

RECYCLED PLASTIC



Using recycled material in our bottles and cans keeps valuable resources in the circular economy and helps us move away from the use of new materials, including virgin fossil-based plastic. Recycled content in beverage packaging is also one of the key drivers of carbon reduction in beverage packaging – for example: 100% recycled PET has up to a 70% lower carbon footprint than virgin fossil-based PET.

Our approach to the using recycled plastic

At CCEP, we want to do more with less when it comes to our plastic bottles. This is why we have set a target to include 50% recycled plastic in our PET bottles by 2023 (Europe) and 2025 (API) and to stop using oil-based virgin plastic in our bottles by 2030.

We have made significant investments to increase our use of recycled plastic (rPET) and are making good progress. We use 100% rPET across our entire local portfolio in Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Belgium and Luxembourg and 100% rPET in our single serve bottles in Germany, Great Britain, Australia, Fiji and New Zealand.

There are two categories of recycling methods for plastic – mechanical recycling and chemical recycling.

Today, mechanical recycling is the most energy efficient recycling process with the lowest carbon impact, which is why it's our primary approach for PET. However, due to the way PET behaves when it is mechanically recycled, it cannot be the only recycling process used if we want to achieve a closed loop, circular economy for PET at scale for the whole industry. There will also be a need to scale **chemical recycling** to both close the loop on our PET bottles and to start to use recycled plastic in our bottle caps. Read more about our vision for closed loop circular PET [here](#).

We have worked on what this 'bottle of the future' may look like in closed loop, circular economy and we foresee PET sources being a combination 70-80% from mechanical recycling and 20-30% 'like-virgin' PET from short loop chemical recycling technologies (like depolymerisation recycling) or renewable sources. Through our investment arm, CCEP Ventures, we are supporting technical innovation in short loop chemical recycling by funding [CuRe Technology](#).

It is important to note though that, while some bottles contain 100% recycled content already, no market is yet in an entirely closed loop, circular plastic system.

Recycling infrastructure that can effectively sort and recycle PET is only one of three critical factors that need to be in place to increase rPET production. We need to ensure that beverage packaging is **designed for circularity** and the right **collection** solutions must also be in place to ensure high quality feedstock for the recycling process.

Collection solutions vary depending on the socio economic and legislative context in each country. In markets where collection infrastructure is often well developed and beverage packaging return schemes are in place, CCEP advocates for priority fair access to the collected PET material. This will drive better circular outcomes for PET by building bottle-to-bottle recycling loops and avoiding high quality PET being downcycled into low value plastic and being lost from the circular loop.