

Canada's Progress on the Initiative



Senior Officials Meeting
on the 3R Initiative
Tokyo, 6-8 March, 2006



3R and Governance in Canada

- **Shared Responsibility among all levels of government**
 - Collection, diversion and disposal operations managed at municipal level
 - Approvals, licensing and monitoring of operations under provincial and territorial jurisdiction

- **Federal Government responsibilities**
 - Transboundary movement of wastes
 - Linking international and national activities
 - Engaged in terms of greenhouse gas reduction and pollutants emissions
 - Linking waste through life cycle thinking to emerging sustainable consumption and production strategies, product focused policies and sustainable materials management



Canadian Initiatives that Contribute to 3Rs:

from transboundary movement to producer responsibility

- **New Export and Import of Hazardous Wastes and Hazardous Recyclable Materials came into force November 2005**
 - Separate definitions for waste and recyclable materials
 - Introduced environmentally sound management criteria and export reduction plans
 - Exemption for certain low risk recyclables under certain conditions, thereby supporting sustainable recycling
- **Updated inventory of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs**
 - More than 50 EPR or stewardship programs including materials such as tires, paper, paint, electronic equipment, batteries, refrigerant and others
- **Multistakeholder Discussion on Proposed National Resource Recovery and Recycling Strategy**
 - Introduce recovery mechanisms which are economically sustainable and provide social and environmental benefits
 - Based on strong partnerships
 - Key elements (policy development, data collection and information, technology and innovation, communications and outreach)



Canadian Initiatives that contribute to 3Rs:

targeting sustainable communities

- ***Solid Waste as a Resource – Guide for Sustainable Communities***
 - Promotes the concept of waste being a resource
 - Assists municipal governments in developing management systems that support sustainable communities

- **Completed review of state of the art technologies for integrated waste management systems**
 - Aims to further conserve resources, reduce GHG emissions, lessen dependence on landfills

- **Determined impact of waste management activities on GHG emissions**
 - Life cycle approach used to estimate GHG emissions associated with different waste management activities in the 3Rs hierarchy



Canadian Initiatives that contribute to 3Rs:

informing and engaging Canadians

- **Canada's Waste Reduction Week**
 - Annual event in October
 - Brings together governments, recycling associations, schools, businesses and the public
 - Campaign based on *Too Good to Waste*
- **Green Municipal Fund**
 - Stimulates investment in innovative environmental projects
 - Leverages partnerships
- **Sustainable Development Technology Canada**
 - Commercialization fund for sustainable development project including waste
- **Enhanced Recycling program**
 - National consultations, workshops and seminars to raise awareness on key issues
 - Developed projects that strive for higher recovery rates



Integrating the initiatives:

Supporting Competitiveness & Environmental Sustainability

- **Aligned with Canada's approaches which aim to:**
 - Enhance the well-being of Canadians
 - Preserve the natural environment
 - Advance our long term competitiveness

- **Resource recovery strategies, including the Japan 3Rs Initiative, support the building of a more competitive economy**

- **OECD Initiative on Sustainable Materials Management provides an important framework for integrating benefits of a variety of initiatives**



International Discussions Continue to be Mutually Beneficial

- **Scientific and technological developments in other countries can be related to the Canadian context**
- **Sharing study results on work linking 3Rs, GHG and other pollutants**
- **Showcase of successful activities**
- **Identification of issues, challenges and lessons learned**

- **3Rs will continue to be a key aspect of our journey towards sustainable development**
- **Canada will remain an active participant and will collaborate with the international community to advance this agenda within the broad context of sustainable materials management.**

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