



SG Question 6/2 related workshop on E-waste policies, strategies and frameworks, 9 Oct. 2018

# E-waste Opportunities and challenges

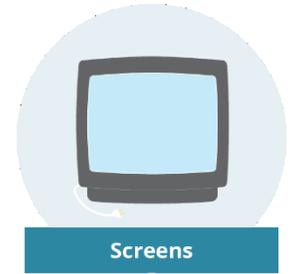
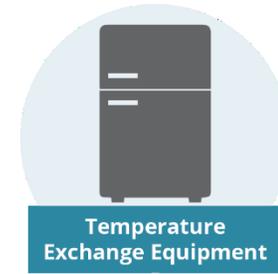
Vanessa Gray

Head, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States &  
Emergency Telecommunications

Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU

# What is E-waste?

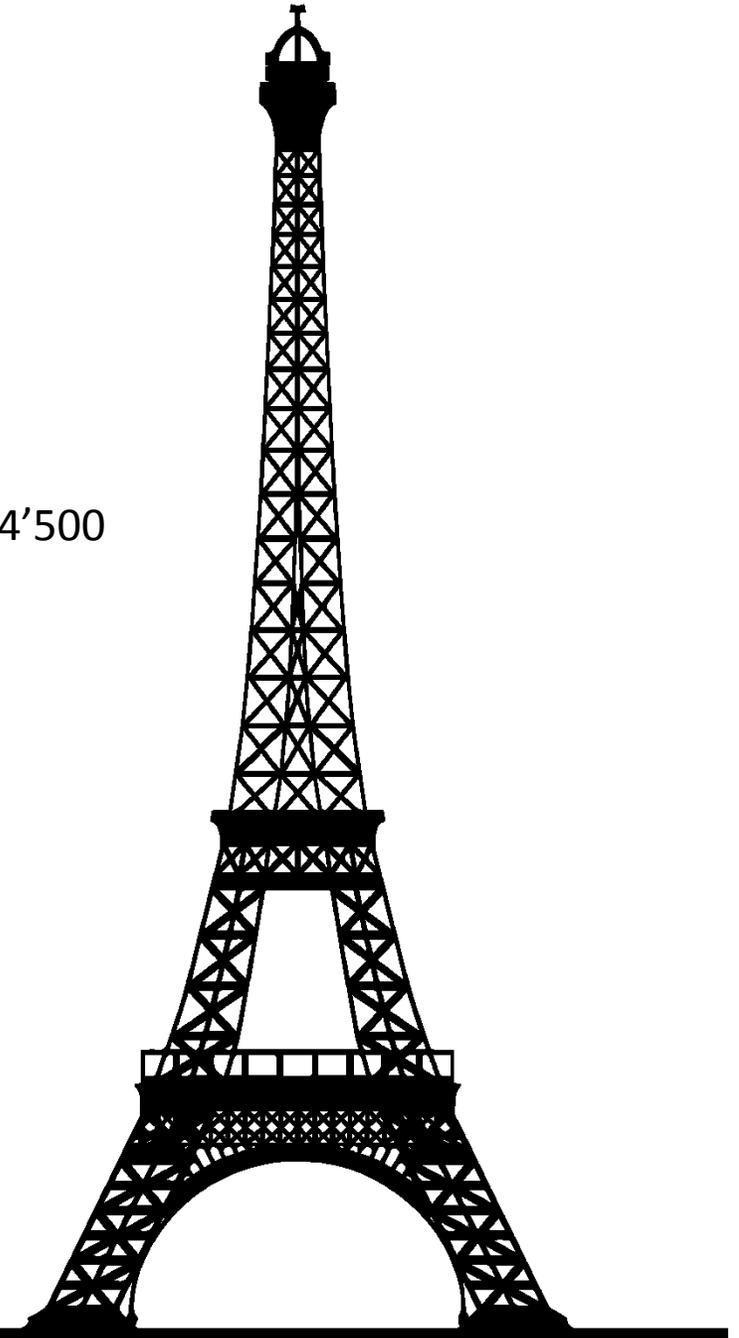
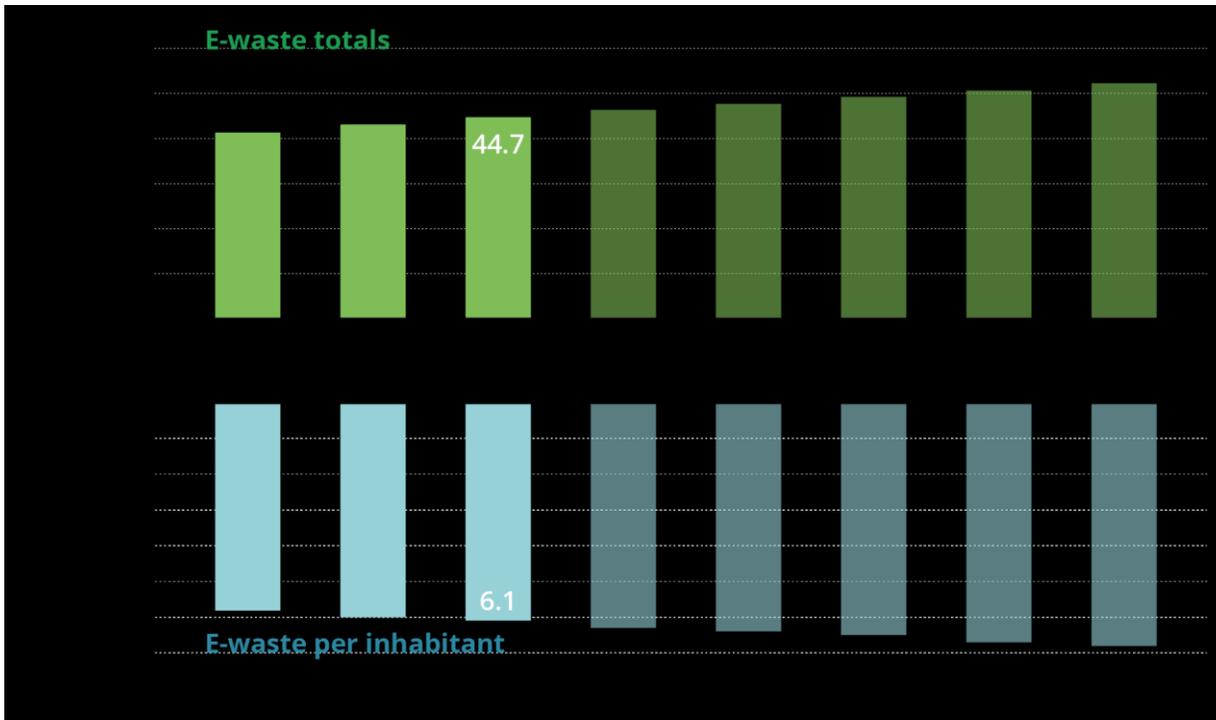
Used, broken, or obsolete electrical and electronic equipment such as phones, laptops, sensors, TVs, fridges, electrical toys etc....



# The amount of e-waste is growing

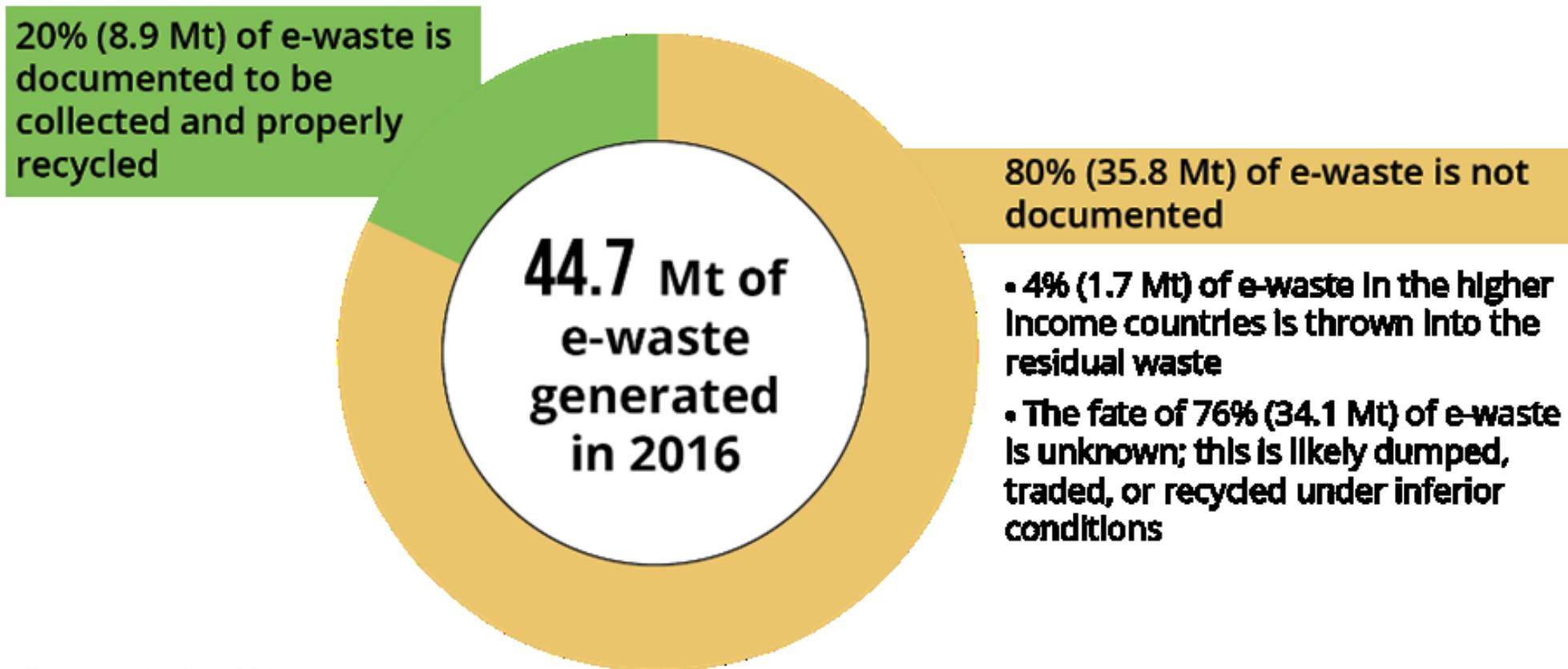
- Amount of e-waste grew by 8% between 2014 and 2016
- 44.7 million metric tonnes of e-waste generated (2016)

Equivalent to 4'500 Eiffel Towers

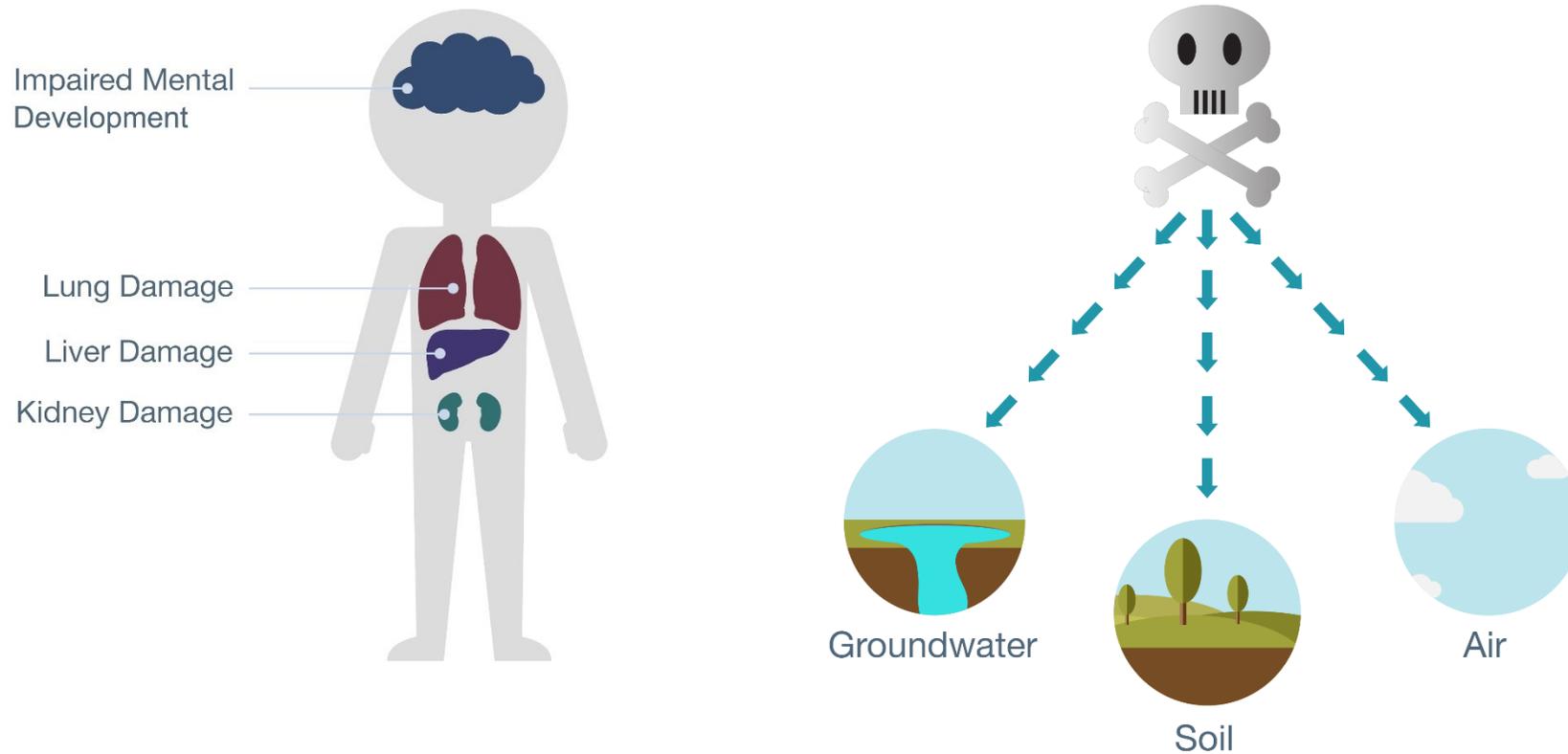


# Very little is recycled

Globally, only 20% of e-waste is properly documented and recycled

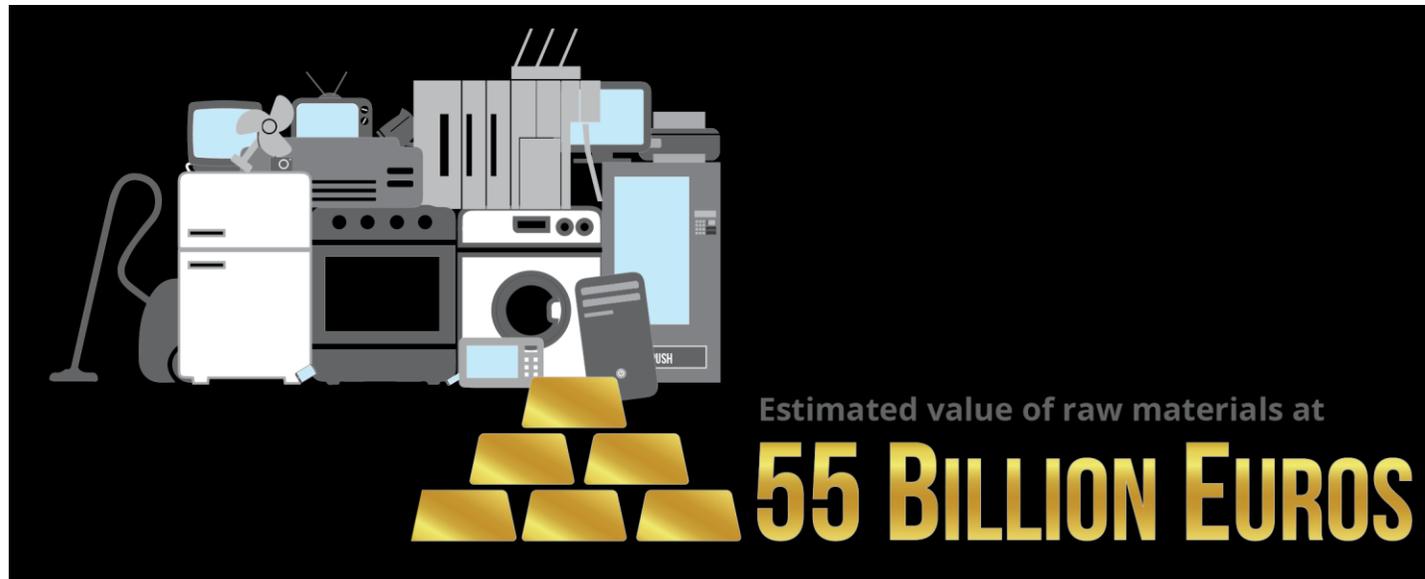


# E-waste poses health risks if treated inadequately



Source: GESP

# E-waste has value

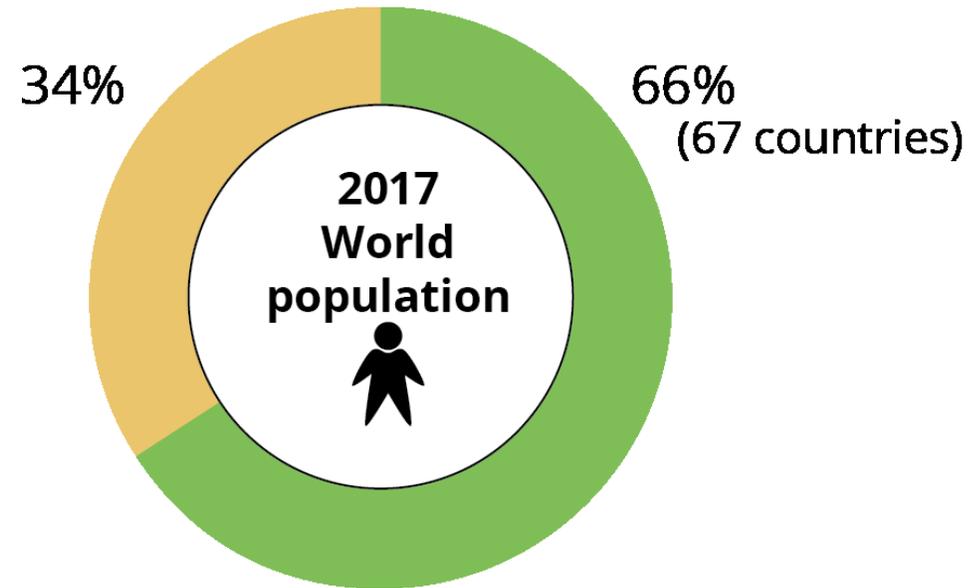
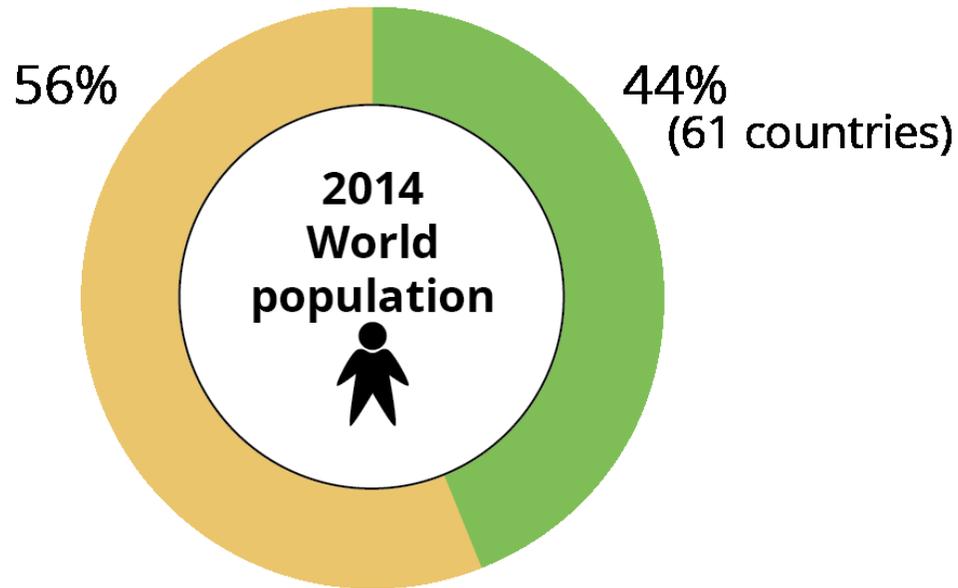


.. More than the 2016 GDP of most countries in the world

# Legislation is necessary...but not sufficient

- 67 countries have e-waste legislation

■ Covered by legislation  
■ Not covered by legislation



# Why do we need to address the challenge?

Improper and unsafe treatment and disposal of e-waste means:

- Risks to the environment & human health
- Raw materials are wasted
- Challenges to the achievement of the SDGs





# Better e-waste data as an important first step

- Evaluate developments over time
- Set and assess targets
- Identify best practices of policies
- Minimize e-waste generation
- Prevent illegal dumping
- Promote recycling
- Create jobs in the reuse, refurbishment and recycling sectors
- Help achieve SDG 11 and 12 (but also 3, 6, 8, 14)
- E-waste has an official indicator under SDG 12.4.2 hazardous waste management



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

# What is the mandate/role of BDT and what are we doing?

- A mandate to assess the magnitude of e-waste, to help build capacity and carry out pilot projects on environmentally sound management of e-waste
- Help countries produce better e-waste data
- At the forefront of advocating for the safe disposal of e-waste
- Develop management strategies, standards and policies



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

# Monitoring e-waste

## The Global E-waste Monitor 2017

Quantities, Flows, and Resources

Authored by Baldé, C. P., Forti, V., Gray, V., Kuehr, R., Stegmann, P.



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY  
**UNU-VIE SCYCLE**  
Sustainable Cycles Programme

**ISWA**  
International Solid Waste Association

- Report provides a comprehensive overview of the global e-waste challenge
- Under discussion: Regional E-waste Monitor for Arab States & CIS + Latin America

[www.itu.int/ewastemonitor](http://www.itu.int/ewastemonitor)

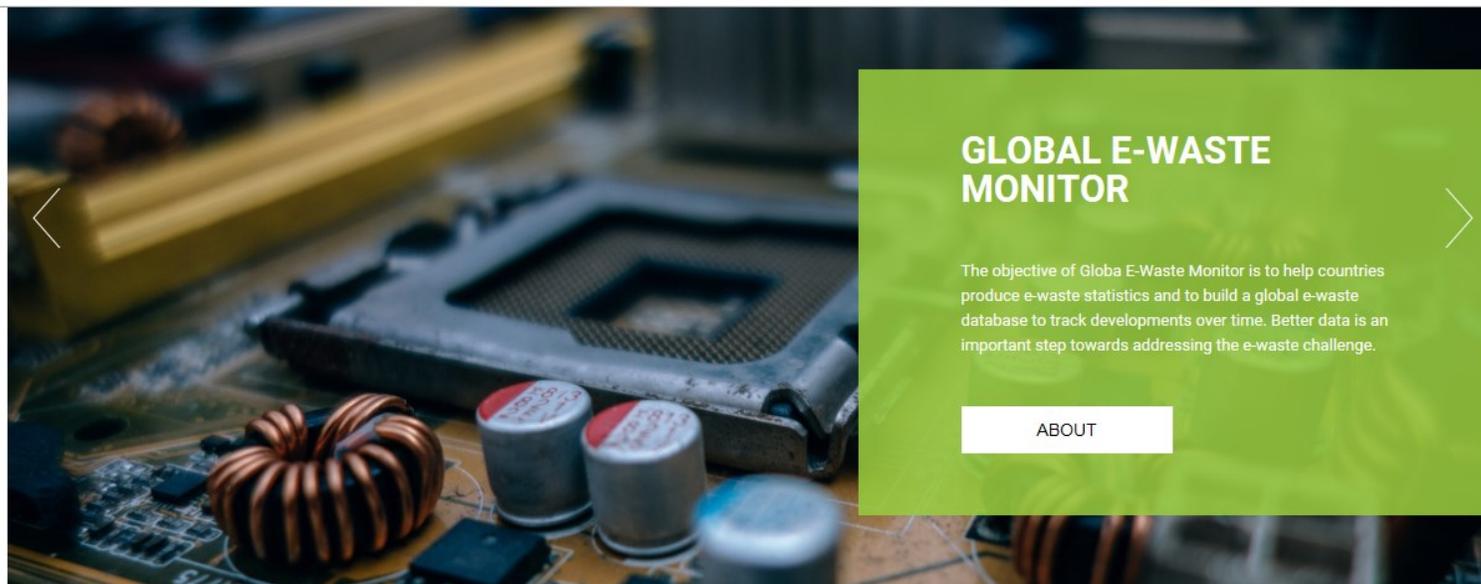




# globalewaste.org

## GLOBAL E-WASTE MONITOR

[HOME](#) | [ABOUT US](#) | [COUNTRY SHEETS](#) | [INTERACTIVE MAP](#) | [PUBLICATIONS](#) | [REFERENCES](#)



### GLOBAL E-WASTE MONITOR

The objective of Global E-Waste Monitor is to help countries produce e-waste statistics and to build a global e-waste database to track developments over time. Better data is an important step towards addressing the e-waste challenge.

[ABOUT](#)



### OUR MISSION

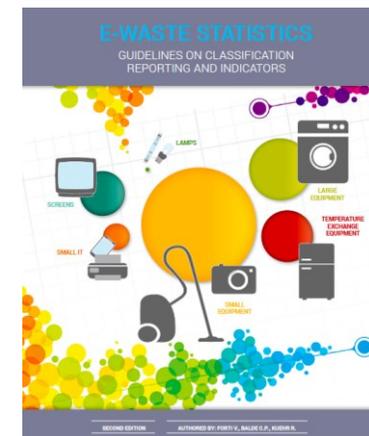
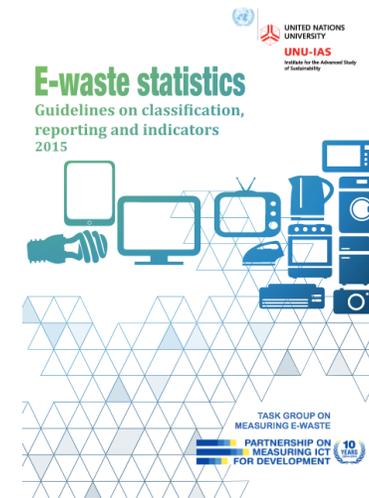
The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in cooperation with the United Nations University (UNU) acting through its Vice Rectorate in Europe hosted Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme and the Solid Waste Association (ISWA), have joined forces to form the Global e-waste Statistics Partnership. Its main objectives are to improve and collect worldwide e-waste statistics. The Partnership will also raise visibility on the importance of tracking e-waste, and deliver capacity building workshops. In December 2017, the Partnership published the Global E-waste Monitor 2017.



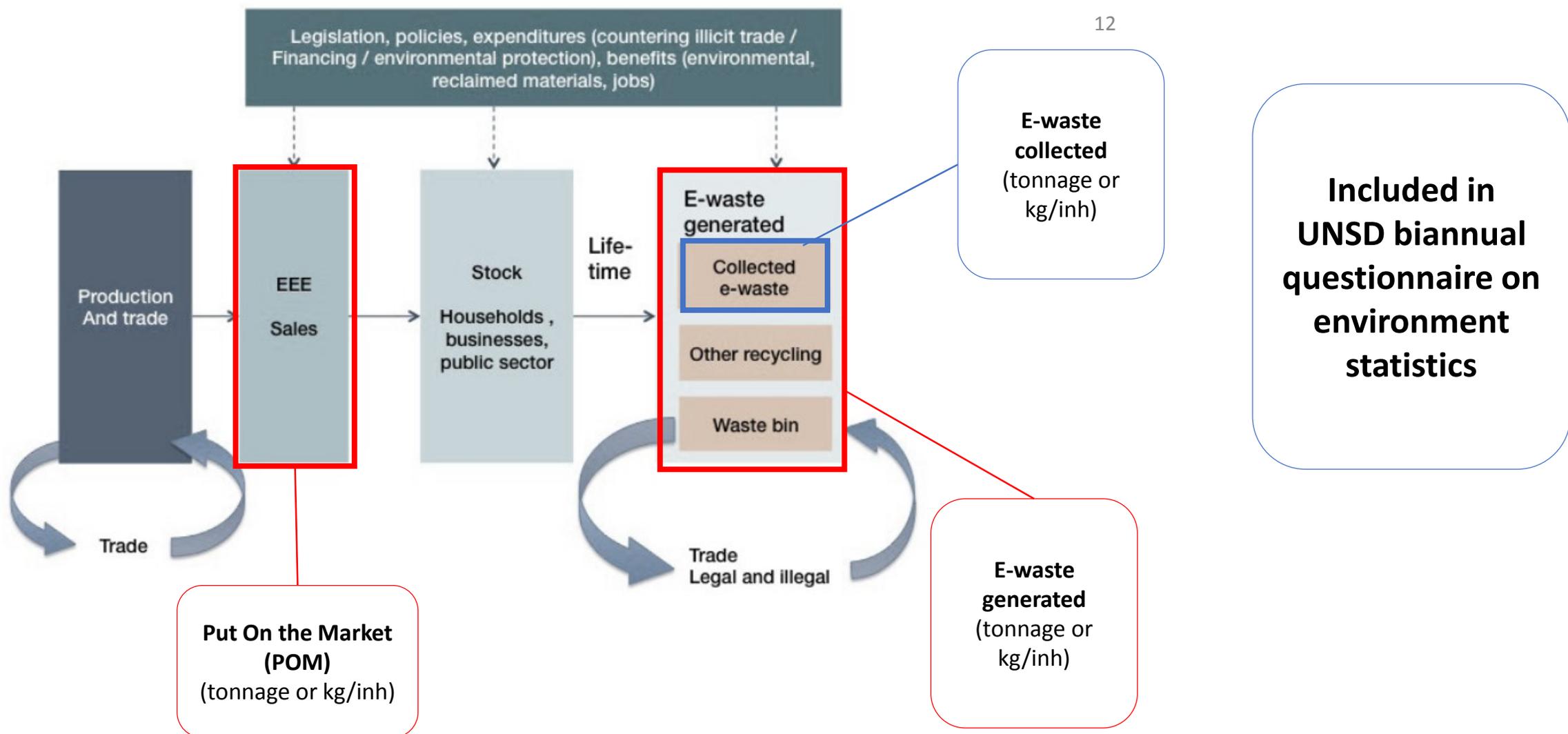
UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

# Statistical Guidelines

- UN Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development
- Endorsed by: ITU, UNCTAD, Eurostat, OECD, ILO, UNECA, ESCAP, UNEP-SBC, etc
- Guide countries to measure relevant parameters for e-waste
- E-waste Statistics Guidelines
  - First edition 2015
  - Second Edition 2018



# Measure e-waste: *indicators*





UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

# Building national capacity for e-waste statistics (Nov. 2017 – Dec. 2018)

- UNU/UNSD E-waste Workshop in the East African Community Regions
- UNU/ITU Workshop at the Green Standards Week
- UNU/NIC workshop in Sao Paulo
- UNU country visit in Jordan
- UNU country visit in Tanzania

# Building an E-waste Coalition





# E-waste Coalition



UNITED NATIONS

ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

**EMG**

Since May 2016, the EMG has been coordinating UN (23 UN and related entities) around tackling electronic (e)-waste

EMG report: key findings on e-waste and the UN

- Need to reduce duplication of efforts (projects, reports, research etc.)
- More coherence in support provided to Member States



**United Nations System-wide Response  
to Tackling E-waste**

# E-waste Coalition

March, 2018: 7 UN agencies sign Letter of Intent to strengthen collaboration and coordination on tackling e-waste

- Hosted by ITU during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum
- Support better knowledge sharing facilities for e-waste
- Strengthen collaboration on e-waste
- Develop deeper discourse with other stakeholder groups
- Strengthen coordination for Member States on e-waste



# Where are we now?

Through regular workshops, the Letter of Intent signatories – with support by World Economic Forum (WEF) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) – are defining the objectives of an

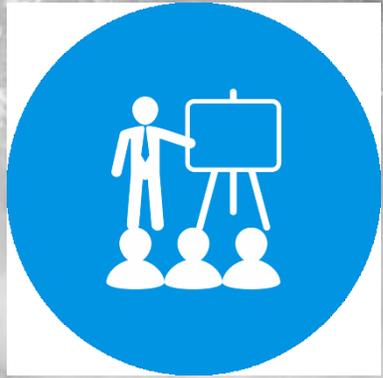
## E-waste Coalition



A New Vision for Electronics  
Communication



Global Portal on E-waste  
Knowledge



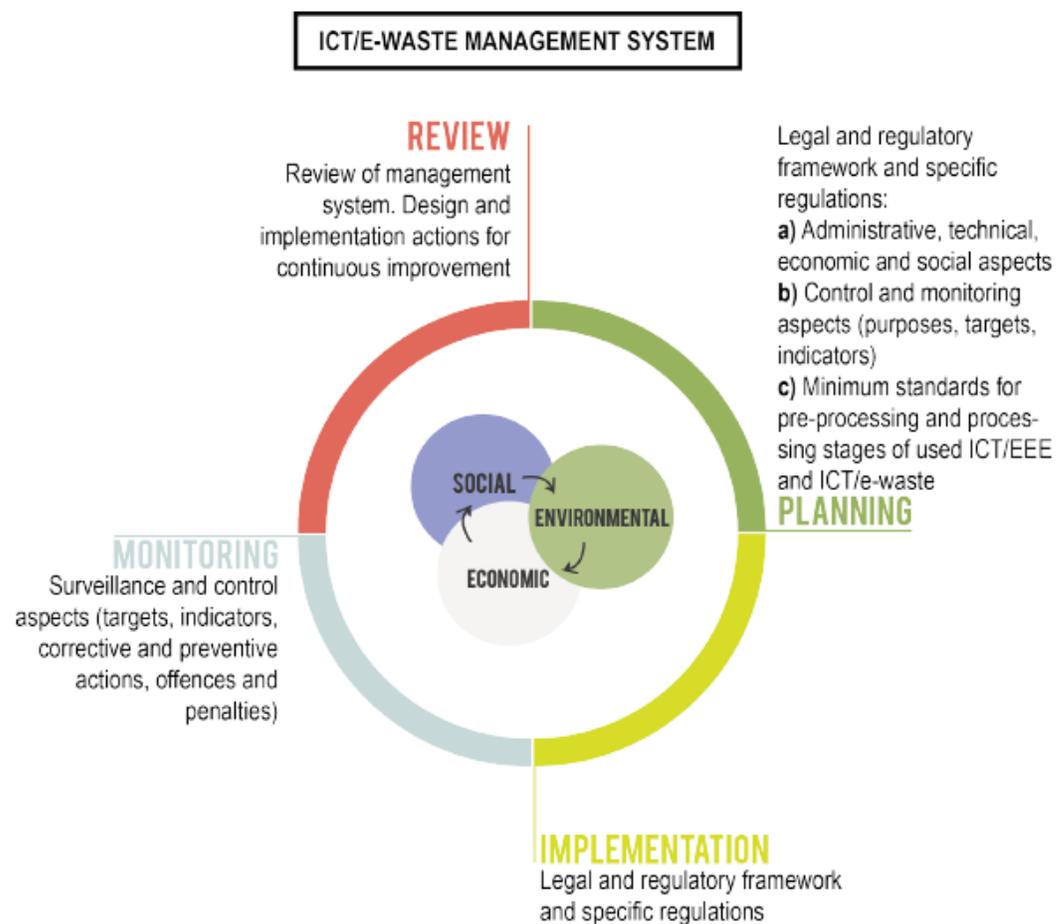
National Intervention Model  
Implementation



Electronic Waste Awards  
Recognition

For further information on the building of an E-waste Coalition, please contact [emg@un.org](mailto:emg@un.org)

# ITU: Policy and regulatory frameworks



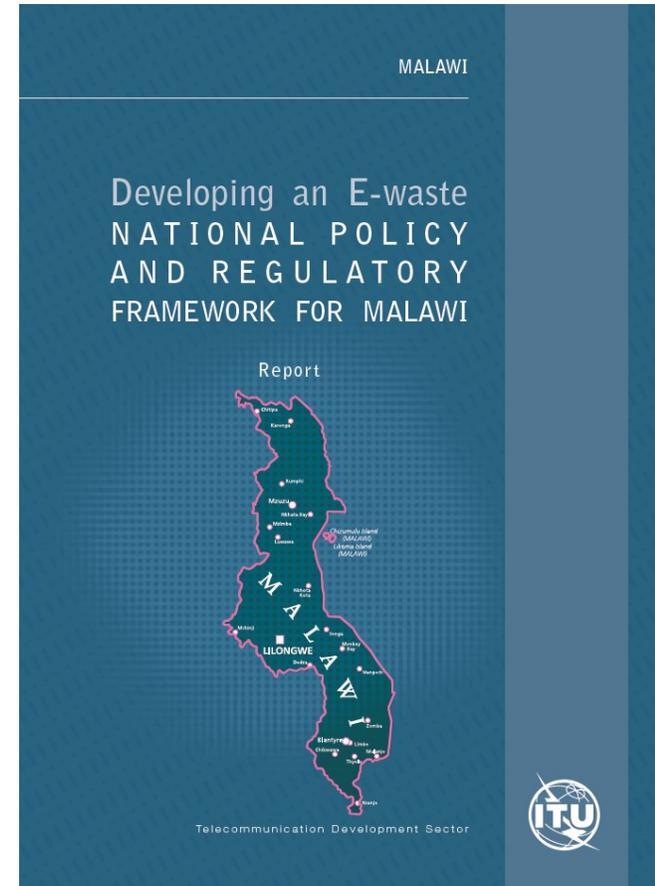
## Handbook for the development of a policy framework on ICT/e-waste





# ITU: Policy and regulatory frameworks

Developing an e-waste national policy and regulatory framework for Malawi





# E-waste pilot projects

- E-Basura, with the University of La Plata in Argentina
- The project involves local government/authorities, private sector, beneficiary organizations, UNLP Faculty of Engineering and students from different academic programmes of the university.
- The objective is to improve the capacity in the recycling and reconditioning of electronic waste.





Join us...or just to find out more:

[E-waste@itu.int](mailto:E-waste@itu.int)

Follow the discussion @

[#eWaste](https://twitter.com/eWaste)