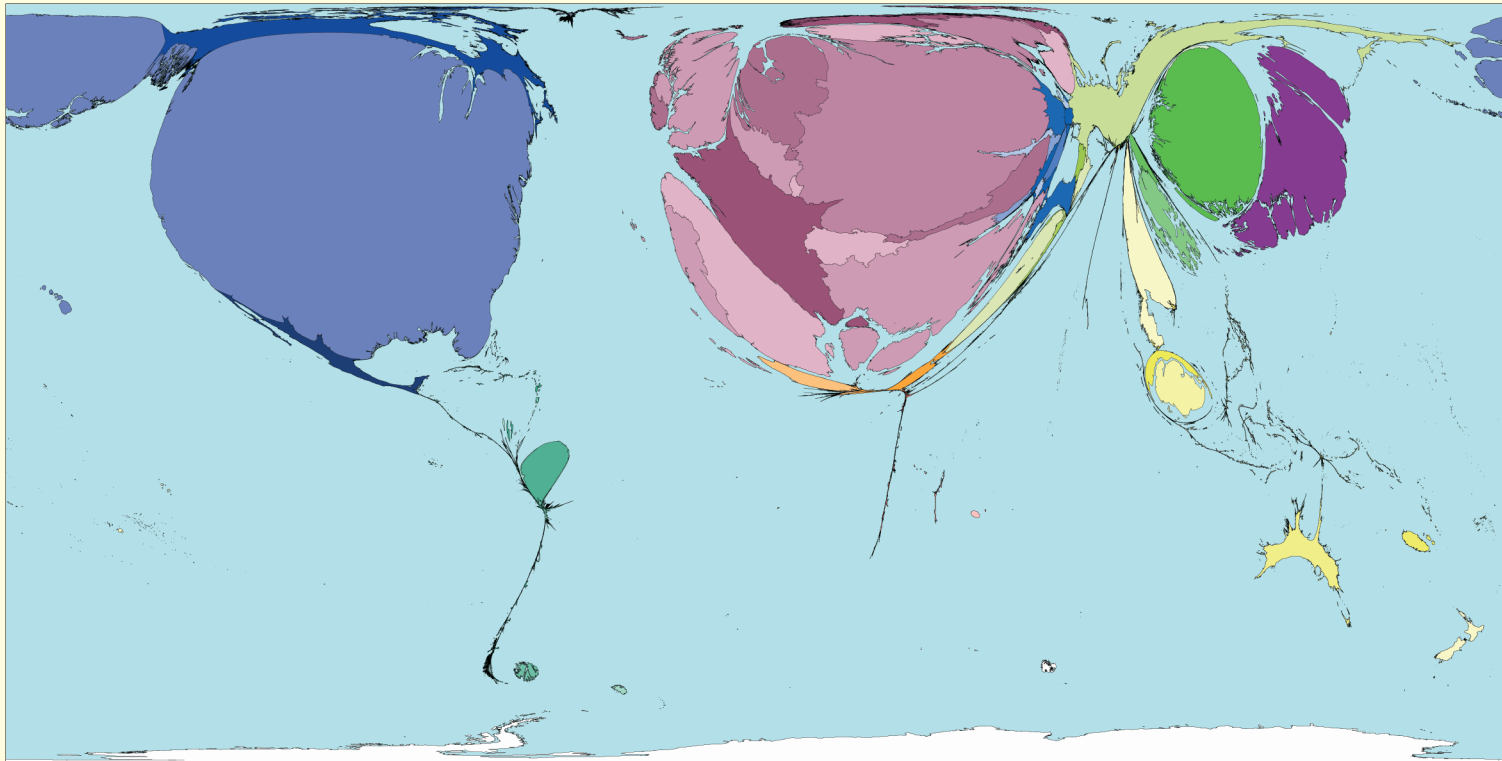


Waste Recycled

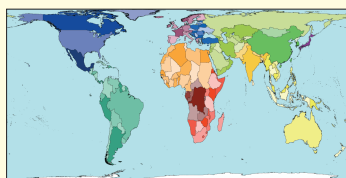


Worldwide, in 2002, 6.6% of municipal waste produced was recycled. Recycling means reusing 'waste' in the production process. 'Waste' implies that something is useless, but recycling implies that it is still useful.

Those territories where much waste is recycled are mainly in North America, Western Europe, but also include Japan and the Republic of Korea. Despite this, the non-recycled waste of Western Europe and North America is still more than the waste produced by people in 7 other regions.

Recycling is currently seen as desirable. However, not creating waste by using less packaging and more reusing, would reduce the need to recycle.

Territory size shows the proportion of all municipal waste that is recycled, that is recycled there.



Land area

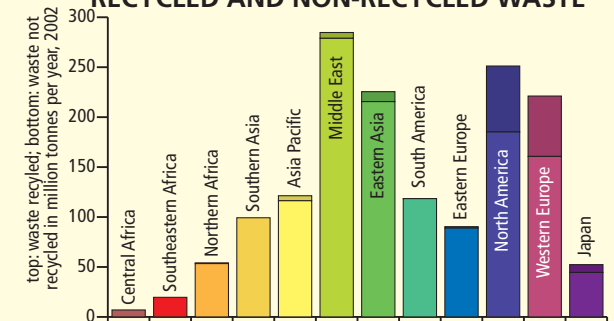
MOST RECYCLING OF WASTE

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Singapore	433	1	Netherlands	45.2
2	Hong Kong (China)	280	2	Republic of Korea	44.0
3	Netherlands	279	3	Germany	41.7
4	Norway	264	4	Singapore	41.3
5	Germany	247	5	Norway	38.8
6	Denmark	230	6	Sweden	38.7
7	United States	212	7	Hong Kong (China)	36.3
8	Luxembourg	201	8	Denmark	34.6
9	Israel	184	9	Canada	32.2
10	Switzerland	180	10	Israel	30.8

kilogrammes of waste recycled per person per year*

percentage of municipal waste recycled, 2002

RECYCLED AND NON-RECYCLED WASTE



Technical notes
 • Data are from the United Nations Statistics Division, 2005.
 • *161 territories which probably had no, or negligible, waste recycling.
 • See website for further information.

“One of the great challenges of our time is to collectively agree on what is waste and what are second-hand products – this question extends to end-of-life ships as much as to electronic goods ...”

Achim Steiner, 2006