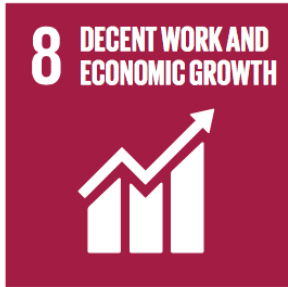


The role of businesses

Single-use plastic initiatives in ASEM member countries

Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) Webinar
Single-Use Plastic (Never)Ending Story
28 October

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Researcher
Central European University
Vienna, Austria



Presentation scope



Characterising single-use plastic waste reduction initiatives across ASEM, including:

Aims

Management set-up

Scale and size

Project activities

Types of innovations

Research approach

Scope:

- Single-use plastic waste initiatives in ASEM
 - bottom-up initiatives
 - self-sustainable
 - operational for at least one year

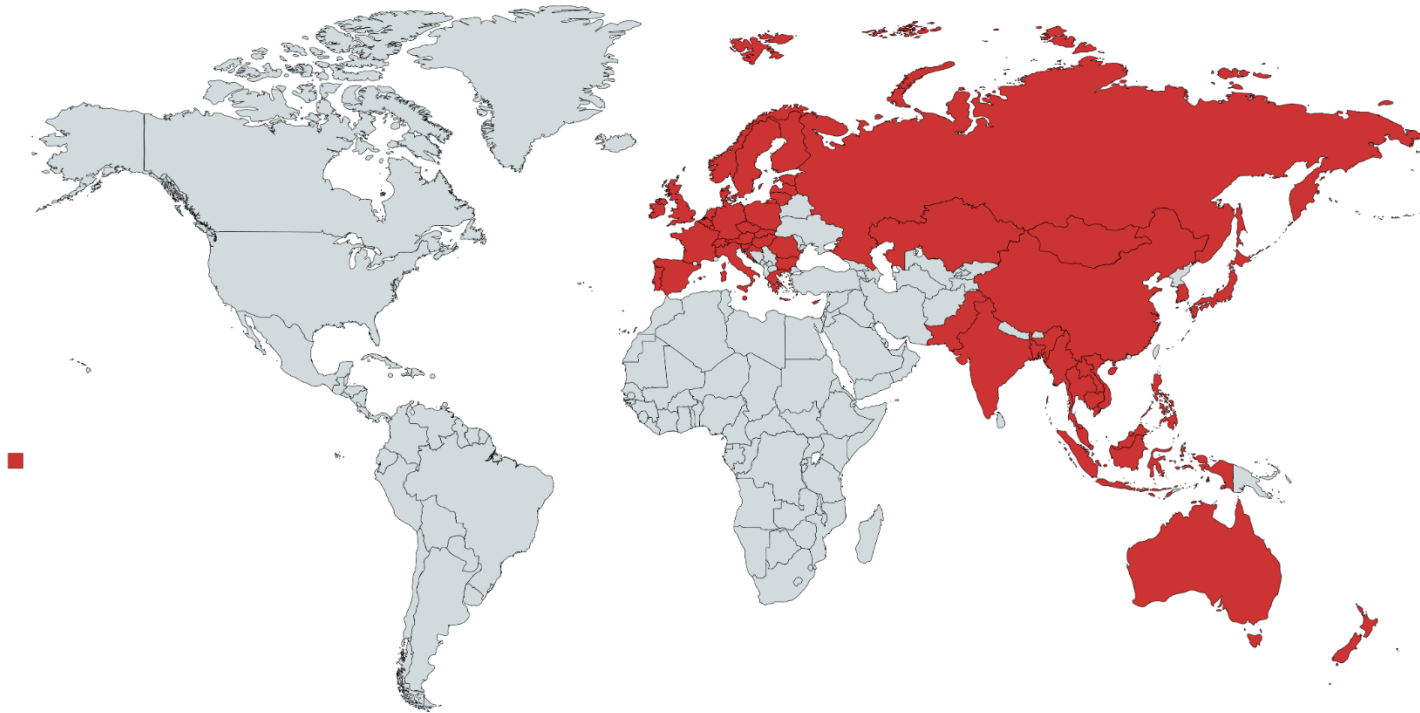
Methodology:

- Desk research and survey

Data collection:

- 51 ASEM partner countries
- Between November 2019 and January 2020

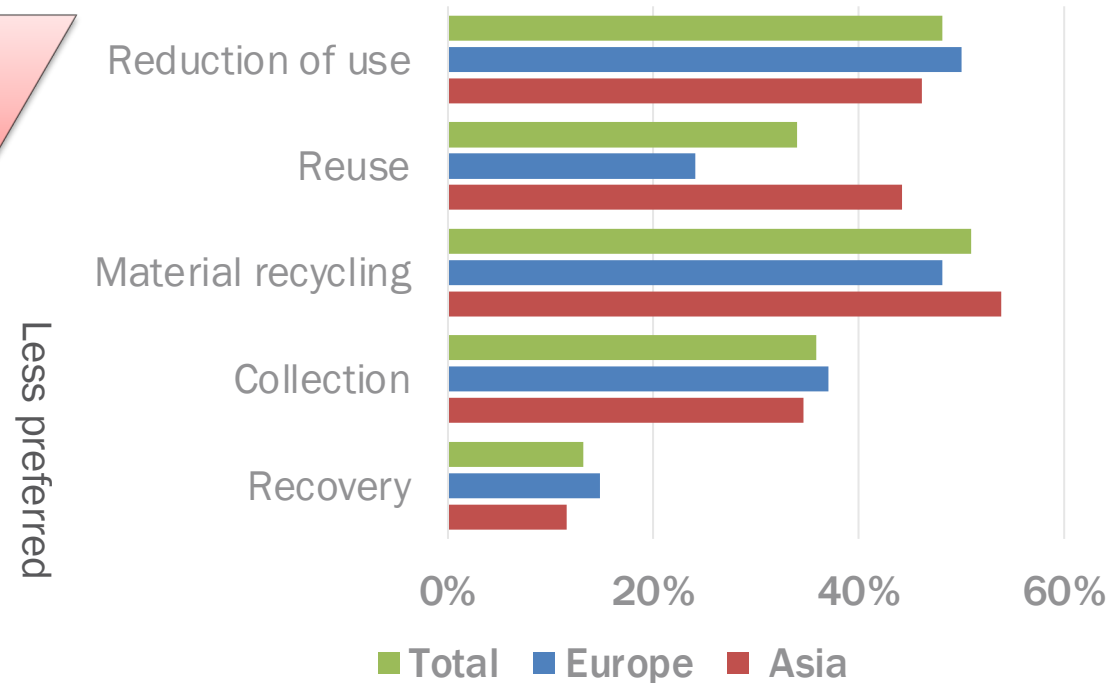
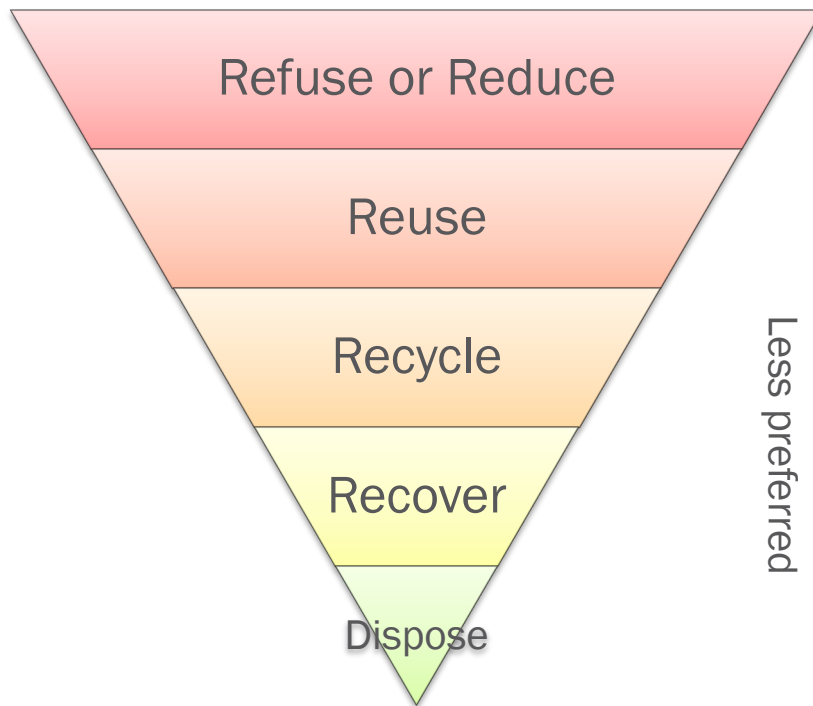
Asia-Europe Meeting Partner Countries



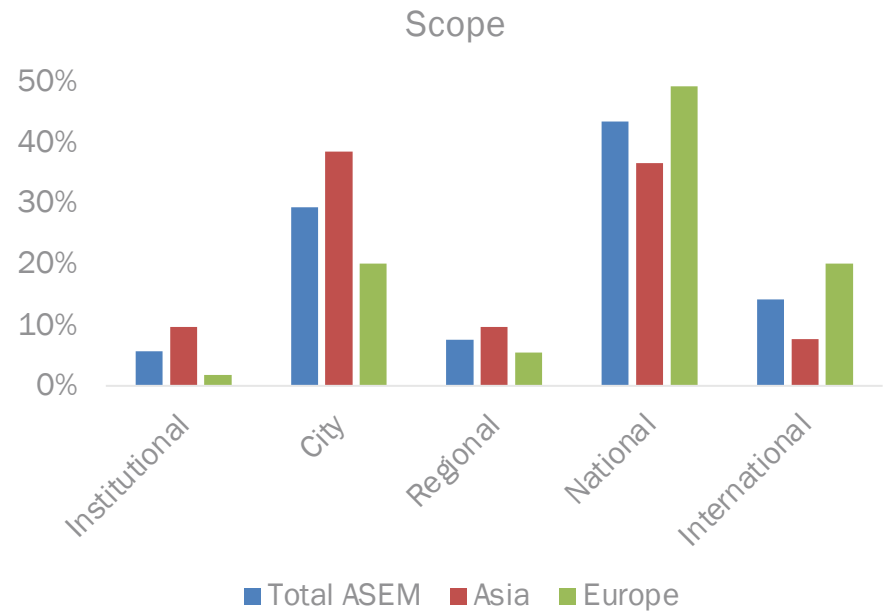
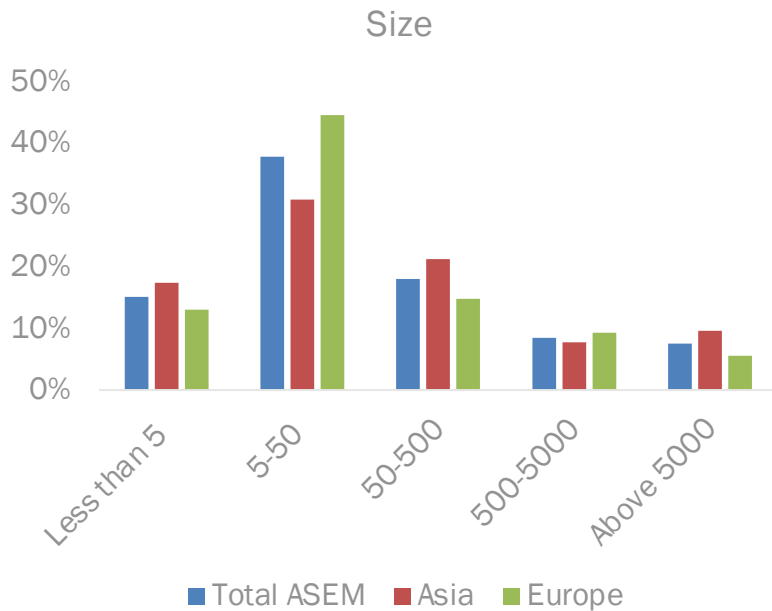
Generated at www.mapchart.net

Findings from the review

Project objectives of the studied initiatives and projects



Size and scale of the identified projects: *prevalence of medium-sized organizations with local or national scope of activities*

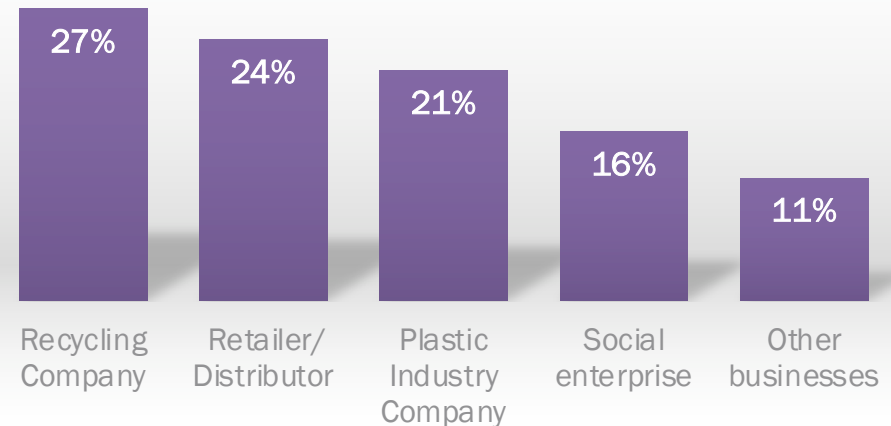


Managing organizations: *the majority of identified projects were initiated by for-profit organizations*

Type of managing organization



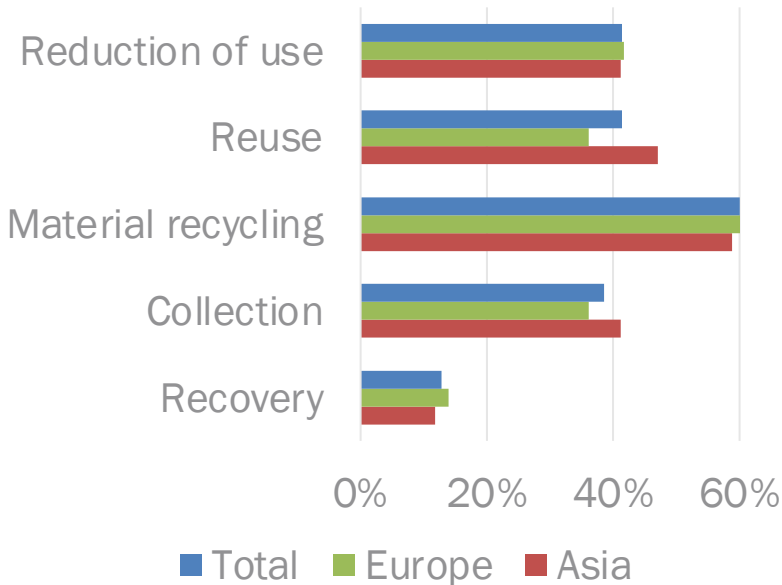
Type of businesses



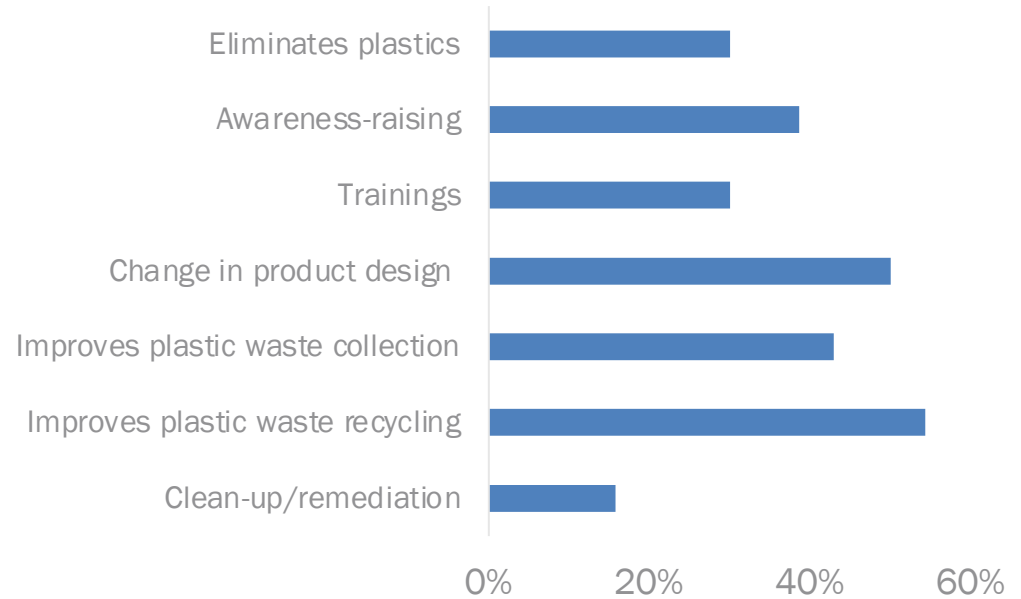
Activities:

projects initiated by businesses are more likely to focus on recycling and collection

Objectives



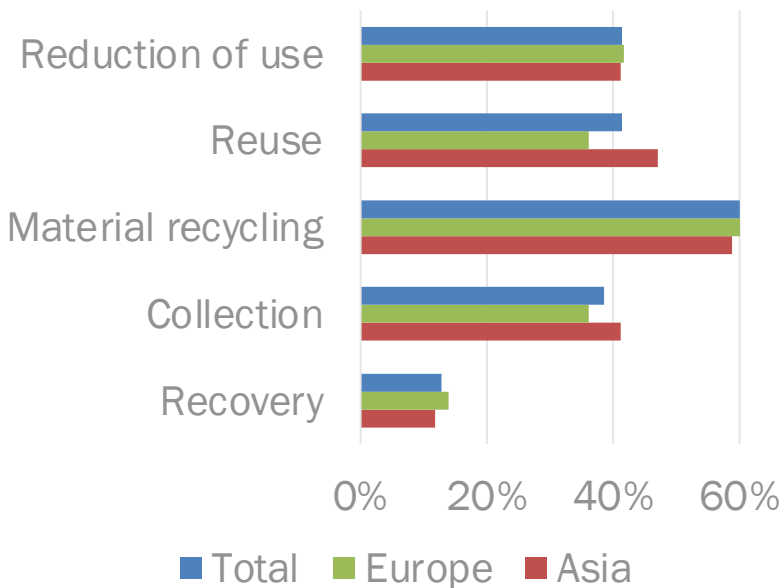
Activities



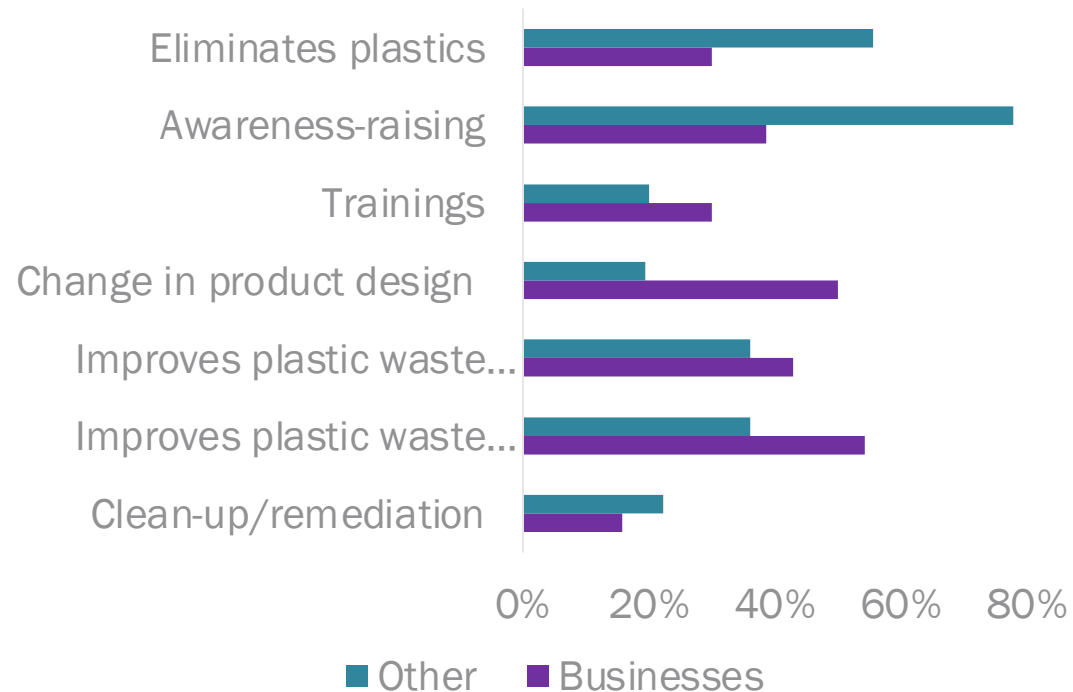
Activities:

projects initiated by businesses are more likely to focus on recycling and collection

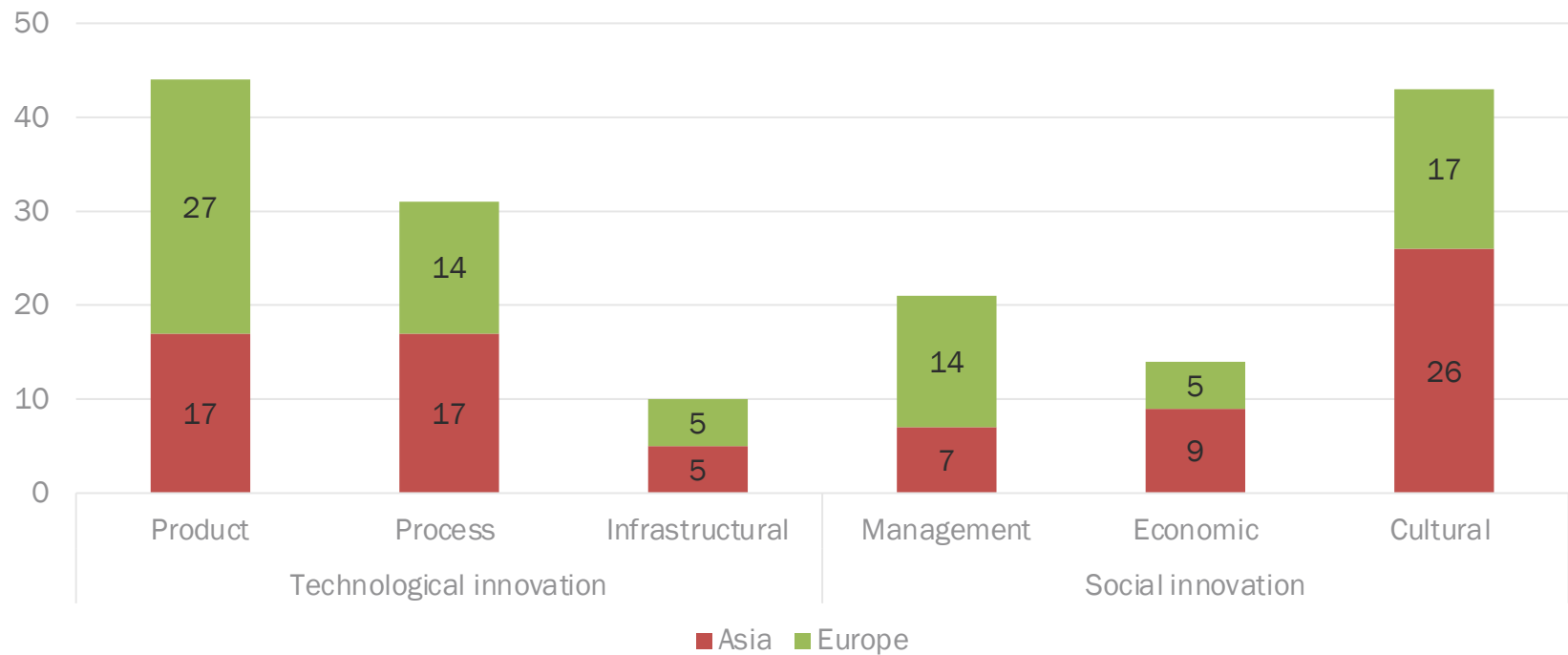
Objectives



Activities



Innovations delivered by the studied projects: *Technological innovations were mostly delivered by for-profit organizations*



Examples of product innovations

Products from recycled plastics:

- Valvert Nestle Belgium: 100% recycled plastic bottles
- New Movements (Norway): shoes from recycled materials
- Replas (Australia) outdoor furniture

Products from plastic alternatives:

- BMJC (Bangladesh): plastic-like bags made from jute
- BambooLao (Lao PDR): bamboo straws

New type of raw bio-materials:

- Crafting plastics studio (Slovakia): NUATAN, a new generation of bioplastic
- Sulapac (Finland): biodegradable, plastic-like material for mass-production
- Waste2wear (China): innovative fashion fabrics from recycled materials

Examples of process and infrastructural innovations

Improving waste collection and recycling processes:

- Redgroup (Australia): “RedCycle” collection program

Advancing recycling technologies:

- Elegro (Estonia): patented recycling technology for mixed household plastics

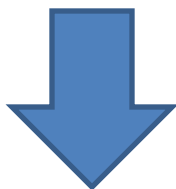
Upgrading or renewing the collection/recycling infrastructures:

- Tomra (Norway): innovative collection and sorting recycling systems
- Bangladesh Petrochemical Company: the first Bottle to Bottle PET recycling plant in Bangladesh

Take-aways

Businesses in ASEM for addressing SUP

- Mainly small and medium-sized organizations, with local or national-level focus
- Mostly focusing on collection and recycling
- High potential to deliver product, process and infrastructural innovations



- Business across ASEM has a crucial role in taking forward innovations to reduce SUP
- Policies are needed to support scaling-up their activities

Thank you for the attention!