

Plastic Waste Flows in the Netherlands

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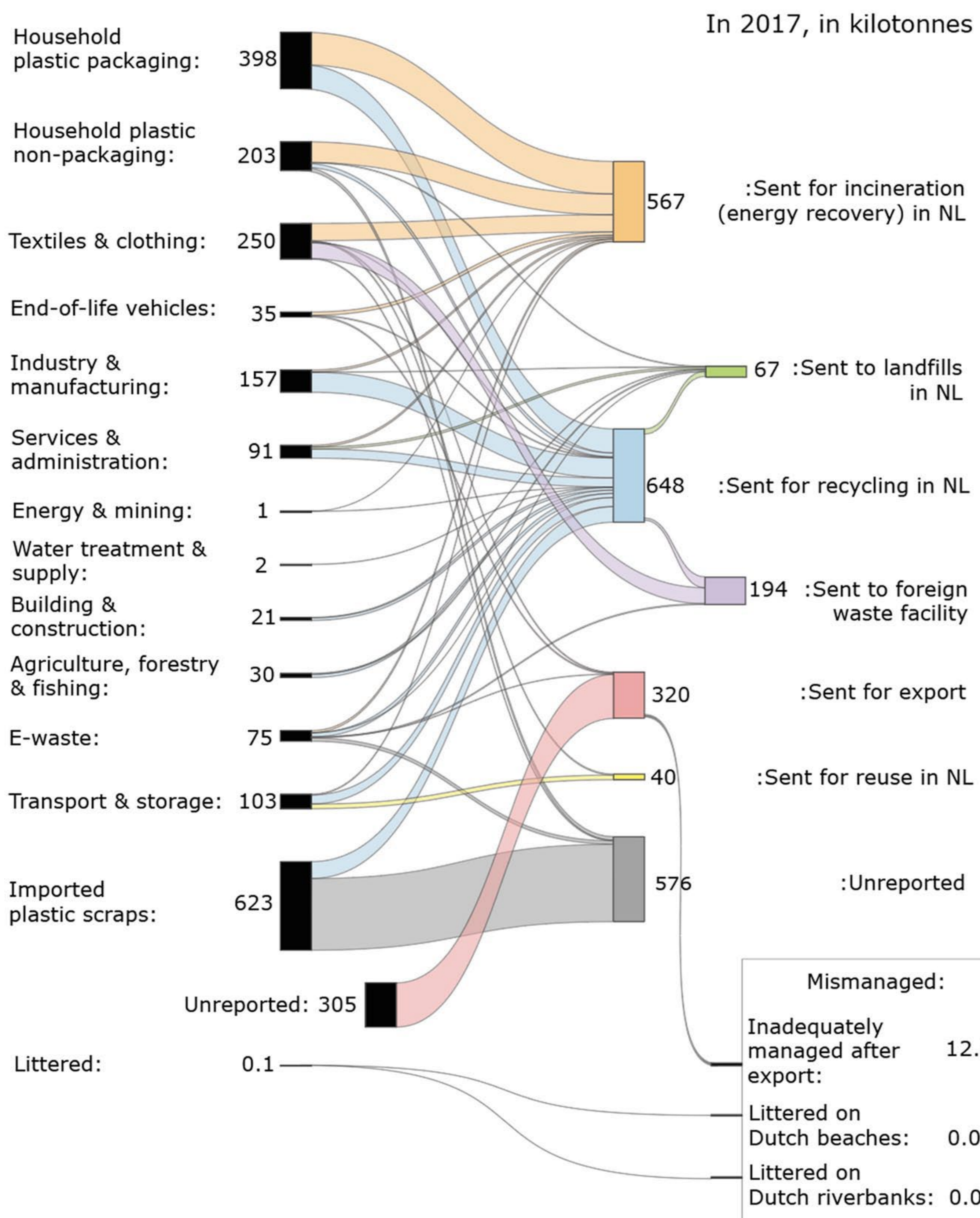


Figure 1, on the left

Material flow analysis of Dutch plastics waste. All data refer to 2017 in kilo tonnes. On the left are the sources of Dutch plastics waste generated and on the right are the destinations.

The values shown are the average estimates. Estimations in ranges can be found in Figure 2.

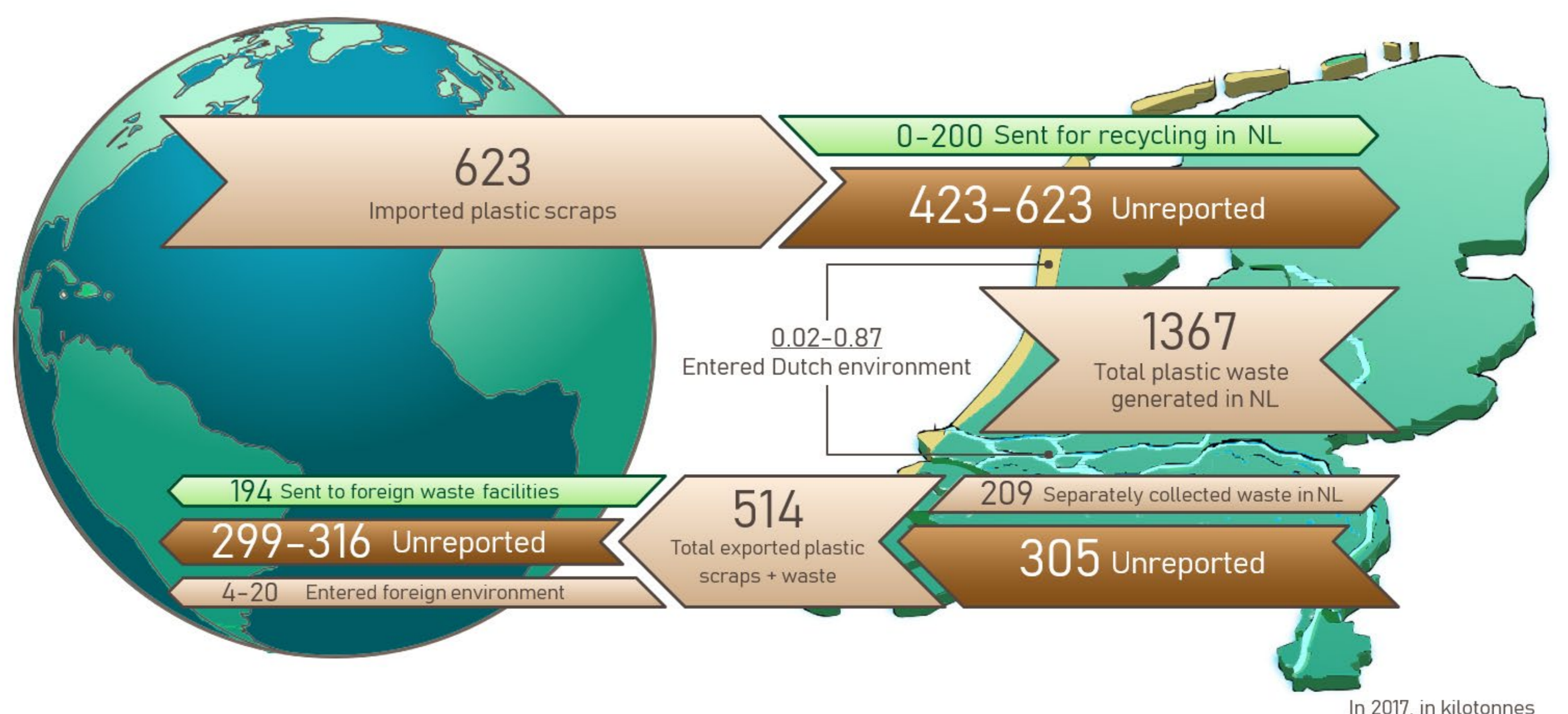
What do we recommend:

1. Tracking the sources and destination of traded plastic scraps;
2. Reporting plastics in mixed waste from non-household sectors;
3. Reporting the plastic fractions in separately collected waste streams;
4. Reporting recycled and non-recycled amounts; and
5. Better monitoring litter on land.

Figure 2, on the right

An overview of the main results:

- (1) Total plastic waste generated within the Netherlands without imported scraps: 1367 kt.
- (2) The destination of imported plastics scraps (623 kt): mostly unreported.
- (3) The source and destination of exported plastic scraps and waste (514 kt): mostly unreported.
- (4) Foreign inadequate management after export (4-20 kt) was much larger than the domestic littering (0.02-0.87 kt on riverbanks and beaches). Domestic estimates do not include land littering so are most likely underestimated.



In 2017, in kilotonnes

References

1. Lobelle D, Shen L, van Huet B, et al. Knowns and unknowns of plastic waste flows in the Netherlands. Waste Management & Research. 2024;42(1):27-40. doi:10.1177/0734242X231180863