

The Recycling-based Society

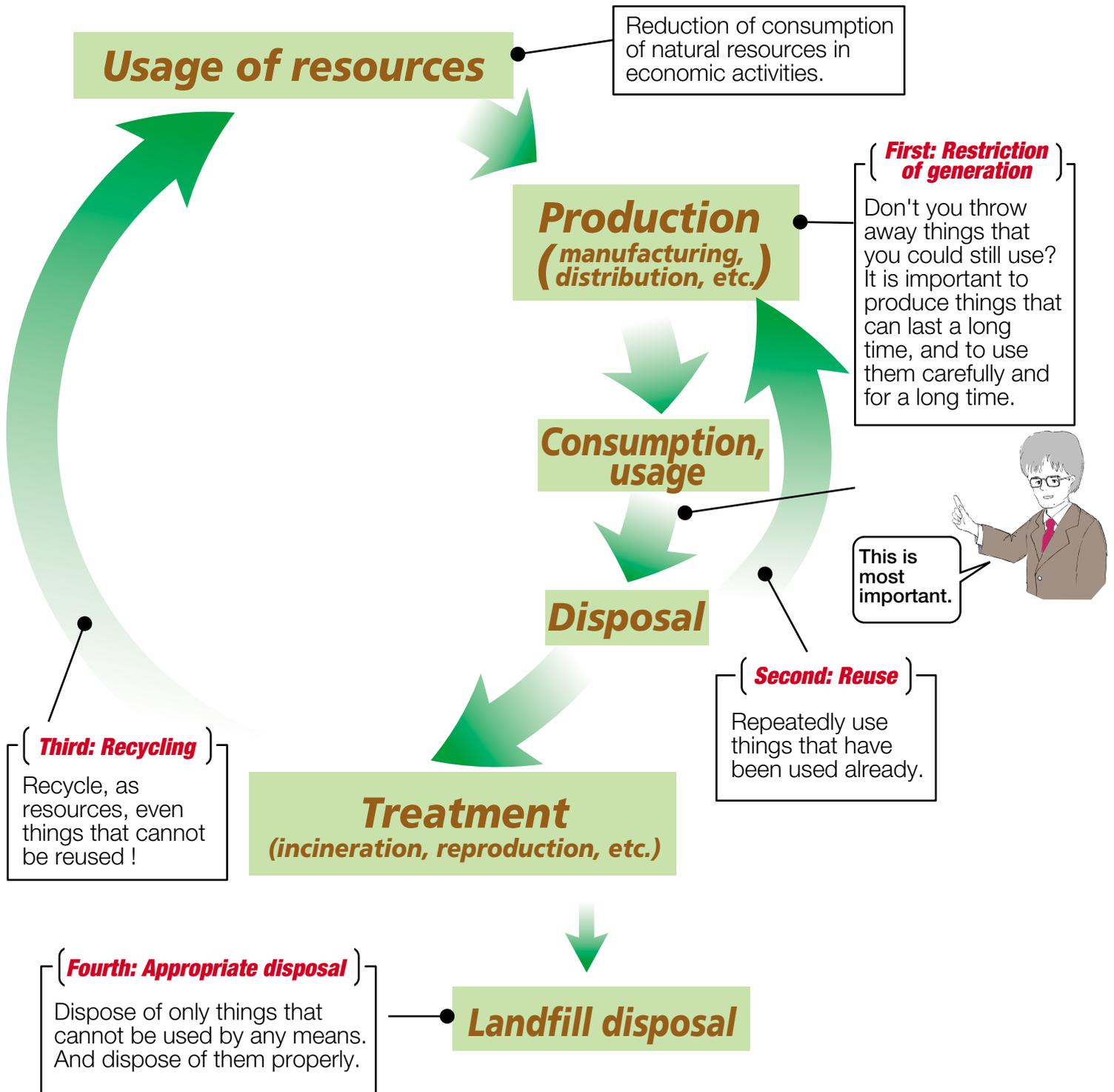
What is needed now is to urgently review our lifestyles and economic activities and pursue a society in which consumption of natural resources is restricted, with a reduced environmental burden.

Let's start the following right now.

Above all, try not to produce wastes, as much as possible.

Use produced wastes as resources, as much as possible.

Properly dispose of wastes that cannot be used by any means.



"The Basic Law for Establishing the Recycling-based Society" was enacted in May 2000, in order to change Japan, in the 21st century, to **the Recycling-based Society**.

Points in the Basic Law for Establishing the Recycling-based Society

This Basic Law aims to promote waste measures and recycling measures comprehensively and systematically.

Priority orders of efforts for waste disposal and recycling were stipulated by law for the first time.

In what order should waste disposal and recycling be tackled?

The first effort is to reduce production of wastes as much as possible.

Examples: To produce strong products and use them as long as possible.
To choose and purchase products with simpler and less packaging.

The second effort is to re-use, as many times as possible, things that are no longer needed.

Examples: To return empty beer bottles to a liquor store.
To recycle old clothes at a flea market.

The third effort is to recycle, as resources, things that cannot be used repeatedly.

Examples: To sort wastes before disposal.
To take TVs and refrigerators that are no longer being used, to an electric appliance store.

The fourth effort is to burn things that cannot be used as resources, and use the heat produced from their incineration.

Examples: To use the heat generated from burning wastes for power generation or a warm-water pool.

The last effort is to appropriately dispose of things that cannot be re-used or recycled and that must be disposed of, in a manner that does not contaminate the environment.

Examples: To appropriately burn wastes so as not to generate dioxins, etc.
To bury wastes so as not to influence the surrounding environment.



There are orders in handling wastes in considering the environment.

Wastes are useful things that can be used repeatedly or recycled.

