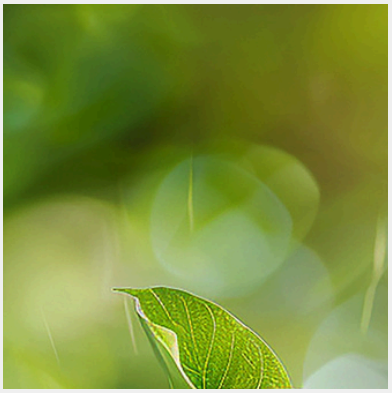
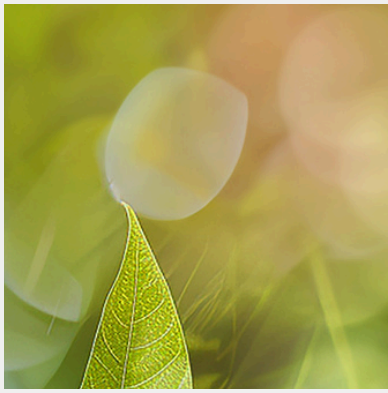
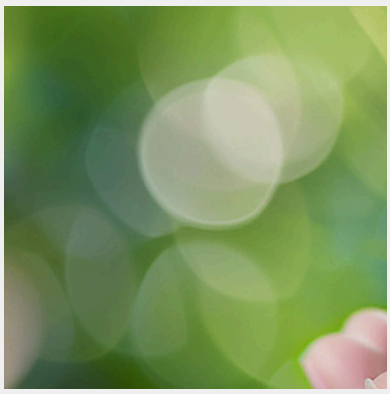
Southern African Vinyls Association

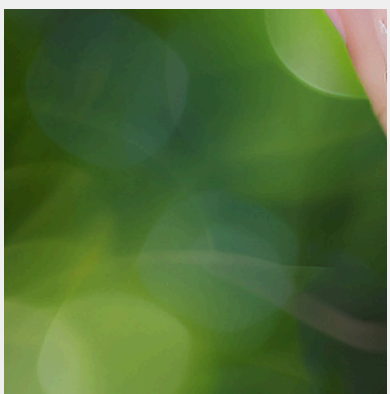
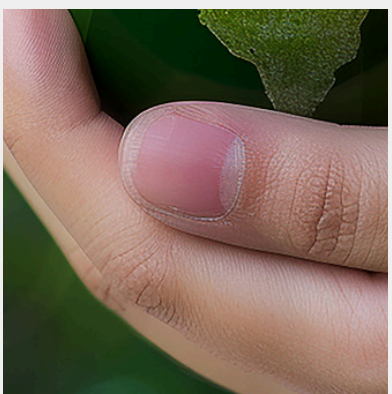
PRO Registration number: 19/7/5/P/PRO/20220811/034

Annual Report 2024

January - December

EPR SCHEME
YEAR 3 ANNUAL REPORT


3
PVC

DISCLAIMER

This report has been compiled to comply with the requirements of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations published in Government Gazette No. 44539 on 5 May 2021 in terms of Section 18 of the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 59 of 2008 (NEMWA), as amended.

This Year 3 Annual report has been developed with the list of members as per the January to December 2024 declarations received from SAVA members.

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1. INTRODUCTION

No matter what materials or products we choose, their environmental impact needs to align with our vision for a more sustainable future. In many cases, PVC proves to be an excellent option. Like any other material, it should be evaluated fairly—based on its performance, suitability for the job, overall cost across its lifespan, and the impact it has throughout its life cycle.

The environmental performance of PVC in its major applications is as good, or better than, alternative products. In some of its applications, there are few or no readily available alternative materials offering the same or improved beneficial properties. PVC is one of the most thoroughly tested of all materials.

- PVC factories don't emit large amounts of dioxin into the environment, while PVC products don't cause waste problems.
- Around 80% of PVC is used for products that last for between 15 and 100 years and this long life means PVC waste volumes are relatively low.
- Studies show that PVC does not pollute soil and groundwater. PVC doesn't degrade in landfill, so is not considered to add significantly to toxicity of leachate in landfill.

Only 12,600 tonnes (or 9 %) of the locally consumed PVC goes into packaging such as bottles, thermoformed punnets, blister packs, clingfilm and other flexible packaging. Although a small volume polymer packaging material, it is important to note that it has very specific and necessary application values. All of these vinyl products are recyclable, in high demand by recyclers and help to reduce the amount of energy and raw materials needed to produce new products.

The Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) has registered as a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) in order to represent the interests of the PVC packaging producers operating in South Africa.

Producers are charged a levy of R250.00 for every tonne of rigid or flexible packaging they put onto the South African market.

SAVA is responsible for reporting on behalf of these producers to DFFE and uses the funds raised to support post-consumer and post-industrial PVC packaging recycling projects for films, bottles, blister packs and other items.

2. PVC IN PACKAGING

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) is considered to be the most versatile thermoplastic and has established itself as an essential material in the packaging industry. Its applications range from flexible films that preserve food to rigid films that secure medicinal products, as well as security packaging for high-value and corrosive items like batteries. The unique properties of PVC offer numerous benefits, making it a preferred choice for a variety of packaging needs.

Preserving Food and Medicine
Flexible PVC films are widely used in the food industry due to their excellent barrier properties. They prevent contamination and extend the shelf life of perishable items by protecting them from moisture, oxygen, and other environmental factors. This not only helps in reducing food waste, but also ensures that consumers receive fresh and safe products.

In the pharmaceutical sector, rigid PVC films play a critical role in maintaining the integrity of medicinal products. These films provide a robust barrier against external contaminants and are capable of withstanding harsh storage conditions. As a result, medicines remain effective and safe for use over extended periods. Polyvinyl chloride does not pose a hazard to human health or the environment. It is approved for food and pharmaceutical contact, and also used in a broad spectrum of essential and beneficial applications, including delivery of life-saving fluids intravenously in healthcare settings globally.

Security Packaging for High-Value Items

- PVC is also a material of choice for security packaging, particularly for items that are high-value or corrosive. For instance, batteries are often packaged using PVC to prevent damage and ensure safe handling. The durability and strength of PVC provide a protective shield that mitigates the risk of leaks and other forms of damage, ensuring that the product remains intact and functional.

Recycling and Sustainability
One of the standout features of PVC is its recyclability. Globally, more than 1.5 million tonnes of PVC are recycled annually. The recycling process for PVC is well-established, with all rigid PVC packaging being sorted and collected alongside construction materials and pre-consumer manufacturing scrap. Flexible PVC packaging can also be recycled, provided it is not contaminated with hazardous biological materials.[1]

In South Africa, the Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) plays a pivotal role in PVC packaging waste management. SAVA has achieved an impressive recycling and collection rate of 13 % for the year ending 31 December 2023. This achievement underscores the effectiveness of organised recycling efforts and the commitment of industry stakeholders to environmental sustainability.

PVC packaging offers a multitude of benefits, from preserving the quality and safety of food and medicines to providing secure packaging for high-value items. Its recyclability and the innovative use of recycled PVC in various applications further highlight its value as a sustainable material. Industry associations like SAVA exemplify the industry's commitment to environmental responsibility and safety, ensuring that PVC packaging remains a viable and eco-friendly option for the future. With ongoing advancements and a steadfast focus on sustainability, PVC continues to be a vital component in the packaging industry, supporting both economic and environmental goals.

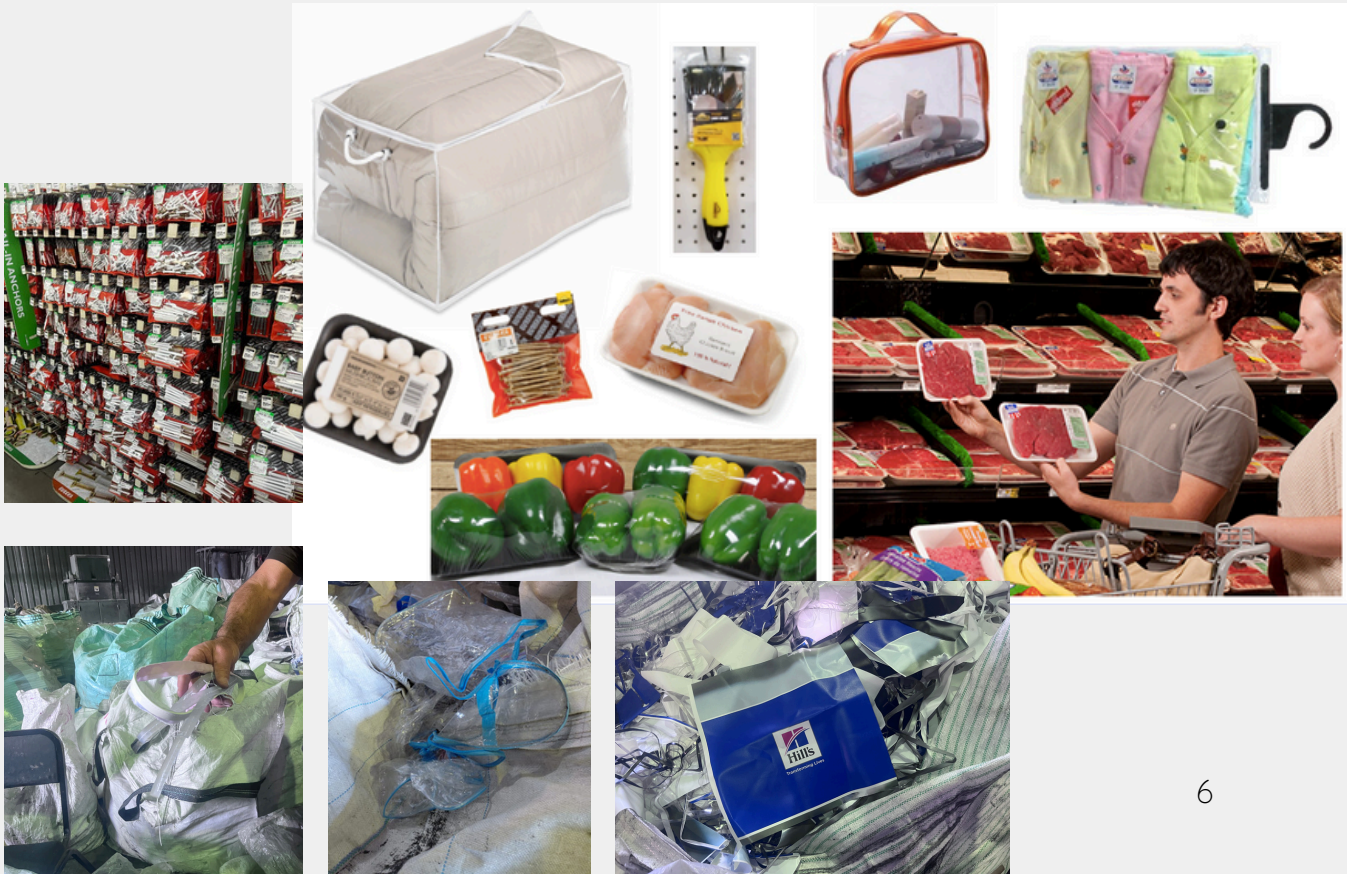
1] Although globally no post-consumer cling film (whether made from PVC of polyethylene) is collected and recycled due to contamination and collection issues, SAVA is currently working with waste management companies and other industry partners to develop and implement a mechanism for collecting and recycling this flexible waste from households.

Rigid Poly(vinyl chloride) packaging

PVC-U (Unplasticised)

Flexible Poly(vinyl chloride) packaging

PVC-P (Plasticised)



Locally manufactured PVC packaging accounts for less than 2% of the total packaging market in South Africa, which is roughly 12,000 tonnes per year. This type of packaging has very specific and essential applications, providing significant advantages for brand owners that other polymers cannot offer:

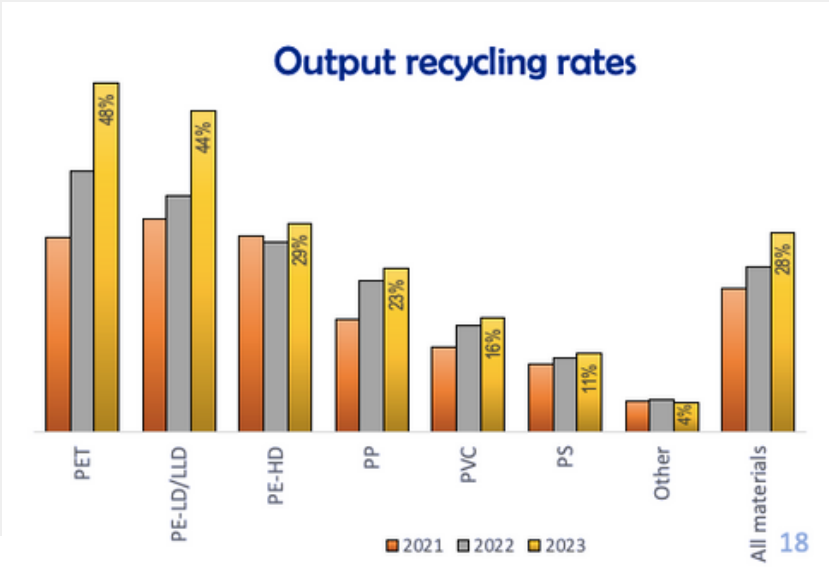
- Naturally clear resin
- Resistant to oils and acids
- Excellent barrier against most gases
- Heat tolerant
- Tamper-resistant (enhanced sealing performance)
- Durable and strong

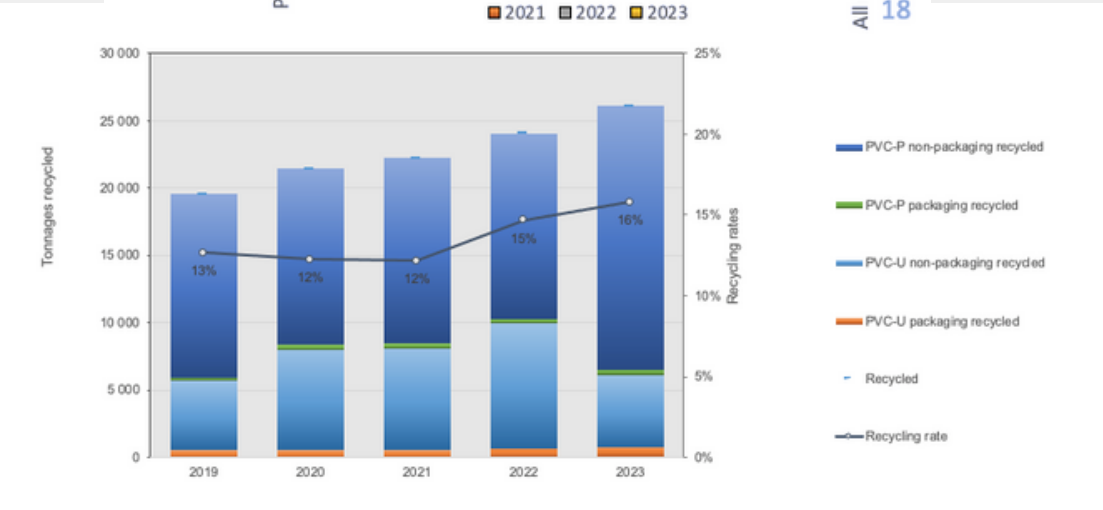
3. RECYCLING OF PVC IN SA

During 2023, South Africa successfully recycled 26,100 tons of PVC, marking a 16% recycling rate in this sector. This achievement represents a consistent year-on-year increase in recycled PVC, underscoring the effectiveness of focused recycling initiatives and commitment from the Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA).

This commendable increase in PVC recycling figures is a clear testament to the collaborative efforts within the industry and the commitment to enhance waste management and recycling in South Africa. From 21,432 tons in 2020 to 26,100 tons in 2023, we are seeing steady progress.

PVC packaging, though representing less than 2% of the total market, has seen notable success in recycling efforts. SAVA has directed resources to bolster collection and recycling systems for PVC packaging, which extends shelf life, reduces spoilage, and provides essential benefits to retailers. By developing additional end-markets for post-consumer PVC and refining collection methods, SAVA is helping to ensure that PVC packaging remains a valuable resource in the circular economy.

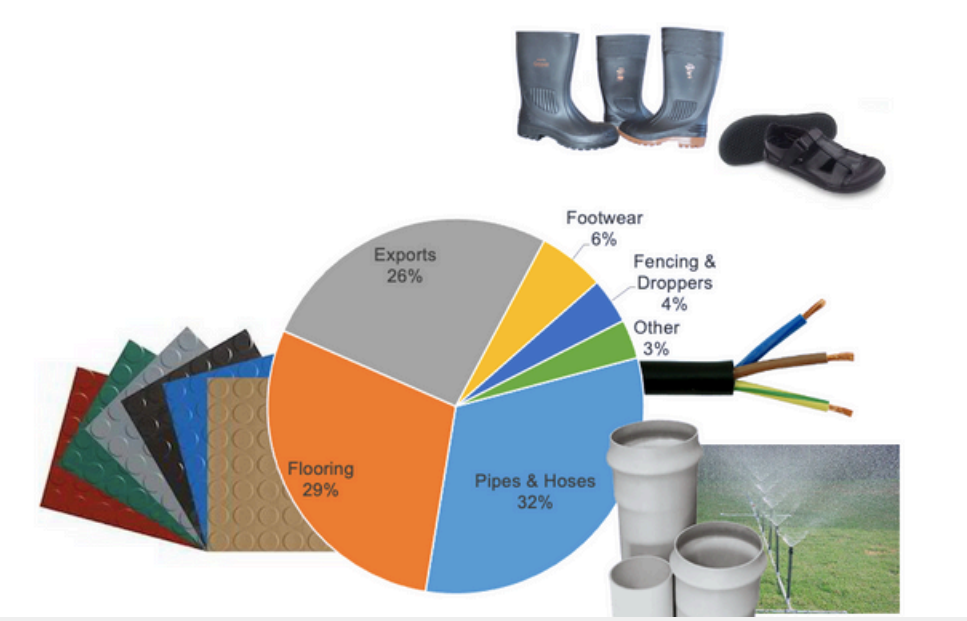


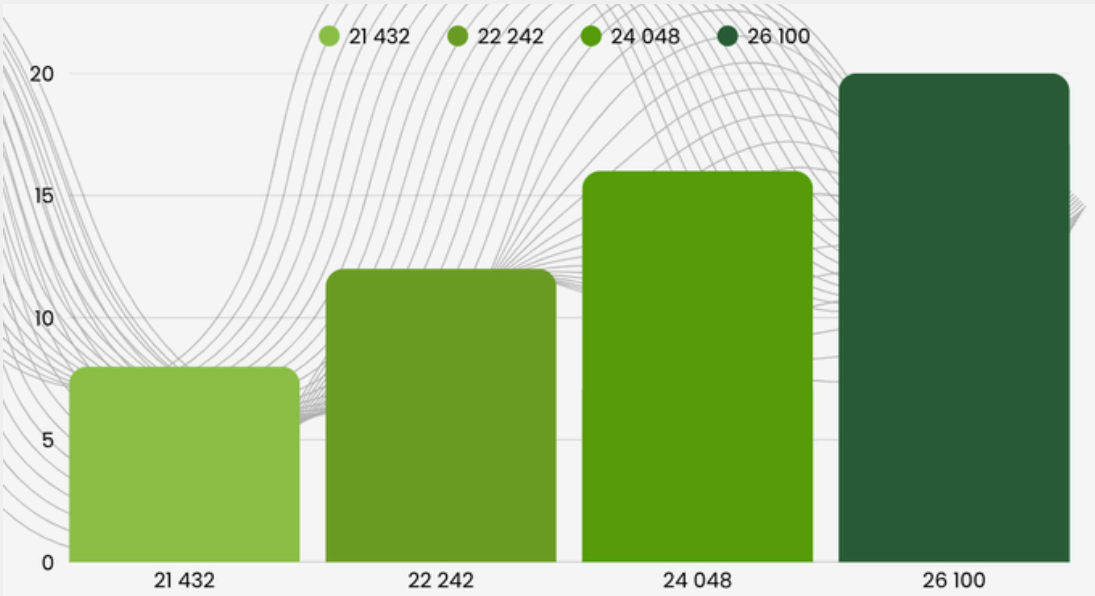


3.1 END-MARKETS OF R-PVC

South Africa currently has more than 40 recyclers which granulate and pelletise vinyl products for re-use in flooring and tiles, shoe soles or other PVC products.

The biggest market (40%) for PVC recyclate continues to be the footwear industry where it is used to manufacture shoes, soles and gumboots, followed by the building and construction industry (38%) and agriculture (12%).



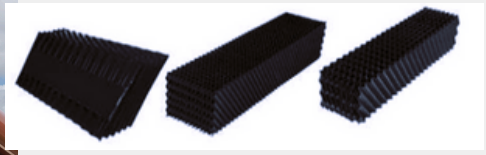


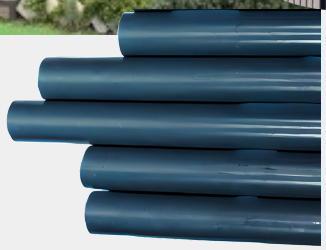
3.1 END-MARKETS OF R-PVC

PVC-U PACKAGING RECYCLED INTO:

Barge Boards &fascias

Cooling Tower Fill Media

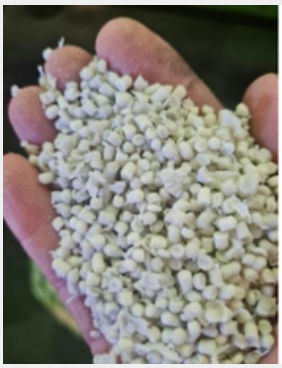


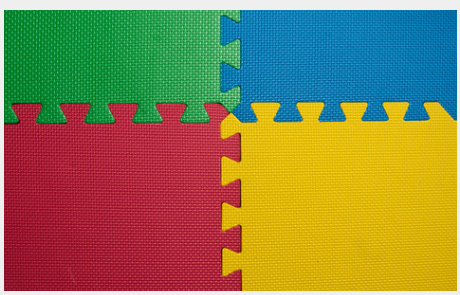


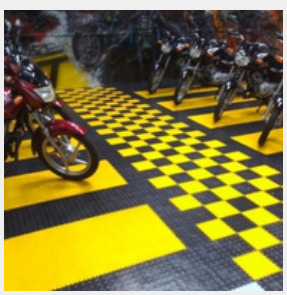
Non-SABS pipes

PVC-P RECYCLED INTO:

Compounds
Shoe soles
Interlocking floor tiles
Traffic calming products







4. PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANISATION (PRO) REQUIREMENTS

According to the EPR Regulations, a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) must:

- Be an independent body formed by producers following due process
- Be registered as a not-for-profit company
- Be governed by a board of directors made up of producers' representatives
- Comply with the Companies Act 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008) regarding good corporate governance and conflict of interest management

The Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) is a registered Non-Profit Company as outlined in Section 21 of the Companies Act No. 71 of 2008, with the registration number: 2011/122220/08.

SAVA is also a registered PRO with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), holding the PRO Registration number: 19/7/5/P/PRO/20220811/034. It has developed an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Plan as required by the EPR Regulations published in Government Gazette No. 44539 on May 5, 2021, in accordance with Section 18 of the National Environmental Management Waste Act, No. 59 of 2008 (NEMWA), as amended.

This report outlines the Annual Performance Report for Year 3 (2024), as mandated by the EPR Regulations in section 8(1)(b), which includes:

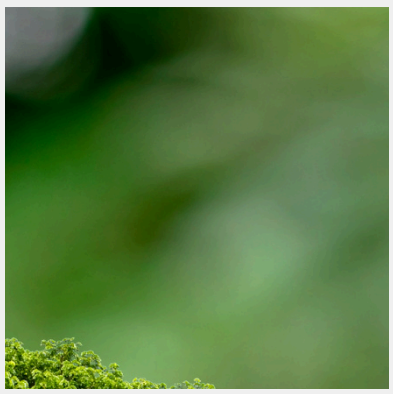
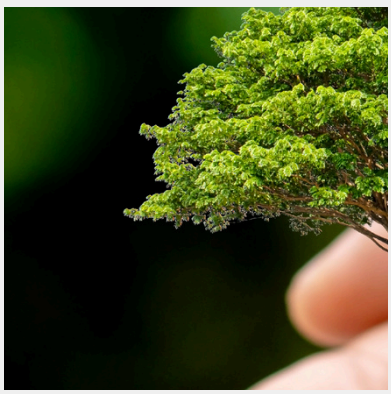
- Audited performance against established targets
- Audited breakdown of the allocation of the extended producer responsibility fee
- Audited performance on all financial matters.

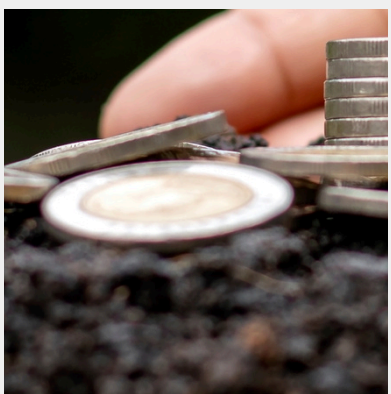
5. SAVA'S DUTIES AS PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANISATION (PRO)

1. Develop and maintain a system to collect the Extended Producer Responsibility fees of their registered members.
2. Conduct internal biannual financial audits and make these audit reports available to the Department upon request.
3. Make the internal biannual audit reports available to the external auditor.
4. Appoint an independent financial auditor to annually conduct an external audit of the financial records.
5. Submit this annual audit report to the Department within 60 days after finalisation of the audit, which annual audit report will be uploaded onto the South African Waste Information Centre (SAWIC) for public access.
6. Develop and maintain a register of its members if the scheme has two or more member
7. Collect, record, manage and submit data to the South African Waste Information System as required in regulation 8 of the EPR Regulations of 2020 (and as amended), by agreement with the board of directors, contract with the existing downstream value chain before outsourcing contract for the collection, recycling and recovery of the identified products if outsourced, through a fair and transparent process.
8. Keep records of the quantity of identified products placed on the market by members of the Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) in the following categories, imported, collected, sorted, re-used, recycled, recovered, and diverted from landfill.
9. Manage services that have been awarded to service providers in particular, these services include the fulfilment of collection and recycling by Waste Management companies.
10. Co-operate with all municipalities (where applicable), within 3 years of implementation of their Extended Producer Responsibility scheme, to increase the recovery of identified products from municipal waste.
11. Integrate informal waste collectors, reclaimers, and pickers into the post-consumer value chain.
12. Develop and establish secondary markets for recycled content.
13. Utilise new and existing infrastructure across Extended Producer Responsibility schemes in a collaborative manner where feasible or establish and operate new infrastructure within 3 years after completion of feasibility.
14. Compensate waste collectors, reclaimers, or pickers, who register with the National Registration Database for collection services and environmental benefits, through the collection service fee.
15. Implement transformation, where possible, within those entities with a special focus on women, youth and persons living with disabilities.
16. Prioritise the promotion of small businesses and entrepreneurs with a special focus on women, youth and persons living with disabilities.

6. KEY INSIGHTS & OBJECTIVES

1. SAVA reflects the tonnage of PVC packaging produced by its members in South Africa.
2. It is SAVA's mission to position the PVC packaging industry as a vital contributor to sustainable development through investments in post-consumer collection, recovery, and reuse.
3. Currently, SAVA is focused on the following key performance areas:
    a. Implementing the SAVA Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) strategy
    b. Supporting members in meeting their EPR obligations while encouraging new members to join SAVA
    c. Monitoring statistics related to SAVA packaging members and recyclers to assess progress towards EPR targets.

7. GOVERNANCE

SAVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

Richard Black
Elco Plastics
(Chairman)

Alistair Calder
Sun Ace SA

Rishi Madho
Sasol

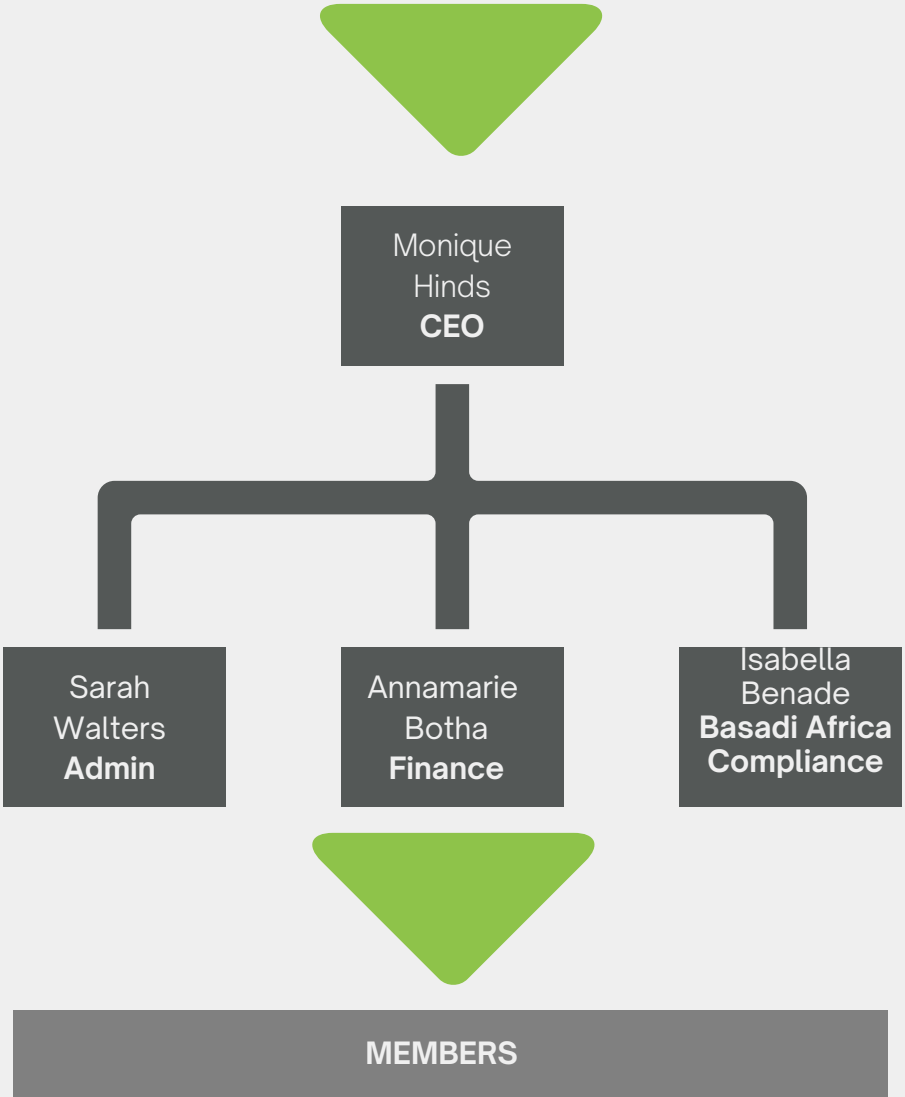
Wessel Oelofse
Mpact Versapak
(Packaging)

Michael Dickens
Isegen SA

Sanet Cilliers
Omya-Idwala

Kyle Lovell
Arengo Plastics
(Packaging)
** Co-opted

Frans Rantsolase
Abanqobi Packaging
(Packaging)
** Co-opted



8. REGISTER OF PACKAGING PRODUCERS REGISTERED WITH SAVA AS MEMBERS

Abanqobi Packaging
Frans Rantsolase
Cell: 074 582 7443
Tel: 010 110 7314
Email: frans@abanqobipackaging.co.za

Arengo Plastics
Kyle Lovell
Cell: (082) 338 7430
Tel: 087 058 0967
Email: kyle@lovell.co.za

B & I Polycontainers
Stefan Esterhuizen
Tel: (072) 504-4008
Email: Stefan@bandipoly.co.za

Cibapac Packaging
Jaco du Plessis
Tel: (011) 439 3320
Email: jaco@cibapac.com

Eureka DIY Solutions
Chantel van Niekerk
Tel: (011) 471-0800
Email: ChantelV@eurekadiy.co.za

9. PARTNERSHIPS

9.1 COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PRO'S

Where possible, collaboration with other PROs and existing infrastructure is prioritised to maximise efficiency and improve recovery rates. To this end, SAVA has signed a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with EWASA, the E-waste Association of South Africa in 2022 whereby the two PRO's support each other's collection and recycling efforts with specific reference to PVC, as well as interaction with municipalities, waste pickers and waste management companies.

SAVA is currently also in discussions with other PRO's with the hope of expanding this network of partnerships in 2026 in order further boost PVC packaging collection and recycling rates.

9.2. PVC RECYCLERS (RIGID & FLEXIBLE)

Although SAVA has a network of more than 40 recyclers operating throughout South Africa, only a handful of them are capable of recycling post-consumer PVC packaging waste. This is due to the technical difficulties associated with reprocessing contaminated material. Each year, SAVA issues a call for proposals to recyclers wishing to partner with the association on a formal level and thereby enjoy funding and operational support. Each proposal is carefully analysed against a set list of criteria which includes:

- Years in operation
- Established network for collections of waste material
- Proven end-markets already in place
- Knowledge and understanding of processing the material
- Recycling infrastucture
- Geographical positioning in South Africa

SAVA has been supporting the following recyclers in 2024:

- Sheet Converters (Cape Town) for flexible PVC packaging
- ReVinyl (Gauteng) for rigid PVC packaging - bottles

9.3. WASTE PICKERS / COLLECTORS

SAVA's recycling projects rely on informal waste collectors with whom our recyclers have established relationships. These collectors gather and deliver specific materials once they have accumulated enough tonnage, and our recyclers compensate them using the funds SAVA provides. This support helps sustain their daily operations and investment in infrastructure

SAVA
Southern African Vinyls Association

CALL FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS:

INVITATION TO RECYCLERS OF PVC POST-CONSUMER PACKAGING

The Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) is inviting recyclers of both rigid and flexible PVC post-consumer packaging to submit proposals for funding to support their collection and recycling activities. As the Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO) for the PVC packaging industry, SAVA is committed to providing financial assistance to recyclers who can help us manage post-consumer PVC waste efficiently.

Eligible Materials:

- **Flexible PVC packaging:** Cling film, packaging for duvets, pillows, bedding, etc.
- **Rigid PVC packaging**: Bubble bath bottles, honey bottles, amber and clear pharmaceutical bottles, blister packs, and similar items.

SAVA will allocate funds generated from EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) levies to support recyclers in scaling their operations or acquiring new equipment. Grants will be awarded for a period of 3, 6 or 12 months, during which time recyclers will be expected to achieve specific targets and submit regular reports on their progress.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A detailed business plan indicating budgets, material sourcing strategies and collaboration with waste pickers.
- Proof of a sustainable, viable end market for the recycled PVC material.
- A financial breakdown showing how much funding will be required over the next 12 months and how it will be used.
- Clear job creation and community upliftment metrics.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

- **Deadline:** Friday, 8 November 2024.
- **Email proposal to**: Recycling@savinyls.co.za
- Only established and experienced recyclers are eligible to apply.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to present their project, budget, and impact to the SAVA directors via Zoom or an online platform.

SAVA is committed to advancing the circular economy and looks forward to partnering with recyclers who share our vision for a cleaner, more sustainable future

For inquiries and to submit proposals, please contact us Recycling@@savinyls.co.za or visit www.savinyls.co.za

10. SAVA PERFORMANCE AGAINST EPR TARGETS

Year 1 - 2022

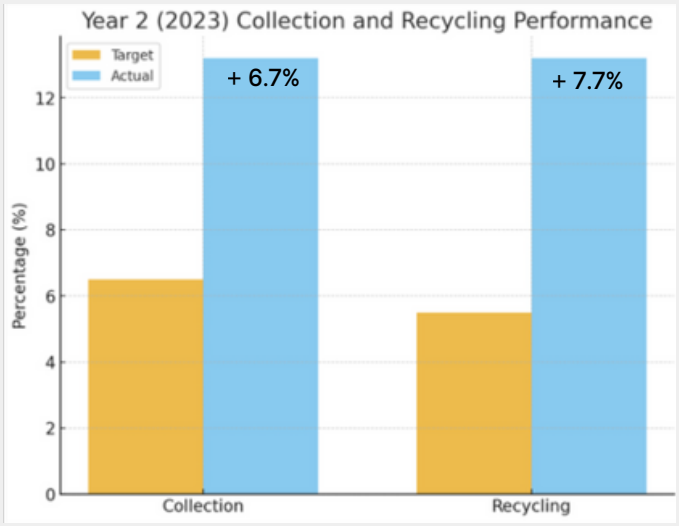
Collection target is 6%
Recycling target is 5%

SAVA not yet registered as PRO = 0 %

Year 2 - 2023

Collection target is 6.5%
Recycling target is 5.5%

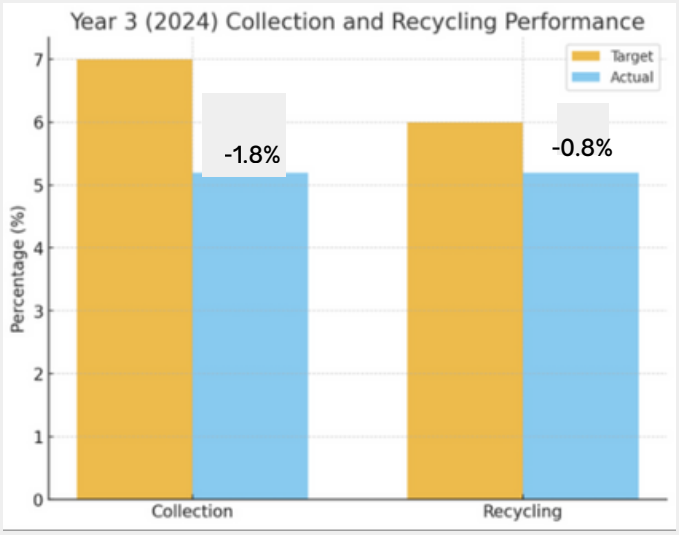
- 3 585.63 tons put to market by members
- 473.6 tons collected and recycled
- 13.2 %



Year 3 - 2024

Collection target is 7%
Recycling target is 6%

- 4 751.68 tons put to market by members
- 246 tons collected and recycled
- 5.2 %



During Year 2 **(2023),** a significant stockpile of unprocessed PVC bottles and other packaging was available for recycling. By Year 3 **(2024)**, this accumulated material had been successfully processed, resulting in smaller volumes of newly generated waste being available to recyclers. This transition accounts for the observed decline in collection and recycling rates between the two reporting periods.

10. DATA PROCESS FLOW

Recyclers > SAVA

The data process flow of SAVA's recycling programme is designed to ensure accountability, transparency, and accurate reporting. As part of their agreement with SAVA, the three appointed recyclers, namely Sheet Converters (flexible PVC, Cape Town), ReVinyl (PVC bottles, Gauteng), and Plasticomp cc (vacuum formed rigid PVC), are required to submit monthly declarations detailing:

- The volumes of post-consumer PVC packaging collected and recycled,
- The percentage of waste generated, and
- The number of jobs sustained or created through their operations.

These reports are submitted electronically via email to SAVA and shared simultaneously with the accounts department (Annamarie Botha), the external auditor (Isabella Benade), and the CEO (Monique Hinds).

The information received is captured, reviewed, and stored as part of SAVA's official system documentation, forming the basis for performance monitoring, financial support disbursement, and reporting to stakeholders. This structured process ensures that all data is validated and aligned with SAVA's mandate to promote responsible PVC waste management and recycling in South Africa.

RECYCLER DATA REPORTING

Company Name: xxxxx				MONTH:	xxxxxx		
	COLLECTION	PRE-PROCESSING		TREATMENT			
PRODUCT: PVC	Mandatory take back (tons)	Reuse (tons)	Recycling (tons)	Recovery (tons)	Energy/ recovery/ other (tons)	Exported (tons)	Landfilled (tons)
EPR Paper & Packaging Sector	The total tonnage of what you collected	means to utilise articles from the waste stream again for a similar or different purpose without changing the form or properties of the articles;	process where waste is reclaimed for further use, which process involves the separation of waste from a waste stream for further use and the processing of that separated material as a product or raw material;	means the controlled extraction of a material or the retrieval of energy from waste to produce a product;	The total tonnage of what could be converted to energy	The total tonnage of what was exported from the tonnage you collected	The total tonnage of wh ended up in landfill fro the tonnage you collec
Polyvinyl Chloride (Rigid and flexible)							
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	

We hereby confirm that the above declarations have not been claimed/paid from/by any other PRO and we understand that it constitutes fraud to double claim

11. PPOM PRODUCTS PUT ON MARKET

Reporting and frequency of declaration by producers to SAVA

Packaging producers registered with SAVA are required to submit monthly, retrospective declarations of the quantities of PVC packaging they have produced. These declarations form the basis for invoicing, with producers charged an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) levy of R250 per ton of packaging declared.

A separate set of accounts are kept for EPR members and audited annually by external auditors to verify our income and expenditure. This ensures full transparency and accountability, with the levy funds being used exclusively to finance collection and recycling initiatives that support and strengthen the work of recyclers in the PVC value chain.

We are currently in the process of opening a separate bank account for EPR fees which will make the process even more streamlined and transparent.

12. EPR FEES

Revenue Collected 2024

SAVA					
Total tonnages for 2024					
			Tonnages		R
Abanqobi			23,86		5 965,00
Arengo			68,55		17 137,50
B&I			395,99		98 997,50
Ciba Packaging			3 523,42		880 855,00
Eureka			739,86		184 965,00
			4 751,68		1 187 920,00
Total invoices in 2024					1 115 942,50
Nov & Dec 24 invoiced in 2025					77 952,50
					1 193 895,00
Difference - 2023 income -auditjnl 2023					5 975,00

*** A late payment was made by Abanqobi in January 2024, which relates to 2023. Hence it was included in 2024 instead of 2023, explaining the difference*

13. ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET 2024

SAVA Budget vs Actuals		
	Budget	Actuals
EPR FEES FOR 2024	2024	2024
Total income		
EPR Fees 2024	950 000,00	1 193 895,00
Total expenses	- 877 000,00	- 887 135,35
Admin fees	- 114 000,00	- 142 550,40
- Operational audits and reporting- consultant	- 115 000,00	- 117 819,13
- Travel and meals	- 10 000,00	- 7 160,75
- ISWA Conference	- 4 000,00	- 4 143,07
- Lab Analysis (Research & Development))	- 30 000,00	- 12 765,00
- Bulk bags	- 2 000,00	- 1 835,00
- Courier cost	- 2 000,00	- 862,00
EPR Recycler funding (Projects)	- 600 000,00	- 600 000,00
Total surplus	73 000,00	306 759,65

*** The surplus reflecting above is due to delays in getting the contract signed for a grant with Sheet Converters before the year ending 2024. A grant of R250 000 was subsequently paid out to them in January 2025.*

14.1 ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET SURPLUS

There was no surplus generated from administration fees during the reporting period. SAVA has a relatively small membership base of packaging producers, which means that the income derived from the 12% allocation allowed for administration is not sufficient to cover the organisation's operating expenses. The shortfall is funded directly by SAVA to ensure that all obligations are met.

Administration fees are allocated responsibly and transparently to cover essential functions that enable SAVA to operate effectively as a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO). These include:

- External audit services to ensure full compliance and accountability.
- Financial management and reporting services to maintain accuracy and transparency.
- A portion of the CEO's salary, reflecting the leadership and oversight role required to manage SAVA's operations, stakeholder engagement, and compliance responsibilities.

This careful and prudent use of admin fees underscores SAVA's commitment to sound governance, transparency, and the sustainability of the organisation, despite the limitations of its current funding model, as well as the urgent need to increase the EPR levies paid by PVC packaging producers

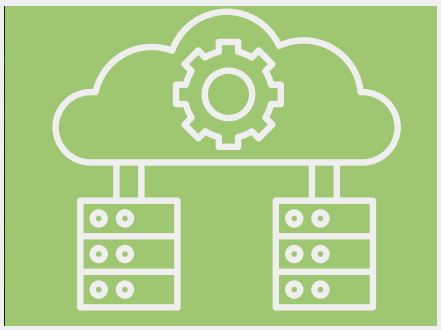
15. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

SAVA demonstrated its ongoing commitment to strengthening the local PVC recycling sector in 2024 by investing a total of R600 000 in the form of financial grants to two key recyclers: Sheet Converters (R250 000) and ReVinyl (R350 000).

These grants were aimed at supporting the companies' day-to-day operations, ensuring that they were able to pay waste pickers for collected material, and enabling them to expand their recycling activities.

By making these investments, SAVA not only helped to build the capacity of its recycling partners, but also helped to drive the growth of the circular economy, safeguarding livelihoods, and promoting the sustainable recovery of PVC products in South Africa.






16. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS

SAPRO Awards Ceremony 2024

School outreach with Miss Earth

One of our adverts promoting PVC packaing

Environmental Educational Awareness remained a key priority for SAVA as the association continued to address misconceptions surrounding PVC recycling.

Despite measurable progress in collection and recycling, a persistent belief exists among certain stakeholders that PVC cannot be recycled in South Africa. To counter this, SAVA invested in ongoing education and awareness initiatives, including the publication of articles in mainstream and trade media, targeted advertising (subject to budget availability), and outreach campaigns aimed at industry and the public. These efforts were essential in reinforcing the recyclability and value of PVC.

During 2024, this message was further validated when recycled PVC products achieved national recognition at the SAPRO Best Recycled Product Awards, securing Gold, Silver, and Bronze in the Building and Construction category. This achievement provided clear evidence of the innovation, technical excellence, and sustainability benefits of PVC recycling, strengthening confidence in the industry's role within South Africa's circular economy

17. PAYMENT OF WASTE PICKERS

PVC waste from households represents only a very small fraction of the overall waste stream. The Titus Secondary Recovery Study, conducted by the Vinyl Institute, found that less than 0.25% of vinyl present in secondary material recovery (MR) feed originates from curbside collection.

Household PVC waste is typically dispersed across more than 15 different product types, ranging from pipes and fittings, to cling films, blister packs, clamshells, jars and lids, security packaging, gloves, inflatables, hotel and credit cards, wires, IV bags, and other small-volume applications.

This diversity and low concentration make the collection of post-consumer PVC through conventional household recovery systems inefficient and economically unviable.
For this reason, PVC recyclers do not generally engage with waste picker organisations, but instead rely on established networks of dedicated waste collectors or waste management companies who are able to source targeted PVC waste streams, such as PVC bottles and flexible PVC packaging. Through the financial grants administered by SAVA, recyclers are able to compensate these collectors fairly (R5.00 - R7.50 p/kg) ensuring a steady and reliable supply of recyclable PVC while simultaneously promoting sustainable waste management practices within the value chain.

This direct payment approach delivers several key benefits:

- **Circularity:** By focusing on identifiable and homogeneous waste streams, recyclers can reintroduce PVC feedstock into the manufacturing cycle, reducing dependence on virgin material and supporting a closed-loop system.
- **Traceability:** Working with established waste management partners enhances monitoring and reporting, ensuring that all recovered PVC can be traced back through the collection and recycling process. This is critical for compliance with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations and for meeting stakeholder expectations on transparency.
- **Economic efficiency:** The targeted collection model reduces contamination and ensure that the waste collectors are paid in cash and immediately for their efforts, cutting out any middle-men and optimising the cost-benefit ratio of PVC recycling.

A truck loaded with PVC bottles collected by a waste picker arrives at one of our recyclers

18. JOB CREATION

With SAVA's financial support, our two recyclers were able to grow their operations and increase their positive impact on the local economy. The funding improved their capacity to process PVC waste efficiently, while also supporting livelihoods.

Together, these recyclers created **33 direct jobs,** making a tangible difference in the lives of employees, their families, and the broader communities they serve. This milestone highlights SAVA's dedication to promoting both economic development and environmental stewardship.

Name & Surname	Gender	ID/ Passport number	Cell/ Phone number	Race	Nationality	Disability	Occupation	Company/ Sub-contractor	Main Economic activity	Evidence
[illegible]	F	[illegible]	[illegible]	White	South African	None	Management	Company	Management	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	South African	None	Factory Supervisor	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coloured	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	N/A	African	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	Malawian	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coloured	South African	None	Driver	Company	Transport	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	N/A	African	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	ID, Contract
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	N/A	African	Malawian	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	Malawian	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	N/A	African	South African	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	ID, Contract
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	Malawian	None	General worker	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	Malawian	None	General worker	Casual	Recycling/Manufacture	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	N/A	African	South African	None	Trainee	Casual	Operator	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	M	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coloured	South African	None	Trainer	Sub-contractor	Educator	Available from Sheer Conversions [illegible]
[illegible]	F	[illegible]	[illegible]	White	South African	None	Accountant	Company	Services	ID
[illegible]	F	[illegible]	[illegible]	White	South African	None	Admin	Company	Services	ID
[illegible]	F	[illegible]	[illegible]	African	South African	None	Compliance Speci[illegible]	Sub-contractor	Services	ID
[illegible]	F	[illegible]	[illegible]	White	South African	None	Compliance Speci[illegible]	Sub-contractor	Services	ID
Individual 1	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 2	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 3	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 4	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 5	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 6	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 7	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 8	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 9	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 10	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 11	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 12	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 13	M	Not provided	Not provided	African	South African	Disabled	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]
Individual 14	F	Not provided	Not provided	Indian / Asian	South African	None	Casuals	Company	Recycling/Manufacture	[illegible]

19. LOOKING AHEAD

Looking ahead, SAVA's plans for 2025 and beyond include the following focus areas to increase the collection and recycling of post-consumer PVC packaging in South Africa:

- **Decrease in PVC bottles, increase in vacuum formed packaging:** We are experiencing a steady decline in the number of PVC bottles entering the waste stream, largely due to brand owners switching to PET. This trend will impact the volumes of bottles we are able to collect and recycle. At the same time, however, we are encouraged by the growing quantities of rigid, vacuum-formed PVC packaging being recovered by waste pickers and successfully diverted from landfill, creating new opportunities for recycling.

- **Design for recycling:** SAVA is working closely with brand owners and retailers to improve the design of PVC packaging in order to make it more recyclable. Key initiatives include the marking of PVC cling film (for example, with a faint green line) to help waste pickers easily identify it, encouraging brand owners to label their packaging as PVC, and collaborating with bottle manufacturers to adopt mono-material solutions, such as replacing polypropylene labels and caps with PVC alternatives.

- **Increasing collaboration with other PROs:** SAVA recognises the importance of partnerships in building effective recycling systems. We are actively engaging with PROs such as eWASA, Petco, Polyco and Circular Energy, who encounter PVC products in their waste streams, to create opportunities for joint collection and recycling of PVC waste. These collaborations will allow us to capture more PVC and ensure it is properly managed and recycled.

- **Collaboration with retailers and brand owners for take-back schemes**: Negotiations are underway with major brand owners to launch take-back schemes in their retail stores. Products such as underwear, linen and bedding, which are typically packaged in flexible PVC, represent a valuable source of recyclable material that can be collected directly from consumers at point of sale and returned into the recycling stream.

- **Increased investment in recycling infrastructure**: To support higher collection and processing rates, SAVA is investing in infrastructure upgrades at recycler level. Examples include the provision of trailers to increase collection efficiency, as well as investments in new machinery that will boost processing capacity and output, ensuring recycylers are equipped to meet growing demand.

- **Adjustment of EPR levies:** Recognising the higher costs involved in collecting and recycling PVC, SAVA plans to request an increase in the EPR levy from R250 per tonne to R400 per tonne. The relatively low tonnages of post-consumer PVC packaging, combined with the significant effort required to extract it from the waste stream, divert it from landfill and deliver it to the correct recyclers, makes PVC considerably more expensive to process than other plastics. The current levy is insufficient to fund recycling operations and reward waste pickers fairly for the additional work required. A higher levy is therefore essential to ensure that PVC recycling makes economic sense, while also building a fair and sustainable value chain. This proposal will need to be tabled and approved by members before submitting it to DFFE.

- **Improved reporting:** SAVA is currently investigating online systems that will streamline the monthly reporting process for producers and recyclers.

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