



The PCC Codes (or Plastic Category Classification Codes) were developed for a report, funded by the United Nations and written by the Ocean Recovery Alliance. The PCC Codes are based on the analysis of 580 voluntary commitments made by global stakeholders from 2014-2018. Main Source: <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/>

For student teams, the PCC Codes should illustrate the wide variety of programs and project areas to search that stakeholders have used (as voluntary commitments) when tackling the problem of plastic pollution. In other words, fighting plastic pollution is not just about beach cleanups.



### From “Crafting a High-Impact Voluntary Commitment for Preventing and Reducing Marine Litter”

<http://www.bit.ly/PlasticCommitments2020>

The PCC Codes are a combination of Primary Stakeholder and Type of Initiative (Project/Program).

#### PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS

- Multi-National Governments
- National Government
- Plastic and Waste Industries
- Regional/Local Governments
- Business or Industry
- NGOs/PPPs/Academics
- Individuals/People

#### INITIATIVES

- Reduce or Eliminate Uses of Plastic
- Product Redesign
- Action Plan/Doing the Work
- Commercialization
- Donor Funding/Investment
- Emergency Response
- Waste Management
- Recollect and Reuse at End-use
- Collect, and then Recycle or Repurpose at End-use
- Facilitation/Coordination Role
- Research and Monitoring
- Policy/Regulations
- Education/Awareness Programs
- Other

# PLASTIC CATEGORY CLASSIFICATION (PCC) CODES

## PCC Codes Sorted by Stakeholder/Initiative

This view is by stakeholder. Imagine, for example, you are a NGO in a small country interested in reducing microfibers in your local area. By reviewing the list, you see under NGOs, there is a *PCC Code* titled “Action Plan-NGOs-Reduce Microfibers.” As suggested in the report “Creating High-Impact Actions to Reduce Marine Litter,” this stakeholder could search on the appropriate *PCC Code* and view a current voluntary commitment (if updated), or a proven completed voluntary commitment, to potentially reach out to the stakeholder and/or view available program materials that describe all aspects of what was done. Then, the stakeholder could use some of the available information as is practical to replicate the voluntary commitment, rather than create one from scratch.

**(NOTE: BOLD AND RED FONT: HELPFUL TOPIC AREAS WHEN RESEARCHING PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS FOR SELECTING A CASE STUDY FOR THEME 1 – SELECTING PROVEN PROJECT OR PROGRAM TO REDUCE PLASTIC FROM WATERWAYS)**

## MULTI-NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER

Action Plan-Multi-Nationals-Regional Blue Economy  
Action Plan-Multi-National-Prevent Marine Litter  
Donor/Investment-Multi National Governments-Plastics Prevention Projects  
Donor/Investment-Multi-National Government-Policy Support  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Multi National-Cruise Tourism & Ports Waste**  
Facilitation/Coordination-Multi National-Global Marine Data Network  
Facilitation/Coordination-Multi National-Information Platform  
Facilitation/Coordination-Multi National-Marine Litter Collaborations  
Facilitation/Coordination-Multi-National-Information Platform  
Monitoring-Multi National-Marine Litter in Ocean  
Policy/Regulation-Multi National-Reduce Marine Litter in Ship Waste  
Policy/Regulation-Multi-National-Plastic Bag Ban  
Policy/Regulation-Multi-National-Reduce Plastic Leakage  
Policy/Regulation-Multi-National-Reduce Ship Waste  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -Multi National Governments-Donor Funding of Plastics Prevention Projects  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Multi National- Policy/Regulation to Reduce Marine Litter in Ship Waste  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Multi National- Policy/Regulation to Reduce Plastic Leakage  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Multi National- Policy/Regulation to Reduce Ship Waste  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Multi National-Take Actions to Reduce Plastics in Use  
Research-Multi National-Action Plan Report for Marine Litter  
Research-NGOs-microplastics  
Waste Management-Multi National-Take Actions to Reduce Plastics in Use

## NATIONAL GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER

Action Plan-National Governments - Marine Debris  
Action Plan-National Governments- Waste Management  
Action Plan-National Governments-Aquaculture  
Action Plan-National Governments-Circular Economy  
Action Plan-National Governments-Fishing  
Action Plan-National Governments-Marine Debris  
Action Plan-National Governments-Marine Litter  
Action Plan-National Governments-National Plan & Waste Strategy  
Action Plan-National Governments-Reduce Plastic Waste  
Action Plan-National Governments-Regional Sustainability

Action Plan-National Governments-Waste Management for Ports/Harbors

Action Plan-PPPs-Collect & Use Recycled Plastics

Commercialization-National Governments-Innovations

**Commercialization-National Governments-Waste to Energy Support**

Donor/Investment-Multi-National Government-Plastics Prevention Projects

Donor/Investment-National Governments - Innovation

Donor/Investment-National Governments - Product Design

Donor/Investment-National Governments-Country Program Assistance

Donor/Investment-National Governments-Marine Litter

**Education/Awareness-National Governments-Awareness Campaigns**

Education/Awareness-National Governments-Marine Litter

**Education/Awareness-National Governments-Student Education Programs**

Education/Awareness-National Governments-Surveys

Facilitation/Coordination-Multi-National-Information Platform

**Facilitation/Coordination-National Governments-Beach Cleanups**

Facilitation/Coordination-National Governments-Information Platform

Facilitation/Coordination-National Governments-Marine Litter

**Facilitation/Coordination-National Governments-Waste Management Community Training**

Facilitation/Coordination-PPPs-Marine Litter Conference and/or Network

**Facilitation/Coordination-PPPs-Reduce Marine Litter**

Policy/Regulation-Multi-National-Plastic Bag Ban

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastic Bag Tax

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastic Bags Ban

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastics Bans

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastics Product Bans

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Agree to Join a Global Program

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Ban Styrofoam

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Create Marine Debris National Policy

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Microbeads Ban

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastic Bags Ban

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Plastics Product Bans

Policy/Regulation-National Governments-Tax on Fishing Revenues

Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -National Governments- Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Waste

Research-National Governments- Plastics Innovations

Research-National Governments- Seafood & Cancer Risks

Research-National Governments-Beach Cleanup & Marine Litter

Research-National Governments-Climate Change Effects on Marine Areas

Research-National Governments-Marine Litter Expeditions

Research-National Governments-Marine Litter Impact

Research-National Governments-Tourism

**Waste Management-Industry-Innovations**

**Waste Management-National Governments –Cleanups**

**Waste Management-National Governments-Coastal Areas**

**Waste Management-National Governments-Implementing & Improving National Waste Strategy**

**Waste Management-National Governments-Marine Litter**

**Waste Management-National Governments-Restoration Areas**

**Waste Management-National Governments-Ship Disposal**

## **REGIONAL/LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER**

Action Plan-Regional/Local Governments-Coastal Area Marine Sustainability

**Education/Awareness-Regional/Local Governments – Marketing Campaign**

**Facilitation/Coordination-Regional/Local Governments - Waste Management**

Policy/Regulation-Regional/Local Governments - Plastic Bag Bans

Policy/Regulation-Regional/Local Governments- Plastics Product Bans

Policy/Regulation-Regional/Local Governments-Ban Styrofoam  
Policy/Regulation-Regional/Local Governments-Plastic Bag Tax  
Waste Management-Regional/Local Governments-Waste Management Program

## INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS STAKEHOLDER

Action Plan-Companies-Recycled Products  
Action Plan-Industry-Program to Reduce Waste  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-Industry- Waste Management Programs to Recycle Plastic Products**  
Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-Companies- Action Plans to Recycle Products  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-Companies – Commercializing Recycled Plastic Products**  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-Companies- Waste Management Programs to Recycle More Plastic**  
Commercialization-Companies-Innovations  
**Commercialization-Companies-Plastics Marketplace**  
**Commercialization-Companies-Plastics Substitute Products**  
**Commercialization-Companies-Recycled Plastic Products**  
Donor/Investment-Companies-Waste Innovations  
Donor/Investment-Industry-Ocean Floor Cleanups  
Donor/Investment-Industry-Project to Reduce Marine Litter  
Donor/Investment-Industry-Waste Innovations  
**Education/Awareness- Industry- Ocean Plastics Problem**  
**Education/Awareness-Companies-Local Sustainability Efforts**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Companies-Beach Cleanup**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Cleanups**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Collaboration to Reduce Plastics in Packaging**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Consortium for Ocean Business/Economy Initiatives**  
Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Consortium for Reducing Litter in the North Sea  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Consortium to Reduce Micro-Plastics in Waste Water**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Consortium to Reduce Plastics in Seafood Operations**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Plastics Waste Platform & Network**  
Facilitation/Coordination-Industry-Web Resources for Plastics Industry Professionals about Reducing Marine Litter  
Policy/Regulation-Companies-Plastic Bag Tax  
Policy/Regulation-Industry - Education/Awareness  
Policy/Regulation-Industry - Plastic Ban Tax  
**Product Redesign-Companies –Commercialize Plastics Substitute Products**  
  
**Product Redesign-Companies- Use More Recycled Plastic in Products**  
**Product Redesign-Companies- Reduce Plastics Waste in Products**  
  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Industry-Action Plan to Reduce Waste  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -Industry- Donor Funding for Projects to Reduce Marine Litter**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic – Industry- Facilitation/Coordination to Collaborate to Reduce Plastic Packaging**  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –Industry- Consortium for Reducing Litter in North Sea  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Industry- Consortium to Reduce Micro-Plastics in Wastewater**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - Industry- Consortium to Reduce Plastics in Seafood Operations**  
Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -Industry- Resources for Plastics Industry Professionals to Reduce Marine Litter  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –Industry- Reduce Fishing Industry Marine Litter Waste**  
Research-Companies-Marine Litter  
**Waste Management-Companies- Reduce Plastics Waste in Product(s)**  
**Waste Management-Companies- Use More Recycled Plastic in Products**  
**Waste Management-Companies-Innovations**  
**Waste Management-Companies-Recycle More Plastic**  
Waste Management-Companies-Setting Zero Waste & Recycling Milestones  
**Waste Management-Companies-Use More Recycled Plastic in Products**  
**Waste Management-Industry-Program to Accredite Ports as Environmentally Friendly**

**Waste Management-Industry-Reduce Fishing Industry Marine Litter**  
**Waste Management-Industry-Reduce Plastics Use in Resorts**  
**Waste Management-Industry-EPR**

## **NGOs—PPPs—ACADEMIA STAKEHOLDER**

Action Plan-NGOs-Awareness by Art and Art Exhibitions  
Action Plan-NGOs-Collecting Plastic for Fundraising Initiatives  
Action Plan-NGOs-Facilitate Plastic-Free Economy  
Action Plan-NGOs-Plans and Programs to Address Local Marine Litter  
Action Plan-NGOs-Reduce Microfibers  
Action Plan-NGOs-Sustainability Efforts  
Action Plan-PPPs-Port and Harbor Waste Management Efforts  
Action Plan-PPPs-Use Recycled Plastic for Products  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-NGOs- Waste Management Programs to Recycle More Plastic**  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-NGOs - Recycling Campaign to Educate/Build Awareness**  
**Collect, Recycle or Repurpose-PPPs – Commercializing Recycled Plastic Products**  
**Commercialization-NGOs-Innovations**  
Donor/Investment-NGOs - Marine Debris  
Donor/Investment-NGOs- Product Design  
Donor/Investment-NGOs-Innovation Funds  
Donor/Investment-NGOs-Plastics Prevention Projects  
Donor/Investment-NGOs-Support Awareness Exhibit  
Donor/Investment-NGOs-Support Research Study  
Donor/Investment-PPPs - Policy & Regulations  
Donor/Investment-PPPs-Marine Litter Support Plastics Programs  
Donor/Investment-PPPs-Monitoring Marine Pollution  
Education/Awareness -NGOs-Events, Conferences and/or Programs about Marine Litter  
Education/Awareness-Academic Institutions-Sharing Marine Litter Learnings  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Awareness Programs**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Awareness through Music**  
Education/Awareness-NGOs-Events, Conferences and/or Programs about Marine Litter  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Innovation**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Ocean Education**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Promote Ban Campaigns**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Recycling Campaign**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Sports Event**  
Education/Awareness-NGOs-Surveys  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Waste Education Programs**  
**Education/Awareness-NGOs-Youth Education Programs**  
**Education/Awareness-PPPs-Awareness Contest**  
Education/Awareness-PPPs-Events  
Education/Awareness-PPPs-Marine Litter  
**Education/Awareness-PPPs-Retail Malls Reduce Plastics Campaign**  
Emergency Response-PPPs-Oil Spill Prosecution  
Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Marine Litter Research & Innovation Platform  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Waste Management Improvements**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Cleanups**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Coastline Improvements**  
Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Events, Conferences and/or Programs about Marine Litter  
Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Fishing & Whaling Marine Litter Issues  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Local Area Marine Litter Network and/or Programs**  
Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Marine Litter Network, Research &/or Innovation Platform  
Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Marine Litter Web-Based Platform  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Reduce Marine Litter & Marine Noise**

**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Reduce Microbead Use**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Reduce Plastics Use**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-NGOs-Waste Management Improvements**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-PPPs-Reduce Fishing Gear Marine Debris**  
**Facilitation/Coordination-PPPs-Reduce Marine Litter**  
 Policy/Regulation-PPPs - Plastic Bag Bans  
 Policy/Regulation-PPPs-Plastic Bag Tax  
**Product Redesign-NGOs – Use Donors to Fund Product Design**  
**Product Redesign--NGOs-Use More Recycled Plastic in Products**  
**Recollect and Reuse- PPPs-Action Plans to Collect & Use Recycled Plastics**  
**Recollect and Reuse- PPPs Action Plans to Use Recycled Plastic for Products**  
**Recollect and Reuse- PPPs-Action Plans to Collect & Use Recycled Plastics**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –NGOs--Hospitality Industry Reducing Plastics Use**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Reduce Marine Litter & Marine Noise**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Reduce Microbead Use**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Reduce Plastics Use**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Donor Funding of Plastics Prevention Projects**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –NGOs-Education/Awareness Guideline for Restaurants to Reduce Plastics**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –NGOs- Action Plan to reduce Microfibers**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Reduce Plastic Waste in Rivers**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -NGOs-Reduce Plastics Waste in Products**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -PPPs-Reduce Plastics Waste in Product(s)**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - PPPs-Policy/Regulation to Eliminate Microplastics**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic –PPPs- Education/Awareness Campaign for Retail Malls to Reduce Plastics**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic -PPPs-Reduce Fishing Gear Marine Debris**  
**Reducing or Eliminate Uses of Plastic - PPPs-Reduce Marine Litter**  
 Research-Academic Institutions-Marine Litter  
 Research-Academic Institutions-Waste Innovations  
 Research-NGOs-Biodegradable Plastics  
 Research-NGOs-Information Platform  
 research-NGOs-Marine Litter Data  
 Research-NGOs-Marine Litter on Beaches  
 Research-NGOs-Microplastics  
 Research-PPPs-River Cleanup Study  
**Waste Management-NGOs- Become Plastics-Free**  
**Waste Management-NGOs –Cleanups**  
 Waste Management-NGOs- Setting Zero Waste & Recycling Milestones  
**Waste Management-NGOs- Shipping Industry Marine Litter Tools**  
**Waste Management-NGOs-Marine Litter**  
**Waste Management-NGOs-Recycle More Plastic**  
**Waste Management-NGOs-Reduce Plastic Waste in Rivers**  
**Waste Management-PPPs- Use More Recycled Plastic in Products**  
**Waste Management-PPPs-Coastal Areas**  
**Waste Management-PPPs-Marine Litter**  
**Waste Management-PPPs-Projects to Reduce Solid Waste**  
**Waste Management-PPPs-Reduce Plastics Waste in Product(s)**