

# Deposit return systems *at a glance*

At least **8 million tons of plastic** end up in the oceans each year, the equivalent of one garbage truck per minute.



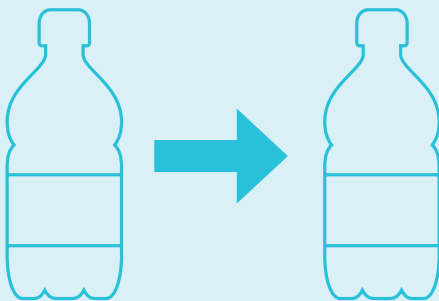
## What is a deposit return system (DRS)?

DRS works by adding a small but meaningful deposit on top of the sales price of a product. Once the product packaging is returned for recycling, the deposit can be claimed back.

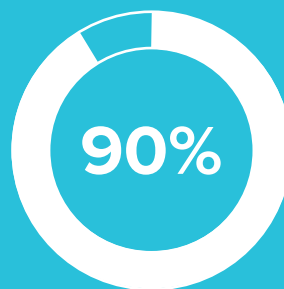


PET, metal and, sometimes, glass

## Allows for bottle-to-bottle recycling

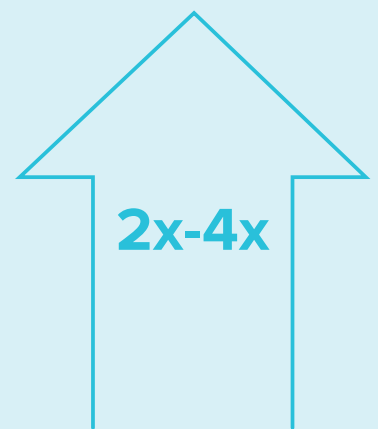


Delivers average of

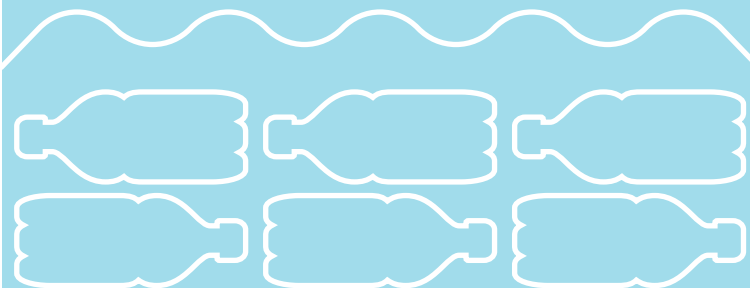


collection rates and highest recycling content possible

Increases recycling rates



Significantly reduces litter

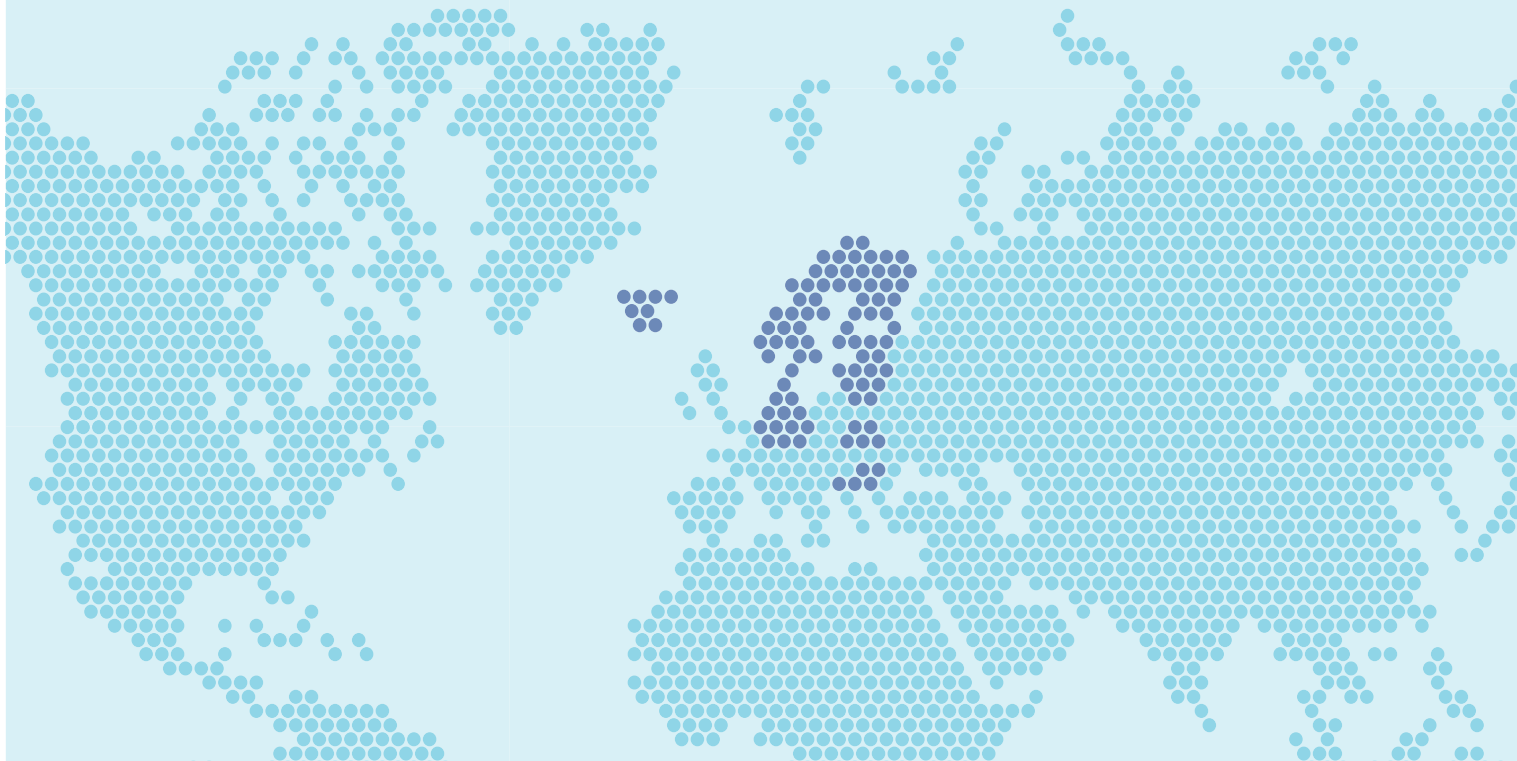


**Over 50 markets around the world** operate a deposit return system. Norway, Germany, Lithuania, several Australian states, 10 US states and nearly all of Canada. Regions such as Scotland, England and Wales, Portugal and more states in Australia are set to introduce deposit return in the coming years.



Across Europe, **13 countries** have deposit return systems in operation.

**Norway • Iceland • Denmark • Netherlands • Germany • Malta • Sweden • Finland • Estonia • Latvia • Lithuania • Slovakia • Croatia**



For every  
**100 virgin bottles**  
produced,

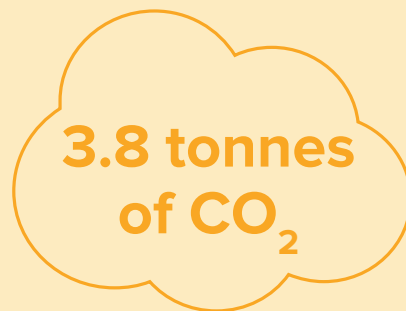


a DRS with a 90% collection rate  
makes it possible to produce a total of

**208 bottles.**



Assuming a **collection rate of 90%**,  
it's possible to save up to

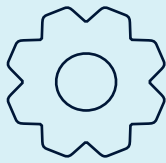


per tonne of plastic material used.

**Global trends that support DRS:**

- Finite primary resources
- Increasing on-the-go consumption
- Terrestrial & marine litter
- Growing political and consumer pressure
- Moving from a linear to a circular economy
- Demand for high quality and quantity collection/recycling
- Demand for recycled content

# Key design principles and elements of high-performing deposit return systems



## Performance

A collection target for all beverages plus a meaningful deposit delivers strong results.



## Convenience

The redemption system is easy, accessible and fair for all users.



## Producer responsibility

Producers finance and invest in the system using the unredeemed deposits, commodity revenues, and an eco-modulated EPR fee.



## System integrity

Trust is built into the system's processes through transparent management, a data-driven clearinghouse, and reliable redemption technology.

[Click here to download our white paper](#)



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