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*Global Overview of **WEEE EPR** Obligations*

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01. About The Author



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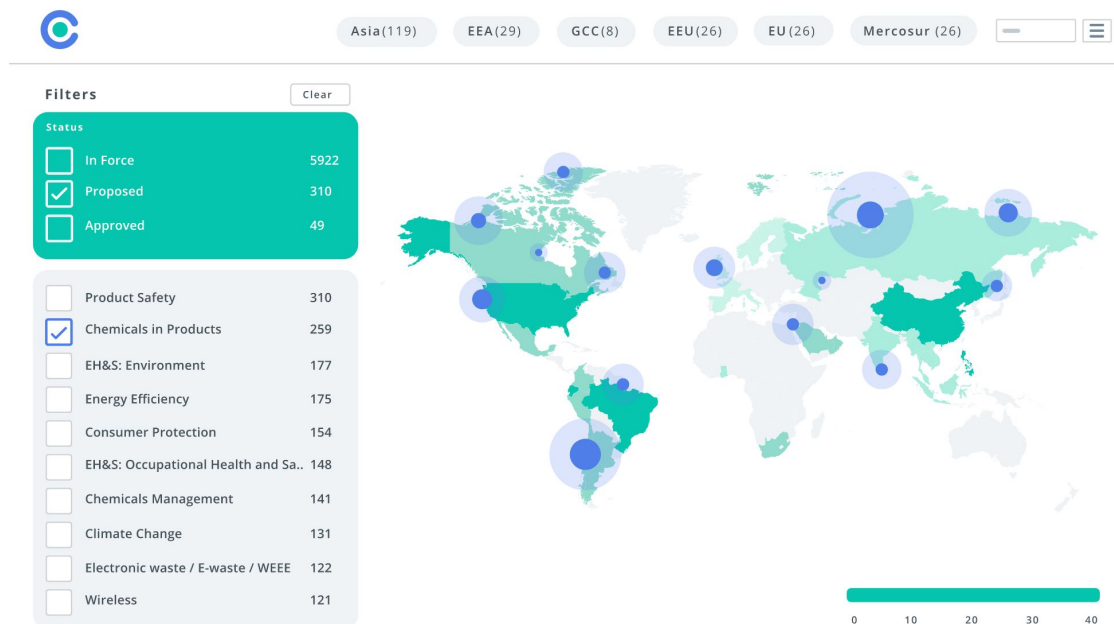
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03. Introduction

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE or e-waste) is the world's fastest-growing waste stream, which has almost doubled in the past 12 years¹ and is rising five times faster than documented e-waste recycling².

The European Union is at the forefront of WEEE management, mainly due to Directive 2012/19/EU (WEEE Directive), which embeds the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policy approach, making producers responsible for their products throughout their lifecycle, including at the post-consumer stage.

All Member States have transposed the WEEE Directive and therefore, implemented regulations and mechanisms to put the EU requirements into practice.

Similarly, countries in North and South America (e.g., United States, Canada, Mexico and Brazil), Asia (e.g., Japan and India), Africa (e.g., Kenya and Nigeria) and Oceania (e.g., Australia) have developed their own WEEE EPR framework, imposing producer and manufacturer obligations regarding the end of life of their products.

Producer obligations may vary by country, but they typically include registration, reporting, labeling, providing consumer information, waste takeback, and treatment, among other requirements.

Similarly, some will apply to most, if not all, Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) products with few exceptions, while others will cover a narrower range of them.

With that in mind, this whitepaper analyzes the key obligations on producers across various regions and countries in Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, and Oceania, using the EU WEEE Directive as a starting point. It is essential to note that the whitepaper will not include obligations to producers regarding the restriction of substances in the manufacturing of EEE, which are primarily covered by RoHS rules³, nor relating to transboundary movements of WEEE or used EEE.

¹ World Economic Forum, *7 ways to boost e-waste recycling and why it matters*, April 2024

² Unitar, *Global E-waste Monitor*, November 2024

³ See Compliance & Risks Whitepaper "[Global RoHS Comparison Table](#)" June 2024



04. The WEEE Directive

4.1. Scope

Since 2018, the scope of the WEEE Directive has been expanded to include all electronic and electrical equipment (EEE)⁴ that meets the definition of "EEE"⁵ without distinguishing between equipment used by consumers (B2C) and for professional use (B2B). The Directive classifies the EEE in six categories⁶ as follows:

1. Temperature exchange equipment;
2. Screen, monitors, and equipment containing screens with a surface > 100 cm²;
3. Lamps;
4. Large equipment (dimension > 50 cm²);
5. Small equipment (dimension < 50 cm²);
6. Small IT and telecommunication equipment (external dimension < 50 cm²).

Components placed on the market separately to manufacture and/or repair an EEE are out of scope unless they have an independent function⁷.

Exclusions are detailed in Article 2(3) namely:

- Equipment that's necessary to national security and defence, including arms, munitions and war material intended for specifically military purposes;
- Equipment specifically designed and installed as part of another type of EEE out of scope, which can fulfil its function only as part of the equipment;
- Filament bulbs;
- Equipment designed to be sent into space;
- Large-scale stationary industrial tools;
- Large-scale fixed installations, except any equipment which is not designed and installed as part of those installations;
- Means of transport for goods or people, excluding electric two-wheel vehicles;

⁴ Except for the ones explicitly excluded in Article 2(3)

⁵ Article 3(1)(a) defines "EEE" as "equipment which is dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields in order to work properly and equipment for the generation, transfer and measurement of such currents and fields and designed for use with a voltage rating not exceeding 1 000 volts for alternating current and 1 500 volts for direct current"

⁶ A non-exhaustive list of EEE covered is set in Annex IV

⁷ Self assembly kits that form an EEE are included in the scope

- Non-road mobile machinery exclusively for professional use;
- Equipment for research and development purposes made available in a B2B scenario;
- Infective medical devices and infective in vitro diagnostic medical devices, as well as active implantable medical devices.

However, the system will vary depending on the country and type of product, and may be conducted at various locations (e.g., municipal points, retailers, or business premises).

For B2B takeback, producers and users may conclude agreements stipulating other financing methods.

3. *Inform on the WEEE collected at the end of life*

Producers must report on the WEEE collected, reused, recycled and recovered. This information must come from their individual or collective scheme.

4. *Marking of EEE products*

Producers must mark their products with the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol to indicate that they are suitable for separate collection and recycling. In exceptional cases, due to size restrictions or product function, the symbol may be printed on the packaging, instructions for use, and warranty.



In some EU countries, additional labels are required on EEE products (e.g., the triman logo and sorting information are required in France).

4.2. Producer Key Obligations

Under the WEEE Directive, there are main obligations that every EEE producer⁸ must be aware of before placing their products into the EU Market, namely:

1. *Registration and product reporting*

Producers must register with competent national authorities and report on the volumes and types of EEE products they place in each member state. If they do not have a legal entity, they are required to appoint an authorized representative.

Depending on the country, the reporting may entail periodic declarations or reports to either recycling schemes or national authorities.

2. *Finance and organize WEEE management*

Producers must finance and set up WEEE collection systems to ensure takeback and "proper" treatment (e.g., recycling and recovery) of e-waste, and comply with the collection and recovery targets established by the Directive. They can manage these obligations through an authorized individual or collective system.

WEEE takeback must be set for household (B2C) and professional (B2B) products.

⁸ Article 3(1)(f) defines a producer as *any person that manufactures and sells EEE under its own brand name, re-sells EEE manufactured by other suppliers under its own brand name, imports EEE on a professional basis for placement on EU market, and sells EEE by means of distance communication directly to consumers or end users.*



5. *Provide information*

To consumers:

- Inform the consumer that WEEE must not be disposed of as unsorted municipal waste and shall be collected separately;
- Return and collection systems available;
- Information about the potential effects on the environment and human health as a result of hazardous substances in EEE products;
- Information about their role in the reuse, recycling and recovery of WEEE;
- The meaning of the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol;
- Depending on the Member States, this information may be provided by the producer (e.g., Denmark) and/or distributor (e.g., Ireland).

To treatment operators:

- Producers must provide treatment facilities with free information about the EEE components and materials, as well as the presence and location of hazardous substances.

EU Member States have transposed the WEEE Directive and therefore implemented regulations and mechanisms to put the EU requirements into practice. However, it is essential to consider that the WEEE Directive serves as the baseline to which EU countries must adapt; nonetheless, slight variations may occur from country to country.



4.3. Revision of the WEEE Directive

The WEEE Directive was considered a pioneer in WEEE management. Nonetheless, several critics and environmental organizations have stated that it is “outdated” and currently no longer fit for purpose, mainly because it does not align with current circularity strategies⁹.

Similarly, *free-riders* are another problem that the current Directive does not address. They impose unfair costs on other producers and retailers¹⁰.

Therefore, as indicated by the EU Commission early this year, the development of the EU Circular Economy Act will include, among other things, the revision of the WEEE Directive focusing on collection challenges, recovery of critical raw materials, and extended producer responsibility and treatment. It might also move towards the use of a Regulation (directly applicable to EU Member States) to reduce administrative burden.

The new Circular Economy Act is expected by the end of 2026¹¹.


⁹ WEEE Forum, *EU Waste Rules are in Need of a Radical Rethink*, September 2024


¹⁰ WEEE Forum, *Successfully countering online free-riders*, April 2019

¹¹ Compliance & Risks, [New EU Circular Economy Act on the Way](https://complianceandrisks.com/blog/new-eu-circular-economy-act-on-the-way), Blog, February 2025

05. Comparative Chart

After analyzing the key obligations of the WEEE Directive, this whitepaper will provide a comparative chart among different countries of Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Oceania, highlighting the applicable piece of legislation, products in scope, main obligations to producers, and specific comments.

Europe (Other than EU Member States)				
Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
<div>United Kingdom</div> <div>WEEE Regulations 2013</div>	<p>EEE means equipment (similar to WEEE Directive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which is dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly;• For generating, transferring and measuring these currents and fields;• Designed for use with a voltage rating 1,000 volts or less for alternating current, and 1,500 volts or less for direct current. <p>Covers B2B & B2C EEE, and classifies it within the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Large household appliances;2. Small household appliances;3. IT & Telecommunication equipment;4. Consumer equipment;5. Lighting equipment;6. EEE tools (except large scale stationary tools);7. Toys, leisure and sports equipment;8. Medical devices (except implanted and infected);9. Monitoring and control equipment;10. Automatic dispenser;11. Display screen equipment;12. Cooling appliances;13. Gas discharge lamps and LED;14. PV panels. <p>A non-exhaustive list is detailed in Schedule 4 and here.</p> <p>Exceptions (similar to WEEE Directive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Military use equipment;• Equipment designed for and installed in another type of equipment that only functions with that product;• Filament bulbs, apart from LED ones;• Space equipment;• Large-scale stationary industrial tools;• Large-scale fixed installations;• Transport for persons or goods (except 2-wheeled vehicles);• Off-road mobile machinery for professional use;• B2B research and development equipment;• Implantable and infective medical devices.	<p>Producers are those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manufacture and sell EEE under their own brand in the UK;• Resell EEE made by someone else under their own brand (if the maker's brand appears on the equipment they are the producer);• Import EEE on a commercial basis into the UK;• Are established outside of the UK and supply EEE directly to the UK market by distance selling (for example online, mail order, by phone). <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finance the WEEE collection and management;• Register annually as a producer:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- If they place < 5 tonnes of EEE, register directly with the environmental regulator as a small producer [by 31 January].- If they place > 5 tonnes of EEE, join a producer compliance scheme [by 15 November of the preceding year]. The scheme will register each member with the competent authority.• Report the type and quantity of EEE placed on the market. This is made through the Registration process;• Provide information on the reuse and environmentally sound treatment of products and components within one year of putting them into the market;• Provide the producer registration number to distributors;• Mark products with the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol and date mark;• Keep records of the EEE placed on the market for at least 4 years. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer free B2C WEEE takeback;• Retain a record of all WEEE taken back for at least four years;• Provide customers with information on the takeback system and proper disposal of WEEE.	<p>Producers must mark EEE with the "crossed-out wheeled bin symbol"</p> 	<p>Guidance on reporting and complying with the WEEE Regulations is available here.</p> <p>A recent proposal to amend the WEEE Regulation was laid before Parliament on 4 June 2025, targeting online marketplaces and vape producers.</p> <p>The proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes online marketplaces (OMP) as producers and requires them to register or join a compliance scheme, along with those obligations that currently apply to producers.• Creates a new category of EEE for vapes, which will be subject to producer and scheme obligations.

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
<p>Switzerland</p> <p><i>Ordinance for the Return, Takeback and Disposal of EEE</i></p>	<p>EEE means equipment that operates using electrical energy for proper operation and is used in household (B2C), professional, or commercial (B2B) settings.</p> <p>Covers any B2B and B2C EEE within the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consumer electronic devices; 2. Office, information, communications and technology equipment; 3. Household appliances; 4. Luminaries and lighting control equipment; 5. Tools (excluding large-scale, stationary industrial tools); 6. Sport and leisure equipment and toys; <p>Note: The Ordinance also applies to permanently installed equipment and components in buildings, vehicles or other objects if their removal is possible.</p>	<p>Producers are those who manufacture EEE and components professionally or commercially, or import them into Switzerland for commercial sale.</p> <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance and organize WEEE management, individually or through a disposal organization; • Mark EEE products with the crossed-out wheeled symbol; • Provide consumers with information about the available takeback options; • Comply with Data Protection provisions when taking back equipment containing personal data (data carriers); • Takeback WEEE free of charge; • Keep records on products placed on the market and those taken back for five years. <p>Retailers are obliged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take back WEEE free of charge; • Provide consumers with information about the available takeback options. 	<p>Producers must mark EEE with the "crossed-out wheeled bin symbol"</p>	<p>Switzerland is not part of the EU nor EEA, and therefore, there is no obligation to follow the WEEE Directive; nonetheless, the Swiss Ordinance aligns with it.</p>
<p>Norway</p> <p><i>Chapter 1 of the Waste Regulations No. 930/2004</i></p>	<p>EEE means products and components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which is dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly; and • Equipment for generating, transferring and measuring these currents and fields, including parts for cooling, heating, and protection. <p>Covers B2B and B2C EEE and components within:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heating and cooling equipment; 2. Screens, monitors and equipment containing screens with a surface area >100 cm²; 3. Light sources; 4. Large products >50cm; 5. Small products <50cm; 6. Small IT and Telecommunications equipment < 50 cm; 7. Large industrial equipment; 8. Large industrial cables. <p>A non-exhaustive list is included in Section 1-1a.</p> <p>Exceptions (similar to WEEE Directive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WEEE in the form of encapsulated radioactive sources; • EEE permanently installed in vehicles, rolling stock, small and recreational boats; • EEE permanently installed in installations registered in the Aircraft, Norwegian Ship, Norwegian International Ship, and the Petroleum Register; • Military equipment; • EEE products weighing less than 1 gram, provided they do not have their power source, hazardous substances and are permanently attached to another product that is not an EEE; • Equipment sent into space; • Infective medical devices. 	<p>A producer is anyone who commercially imports or places EEE products in the Norwegian market.</p> <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance the collection and WEEE management through an individual or collective management system; • Report to the management system every six months on the products imported, exported and manufactured through the compliance scheme; • Register with the competent authorities is made through the compliance scheme; • Inform end users of the proper disposal of WEEE and the available takeback options; • Mark the EEE product with the crossed-out wheeled symbol. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take back WEEE free of charge; • Ensure proper sorting of WEEE taken back; • Provide consumers with information about the available takeback options. 	<p>Producers must mark EEE with the "crossed-out wheeled bin symbol"</p> 	<p>Follows the WEEE Directive.</p>

North America

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
California (USA) <i>Electronic Waste Recycling Act (EWRA) of 2003</i> <i>Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Regulation, No. 14 CCR 18660</i>	<p>Applies to “covered electronic devices” (CEDs), meaning a video display with a screen > 4 inches within the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathode ray tube-containing devices (CRT devices); • Cathode ray tubes (CRTs); • CRT-containing computer monitors and televisions; • Televisions with an LCD (liquid crystal display) screen; • LCD-containing desktop monitors, tablets, laptop computers, and smart displays; • Plasma televisions; • Portable DVD players with LCD screens; • Televisions with an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) screen; • OLED-containing desktop monitors, tablets, and laptop computers. <p>CEDs do not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That is part of a motor vehicle; • Contained within or a part of a piece of industrial, commercial, or medical equipment, including monitoring or control equipment; • Contained within a clothes washer, clothes dryer, refrigerator and/or freezer, microwave oven, conventional oven or range, dishwasher, room air-conditioner, dehumidifier, or air purifier. <p>Similarly, Senate Bill 1215 (in force since 1 January 2023) expanded the scope of CEDs to include battery-embedded products (BEPs), meaning “a product containing a battery from which a battery is not designed to be easily removed from the product by the user of the product, with no more than commonly used households”.</p> <p>Except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain medical devices; • Existing CEDs (video display devices); • Energy storage systems; • Electronic nicotine delivery systems. 	<p>A producer (manufacturer) is anyone who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufactures CEDs, and is the brand holder under which the CED is sold, offered to sell or distributed in the State; or • The person who sells, offers or distributes the CED in the State. <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacture CEDs as per California RoHS; • Label the CEDs with the manufacturer's name or brand name; • Report annually [on or before July 1] on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of CEDs sold in the previous year; - Total estimated amount of mercury, cadmium, lead, hexavalent chromium, PBDE's and PBB's used in the CEDs; - Recycled material used in the CEDs; - Efforts to increase product ecodesign. • Keep records for three years; • Provide consumers with information on the proper management and collection of CEDs; • Give annual notice to retailers if CEDs are subject to the waste recycling fee. <p>In addition, producers of battery-embedded products must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 1 July 2027, submit the corresponding report and make information available to consumers on the proper management and collection of this type of CEDs; • From 1 January 2026, label the BEPs with the manufacturer's name; • Label the BEP with the product to be labeled with information identifying the chemistry of the BEP, or include the information on the manufacturer's webpage; • By 1 July 2025, and annually thereafter, provide notice to retailers and Calrecycle regarding the BEPs in scope and those exempt from it. <p>Retailers must collect the covered e-waste recycling fee.</p>	<p>The Act requires the CEDs to be labeled with the manufacturer's name or brand name.</p>	<p>WEEE Regulations in the USA are legislated at a State Level, no Federal Legislation applies.</p> <p>Many electronic wastes are not included in the EWRA, but they are still considered hazardous waste and must be reported by e-waste handlers in their annual reports.</p> <p>Senate Bill (SB) 1215 enacted in 2022, expanded the Act's scope to include battery-embedded products as CEDs; however, the obligations for manufacturers will take effect later.</p> <p>Guidance on the manufacturer's reporting obligation is available here.</p> <p>As per the Emergency Regulation dated 13 December 2024, all submissions made after 1 April 2026 to Calrecycle must be made through the available online system.</p> <p>On 12 May 2025, a draft emergency regulation was issued under Senate Bill 1215 proposing to amend the Electronic Waste Recovery and Recycling Regulation to define new terminology and responsibilities for stakeholders involved in the collection, recycling, and processing of Covered Electronic Waste, especially items containing embedded batteries.</p>

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
<p>New York (USA)</p> <p><i>Electronic Equipment Recycling and Reuse Act</i></p> <p><i>Assembly Bill 11308</i></p>	<p>Applies to “covered electronic equipment” (CEE) within the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathode Ray Tube (CRTs); • Computers; • Computer peripheral; • Small electronic equipment; • Small-scale server; • Televisions. <p><i>Note:</i> This includes any cables, cords, or wiring accompanying the CEE.</p> <p>A list of CEE subcategories can be found here.</p> <p>CEE does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any motor vehicle or any part thereof; • Camera or video camera; • Portable or stationary radio; • Household appliances; • Equipment that is functionally or physically part of a larger piece of equipment intended for use in an industrial, research and development or commercial setting; • Security or anti-terrorism equipment; • Monitoring and control instrument or system; • Thermostat; • Hand-held transceiver; • Telephone of any type; • Portable digital assistant or similar device; • Calculator; • Global positioning system (GPS) receiver or similar navigation device; • A cash register or retail self-checkout system; • A stand-alone storage product intended for use in industrial, research and development or commercial settings; • Commercial medical equipment that contains within it a cathode ray tube, a flat panel display or a similar video display device, and is not separate from the larger piece of equipment; • Lighting ballast with circuit board; • Portable wand scanner; • UPS battery; • Temperature monitoring device; • Whiteboard as a display surface only; • Standalone karaoke machine; • Single-function tag reader; • Handheld label machine not used with a computer; • RFID tag; • HDMI switch; • Video baby monitor; • Preamplifier. 	<p>A producer is a person who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembles CEE for sale in the state; • Manufactures CEE under its brand name or any other brand name for sale in the state; • Sells, under its brand name CEE sold in the state; • Owns a brand name that it licenses to another person for use on CEE sold in the state; • Imports CEE for sale in the state; • Manufactures CEE for sale in the state without affixing a brand name. <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register before the Department of Environmental Conservation, informing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manufacturer's brands; - General description of waste acceptance programme; - Sales data reported by weight of the CEE; - If covered CEE exceeds the maximum concentration of substances under RoHS; • Submit a certified annual report (by March 1) on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sales data reported by weight of the CEE; - Quantity by weight of WEEE collected for recycling or reuse; - Number of E-waste acceptance purchased, sold, banked and traded; - The amount of any recycling surcharge; - Names and locations of e-waste recycling facilities utilized; - Information detailing the acceptance methods available to consumers; - Description of its public education programme. • Update the registration/report within 30 days of a material change; • Pay the corresponding registration and reporting fees; • Implement and pay of the e-waste acceptance programme (financing e-waste management) through an individual or collective scheme; • Provide consumer information on proper management and collection of CEE, and implement a public education programme; • Maintain records of compliance for 3 years; • Provide takeback to consumers free of charge, except for for-profit entities with <50 full-time employees or a not-for-profit entity with 75 or more full-time employees; • Use authorized facilities, “programme partners” for waste disposal; • Comply with the recycling goal “acceptance standard” established by the department; • Notify retailers of its registration before the Department and maintain records for 3 years; • Label CEE with the manufacturer's name or brand. <p><i>Note:</i> A manufacturer who assembles or substantially assembles, and sells less than one thousand units of CEE annually in the state, or whose primary business is the sale of CEE, which is comprised primarily of rebuilt, refurbished or used components, is not considered a manufacturer under the Act.</p> <p>Retailer obligations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide consumers with takeback information; • Sale of CEE by registered producers. 	<p>The Act requires labeling the CEDs with the manufacturer's name or brand.</p>	<p>WEEE Regulations in the USA are legislated at a State Level; no Federal Legislation applies.</p> <p>Guidance on Producer obligations can be found here.</p> <p>The Act must be analyzed in conjunction with the Product Stewardship and Product Labeling Regulations, Subpart 368-3.</p> <p>Currently, Senate Bill 6393 (March 2025) is proposing to amend the EERR Act, requiring manufacturers to provide more information regarding their waste acceptance programmes and public education programmes.</p> <p>In particular, it increases the minimum collection points required and requires the participation of waste collection site operators in the public education programme developed by the manufacturer.</p>

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
Quebec (Canada) <i>Regulation Respecting the Recovery and Reclamation of Products by Enterprises (chapter Q-2, r.40.1)</i>	<p>Does not define EEE products.</p> <p>Applies to EEE products indicated in Chapter VI within the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B2C Electronic products (eg, computers, display devices, printers, scanners, telephones, portable and non-portable electronic products, peripherals and accessories); 1 Jan 2023 Mercury lamps (eg., fluorescent tubes and lamps); Household appliances and air conditioners, electric appliances (eg, B2C and B2B refrigerators and freezers, air conditioners, heat pumps and dehumidifiers). 	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses that market EEE in Quebec under their brand name and have a domicile or establishment in Quebec. The manufacturer, when the EEE product is marketed under more than one name or brand; The supplier that has its domicile or an establishment in Quebec when the enterprise that owns or uses the name or brand has no domicile or establishment in Québec, or the product is marketed with no name or brand. <p>Businesses in scope (except small suppliers) must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a recovery and reclaim programme for the collection and treatment of EEE products, either individually or by joining a collective compliance scheme; Report annually (by 15 May) on the performance of its recovery and reclaim programme, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity of product marketed and those recovered; Costs associated with the implementation, as well as information and awareness activities. Submit every five years an assessment of the implementation and effectiveness of the recovery and reclamation programme for the previous 5 years, and the orientations and priorities for the following 5 years; Record in a register the quantities of each subcategory of products that are marketed, acquired, or manufactured, and keep these records for 10 years; Submit a remediation plan if the recovery and reclamation targets were not met, and make a payment to the Fund for the Protection of the Environment and the Waters. <p><i>Note:</i> The recovery and reclaim programme must provide for the management of products and their packaging, enable the traceability of products, provide for drop-off centres if applicable, and inform consumers of the takeback benefits and options available, as well as those indicated in Section 5.</p>		<p>WEEE Regulations in Canada are legislated at State Level; no Federal Legislation has been enacted.</p> <p>Regulation O.C. 1729-2024 (of December 2024) delays the implementation of the 70% recovery rate requirement for B2C refrigerating and freezing appliances by two years, from 2024 to 2026.</p> <p>An implementation guide of the Regulation can be found here.</p>
Ontario (Canada) <i>Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulation No. 522/202</i>	<p>Concept of EEE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for use with an electric current and a voltage rating not exceeding 1,000 volts for alternating current and 1,500 volts for direct current; Weighs no more than 250kg; It is not intended for permanent use as part of a building or structure. 	<p>A producer is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A brand holder of EEE and has residency in Canada that markets EEE; Have residency in Ontario and import EEE from outside of Ontario; Have residency in Ontario and markets directly to consumers in Ontario (e.g. online sales); Does not have residency in Ontario and markets directly to consumers in Ontario (e.g. online sales). 		<p>WEEE Regulations in Canada are legislated at State Level; no Federal Legislation has been enacted.</p> <p>Guidance on the verification procedure of EEE supplied data verification is available here.</p> <p>An FAQ section is available here.</p>

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer Obligations	EEE Marking	Other Comments
Ontario (Canada) <i>Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulation No. 522/202</i>	<p>Applies to the following categories of EEE, including its components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information technology, telecommunications and audiovisual equipment (e.g. computers, printers, video games, telephones, display devices, radios, headphones, speakers, cameras, musical instruments); Lighting (e.g., light bulbs, tubes and lamps, including incandescent, fluorescent, halogen, light emitting diode (LED) and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps); Components parts or peripherals that are provided with the product at the time of supply. <p>Does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash registers, self-checkout machines, ABMs and ATMs; Streetlights, signals or lighting designed for the control of vehicles and pedestrians; Textiles containing EEE; Motor vehicles; Marine, military, aeronautic or space equipment; Power tools; EEE denied in section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act (eg, in vitro medical devices); Toys; Measuring, monitoring and controlling equipment other than ITT/AV. <p><i>Note: Does not apply to the product packaging.</i></p>	<p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operate a collection system for each category of EEE; Manage the minimum amount of EEE calculated as per the supply weight of each calendar year; Implement a promotion and education programme for consumers, and publish it on their website; Register before the competent authority; Report annually (by April 30) indicating: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions taken to fulfil their responsibilities regarding the implementation of the collection system; Description of how WEEE is properly managed (weight reused, refurbished, processed, etc); EEE supplied (weight) in the two prior years. <i>Note: Information related to the weight of EEE has to be verified.</i> Keep records for at least five years; Conduct audits and submit the corresponding reports to the competent authority regarding the calculation of the minimum amount of EEE to be managed. <p>A producer is exempt from the obligations (except for implementing a promotion and education programme) if it produces or supplies less than 5 tonnes of ITT/AV or 700 kg in the case of lighting products.</p>		
Mexico City (Mexico) <i>Solid Waste Act, 2003</i> <i>Standard NADF-019-AMBT-2018</i>	<p>EEE is defined as all equipment that needs electric current or electromagnetic fields to function correctly.</p> <p>EEE is classified following the WEEE Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperature exchange equipment; Screen, monitors, and equipment containing screens with a surface area > 100 cm2; Lamps; Large equipment (dimension > 50 cm2); Small equipment (dimension < 50 cm2); Small IT and telecommunication equipment (dimension < 50 cm2). <p>Does not distinguish between B2B and B2C.</p>	<p>The framework distinguishes between “<i>waste generator</i>” and “<i>EEE Producers</i>”.</p> <p>Producers are those who manufacture and sell EEE products.</p> <p>EEE producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Waste Management Plans (WMP) that describe the actions and procedures for WEEE management, as well as the implementation of a takeback system; Take back WEEE free of charge from consumers as per the WMP; Ensure that authorized companies carry out WEEE management; Assess WEEE taken back for recycling, reuse, recovery, etc. Report the WMP results to the Secretariat of Environment. <p>Waste generators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properly store WEEE; Handle the WEEE to authorized management companies and keep the corresponding records; Report annually the WEEE generated through the Single Environmental License or the WMP, as appropriate. 		<p>In Mexico, WEEE is considered “<i>waste of special management</i>” and is regulated by State Law.</p> <p>Mexico City Solid Waste Act defines WEEE as waste of special management and obliges generators to submit a WMP; meanwhile, Standard 019-AMBT-2018 sets more specific obligations to producers.</p> <p>A new Law on Solid Waste Management in Mexico City was proposed in March 2025. The proposed Law intends to substitute the current Solid Waste Act.</p> <p>The draft includes a Chapter of EPR obligations for producers of EEE products, and others, obliging them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform consumers about the proper handling of waste; Establish take back mechanisms; Prepare and submit waste management plans, including actions such as repair, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, or recycling of their product waste.

South America

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
Brazil <i>Reverse Logistics System for EEE and its Components for Domestic Use</i> <i>Decree 10240</i>	<p>Concept of EEE-household (B2C) equipment whose operation depends on electrical current with a nominal voltage of no more than 240 volts.</p> <p>Covers the EEE detailed in Annex I, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video games; • Household and kitchen appliances; • Computers and IT equipment; • Audio and video devices; • Electric musical instruments. <p>Does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B2B EEE; • EEE for application in health services; • Batteries or lamps that are not part of the EEE in scope. 	<p>It does not define producers (manufacturers), but it distinguishes them from importers.</p> <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the proper management of 100% of the EEE received through the reverse logistics system (Takeback system) either through an individual or collective entity; • Inform the Performance Monitoring Group on the objective criteria for calculating the mass balance of EEE; • Participate in the implementation of the environmental communication plan and educational programme; • Upon request, report to the National Environmental System the actions taken to verify compliance. <p>Importers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in a reverse logistics system as a compliance requirement for the import and marketing of their products; • Declare to the competent authorities, in the process of importation of electronic products, the person in charge of the implementation of the reverse logistics system of the importer. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform consumers about the collection points; • Takeback WEEE; • Provide a report of compliance to the National Environmental System if required. 		<p>The Decree is implemented by Normative Instruction No. 8, which outlines cases where environmental authorizations are required for the transportation of WEEE.</p>
Colombia <i>Resolution No. 851 on WEEE Management</i>	<p>EEE is defined as devices that require electric current or electromagnetic fields to operate or that generate, transmit, and measure such currents.</p> <p>It applies to both B2B and B2C.</p> <p>EEE is classified within the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household appliances (stoves, household and kitchen appliances); • Electronics and Telecommunication equipment (eg, electronic circuits, computers, consumer electronics); • Machinery and electrical equipment (e.g., peripherals, industrial equipment, electric motors, refrigeration equipment). <p>An extensive list is detailed in Annex I of the Resolution.</p>	<p>A producer is any person who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufactures, imports, or places EEE in the Colombian market; • Assembles or builds equipment based on components from multiple producers; • Remanufacture EEE under its brand for commercial activity. <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop collection and management systems for products placed on the market; • Inform end-users about the takeback management system available and the correct disposal of WEEE; • Carry out WEEE takeback free of charge; • Register with the competent authority, indicating: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Producer general information; ◦ EEE placed on the market; ◦ Indicate if it is part of a management system; ◦ Waste categories to be taken back; ◦ Communication mechanisms. <p>Only producers that import or manufacture EEE of mass consumption (that exceeds the annual threshold in Annex I) must comply with the above obligations. B2B producers must implement a collection and management system for the products in Annex I (marked as "I"), which will not be authorized or monitored by the competent authority.</p>		<p>Colombia's WEEE management framework must be analyzed in accordance with Law No. 1672, Decree No. 284, and Resolutions Nos. 1076, 0480, 0768, and 851 altogether.</p>

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
Chile <i>Law No. 20920 on Waste Management, Extended Producer Responsibility and Promotion of Recycling</i>	<p>EEE is considered a "priority product" and is defined as "all appliances and components that require current or electromagnetic fields to function properly" without distinguishing between B2B or B2C.</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment considers the following categories of EEE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature exchange equipment; • Screen, monitors, and equipment containing screens with a surface area > 100 cm2; • Lamps; • PV panels > 50cm; • Large equipment (dimension > 50 cm2); • Small equipment (dimension < 50 cm2). 	<p>A producer that, regardless of the marketing technique:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sells a priority product for the first time on the national market; • Sells under its brand a priority product purchased from a third party that is not the primary distributor; • Imports a priority product for his professional use. <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register before the competent authority; • Organize and finance the collection and management of WEEE, through an individual or collective management system; • Comply with the recycling goals established by the Minister; • Ensure that authorized entities carry out WEEE management; • Maintain a digital registry on EEE regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Stock reference; ◦ Product description ◦ Product category and subcategory. ◦ Units placed on the market; • Report annually on the EEE placed on the market. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and operate with a WEEE management system, a reception and storage facility; • Take back WEEE free of charge; • Handle the WEEE taken back to a waste management system. 		<p>A FAQ document on the Law for manufacturers can be found here.</p> <p>Resolution No. 03413/2025 recently approved on 28 May 2025 by the Ministry of Environment (still needs to be published in the Official Gazette), complements Law No. 20920 regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a collection and recovery target for WEEE; • Expands WEEE takeback obligations; • Excluding micro enterprises from the collection and recovery targets; • Set compliance rules for WEEE management schemes. <p>The Resolution excludes EEE from its application for military purposes, large fixed installations, and large stationary industrial tools, among others (following the WEEE Directive exclusions).</p> <p>In line with Law No. 20920, producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register; • Organize and finance the collection and management of WEEE through an individual or collective scheme; • Comply with collection and recovery targets; • Ensure authorized parties perform waste management. <p>The decree is currently undergoing the final stages of approval within the Executive Branch, pending further approval and the President's signature, before being published.</p> <p>If published, the Resolution will enter into force upon publication, except for Titles III (Collection Targets) and IV (Associated Obligations), one year after its publication or 1 October 2026, whichever comes first.</p>
Asia and Oceania				
Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
India <i>E-Waste Management Rules 2022</i>	<p>EEE means "equipment which are dependent on electric current or electromagnetic field to become functional, and also the equipment for the generation, transfer and measurement of electricity." Includes components, consumables and spare parts.</p>	<p>A producer is anyone who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufactures and offers to sell EEE under its own brand; or • Offers to sell under its own brand, assembled EEE produced by other manufacturers or suppliers; or • Offers to sell imported EEE; or • Imports used EEE. 		<p>A FAQ can be found here.</p> <p>The E-Waste Management Rules do not apply to micro enterprises.</p>

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
India <i>E-Waste Management Rules 2022</i>	Applies to EEE listed in Schedule I, within the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Technology and Telecommunication; Consumer Electrical and Electronics, and PV panels; Large and small EEE; Electrical and electronic tools; Toys, leisure and sport equipment; Medical devices (with the exception of implanted and infected products); Laboratory instruments. 	Producers (except micro enterprises) must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register before the competent authority; Report annually and quarterly detailing their e-waste management activities; Comply with the recycling targets (EPR targets) either individually or through third parties, and obtain the EPR certificate from recyclers; Create awareness campaigns; Maintain records of the sale, transfer and storage of WEEE (if applicable); Comply with RoHS Rules. 		
Vietnam <i>Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP</i>	EEE in scope listed in Annex XXII, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer electronics; Screens; IT equipment; Light bulbs; Solar panels. Products exempted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For export; Temporarily imported; For research, study and testing purposes. 	Producers and importers must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize for the WEEE to be recycled and comply with the corresponding recycling rates specified in Annex XXII, either individually or through third parties, or pay a financial contribution to the Vietnam Environmental Protection Fund by 20 April each year; Register recycling plans and report the results, or report the financial contributions to be paid by 31 March each year; Inform on the raw materials and components of products, as well as proper management and treatment, on product labels or websites. 		The recycling obligations for WEEE are applicable as of 1 January 2025 .
Hong Kong <i>Product Eco-Responsibility Ordinance No. 32</i> <i>Product Eco-Responsibility (Regulated EEE Regulation), 2017</i>	Applies to regulated EEE indicated in Schedule 6, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air conditioners; Refrigerators; Washing machines; Televisions; Computers; Printers; Scanners; Monitors; Tumble dryers; Dehumidifiers. 	Producer (supplier) is anyone who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manufactures regulated EEE in Hong Kong in the course of their business; or Imports regulated electrical equipment into Hong Kong for distribution. Producers and importers must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register with the competent authority; Pay a recycling levy for any regulated EEE imported or manufactured; Report (submit returns) quarterly (within 28 days after each reporting period) on the EEE distributed; Keep the reporting documents for 5 years; Submit an annual audit report on the returns submitted (within 3 months after the submission period); Sellers (retailers) must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a receipt to the consumer with the wording set in Schedule 2: "A product set out in this receipt is regulated electrical equipment under the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap. 603). The Ordinance imposes a recycling levy on an item of regulated electrical equipment for the class of such equipment to which the product belongs as follows: [Applicable class of regulated electrical equipment]: \$(Amount of levy as prescribed in Schedule 1) per item" Have a removal service plan (WEEE takeback and treatment). 	Ordinance No. 27, 2023, amended Ordinance No. 32 and Regulations No. 143 to remove the requirement to provide a recycling label in the EEE from 1 July 2024.	An amendment (draft Ordinance) to the Eco-Responsibility Ordinance No. 32 was proposed in March 2025. The draft aims to establish a common legislative framework for Producer Responsibility Regimes applicable to a range of products (still to be defined), which will be subject to increased regulation regarding distribution, consumption, recovery, and disposal.

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
Japan <i>Specific Household Appliance Recycling Act No. 97</i> <i>Enforcement Order on the Specific Household Appliance Act No. 378</i> <i>Enforcement Regulations on the Specific Household Appliance Act No. 1</i>	Applies to electrical machinery and equipment (specific household appliances): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air conditioners; Televisions include CRT, LCD, OLED (except those using primary and secondary batteries and those intended for incorporation into buildings), and plasma; Electric refrigerators and freezers; Electric washing machines and clothes dryers. 	<p>Producers are those who manufacture or import the specific household appliance.</p> <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the durability and design of EEE products. Provide proper management and treatment for WEEE returned, either individually or through “designated corporations”, and achieve the corresponding recycling rates; Label products with the manufacturer's name; Takeback WEEE, establish collection points, and publish their locations online or in newspapers; Implement control logs for WEEE collection and recycling, and maintain corresponding records for five years. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide consumers with information on the correct disposal of WEEE; Takeback WEEE, implement a control manifest and provide a copy to the disposer. <p>Note: For enforcement purposes, the Ministry may require manufacturers and retailers to report on the status of collecting and recycling specific appliance waste, as applicable.</p>	<p>Products must be labeled with the manufacturer's name.</p>	<p>Japan integrates e-waste into its circular economy framework with a consumer-cost model.</p>
Australia <i>Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020</i> <i>Product Stewardship -Televisions and Computers, Rules 2021</i>	<p>EEE products are mainly covered within the Co-regulatory Product Stewardship, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Televisions; Computers; Printers; Computer parts or peripherals. <p>Other products, such as mobile phones, are included in Voluntary Product Stewardship.</p>	<p>Producers (liable parties concerning a product) are those corporations that manufacture or import products in Australia.</p> <p>Producers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join an approved Co-regulatory arrangement (scheme) for the collection and management of products; Report annually (by 1st September) on the products imported or manufactured in Australia. <p>Note: For the obligations to be applicable, the following thresholds in the previous financial year must be met by the producers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Televisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported or manufactured in Australia, more than 5,000 televisions. Computers or printers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported or manufactured in Australia, more than 5,000 computers or printers. Computer parts or peripherals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported or manufactured in Australia, more than 15,000 computer parts or peripherals. 		<p>Product Stewardship refers to the environmentally responsible management of several products.</p> <p>In Australia, product stewardship arrangements may be voluntary, co-regulatory or mandatory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary: Industry-led, contributes to Australia's waste objectives. Co-regulatory: The government provides the regulatory framework that sets the outcomes for industry to meet. Mandatory product stewardship: Imposes a duty on imports (only Oil is contemplated). <p>Australia's EEE product coverage is narrower than EU.</p>

Africa

Country (Regulation as amended)	Scope	Producer obligations	EEE Marking	Other comments
Ghana <i>Part Four of the Environmental Protection Act No. 1124</i>	<p>EEE is defined as a product "dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly, including components that can be removed from the equipment".</p> <p>The Act applies to all EEE; nonetheless, EEE detailed in its Twelve Schedule is subject to an eco-levy fee.</p> <p>The list includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioning equipment; • Refrigeration equipment; • IT equipment; • Telephones; • Televisions; • Vending machines; • Lamps. 	<p>Producers and importers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register with the competent authority; • Obtain a permit to import EEE; • Pay the eco-levy fee established by the Minister regarding equipment listed in the Twelve Schedule; • Takeback WEEE. <p>Retailers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain a copy of the payment made by the manufacturer; • Register with the competent authority; • Takeback WEEE. 		<p>The Law was published in January 2025 and repealed the prior Law on E-waste Control and Management No. 917 of 2016.</p>
Nigeria <i>National Environmental Electrical/Electronic Sector Regulations, 2022</i>	<p>EEE is defined similarly to the WEEE Directive.</p> <p>The Act applies to all EEE listed in the First Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large household appliances; • Small household appliances; • ICT and Telecommunications Equipment; • Entertainment and consumer equipment; • Lighting equipment; • Electrical and Electronic Tools; • Toys, leisure and sporting equipment; • Medical devices (other than those implanted and infected); • Monitoring and control instruments; • Automatic dispensers. 	<p>A producer is defined as the brand owner, manufacturer, franchisee, assembler, distributor, retailer, or first importer of a product who sells, offers for sale, or distributes the product. It also includes the local manufacturer or importer of new and used electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) to be placed on the national market at first invoice by sale or donation.</p> <p>The importer is a person or body corporate that, in the ordinary course of their trade, occupation, or profession, imports EEE.</p> <p>Producers and importers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate the date of manufacture in the EEE, as well as a PIN and serial number; • Register with the National Enforcement Agency and with the Producer Responsibility Organization; • Ensure the sound management of WEEE; • Pay a recycling fee; • Report on the EEE imported and manufactured by 31 March each year; • Do not import non-functional EEE. 		<p>Implements EPR but places more emphasis on the payment of recycling fees.</p>
Kenya <i>The Sustainable Waste Management (EPR) Regulations, 2024</i>	<p>Applies to EEE; notwithstanding, it does not define EEE or set categories applicable.</p>	<p>It does not define producers.</p> <p>Producers and importers of EEE must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize and finance the collection and management of WEEE, through an individual or collective management system; • Register and apply for an EPR certificate before the competent authority; • Report on their EPR obligations through the compliance scheme; • Design products that minimize waste, facilitate reuse, recycling, recovery and use of CRM; • Provide consumers with information on the proper management of WEEE; • Implement CE initiatives to minimize the environmental impact of their products; • Pay an environmental fee. <p>Note: EPR schemes must report on the products placed on the market by producers in the previous year by 31 January of each year.</p>		<p>A FAQ document on EPR obligations is available here.</p>



06. Conclusion

The WEEE Directive is a key framework for e-waste management that has required producers to finance collection over several years to achieve recycling and recovery targets.

These targets are now being seen as “not fit for purpose”, and several stakeholders have called for a revision of the Directive to focus not only on recycling targets but also on circular designs for EEE.

Notwithstanding the above, the WEEE Directive has served as the basis for many other EPR legal frameworks worldwide, influencing global best practices. For example, the Swiss Ordinance on WEEE, which includes EPR and free takeback, and the Mexican Standard, which have the same product scope.

Others, for example, Japan, instead integrate e-waste into its circular economy framework, a consumer-cost model.

In Canada and the United States of America, no WEEE Federal law applies; instead, provincial and state laws adopt producer-funded recycling, but its scope is narrower than that of the EU Directive.

In some countries, such as Colombia, India, Australia and Canada (Ontario), a threshold must be met to require companies to comply with certain obligations; meanwhile, in the EU, this does not apply.

In Africa, for example, the emphasis is placed on the payment of recycling fees; however, it still requires producers to register, report, and provide proper management of WEEE.

All in all, EPR policies offer a path toward more sustainable electronics production and waste management. Therefore, common obligations to producers, such as registration, reporting, and organizing the proper management of WEEE, are observed across different countries, making producers responsible for the entire lifecycle of their electronic products.

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