

E-waste Africa Project

From Europe to West-Africa

Pan-African Summit on E-waste, 14.-16.03.2012, Nairobi

By Andreas Manhart

Some facts:

-E-waste generation in the EU:	9 million tonnes
-collected:	3 million tonnes

Leakage

- 1. Municipal waste**
- 2. Prolonged storage in households**
- 3. Exports of used equipment & e-waste**

Leakage pathways for exports:

1. In the EU, e-waste collection from private households varies from country to country and from municipality to municipality

-Obligation to bring e-waste to collection points

-Bulky waste pick-up services

-New for old take back systems

-...

 **Leakage at source**

2. Discarded EEE is mostly not directly sold to recycling companies. Instead handled by a variety of logistics companies and sub-contractors

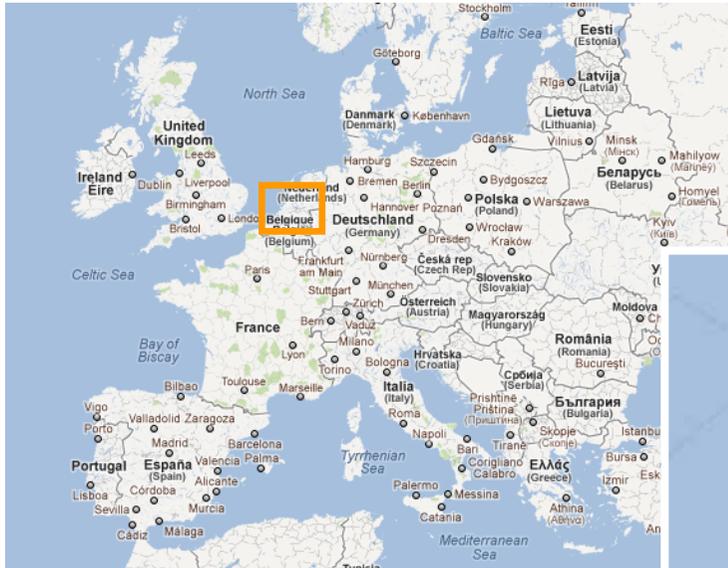
 **Leakage in the management chain**

Players of the trade:

- Ranging from family-based networks
- To large and well organised firms

➡ Two types of exports: In Containers & in cars and trucks





Amsterdam: No. 12 in the EU
-Liner services to W-Africa
-Close to city centre

Antwerp: No. 2 in the EU
-Dominant Belgium port
-Transit port
-Receives goods from
German (overland)

The Belgian inspection authorities conduct many inspections in the Port of Antwerp.

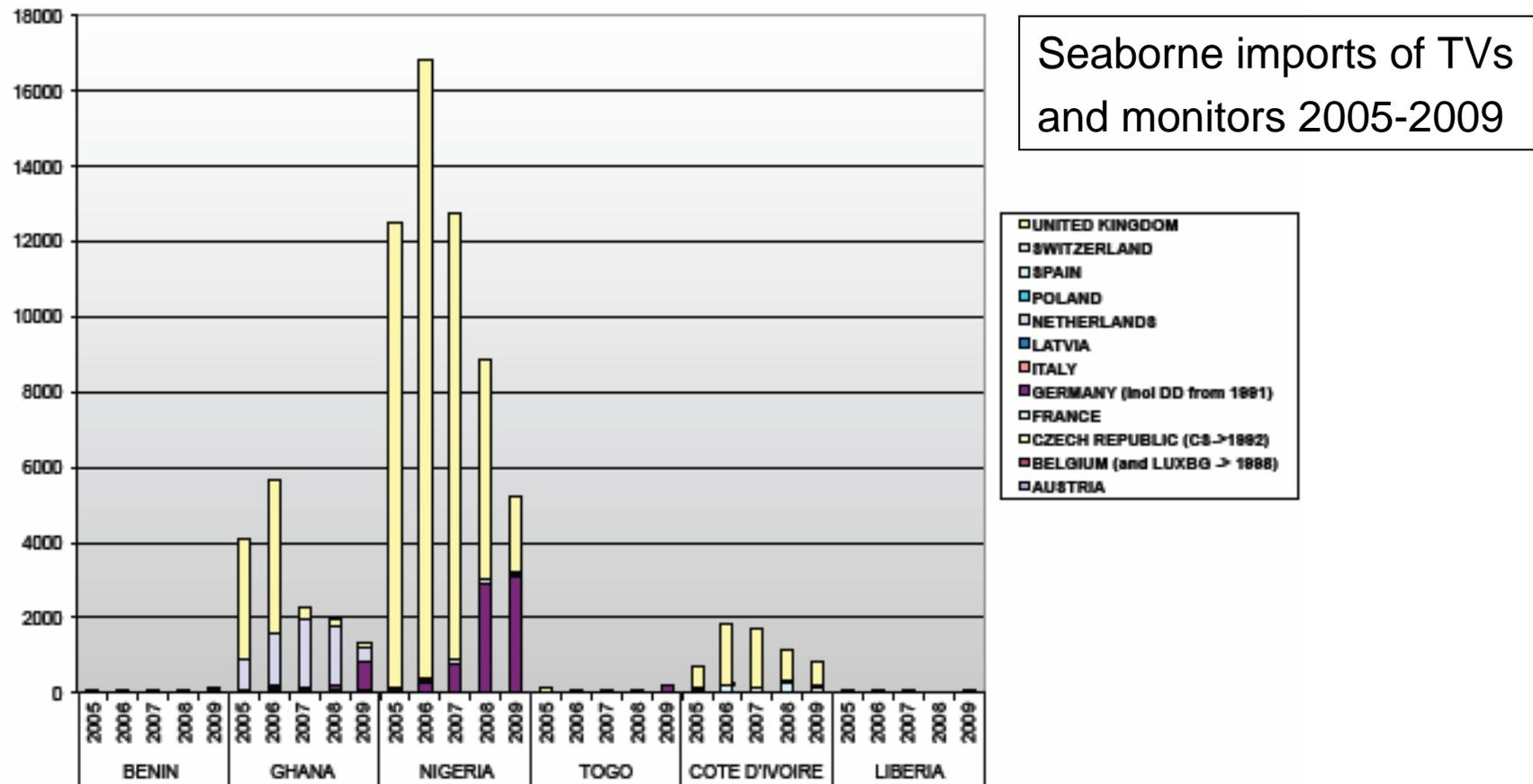
- In 2008, approximately 1200 container checks were conducted of which 127 contained used and/or end-of-life EEE and 47 were sent back to the country of origin.
- Belgian customs authorities assume that 90% of illegal e-waste shipments are conducted by co-loading into used cars.

Used and end-of-life EEE is often declared as “second-hand goods”, “private goods”, “for charities”, “for personal use”, “miscellaneous” and “effets personnels”

The container business is very flexible within Europe. If one port becomes congested or port fees rise significantly, containers can be easily shifted to other European ports.

Specific findings:

- Nigeria is the most dominant importing country for EEE, followed by Ghana.

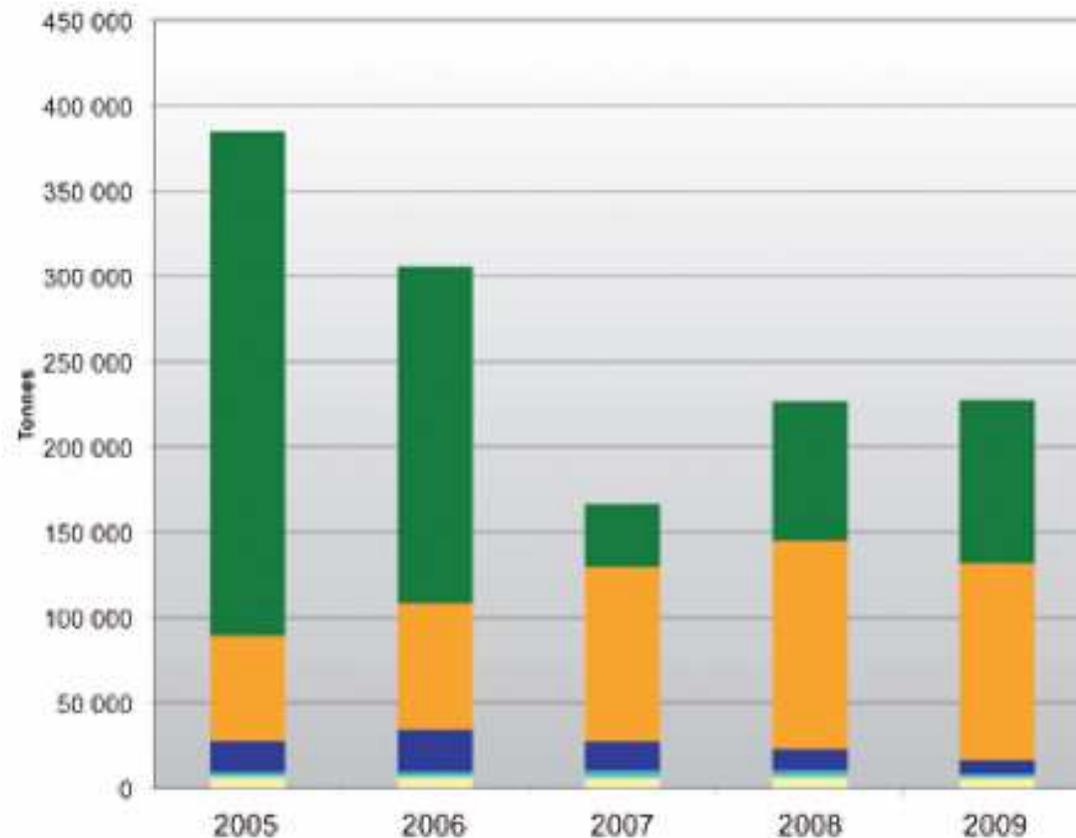


Specific findings (continued):

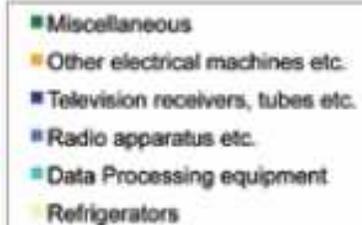
- The UK is the dominant exporting country for EEE, followed with large gaps by France and Germany.
- Nigeria is the main recipient of used vehicles. Used and obsolete EEE are commonly co-shipped in vehicles.
- Germany and Belgium are the dominant exporting countries for vehicles, followed by the UK and the Netherlands.
- The Netherlands show a sharp decline of data processing equipment exports. Indication of successful customs controls.
- Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo generally show a high share of French imports.
- Export of refrigerators: Southern European countries also relevant (e.g. Italy).

Specific findings (continued):

- Miscellaneous goods are a significant share of the imports to West African countries. Predominantly originating from Belgium and Spain.



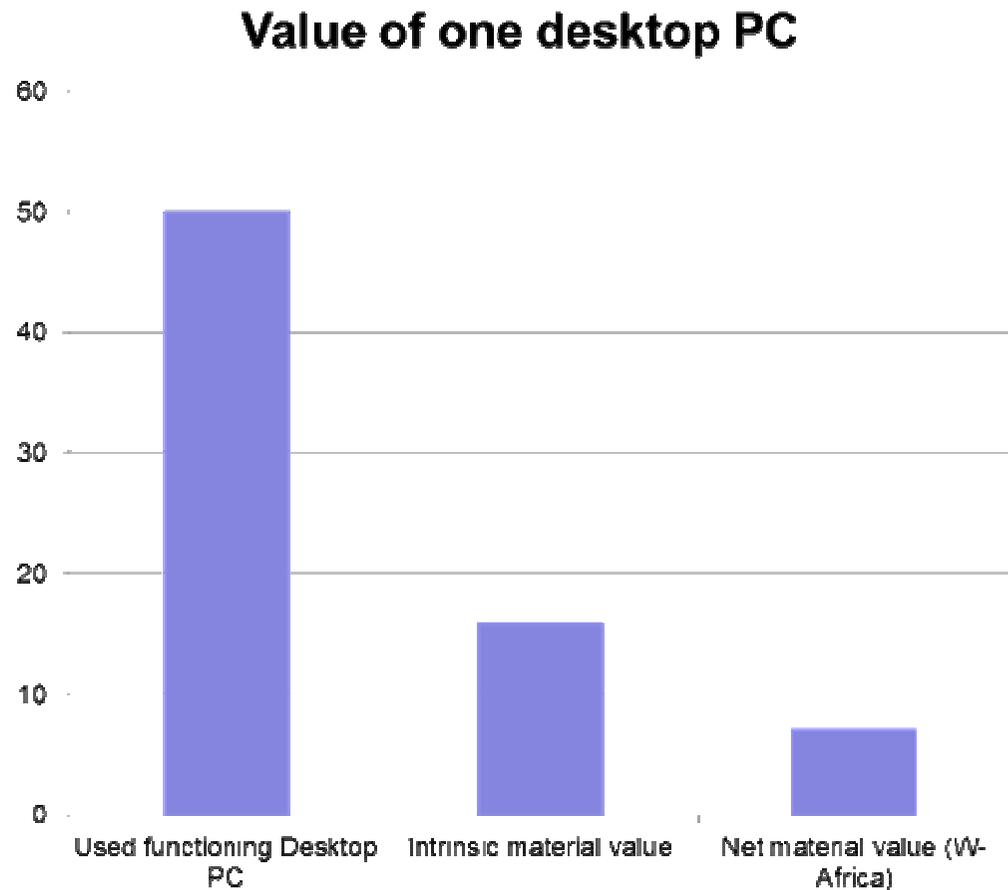
Export volumes of electrical, electronic and miscellaneous goods from the EU27



Specific findings (continued):

- Many West African re-use markets prefer refrigerators and TVs from Europe to those from North America (voltage, broadcasting systems).
- In some West African countries, used EEE from Europe is perceived to have higher quality and durability as lower priced new equipment.

Driver of exports



 **Reuse is the main driver for exports**



➡ **But: Specific situations for fridges and CRT-devices**

➡ **Here monetary “incentive” for waste exports**

Thank you for your attention!

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