plasticbank®

Empowering the Social Recycling Movement

Sustainability Report 2022

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Empowering the World to Thrive

Change is not a one-time event, it's a continuous process of growth and transformation. It requires us to be intentional, to challenge the status quo, and to be willing to adapt to new ways of thinking and doing. Let us embrace this process with open hearts and minds, for only then can we create a world where sustainability and prosperity are one and the same.

Thanks for being here,



David Katz
Founder & Chairman



Dear Humans of Social Recycling

As I reflect on the work we accomplished in 2022,
I am reminded of the power of boldness. Imagine if all 8 billion people on this planet stood up powerfully and purposefully for positive change. Our potential to create a sustainable future is limitless, but small thinking often keeps us in a place of limitation.

Boldness is not something that is given to us. It is a daily choice, a decision to embody change even when it feels uncomfortable and uncertain. But it is in those moments of discomfort that our choices ripple outward like drops of water, inspiring our families, our communities, and the world at large. And when we gather together, these drops of water manifest into a waterfall of pure heart, intention, and change.

I believe that history will reward the bold. The real heroes — the ones whose stories we'll tell for generations to come — will be the ones who put fear aside and choose to be the change they seek each day.

We are taking steps to combat the plastic crisis and create a more sustainable world. By creating a circular economy that empowers individuals, communities, businesses, and brands, to turn plastic waste into currency, we are not only cleaning our environment, but we are also providing economic opportunities for those who need it most. Our work is not easy, but it is necessary.

As we continue on this journey, let us remember the power of boldness. Continue to make daily choices, embody change, and inspire those around us. Together, we can create a world where sustainability is not just an option, but the only way forward. A world where future generations can thrive, knowing that we did not shy away from the challenge of creating a better world.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Lavoie
CEO

Who we are

We empower the Social Recycling movement by stopping ocean plastic and helping communities pave a path out of poverty

Intentionally, our name says it all. Plastic Bank is where plastic is exchanged as currency, and value is withdrawn.

Practically, Plastic Bank empowers the Social Recycling movement, stopping ocean plastic and helping alleviate poverty. Our ethical collection communities exchange ocean-bound plastic for income and life-improving benefits. Collected material is processed into Social Plastic® feedstock for reuse in products and packaging. As of 2022, we are operating in Indonesia, the Philippines, Egypt, Brazil, with licensed partner-based expansion in Cameroon.

Purposefully, our Humans of Social Recycling help empower the regenerative society. At one end is the ambition to eliminate the need for single-use plastic by creating a closed-loop supply chain for global manufacturing. On the other is the enablement of collection community members in vulnerable coastal areas to become recycling entrepreneurs, with the potential to lift millions out of poverty. Every transaction is secured through an energy-efficient hybrid blockchain-secured platform that enables traceable collection, secure income, and real-time impact reporting.



Why we exist

Our purpose is simple: to empower the Social Recycling movement

Every single human being who is pained by the degradation of our planet and acts to prevent and reverse it, is a Human of Social Recycling to us.

Humans of Social Recycling champion our ocean, our land, our animals, our coastal communities, and all life on this planet. They bravely join our mission to create a world where no material is waste and no human is wasteful.

Whether it is our collection community members, entrepreneurial collection branch owners, pioneering partners or the people making simple choices that drive impact – we are all Humans of Social Recycling.

With our Humans of Social Recycling, we work towards one ultimate goal: enliven a wasteless world

Being a social enterprise hasn't made our goal any less audacious. It is a declaration of our commitment to regeneration and driven by the belief in the purpose of our existence. When this is embraced by our Humans of Social Recycling, gathering together and rallying behind it leaves us with no option but to overachieve.



Saving the Ocean Together

We empower collection communities

Our ethical collection communities are located within 50 kilometres of coastlines or ocean-bound waterways in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia. Collection community members exchange plastic as currency for income and life-improving benefits.

We track every exchange on our blockchain-secured platform

Our proprietary energy-efficient hybrid blockchain-secured platform connects everything we do and secures every exchange through the PlasticBank® app. It enables a fully traceable recycling process which includes our rewards and benefits, plastic credits, supply chain management, partner impact reporting, secure savings and income for collection community members.

We create Social Plastic® feedstock from the collected plastic

The collected plastic is processed into recycled feedstock, and used as high-impact recycled plastic in the global manufacturing supply chain, enabling a circular economy for plastic.



What we value

Gather

bring together

We gather the world together, then we gather materials together. Worldwide change requires a worldwide community.

Reveal

seek value

By revealing the value in plastic, we're making it too valuable to discard.
By revealing the value of under-served peoples, we're connecting the world.

Love[v]

serve life

Positively impacting social and economic systems requires a deep compassion for people and our planet. When making choices, we always defer to amplifying love over fighting fear. Our community-first mentality means that the interests of those in need supersede all others.

Create

breathe into existence

To create is to bring to life something that did not exist before. Together, the world is calling upon us to gather together and create through our words and actions. In the creation of this new world, as we speak it into existence, it is calling upon us to become. To become bigger, more powerful, more communicative than ever before.



Supporting Organizations

Ecovadis Silver Sustainability Rating

In recognition of the rigorous internal and external sustainable processes, EcoVadis has awarded Plastic Bank with the prestigious Silver rating for our Sustainability Management System. Plastic Bank made significant improvements through 2022, according to EcoVadis' globally recognized standard, upgrading our rating from Bronze in 2021.

Proud Signatory of the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment

Plastic Bank has been a signatory of the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment, led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and United Nations Environment Programme since 2018.

Proud Supporter of the UN Global Compact

Plastic Bank has been supporting the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact in areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, and Anti-Corruption since 2017.

Social Impact Award

Responsible Business Awards 2022

Reuters Events

Plastic Bank was proud to win the Social Impact Award, receiving the following feedback from the judges:

“Their work demonstrates how they are taking a huge global issue and addressing it at the root cause, attempting to prevent plastic from getting into the stream at the root of the issue. The judges were struck by the interesting business model, the tech platform used and the focus on entrepreneurship in the communities they worked and liked that the approach was global.”



Supporting the SDG's

Working together for a better world

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) are a set of 17 urgent calls to action for all countries to band together in global partnership. The UN recognizes that in order to end poverty, strategies to reduce inequality, improve health and education, tackle climate change, and spur economic growth must also be addressed.

Our partners are supporting the following sustainable development goals through investing in our Impact Programs or using Social Plastic® feedstock in their manufacturing:

1: No Poverty

8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

12: Responsible Consumption and Production

14: Life Below Water

17: Partnerships for the Goals



*An internal study was conducted to determine Plastic Bank's impact on all 17 UN SDGs.

Environmental Impact

With the support of our partners, Plastic Bank is able to continuously collect and recycle ocean-bound plastic, reducing the amount of plastic waste ultimately reaching the ocean.

Our Impact Programs invite businesses to reduce their plastic footprint by funding recycling and supporting communities through the purchase of plastic credits, ultimately reducing plastic pollution and helping collection members pave a path out of poverty.

Social Plastic® feedstock is ethically sourced recycled material, created from plastic collected by communities before it could enter the ocean.

Social Plastic® partners are advancing a circular economy and making environmental, social, and economic impact. By using Social Plastic® feedstock in their products and packaging, our partners are building a closed loop supply chain, ultimately reducing the need for virgin plastic.

DID YOU KNOW?

The production of recycled PET, PP and HDPE requires only 12-21% of the energy required by virgin materials and delivers 67-71% lesser global warming impact*.

* LIFE CYCLE IMPACTS FOR POST CONSUMER RECYCLED RESINS: PET, HDPE, AND PP; Franklin Associates, A Division of Eastern Research Group (ERG); December 2018

* - 1 kilogram of plastic is equivalent to 50 plastic bottles
(Plastic Bank Bottle2KG Report, Mar '23)
† - We operate in Brazil, Cameroon, Indonesia, Egypt and the Philippines
‡ - Active collection branches that had at least one plastic exchange during 2022

Environmental Impact

January 1 – December 31, 2022

Kilograms of Plastic

29,996,345

Plastic Bottles*

1,499,817,227

Countries Impacted†

5

Certified Processor Partners

53

Collection Branches‡

817



The Business of Purpose

Business as usual is no longer enough - our consumers are awakening to the business of purpose.
It’s time organisations redefine profitability to include profit for our planet, our ocean, and humanity as a whole.
We must expand and evolve our traditional financial definitions of return on investment and institutionalise environmental, social, and economic impact as our new ROI.

The time for preaching sustainability is over – we have to restore and renew our environment, our economies, and ourselves.
We need to embrace both society’s needs and business as a “force for good.” Our blueprint must strive towards a net positive impact.

Empowering Recycling Ecosystems, Developing Packaging To Be More Sustainable

Since 2018, SC Johnson and Plastic Bank have been working together to stop plastic from polluting our oceans. SC Johnson continues to create regenerative impact in Indonesia, the Philippines and Brazil, living the company's values in practice. To date, they have helped recover the equivalent of over 2 billion plastic bottles before they reach our oceans and landfills. Some of the recovered plastic is then recycled into products, such as Windex® in North America and Duck® in the EU.

In July 2022, SC Johnson launched a new toilet Duck® cleaner with biodegradable formula and innovative packaging to help keep plastic out of the ocean.

The new Duck® Biodegradable Formula Toilet Bowl Cleaner bottle uses 50% recovered coastal plastic and is fully recyclable. With every product purchased, the equivalent of 1 plastic bottle is prevented from entering the ocean or landfills!*

> "Building recycling infrastructure to stop plastic before it reaches the ocean and reintroducing it into products and packaging is key to solving the ocean plastics problem. I'm particularly pleased that this program with Plastic Bank helps to address poverty and create a closed-loop supply chain at the same time."
>
> **– Fisk Johnson, Chairman and CEO of SC Johnson**

*Collected on land within 50km (31 miles) of an ocean, quantity equivalent to 1×20gr bottle.



Plastic Bank's partnership with SC Johnson expanded to professional markets

Plastic Bank collaborates with SC Johnson Professional to offer a washroom choice with sustainability in mind. The SC Johnson Professional® Proline WAVE 1 litre soap dispenser is made with 70% recovered coastal plastic*, sourced from the global partnership between SC Johnson and Plastic Bank.

SC Johnson Professional® Proline WAVE 1 litre soap dispenser was first launched in the U.K. in November 2022 and has launched successively across countries in North America, APAC and Europe.

> "We are now excited to be bringing this truly innovative approach to professional markets with our SCJ Professional® Proline WAVE soap dispenser. By leading the way with this new dispenser, we are allowing our customers to act immediately on a topic they and their people care about."
>
> **– Katja von Raven, CEO SC Johnson Professional**

*Collected on land within 50km (31 miles) of an ocean, quantity equivalent to 1×20gr bottle.



An entrepreneurial approach to sustainability

Henkel takes a long-term, entrepreneurial approach towards all elements of sustainability.

As a Plastic Bank founding partner, Henkel helped to establish Plastic Bank's first recycling ecosystem in Haiti in 2017. In 2021, Henkel collaborated with Plastic Bank to establish collection communities in Egypt which aim to collect and recycle 5,000 metric tons of ocean-bound plastic per year! "In 2022 Henkel supported the expansion in Egypt from 7 to 23 collection branches.

The collected plastic is then reprocessed to create Social Plastic® feedstock that is integrated into selected Henkel product packaging including Nature Box®, Dial®, and Pril® brands. In 2022, Henkel prevented the equivalent of 252,682,633 beverage bottles from entering the ocean.

> "Plastic waste entering the environment is one of the greatest global challenges, and we are well aware of our responsibility as a global consumer goods company. Our collaboration with Plastic Bank is a fantastic example of the power of partnerships to make a positive contribution with both an environmental and social impact. We are excited to further deepen our partnership with Plastic Bank."
>
> **– Sylvie Nicol, member of the Henkel Management Board responsible for Human Resources and Sustainability.**



Design for a better future

ScanCom International A/S is an outdoor furniture manufacturer delivering sustainable outdoor living options globally - with a deep focus on sustainability, innovation & design, and operational excellence. ScanCom has partnered with Plastic Bank to help better the world while delivering sustainable and ethical material solutions for their designs.

In 2022, ScanCom released the Stream Chair, made with Social Plastic® feedstock. Additionally, ScanCom's outdoor furniture brand LifestyleGarden® launched the Nassau Chair and the Nassau Table, also produced using Social Plastic® feedstock.

By sourcing Social Plastic® feedstock from Indonesia, the collaboration represents a long-term commitment to a regenerative society while empowering collection community members with secure income and life-improving benefits.

> “Our partnership with Plastic Bank and the possibilities this represents is a great milestone in the sustainable journey we are on at ScanCom. Our dedication to Doing Business the Right Way and working for a better future in compliance with the 17 UN SDG's is always apparent, and the partnership with Plastic Bank is no exception.”
>
> **– Stig Maasboel, CEO at ScanCom**



ADVANSA
Advanced Fibre Technology

Innovating sustainable fibre alternatives

ADVANSA is a leading polyester fibre supplier based in Germany, known for its commitment to sustainability. ADVANSA is making a positive social and environmental impact by providing a broad fibre portfolio of sustainable offerings for its partners and end consumers. Advansa has partnered with Plastic Bank since 2019, using Social Plastic® feedstock to develop sustainable fibres for their Aerelle® Blue and Suprelle® blue brands. The fibre is fully traceable, from the recycling of the bottle to the fibre fluff.

Advansa's cumulative impact at the end of 2022 was over 1.5 million kilograms of plastic, equivalent to over 78 million plastic bottles.

> "It is estimated that up to 10 million tons of plastic waste enters the ocean from coastal communities each year. Advansa is partnering with Plastic Bank to take action against plastic waste. Plastic collected by Plastic Bank is cleaned and mechanically recycled before being used by Advansa as a valuable raw material in fibre production."
>
> **– David Bayliss, Managing Director, ADVANSA**



DAVINES GROUP

A global leader in Sustainable Beauty

The Davines Group was founded in Italy in 1983 as a small research lab, which grew then to become a global company and a certified B Corp, meeting high sustainability standards.

For many years, Davines Group has been focusing on eco-design, introducing refillable solutions and increasing the use of circular materials, using recycled and bio-based plastic. Davines Group began their partnership with Plastic Bank in 2021 to further reduce their environmental impact. In 2022 Davines Group strengthened its commitment: for every Davines and [comfort zone] product sold, an equivalent amount of plastic was collected and recycled locally, to be reused in a regenerative way.

> “We are present in over 90 countries with our brands and we are aware of the impact this has on the planet. This is why our commitment extends beyond our borders and is focused on doing everything possible to reduce our footprint and transform it into a positive impact for the Planet and its inhabitants.”
>
> **– Davide Bollati, Chairman of Davines Group**



Grow and Give Back

Nutrabolt is proud to continue to deliver on its longstanding mantra to Grow and Give Back by partnering with Plastic Bank. It’s one of many steps in the company’s sustainability strategy and commitment to become an environmental role model in the active health and wellness space.

To achieve the sustainability goal of being plastic net-zero, Nutrabolt has offset all plastic used across their entire portfolio of brands since 2021. In 2022, Nutrabolt helped collect and recycle 1,250,000 kilograms of ocean-bound plastic - equivalent to 62.5 million plastic bottles.

> “I’m excited about our partnership with Plastic Bank, and feel their work directly aligns with our mission. Together, we’re not only working toward a healthier planet for generations to come – but we’re helping to provide a stable source of income for people working to create a better life for themselves, their families, and their neighbors.”
>
> **– Doss Cunningham, Chairman & CEO, Nutrabolt**



Social Impact

In addition to stopping ocean plastic, our Humans of Social Recycling are making a social impact in coastal communities. Their contributions help alleviate poverty for collection members by exchanging plastic for income and life-improving benefits, and helping fund local community programs. Program type, scale and availability are defined by working closely with our local teams to map the community's specific needs.

- **Insurance:** Providing collection community members with basic health insurance and work insurance to support themselves and their families' wellbeing.
- **Nutrition:** Distributing vouchers and meal kits to supplement collection community members' regular groceries and help to feed their families.
- **Mobile Connectivity:** Helping collection community members gain access to financial inclusion through digital wallets and remote learning opportunities.
- **Education:** Providing training sessions for basic business tools, financial literacy, sustainability, and the importance of recycling to collection community members.
- **School Programs:** Supporting the education of collection members' children, i.e. through access to bursaries and school supplies.
- **Safety:** Providing collection members with resources such as covid kits, hygiene kits, PPE (hats, boots, gloves), collection trolleys and pushcarts

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the World Health Organization, up to 3.5 billion people – almost half the world's population – lack access to the health services they need, with almost 100 million people being pushed to extreme poverty each year because of out-of-pocket expenses.*

* Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report, World Bank, WHO. 2017

* - Registered collection members who made at least one plastic exchange in 2022. The number of registered collection members who have made at least one plastic exchange since 2013 is over 35,000 valued members.
† - Digital bonuses paid through Plasticbank® app

Social Impact

January 1 – December 31, 2022

Active Collection Members*

21,791

Total Bonuses Paid†

$2,181,671

Work Insurance

2539

people impacted

Health Insurance

5600

people impacted

Meal Vouchers

2896

people impacted

Mobile Connectivity

496

mobile phones & data packages

School Programs

851

children impacted

Meet Indah from Indonesia

a new mother at the frontlines of stopping ocean plastic

Indah is a collection community member and devoted mother and wife from Indonesia. She has been collecting plastic waste in the neighbourhoods of Candi Kuning, Bedugul, Tabanan, Bali, since 2021.

In December 2021, Indah was expecting her first child, and when she learned she'd require a c-section, she and her husband were worried about being able to afford the procedure — a financial concern that shouldn't have existed in the first place.

Through BPJS health insurance, Indah received coverage for the c-section cost and three days of hospitalization. The delivery went smoothly, and she and her family welcomed home a healthy and beautiful baby girl!



Bali, Indonesia

Meet Clovis from Brazil

a local entrepreneur making a difference in his community

Mr. Clovis is a 61-year-old branch owner and president of the Bertioga cooperative. He moved to the state of São Paulo in the 1980's to work as a builder. Upon arriving in the city, he noticed how people threw garbage in the streets and instead opened a junkyard to help manage waste in a city surrounded by nature. He started with four members, and now has 38.

When asked about his business, Mr. Clovis explains that people and the environment are relying on him to view plastic as opportunity and not waste. "Sometimes people say 'You work with garbage.' And I say, no. Garbage is what does not return to the production chain and is buried. What guarantees monthly income is not garbage, this material has value. I work to transform the material."

Mr. Clovis loves to work in recycling, and feels passionate about preserving nature. Today, he feels fulfilled because he has created job opportunities for people in his community, and can see the growth of his business and passion.



São Paulo, Brazil

People & Culture

Putting Action to Words

We believe that every employee should be treated with respect, treated fairly and be able to bring their authentic selves to work.

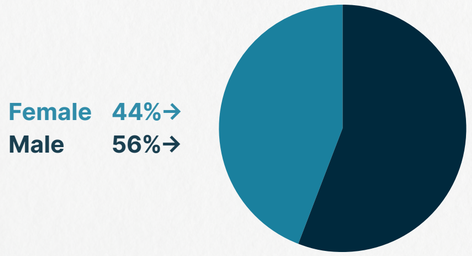
2022 Key Accomplishments

- All full time employees received 5 additional days of paid time off
- Implemented new Human Resource Information System *(Bamboo)*
- Addressed inflation-related compensation issues in the Philippines, Egypt, and Indonesia
- Conducted Employee Engagement Survey to provide baseline metrics and insights for areas of strength and improvement
- Plastic Bank workforce increased by over 11% *(169 to 189 employees)*

Celebrating Diversity

We recruit, hire, and retain the best talent we can from around the world, reflecting the markets and consumers we serve. We celebrate, acknowledge, and value our differences and understand that bringing people with different views, backgrounds, and experiences makes us better humans of Social Recycling. We are firmly committed to provide equal opportunity in all aspects of employment and do our part to create an environment in which our colleagues can grow and succeed.

Plastic Bank Senior Leadership Team Gender Breakdown*



* - disclosed gender, 2022



Responsible Business Practices

Training

We provide different training programs for corporate employees and collection community members on plastic, recycling, and the circular economy. Plastic Bank also partners with educational institutions and faith communities, providing education to individuals and families on the importance of social recycling and its value for the environment and the society.

Systematic procurement

We go through a systematic preparatory phase for building recycling infrastructure and expanding collection communities to ensure sustainable procurement practices, including rigorous supplier and partner vetting.

Processor health and safety

We work closely with our processing partners to maintain high standards of reprocessing for Social Plastic® feedstock, ensuring traceability and authenticity of impact, while maintaining safety, protection of human health, and protection of the environment.

Pollution and energy consumption

Our business model in itself minimizes local pollution in our communities while indirectly impacting energy consumption through the collection of plastic waste, substitution of virgin plastic with Social Plastic® feedstock in manufacturing, and the active reduction of single-use plastic waste.

Energy-Efficient Hybrid Blockchain

Plastic Bank utilizes a GDPR (data privacy and security) compliant, hybrid blockchain in which the key transaction data is stored in the blockchain and securely synced to a private database. The energy efficiency is maximized by using proprietary system rules to approve and secure transactions and data visibility, which eliminates the need for mining or other high-energy usage consensus protocols common to public blockchains. This hybrid solution ensures near real-time efficiencies, with GDPR compliance at the lowest energy cost possible while maintaining the immutable trust and security of blockchain.

Global Recycled Standard Certified

Plastic Bank is Global Recycled Standard (GRS) Certified, which means we are compliant to Textile Exchange's GRS on the below requirements:

- Recycled Material Requirements: Claimed material accepted for the standard meets the established definition of Recycled Material.
- Supply Chain Requirements: Claimed Recycled Material follows a complete, verified chain of custody from input to final product.
- Social Requirements: Workers employed at facilities involved in the trading of GRS products are protected by strong social responsibility policies including anti-child labor, forced labor, and health and safety.
- Environmental Requirements: Facilities involved in the trading of GRS products have strong environmental protections in place, including water, energy, waste, and emissions.

Global Recycled Standard



Governance

Our Platform

Our proprietary blockchain-secured platform records and secures every transaction and provides real-time data visualisation – allowing for transparency, traceability, and rapid scalability while serving a combination of needs and benefits including:

- a recycling service that unlocks access to dignified life improvement programs and financial inclusion
- a new gold standard for an acceptable, transparent, and ethically recycled plastic for the global manufacturing supply chain
- a social impact network with authentic actions of purpose for users with trusted real-time impact tracking

Regular Audits

Plastic Bank staff auditing responsibilities:

- Plastic Bank staff conducts daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual auditing routines using our blockchain secured platform in line with our traceability standards.
- Each branch has an assigned account manager.
- A cross-functional global task force coordinates annual onsite partner audits.
- A DPO (Data Protection Officer) oversees Plastic Bank GDPR compliance routines, policies and documentation processes.

GDPR Compliance

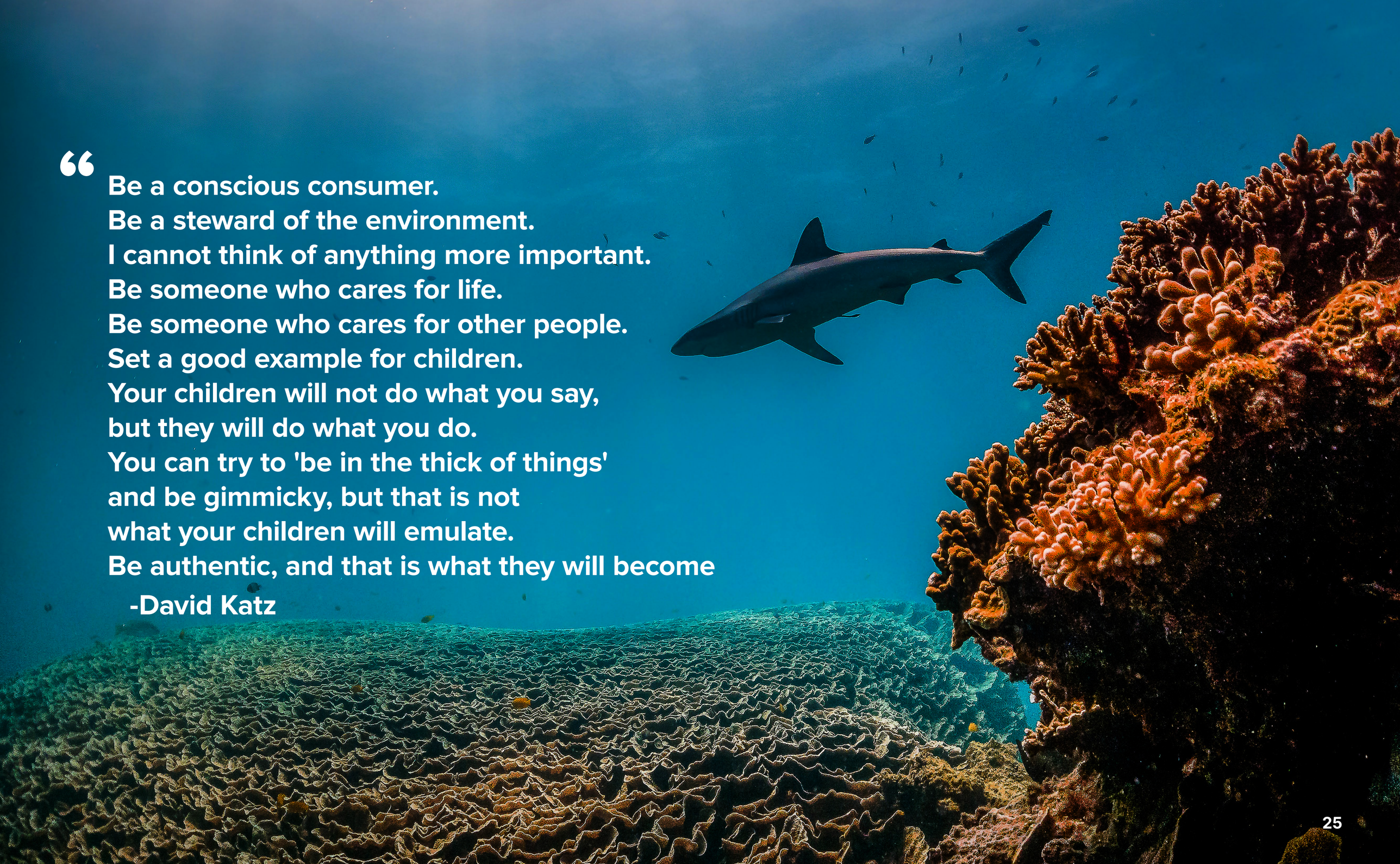
Our proprietary platform is built with GDPR compliance by design to always ensure the highest level of data security and data privacy. Plastic Bank has a global policy to hold each country of operation to the highest data privacy and data protection standards as set by the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) in addition to any localized policies that exist.

Code of Conduct

Plastic Bank's Code of Conduct acts as the foundation for our compliance with many certifications including the GDPR (Privacy) and social compliance aspects of the Global Recycled Standard 4.0. Plastic Bank employees, processing partners, branch owners and collection members are required to read, understand, and sign our Code of Conduct. This is to ensure all are aligned with our policies and values.



* Plastic Bank's last third party GDPR compliance audit was completed November, 2022.



“Be a conscious consumer.
Be a steward of the environment.
I cannot think of anything more important.
Be someone who cares for life.
Be someone who cares for other people.
Set a good example for children.
Your children will not do what you say,
but they will do what you do.
You can try to 'be in the thick of things'
and be gimmicky, but that is not
what your children will emulate.
Be authentic, and that is what they will become

-David Katz

Together,
we can enliven
a wasteless world

plasticbank®

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