

## **E FRAMEWORK TOOL**

### **E.1 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS ABOUT PLASTICS AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

#### **Objectives:**

- Identify public policies: government programs and relevant national and international strategies.
- Identify and analyze economic, technological and social factors in policies that influence the plastic circularity.

#### **Key questions to structure Chapter 1 (from various sources of information):**

1. What international agreements and treaties influence the country's regulation and management of plastics?
2. What national regulations govern the production, use and disposal of plastics?
3. Are there local public policies that promote the circular economy in the plastics sector?
4. What regulatory or legal barriers limit companies' transition to a circular economy?
5. What economic and technological factors are relevant for implementing circular economic policies in the country?
6. What international trends could be replicated or adapted locally?

#### **Key questions to ask companies:**

- What actions has the company taken to comply with the legislation applicable to the plastics sector/circular economy?
- What are the barriers or challenges companies face in complying with local legislation?
- What benefits does the company obtain or could obtain by complying with local legislation?

*Note: In the case of working with associations or organizations of recyclers/recyclers, each Universities can adapt the questions according to their context and regulations.*

## **E.2 THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY ON A NATIONAL LEVEL**

### **Objectives:**

- To analyze the state of the plastics industry in the country, considering its structure, size, distribution, and the most significant final applications.
- Classification by company size, product types, and the sector's geographic and economic distribution.
- Defining the plastics value chain by establishing the plastics ecosystem.

### **Key questions to structure Chapter 1 (from various sources of information):**

1. What are the main characteristics of the plastics sector in terms of size and type of companies?
2. How are the companies in the plastics sector geographically distributed in the country?
3. What types of plastic products are most relevant in the domestic market?
4. What are the country's main end-use applications for plastic products?
5. Which segments of the plastics production chain have the most significant potential for adopting circular economy models?

### **Key questions to ask companies:**

- What is the size and type of company?
- Where is the company located?
- What plastic products do you handle and for what type of applications?

*Note: In the case of working with associations or organizations of recyclers/recyclers, each Universities can adapt the questions according to their context and regulations.*

### **E.3 KEY FACTORS AND ACTORS IN THE TRANSITION TO THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

#### **Objectives:**

- Identify the determining factors (opportunities, weaknesses, barriers, strengths, challenges, among others) that influence the transition of the plastics sector towards a circular economy.
- Understand the role of key players, such as industry, government, academia, civil society, and consumers, in the plastic ecosystem and the circular economy.
- Examine the relationships between factors and actors.

#### **Key questions to structure Chapter 1 (from various sources of information):**

1. What opportunities exist to promote the circular economy in the plastics sector?
2. What weaknesses or barriers do local companies face in this transition?
3. Which players are key to driving the circular economy in the plastics sector?
4. How do stakeholders interact with each other and with the factors influencing the circular economy?
5. What policies or strategies could strengthen these relationships?
6. How is plastic recycling in the country compared to Latin America and the rest of the world?
7. How are universities related to the industrial sector and plastic recycling?
8. How is the plastics industry innovating in the country?

#### **Key questions to ask companies:**

- What opportunities does your company identify for adopting circular economy practices?
- What weaknesses or barriers does your company encounter in this transition?
- Which stakeholders are key for your company during its transition to the circular economy or for compliance with legislation?
- How does your company collaborate with universities in the adoption of circular economy practices?
- What innovations have you developed to implement circular economy practices that benefit the environment and sustainable development?
- How is your company adapting to comply with regulations (examples include single-use plastic, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), among others)?
- What actions have you taken to prevent the generation of plastic waste?
- If the company is involved in the production of containers or packaging, is it working on products with materials that allow for multiple uses without compromising quality?
- Is the company incorporating recyclable or compostable materials in its process? Is recycled plastic being used in new products?

*Note: In the case of working with associations or organizations of recyclers/recyclers, each Universities can adapt the questions according to their context and regulations.*