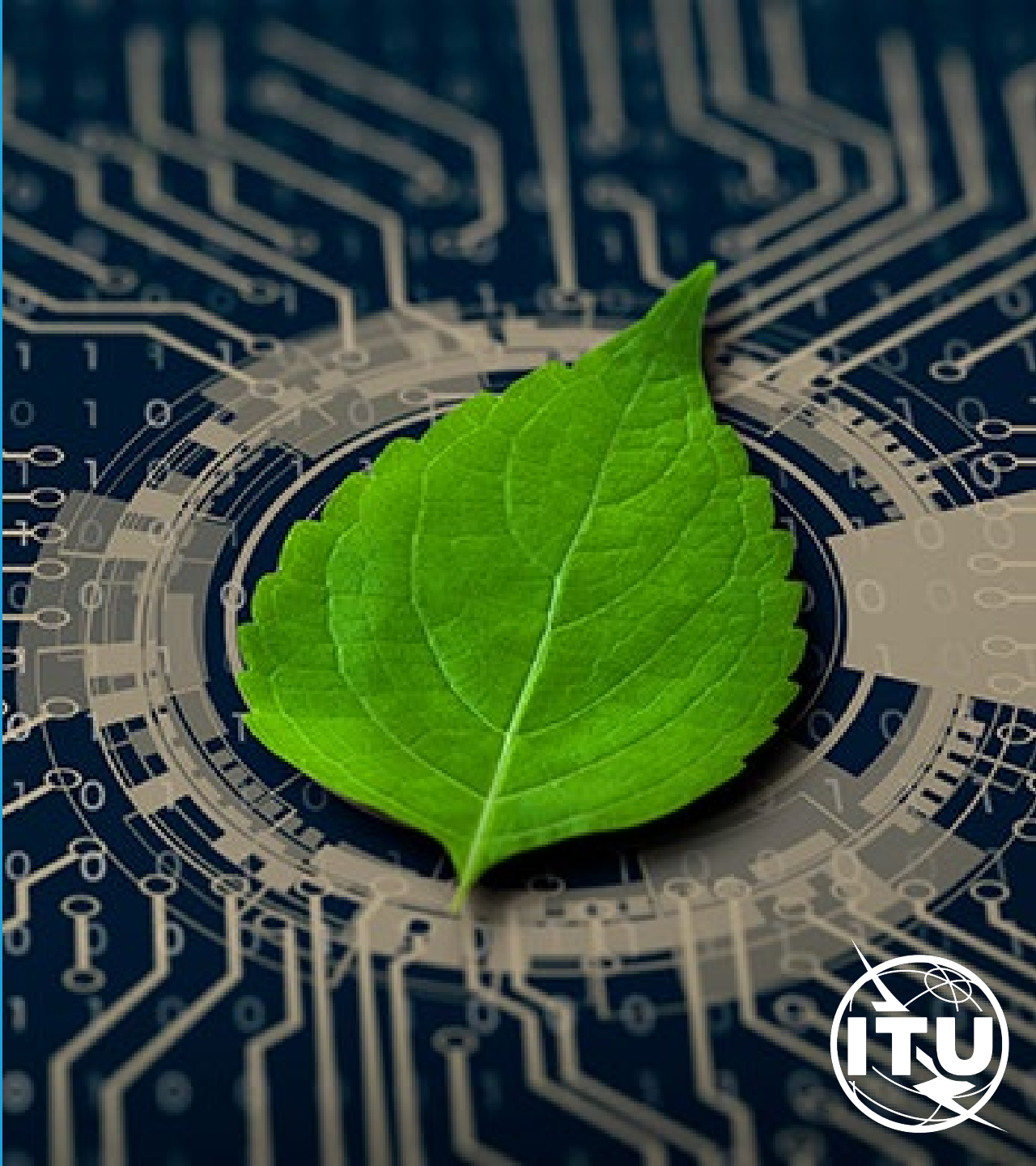


EPR Forum Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership

INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATION
UNION

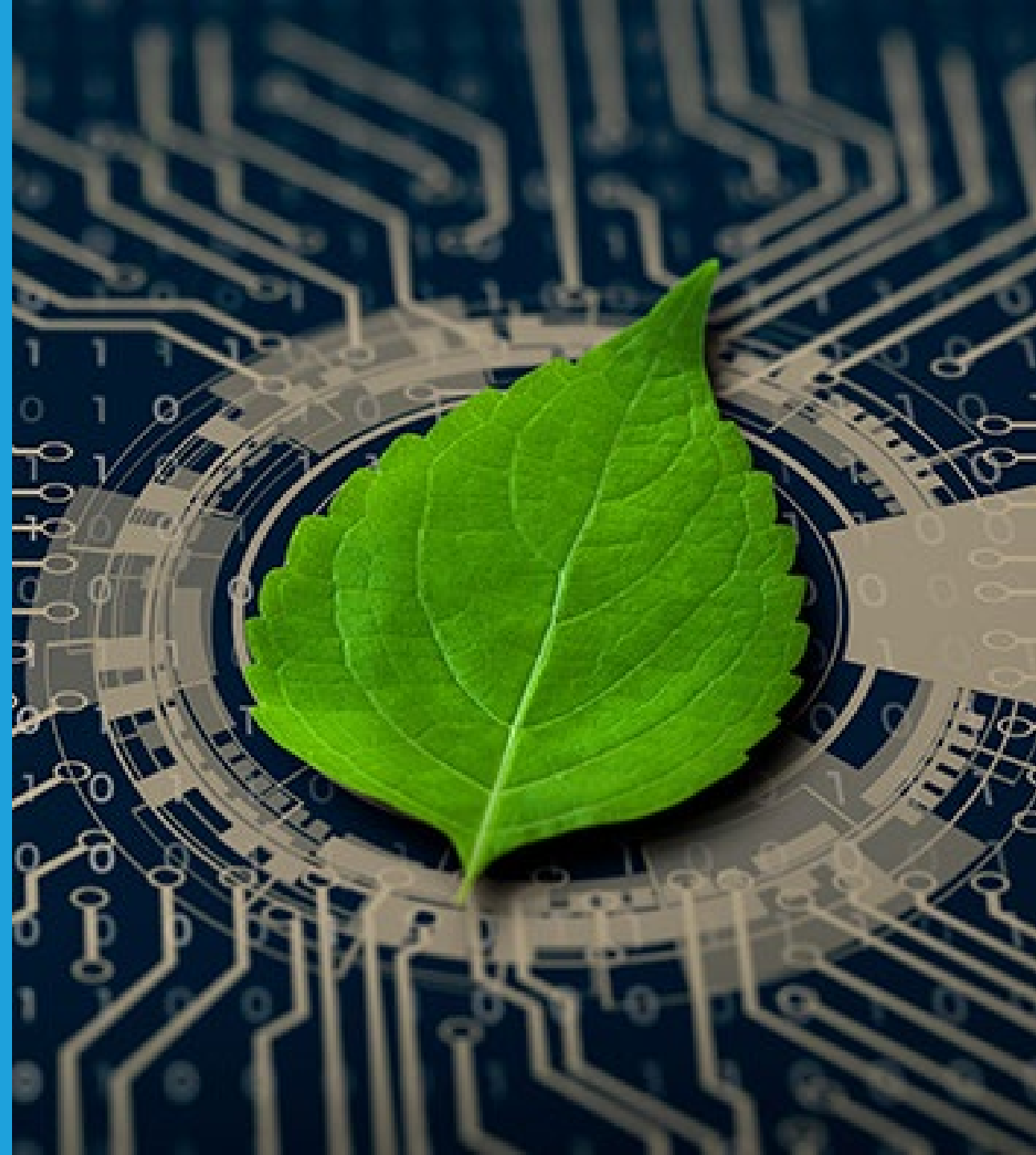


Agenda

- Background.
- 3 Benefits of EEE EPR Regulation.
- 3 Challenges with EEE EPR Regulation.



Background



E-waste Regulation EPR Scope of Products



1. Temperature exchange equipment:

more commonly referred to as cooling and freezing equipment. Typical equipment includes refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and heat pumps.



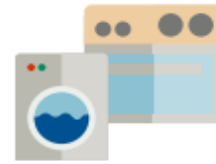
2. Screens and monitors:

typical equipment includes televisions, monitors, laptops, notebooks, and tablets.



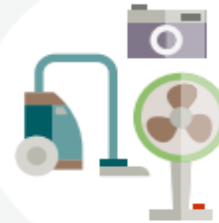
3. Lamps:

typical equipment includes fluorescent lamps, high intensity discharge lamps, and LED lamps.



4. Large equipment:

typical equipment includes washing machines, clothes dryers, dishwashing machines, electric stoves, large printing machines, copying equipment, and photovoltaic panels.



5. Small equipment:

typical equipment includes vacuum cleaners, microwaves, ventilation equipment, toasters, electric kettles, electric shavers, scales, calculators, radio sets, video cameras, electrical and electronic toys, small electrical and electronic tools, small medical devices, small monitoring, and control instruments.



6. Small IT and Telecommunication equipment:

typical equipment includes mobile phones, Global Positioning System (GPS) devices, pocket calculators, routers, personal computers, printers, and telephones.

EPR System Design

Nature of the system:

- EPR can be mandatory or voluntary.
- But eventual intention should be to compel all producers to comply, not just a provocative few.

Producer coverage:











- There can be individual (IPR) and/or collective EPR schemes by producers.
- Collective schemes are usually preferred by all and are operated by a producer responsibility organisation.
- Regulation should though make provisions for IPR too, as it can increase eco-design.

Allocation of responsibilities:

- EPR shifts the burden to producers, but other stakeholders have a responsibility; all-actors approach.

Producer Definitions

- Definitions must be crystal clear.
- They follow a similar theme.
- Ideally harmonize with neighbours.
- Be careful with “manufacturers” term.
- First entity placing EEE on market.
- So could be anyone in this regard.
- “Natural” or “legal” person.

-  **Nigeria:** Referred to as the entity (which may include, but is not limited to, the brand owner, manufacturer, franchisee, assembler, distributor, retailer or first importer of the product) who sells, offers for sale or distributes the product. It also includes the local manufacturer or importer of new and used EEE to be placed on a national market at first invoice by sale or donation. A producer can be a legal or natural person.
-  **South Africa:** Referred to as any person or category of persons or a brand owner who is engaged in the commercial manufacture, conversion, refurbishment (where applicable) or import of new and / or used identified products as identified by the Minister by Notice in the Government Gazette in terms of section 18(1) of the Act, and a producer includes, where relevant, the same as defined in the specific section 18 Notices for each of the identified products as gazetted by the Minister in terms of section 18(1) and (2) of the Act.
-  **Kenya:** Referred to as an entity that introduces goods, products and packaging into the country using authorized means by manufacturing, importing, distributing, converting, selling or reselling.
-  **Ghana:** Ghana applies regulations in regard to manufacturers and importers of EEE, who are defined, respectively, as any person who assembles or produces electronic equipment in the republic and a person who, in the ordinary course of business, imports electronic equipment into the republic or arranges for hazardous waste or other wastes to be imported into the republic.
-  **Rwanda:** Referred to as any person or entity who introduces or causes to be introduced new and used EEE into the market by sale, donation, gifts, inheritance or by any such related methods and can either be a manufacturer, importer, distributor or assembler.
-  **Madagascar:** Referred to as polluter and payer and any person who manufactures, ships, imports or introduces EEE on the national market in a private and professional capacity.
-  **Côte d'Ivoire:** Referred to as any person who manufactures, imports or introduces EEE on the national market, on a professional basis, except where such equipment is sold under the sole brand of a reseller. In this case, the reseller is considered as a producer.
-  **Cameroon:** Referred to as any natural or legal person who manufactures, imports or introduces on the national market on a professional basis electrical or electronic equipment, unless this equipment is sold under the sole brand of a reseller. In this case, the reseller is considered as a producer.
-  **Egypt:** Referred to as any manufacturer, exporter or distributor falling under the product's extended liability system.
-  **Zambia:** Although not explicitly identifying them as a producer, Zambia's 2018 EPR regulations define the actor mandated to implement the regulations as a person who intends to manufacture, retail, import, trade or commercially distribute in Zambia.

Core Pillars

- **Legal Regime:**

- What is the existing regulatory framework?
- How could this be improved and enforced most efficiently?
- Which legal instruments will play what role in regulating?
- What will the scope of the regulatory framework be?

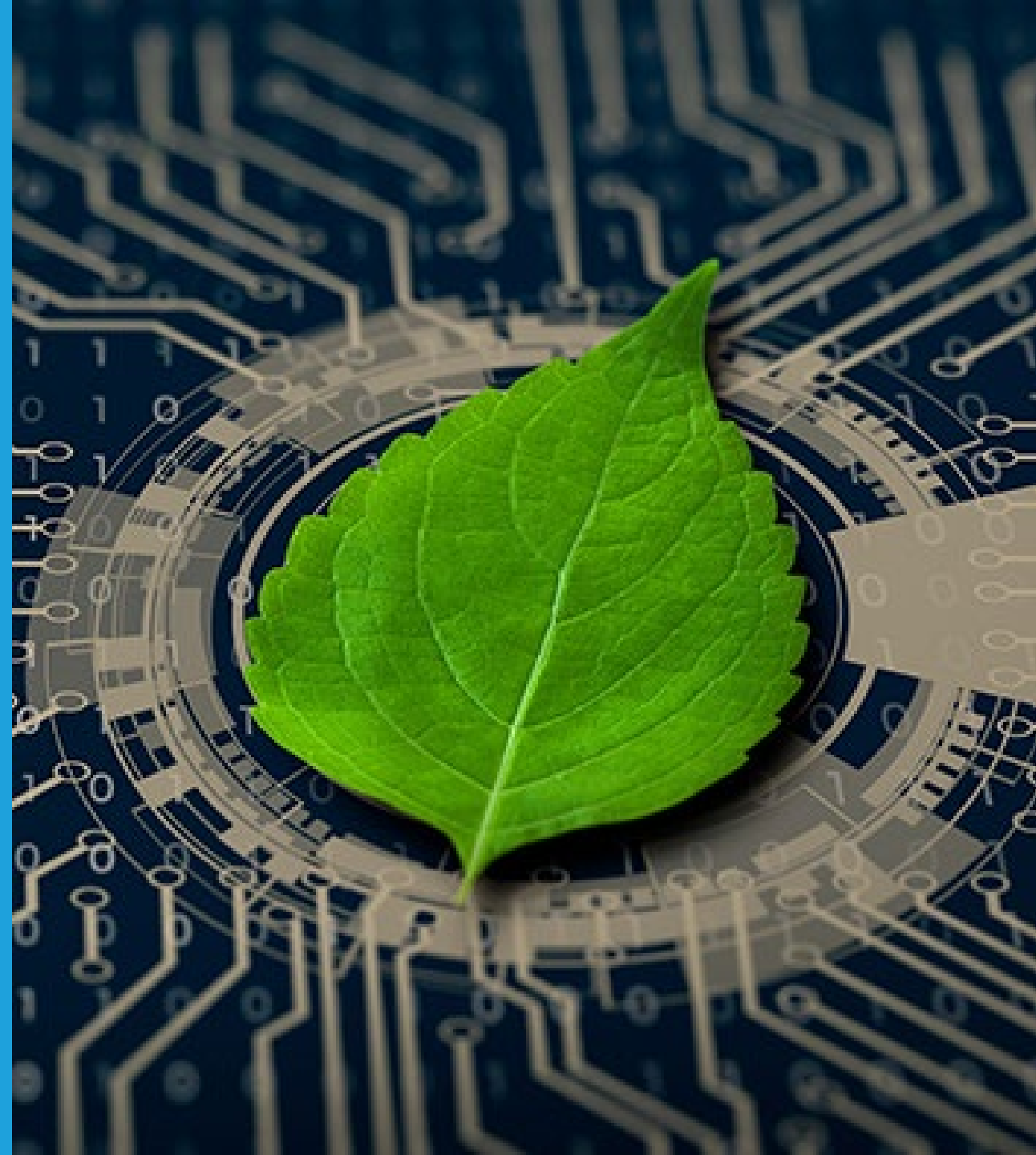
- **Financing Mechanism:**

- What will the mechanism look like that ensures sustainable financing of e-waste management?
- What will the implications be of introducing such a mechanism and to who?
- What will the cost coverage look like?

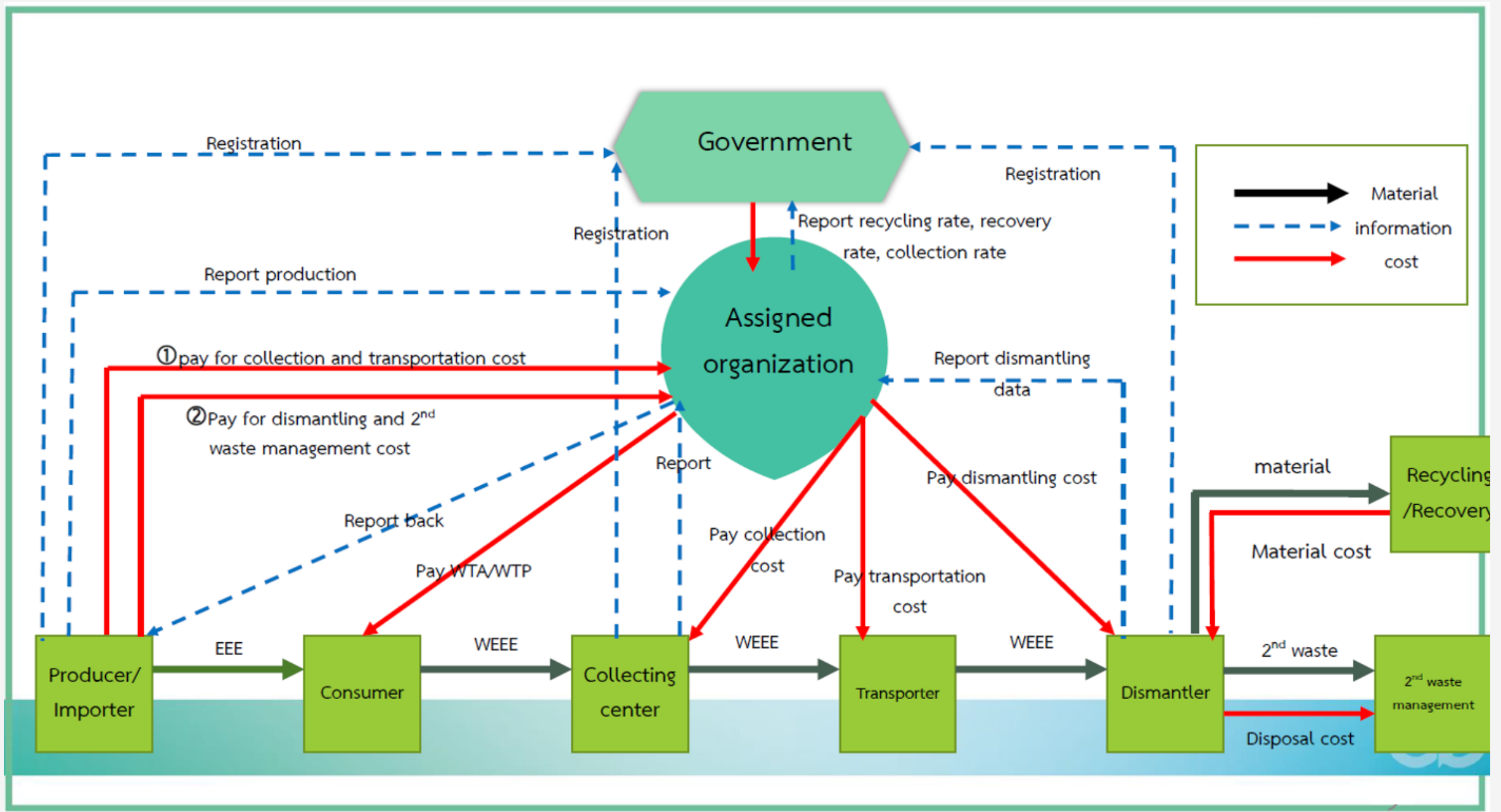
- **Administrative Arrangements:**

- Which actors in the system will play what role and have what responsibility?
- What will the procedures look like that are needed to implement the articles of the regulation?
- Where can procedures be made more efficient, simplified, streamlined and digitalized?
- How will the movement of money, information and materials look?

3 Benefits of EEE EPR Regulation



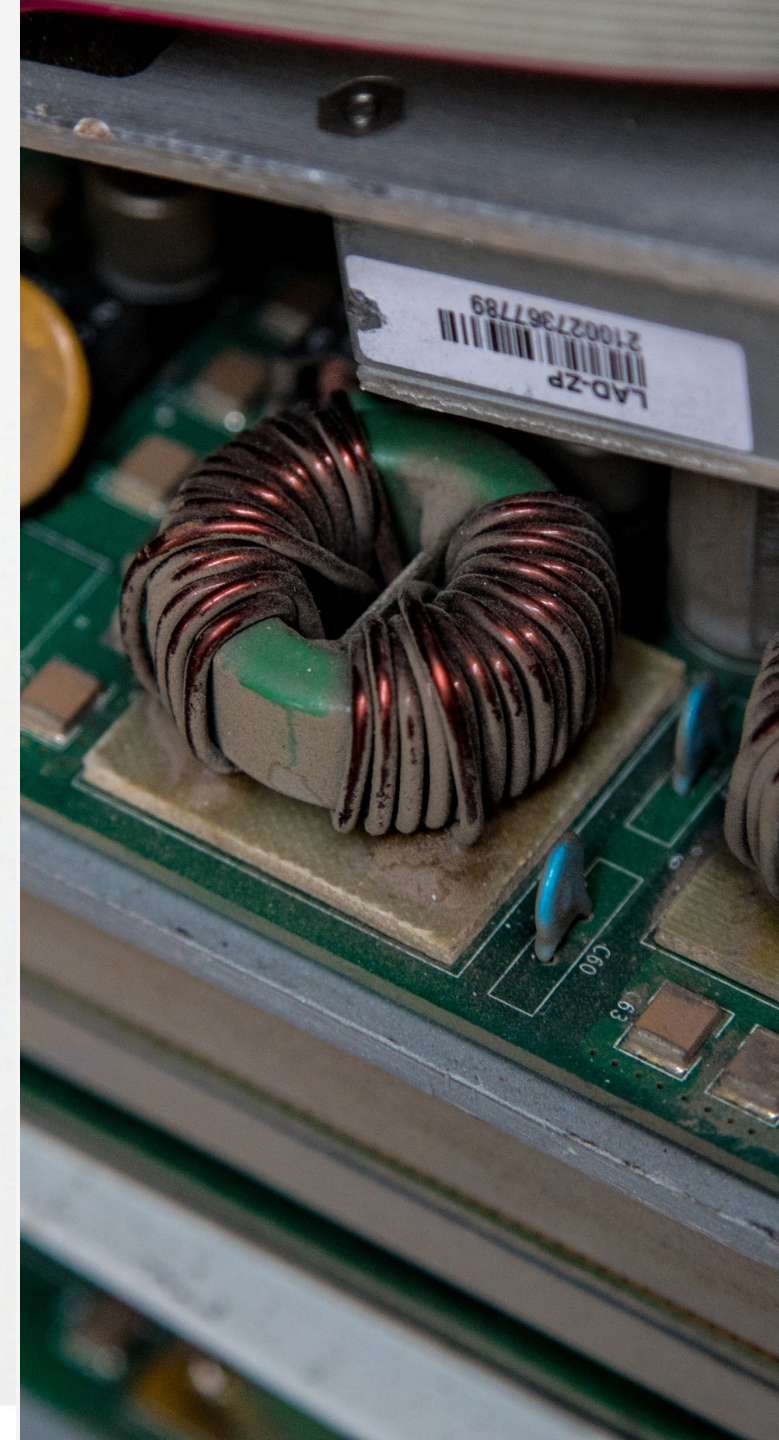
1) Framework for Roles and Responsibilities



2) Framework for Financial Mechanism

The responsibility for e-waste management enacted on producers may be either **financial or organizational**:

- **Case 1-** producers pay fees to the government who remains in charge of e-waste management.
- **Case 2-** producers finance and organise all the operations themselves, through a producer responsibility organisation.





3) Framework for Increasing Collection

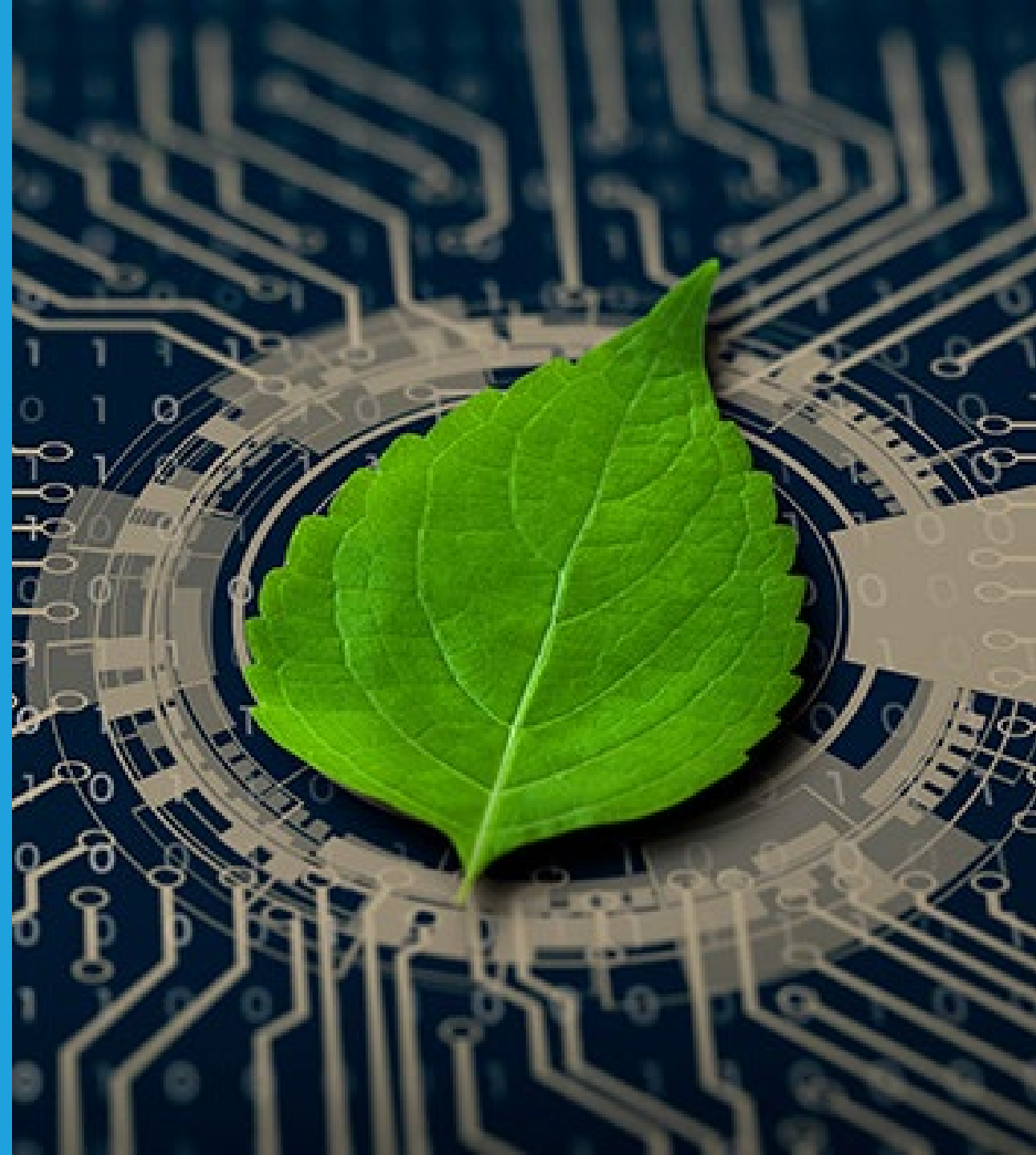
As a result of having an injection of monetary resources into the e-waste management system:

- **Awareness raising, consumer engagement** and **collection drives** can boost collection.



- **“Access to waste”** costs are often high – especially for small IT and telecommunication equipment – so a better-financed system will give waste managers more options to access waste.
- Regulation that includes e-waste collection **targets tied to the EPR system** can help boost collection.
- But what goes in regulation **must be clear** and **retailers** as well as producers must have responsibility for collection.

3 Challenges with EEE EPR Regulation



1) Regulation in Writing and EPR in Practice

- What goes in regulation must be clear, but regulation must **reflect the real world**.
- Too often in countries new to EPR, e-waste regulation is developed without the writing phase **mirroring the EPR in practice**.
- Ideally the key components of the EPR system should be analysed **in parallel** with the preparation of regulation.
 - > E.g., financing mechanism, the EPR fee, the openness of producers, or the best entity to be a PRO etc.
- Having such an understanding allows for the regulation to contain more detail and **carry more weight**, and thus make its enforcement clearer.
- But regulation should also **not be overly complex**...



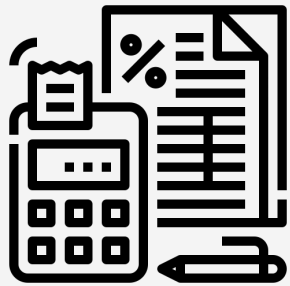


2) Producer Engagement in Regulation

- Referring to the previous slides...
- Producers are key to the EPR system, but they are **not the only actors**.
- However, it is critical to include producers in the preparation of regulation from the **earliest point possible**.
- Challenges can arise if this is not done such as:
 - Lower level of producer **awareness**.
 - Lower **registration** levels.
 - Lower PRO **membership** levels.
 - Lower level of **compliance**.
 - **Confusion or complaints** which could have been addressed earlier.

3) Opportunities Missed

- More could be done to make EPR a “**normal**” thing rather than some sort of sacred idea that needs to be dealt with separately.
- It could be handled in the **taxation, trade** or **business** realms as much as it is in the environmental one.
- This is mostly the case at the interaction point between government and producers - e.g., during **registration and enforcement**.



- Cross-sectoral opportunities to regulate **different product and waste streams** through EPR in a unified way are often overlooked.



Things Take Time...

EU WEEE Directive example...

WEEE
Directive
Publication
2002.

National level
transposition
2004.

Implementation
of Collection
systems
2005.

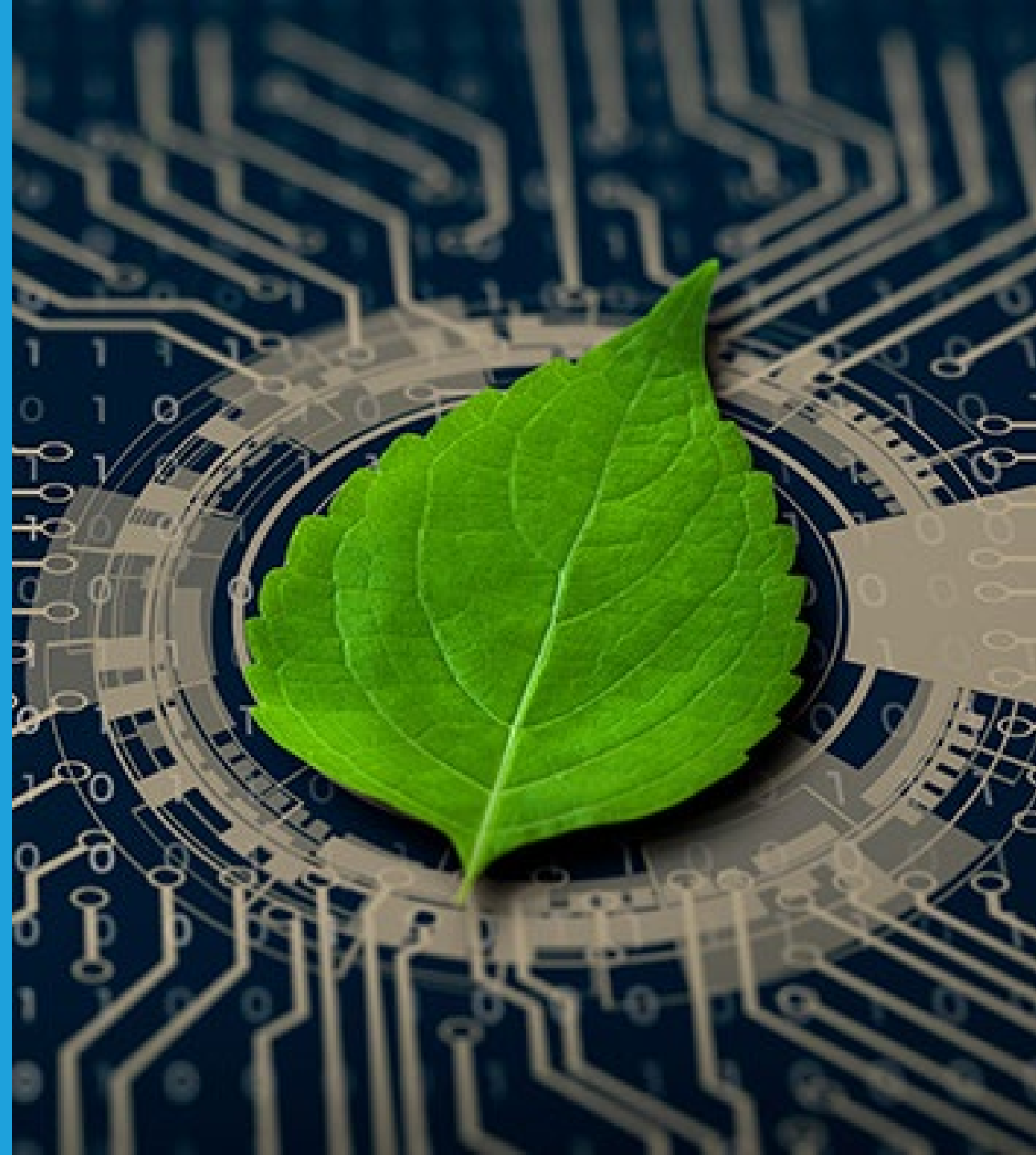
Collection target
of 4kg /
inhabitant 2006.

Collection target
of 45% put on
market
2016.

Collection target
of 65% put on
market and 85%
waste generated
2019.

...Do Not Rush and Do Not Aim for Immediate Perfection.

ITU Learning Resources

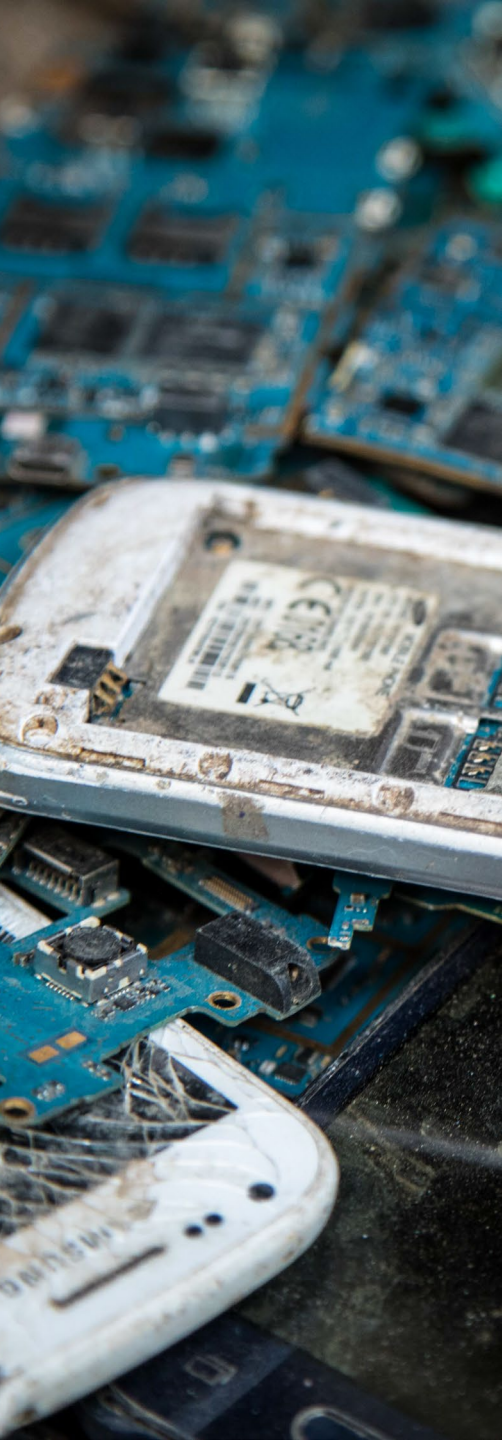


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- https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Environment/Documents/Publications/2021/Toolkit_Africa_final.pdf?csf=1&e=ivTocK
- <https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/introduction-e-waste-policy-1>
- <https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/deep-dive-extended-producer-responsibility-epr-principle-e-waste-management>
- <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6679f1d9b8174c368b3630fa40138947>



Thank you

Contact:

Garam Bel
Circular Economy Coordinator
International Telecommunication Union
garam.bel@itu.int

