

Reducing Plastic Waste:

How might we get products to people without creating plastic waste?

Challenge Description:

OpenIDEA is an open innovation platform that hosts challenges to focus attention on a specific issue so community members can contribute, refine and prototype solutions. They have a challenge ongoing currently which is, "How might we get products to people without generating plastic waste?"

It is expected that plastic use will double in the next 20 years and only 14% of plastics are recycled, with most plastic items only being used once before being thrown away. We challenge you to help us rethink how we make, use and re-use plastic items to reduce plastic waste. Small format items, like straw wrappers, coffee cup lids and bottle caps, make up nearly 10% of plastic packaging and are rarely recycled. In Vancouver in 2016, plastic film (8%) was the largest component of plastic waste, followed by durable plastic products (4%) and synthetic textiles (4%).

What could be done to get products to people without creating all of this plastic waste?

What aspect(s) of this challenge needs help?

Design skills, Packaging

Challenge sector(s):

Waste reduction

Where on the circular economy would this challenge be placed?

distribution, waste reduction, reuse/recovery

Who to contact for additional information on this challenge:

Name	-	Phone	-
Email	-	Website	https://challenges.openideo.com/challenge/circular-design/research

Please feel free to attach a photograph or diagram to further explain the challenge.

