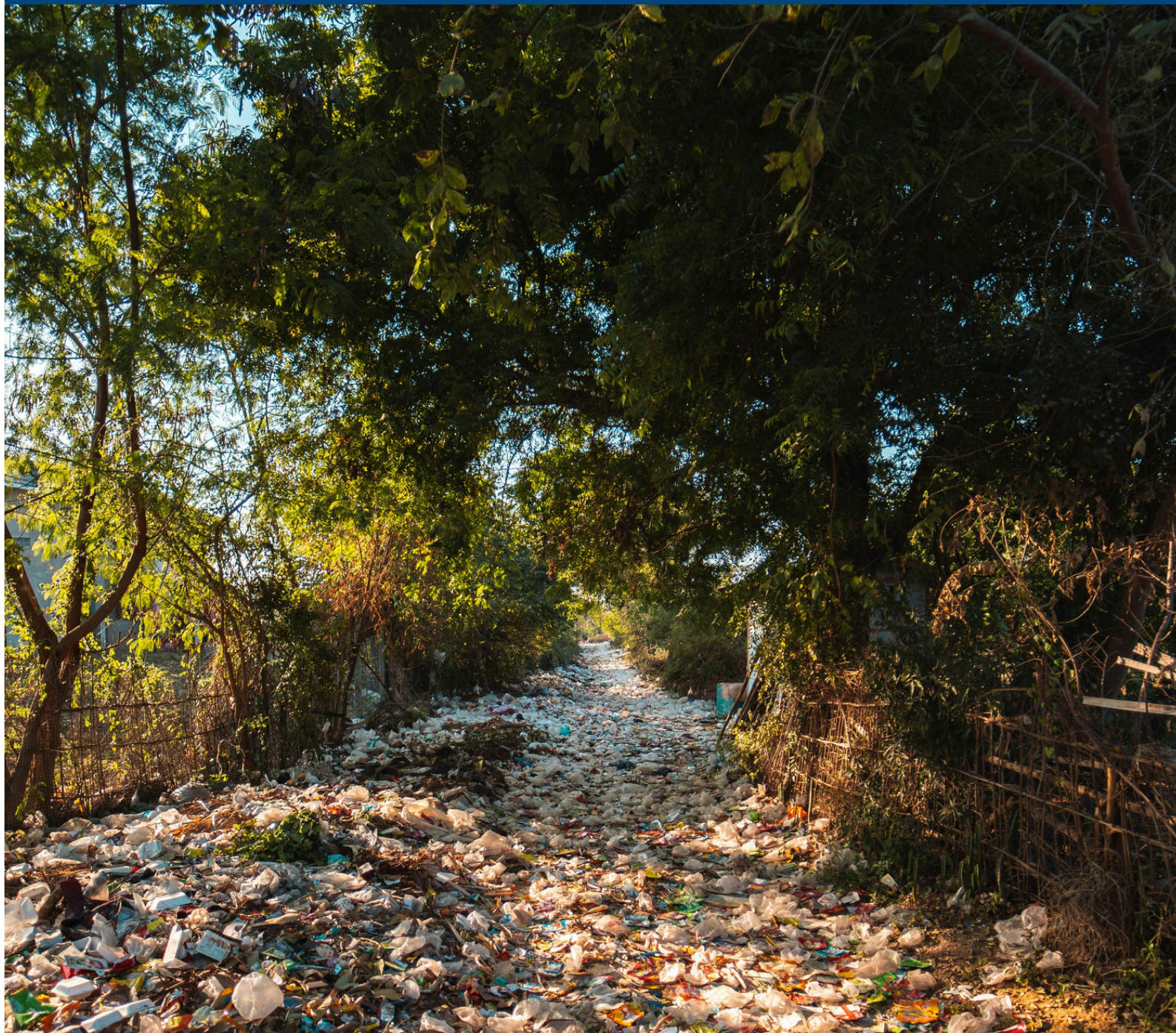


PHTHALATES AND BISPHENOLS IN TAJIKISTAN

MARCH 2026



for a healthy toxics-free future

Phthalates and Bisphenols in Tajikistan

Executive summary

Name of Participating Organization: NGO “Foundation to support civil initiatives”

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Short Summary for project “Phthalates and Bisphenols in Tajikistan»

The report on the project was based on the following information sources:

- research and projects on chemical safety implemented by the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, other government organizations involved in waste management programs, NGO “Foundation to Support Civil Initiatives”;
- analytical data published by the state information networks of Tajikistan and Central Asia;
- journalistic research;
- data from the Internet

Plastic is not produced in Tajikistan, but the production of plastic and plastic products from recycled plastic is increasing. In 2023, the production of plastic products from recycled plastic in the country increased by 250%, and the number of enterprises in the field of plastics reached 278. Information on plastic production by private organizations operating in Tajikistan is provided in the appendix to the report "Plastic products in Tajikistan".

At the international conference "Plastic Waste in remote and mountainous regions of Tajikistan", held in Dushanbe on November 29, 2024, it was announced that every resident of Tajikistan produces about 109 grams of plastic waste. In ten large cities and districts of Tajikistan, the share of plastic in solid household waste is 9.5%, which is equivalent to 148 thousand tons in this group of regions. At the end of 2024 the level of plastic recycling remains low, with only 2.6% (8.5 thousand tons) recycled waste, while 83% of plastic (more than 267 thousand tons) is taken to landfills.

<https://egov.tj/site/nature-tjk?lang=ru/>

There are no specific figures on the volume of plastic imports to Tajikistan. According to the data of the Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the total volume of imported and exported plastic products for the period 2020-2023 amounted to about 21 thousand tons. Tajikistan's main trading partners in the import of plastic products are Russia and the countries of Central Asia (mainly from Uzbekistan).

The production and import of phthalates and bisphenols are not registered in Tajikistan. No specific studies or reports on the health effects of phthalates and bisphenols have been conducted in the country.

At the end of 2025 the Interdepartmental Commission on Chemical Safety resumed its work in Tajikistan. The meeting of the Chemical Safety Commission was held in Dushanbe on December 9, 2025, at which the Regulations on the Commission, the status, general tasks, rights and duties of the Commission were discussed.

The Commission carries out its activities on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, the laws of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Protection", "On Environmental Expertise", "On Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and precursors", and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of chemicals and waste management.

At the meeting of the Chemical Safety Commission in Dushanbe on December 9, 2025 the projects on non-thermal recycling of DDT waste in Central Asia and issues of strengthening control over hazardous chemicals were discussed.

On November 29, 2024, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan issued an order "To approve the list of chemicals and chemical reagents approved for use in the Republic of Tajikistan" [57a460258e99d70f6f353cb3a8ecc760_original.1415345.pdf](#) - Appendix to the Decree of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan dated November 29, 2024 - List of chemicals and chemical reagents approved for use in the Republic of Tajikistan.

The President of Tajikistan instructed the Committee on Environmental Protection, in cooperation with other relevant government agencies, to develop and submit to the Government of the country the "National Waste Management Strategy for the period up to 2035" and the Environmental Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

<https://khovar.tj/rus/2025/09/komitet-po-ohrane-okruzhayushhej-sredy-razrabotaet-natsionalnuyu-strategiyu-upravleniya-othodami-na-period-do-2035-goda/>

Methods

The following sources were used to answer the questions posed:

- analysis and data from studies and projects carried out by the Environmental Protection Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the NGO Civil Initiatives Support Fund
- analytical data published by Central Asian information networks and journalistic investigations
- data from the internet

Production and use in the country.

1. How much plastics are produced, imported, and exported in the country?

There are no specific figures on the volume of plastic imports into Tajikistan. Some studies have shown that approximately 322,000 tons of plastic waste are generated annually in the country out of a total volume of more than 9 million tons of solid household waste.

Each resident of large cities throws away more than 100 grams of plastic every day. <https://www.asiaplustj.info/ru/news/tajikistan/society/20241219/kazhdii-zhitel-tadzhikistana->

[ezhednevno-vibrasivaet-100-grammov-plastika/](#) According to data from the Customs Service of the Republic of Tajikistan, the total volume of imported and exported plastic products for the period 2020-2023 amounted to about 21,000 tons. Tajikistan's main trading partners for the import of plastic products are Russia and the countries of Central Asia (mainly Uzbekistan).

- The production of plastic products in Tajikistan is shown in the appendix to the report: Plastic products in Tajikistan.

2. How much phthalates and/or bisphenols are produced, imported, and exported in the country?

Such data are not covered by Tajikistan's statistical forms.

Regulatory controls on phthalates and/or bisphenols in the country

1. Does the country have any controls on phthalates and/or bisphenols?

- Phthalates, bisphenols, and other chemical components used in the production and processing of plastic in Tajikistan are not controlled. To regulate the use of plastic and its toxic components, appropriate laws and regulations need to be developed.

2. Does the country have any regulations on transparency and traceability of chemicals in plastics (labels, databases, consumer rights)?

- The Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on Regulatory Legal Acts (as amended by Law No. 1820 of 23 December 2021) was approved by Parliament Resolution No. 397 of 18 May 2017.

However, no normative legal acts concerning plastics and their components have been developed in Tajikistan to date.

- Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Production and Consumption Waste" dated July 25, 2005, No. 109, (with [amendments and additions](#) dated June 28, 2011, No. 736).

- Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Protection" (July 18, 2017, No. 1449)

- Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Monitoring" (July 26, 2014, No. 1120) - Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Impact Assessment" (July 18, 2017, No. 1448)

- Project "Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) in the Republic of Tajikistan", implemented by the FSCI in 2014-2015 with the support of UNEP/UNITAR. IPEN developed the National GHS Strategy to reduce damage from chemical pollution. The results of the project on the need to introduce internationally accepted pictograms and hazard classes for goods produced in the republic and exported to other countries were submitted to state authorities. The use of the results of the GHS strategy has significantly improved Tajikistan's export potential (apricots, cotton, dried fruits, honey, nuts, juices).

- In Tajikistan, at the end of 2025, the interdepartmental Chemical Safety Commission, which activities are regulated at the state level, resumed its work. On December 9,

2025, a meeting of the Chemical Safety Commission was held, at which the Commission's regulations, status, general tasks, rights, and responsibilities were discussed. The Commission operates on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, the laws of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Protection," "On Environmental Impact Assessment," "On Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors," "On Civil Defense," the Health Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of chemical management. At the meeting of the Chemical Safety Commission on December 9, 2025, projects on the non-thermal processing of DDT waste in Central Asia and issues of strengthening control over hazardous chemicals were discussed. <http://www.portali-huquqi.tj/publicadliya/>

If available: Known impacts of phthalates/bisphenols in the country

- No special studies or reports on the impact of phthalates and bisphenols on health have been conducted in the country, but it is widely known that groups in vulnerable situations include children and pregnant women.

The main sources of persistent chemical pollution are Tajikistan's large cities, areas with developed industry, landfills, and waste dumps. The poor are particularly affected, as they are most likely to come into contact with poor-quality goods, work in plastic collection and recycling enterprises, buy cheap children's toys, burn dirty plastic, and use old packaging for many years.

National endeavors to phase out bisphenols and/or phthalates

1. Have there been any projects/campaigns to phase out phthalates/and or bisphenols?

The Commission operates on the basis of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, the laws of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Protection," "On Environmental Impact Assessment," "On Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Precursors," "On Civil Defense," the Health Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of chemical management.

What are the main challenges in the process of campaigning for phasing out phthalates/bisphenols?

The process of phasing out phthalates and bisphenols in plastics has been put on the agenda of ICP-5.3. The issue of reviewing and supporting this process was discussed at working meetings with the Committee on Environmental Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, heads and leading employees of state institutions involved in chemical pollutant management programs (Tajikstandard Agency, Republican Sanitary and Epidemiological Station of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan, Customs Service under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Food Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan, National Academy of the Republic of Tajikistan). This issue was also discussed at the Round Table on International Lead in Paint Week organized by the NGO "Foundation to Support Civil Initiatives" (FSCI), which took place in Dushanbe on November 25, 2025.

2. Recommendations and project ideas to support national regulation of phthalates/bisphenols

Project ideas may include the following:

- Extensive dissemination of information to government agencies and the public in Tajikistan about the toxic properties of phthalates and bisphenols in plastics and their harmful effects on health.
- Development of technical regulations for goods containing phthalates and bisphenols, revision of the existing Technical Regulations of Tajikistan on toys
- Development of safer alternatives (green chemistry). To reduce the use of phthalates and bisphenols.
- Development of maximum permissible concentrations and GOST standards for phthalates contained in drinking water, perfumes, and cosmetics.

Other relevant information

At the international conference “Plastic Waste in Remote and Mountainous Areas of Tajikistan,” held on November 29, 2024, it was announced that each resident of Tajikistan produces about 109 grams of plastic waste. In ten major cities and regions of Tajikistan, plastic accounts for 9.5% of solid household waste, which is equivalent to 148,000 tons in this group of regions. At the end of 2024, the level of plastic recycling remains low – only 2.6% (8,500 tons) of waste is recycled, while 83% (more than 267,000 tons) is buried in landfills. An increase in the production of goods from recycled plastic was noted. In 2023, the production of plastic waste from recycled plastic in the country increased by 250%, and the number of enterprises in the plastics sector reached 278.

The conference confirmed the Tajikistan government's plans to gradually phase out the use of disposable plastic bags and containers. The critical need to transition to a circular economy was emphasized in order to prevent an increase in waste, which is projected to triple by 2050. To implement these plans, the need to attract foreign investment for the construction of large waste processing plants and the creation of a separate waste collection infrastructure was announced. <https://egov.tj/site/nature-tjk?lang=ru/>

On November 29, 2024, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan issued a decree “To approve the list of chemicals and chemical reagents permitted for use in the Republic of Tajikistan.”

[57a460258e99d70f6f353cb3a8ecc760_original.1415345.pdf](#) – Appendix to the list of chemical substances and chemical reagents permitted for use in the Republic of Tajikistan

The President of Tajikistan instructed the Committee on Environmental Protection, in cooperation with other relevant state bodies, to develop and submit to the Government of the country a “National Waste Management Strategy for the period up to 2035.” <https://khovar.tj/rus/2025/09/komitet-po-ohrane-okruzhayushhej-sredy-razrabotaet-natsionalnuyu-strategiyu-upravleniya-othodami-na-period-do-2035-goda>

Tajikistan has begun developing the “Environmental Code of Tajikistan,” which will eliminate existing inconsistencies in Tajikistan's environmental legislation.