

Concept Note – E-waste Coalition (as of 30.08.18)



UN
environment

BASEL CONVENTION

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION



UNITED NATIONS
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unitar



International
Labour
Organization

In March, 2018, during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, seven United Nations entities signed a Letter of Intent to indicate their commitment to increase collaboration, build partnerships and support Member States to address the global e-waste challenge. In particular, they agreed to strengthen knowledge sharing, increase awareness about the topic of e-waste and inform and guide companies, consumers and policy makers.

This concept note prescribes the objectives and initial steps undertaken in line with the Letter of Intent. It also prescribes the scoping of the E-waste Coalition beyond the UN Environment Management Group, which has been encouraging increased coordination and collaboration on e-waste issues across the UN since May 2016.

Communication

Knowledge

Implementation

Recognition



A New Vision for
Electronics

Global Portal on
E-waste

National Intervention
Model

Electronic Waste
Awards

Initial programme areas

1.) Communication	<p>A global-reaching report will highlight the principal and foremost emerging e-waste trends, key figures, challenges and opportunities. It will be framed by thematic areas such as: the importance of electronics, the circular economy, job creation in e-waste management, new business models, the consumption of electronics and the generation of e-waste and particular case studies. The report will include existing best practices and will outline a vision for the next generation of circular electronics.</p>
	<p>A joint media and awareness campaign as well as communication materials will support key messages about the global e-waste challenge. The campaign will build momentum around the report leading up to, and following, its launch at the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos; it will highlight the work of the E-waste Coalition – with communication reflecting one voice on e-waste. A vision for the next generation of circular electronics, outlined in the report and communication campaign, will target audiences such as businesses, consumers and policy makers.</p>
2.) Knowledge	<p>Using the Coalition as a collaborative effort, UN entities and other stakeholders will support and contribute towards the long-term maintenance and expansion of the online global e-waste portal, developed by the Global E-waste Statistics Partnership¹, serving as the location for accessing the world's data and statistics, and information on e-waste. As part of the expansion, the portal will convene a wider cohort of information on e-waste, including content derived from the members and partners of the Coalition.</p>
3.) Implementation	<p>Stakeholders will jointly develop an intervention model for the implementation of e-waste work at the country level. In accordance with theories of change in international development, the model will provide a logical framework or mapping technique to</p>

¹ International Telecommunication Union, United Nations University, International Solid Waste Association formed the [Global E-waste Statistics Partnership](#) in 2017.

	<p>explain how a given set of interventions is expected to lead to concrete development change, drawing on a causal analysis based on available evidence. The model will facilitate the identification of (i) solutions to systematically address the root causes of e-waste challenges, (ii) the underlying assumptions and risks, as well as (iii) suitable approaches for the way forward in order to successfully implement the desired interventions. As a first step, the Coalition will identify a country to pilot the model.</p>
	<p>The intervention model will involve a five-year action plan, including the following stages: identification of a focus country, e-waste value chain analysis, concerted policy dialogue, national e-waste strategy and data, and investment in and implementation of the e-waste strategy. Members and partners of the Coalition will engage with national authorities; in particular ministries of the environment, labour, employers' and workers' organisations, and national statistical offices, to provide technical assistance.</p>
4.) Recognition	<p>The Coalition will establish an 'Electrical and Electronic Waste Awards', to celebrate good practices and innovative solutions in the prevention and sound management of e-waste. Each stakeholder could cover a specific topic of the award for best practices among its membership. The award will be assigned by a committee, with each Coalition member issuing an award related to its mandate, during major international proceeding.</p>

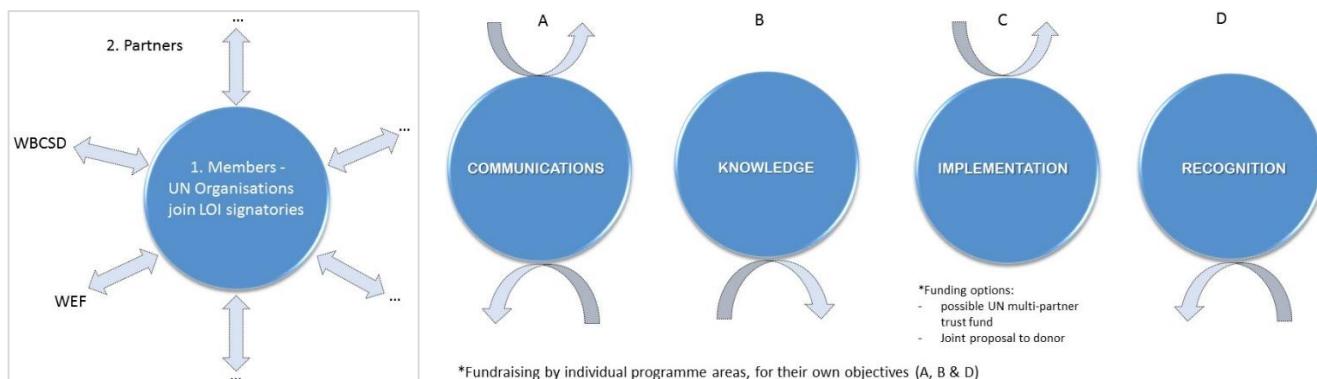
Structure and membership

The EMG Secretariat is providing coordination support for the E-waste Coalition. This support is guaranteed until September 2019, until the point at which *inter alia* the Coalition is further formalized. This would include discussions on support and coordination of the Coalition and possible hosting hosted by one of the participating organisations.



The Letter of Intent signatories will work in a non-binding manner in this E-waste Coalition. For the foreseeable future, and relying on voluntary collaboration, the Coalition members and partners will fulfill the *areas of cooperation* listed in the Letter of Intent and transposed into the four *programme areas* above.

Membership and financing arrangements:



The E-waste Coalition is comprised of the Letter of Intent signatories (*members*) and supporting organisations from outside the UN system (*partners*). Other UN organisations working on the topic of e-waste may join the Coalition by signing the letter of intent, upon consensus of all existing signatories. The *members* will work with public and private sector *partners* such as World Economic Forum and World Business Council for Sustainable Development, to connect with relevant networks and attain substantial influence from both the public and private sectors. Either as a *member* or *partner*, there are no barriers to entry or exit, to and from the E-waste Coalition. Required financial resources for the programme areas, will be acquired through fundraising by *members* and *partners* involved in the respective individual programme areas.

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