2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics
Project: *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy*

Concept Note

BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has elevated the profile of the environmental dimension of development and its monitoring. The project aims to build capacity to accelerate the transition towards a circular economy in the context of sustainable development at different levels. Enhancing institutional technical capacities to regularly produce waste and circular economy datasets is imperative to inform and develop evidence-based policies. The project focuses on various Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators and others related to Sustainable Consumption and Production, waste, water and emissions.

The 2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics is being implemented by UNEP in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme. Since 2015, UNITAR has been engaged in measuring environmental-related SDG indicators and developing global datasets, training material, and statistical guidelines.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the 2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics is to support relevant authorities at the national level in developing the technical knowledge and capacities to regularly produce datasets on electronic waste (e-waste). E-waste is a rapidly growing waste stream across many countries. Better data and statistics have a critical role to play in tackling the escalating challenges related to e-waste. This includes through helping to identify opportunities to turn waste into a resource, setting and monitoring progress against public sector targets, and evaluating best practices in policymaking.

As part of this workshop, participants can expect to:

- Be introduced to e-waste and its management as a global and national challenge and links to the SDGs
- Discuss evidence and data needs for producing statistics on e-waste at the national level
- Receive an overview of the general principles underpinning the production of e-waste statistics, recommended calculation steps, and data sources to populate an e-waste statistics framework based on international guidance in the global *E-waste Statistics Guidelines* developed by UNITAR
- Become familiar with how to use the UNITAR e-waste toolkits designed to support country-level measurement
- Access hands-on sessions on calculating key statistics on e-waste aligned to country evidence needs and areas highlighted as particularly challenging

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- Receive guidance on developing a national statistics implementation plan and integrating the developed waste statistics into national analysis and decision making
- Plan desired areas of focus for remote training as a follow-up to the workshop and input to the production of a national E-waste Monitor collating evidence on e-waste and benchmarking performance.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience for the in-person workshop are representatives from country National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and ministries involved in the production of statistics on the environment (e.g. Environment, Industry and Economy), in particular those on resources and waste.

OUTCOME

The expert mission will equip government officials with the necessary and sustainable knowledge to:

- Describe key concepts relating to monitoring e-waste and its relevance as part of tracking progress against the SDGs, particularly SDG 11.6.1on proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities, SDG 12.4.2a on Hazardous waste generated per capita & 12.4.2b on the proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment and SDG 12.5.1 on national recycling rate, tons of material recycled
- Explain how selected waste indicators are calculated alongside relevant data sources, and be able to produce statistics on e-waste
- Tackle challenges countries may be facing in compiling statistics on e-waste and actions and strategies that can be taken to address them as part of a national statistics implementation plan

In addition, and in collaboration with a hired national consultant to assist the country, an output of the workshop will be the joint production of a National E-waste Monitor. This will capture outputs of the training workshops and help benchmark national performance.

SCHEDULE, FORMAT AND LANGUAGE

The workshops will take the form of a three-day in-person training delivered by experts on e-waste from UNITAR and UNEP. Each workshop will include an overview of the subject area and discussion on national needs and challenges in statistics production, followed by hands on computer-based training on producing e-waste statistics (see the workshop agenda for a more detailed description of sessions and individual lessons). The working language of the workshops will be English.

Each workshop will be followed by 10 days of remote training as national officers progress in developing statistics on e-waste, reporting on relevant SDG indicators, and as part of jointly producing a National E-waste Monitor.

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Completion of the workshop registration form is required one week before workshop inception, at the latest.

RESOURCES

In preparation for participating in the workshops, participants are requested to complete two self-paced online courses:

- An introduction to the e-waste challenge | ITU Academy
- Addressing the e-waste challenge through data and statistics | ITU Academy

Participants are encouraged to collate data inputs identified as relevant to the training following engagement with UNITAR and UNEP. The online courses should be completed in advance of the workshop and completion certificates submitted to the course coordinator at workshop inception. These courses introduce participants to the important of effective e-waste management and the role of data and statistics in tackling the growing e-waste challenge.

Logins to these courses have been prepared in advance for registered workshop participants, and registered participants will have received an automated email to sign up to the learning portal, complete their profile, and undertake the training courses. For new participants, the following steps should be taken to sign up to the ITU Academy and complete the required courses:

1. **Training site registration**
   - To be able to register for the course you must first create an account in the ITU Academy portal at the following link: https://academy.itu.int/user/register
2. **Training course registration**
   - When you have an existing account or created a new account, you can register for the courses at the following links:
     - https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/introduction-e-wastechallenge
     - https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/addressing-e-waste-challenge-through-data-and-statistics
   - You can also find these courses (and others) in the training catalogue: https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue

Participants should contact the course coordinators at UNITAR: Cornelis (Kees) Baldé (balde@unitar.org) and Oliver Lysaght (oliver.lysaght@unitar.org) for further information or if any difficulties are encountered while registering.

- **SDG Online Course**
  - **Environmental SDG Indicators Online Course**

    This e-learning course is a self-paced course with individual 10 modules developed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UNSIAP), and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). This course provides an overview of the importance of monitoring the environmental dimension of development, the linkage with existing statistical frameworks (FDES and SEEA), and how to use environment

statistics in decision making. The modules will also provide a brief overview of all 25 SDG indicators under UNEP custodianship. The online course is also available in French and Russian.

- **Technical Manuals**
  - **Global Chemicals and Waste Indicators Review Document**

    The Global Chemicals and Waste Indicator Review Document aims to strengthen the knowledge base of chemicals and hazardous waste and enhance the capacity of selected countries to track progress towards related SDG indicators across sectors. With the purpose of enhancing evidence base as well as the science policy interface, this review document responds to the need for better information to empower decision makers and stakeholders to act and support policy making for sound management of waste to minimize risks to public health and the environment associated with chemicals and hazardous waste. The Document is available in Arabic, English and Russian.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

The expert mission is in the form of a hands-on workshop. Participants are highly encouraged to bring all data series available that are relevant/available to the workshop. There are increased benefits to participants working with their own data, should the data be available.

Annex A includes the draft agenda for the 3-day in-country workshop.

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Annex A. Draft Agenda

Day 1		
Time	**Agenda item**	**Speaker(s)**
08:00 – 09:00	**Workshop registration**	
Session 1 – Welcome and opening presentation		
09:00 – 10:00	**1. Opening remarks** - Objectives of the workshop and intended outcomes - Introduction to participants and trainers - Outline of the workshop agenda	Therese El Gemayel, UNEP Kees Baldé, UNITAR
10:00 – 10:45	**2. Introduction to e-waste as a global and national challenge and links to the SDGs**	UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Refreshment Break**	
Session 2 – Regional overview and discussion on evidence needs		
11:15 – 12:15	**3. Country presentation covering:** – The status of national e-waste legislation/regulation and key stakeholders – The status of current e-waste statistics production – National issues relating to the management and measurement of e-waste	Country representatives
12:15 – 12:45	**4. Discussion on evidence and data needs** - Results of statistical readiness and needs assessment - Opportunity for questions on the self-paced online learning content	Round table
12:45 – 13:45	**Lunch break**	
Session 3 – Introduction to the waste statistics guidelines and toolkits		
13:45-14:45	**5. Presentation on the general principles of e-waste statistics and overview of the *E-waste Statistics Guidelines*** - Classifying e-waste - The e-waste measurement framework - The mass-balance principle	UNITAR
14:45-15:45	**6. Overview of how to use the UNITAR tailored statistical toolkits and available core data sets as part of country measurement** - Data sources to populate the measurement framework - Summary of calculation steps - Indicators to report against	UNITAR
15:45-16:00	**7. Day 1 closing remarks & group photo**	UNITAR, Country representatives
16:00	**End of Day 1**	

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Day 2		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 1 – Applied computer session on calculating electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM)		
09:00 – 10:45	**1. Applied computer session on calculating:** – EEE POM using the UNITAR EEE POM toolkit – EEE POM of PV panels using the UNITAR PV panel toolkit	UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Refreshment Break**	
Session 2 – Applied computer session on calculating e-waste generated and EEE stocks		
11:15-13:00	**2. Applied computer session on calculating:** – E-waste generated and EEE stocks using the UNITAR e-waste generated (WG) toolkit	UNITAR
13:00-14:00	**Lunch break**	
Session 3 – Applied computer session on calculating e-waste collected and domestic treatment routes		
14:00-15:45	**3. Applied computer session on data gathering and calculating:** – E-waste collection routes – Formal and other recycling of e-waste – E-waste entering the waste bin – Producing a mass-balance of the EEE/e-waste system	UNITAR
15:45-16:00	**4. Day 2 closing remarks**	UNITAR
16:00	**End of Day 2**	

Day 3		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 1 – Computer workshop on calculating the transboundary movement of e-waste and UEEE		
09:00-10:45	**1. Applied computer session on data gathering and calculating:** – The transboundary movement of e-waste and used EEE	UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Refreshment Break**	
Session 2 – Developing a national statistics implementation plan and inputting to national data needs		
11:15-12:15	**2. Developing a national statistics implementation plan**	Country representatives, UNITAR
12:15-13:15	**3. How to integrate the developed waste statistics for national analysis and**	Country representatives, UNITAR

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	decision making and engagement with key stakeholders	
13:15-14:15	**Lunch break**	
Session 3 – Planning for post-workshop training		
14:15-15:30	**4. Discussion on desired areas of focus for follow-up training and planning the production of the Kenya National E-waste Monitor**	Country representatives, UNITAR
15:30-16:00	**5. Closing session** – Workshop summary – Final remarks	Country representatives, UNITAR
16:00	**End of Day 3 and the workshop**	

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