



Position Paper for Plastic

In recent years, plastic has become an widespread material in our lives – because one hand its characteristics allow its use in a wide number of applications but on the other hand brings many environmental related challenges. Therefore, it is urgent to respond in this difficult balance.

The wide application of **single use plastics**, along with the reduced **awareness of the public** on the impacts they generate due to their sourcing, the **ineffectiveness** of recycling systems and policies -as their recycling is technically challenging and economically not interesting- are the factors that raise the urgency.

Sonae' companies believe that they must actively contribute to solving this challenge, not only because plastic represents a significant part of our activities but also because we have prioritized circularity as one of our strategic axes for our sustainability journey.

Thus, at Sonae we will develop a response adapted to the context and geographies of each of our businesses, based on the same set of premises:

Ambition: the strategies defined as feasible, and not limited to the application of already known solutions. With boldness and creativity we will look for new ways to enhance our contribution and go beyond the status quo;

Integrated vision: in many contexts and applications plastic is the most suitable material and we therefore argue that its use should be assessed on a case-by-case basis, promoting an integrated and transparent analysis of the different variables to be considered;

Science: our action plans will be designed and adjusted according to the scientific and technological knowledge existing at each moment, seeking solutions that present the best results and scalability potential, focusing on a holistic perspective;

Transparency: we will make our commitments public, the initiatives implemented and the achievement of the objectives outlined. We believe that honest sharing of our performance is also a way to contribute to solving this challenge.

With our work we will seek, in a transversal way:

1. **Identify the amount and type of plastic we use** in our operations, products and services;
2. **Reinforce the principles of circularity** in the way we manage our business, how we design and develop our services and products, **avoiding single-use plastics wherever possible, reducing or eliminating unnecessary plastics, giving priority to the reuse**

and repair of materials and, where this is not possible, sending plastic waste for recycling;

3. **Facilitate the recyclability of all plastic products and packaging for which we are responsible**, either through the design of processes and services, or through the eco-design of the products and consumables used;
4. **Minimise the use of virgin plastic materials of fossil origin** through in-house recycling or substitution for alternative materials with less environmental impact;
5. Consider only **materials of biological origin** that do not promote waste of natural resources and do not create constraints in the treatment of waste;
6. **To raise awareness among communities about the adoption of reduction, reuse, repair and recycling behaviour;**
7. Contribute positively to the waste management ecosystem in order to focus on the creation and/or reformulation of flows that allow the reuse, recycling and composting of plastic waste to be increased as effectively and efficiently as possible;
8. **Establish partnerships** with universities and research centres, among others, which are or are willing to work actively in the **design of innovative and sustainable solutions;**
9. **Continuously monitor and evaluate the performance** of Sonae' companies against the established policy and objectives and to **communicate periodically** in a transparent and open manner.