



European Union Network for the Implementation  
and Enforcement of Environmental Law

NATIONAL OFFICE



ÓIFIG NÁISIÓNTA



Brian Heffernan

EU/IMPEL Approach to the Basel Plastic Waste Amendments



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

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# Introduction

- EU Approach to the Basel COP Decision
- EU Correspondents' Guidelines
- OECD Shipments
- IMPEL Projects
- Future Cooperation



# EU Approach

- Annex IX – B3011, single stream, green list
- Annex II (Y48) and Annex VIII (A3210) – PIC procedure
- Mixtures of PE, PP or PET under B3011
- Apply to shipments of plastic waste from the EU to all third countries from 1 January 2021



# EU Delegated Regulation

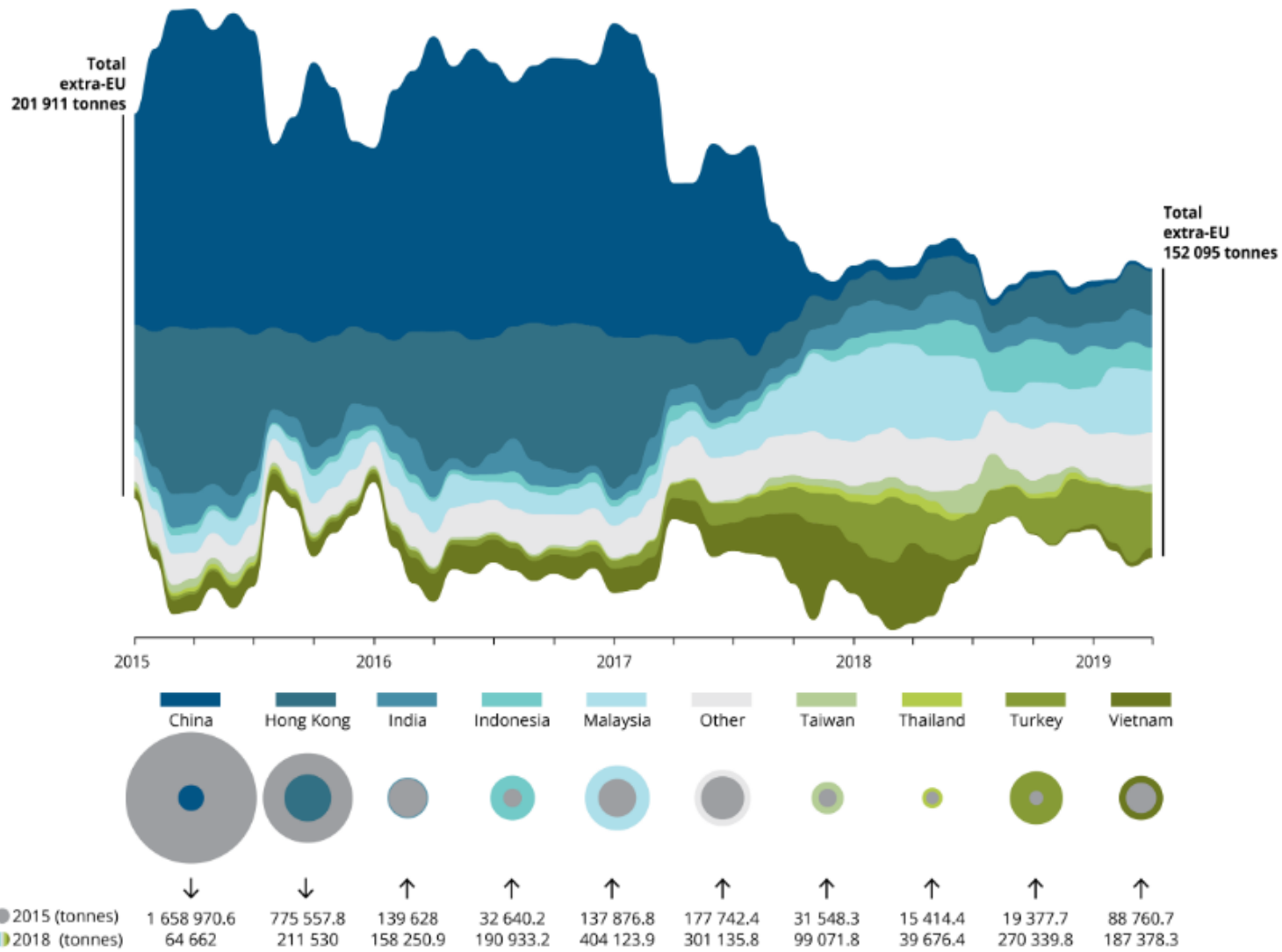
- Desire to maintain current controls for shipment of non-hazardous plastic within the EU
- B3011 does not apply and EU3011 applies instead
- EU3011 applies to a greater range of mixtures
- Polymers of vinyl chloride (PVC) – OECD entry GH013 removed and EU3011 applies instead.
- Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) – not included under B3011 but EU3011 does apply



# EU Delegated Regulation

- Y48 does not apply and EU48 applies instead. EU48 refers to plastic waste not covered by EU3011 or AC300. PIC procedure.
- AC300 applies instead of A3210. AC300 is the new OECD Decision code for hazardous plastic waste.

# Figure 1. Extra-EU-28 plastic waste trade by receiving country





# Basel Convention – Additional Text

- Destined for recycling/separate recycling in an ESM – must be destined for R3 recycling/reclamation. Only one instance of temporary storage/interim recovery permitted. Does not apply for intra-EU shipments
- Almost free from contamination and other types of wastes
- Almost exclusively consisting of.....



# B3011 or Y48?





B3011 or Y48?





# Correspondents' Guidelines No 12

- Work is ongoing but to be ready in advance of 1 January 2021
- Complex work
- Introduce thresholds for plastic waste?
- How would these be enforced?



# OECD Decision

- Changes to the Basel Convention automatically adopted after 60 days
- US EPA lodged an objection in July 2019
- Discussions proceeded but 'no consensus' reached on B3011, Y48 or PVC
- Member countries to inform the OECD Secretariat by 15 January 2021 on how they are going to control these shipments



# IMPEL Projects

- Preparing guidance document for inspectors
- Webinars to assist with ongoing enforcement of Basel plastic changes
- Sites of concern inspections
- Updating guidance document?
- LIFE SWEAP Project - <https://www.sweap.eu/>



# Future Cooperation

- Malaysia: 150 containers repatriated to France, UK, US
- Sri Lanka: 21 containers repatriated to UK
- Good news stories
- Future collaboration
- Verification of recovery facilities
- Basel Convention amendment challenges





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*Thank you!*

*Email: [info@impel.eu](mailto:info@impel.eu)*

*Website: [www.impel.eu](http://www.impel.eu)*



*Email:*

*[nationaltfs@dublincity.ie](mailto:nationaltfs@dublincity.ie)*

*Website: [nationaltfs.ie](http://nationaltfs.ie)*