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# EPR in Promotion of Chinese Circular Economic Law

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**Introduction to EPR**

**EPR in PR China: progress and approaches**

**EPR in PR China: characteristics and direction**

**Conclusions and recommendations**

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# BACKGROUND TO EPR

Trends in environmental policy-making:

- These trends are the prioritisation of preventative measures over end-of-pipe approaches
- enhancement of life cycle thinking and a shift from the “command-and-control” approach to a nonprescriptive, goal-oriented approach
- The incorporation of incentive mechanisms for industries to continuously improve their products and processes.
- Polluter’s pay principle not suitable for end-of-life products





# BACKGROUND TO EPR

➤ The term “extended producer responsibility”, and its concept as a preventative environmental protection strategy was first used and defined by Thomas Lindqvist in 1990.



- ✓ making *producers the primary actor responsible for the entire life cycle of their products*



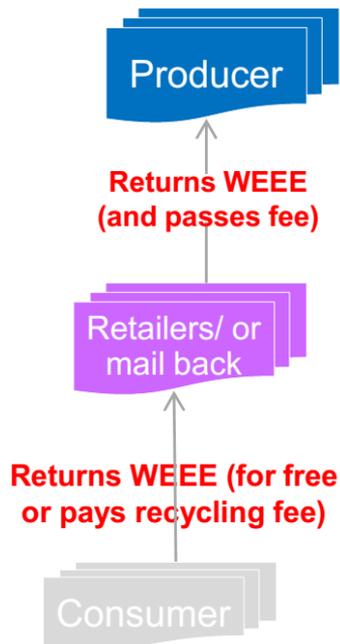
# EPR in the EU

1991	Batteries and accumulators directive	91/157/EE
1994	Directive on packaging and packaging waste	94/62/EC
2000	Directive on End-of-Life Vehicle	2000/53/EC
2002	WEEE directive	2002/96/EC
2006	Revised directive on batteries and accumulators	2006/66/EC
2012	Revised WEEE directive	2012/19/EU



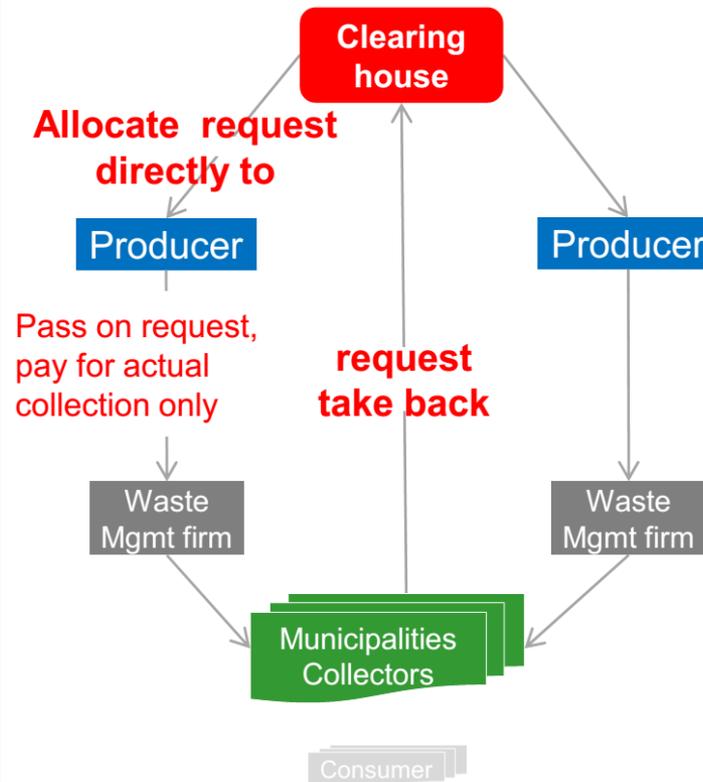
# Typical EPR models in the world

## Producers w/o municipal collection



e.g. Japan

## Clearing house, no schemes



Germany

## Recycler centric models



Connecticut, Maine

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# EPR in China's legislation system

**Responsibility in source prevention**

**Responsibility in recycling**

**Environmental Protection Law (1989) (2014 revised)**

**Law on the Prevention and Control of Pollution by Solid Waste (1995) (2004, 2015 revised)**

**Cleaner Production Promotion Law (2002) (2012 revised)**

**Circular Economy Promotion Law (2008)**

**Responsibility in source prevention**

**Responsibility in source prevention and recycling**

# EPR in PR China's legislation system

## Product

Used cement sack

❖ 1989, Recycling approach of used cement sack

Battery

❖ 1997, Provisions on the Limitation of mercury content in batteries products; 2003, Technology policy of pollution prevention and controlling of spent battery

Packaging waste

❖ 2002, Povisional Administrative Measures on packaging recycling of resources

Used vehicle

❖ 2001, Administrative Measures on the Recovery of Scrapped Automobiles; 2006, Policy on recycling of Scrapped Automobiles

WEEE

❖ 2009, WEEE regulation

# Main fields of EPR implementing and policy pushing

1

**“old-for-new”  
policy in WEEE  
take-back**

WEEE Fund



2

**Pilot policy for  
urban mining**



3

**Pilot policy for  
remanufacturing**



# Evolution of EPR in PR China: case of WEEE management

1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

## Control of the WEEE treatment sector

2004, WEEE recycling pilot programs and facilities set up.

2007: 'Management Regulation of Electronic Waste Pollution to the Environment'

End 2012: Real-time monitoring system of WEEE processing

## Massive WEEE trade in program

2009 - 2011: "old for new appliances" regulation

To stimulate domestic demand and direct WEEE into authorized treatment channels, deprive informal sector of materials.

Worked because: Massive gov. funding; IT systems to ensure fraud prevention (id cards, serial numbers...)

## State fund coordinates WEEE management

2012 Regulation on the WEEE Treatment Fund, 2009 Regulations on the Management of the Recovery and Treatment of Waste Electronic and Electrical Products

Fund fed by charging to producers, provides treatment subsidies to authorized recyclers.

Work now: fund can keep informal sector weak



# E-waste Legislation System

Clean Production  
Promotion Law

Solid Waste Pollution  
Prevention Law

Circular Economy  
Promotion Law

Regulations on the Management of the Recovery and Treatment of Waste  
Electronic and Electrical Products

China RoHS

Renewable Resource  
Collection Measures

WEEE Collection  
Measures (draft)

E-waste Pollution Prevention  
and Control Measures

WEEE Treatment Facility Qualification  
Measures

**WEEE Treatment Fund  
Management Measure**

Design, Manufacture,  
Importation

Consumption

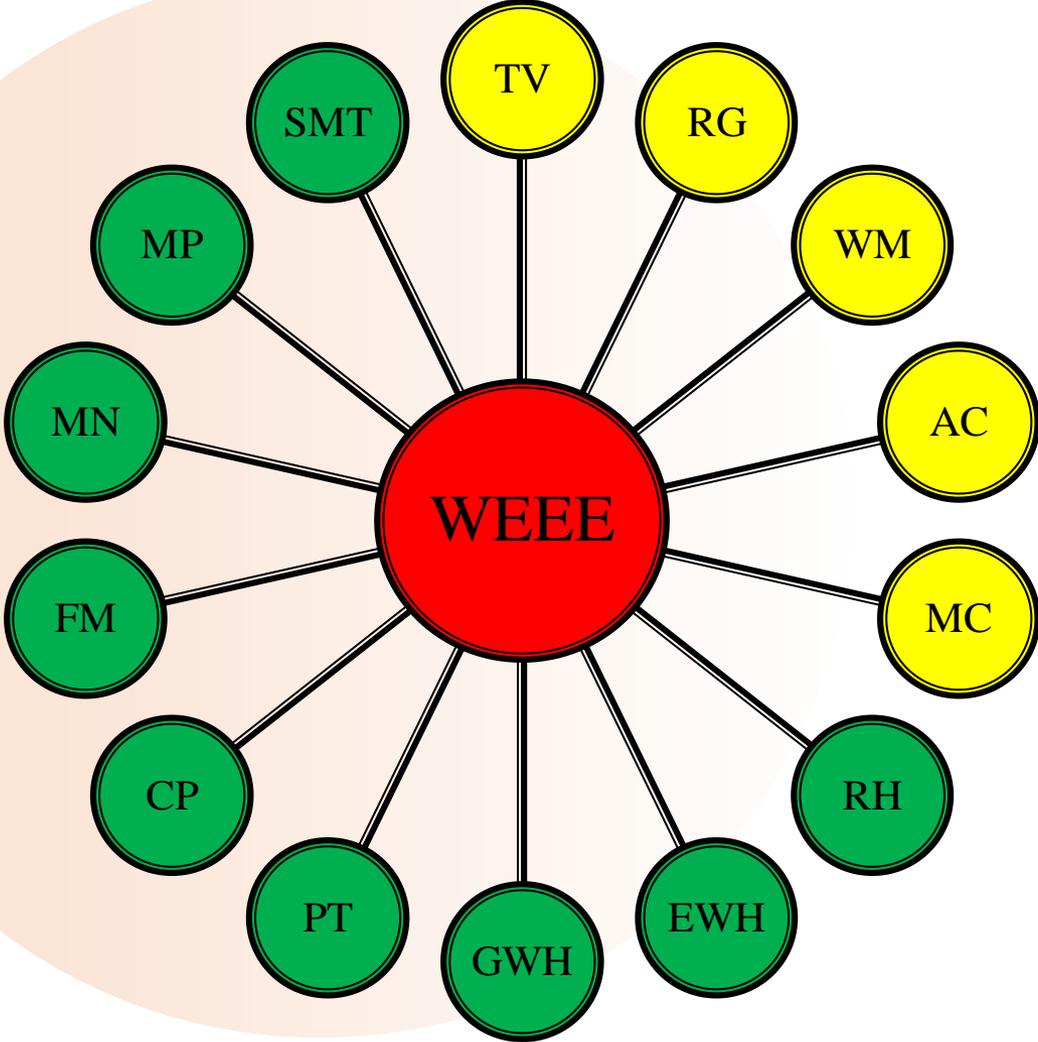
Collection

Transport

Dismantle, Recycle,  
Disposal

**Catalogue, Multi-collection, Centralized Treatment, Development Plan,  
Qualification Licensing, Treatment Subsidies**

# Catalogue of Waste Electronic and Electric Products for Treatment



Yellow color: first catalogue;  
Green color: added catalogue in the new catalogue.  
Television, TV; refrigerator, RG; washing machine, WM; air conditioner, AC; microcomputer, MC; range hood, RH; electric water-heater, EWH; gas water-heater, GWH; printer, PT; copier, CP; fax machine, FM; monitor, MN; mobile phone, MP; telephone single-machine, SMT.



# Treatment fund subsidy

The state establishes a fund for the treatment of WEEE to subsidize the recoverr and disposal of WEEE

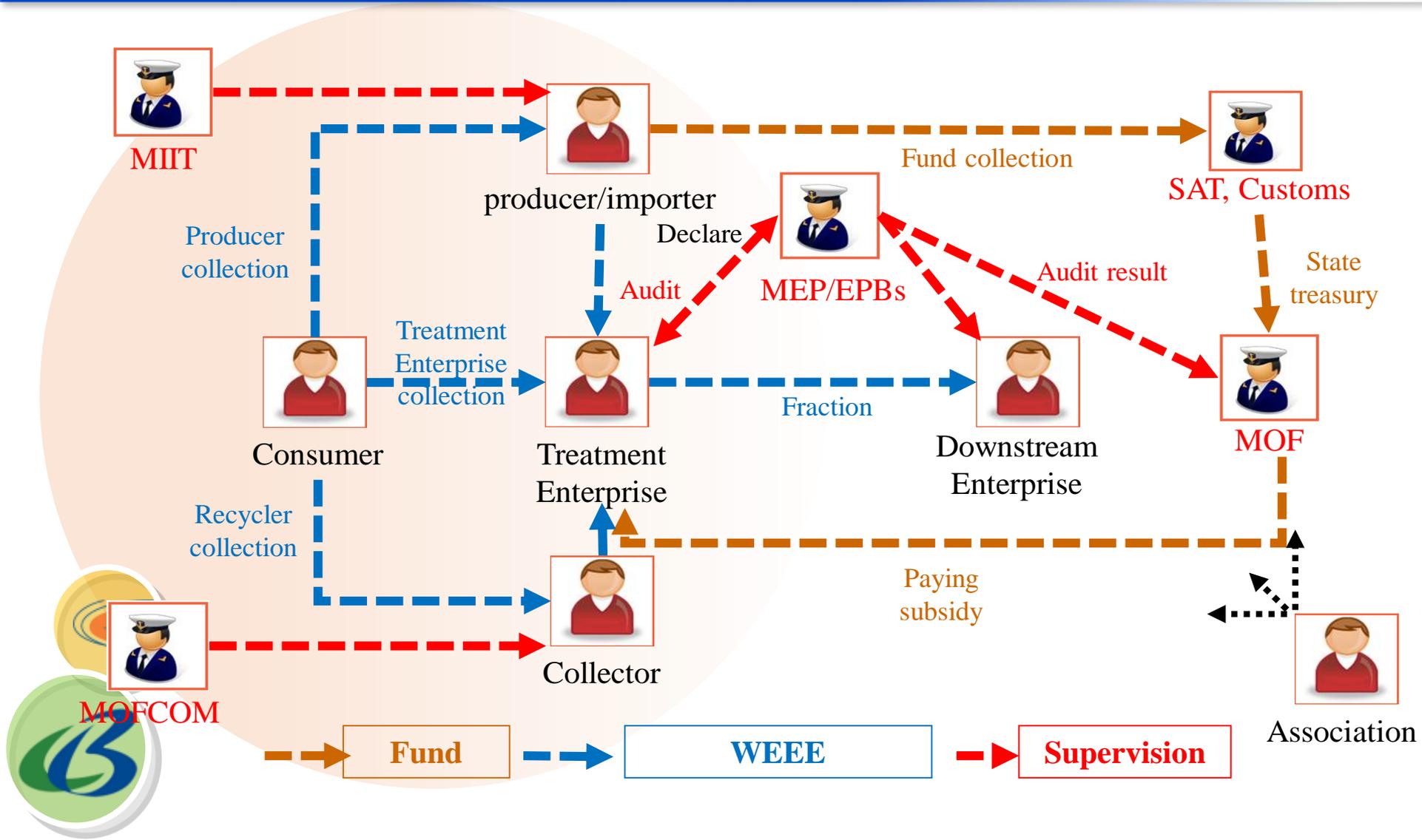


# Standard of fund levying and granting for WEEE recycling (RMB/unit)

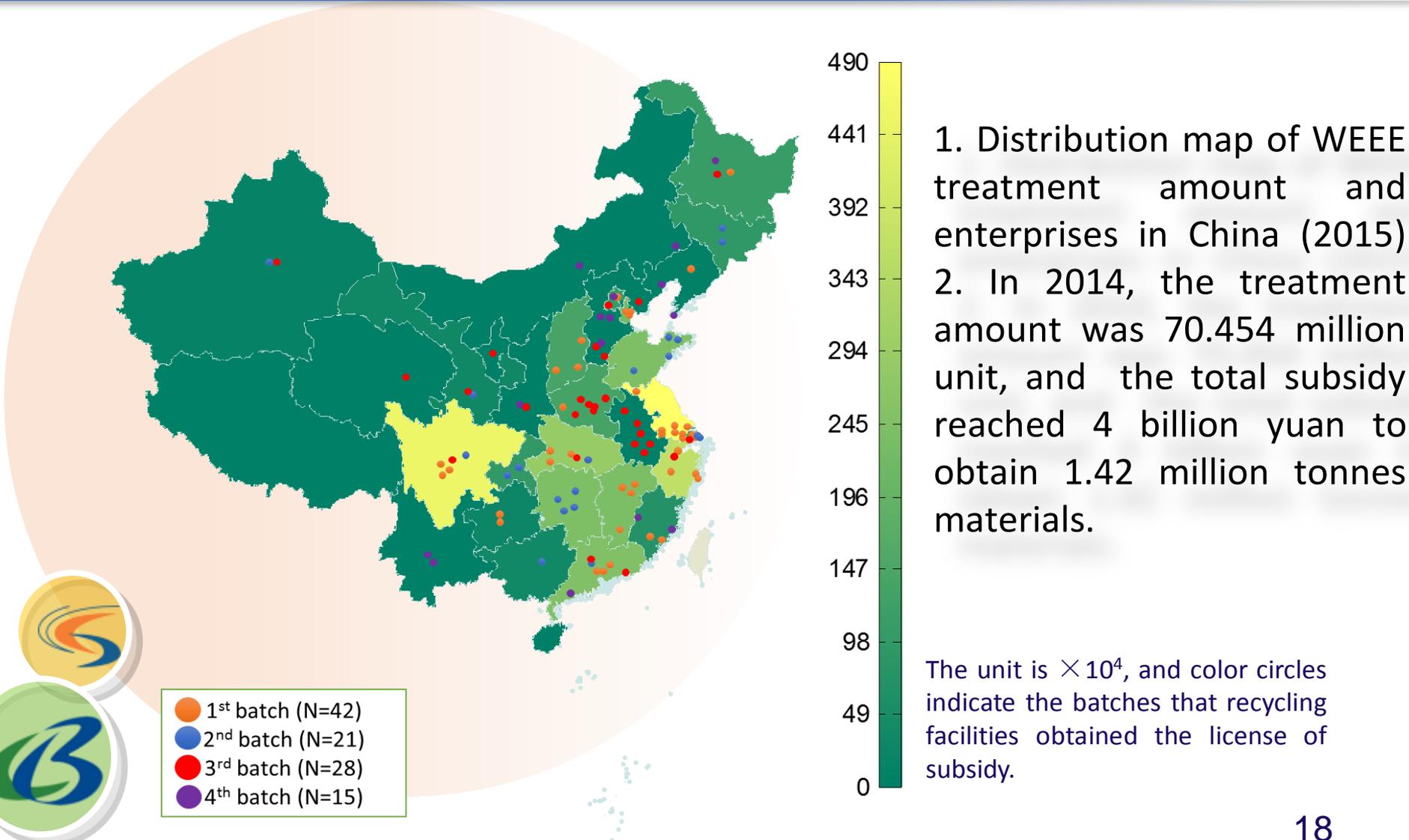
WEEE	TV	Refrigerator	Washing machine	Air conditioner	Microcomputer
Levying from producer	13	12	7	7	10
Subsidy for recycler	85	80	35	35	85



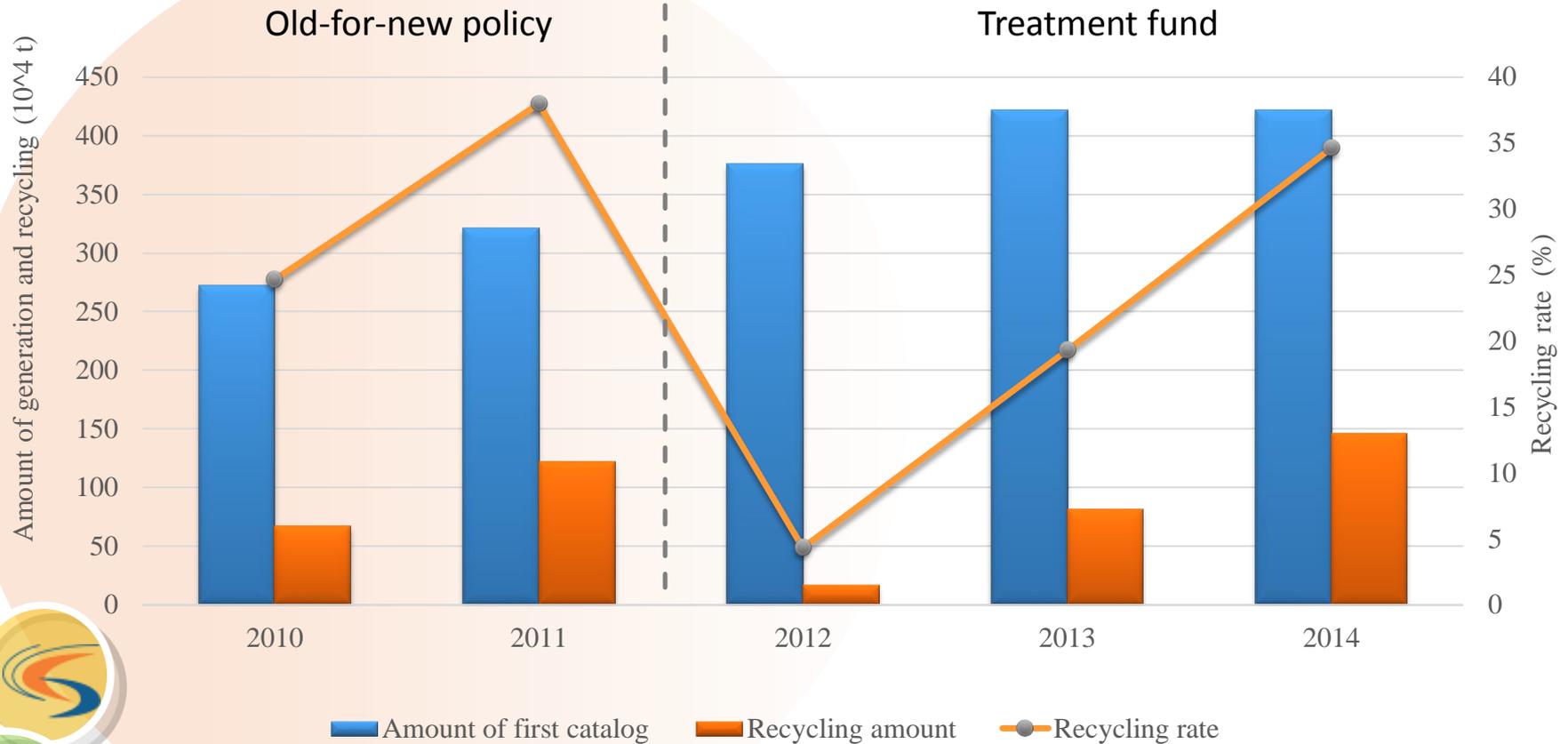
# Treatment fund subsidy



# Current Practice of WEEE treatment fund

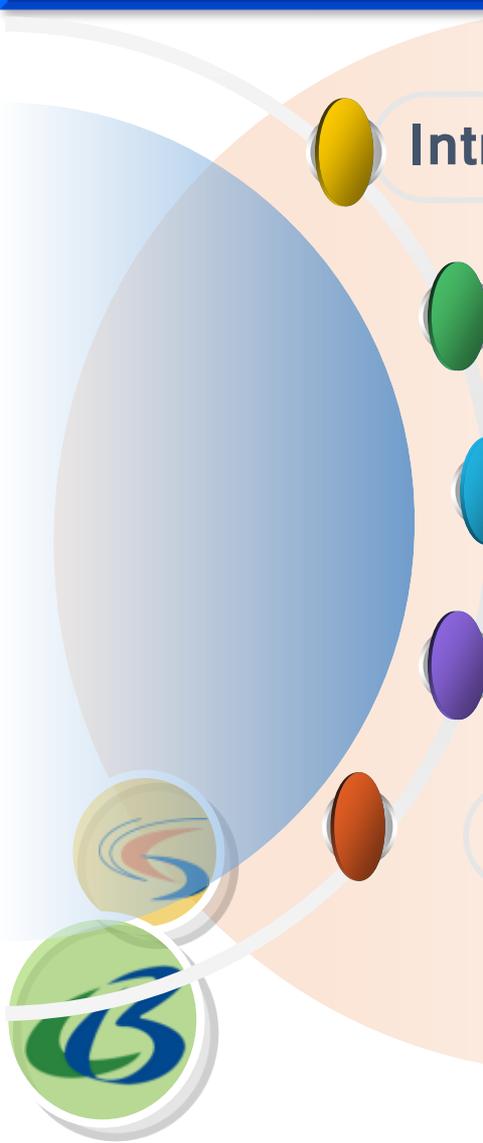


# Current Practice of WEEE treatment fund



- ❖ Subsidy: 0.63 billion yuan (2012), 3.3 billion yuan (2013), and 4 billion yuan (2014)

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# Characteristics of EPR in PR China

- ❑ **Core: recycling and dismantling treatment**
- ❑ **Main orient for resource recovery, and auxiliary orient for environmental protection**
- ❑ **Main Approach: through fund to eliminate the informal sector**
- ❑ **Operational mechanism: government leading**
- ❑ **Responsibility: Dominant responsibility from producer**



# Challenge of EPR implementation in PRChina

- ❑ **Legislation is not completed. only the products in a catalog is covered. The catalog, such as the catalogue of products and packages is not issued.**
- ❑ **Policy system is not smooth. Details policy is not well designed and often changed.**
- ❑ **The situation to implementing EPR is not experienced from the central government to local government, and for companies.**
- ❑ **Current fund model: cost is affordable for producers in future?**



# The hot topic under discussion

- **Law and regulation: the EPR should be combined into law clearly? Single implementing model can fit for various products?**
- **The mandated recycling catalog: which products should be covered? packaging, vehicle, tire, batteries?**
- **The main players: central government, local government, and association, producers?**
- **WEEE fund: the products covered by the catalog are too much?**
- **New technologies: Internet things and big data can make EPR**

easy?

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# Conclusions and recommendations (1)

- ❑ EPR should be intensified to enhance eco-design and green production, and information releasing towards taking-back.
- ❑ Industry associations related to producers should be placed on a more important role.
- ❑ Propaganda and guidance should be strengthened in order to get support from the Public.



# Conclusions and recommendations (2)

- Policy design on EPR should be embarked and completed as soon as possible.
- Dialogue system among stakeholders should be built for EPR.
- The current EPR system may be updated along with the development of the social and economic conditions of the country.



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# Thank you!

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