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# Plastic Scrap Trade in Latin America and the Caribbean Related Policies and Regional Comparisons

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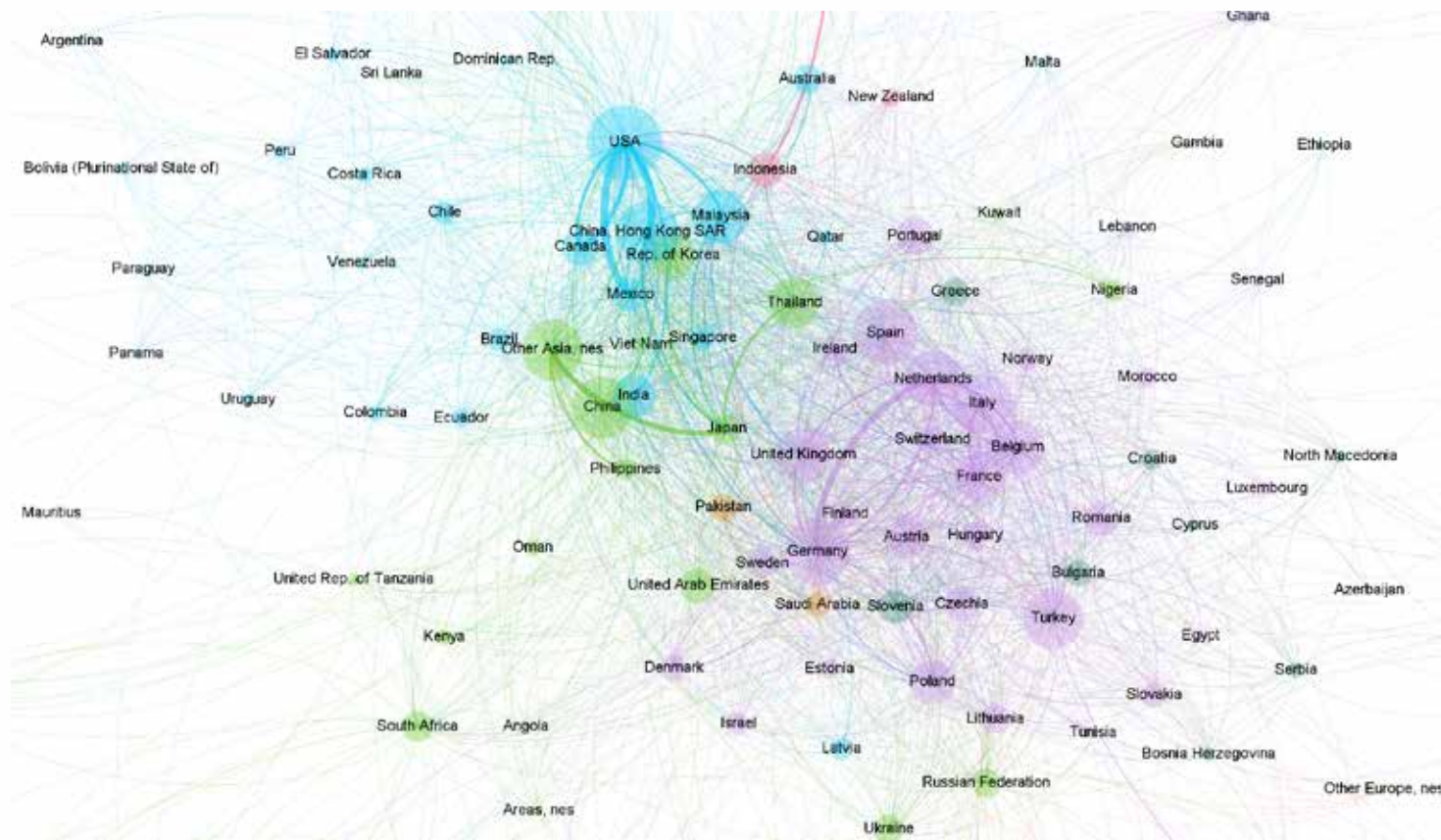
# Contents

- Patterns of plastic scrap trade (World & LATAM / Caribbean)
- Policies ([circulareconomy.earth](http://circulareconomy.earth))
- Many countries still launching policies:
  - RCA vs % recycling
  - Systems thinking – alternatives can be better than improving upstream and downstream.
- Regional comparisons
  - Europe, Asia, Africa

# Patterns of plastic scrap trade (World)



Value: USD 3.5b  
Volume: 8.9 m t  
(2018)



\*considering only reported flows in plastic scrap  
Source: Pacini et. al., (2020)  
in *Sustainable Production and Consumption*

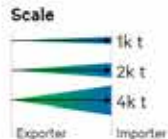


# \* Global plastic scrap trade clusters

Modularity class	Number of countries	Traded volume	Exports	Imports	Regional hub
0	25	21.2%	19.3%	23.0%	United Kingdom
1	38	50.0%	54.0%	46.1%	Germany
2	9	2.6%	2.4%	2.8%	Romania
3	7	0.7%	0.5%	1.0%	Russia
4	26	25.2%	23.5%	26.8%	United States
5	6	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	South Africa



# Patterns of plastic scrap trade (Latam & Caribbean)

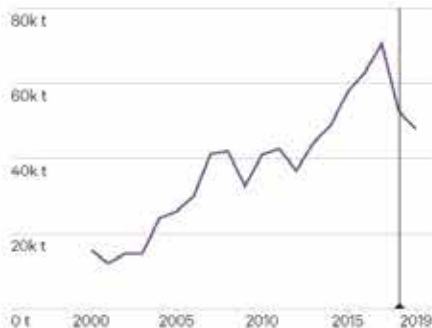


Displaying 36 of 142 flows



**Total weight**

**51.6k t**



**Trade flows** Commodities Exporters Importers

**Top 5**



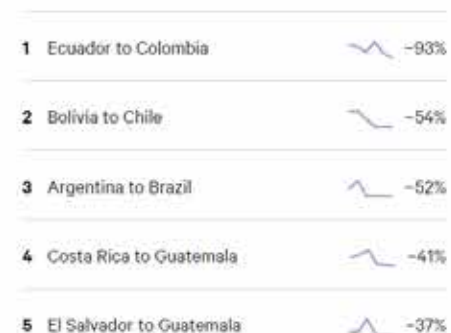
**Fastest growing**

2013-2018



**Fastest declining**

2013-2018



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# Latam & Caribbean - Policies

CIRCULAR  
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Policies Trade Publications & News About



Policy types

All types

All types

- Extended Producer Responsibility EPR
- Fiscal Policy
- National Circular Economy Policy
- Product Policy
- Waste Management And Recycling

Year policies active

All years

Zoom to region

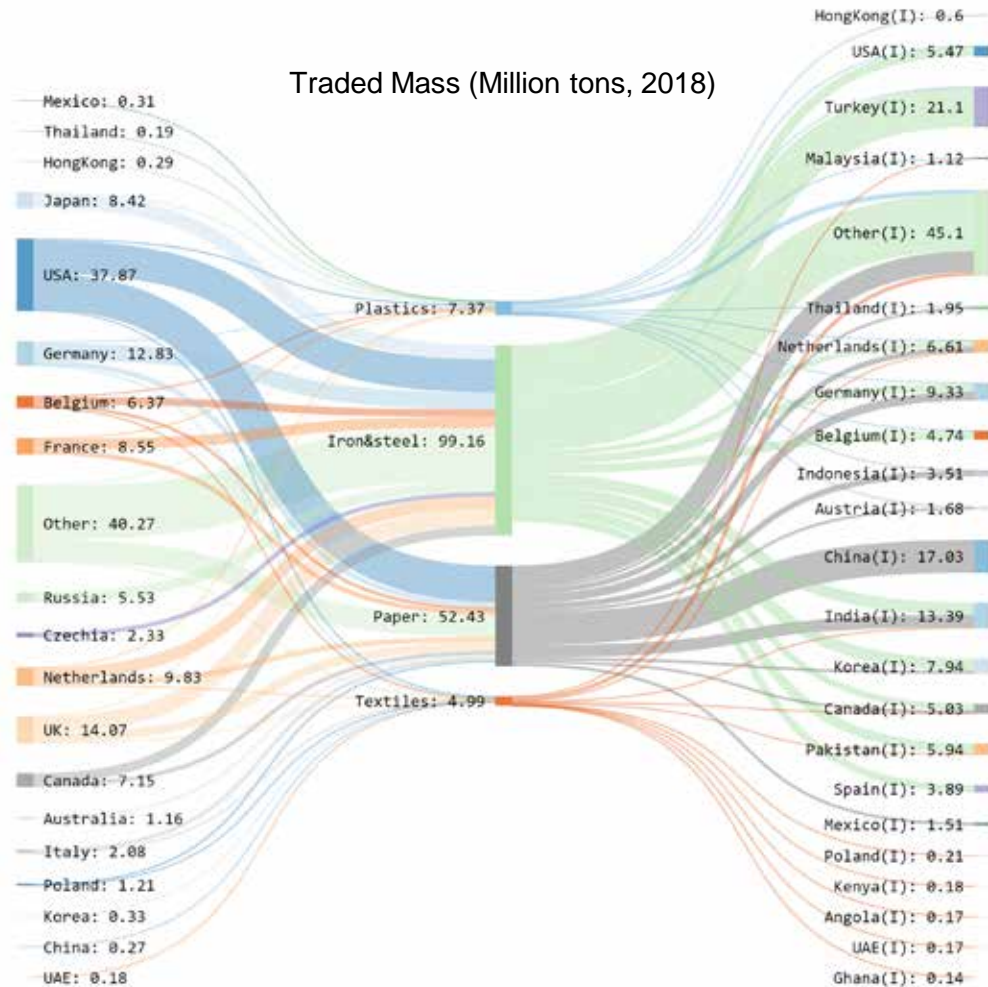
Latin America and the Caribbean





# Going beyond plastics...

- Tackling plastics doesn't end the problem
- Better materials governance & less material usage should be the goals!





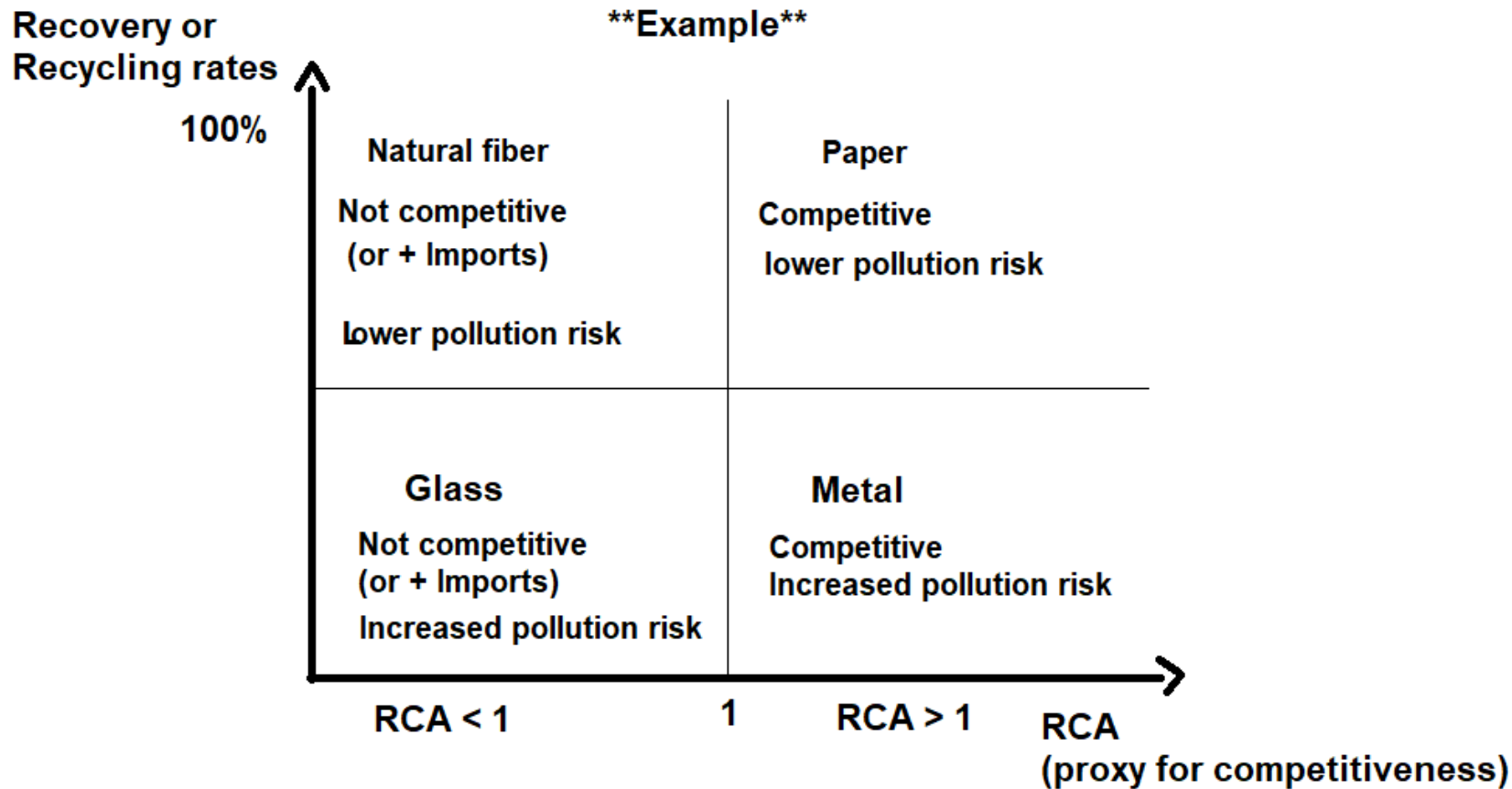
# Regional Comparisons



Source: [Circular Economy in Russia: Drivers and Barriers for Waste Management Development \(2019\)](#)



# Introduction of substitutes requires systems thinking



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