Rapid Self-Assessment Tool
on the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Readiness
of Local Government Units (LGUs) or Local Waste Diverters

Background:

- This Rapid Self-Assessment Tool on the EPR Readiness of LGUs or Local Waste Diverters was initially conceptualized and designed by UN-Habitat Healthy Oceans and Clean Cities Initiative, DENR-EMB and DILG 4A during its Orientation-Workshop activity organized for Region 4A or CALABARZON LGUs from the Provinces of Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon and Rizal on June 9, 2023.
- It aimed to provide rapid guidance for LGUs to identify EPR-readiness indicators and to assess gaps for local stakeholders to fill in order to be "EPR ready" to collaborate with OEs in reducing or recycling plastic packaging.

Instructions:

- Please answer each question honestly based on current status (not on aspirational goals) of your locality. This tool is not designed for enforcement but rather to give an overall perspective on your EPR readiness, zero in on specific areas for improvement, and identify support needs as applicable.
- There are cases when you may be unsure of the exact figures in your locality. Please select the answer that you believe most closely reflect your current situation … based on your best estimates at present time.

A. Does your locality, whether government- or private sector-driven, **currently** have a **well-functioning segregation and segregated collection system**[1] for recyclables such as plastics?

1. Yes. System is well to fully functional.
2. Yes, but only in selected areas/sectors
3. Minimal to negligible

B. Does your locality or your local stakeholders **currently** have programs and facilities that **avoid/reuse**[2]**, recover/consolidate**[3]**,** and/or **recycle**[4] **RIGID plastic packaging**[5] from the municipal solid waste stream?

1. Yes. More than 50% of total rigid plastic waste generated, by weight[6]
2. Yes, but only around 10% to 50% of total rigid plastic waste generated
3. Yes, but negligible or only around less than 10%

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[1] Well-functioning segregation and segregated collection system within a locality may be based on many factors such as actual number of households practicing segregation against total number of households, waste collection vehicles that only collect segregated waste, availability of facilities that accept plastic packaging such as materials recovery facilities and junkshops, existence of ordinance(s) on no segregation no collection policy or scheduled segregated collection, and enforcement mechanism.

[2] Avoid/reuse may include use of more environmentally packaging alternatives to plastics, product refilling stations, or programs to reuse plastic packaging for the same application.

[3] Recover/consolidate may include system/facilities for materials recovery and junkshop operations.

[4] Recycle may include processes/facilities that actually convert plastic packaging into same or new products.

[5] Per RA 11898, RIGID plastic packaging products, whether layered with any other materials, include containers for beverages, food, home, personal care and cosmetic products including coverings, caps, or lids and other necessities or promotional items such as cutlery, plates, drinking straws, or sticks, tarps, signage, or labels.

[6] Basis: National average is 40-55% for PET and almost 100% for PP/PE [Source: WB/GA Circular Study, 2019]

C. Does your locality or your local stakeholders **currently** have programs and facilities that **avoid/reuse[2], recover/consolidate[3],** and/or **recycle[4] FLEXIBLE plastic packaging[7]** from the municipal solid waste stream?

1. Yes. More than 5% of total flexible plastic waste generated, by weight[8]
2. Yes, but only around 1% to 5% of total flexible plastic waste generated
3. Yes, but negligible or only around less than 1%

D. Do you have a **data management/recording system for waste diversion[9]**, particularly including plastic waste?

1. Yes. Well established or very robust/auditable
2. Yes, but only partly implemented
3. Minimal to negligible waste diversion data management

E. How much is your total avoided and recovered plastic packaging (combined **tons** of rigids and flexibles) **per month** to potentially generate sufficient waste diversion certificates later on?

1. Yes, at least 10 tons per month[10].
2. Yes, between 1 and 10 tons per month.
3. Less than 1 ton per month

F. Is your **LGU committed** to enhance plastic waste diversion and data management to participate in the EPR system?

1. Yes, can't wait to actively inform our decision-makers and stakeholders, and implement EPR-readiness actions immediately.
2. Yes, will inform management but will passively just wait for instructions from them, if any.
3. No, I still don't see the LGU's role or contribution to the EPR policy/system.

Average Score:

1.0 to 1.3	High EPR Readiness
1.4 to 2.0	Partial EPR Readiness; Needs some work on diversion approaches and data mgt.
Above 2.0	Low EPR Readiness; Needs a lot of work on diversion approaches and data mgt.

[7] Per RA 11898, flexible plastic packaging products, include sachets; labels; laminates and other flexible plastic packaging products, whether single layer or multi-layered with plastics or other materials.

[8] Basis: National average is estimated at 4-9% (Source: WB/GA Circular Study, 2019) [Source: WB/GA Circular Study, 2019]

[9] Waste diversion data management system ideally includes regular logs and tracking system (such as use of logbooks at collection points and MRFs), data consolidation (where centralized data capture takes place), reporting and verification system (reporting of waste diversion data to DENR-EMB and DILG are based on bottom-up information, and not mere estimates) and institutional structures (e.g. documentation roles and responsibilities within the plastics value chain are institutionalized).

[10] Assumption: Having an economy of scale may not exactly determine EPR readiness but how practical/cost-effective the locality is for partnership/collaboration with EPR obliged enterprises. This considers optimizing transport/logistical costs for plastic waste reduction, recovery and recycling efforts as well as minimizing costs to audit a certain amount of plastic avoidance or recycling.