

## Contributing to a Circular Economy

### Aiming for Zero Plastic Waste

Plastic is an important packaging material that helps ensure food is protected and safe to eat. However, its use has become so pervasive that plastic and microplastic pollution in our oceans has become critical around the world. The Ajinomoto Group's annual amount of plastic use was approximately 70 thousand tons in FY2018. While reducing the amount of plastic use, the Group is also developing new recyclable plastic materials and technologies to avoid waste altogether with the aim of achieving zero plastic waste by FY2030.

### Initiatives to Reduce Plastic Waste

- Continuing to reduce plastic usage

The Group is constantly improving and developing new materials for its product packaging to make them more eco-friendly. In FY2017, the Group converted some of the stick-shaped packaging of its flavor seasoning *HON-DASHI*® to paper, which reduced annual plastic use by some 11 tons. The Group also designed more compact packaging for its coffee product *Blendy*®, which cut annual plastic consumption by an additional 25 tons.

In addition to reducing the use of plastic in packaging, the Group considers new alternative materials becoming available as technology advances.

- Creating recyclable materials & systems

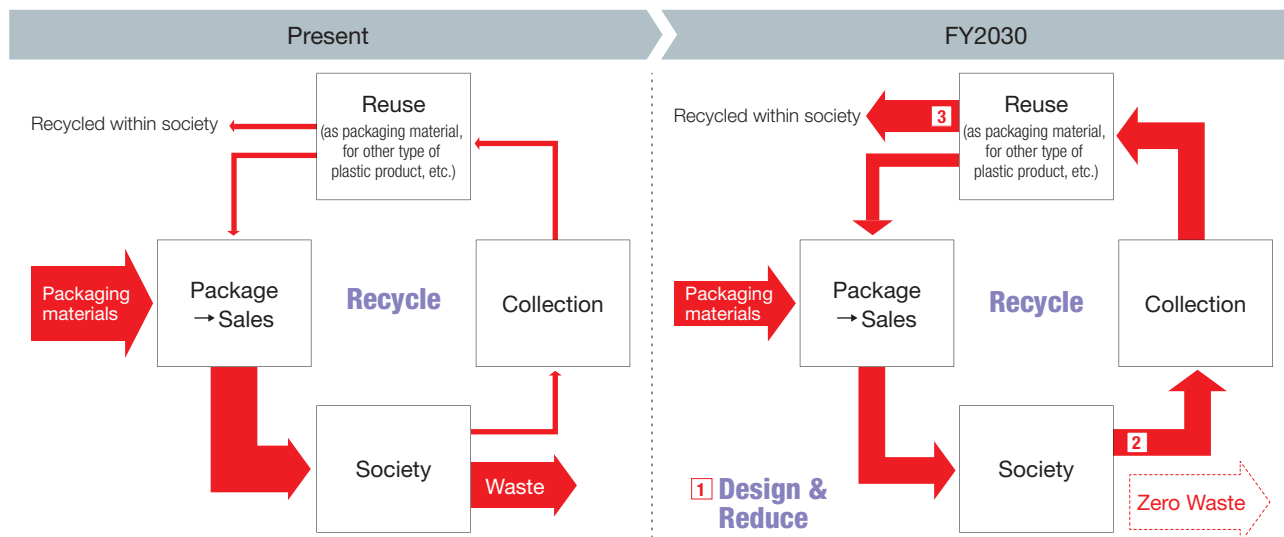
1. Develop packaging materials geared to recycling

The Group develops mono-material plastic packaging and alternative recyclable packaging materials.

2. Help establish recycling-oriented social systems

The Group establishes recycling-oriented social systems, particularly in developing countries and regions where systems are still in the early stages.

### Vision for FY2030



With the exception of some regions and countries, including Japan, most of the plastic packaging materials used in the home currently become waste that is collected in landfills or goes directly into the oceans. Only a relatively small percentage of the plastic that is collected is recycled for secondary use.

The vision for FY2030 is a society with zero plastic waste. The Group is advancing the following initiatives to realize that goal.

- 1 Reduce plastic use as much as possible, and reduce the amount to be collected and recycled
- 2 Assist in establishing the social structures for collecting plastic waste
- 3 Recycle and reuse the collected plastic

The Group knows it would be virtually impossible for one company to realize this vision on its own, so it is gathering more stakeholders to achieve the objective.

\*Arrow size represents volume of plastic.