



**BASEL CONVENTION**



**UNEP**

# **THE MANAGEMENT OF WEEE IN THE CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION**

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*Central American Workshop for Capacity Building on  
Environmentally Responsible Management of WEEE***

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# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Introduction to the Caribbean Sub-Region
- EEE found in the Caribbean
- Status of WEEE & its Management
- Recent Initiatives in the Management of WEEE
- Summary of Challenges for WEEE Management
- Steps Forward...



# THE CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION



Area of Focus: English-speaking Caribbean SIDS & Continental territories (Parties to the Basel Convention)



# EEE IN THE CARIBBEAN



# STATUS OF WEEE & ITS MANAGEMENT

- Increasingly technologically advanced societies and concurrent growth in associated equipment
- One of the fastest growing waste streams in the region – challenge to manage increasing types & quantity of e-waste
- Region has a high penetration rate for ICT:
  - The Americas including the LAC has second highest internet penetration rate globally
  - Mobile-cellular penetration rate in the Americas 109/100 inhabitants
  - Mobile phone penetration of 148 per 100 inhabitants in Trinidad and Tobago in 2010
  - Numbers of obsolete PCs expected to double in T&T between 2008 & 2014 – 0.40kg per capita in PCs being generated in 2010



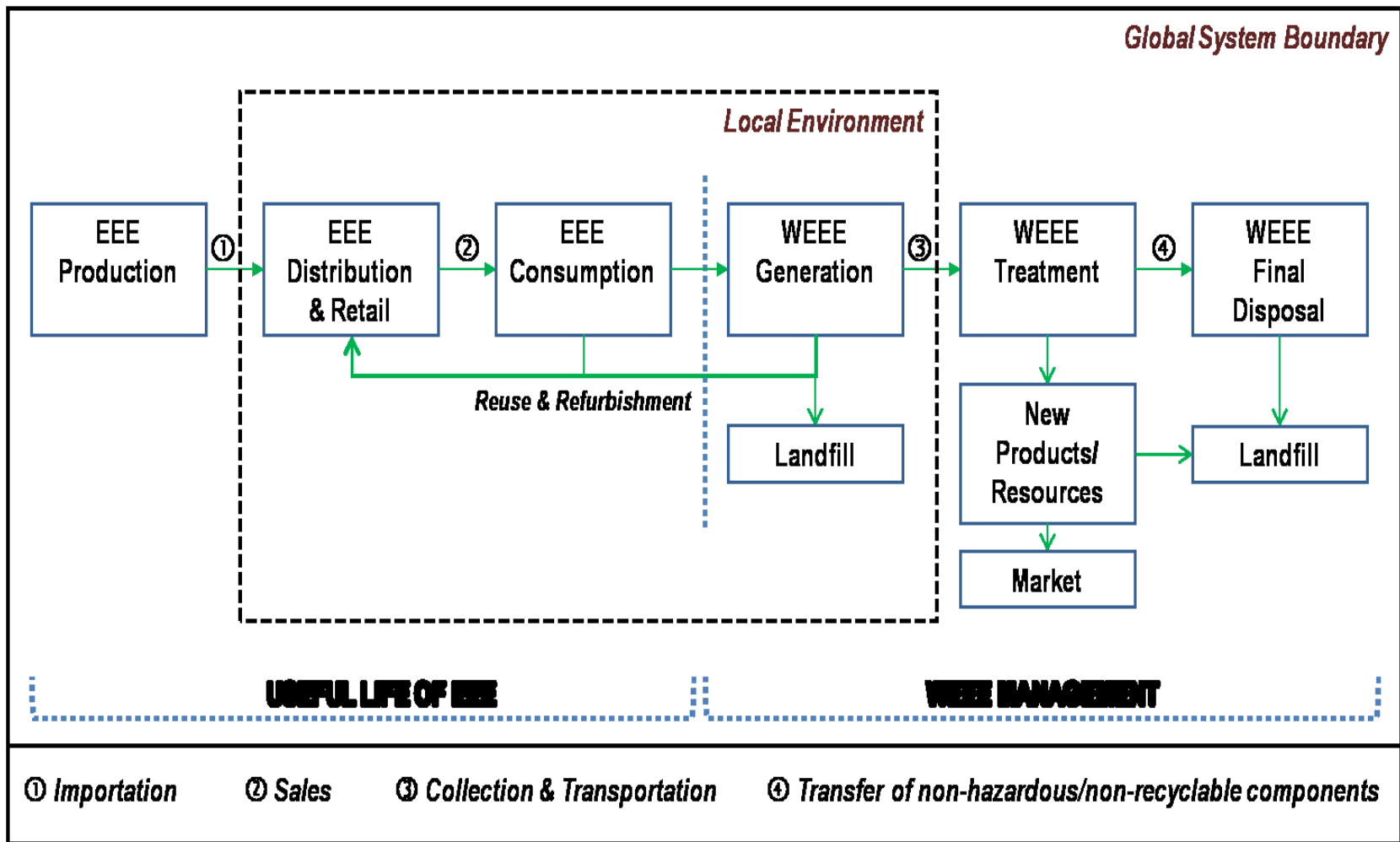


# STATUS OF WEEE & ITS MANAGEMENT

- Options for EoL management of EEE in the region:
  - Store at home, warehouse, etc.
  - Dispose at national landfills, if accepted
  - Dump indiscriminately at illegal sites
  - Pay private waste broker or recyclers for disposal - Ad hoc initiatives by waste brokers
- No specific legislation or policies; not specified/incorporated into waste legislation(s)
- No EPR or Take Back systems in place
- Re-use occurs at a very limited scale



# STATUS OF WEEE & ITS MANAGEMENT



# RECENT INITIATIVES IN WEEE MANAGEMENT

## ■ Policy Initiatives:

- Policy papers drafted by Barbados, Jamaica identified the need for it, Trinidad & Tobago began the process of drafting such a document.
- 2006 E-waste Symposium with regional scope.

## ■ Awareness Initiatives:

- Spearheaded by NGOs
- Some work being done at State level





# RECENT INITIATIVES IN WEEE MANAGEMENT

- Assessment and Management:
  - EMPA e-Waste Assessment in Trinidad & Tobago
  - Ad hoc surveys done by regional participants in preparation for 2006 Symposium
  - Demonstration/pilot projects being developed by NGOs for refurbishing &/or recycling facilities in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago
  - BCRC-Caribbean PACE Workshop for the ESM of WEEE in the Caribbean – July 2013



# SUMMARY OF CHALLENGES

- Weak or absent legal instruments specific to WEEE including national definitions/categories & frameworks
- Lack of coordinated inter- & intra-institutional cooperation as well as public-private cooperation
- Fragmentation and paucity of data
- Minimal financial investment for recycling activities
- No national standards, certification system and auditing for brokers and private companies



# STEPS FORWARD...

- Development of a regional strategy towards achieving the ESM of WEEE is needed
- WEEE needs to be accorded higher priority status
- Legal definition and regulation of WEEE
- Development of the WEEE recycling sector
- Improved coordination and management of data across all sectors – for proper assessment
- Greater public-private cooperation and dialogue to develop and implement WEEE management system



*Thank you very much!!*

# QUESTIONS?

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