

Citizens' international cooperation for promoting the 3Rs

in an effort to solve E-waste problem

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Introduction (1)

Exchanges between a few Japanese NGOs working on waste issues and KZWMN (Korea) started at Citizens' Forum for 3R Initiative held on 26 April 2005



Introduction (2)

3-5 Nov. 2005

KZWMN (Korea), East Asia Environmental Information Express Messenger (Japan) and Study Group for a Sustainable Society (Japan) visited Taizhou and the suburb in Zhejiang, China to inspect their E-waste recycling practices



Asia Waste Watch

PURPOSE

- Form a citizen platform to contribute to preventing environmental pollution caused by waste in Asia
- Build a zero-waste society through promotion of the 3Rs, through networking and cooperation among domestic/international citizen groups
- We survey, study, provide information and make policy recommendation on waste problems such as e-waste in Asia.

MAIN MEMBERS

Basel Action Network

www.ban.org

East Asia Environmental Information Express Messenger

www.eden-j.org

Friends of the Earth Japan

www.foejapan.org

Study Group for a Sustainable Society

Framework for international cooperation

NGOs from three Asian countries play own unique roles

Greenpeace
China



www.greenpeace.org/china/

collects and expresses
on-site information of E-
waste pollution and
damages



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International



Friends of
the Earth
International

base
action
network

Korea Zero Waste
Movement Network

자원순환사회연대

쓰레기문제 해결을 위한 시민운동협의회

www.waste21.or.kr

Information Sharing
Policy Discussion

studies the generation of
E-waste and secondhand
appliance, makes policy
recommendation for
reduction of E-waste

Asia Waste Watch



ENVIROASIA

www.enviroasia.info

North-East Asia

Activities in Japan

- 1) Visited a PC recycling center/vendor of second-hand electronics to understand the actual circumstances surrounding E-waste problem
- 2) Actively participating the Japan's effort to improve the laws on recycling of home appliances (ex., Conducted a street survey, participated in the public hearing)



Exporter of secondhand appliance



street consumer questionnaire

Korea Zero Waste Movement Network (KZWMMN) has been working to prohibit e-waste from being exported to other developing countries.

LONG-TERM ACTIVITIES

- Revision of the current EPR system: Electronic producers should bear the responsibility to collect and recycle all electronic wastes discharged from Korea
- Increase in government's investment in the recycling systems to achieve a higher recycling rate.
- Reduction and regulation of hazardous materials in electronic products.

SHORT-TERM ACTIVITIES

- Collection and study of the current situations surrounding recycle and export of e-wastes in Korea
- Proposal for improving the e-waste recycling system

Campaign Objective

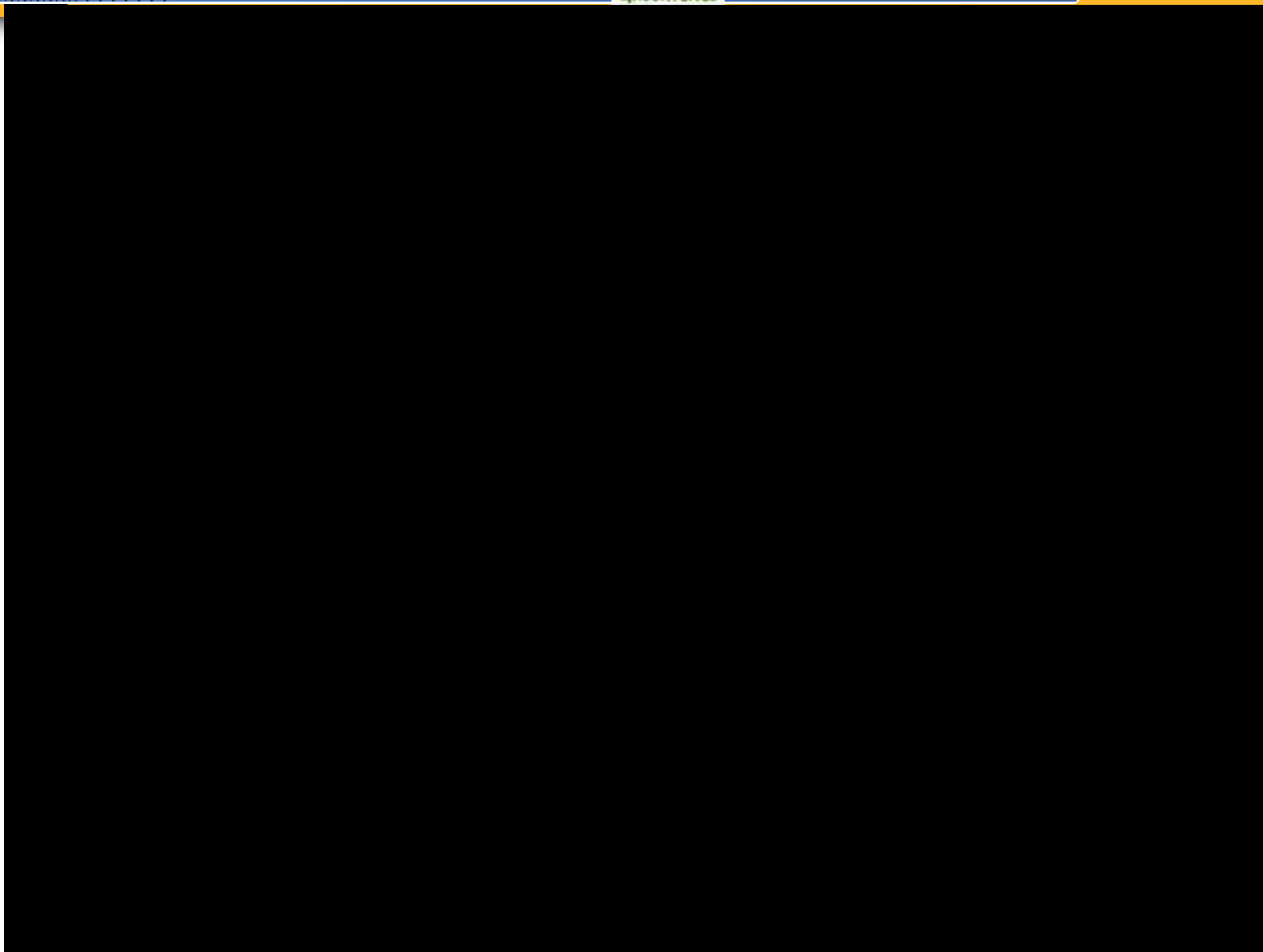
- Exposure E-waste issue and Stop E-waste trade in China
- Phase out toxics substance in the electronics industry + Extended Producer Responsibility
- Clean production

Two key achievements of the campaign

- HK government amended legislation to tighten border control of e-waste.
- Now Acer/Dell/HP have committed to phase out toxic substance in their product and now 40% of the world market will enjoy toxics free computers



Activities in China



Asian Citizen's Forum on 3Rs

Citizens' groups from China, Korea, US and Japan held the Asian Citizen's Forum on the 3Rs on 29 Oct. 2006 in Tokyo, to discuss roles of citizens in the global efforts to solve the e-waste issues, and concluded with the Citizen Appeal.



The Role of Citizens

- Make every efforts to **reduce generation of e-waste**, following the 3Rs hierarchy
- Work in collaboration with NGOs from various countries to propose, share and implement effective schemes or programs to ensure the sustainability in the electronics industry
- Use the consumer power to demand and support cleaner electronics production and products,
- Actively communicate and cooperate with governments and the electronics industry
- Educate the public on the global e-waste issues and related national and international laws and regulations
- Incorporate perspectives and experiences of citizens and NGOs into decision-making processes

Emphasis on Environmental and Human Health Protection

- Comply with and enforce the existing multilateral environmental treaties on waste, such as the Basel Convention
- Embrace and promote the Environmental Justice
- Prevent illegal transboundary movements of toxic waste through the collaborative efforts of concerned countries and institutions to obtain an accurate understanding of trade in waste as well as to eliminate the gaps in definitions and regulations of waste
- Implementation of EPR, which provides incentives for upstream approaches to the e-waste problems
- Transparent and participatory decision-making process



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We expect that your discussion will be fruitful at Asia 3R Conference.