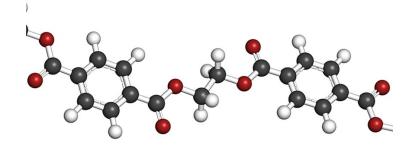
# The Future of Sustainable Plastics

Global Energy Transition Talk Series







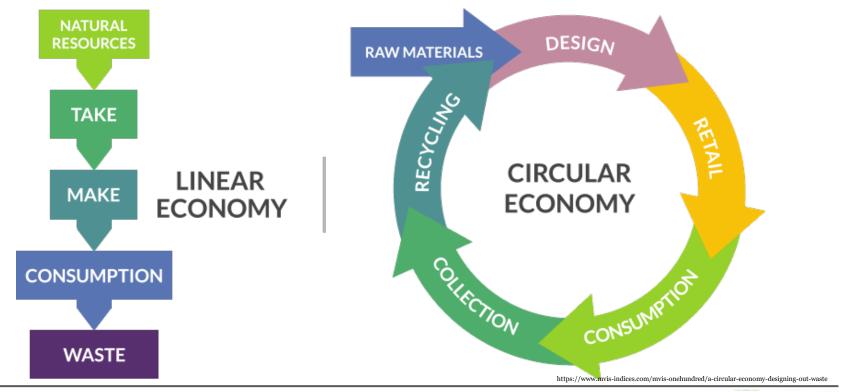
### Agenda:

- 1. Introductions (Dr. Nicola De Blasio)
- 2. Presentation of Study Results and Conclusions (Phoebe Fallon)
- 3. DARPA and ReSource Introduction (Dr. Blake Bextine)
- 4. Roboze Introduction (Alessio Lorusso)
- 5. Q & A (Moderated by Dr. Nicola De Blasio)





### Circular economies present a valuable opportunity to decrease waste and increase product sustainability

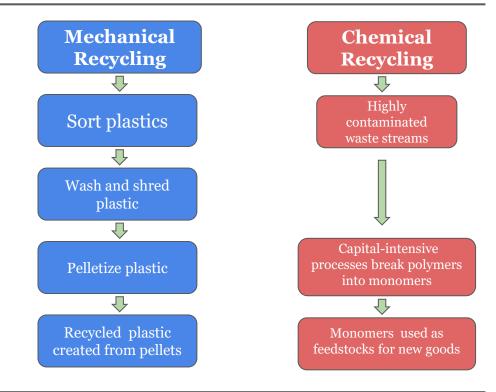






## Plastic value chains are fragmented, and recycling processes inefficient and expensive

- Labelling, collection, sorting and reprocessing vary based on location
- Post-consumer plastic waste is inhomogeneous
- Mechanical recycling is widely used, but leads to progressive material degradation
- Alternative recycling methods are capital-intensive, preventing widespread adoption
- Recycling is market-driven, and price of recycling is often higher than virgin materials







#### Recommendations

- ❖ Increase recyclability of plastics: Redesign products to be easily recycled and reused. Limit the number of specialized plastics and of additives. Introduce extended producer responsibility to create incentives for plastic products to be more easily recyclable.
- Enhance recycling. Improve existing collection and recycling systems. Build infrastructure tailored to recycling bioplastic. Mandate recycling targets and percentages of recycled materials in new products. Incentivize recycling for consumers.
- ❖ Decarbonize production. Switch to low carbon energy sources, while substituting petroleum-based plastics with more sustainable materials. Conduct life cycle analyses on new products to ensure their overall sustainability. Build demand for bioplastic through policies, like renewable plastic standards, starting from high value products.



#### Recommendations

- ❖ Development of new public private partnerships. Foster government support for research and development—both through investment vehicles and private public partnerships. Align incentives, for example by requiring producers to address the negative externalities of plastic waste, such as ocean clean-up. Develop global partnerships that combine technical and regulatory factors to harmonize value chains.
- **❖ Demystify the plastic sector** and ensure that local communities and the public at large have appropriate appreciation for the critical role they play. **Educate consumers** on plastic lifecycle and **incentivize sustainable practices**, as the way plastic products are used and disposed of has a significant impact on their value and quality post-use.

