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Solving the E-Waste Problem (StEP) Initiative – Activities in and for Latin America/Caribbean

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19 March 2013

“StEP envisions a future in which societies have reduced to a sustainable level the e-waste-related burden on the ecosystem that results from the design, production, use and disposal of electrical and electronic equipment.

These societies make prudent use of lifetime extension strategies in which products and components – and the resources contained in them – become raw materials for new products.”

Solving the E-waste Problem (StEP) Initiative was created to...

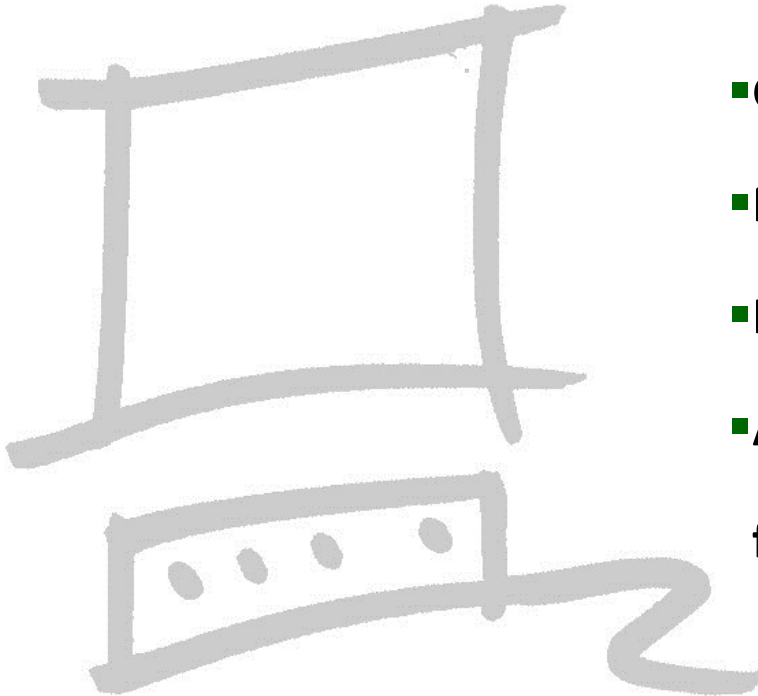
➤ Initiate and facilitate environmentally, economically & socially sound approaches to reduce e-waste flows and handle them in a sustainable way around the globe



- (1) Functions as a **network of actors** who share experiences and best practices
- (2) Carries out **research and development projects**
- (3) **Disseminates** experiences, best practices and recommendations

1. StEP's work is founded on **scientific assessments** including **social, environmental and economic** aspects
2. StEP conducts research on the **entire life-cycle** of electronic and electrical equipment
3. StEP's research and pilot projects are meant to contribute to the **solution of e-waste problems**
4. StEP **condemns all illegal activities** related to e-waste including illegal shipments
5. StEP seeks to foster **safe and eco/energy-efficient reuse and recycling practices** around the globe in a socially responsible manner

StEP invites pro-active:



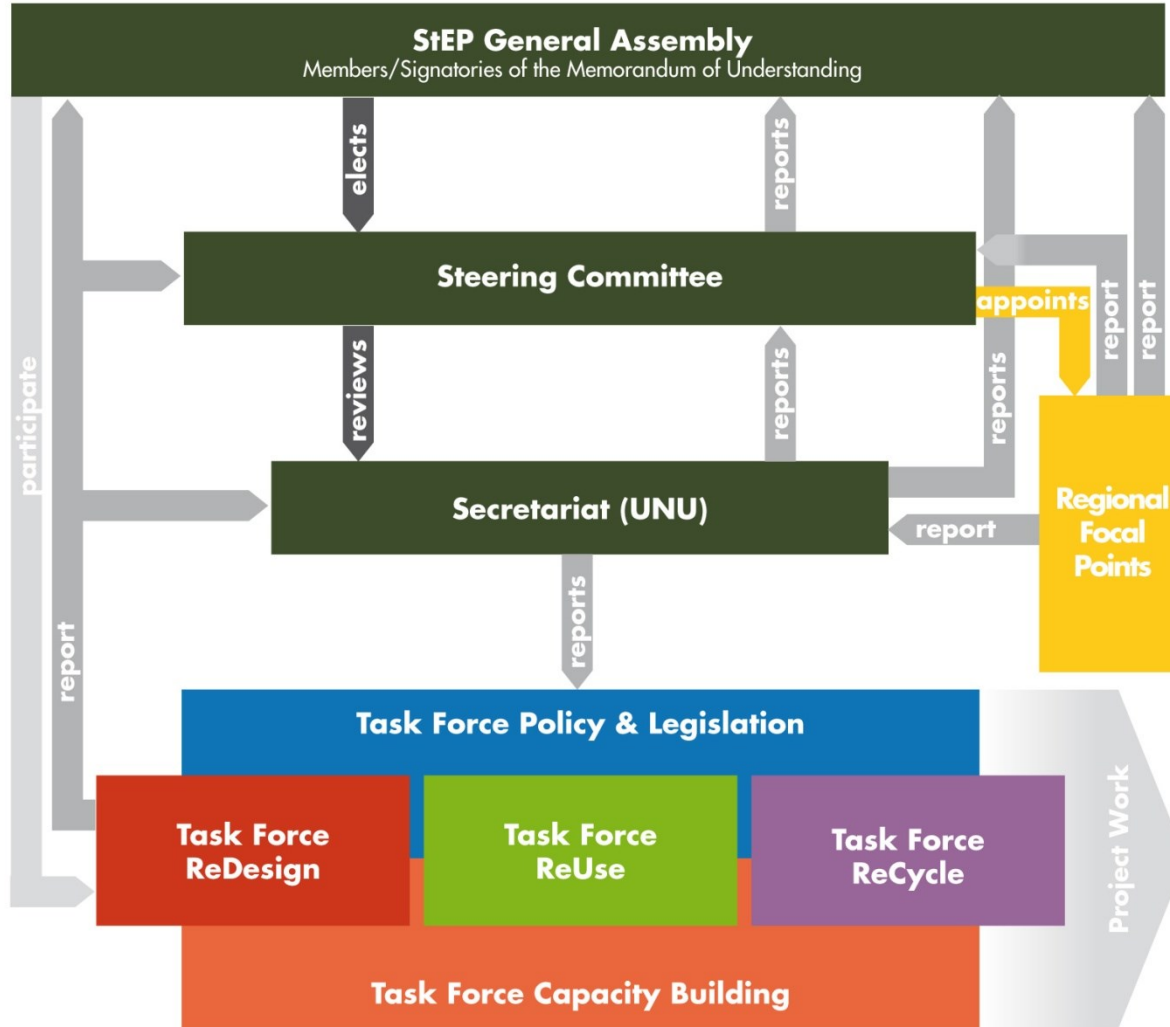
- **Companies**
- **Governmental Organizations**
- **Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)**
- **International Organizations**
- **Academic Institutions**

from around the world to become a member

Members have to agree with the StEP principles through signing a Memorandum of Understanding between all StEP members



StEP Organizational Chart





Analyzes the status of existing policy approaches on e-waste, and elaborates policy recommendations for future developments...

Project overview (samples with relevance in/for Latin America/Caribbean):

- @ Green Paper on E-waste Indicators
- @ White Paper “Transboundary Shipments” (with Task Force ReUse)
- @ White Paper “Take-Back Systems and Design Guidelines”
- @ White Paper “E-waste definitions”

√ completed, @ working phase, \$ acquisition phase, ? idea phase



... defines globally consistent “re-use” practices, principles, and standards to enhance re-use opportunities, change consumer behaviour & reduce „sham re-use“...

Project overview (samples with relevance in/for Latin America/Caribbean):

- ✓ White Paper ‘One Global Understanding of Re-use – Common Definitions’
- ✓ Case studies synthesis ‘Best practices in re-use’
- @ White Paper on Transboundary Shipments (with Task Force Policy)
- ? Recommendations for re-use certification/guidelines

✓ completed, @ working phase, \$ acquisition phase, ? idea phase



... overall aim is to enhance global recycling infrastructures and technologies to realise a sustainable e-waste recycling...

Project overview (samples with relevance in/for Latin America/Caribbean):

- ✓ Research study ‘ Recycling – From E-waste to Resources’
- ✓ Review ‘Environmental fate and effects of hazardous substances of informal e-waste recycling’
- @ Project ‘Best of 2 Worlds’
- @ White Paper on End-of-Life Standards

✓ completed, @ working phase, \$ acquisition phase, ? idea phase



... aims at increasing public, scientific and business awareness and disseminating the results of TFs 1 - 4...

Project overview (samples with relevance in/for Latin America/Caribbean):

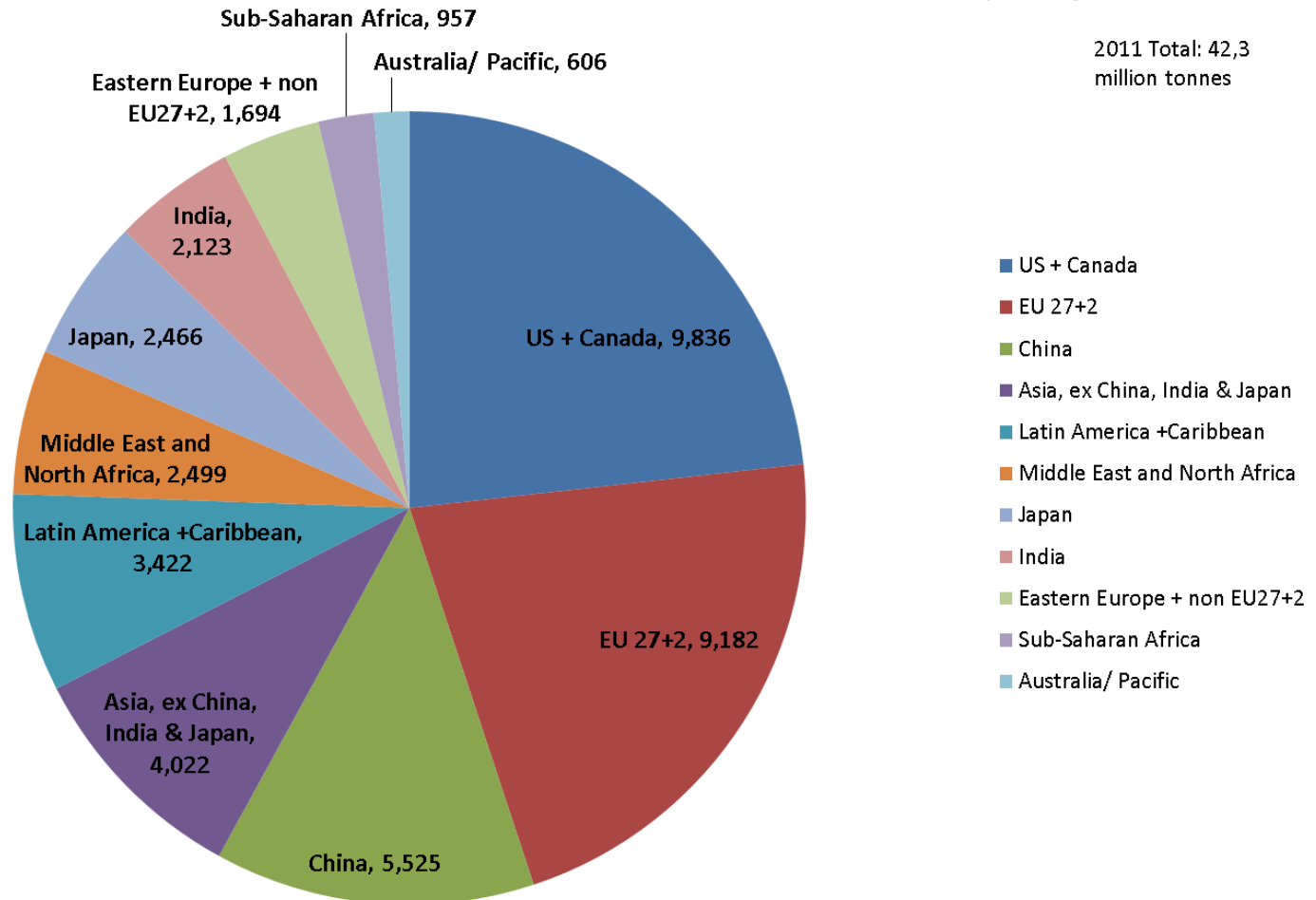
- @** Annual Reporting on the global E-waste Status (ADDRESS)
- @** E-waste Academy for Managers and E-waste Academy for Scientists
- @** Recycling Trainer Online

√ completed, @ working phase, \$ acquisition phase, ? idea phase

WEEE generated 2011 (rough estimate)

WEEE generated, 2011 (per region, in ktons)

2011 Total: 42,3 million tonnes



- ➔ Platform for exchange of best practices
- ➔ Snapshot into the current status of e-waste policy
- ➔ Foster an interactive atmosphere of knowledge sharing and practical first-hand experiences
- ➔ Feedback and advice from e-waste experts and fellow policymakers
- ➔ Establish a sustaining network for continued interaction after the EWA

- Based on existing information through StEP Members and Externals the following topics are clarified per country:
 - Domestic e-waste generation
 - Tranboundary shipments
 - E-waste collection
 - E-waste recycling
 - Legislative development
 - Stakeholder analysis
 - Potential topics for future work

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