



Recycling, International Trade and the Environment: An Empirical Analysis

By P.J. van Beukering

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During the last century international trade has become indispensable for many economies. This is not only the case for trade in primary raw materials and consumer products but also for secondary (recyclable) materials. With the rapid growth of the recycling sector worldwide, trade in recyclables increased tremendously. It is striking that most of this trade flows from developed to developing countries. This book addresses the main causes of this typical trade pattern and investigates its economic and environmental effects by carrying out case studies on waste paper imports in India, waste plastics imports in China, and used-tyre trade in Europe. The book concludes by recommending policies that are aimed at preventing negative economic and environmental effects potentially resulting from trade in recyclables. The book offers new ideas to researchers who are involved in international trade, material flows, and waste management, and provides new insights for decision-makers who are interested in WTO and the Basel Convention.

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Review

From the reviews:

"Various factors – ranging from the salience of 'sustainability' rhetoric in rural policies to the continuing vigour of the IGU Commission Sustainable Rural Systems, from which the present volume originates – suggest that the former may be more likely than the latter. ... Most of the contributors are well-known in their respective fields and write with insight and authority. ... it is a useful contribution to the literature." (A S Mather, *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 171 (3), 2005)

From the Back Cover

This book contains substantially extended and revised versions of the best papers from the 12th International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems (ICEIS 2010), held in Funchal, Madeira, Portugal, June 8-12, 2010.

Two invited papers are presented together with 39 contributions, which were carefully reviewed and selected from 62 full papers presented at the conference (out of 448 submissions). They reflect state-of-the-art research work that is often driven by real-world applications, thus successfully relating the academic with the industrial community. The topics covered are: databases and information systems integration, artificial intelligence and decision support systems, information systems analysis and specification, software agents and internet computing, and human-computer interaction.

About the Author

Dr. Vinson is the H. Fletcher Brown Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Delaware. In 1977 he received the ONR-AIAA Structural Mechanics Award for his research in composite materials, and in 1981 he was awarded an ASME Centennial Award. He is active as a consultant to government and industry. He recently received a Fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science for 1985. He has been Chairman of the American Organizing Committee for the Japan-United States Conferences on Composite Materials three times (1981, 1983 and 1986). *Dr. Sierakowski* is Professor and Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department at the Ohio State University. He has held many academic and industrial posts in the United States and has been a National Research Council Senior Research Fellow, a consultant to Air Force Laboratories, and a Visiting Professor at the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

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