

Compliance Cheat Sheet



About Local Regulations

Updated last on 2023-08-2

The Italian Environmental Labelling for Packaging Regulation is called "Etichettatura Ambientale Obbligatoria degli Imballaggi", and can be found in the [Legislative Decree no. 116 of 3 September 2020](#) ("Decreto legislativo del 3 settembre 2020").

The Italian law regulates the following waste-related matters (click to read more):

- 1 Packaging Labelling Requirements
- 2 Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- 3 Single-Use Plastic



Packaging Labelling Requirements:

Packaging intended for end consumers must be clearly labelled with appropriate instructions for disposal.

Applying an alphanumeric code

An alphanumeric code for the identification of the packaging material must be applied to both B2B and B2C packaging. Packaging intended for other businesses is exempt from requiring the inclusion of information regarding correct disposal of the packaging.

The alphanumeric coding system should be used for all manually-separable components of the packaging system (e.g. bottle cap). If this is not possible, according to CONAI guidelines, the labels can be affixed on the main body of the packaging system, on the label or on another component that allows the final consumer to easily view them.



Example of label for packaging made of corrugated fibreboard.



Example of label for packaging made of non-corrugated fibreboard.



Example of label for packaging made of High Density Polyethylene.

Multi-materials packaging labelling

If packaging consists of several materials, but the secondary material is less than 5% of the total weight, it is classified as single-material packaging.

If the weight of the secondary material is more than 5%, the applicable coding is indicated depending on the prevailing material by weight and the secondary material(s).

Waste Collection Guidelines

Packaging aimed at end consumers must feature prominently labeled disposal instructions, presented in the Italian language. The specific content of these instructions has not been fully specified at this time.

The Italian Consortium of Packaging Materials (CONAI) proposes the following labelling suggestions:

Example 1: "Separate waste collection. Please refer to your local municipal guidelines." In Italian: "Raccolta differenziata. Si prega di seguire le direttive del Comune locale."

Example 2: Information regarding packaging disposal categorized by material, using the format "[Material] Collection" (e.g., "Plastic Collection" or "raccolta plastica").

Extended Producer Responsibility:

In Italy, there is only one Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) responsible for EPR implementation: CONAI. Buyers and fillers of empty packaging must join CONAI under the "Users" category, specifying the industry to which they belong. If they purchase packaging from abroad, they are required to provide periodical declarations and pay Environmental Contributions in accordance with the procedures set forth for imports.

For more information, visit the [CONAI website](#).



Single-Use Plastic

Italy originally proposed plastic tax legislation in 2020, with the aim of implementing it at the beginning of 2023, but it has now been pushed to 2024.

The country introduced changes to the list of items to be banned and introduced exemptions. Italy stands out, after including exceptions from Article 5 of the SUPD (measures for biodegradable and compostable plastic certified in compliance with the European standard UNI EN 13432) and for single use plastics with less than 10% plastic.

By doing so, and despite guidance provided by the European Commission, as well as calls from the European Commission and NGOs to remove the exemptions, Italy is breaching the EU Directive.

Further reading

[More on COMMON project](#)

[Guidance from the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition](#)