



TACKLING THE ELECTRONIC
WASTE CHALLENGE



ÚNETE A LA DEVOLUCIÓN

BOGOTÁ, 8-9 JUNIO 2023

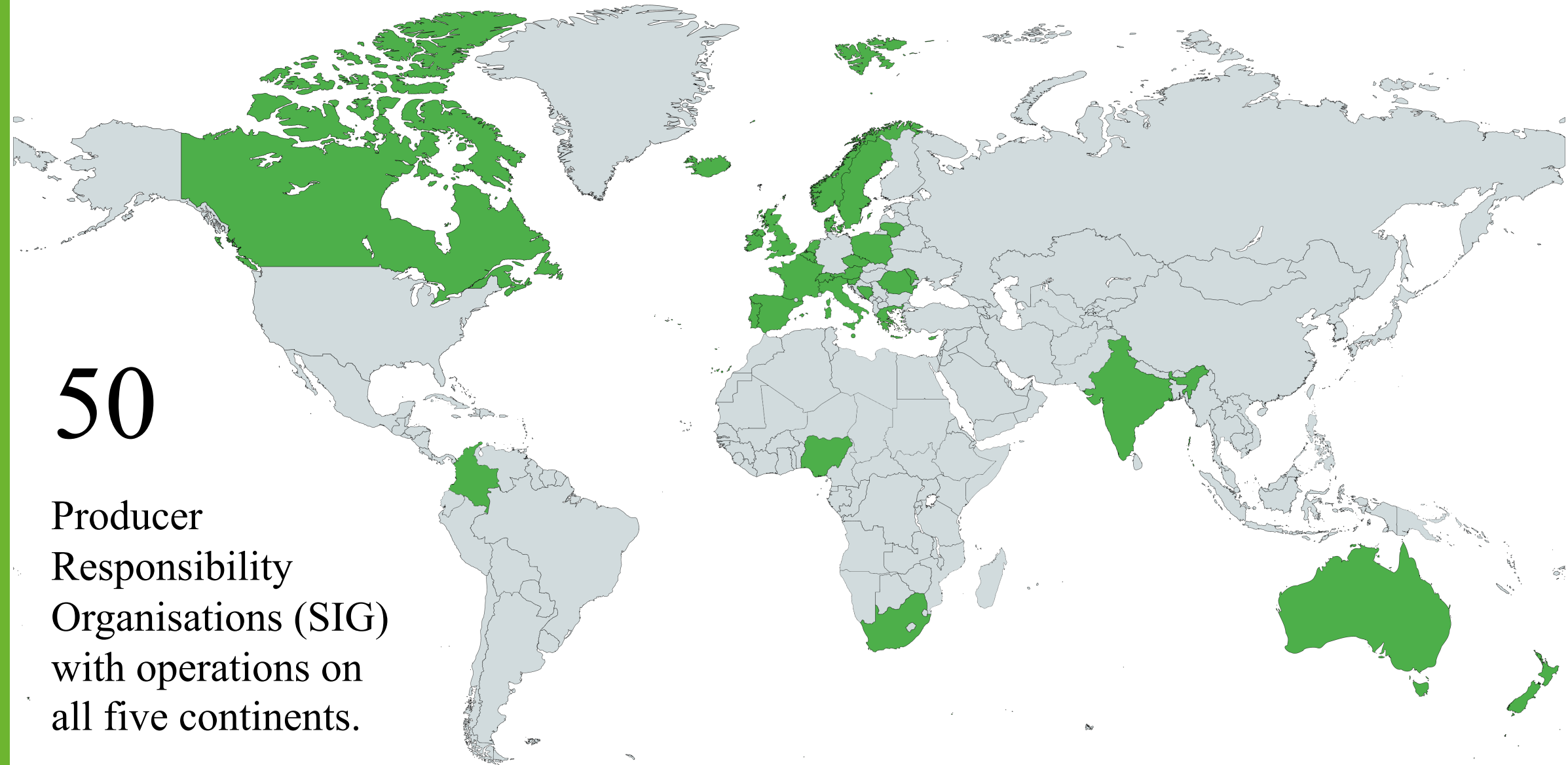
WHO ARE WE AND WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?



WORLDWIDE

50

Producer
Responsibility
Organisations (SIG)
with operations on
all five continents.



OUR WHY

Globally, 75 Mt of e-waste is expected to arise yearly by 2030. The e-waste growth rate is 3.3%.

Source: Global E-waste Monitor

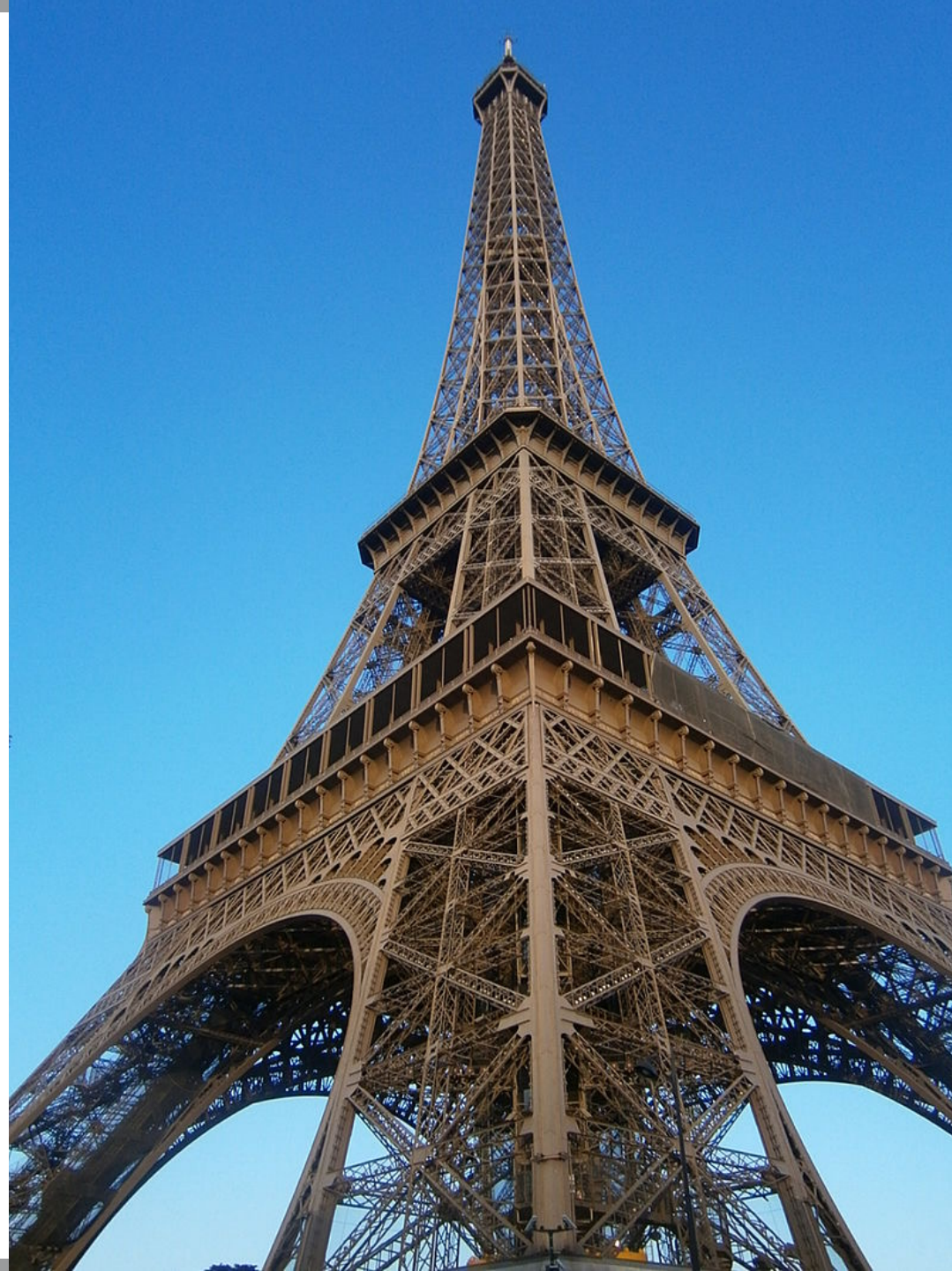
We take on the worldwide societal challenge of electronic waste

Research
Innovation projects
Strategic partnerships
Campaigns
#ewasteday
Twinning
Benchmarking
IT tools



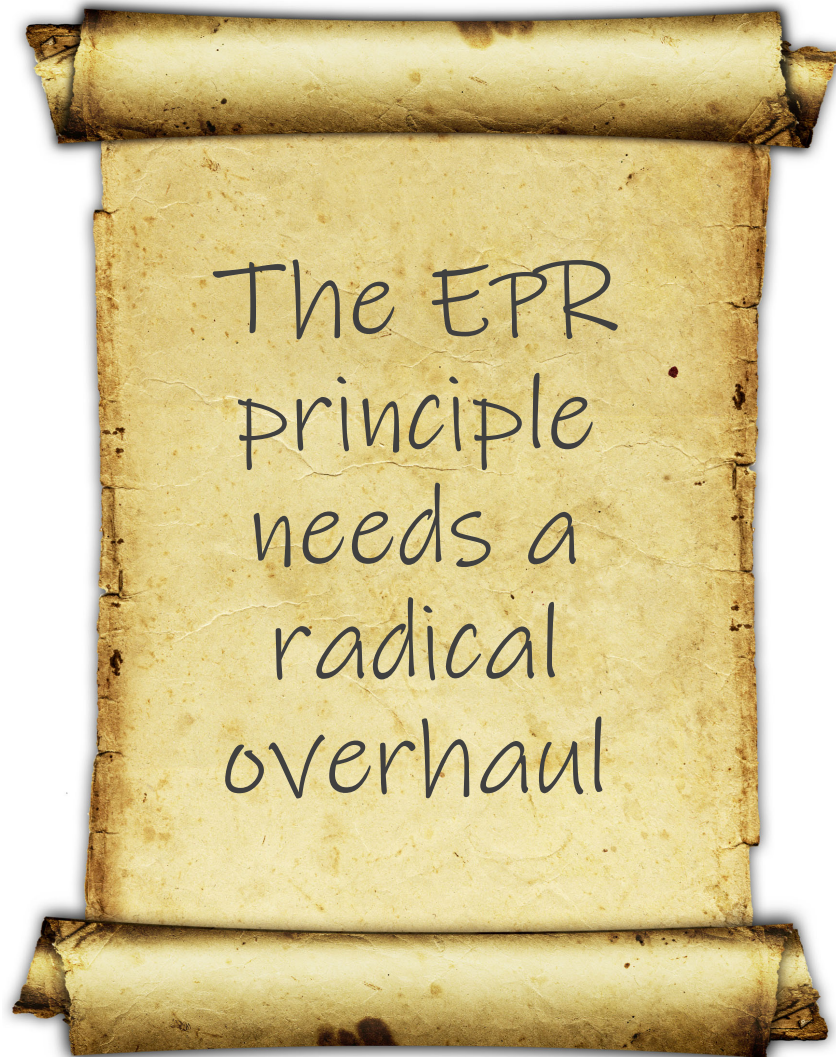
35 MILLION TONNES

Last year, the PROs in the WEEE Forum collected 3,100,000 tonnes of e-waste, the equivalent of 310 Eiffel Towers. Over the past twenty years, they collectively managed in excess of 35,000,000 tonnes.



THE EPR PRINCIPLE NEEDS A RADICAL OVERHAUL





The EPR
principle
needs a
radical
overhaul

A black and white photograph of a rowing team in a long, narrow boat on dark, choppy water. The rowers are seen from behind, their oars dipping into the water. The scene is viewed from an elevated perspective, looking down the length of the boat.

An enhanced
definition of **EPR**
and the role of all
actors.

A WEEE Forum vision
for the concept of WEEE
Available for Collection
and an All Actors Approach
to improve official WEEE
collection and treatment.

weeeforum

Photo credit: Longines / La Presse / Getty Images / Matteo Vignoni / Getty Images

WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE PAST TEN YEARS?

Geopolitics



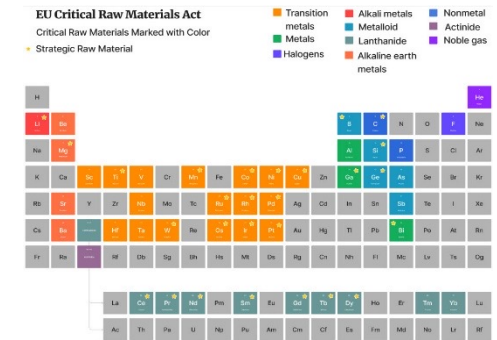
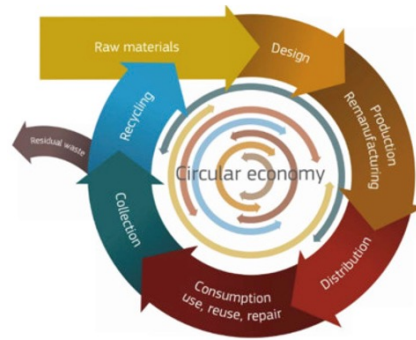
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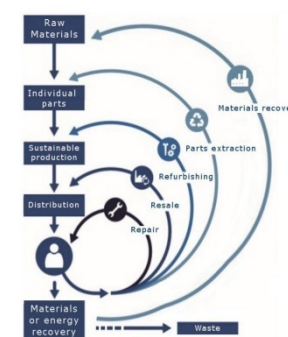
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Since the entry into force of Directive 2012/19/EU on WEEE

Legislative framework



Business



WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE 2012?

Geopolitics



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- The EU is too dependent on just a few countries. Russia is among the Top 3 global producers of 13 CRMs and supplies 42% of palladium.
- China dominates the value chain for materials required for green transition. Risk of value chain disruptions.

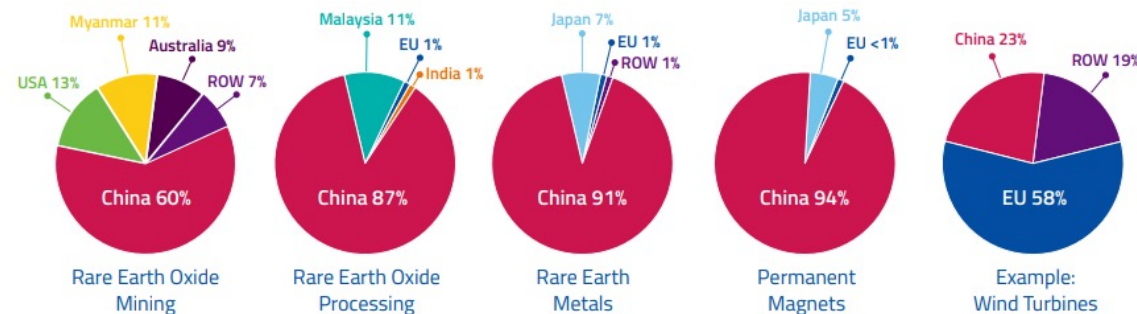
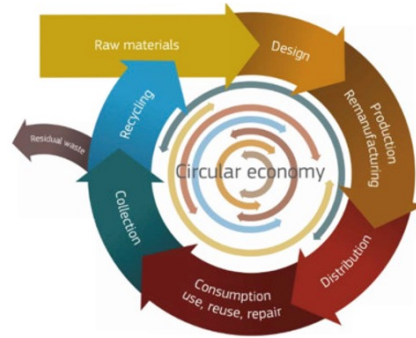


Fig. 3: From rare earths mining to wind turbine manufacturing: estimated market shares in 2019. Sources: Team analysis and Roskill 2018; Adamas Intelligence 2019; Petevs 2017; Carrara et al. 2020; IEA 2021; USGS 2021.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE 2012?

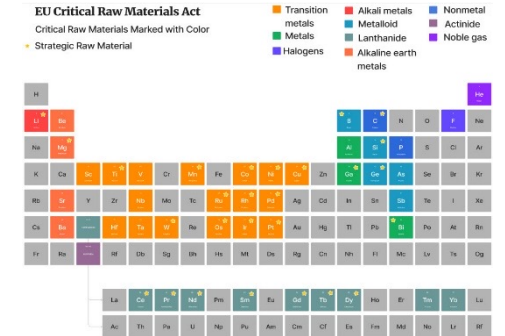


Legislative framework

- European Green Deal.
- Climate commitments.
- Action Plan on Circular Economy.
- Recommendations to Member States to take action regarding collection of WEEE



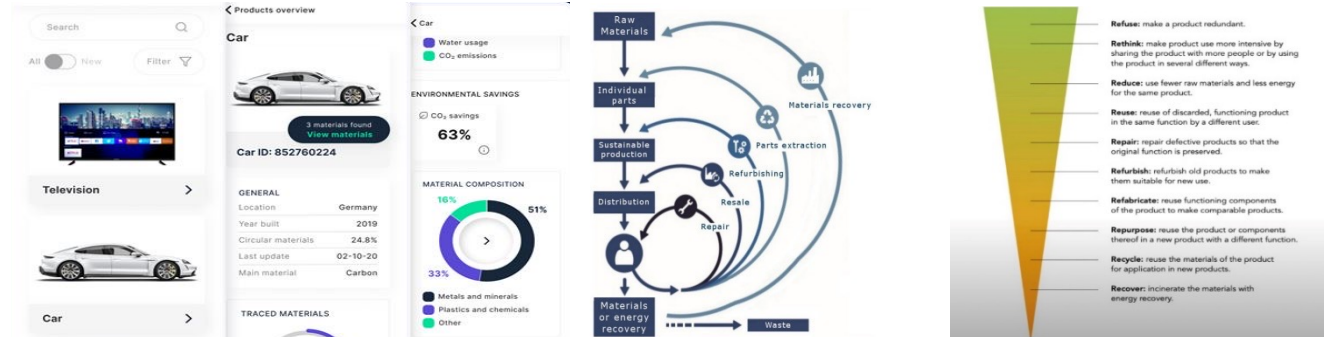
- Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation.



- CRM Act secures sustainable CRM supply. 15% EU for recycling (benchmark).
- Products with permanent magnets need to meet circularity requirements, provide information on recyclability and recycled content.

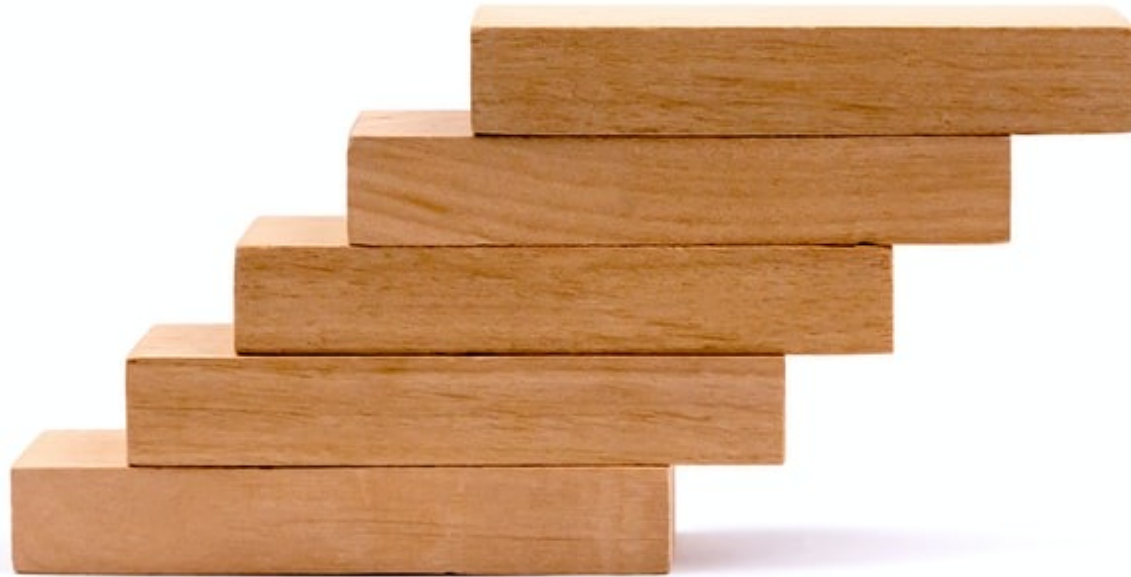
WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE 2012?

Business



- The Digital Product Passport is becoming a reality: digital tracing of the product (QR codes), allowing for information updates at each stage in product life cycle, permissions management, providing decision support services for decision makers.
- Business is implementing various types of circular business models

DESPITE IRREFUTABLE PROGRESS...



Collection of WEEE in Europe went up from 40% (2014) to 55% (2021) (WEEE Generated method) – 44% according to placed-on-market method



United Nations University: “Europe is the continent with the highest documented formal e-waste collection and recycling rate”

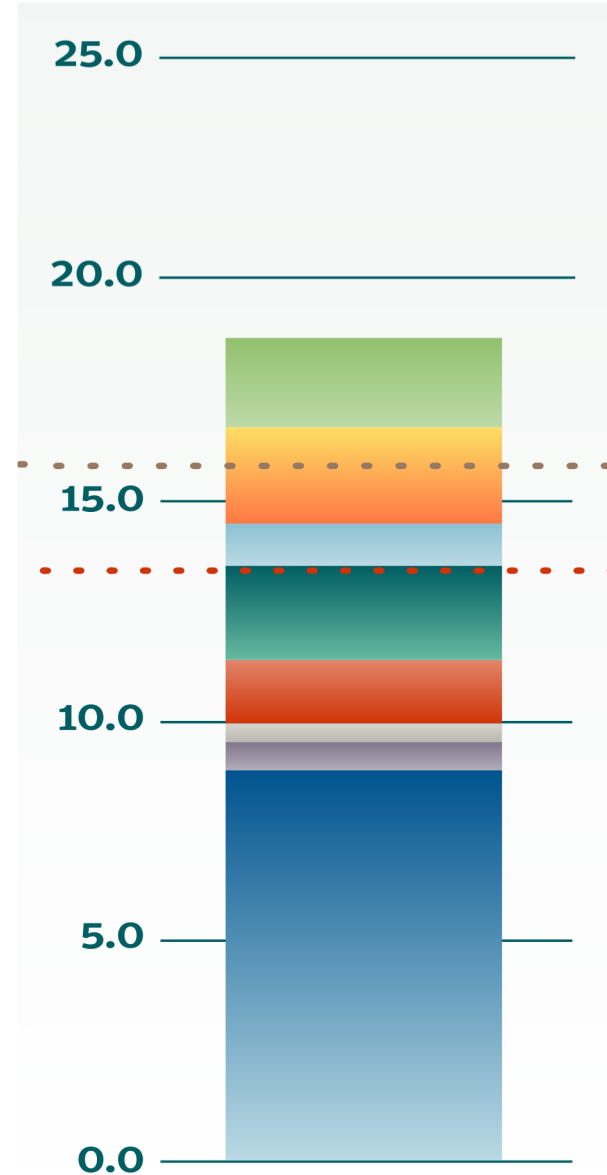
...45% OF WEEE REMAINS UNACCOUNTED FOR



WEEE Generated target

'Placed on market' target

- Max uncertainty WEEE Generated
- Unknown flows
- Illegal Exports
- Metal scrap
- Waste Bin
- Exports for reuse
- Substantiated Estimates
- WEEE Collection



... AND THE CURRENT METRICS ARE INADEQUATE

The current weight based minimum collection rates (65% of electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market in the preceding three years) are:

- ≡ **Perverse** | The more WEEE is disposed of, the easier it is to meet the collection target
- ≡ **Ill-suited for circularity** | They do not measure the performance of the system, or progress towards circularity
- ≡ **Not scientific** | Contrary to expectations in 2012, the placed-on-market method is *not* equivalent with WEEE generated method
- ≡ **Not fit for purpose** | The placed-on-market method looks at preceding three years, not the full lifecycle of products
- ≡ **Data-demanding** | Lots of statistics and simulations required

CONSIDERATIONS

The importance of a co-ordination centre

The #allactors principle means that all entities that have access to e-waste are subject to minimum legal **obligations** and actively **collaborate** towards responsible operations.



The World Circular Economy Forum in Helsinki yesterday voted 'collaboration' as key enabler of circularity.

CONSIDERATIONS

Fifteen considerations

Require collection of 100% WEEE available for collection

Map WEEE flows and involve all actors

Orient towards circularity and the value chain

Maximise collection of WEEE containing CRM

Consider new (non-quantitative) metrics

Redesign minimum collection rates method

Align supply of and demand for recycled materials

Make EN 50625 legally binding

Enforce the law

Disregard eco-modulation

Consider the role of the consumer

Redesign taxation policies

Allow for visible recycling fee financing mechanism

Counter online free-riding

Aim at a Paris-type of Agreement regarding e-waste



Thank you!

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