



Country Report about plastic waste in Japan

@Asian Network Workshop

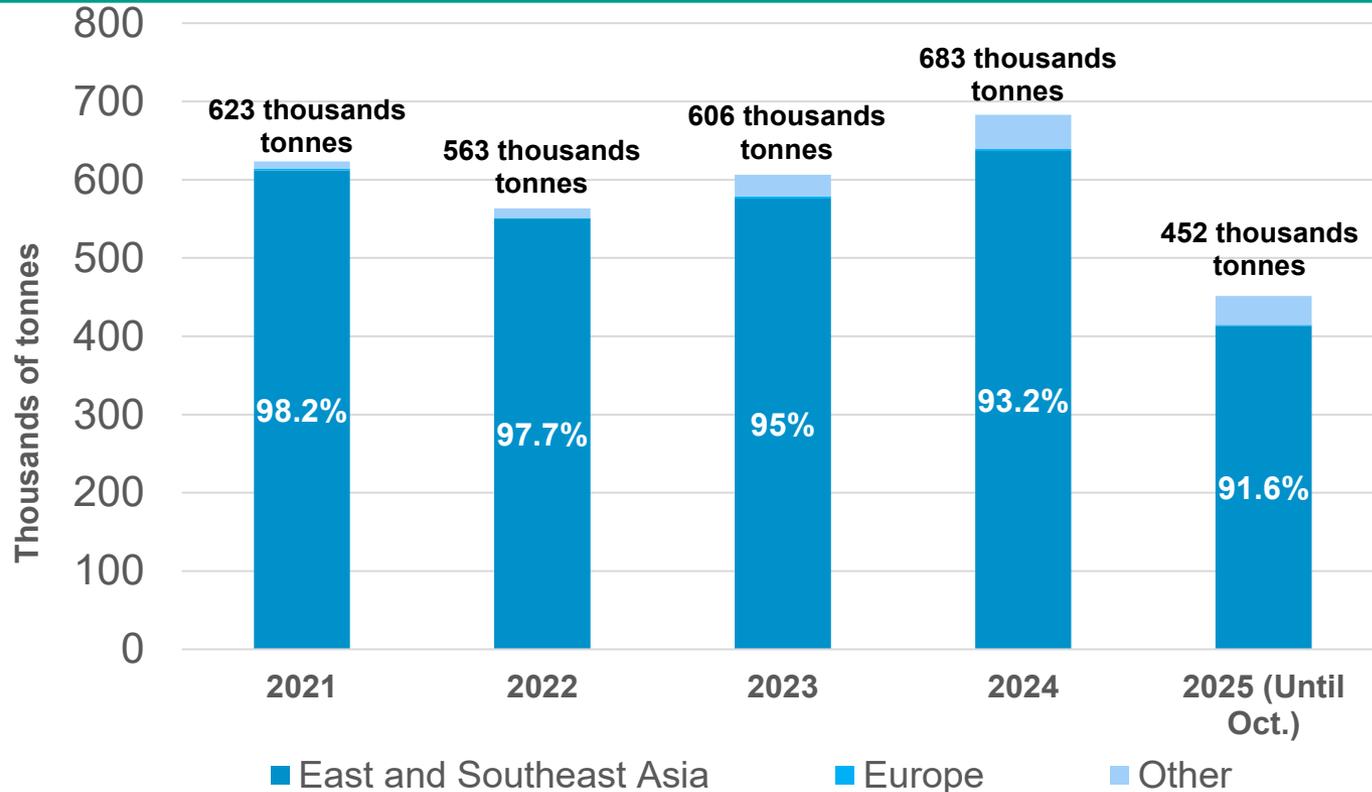
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Trends of Export Plastic Waste



The number of export destination countries

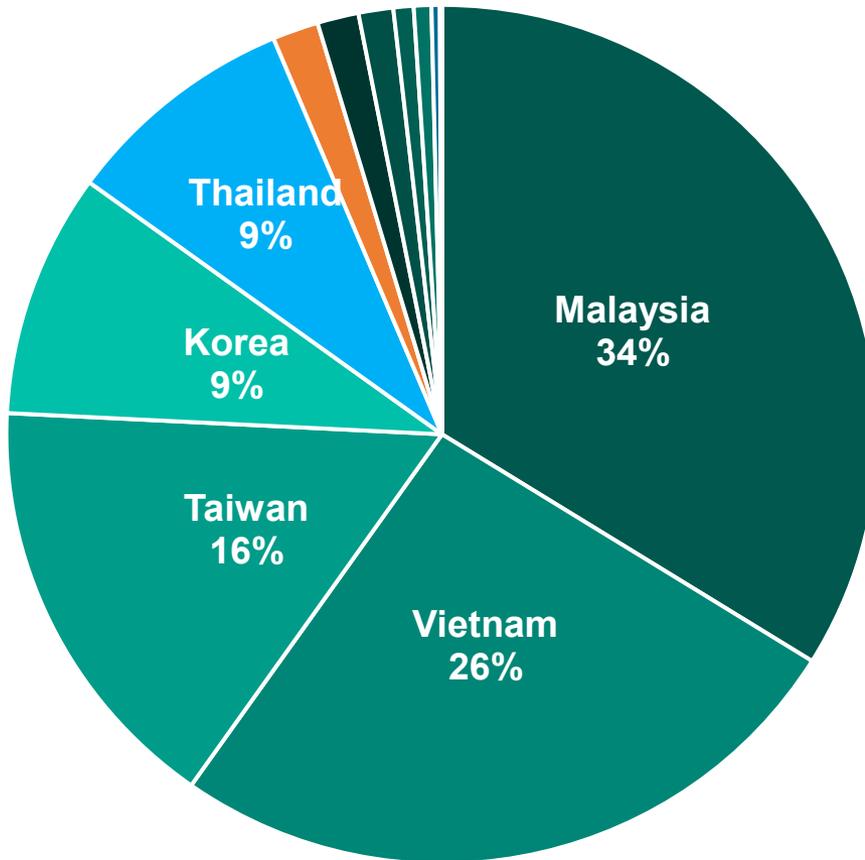
2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
28 countries	28	25	30	34

Some **African and South American countries** have been increasing as **new export destinations** since 2024.

Composition of Exports to East and Southeast Asia

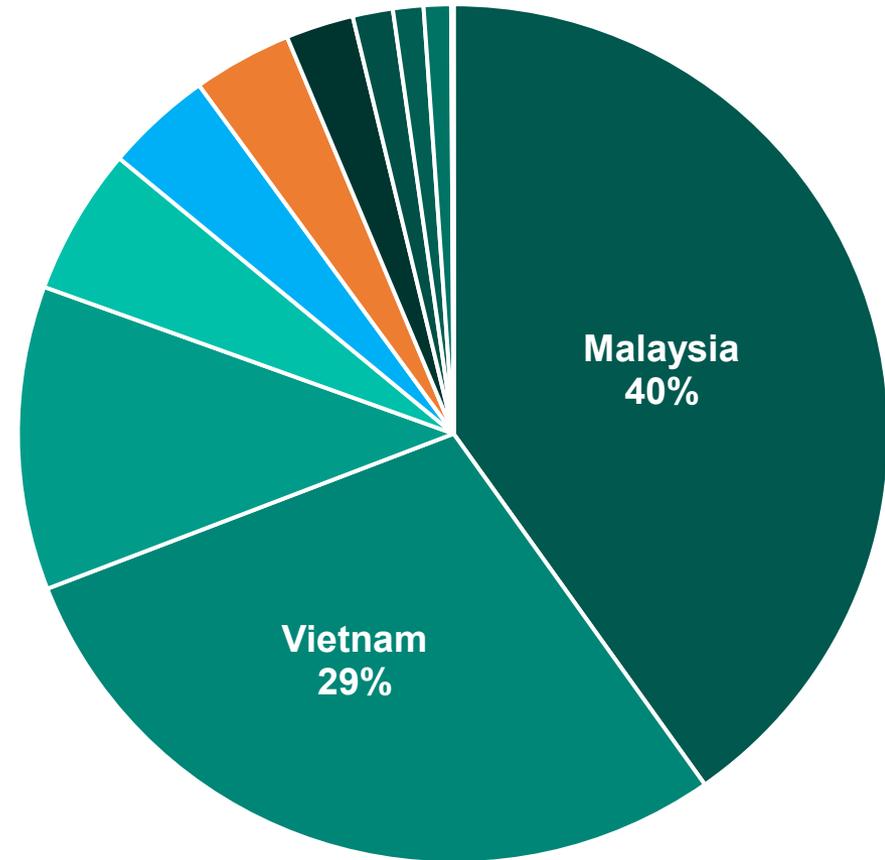


2021



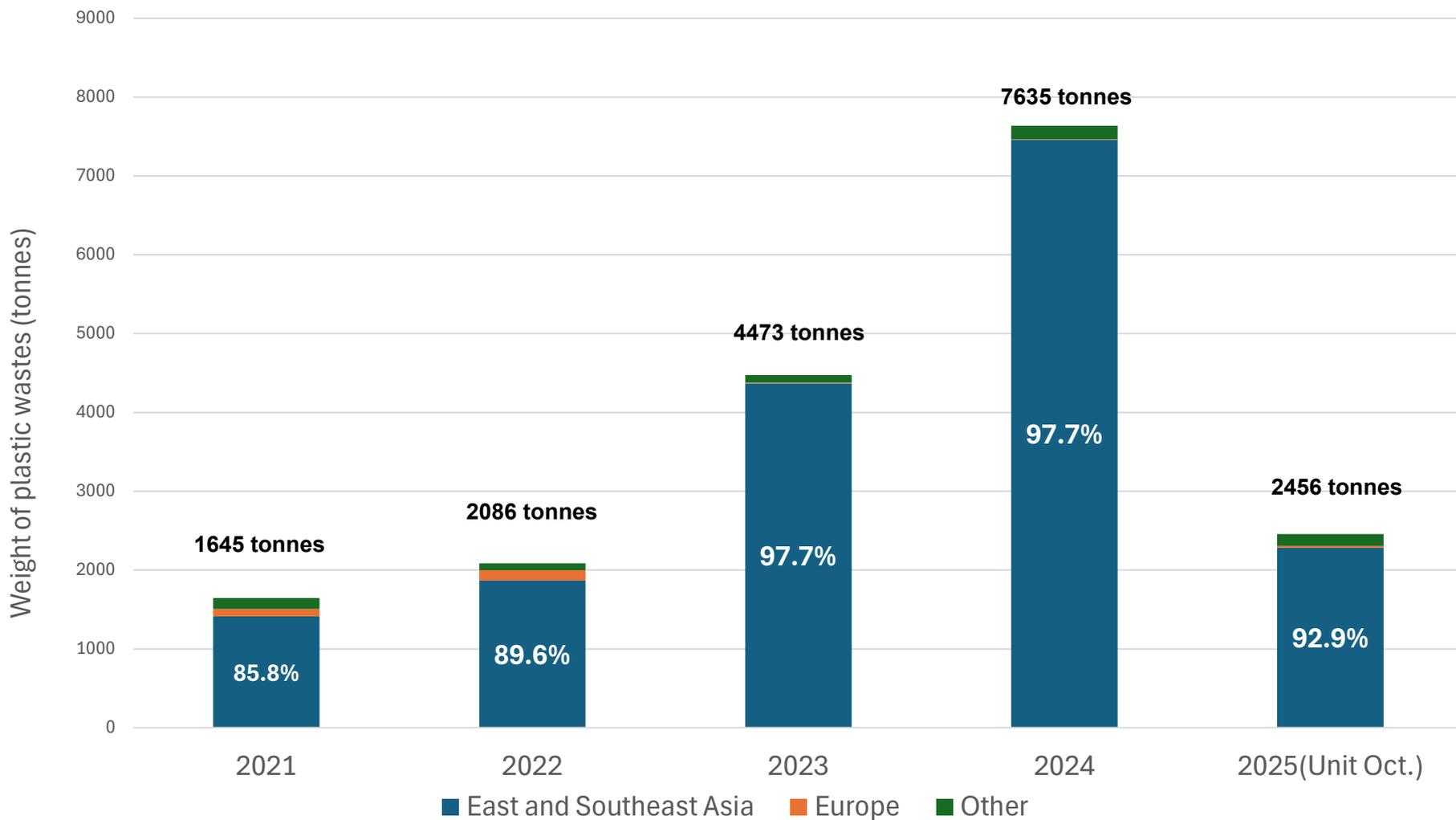
- Malaysia
- Vietnam
- Taiwan
- Korea
- Thailand
- Hong Kong
- Indonesia
- Philippines
- India
- China
- Singapore
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- Myanmar
- Bangladesh

2025



- Malaysia
- Vietnam
- Taiwan
- Korea
- India
- Philippines
- Indonesia
- Thailand
- China
- Hong Kong
- Singapore
- Cambodia
- Sri Lanka
- Bangladesh

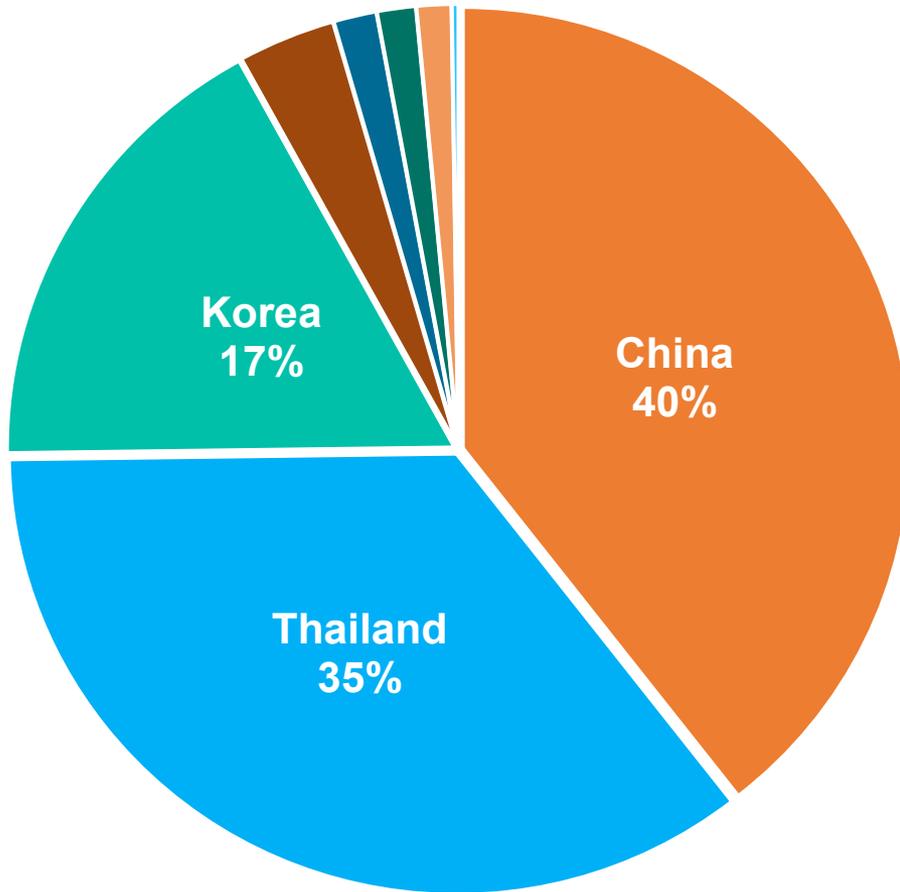
Trends of Import Plastic waste



Composition of imports from East and Southeast Asia

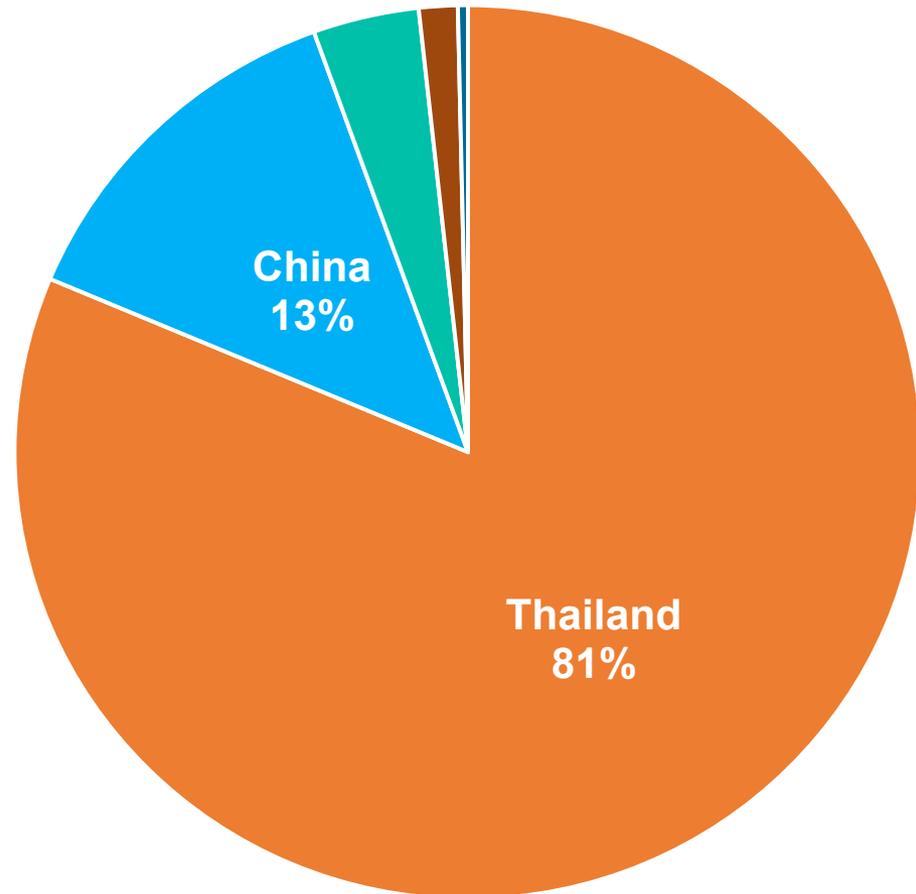


2021



- China
- Thailand
- Korea
- Philippines
- Vietnam
- Indonesia
- Singapore
- Taiwan

2025



- Thailand
- China
- Korea
- Philippines
- Vietnam

Response to plastic waste amendment under Basel Convention

“Law for the Control of Export, Import and Others of Specified Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Basel Law)”

➤ Implementation Law of the Basel Convention in Japan

“Ministerial Order **Specifying the Scope** of Specified Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes Based on the Law for the Control of Export, Import and Others of Specified Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes (Scope Order)”

⇒ Along with the plastics amendment, the Scope Order was also revised to add Y48, A3210, and B3011 as new regulatory categories and entered into force in January 2021.

Criteria Applicable to Plastic Waste without a Mixture of Plastic Resins



- Plastic waste that fulfills all criteria A to D below becomes out of the scope of the control and therefore fell into category of B3011.
- Criteria A, B and C are elements deemed necessary when literally interpreting “almost free from contamination and other types of wastes” under new Annex of the Basel Convention.
- Criterion D is developed since plastic wastes which are processed or arranged for recycling are less likely to cause the environmental pollution in importing countries .

Criteria to be exempted from the Basel Act

A	Free from contamination such as food and drink, dirt, oils and others
B	Not mixed with substances other than plastic
C	Consisting of a single type of plastic resin
D	Processed or arranged for recycling

Actual Examples of Plastic Waste Categorised as B3011



Not controlled(B3011)

① Pelletized plastic



② Transparent or single colored plastic flakes or fluff



③ Plastic wastes in the form of sheets, rolls, or bales that were discharged as a byproduct from the manufacturing process



④ Polystyrene foam (PS) in the form of ingots



Actual Examples of Plastic Waste Categorised as B3011 and Y48

➤ Following shows the scope of the control on industrial wastes and used electrical and electronic equipment or E-waste.

Not controlled(B3011)

Controlled(Y48)

Plastic wastes as industrial wastes



Plastic wastes derived from used electrical and electronic equipment or E-waste



Actual Examples of PET Bottle Wastes

- The following examples show the scope the control on PET bottle wastes.
- Waste that are shredded and in the form of flakes which has undergone a sorting process are exempted from the scope of the control.

**Not controlled
(B3011)**



**Controlled
(Y48)**



Actual Examples of Plastic Other Wastes

PVC cable (shredded)



Controlled (Y48)

Clean plastic waste coated by dirty packaging



Controlled (Y48)

Plastic blending different type of polymers, so-called "polymer-alloy"



Not controlled (B3011)

Electronic board with plastic covered wire etc.



Controlled (A1180)

Challenges of Basel Implementation for plastic waste



The domestic criteria for plastic waste under the Basel Convention is designed to rely primarily on visual inspection so that customs authorities can also conduct the screening.

⇒ need to re-check whether the criteria are appropriate from specific regulatory cases to assess

important to make a balance between the perspectives of Basel Convention practitioner and plastic recyclers.

One option is to focus on shortening the PIC procedure time without changing its scope.

