Product Analysis



Step: Three - Explore more!

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Time: 50 min

Space and materials:

- Any products ranging from household cleaning, healthcare and body products, food packages and any other available consumables;
- · World map;
- Pictures of polluted areas (optional);
- Pictures of production process (optional);
- Materials and resources on the production of certain products.

Description of the tool

- 1. Divide the participants into small groups and give each group a different product. Ask them to analyse the top ingredients of the product (ideally for food products), the packaging in terms of recyclability, layers of packaging and impact on the environment when disposed.
- 2. Ask the participants to find information online (if possible) about the origin of different ingredients. The map can be used to indicate the distance a certain product has travelled and the connection between the producing and selling countries.
- 3. Use the pictures of production to indicate the manufacturing procedure of each product and raise awareness on the processes involved in packaging, making, etc.
- 4. Use the pictures of polluted areas to indicate the environmental impact of disposing of certain items (e.g., toothpaste packaging, etc.).
- 5. Start a discussion using the following questions:
- Does the production of the materials pose any environmental threat (minor or major)?
- Does the production of plastic packages pose any environmental threat? How is it made?
- How can it be disposed later on?

Additional remarks

A specific example can be toothpaste, an everyday product with many ingredients. The participants will be asked to identify the main ingredients, conduct basic research on their production and the source of the materials. They can match their findings with the map to observe the origins and also examine some pictures from the factories involved in the production.