

### WEEEWaste Newsletter #4

Improving policies for management of electrical and electronic waste equipment

The issue addressed by the project is the necessity to implement European coordinated approaches for the management of waste from electrical, electronic equipment (WEEE).

























# Updates in the WEEWaste project

#### New partner joined the consortium



### **Municipality of Tirana**

The **Municipality of Tirana** is the local government authority responsible for administering the capital city of Albania, Tirana. It oversees urban planning, public services, infrastructure development, environmental management, and social programs within the city.

The Municipality of Tirana is committed to building a sustainable, innovative, and circular economy-driven future, actively promoting eco-friendly policies and practices. With a strong focus on resource efficiency, waste reduction, and sustainable consumption, the city is fostering local economic growth by supporting circular businesses and green initiatives.

Tirana is dedicated to reducing environmental impact while driving innovation and strengthening community resilience. As a leader in sustainability, the Municipality plays a pivotal role in advocacy, education, and partnership-building, working collaboratively to create a greener, more prosperous Tirana for current and future generations.



### What happened in Semester 4

#### 4th Interregional Event in Pamplona





### **Spain**

On October 16th and 17th, the WEEEWaste consortium held its 4th Interregional Event in Pamplona, Spain, hosted by the Government of Navarra. The first day featured presentations on good practices, policy instruments from Slovenia and Germany, and discussions on WEEE by the Environment Management of Navarra. Key activities included a study visit to Cash Converters, which promotes second-hand products, and a Steering Committee meeting to review project communications.

Day two involved a presentation on waste management in Navarra, visits to a mobile clean point, and Traperos de Emaús, a group supporting individuals in need. Participants found the meeting engaging and productive, looking forward to future meetings.

#### **READ MORE**



WEEEWaste Team during study visit at Traperos de Emaús

#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**



#### Romania

On November 5th, 2024, the **Bucharest WEEEWaste project team** held a seminar at the Park Inn by Radisson BLU Hotel, gathering stakeholders from Romania's electronic waste recycling sector.

The event aimed to present the project's progress, share best practices from locations like Leipzig and Pamplona, and foster collaboration for sustainable solutions. Key speakers included Alexandra Ghenea from the ProDEEE Coalition, who highlighted successful sustainability impacts, and Roxana Puia from Environ, who discussed effective public awareness campaigns on e-waste recycling. seminar included Q&A sessions and concluded with networking opportunities for local partners to explore collaboration in electronic waste management and circular economy efforts.





Participants of the seminar listening to a presentation



Attendees of the seminar at the Park Inn

#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**

de Navarra

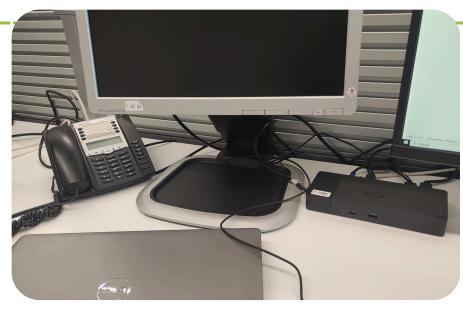




### Spain

On November 14th, the Government of Navarra, GAN-NIK, and the Public University of Navarra met to discuss integrating new European regulations on electric and electronic equipment into various Engineering degree and Master's programs. The aim was to raise awareness among students about ecodesign and the right to repair, encouraging future engineers to consider sustainable production methods that extend product life and reduce waste generation.

On November 21st, another meeting was held, this time focusing on repairers and promoting the circular economy in consumption. The Government of Navarra, with support from the consumer association Irache, launched a program to stimulate household appliance repairs, helping to retain value and reduce waste. This initiative includes creating a census of repairers to connect consumers with local services and launching an informational campaign with stickers and brochures to promote the right to repair. Lastly, on December 10th, a meeting was organized with waste managers and local entities to gather feedback on a new vocational training module on the preparation for reuse and recycling of electronic equipment.







#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**



### Hungary

The **Hajdú-Bihar County** held the 4th stakeholder seminar within the WEEEWaste project on November 26th 2024 in Debrecen, where activities carried out in the past period were presented, with a focus on the experiences gained from online and face-to-face events.

Good practice examples from the Interregional Study Visit were highlighted: Box your art/Boks je kunst initiative, which encourages waste recycling by combining creativity and the circular economy and the Traperos de Emaús waste collection and management model, which ensures that collected materials are returned to the cycle by refurbishing and recycling them. Furthermore, the WEEEWaste Circular Practices Evaluation Tool (WCPET) was also presented, offering guidance on how to promote circular economy principles.

Stakeholders confirmed that in local practice, separate waste collection and recycling is a mayor challenge, and therefore awareness-raising among both the public and institutions is essential. Towards the end of the meeting, the next steps of the project were discussed, including an indicative date for the next stakeholder event in late spring 2025.



Participants of the 4th stakeholder meeting in Debrecen

#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**

### O K O L J S K O RAZISKOVALNI ZAVOD

#### Slovenia

**The Environmental Research Institute (ERI)** held the 4th Local Stakeholder Seminar on January 6th 2025 in the premises of the Municipality of Maribor. The meeting was attended by 5 representatives: 2 from the Regional Development Agency in Maribor, 2 from the Municipality of Maribor and 1 from ERI.

Key topics of the meeting included the review of the waste management strategy presented by the Municipality of Maribor, which emphasizes sustainable elements such as circular economy, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and the inclusion of vulnerable groups in recycling projects. Additionally, the Municipal Environmental Protection Programme was discussed, where ERI highlighted the importance of e-waste as a key segment of the circular economy.

A new project was presented by the name of 'KROG', which involves a multidimensional approach to waste management, with a focus on energy recovery and reducing waste volumes. It was concluded that further collaboration is crucial for the implementation of the strategy, with the next meeting to be held online.



Representatives of the Regional Development Agency & Municipality of Maribor at the premises of the municipality





#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**

#### **Poland**

The 1st Local Stakeholder Meeting of 2025 took place on January 17th at the Recycling Plant in Gdansk. The meeting focused on the progress of activities and next steps within the WEEEWaste project, including preparations for the 5th Interregional project Event, planned to take place in Gdansk in May of 2025. Attendees also delved into the latest activities and challenges at the Recycling Plant, as well as ongoing work at the Clean Energy Port. A key topic of discussion was also the correct segregation of textiles.



**May 2025** 



Participants of the local stakeholder meeting st the Recycling Plant in Gdansk



### Local Stakeholder Seminars



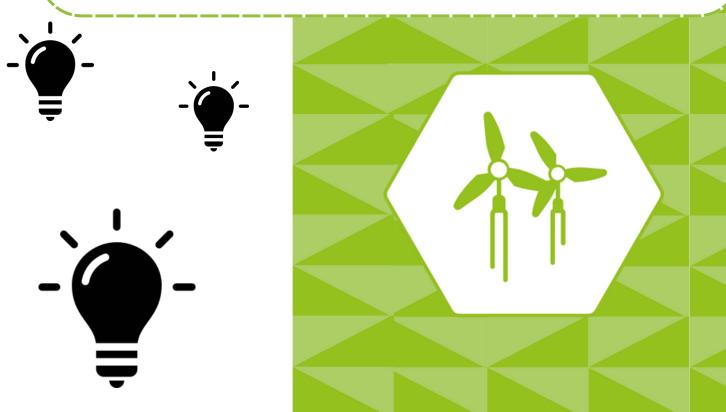
### Germany

Project partner **Aufbauwerk from Leipzig** held the 4th stakeholder seminar within the WEEEWaste project on February 4th 2025 in an online format.

The meeting provided an overview of the project, it's partners, and objectives, with a focus on sharing experiences from the 4th Interregional Event in Pamplona, Spain.

Fredericke Weiner and Fabiana Ferro discussed their study visits to Cash Converters, Geltoki and Traperos de Emaús, highlighting the strongest interest in Geltoki and the social model of Traperos de Emaús, particularly among stakeholders from the reuse and common good economy sectors.

The Dutch Good Practice Boks-Je-Kunst was also presented, and stakeholders were invited to share it within their networks. The seminar concluded with an invitation to participate in the upcoming Interregional Event in Gdansk in May 2025.



#### **Local Stakeholder Seminars**



### Italy

On February 25th, 2025, the **Municipality of Campobasso**, a key partner in the WEEEWaste project, hosted the 4th Local Stakeholder Seminar. The event brought together local stakeholders identified throughout the project, sparking vibrant discussions on the latest policies surrounding WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) collection, recycling, and reuse.

One of the highlights was the presentation of a pilot action that the municipality plans to propose to the Interreg Europe Programme, aimed at streamlining and enhancing the WEEE process.

A key takeaway from the seminar was the vital role of citizen engagement and awareness in improving local waste management policies. Attendees agreed that combining increased public involvement with the installation of "smart" collection containers across the territory could significantly boost WEEE recycling rates. This collaborative approach could lead to more efficient waste management and a safer, more sustainable environment by effectively handling hazardous electronic waste.



Attendees of the 4th Local Stakeholder Seminar at the House of Emerging Technologies in Campobasso



### Other activities held by partners

## Responsible handling of municipal waste - school lesson

#### **Poland**

The Gdansk Municipality, together with Piotr Kryszewski, Managing Director for Green Gdansk, visited the Friends of the Earth Primary School No. 8 in Gdansk on October 22nd, to conduct a lesson on responsible handling of municipal waste.

The municipality has been conducting educational classes as part of the Clean City Gdańsk Educational Programme for 5 years now. Over the years, they have taught a total of over 27,000 Gdańsk schoolchildren how to properly sort waste, including electro-waste, give objects a second life and not waste resources.

The programme is becoming more and more popular each year, bringing results and raising the ecological awareness of children.





Children learning about proper waste sorting through an interactive activity



Children during the lesson on proper waste sorting



Children participating in the lesson

### Other activities held by partners

# In-person actions: Addressing e-waste management

#### Slovenia

On December 4th and 5th, 2024, the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) hosted two impactful events focused on e-waste management.

The first event on December 4th brought together NGOs and interest groups to develop awareness campaigns on proper e-waste disposal and recycling. Discussions led to actionable ideas such as creating educational materials, setting up collection points, and organizing workshops to encourage sustainable practices.

On December 5th, 12 participants, including representatives from the Faculty of Bionics in Ptuj, focused on managing Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). Topics included raising public awareness, aligning local practices with the EU Circular Economy Action Plan, and creating collaborative campaigns to address e-waste's environmental impact. These events marked significant progress in tackling the e-waste issue through education and collaboration.



Participants of the in-person action on Dec 4th 2024



O K O L J S K O Raziskovalni zavod

Representatives of the Faculty of Bionics in Ptuj at the in-person action on Dec 5th 2025

### Electronics Week at UPNA in Navarra







### Spain

From February 10th to 12th, 2025, the Public University of Navarra (UPNA) and other electronic enterprises organized an event, aimed at bringing electronic applications closer to society.

The Government of Navarra and its instrumental company GAN-NIK also participated in the event and gave a presentation on "Circular Economy in Electronics: Designing a Sustainable Future." The discussion highlighted the importance of sustainability in the electronics industry and explored innovative approaches to reducing environmental impact.

The event was attended by more than 50 electronic engineering students, as well as regional companies and other relevant electronics organisations. It served as a dynamic platform for sharing knowledge, fostering collaboration, and inspiring the next generation of electronics professionals.



Presentation on 'Circular Economy in Electronics: Designing a Sustainable Future'

**MORE INFO** 



### What to expect in Semester 5:

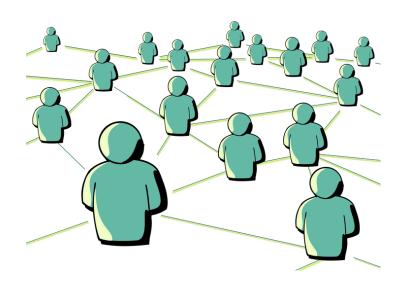


### Thank you for reading! 😉



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