada / Felipe Dall</p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p>6. Closing Conclusions of the Workshop Alberto Pacheco Capella, UNEP</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<i>Coffee/ Bilaterals</i>