Country Report - Jamaica

International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics

Kingston, Jamaica

July 29th - July 31st, 2025

As part of the European Commission funded project on *Enhancing countries' capacity for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy, 2024-2026*

1. Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations (UN) in 2015, has brought with it the need for enhanced monitoring of the environmental dimensions of development. The UN Environment Assembly adopted Resolution 5/11 (2022) on '*Enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production*' invites UN Member States to integrate circular economy approaches into national and regional strategies and action plans.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) project *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy* (running between 2024 and 2026)[1], takes a multi-level approach to building global capacity around data and statistics on the circular economy, with a focus on:

1. Developing and strengthening statistical methodologies at the global level such as through the preparation of the third edition of the global *E-waste Statistics Guidelines*;
2. Supporting regional capacity building and dialogue between data users and producers; and
3. Enhancing, through tailored national activities, the technical capabilities of country-level institutions to regularly publish datasets on the circular economy and waste.

These activities are intended to support improved global monitoring of progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and evidence-based policymaking at the national level. Funds for the project originate from the European Union.

International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics

Electronic waste (e-waste) is a rapidly growing waste stream across many countries. Delivered as part of the UNEP project *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy*, the objective of the 2025 *International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics* is to support relevant authorities across selected countries in developing the technical knowledge and capacities to regularly collect and publish statistics on e-waste. In addition, the workshop series provides a forum to further test changes proposed in the draft third edition of the global *E-waste Statistics Guidelines* prior to its final publication.

The target audience for the workshop series is representatives from country National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and ministries involved in the production of statistics on the environment (e.g., Environment, Industry and Economy), particularly those relating to resources and waste. Through the workshop series, participants are sought to be equipped with the knowledge and capabilities to:

- Describe key concepts relating to monitoring e-waste and its relevance as part of tracking progress against the SDGs, particularly SDG 11.6.1, the 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, SDG 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;

[1] A summary of the project and its activities can be found here.

- Explain how selected waste indicators are calculated alongside relevant data sources, and be able to use United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) tools to produce statistics on e-waste; and
- Tackle challenges countries may be facing in compiling statistics on e-waste and actions and strategies that can be taken to address these as part of a national statistics implementation plan.

In addition, an output of the workshop is the joint production of a *National E-waste Monitor*. This is intended to capture statistical outputs of the training workshop and help benchmark national performance.

2. General workshop information

The training took the form of two online self-paced courses, a three-day workshop held in Kingston, Jamaica, and ongoing follow-up engagement. The in-person workshop component of the training was held at the Statistical Institute of Jamaica offices in Kingston, Jamaica, between 29-31 July 2025. The training was delivered by UNITAR, with additional presentations from public and private organisations in Jamaica.

The in-person workshop was attended daily by 22–25 participants in person and 7–9 participants online. Representatives joined from the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN); the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA); the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ); the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA); the Ministry of Science, Energy, Telecommunications and Transport (MSETT); the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEDJC); the Information and Communications Technology Authority (ICT Authority); and the Jamaica Customs Agency. The private sector was represented by INET Jamaica, Flow, and JISCO Alpart, with academia represented by the University of the West Indies (UWI). Approximately 70% of attendees were female and 30% were male.

The workshop was made up of presentations followed by Q&A sessions, in addition to group exercises. The first day of the workshop gave participants an overview of the e-waste challenge and links to the SDGs, followed by a session covering the principles of producing e-waste statistics and the content of the E-waste Statistics Guidelines. The final session of the day saw a presentation from NEPA on the landscape of e-waste regulation in Jamaica, and discussion on key data gaps relating to e-waste to fill through the workshop and follow-up engagement.

The second day of the workshop focused on building capacity in using the UNITAR excel toolkits to calculate core e-waste indicators. This included an applied computer session to calculate electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM), with a dedicated exercise for photovoltaic (PV) panels. This was followed by a computer session on calculating e-waste generated, with the day concluded by looking at ways to extend the measurement framework to account for the material composition, associated hazardous substances, and implied monetary value of e-waste.

The third day of the workshop covered data sources and methods for further variables, including formal e-waste collection and treatment and other domestic treatment routes, followed by a session on measuring the transboundary movement of e-waste. The final session of the workshop focused on mapping data producers and users and establishing

routes for ongoing statistics production. This was followed by planning of the National E-waste Monitor and post-workshop training.

Across the three days, calculation methods and data sources for the following variables across the life cycle of electronics were covered:

- Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM);
- E-waste generated;
- The environmentally sound management (ESM) of e-waste (formal collection and treatment);
- Other e-waste disposal; and
- Transboundary movement of used EEE and e-waste.

The workshop is being followed by 10 days of remote training and engagement, as national officers progress in further developing statistics on e-waste, reporting on relevant SDG indicators, and as part of producing a National E-waste Monitor.

3. Key observations and recommendations

Although Jamaica does not have a standalone e-waste law at present, it regulates electronic waste within wider waste and hazardous waste frameworks, which include the 2001 National Solid Waste Management Act, Natural Resources Conservation (Permits and Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2015, and The Natural Resources (Hazardous Waste) (Control of Transboundary Movement) Regulations 2002. In addition, the NSWMA – a central organization in the formal waste management system in Jamaica, has ran an island-wide e-waste collection programme since 2022, partnering with the company INET to manage collected e-waste. Informal recycling is thought to play a significant role in waste management across Jamaica at present, but is poorly documented, while high levels of repair and refurbishment activity for EEE products is also thought to take place.

At present in Jamaica, some data on electronics and waste is published, such as by STATIN on indicators relating to access to ICT goods, per capita waste generation figures (as captured in the PIOJ annual Economic and Social Survey), hazardous waste generation and treatment figures published in the State of the Environment Reports by NEPA, and waste characterization studies, as published by NSWMA. In addition, figures on e-waste exported and imported are reported by NEPA under the Basel Convention requirements. Ongoing production of national statistics on e-waste generation, collection, and treatment nevertheless remain a gap.

Group discussions at the workshop highlighted priority data gaps to fill including developing estimates of national e-waste generation (including broken down by source), getting better data on the collection and treatment of e-waste (including final disposal and recycling), and developing a holistic picture of e-waste flows and stocks. This data is sought for strategic purposes including further developing government policy, informing the location of e-waste collection bins, aiding enforcement of relevant regulations, better understanding health impacts associated with e-waste management, and SDG monitoring.

Pilot testing of the proposed changes in the E-waste Statistics Guidelines Edition 3 was carried out during the workshop through integrating these changes into the toolkits used as part of the training. National trade data supplied by STATIN was used to produce estimates of EEE POM based on the apparent consumption method, in combination with data on installed capacity of PV Panels supplied by MSETT. Resulting estimates for e-waste were

discussed and compared with other sources, such as the compositional studies carried out by NSWMA and E-waste export figures reported by NEPA. Additional work is planned after the workshop to further validate the core variables of EEE POM and E-waste generated in conjunction with STATIN. Following this validation, indicators on e-waste generation are anticipated to be the most readily publishable on an ongoing basis. STATIN is anticipating to continue to be the primary agency to report on relevant SDG indicators going into the future.

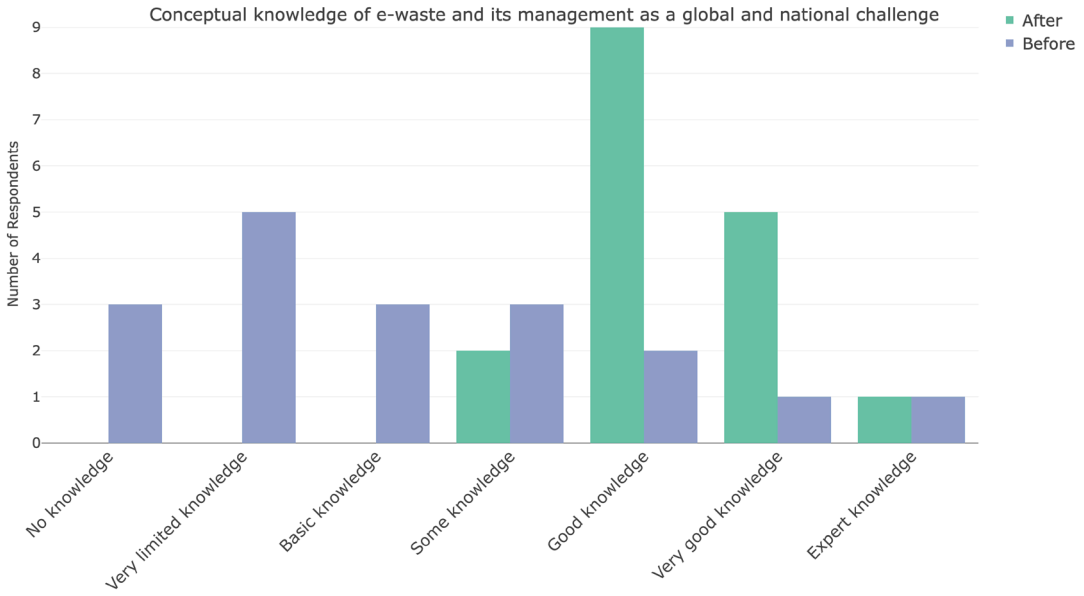
Additional developments highlighted as desirable through the workshop include estimating uncertainty around e-waste generation, while a request was made by NEPA to further capture the mass of batteries in the measurement in the future as well as other products such as electric vehicles. Wider support in publishing waste-related statistics was requested by STATIN and NSWMA, including as granular data collection on total waste disposed of, broken down by month and source is already ongoing.

Planned next steps include to formalise a National E-waste Statistics Implementation Plan based on the workshop content and identified gaps. This will include a mapping of data producers and users as started in the workshop, and the production of a methodology note specific to Jamaica for measuring e-waste collected and treated. In addition, for UNITAR to further support STATIN on using the toolkits as part of the 10 days of follow-up training. In particular, updating the lifespans and material composition figures as part of the e-waste generation calculation. Also, contribute to enhancing the coordination between UNSD and STATIN to further cement routes for international reporting of the generated data.

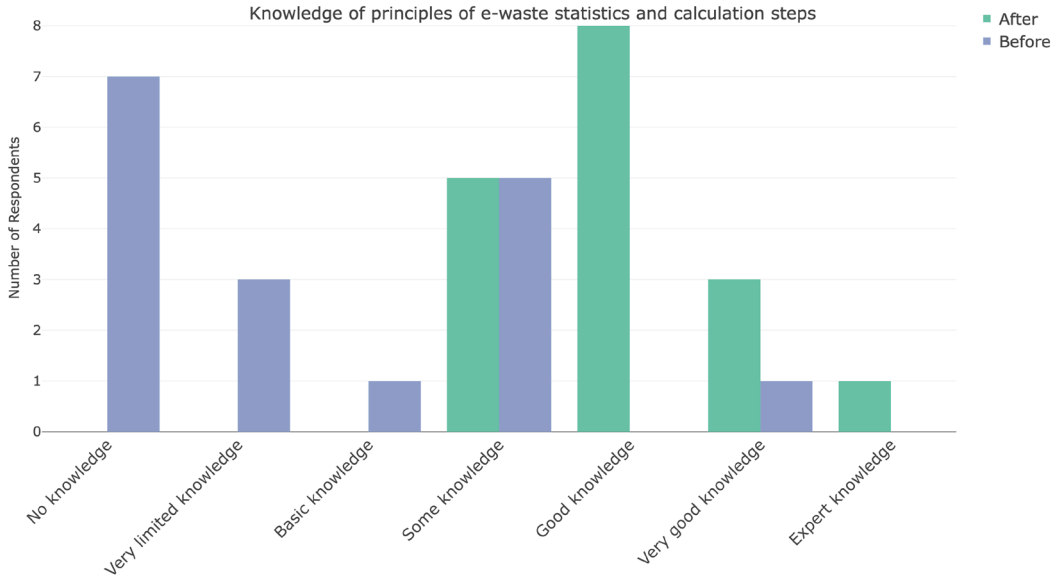
4. Workshop evaluation

The workshop evaluation survey was completed by 19 respondents. 9 respondents were from a government ministry or agency, 5 were from the National Statistical Office (STATIN), 4 were from private sector organisations, and 1 was from academia. Respondents were asked a series of pre- and post- workshop questions to gauge the impact of attending the workshop on areas sought to be improved through their participation such as familiarity with the issue of e-waste and principles of e-waste statistics, capability in using supplied Excel toolkits, and ability to report against related SDG indicators.

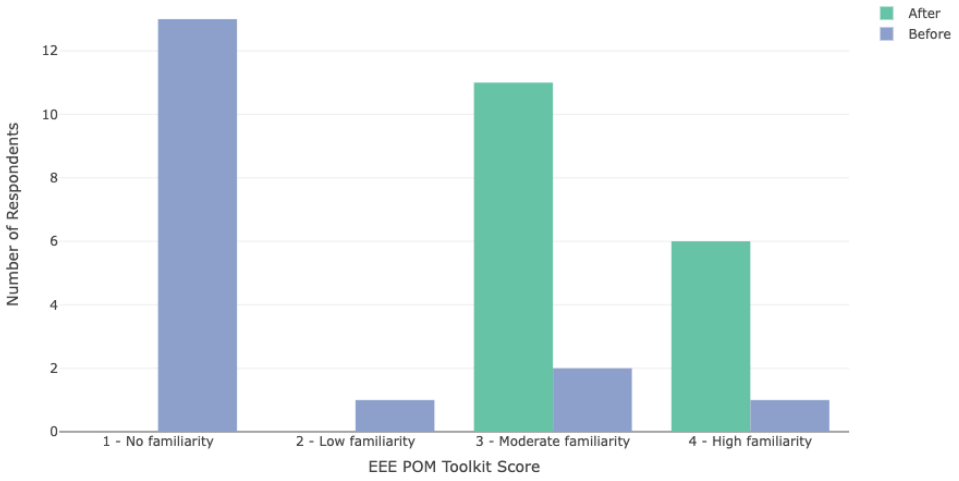
Prior to the workshop, approximately only 22% of survey respondents rated their conceptual knowledge of e-waste and its management as a global and national challenge as ‘good’ or better. Post-workshop, this had increased to 88% of respondents, with the remainder reporting ‘some knowledge’.



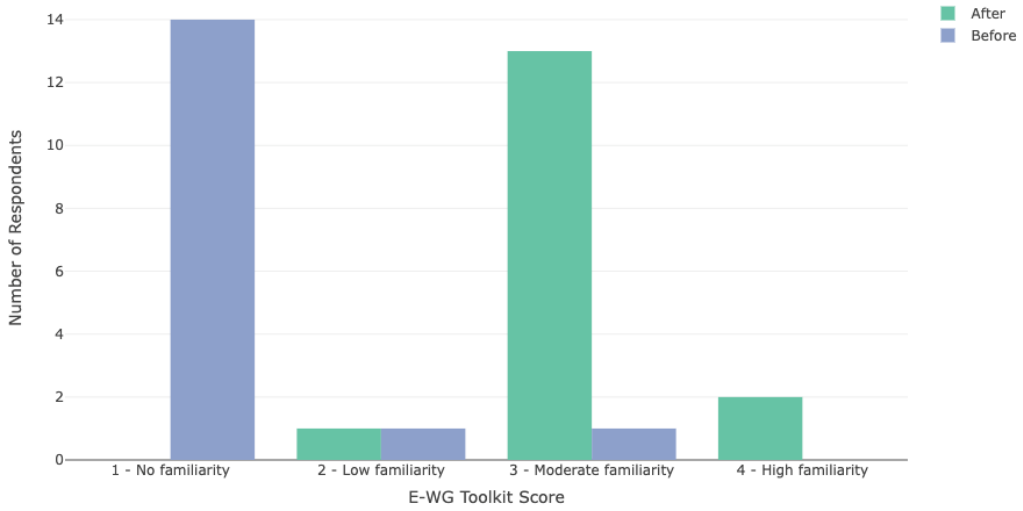
In relation to their knowledge of the general principles and methods for producing e-waste statistics, only 35% of respondents reported having 'some' knowledge or greater prior to the workshop. Following the workshop, this had increased for all respondents, with the largest number reported having a 'good' level of knowledge.



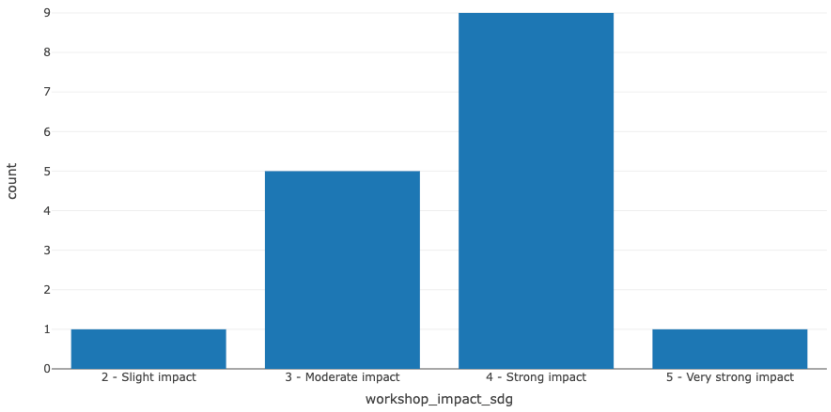
When asked how they would rate their familiarity with using the UNITAR toolkit to calculate EEE POM prior to the workshop, the majority (76%) reported having no familiarity. Following the workshop, 35% of respondents reported having 'high' familiarity, while 65% reported having 'moderate' familiarity. A similar picture was reported for the UNITAR toolkit to calculate EEE POM for Photovoltaic (PV) Panels, with 75% of respondents reporting having no familiarity with the toolkit prior to the workshop, while following the workshop, 25% reported having 'high' familiarity and 75% reported having 'moderate' familiarity.



For the UNITAR toolkit for calculating e-waste generated, 88% of survey respondents reported having no familiarity with the tool prior to the workshop. Following the workshop, 13% reported having 'high' familiarity and 81% reported having 'moderate' familiarity.



When asked what impact attending the workshop had on strengthening respondents' ability to produce e-waste statistics and report on these as part of Sustainable Development Goal monitoring, where relevant, 6% reported the workshop as having a 'very strong' impact, followed by 56% reported a 'strong' impact, 31% reported a 'moderate' impact and 6% reported a 'slight' impact.



When asked how well the workshop matched expectations, 25% of respondents reported 'completely', 69% reported 'mostly', and 6% reported 'moderately'. Lastly, when asked 'What would you say about the level of information/detail throughout the workshop?', 50% of survey respondents reported 'about right', while 44% reported 'quite detailed' and 6% reported 'not detailed enough'.

The survey results showed a generally positive effect of participation on knowledge around the issue of e-waste and e-waste statistics, increased familiarity with the UNITAR toolkits, and the ability of participants to report against the SDGs. As part of follow-up engagement, further sessions on the toolkits and in particular that for calculating waste generation would be beneficial.

5. Workshop documentation

List of participants

Name	Organization	Email Address
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Workshop Agenda

Day 1 – 29 July 2025		
Time	**Agenda item**	**Speaker(s)**
08:30 – 09:00	**Workshop registration**	
Session 1 – Welcome and opening presentation		
09:00 – 10:00	**Opening remarks** • Workshop opening remarks by STATIN • Introduction to UNITAR trainer and participants • Objectives of the 2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics and outline of the workshop agenda	Leesha Delatie-Budair, STATIN Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
10:00 – 10:45	**Introduction to e-waste as a global and national challenge and links to the SDGs** • Defining e-waste • Overview of global and regional trends in E-waste • Links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals, targets, and indicators	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	
Session 2 – Principles of e-waste statistics and overview of the E-waste Statistics Guidelines		
11:15-12:45	**Principles of e-waste statistics and overview of the E-waste Statistics Guidelines**	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR

	• Classifying electronic goods and e-waste using the UNU-KEYs and links to other international classifications • E-waste measurement framework, key variables, mathematical relationships • Data sources and calculation steps to populate the measurement framework • Indicators to populate and routes for international reporting	
12:45 – 13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 3 –E-waste/waste legislation, policy, and data landscape		
13:45 – 14:45	**E-waste/waste legislation, policy, and data landscape in Jamaica** • Presentation by NEPA • Discussion on waste and e-waste data • Discussion on e-waste legislation and policy • Discussion on data and evidence gaps	Johnil Morgan, NEPA Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR Round table
14:45-15:15	**Coffee Break**	

15:15-16:15	**Overview of UNITAR tools to support the production of e-waste statistics and fill data gaps**
	• UNITAR datasets and resources
	  ○ Toolkit for the calculation of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM)
	  ○ Toolkit for the calculation of EEE POM of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels
	  ○ Toolkit for the calculation of E-waste Generated
		Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR

16:15-16:30	**Group photo**	All
16:30	**End of Day 1**	
Day 2 – 30 July 2025		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 4 – Calculating electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM)		
08:30 – 10:45	**Applied computer session on calculating:**	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR

	• EEE POM using the UNITAR EEE POM toolkit	
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	
Session 5 - Calculating EEE POM for Photovoltaic (PV) Panels		
11:15-12:45	**Applied computer session on calculating:** • EEE POM of PV panels using the UNITAR PV panel toolkit	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
12:45-13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 6 –Calculating e-waste generated and EEE stocks		
13:45-14:45	**Applied computer session on calculating:** • E-waste generated and EEE stocks using the UNITAR E-waste Generated toolkit	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
14:45-15:15	**Coffee Break**	
15:15-16:30	**Extending the measurement of E-waste** • Continuation of session on calculating e-waste generated • Producing sub-national estimates • Extending the e-waste statistics framework to account for the composition and value of e-waste • Making a mass-balance	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
16:30	**End of Day 2**	
Day 3 – 31 July 2025		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 7 –Calculating e-waste collected and domestic treatment routes		
08:30-10:45	**Working session on potential data sources and steps for calculating:** • INET presentation • Formal e-waste collection • Other recycling of e-waste • E-waste entering the waste bin	Kirk-Lyle Hall, INET Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	

Session 8 – Calculating transboundary movement of e-waste		
11:15-12:45	**Working session on possible data sources:** • What we know about the transboundary movement of e-waste and used EEE • Mapping stakeholders and data holders, including areas of potential collaboration	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
12:45-13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 9 – Enabling ongoing statistics production and planning for post-workshop training and engagement		
13:45-14:45	**Developing a national e-waste statistics implementation plan**	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
14:45-15:15	**Coffee Break**	
15:15-16:00	**Planning the production of a National e-waste Monitor and follow-up training**	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
16:00-16:30	**Closing session** • Reporting e-waste statistics as part of SDG data collection • Workshop summary • Final remarks	Round table
16:30	**End of Day 3 and the workshop**	

Photos