



**close the
glass loop**

PRESS RELEASE

RECORD COLLECTION OF GLASS CONTAINERS FOR RECYCLING HITS 78% IN THE EU

Brussels, 25 November 2021

Latest value chain data – published today by [Close the Glass Loop](#) – show that the EU28 average collection for recycling rate for glass packaging grew to the record rate of 78% in 2019 (1). This represents a growth of 2 percentage points compared to 2018 performance, which shows that the glass packaging value chain is delivering on its circular economy ambition.

The multi-stakeholder stewardship partnership Close the Glass Loop aims to achieve a post-consumer glass container collection target of 90% by 2030, and to ensure that this is recycled into the container glass production loop. The vast majority of the 13.7 million tonnes collected go back to remelt new bottles and jars.

"The record high glass collection for recycling rate of 78% shows that our ambitious Close the Glass Loop targets can be achieved with close cooperation between all players in the value chain, sharing best practices on innovative and tailored collection models, high quality sorting and recycling and communication campaigns for consumers" **says Joachim Quoden, Managing Director of EXPRA (Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance), on behalf of Close the Glass Loop partners.**

"Glass is a permanent material that can be endlessly recycled into new packaging. The more glass is selectively collected, the better its quality for more recycled glass that can be produced and incorporated in the production of new glass packaging" **says Marine Ronchetti, Secretary General of FERVER (European Federation of Glass Recyclers), on behalf of Close the Glass Loop partners.**

It is a priority for the glass collection & recycling value chain to ensure that the remaining 22% of glass packaging is collected and brought back into the loop. Close the Glass Loop unites glass producer, brand owners and fillers, the hospitality sector, glass treaters, Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes, collectors and municipalities under a multi-stakeholder European programme. It is supported by 11 national platforms to increase the quantity and quality of available recycled glass – so that people don't just recycle, but recycle more and better.

END NOTES

(1) See Close the Glass Loop collection Statistics 2019 published on the Close the Glass Loop website – <https://www.closestheglassloop.eu>

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About Close the Glass Loop



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We share a common European ambition to collect more and better glass, together. Close the Glass Loop is a platform to unite the glass collection and recycling value chain, and to establish a material stewardship programme that will result in more bottle-to-bottle recycling. We aim to increase the quantity and quality of available recycled glass – so that people don't just recycle, but recycle more and better. By recycling more and better, we can progress on new EU 2030 recycling targets and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, achieving sustainable growth opportunities in the Circular Economy. See more at www.closestheglassloop.eu

