



Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Introduction

We will explain what **EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility)** is according to **Royal Decree 1055/2022**, of December 27, on packaging and packaging waste, within the Spanish legal framework:

What is EPR?

EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) is a legal and environmental principle that obliges **producers of packaged products** to take charge **not only of placing packaging on the market**, but also of the **environmental management of the waste generated by such packaging** once used, **throughout its entire life cycle**.

In simple terms:

If you introduce packaging into the Spanish market (whether by manufacturing, importing, or selling it), you are responsible for financing and ensuring its collection, treatment, recycling, and recovery.

What does Royal Decree 1055/2022 regulate?

This royal decree **consolidates and expands** the application of EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) to **all types of packaging**:

- **Household** (waste generated at home)
- **Commercial** (waste generated in shops, hospitality, etc.)
- **Industrial** (waste generated in productive environments)

And **obliges product producers** to comply with EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) as of **January 1, 2025** for all these waste streams, something that **previously only applied to household packaging**.

Who is a "producer" according to RD 1055/2022?

The decree defines as "**product producers**" those who, **for the first time in the Spanish market**, place packaged products. This includes:

- National manufacturers
- Importers
- Distributors who sell packaged products
- Online sales companies that sell to Spanish consumers from abroad (with the obligation to appoint an **authorized representative**)
- [Here](#) you can see the Ministry's FAQs with practical examples.

Main obligations of producers under EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility)

Producers must:

1. **Register in the Product Producers Register (RPP)** of the MITECO.
2. **Finance** the costs of managing the packaging waste generated by their products.
3. **Organize the collection, treatment, and recycling** of that packaging (directly or through a PRO like Procircular).
4. **Declare annually** the kilos of packaging placed on the market, by material type and category.
5. **Submit prevention and eco-design plans** if certain packaging thresholds are exceeded.
6. **Provide information to the consumer** on proper waste management.

Ways to comply with EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility)

A producer can:

- Comply with EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) **individually** (individual scheme).
- **Join a PRO** (Collective Scheme of Extended Producer Responsibility), such as **PROCIRCULAR**, which acts on behalf of the producer to fulfill all legal obligations.

European legal basis

EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) is included in European regulations through:

- **Directive 94/62/EC** on packaging and packaging waste.
- **Directive 2008/98/EC** on waste.
- And in its development and reinforcement by **Directives (EU) 2018/851** and **2018/852**.

For any questions or comments, you can contact us through info@procircular.es, or with your account manager or through our website: www.procircular.es.

Sincerely,

Procircular team

