Rapid advanced technology of IT in recent years results in increased generation of obsolete electronic devices. Proper management and recycling of such waste is very important due to the presence of toxic substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium and PBDE. The Korean government has been making efforts on increasing collection and recycling rates of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) by the extended producer responsibility policy. While increased collection and recycling rates of WEEE were observed in public sectors, the investigation on the mass flow of WEEE in informal sectors (or private sectors) is still insufficient and largely unknown. Therefore, this study focused on the estimation and analysis of the mass flow of used and end-of-life TVs and computer monitors entering informal collection and recycling sectors in Korea. Data required for the study were collected from surveys of site visits to private recycling facilities and informal collection sectors in Daejeon Metropolitan City, the national statistics published by the Korea Ministry of Environment (Korea MOE), and the Korea Association of Electronics and Environment (Korea AEE), and interviews with industry experts and local recyclers in the informal sectors. Based on the results of this study, it is estimated that in 2011 approximately 62,265 tons of generated used TVs from households were collected and sent to private collection points (or junk shops) by the individual collectors and junk shop owners. Private local recyclers and dealers accept large fractions of the collected TVs and then export them to overseas for recycling and reuse. Approximately 38,616 tons of used computer monitors in the same
year were collected by the private collected. They are also exported to overseas and private reuse markets. Only small fractions are being recycled in private recycling facilities.