

Workshop 2018 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary  
Movement of Hazardous Waste, November 6-8, 2018

# Impact of China's New Regulation on Recyclable Wastes on the Trend of TBM and Recycling Business in Asia

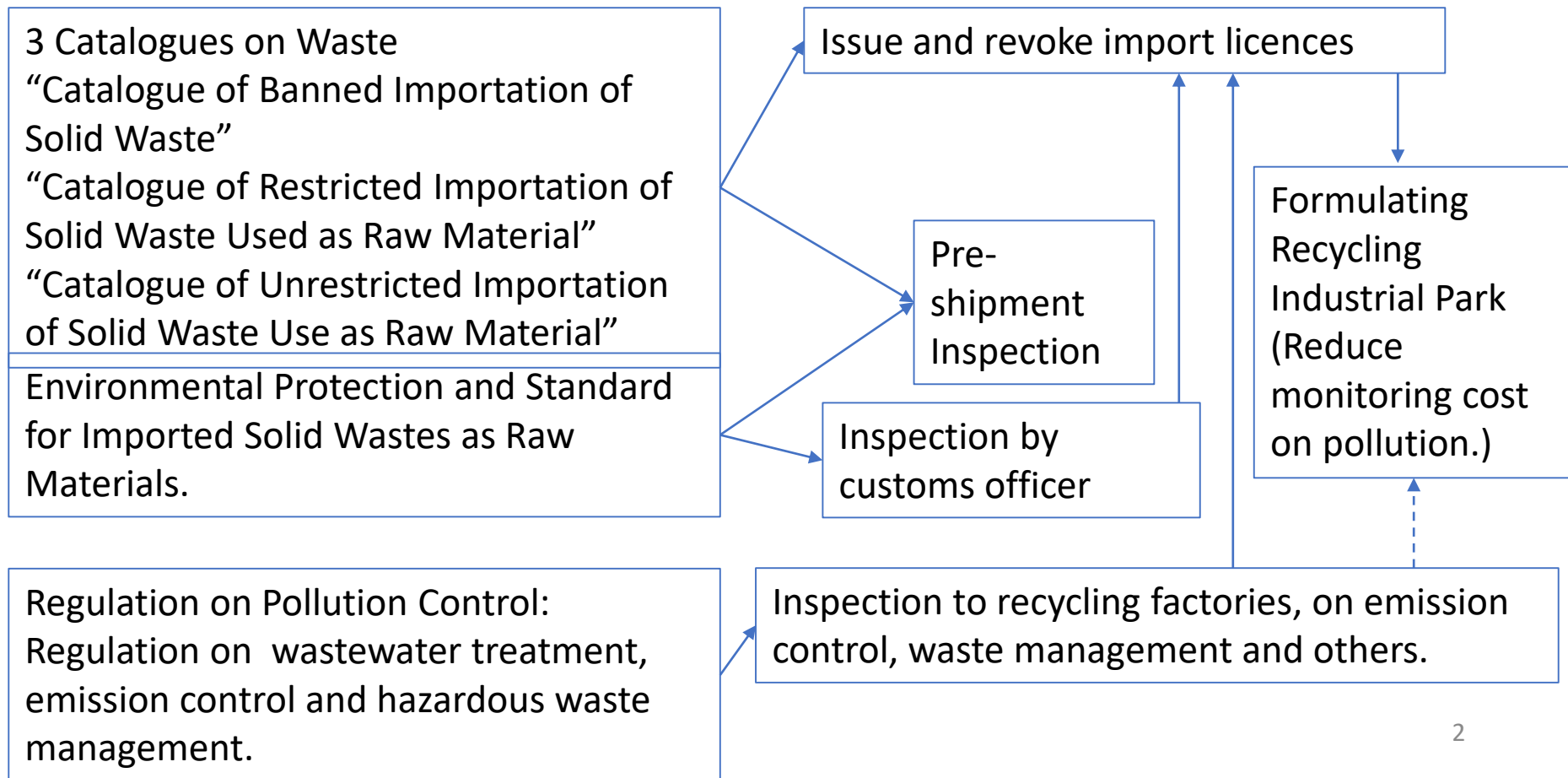
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# Chinese Import Regulation on Recyclable waste

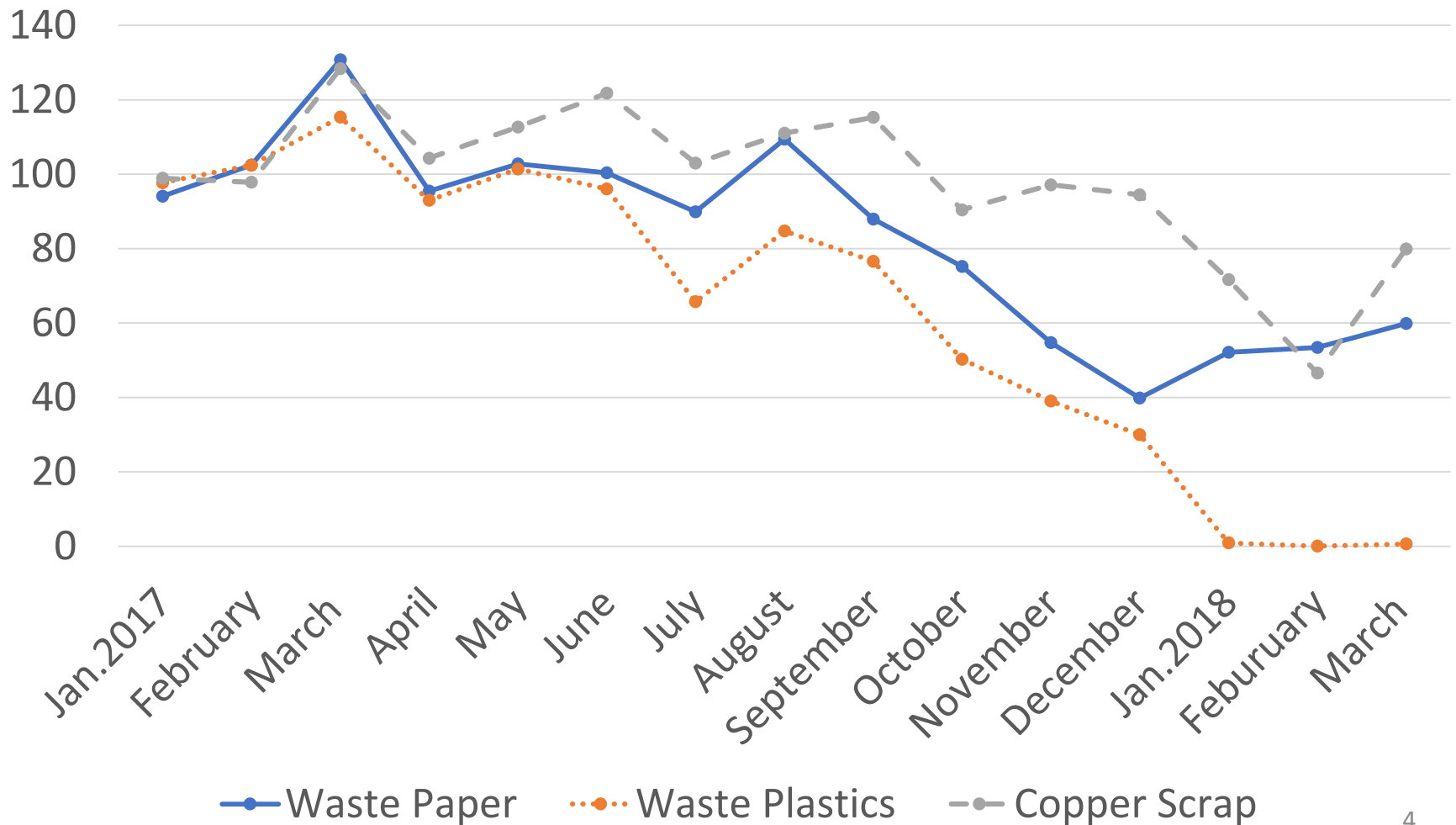
- China try to control import of recyclable waste by enforcing various regulation



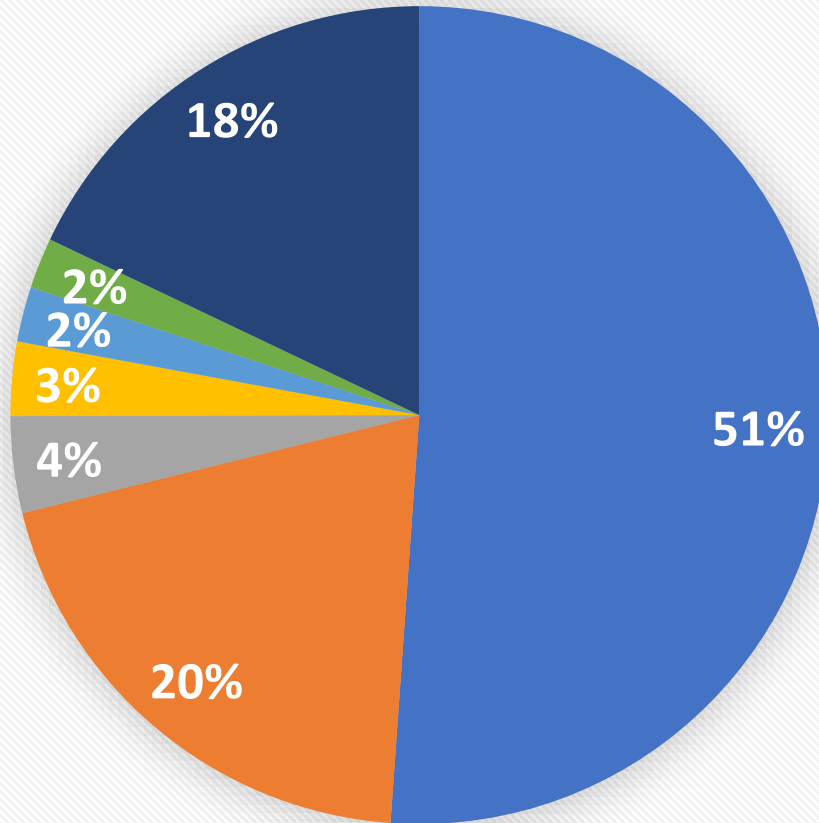
# Concerns in Asian countries

- China revised non tariff measures on some types of recyclable waste such as plastic waste (excluding plastic waste generated in production process) and unsorted waste paper in 2017.
- Some countries such as Japan and South Korea which has exported recyclable waste to China, facing difficulty to find the destination of recyclable waste.
- On the other hand, some developing countries such as India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam increase the import of recyclable wastes. Chinese restriction of importing recyclable waste stimulates the investment in recycling in other Asian countries.
- Government officers in charge of transboundary movement of hazardous waste in countries waste concern the possibility that their countries would become dumping ground or pollution from recycling industry would increase.

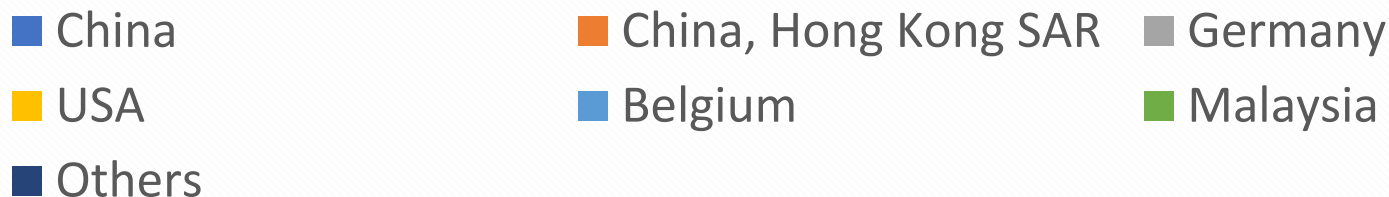
# Import of Waste Plastics, Waste Paper and Copper Scrap by China (Monthly Average in 2016 – 100)



# Plastic Waste Import 2016



In 2016, 14 million ton of plastic waste was traded in the world. More than 60 % of plastic waste were sent to China, because most of imported plastic wastes by Hong Kong were re-exported to China.



# PET Bottle

Europe  
Compressed and  
baled

Prior Notice and  
Consent



Philippines  
Shredded and  
washed to flake



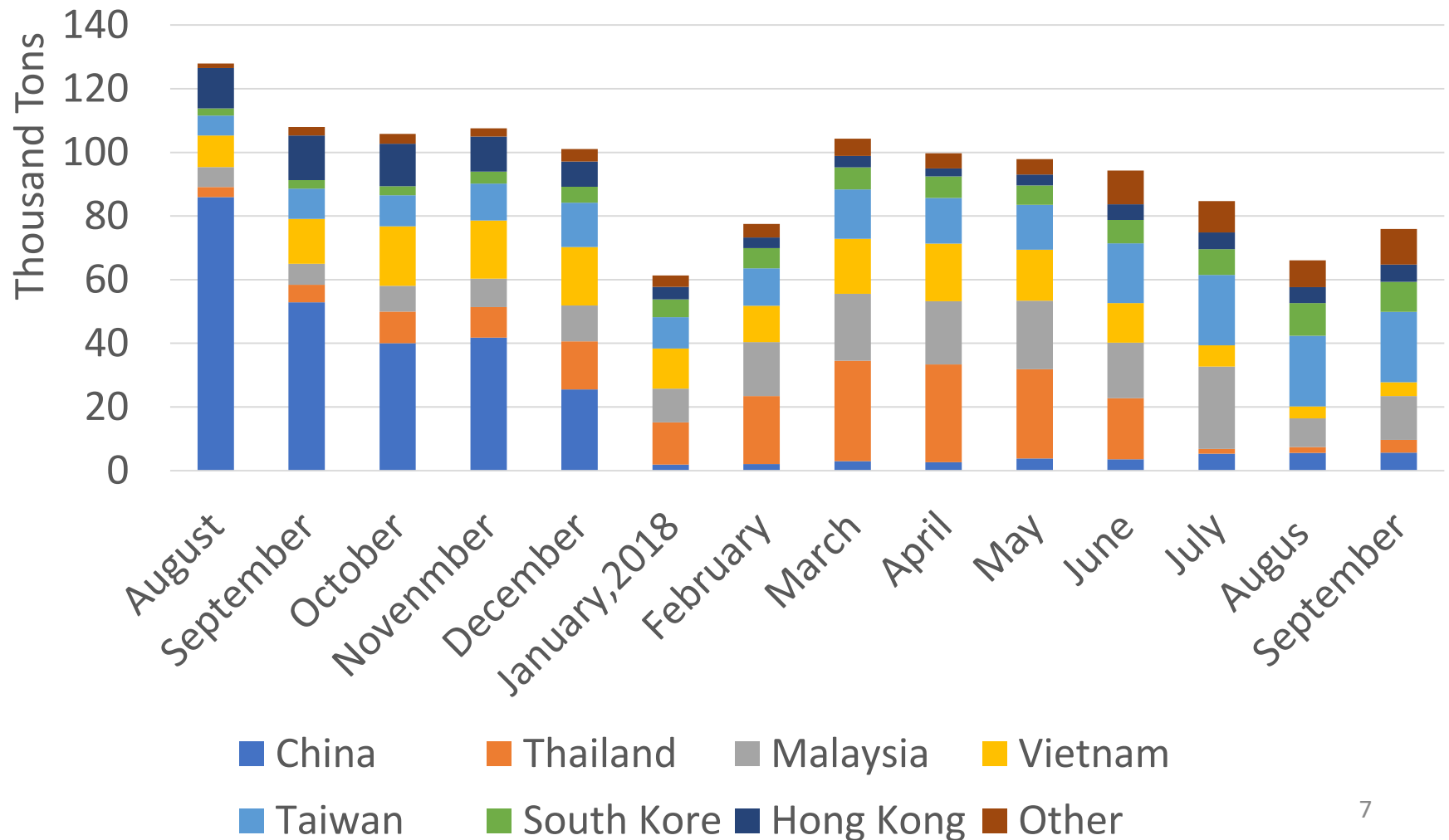
↑ Washed flake of PET.

China  
It twists  
and unite  
to make  
thick  
thread, or  
makes  
substitute  
to cotton.  
→

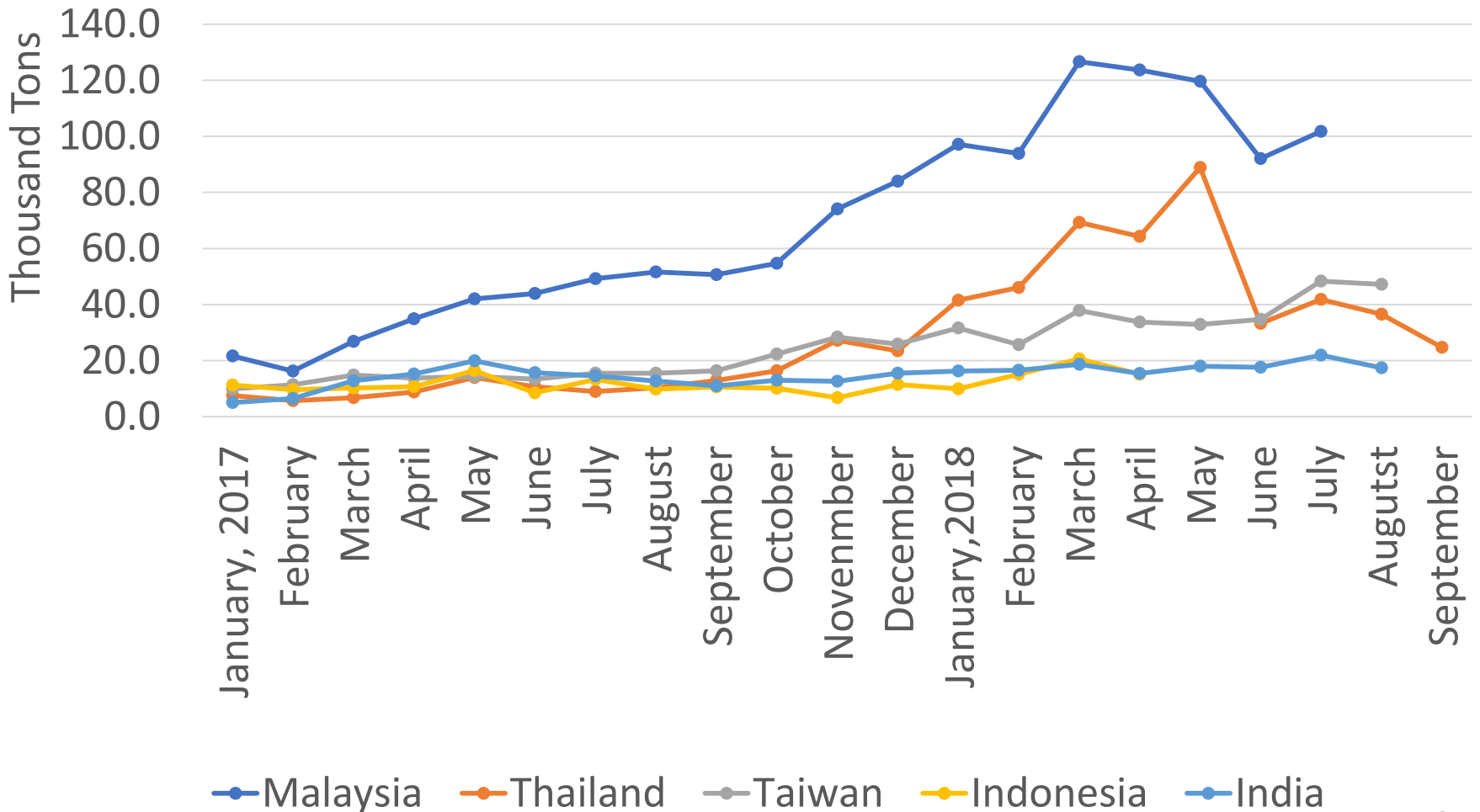


Thread is spun  
with heat. ←

# Destination of Plastic Waste from Japan

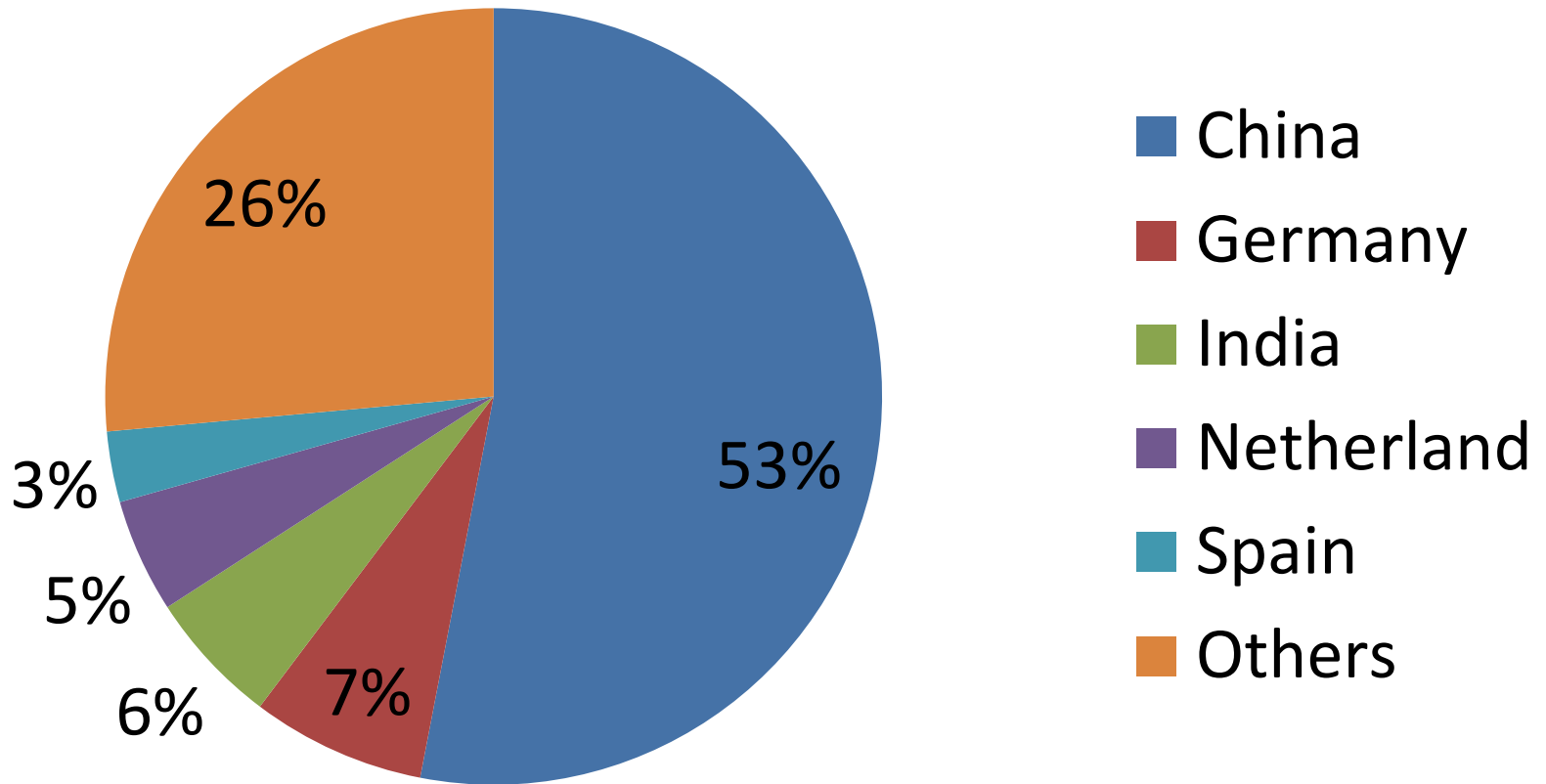


# Import of Plastic Waste

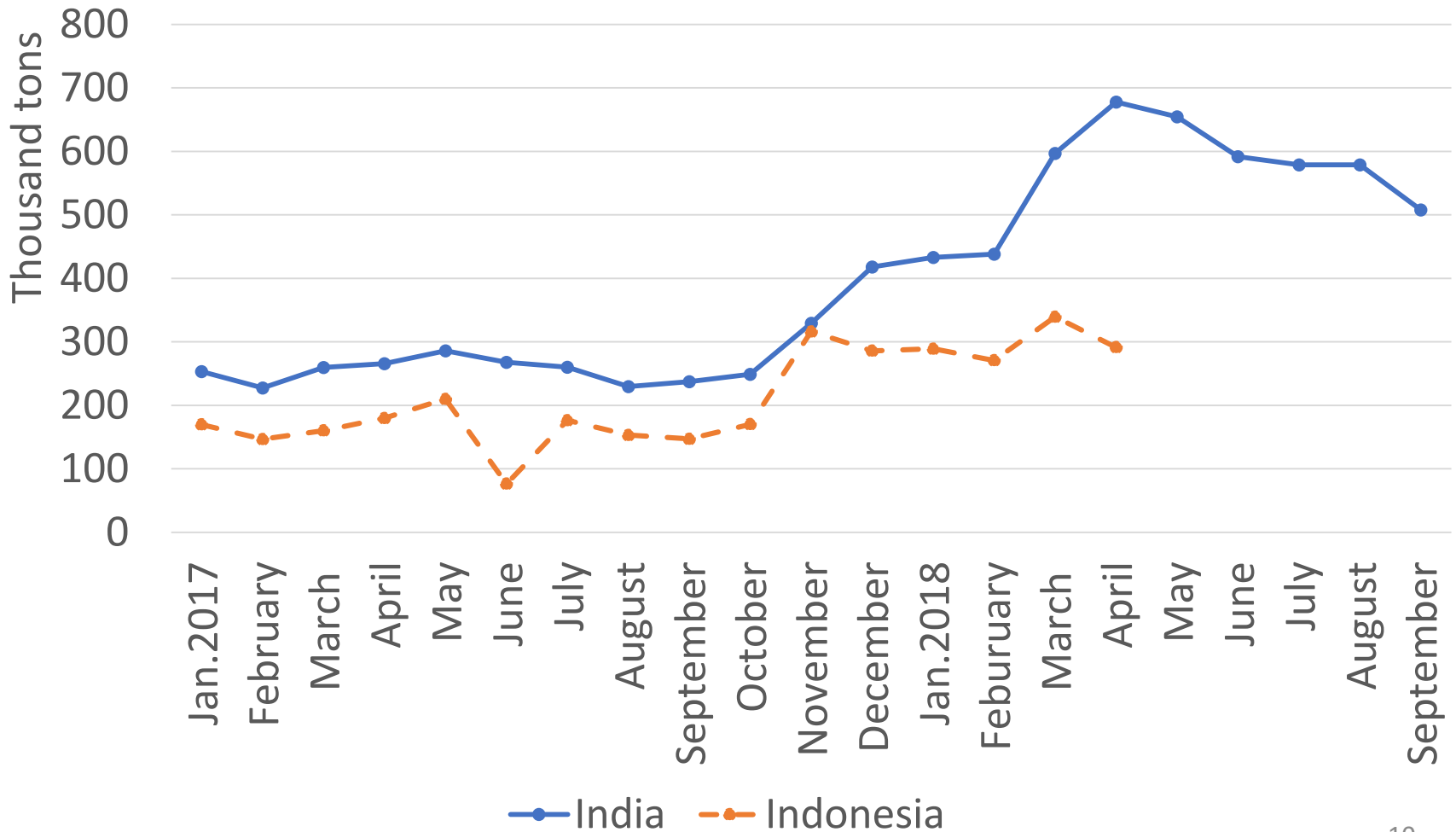




# Waste Paper Import in 2015



# Import of Waste Paper by India and Indonesia





Plastics  
and  
others

Mixed paper with plastics, imported to Shezhen, China from US. December 2011.





Mixed Waste Plastics.



Some of label and cap is not removed.



Label and cap are removed.

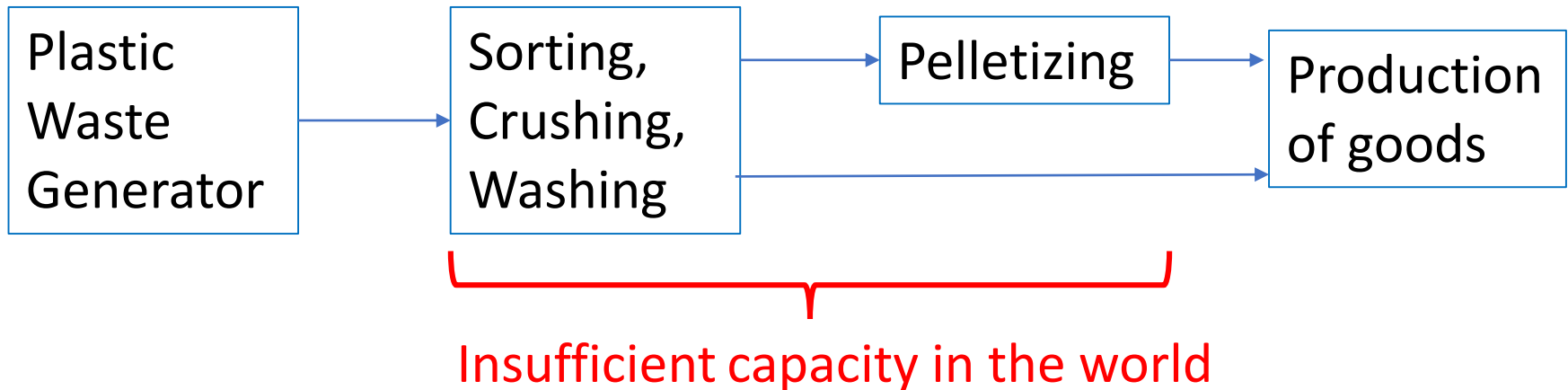


PET flake after washing and Crushing

# Trade Regulation and Types of Plastic Waste

Trade Restriction	Justification	China	Philippines		
No control, Import freely	Pollution control is strictly enforced.				
Import License Required	Recycler with and without pollution control exists. Only good recyclers can import.				
Prior Notice And Consent					
Prohibit Import	No facility to treat properly or not enough facility to clean up imported one				

# Challenges for plastic recycling



- Recycler may not want to invest in sorting, crushing and washing facility, because
  - China may allow import some types of plastic waste in the near future.
  - Country where they will invest in the facility may prohibit the import in the future.
- Some recyclers try to get short-term profit, because unsorted plastic waste is cheap and because strong demand of re-pellet is still existing in China.

# What is appropriate target?

- When I made interview with the recycler who is importing waste PET bottle and make PET flakes, he said he opened recycling facility for recycling of waste PET generated in the Philippines. But they can not collect waste PET bottles, because informal recyclers without pollution control collect PET bottles in higher price.
- The key policies to facilitate the investment in proper recycling process are
  - to enforce pollution control regulation
  - to ensure enough volume of recyclables for good recyclers, because there is scale economy in recycling process and pollution control.

# China announced the revision of list of recyclable waste which cannot be imported from end of 2018 and 2019

- In April 2018, China announced that revision of list of waste which can or cannot be imported.
- Prohibit importing in the end of 2018.
  - Plastic waste generated from production process.
  - Pressed End of Live Vehicles
  - Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment for recovering steel.
  - Waste coated cables and Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment for recovering copper
  - Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment for recovering Aluminum
  - Waste Ship, and others
- Prohibit importing in the end of 2019
  - Scrap Stainless Steel, and others.