



SUSTRAINY
Sustainable action Training for Youth



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SUSTRAINY PROJECT



PANORAMA OF SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES PRACTICES

RECYCLING PLASTIC WASTE IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

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Recycling plastic waste in the supply chain



Resource: SaicaNatur

Category – Key words	Sustainable Development Goals, Circular Economy, Business, Environment, plastic waste, Zero Waste, recycling, from waste to resource, material value
Who?	Saica Natur, Organization founded in 1943 in Zaragoza (Spain), currently with an international presence in Europe, UK and USA.
Location	Zaragoza, Spain
Years of implementation	From 1943- ongoing
Website	https://www.saica.com/es/



Abstract

Problem to solve: Annual production of 25.8 Mt of plastic waste. Less than 30% is collected for recycling.

Company activity: flexible packaging solutions, corrugated cardboard packaging solutions, paper / cardboard production recycling and waste management.

Example of circular action:

- 1.SAICA collects plastic waste from retail and distribution companies (for example: MERCADONA, chain of supermarkets of great implantation in Spain).
- 2.SAICA transforms this waste into plastic pellets (plastic pellets).
- 3.These pellets are used as raw material for the production of new flexible packaging material, plastic bags, plastic, packaging, etc

Concept Addressed

Recycling of plastic materials from retail and distribution companies: plastics used to wrap product pallets, product container boxes, plastic packaging, cardboard boxes, paper etc ... which, once they arrive at the distributor, are usually discarded. Example: packaging of products that arrive by truck on pallets to supermarkets and once the container box or plastic packaging is put online for sale, it ceases to have value and is discarded without recycling.

Relevance

Added value:

- On average, more than 80% of Plastic waste is recovered as plastic pellets.
- In the new plastic bags, containers, packaging, etc., the raw materials that in origin were fossil in nature are replaced by recycled material in a range between 15 - 90%.
- The Carbon Footprint is reduced by more than 60%.

For instance, Mercadona supermarkets, recover the packaging plastics via Saica and manufactures new bags with 5-70% of the plastics recycled.



Challenges to be able to apply and / or improve this type of circular action:

- Recyclers must have adequate technologies for receiving recycled materials.
- Plastic waste collection must be done correctly in order not to alter / harm the quality of the material to recycle.
- The legal - tax framework should promote / encourage the greater use of recyclable raw materials in plastics.
- Projects aimed at increasing the quality, efficiency and performance of the recycling and / or use of materials recycled premiums from Plastic should have preference and / or benefits when accessing financing public and / or private

Eventually accreditation

SAICA is compromised with transparency, and is an example in terms of communication regarding activities impact, which is done through different platforms SEDEX, ECOVADIS, ECODESK and CDP, and the publication of a report on sustainability.

Tips to implement

- There is a lot of different plastics and a lot of them are easily to recycle, separate all the plastics you use on your business and put them in the yellow bin.
- If you are retailer or distributor, try to collect all the packaging materials to send to business as Saica Natur, and try to recover them for manufacturing your own bags etc.

Bibliography

https://www.saica.com/filemanager/userfiles/memorias/MemoriadeSostenibilidad_es.pdf

