

The impacts of COVID-19 on the plastic recycling value chain in South and Southeast Asia

Immediate interventions from investors, brand owners, nonprofits and governments are needed to prevent lasting damage to the plastic recycling value chain.

More than
80% of the recycling value chain



was not operating
at the height of the pandemic

in Vietnam, India and The Philippines, resulting in an increase of plastic entering landfills and, likely the environment.



more than
40% of actors in the recycling
value chain are at risk

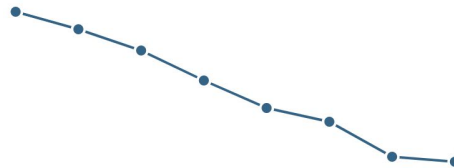
of permanent closure or bankruptcy.

There has been a



50% drop in demand for recycled plastics

and a 21% drop in sales prices experienced by recyclers.



As well as a
65% reduction in plastic volumes collected
and sorted by the informal sector

affecting the most vulnerable workers in the value chain.