# Journey from monitoring urban waste treatment pollution to zero waste waste villages in rural China

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Zero Waste Villages

- Why we need waste sorting to end up pollution?
- How to achieve zero waste villages in the countryside?
- Plastic pollution in the waterways of southern China

# My story with waste

2008 200



2009



# Health issues Families suffering from incineration pollution



# Pollution caused by open-dump, landfill and incineration



# Beijing besieged by waste



### Incineration pollution Slag from burning waste



# Pollution control in landfill Caused by organic waste

1	汞
2	铜
3	锌
4	铅
5	镊
ń	铍
7	钡
8	镍
9	砷
10	<b>游</b> 总
11	六价铬
12	彻

organic wasic				
8	粪大肠菌群数			
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10	总镉			
11	总铬			
12	六价铬			
13	总砷			
14	总铅			
15	甲烷			
16	恶臭			
17	硫化氢、甲硫醇、甲 硫醚和二甲二硫			

## Incineration pollution control in China

表 4 生活垃圾焚烧炉排放烟气中污染物限值

序号	污染物项目	接價	现值时间
1	mane and a	30	1 小时均值
	数种物 (mg/m²)	20	24 小豆均值
2 氮氧化	Art for the day of street, and the street of	300	1 小肚均值
	気気化物 (NOx) (mg/m <sup>*</sup> )	250	24 小村均但
1 二氧化碳	二氧化碳 (SO <sub>5</sub> ) (mg/m²)	100	1 小时均值
	- 47/C#C CMO53 (Infilms)	80	24 小村均值
4	氯化氢 (HCD (mg/m²)	60	1 小时均值
4 SERVER CHICLE ON	a. it. st (Hel) (mgm)	50	24 小村.均值
5	未及其化合物(以 Hg 计)(mg/m³)	0.05	测定均值
6	観、蛇及其化合物(从Cd+Tl 计)(mg/m²)	0.1	测定总值
7	衍、砷、衍、铬、钴、铜、锰、镍及其化合物 (以 Sb+A <sub>6</sub> +Pb+Cr+Co+Cu+Mn+Ni 计 )(mg/m²)	1.0	测定均值

6

8	二喝头类(ng TEQ/m³)	0.)	測定均值
	to the first of the first	100	1 李映均值
0	一氧化酸 (CO) (mg/m²)	70.000.00	V1 - 2 1 2 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 - 4 -

#### Economic cost of burning waste

- Over 1,000 RMB for burning one ton in cities like Beijing, generating 23,000 tons of waste per day
- Even in counties, burning a ton of waste costs at least 65 RMB

#### **Environmental** cost

- Mercury emission from incineration ranks the second source in Zhejiang Province
- Dioxin, which is typical emission of incineration, in air is out of safe health standard in Shenzhen, Guangdong
- Incineration contributes at least 10% of its air pollution in 2012
- 0 0 0

#### Incineration impacts on social stability



# Recycling in China

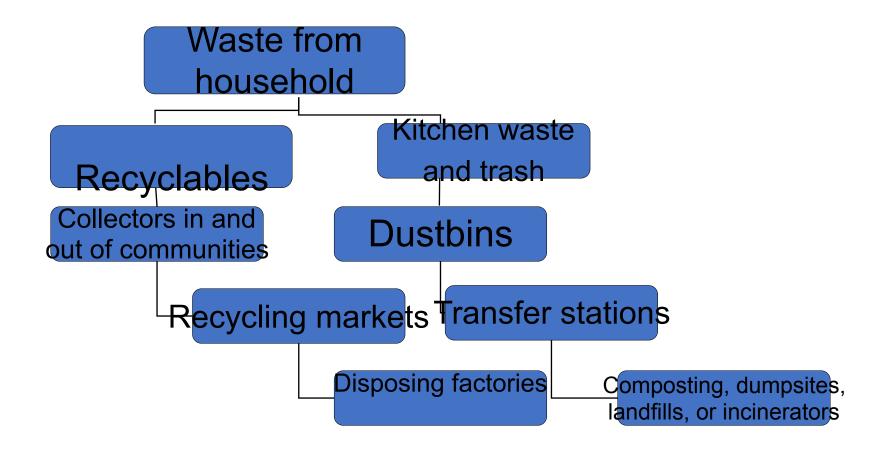




#### Informal sector in scrap collection and recycling

- Near 10 million people working for recycling
- \* They collect and recycle over 90% of recyclables which accounts for around 30% of waste
- There's no policy to support their contribution to recycling

#### Household waste diversion in China



#### What waste separation brings in the villages

- Sustainable waste management in the countryside
- End up open-dump and open burning
- Organic waste can be composted and back to the field
- All villagers participate in the waste management system

### Traditional rural China



Villages besieged by waste



# Mixed waste collection and treatment as cities



#### 习近平主持召开 中央财经领导小组第十四次会议强调 从解决好人民群众普遍关心的突出问题入手 推进全面小康社会建设

推行垃圾分类制度、农业部关于畜禽养殖废 弃物处理和资源化、民政部关于提高养老院 服务质量、住房城乡建设部关于规范住房租 货市场和抑制房地产泡沫、国家食品药品监



以近平主持召开 中央财经领导小组第十四次会议强调 从解决好人民群众普遍关心的突出问题入手 推进全面小康社会建设

普遍推行垃圾分类制度,关系13亿多人 生活环境改善,关系垃圾能不能减量化、资 源化、无害化处理。要加快建立分类投放、 分类收集、分类运输、分类处理的垃圾处理





### New policies to solve the problems

- Guide to rural waste management from waste management department issued in 2015
- Three-year planning for improving living environment in the countryside issued in 2017

#### Lessons from city's waste separation





# Mixed composting





# Two stages to build up waste separation system

- All families participate in the system
- Building up evaluation and inspection system

#### Building infrastructure for waste separation

- Curbside and door to door collection
- Cancel the shared bins
- Composting facility for organic waste

# Pluralistic outreaching programs

- Door to door communication
- Screening documentary on waste
- The whole village's gathering meeting
- Wethat group for waste separation



Organic waste and trash separation



#### Door to door collection



# Composting in the villages





# Achievements in Dongyang town, Jiangxi Province

- Over 90% organic waste goes to composting
- Farmers get the organic fertilizer for farming
- Over 90% families change their behavior

## Practices break the stereotypes

- Chinese can't do waste separation at this moment
- Education is not the key to decide who can do waste separation

## What we built in the countryside

- Village committee heads the door to door communication until every family change their behavior
- Township and county government work for inspection

#### Door to door communication

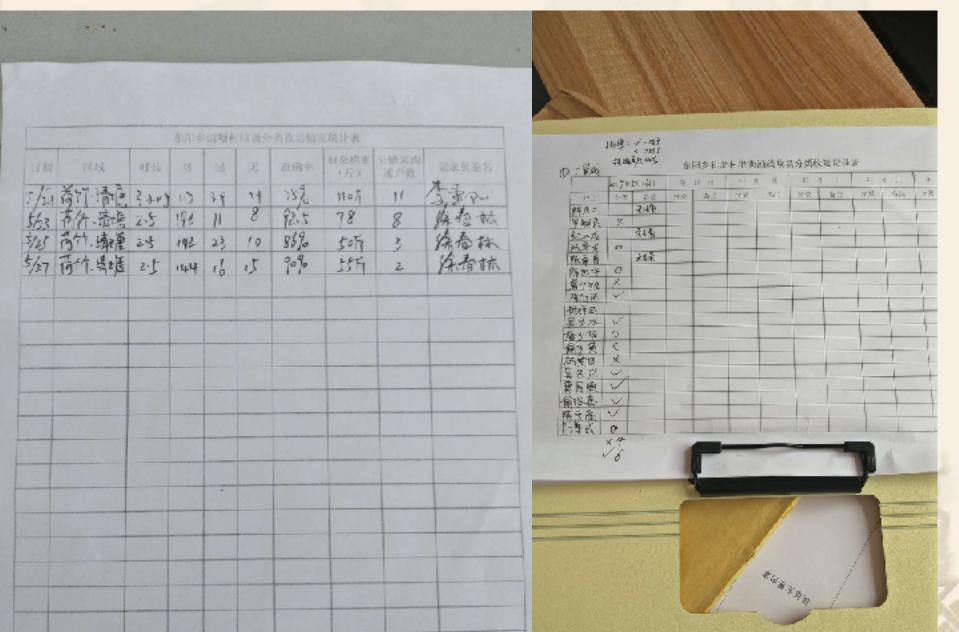




### Weighing organic waste after collection



#### Door to door education in the first two weeks



#### Trash transfer station to check the separation



#### Township secretary to mobilize the village committees



### Stakeholders in the system



#### Internal and external collaboration



Waste separation results publication in the village



After storm in Dongyang Plastics from upstream





# Eventually to the ocean



#### What we can do?

- Banning single-use plastics
- Replacing the disposals to reusable
- Practicing source separation to control waste leaking to waterways