2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics

Project: *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy*

Jamaica, 29-31 July 2025

Concept Note

BACKGROUND

The 2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics is being held as part of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) project *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy*. The project (running between 2024 and 2026), takes a multi-level approach to building global capacity around data and statistics on the circular economy, with a focus on: developing and strengthening statistical methodologies at the global level; supporting regional capacity building and dialogue between data users and producers; and 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), circular economy indicators more generally, and evidence-based policymaking at the national level.

OBJECTIVE

As part of the UNEP project *Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy,* 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 such as the widely drawn on global *E-waste Statistics Guidelines*.

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. As part of this workshop, participants can expect to:

- Be introduced to e-waste and its management as a global and national challenge alongside links to the SDGs
- Discuss data and capacity 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

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- Become familiar with how to use UNITAR e-waste toolkits designed to support country-level measurement and access hands-on sessions on calculating key statistics on e-waste aligned to country data needs and areas highlighted as of challenge
- 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), particularly those relating to resources and waste.

OUTCOMES

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

- Describe key concepts relating to monitoring e-waste and its relevance as part of tracking progress against the SDGs, particularly SDG 11.6.1, 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
- Explain how selected waste indicators are calculated alongside relevant data sources, and be able to use UNITAR tools 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, 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 engagement and help benchmark national performance.

SCHEDULE, FORMAT AND LANGUAGE

The workshop will take the form of a three-day in-person training delivered by experts on e-waste from UNITAR and UNEP. The 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.

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The 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.

RESOURCES

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

These courses introduce participants to the importance of effective e-waste management and the role of data and statistics in tackling the growing e-waste challenge. The online courses should be completed in advance of the workshop and completion certificates submitted to the course coordinator at workshop inception. This is in addition to collating data inputs identified as relevant to the training during the process of pre-workshop engagement with UNITAR and UNEP.

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. Other courses and reference material include:

- **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 environmental 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

Day 2 and Day 3 of the workshop take the form of hands-on teaching days. 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 it be available.

Annex A includes the draft agenda for the 3-day in-country workshop. The content can be further tailored to individual country interests through engagement prior to commencing the workshop.

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Annex A. Draft Agenda

Day 1		
Time	**Agenda item**	**Speaker(s)**
08:30 – 09:00	**Workshop registration**	
Session 1 – Welcome and opening presentation		
09:00 – 10:00	**1. Opening remarks** - Introduction to participants and trainers - Overview of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) project Enhancing countries' capacities for measuring progress on the transition towards a circular economy - Objectives of the 2025 International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics, intended outcomes and outputs and outline of the workshop agenda	Vincent Sweeny, UNEP Kees Baldé, UNITAR
10:00 – 10:45	**2. Presentation: Introduction to e-waste as a global and national challenge and links to the SDGs** – Overview of global and regional e-waste trends – Links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals and indicators – Recap of previous engagement	Kees Baldé, UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	
Session 2 – Regional overview and discussion on evidence needs		
11:15 – 12:15	**3. Country presentations 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: Data and training needs** - Overview of previous trainings and engagement - Opportunity for questions on the self-paced online learning content - Discussion on data and training needs	Round table
12:45 – 13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 3 – Introduction to the e-waste statistics guidelines and toolkits		
13:45-14:45	**5. Presentation: The general principles of e-waste statistics and overview of the *E-waste Statistics Guidelines*** - Classifying EEE goods and e-waste - The e-waste measurement framework and mass-balance principle	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR

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	- Data sources to populate the measurement framework - Indicators to report against	
14:45-15:15	**Coffee Break**	
15:15-16:15	**6. Presentation: How to use the UNITAR statistical toolkits and available core data sets as part of country measurement** – Deep dive on UNITAR datasets and resources – Overview of: o Toolkit for the calculation of EEE POM o Toolkit for the calculation of EEE POM of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels o Toolkit for the calculation of e-waste generated	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
16:15-16:30	**7. Day 1 closing remarks & group photo**	UNITAR, Country representatives
16:30	**End of Day 1**	

Day 2		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 4 – Applied computer session on calculating electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market (POM)		
08:30 – 10:45	**1. Applied computer session on calculating:** – EEE POM using the UNITAR EEE POM toolkit – extending the existing already populated toolkit to subsequent years using domestic trade statistics – Calculating EEE POM of PV panels using the UNITAR PV panel toolkit – Considering different sources of data on EEE POM – the apparent consumption method and national registers	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	
Session 5 – Applied computer session on calculating e-waste generated and EEE stocks		
11:15-12:45	**2. Applied computer session on calculating:** – E-waste generated and EEE stocks using the UNITAR e-waste generated (WG) toolkit – Extending the framework to account for the composition of e-waste, material resources and hazards	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
12:45-13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 6 – Working session on calculating e-waste collected and domestic treatment routes		

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13:45-15:00	**3. Presentation on potential data sources and calculation steps for:** – E-waste collection and disposal routes – Producing a mass-balance of the EEE/e-waste system using outputs of the toolkits and results of the EACO survey on disposal routes – Survey design for tracking formal collection	Oliver Lysaght, UNITAR
15:00-15:30	**Coffee Break**	
15:30-16:30	**3. Presentation on potential data sources and calculation steps - *continued***	
16:30	**End of Day 2**	

Day 3		
Time	**Activity**	**Speaker(s)**
Session 7 – The transboundary movement of e-waste and UEEE		
08:30-10:45	**1. Presentation and discussion on possible data sources and stakeholder mapping:** – What we know about the transboundary movement of e-waste and used EEE – Mapping stakeholders and data holders, including areas of potential collaboration – Routes to collect and share data on transboundary movements on an ongoing basis	Kees Baldé, UNITAR
10:45 – 11:15	**Coffee Break**	
Session 8 – Developing a national statistics implementation plan and inputting to national data needs		
11:15-12:15	**2. Developing a national statistics implementation plan/roadmap** – Discussion on data needs and data generation associate with recent policy changes (EPR)	Country representatives, UNITAR
12:15-12:45	**3. How to integrate the developed waste statistics for national analysis and decision making and engagement with key stakeholders**	Country representatives, UNITAR
12:45-13:45	**Lunch Break**	
Session 9 – Planning for post-workshop training and national e-waste monitor		
13:45-15:30	**4. Discussion on desired areas of focus for follow-up training and planning the production of the National E-waste Monitor**	Country representatives, UNITAR
15:30-16:00	**Coffee Break**	

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16:00-16:30	**5. Closing session** – Workshop summary – Final remarks	Country representatives, UNITAR
16:00	**End of Day 3 and the workshop**	

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