



WEEEWaste



WEEEWaste NEWSLETTER



IMPROVING POLICIES FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRICAL
AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

2ND LOCAL STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR OF THE BUCHAREST-ILFOV REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



On November 24th, 2023, the second stakeholder meeting for the WEEEWaste project took place in **Romania**, bringing together representatives from central and local institutions, academia, and relevant NGOs in the Bucharest-Ilfov region. Participants included entities such as the Bucharest Municipality City Hall, Environmental Protection Agency Bucharest, Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration, and others. The meeting facilitated discussions on the project's progress and the exchange of best practices in electrical and electronic waste management in the Bucharest-Ilfov region.

To find out more about WEEEWaste activities and events, you can access the following links: <https://www.adrbi.ro/dezvoltare-regionala/interreg-europe-2021-2027/weewaste/> and <https://www.interregeurope.eu/weewaste>

(ADRBI)



CONTENT:

01 LOCAL STAKEHOLDER SEMINARS

05 EXPERT MEETING

06 CONSORTIUM MEETING ITALY

07 CIRCULAR ECOSYSTEM AS AN INTERORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS MODEL



Photo 1: Participants of the local stakeholder seminar in Romania



Photo 2: Sharing examples of best practices during stakeholder seminar





WEEEWaste NEWSLETTER

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AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT



2ND LOCAL STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRA

Gobierno de Navarra  Nafarroako Gobernua



Photo 3: Visit to ECOINTEGRA during stakeholder seminar.
(Source: Aspace Navarra-Nafarroa)



Photo 4: Participants of stakeholder seminar

Local waste entities, e-waste companies, producers, and the Technological Centre Lurederra met with the **Regional Government of Navarra** and Environmental Management of Navarra as part of the WEEEWaste project in the Interreg Europe Programme on November 27th, 2023. The seminar included a visit to the ECOINTEGRA Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

plant, operational since 2007. A presentation on the WEEEWaste project was given by the Government of Navarra, followed by a study on e-waste and its impact on critical raw materials in Navarra by the Lurederra Technology Center. Discussions on WEEE issues, future work proposals, and presentations on Navarra's waste carbon footprint concluded the seminar.

(Government of Navarra)

What is ECOINTEGRA?

ECOINTEGRA is a Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment treatment plant that began its activity in 2007, initially only as a cold appliance treatment plant. It has progressively expanded its activity until today, at which time it is authorized to treat the main categories of WEEE (cold, CRT and flat monitors, large appliances, small appliances, etc.). ECOINTEGRA employs 40 people, 90% of them people with disabilities, and its main characteristic is to be a model in waste management and transparency so that society knows the environmental and social work it does. It has ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certifications. It belongs to Aspace Navarra-Nafarroa, a non-profit entity born in 1971 from the concern of several fathers and mothers to meet the needs of their sons and daughters with cerebral palsy and related disabilities. Develops A LIFE ITINERARY that meets the needs of people with cerebral palsy and their families during all stages of their lives.

Find out more at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWwjpxDqfXA>



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1ST LOCAL STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR OF AUFBAUWERK REGION LEIPZIG GMBH

The 1st stakeholder meeting in **Leipzig** introduced the Interreg Europe project 'WEEEWaste' and explored its synergy with **Leipzig's Energy and Climate Action Programme 2023 (EKSP)**. The agenda covered Interreg Europe, an overview of WEEEWaste, and a presentation on the 'Second Life Concept Store' in Leipzig, developed under '**Zukunftsfähige Zentren Leipzig (ZZL)**'—a program promoting sustainability by offering reusable goods and emphasizing circular economy principles. Stakeholders discussed collaboration interfaces between WEEEWaste and the store, recognizing it as a good practice model. Emphasis was placed on close collaboration, regional cooperation, and avoiding duplication of efforts. You can find more information about the practice on our website: <https://aufbauwerk-leipzig.com/aktuelle-projekte/national/zukunftsfaeheige-zentren-leipzig-zzl/>

(ABW)



Photo 5: Concept designs for the planned department store

2ND LOCAL STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR OF THE GDANSK MUNICIPALITY

On December 11th 2023, the second local stakeholder seminar of **Gdansk** was held regarding the WEEEWaste project. The seminar was attended by 14 representatives of various companies, institutions and organizations dealing with waste management, including waste electrical and electronic equipment. (Gdansk Municipality)



GDAŃSK

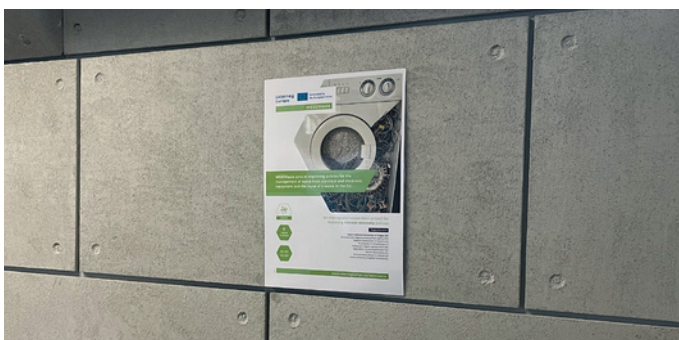


Photo 6: WEEEWaste Poster at Gdansk Municipality



Photo 7: Participants of the stakeholder seminar



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DISCUSSION ON E-WASTE MANAGEMENT OPENS DOORS TO COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS!



February 7th, 2024

In an initiative connected to the Interreg Europe WEEEWaste project, CTU UCEEB brought together key stakeholders from the Czech Republic's e-waste sector alongside state bureau representatives for a discussion. This momentous gathering marks a significant step towards cooperation on improving e-waste management practices within the country.

Mr. Michal Tobiáš, the manager of the WEEEWaste international project, kick-started the dialogue by presenting the current state of affairs within both the Czech and European e-waste markets. Drawing upon exemplary practices from project partners across the EU, Tobiáš paved the way for an engaging discourse on overcoming existing challenges.

Representatives from leading e-waste management companies shared valuable insights, pointing to critical issues within the Czech Republic's legislative framework. These concerns were discussed with counterparts from the Ministry of the Environment and the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, creating space for a collaborative problem-solving process.

As the Stakeholders Meeting concluded, the groundwork was laid for future negotiations at both national and international levels. These deliberations aim to activate innovative guidelines that will shape the future of e-waste management in the Czech Republic.

Join the Conversation:

WEEEWaste, as collector of the sustainable practices, believes it is imperative that we continue to engage in discussions and drive tangible change in e-waste management. Together, we have the power to enact meaningful solutions and safeguard our planet for generations to come. Stay tuned for further updates as we embark on this transformative journey!

(CTU UCEEB)



Photo 8: Participants of the stakeholder seminar



Photo 9: Discussions during the seminar in the Czech Republic





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EXPERT MEETING OF KEY ACTORS OF REUSE IN SLOVENIA



An **expert meeting of key actors of reuse** took place within the WEEEWaste project, on November 23rd at the **REUSE Centre in Ljubljana**. The meeting addressed crucial challenges and opportunities in electronic waste management in Slovenia. ORZ, the project's communication partner, played a vital role in coordinating the event. **Minister Bojan Kumer and Director Tanja Bolte** highlighted the importance of climate change management, focusing on waste reduction, especially electronic waste. Both emphasized the need for an integrated approach to WEEE management, including prevention and effective recycling. The meeting included key actors in reuse in Slovenia, fostering the exchange of insights and best practices. Discussions focused on innovative approaches to reduce electronic waste and enhance processing and reuse.



Photo 10: Discussions for key measures on e-waste reduction during seminar in Slovenia

This expert meeting of key actors of reuse served as a platform for knowledge exchange and the development of common strategies for improved electronic waste management in Slovenia, aiming to protect the environment and reduce waste through collaborative efforts and recommended measures.

The focal point was to galvanize collective action towards environmental stewardship and waste minimization through informed decisions and strategic measures. The WEEEWaste project meeting epitomized the collaborative spirit necessary for tackling the pressing environmental challenge of electronic waste. By bringing together key players from various sectors, the event underscored the importance of integrated efforts in paving the way for a more sustainable and waste-resilient Slovenia.



Photo 11: Representative of ORZ, dr. Marinka Vovk with Minister Bojan Kumer and general director of the environment sector Tanja Bolte on the challenges of e-waste

More information:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/weewaste/news-and-events> and <https://orz.si/projekti/>

(ORZ)





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**2ND CONSORTIUM MEETING
IN CAMPOBASSO, ITALY**



The WEEEWaste consortium held its **second in-person meeting in Campobasso, Italy** on the 17th and 18th of October 2023. The meeting was **hosted by project partner Municipality of Campobasso**. Stakeholder presentations as well as active discussions regarding the preparation of the market analysis took place. Communication and dissemination activities were also discussed. A **study visit** took place at **SEA Ambiente**

S.p.A., a company that provides waste collection and treatment services as well as collection and disposal of municipal waste and waste transportation services in Italy. This study visit, including stakeholders from public and private sectors showed good practice examples and provided the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience on the topic of e-waste management.

(Municipality of Campobasso)



Photo 12: WEEEWaste Team during 2nd in-person meeting in Italy



Photo 13: Consortium during study visit at the company SEA Ambiente S.p.A.

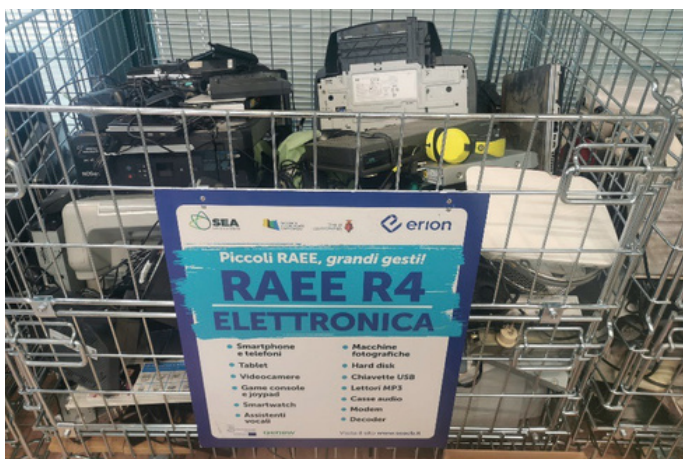


Photo 14: E-waste bin at SEA Ambiente S.p.A.



Photo 15: WEEEWaste Team during meeting in Campobasso, Italy



WEEEWaste NEWSLETTER
IMPROVING POLICIES FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT



CIRCULAR ECOSYSTEM AS AN INTERORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS MODEL - HANZE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



Hanzehogeschool Groningen
University of Applied Sciences



Our advisory partner from the Netherlands, Egbert Dommerholt, prepared a presentation on the circular economy, focusing on circular ecosystems as interorganizational business models for the 2nd in-person meeting in Campobasso, Italy. These ecosystems involve various stakeholders collaborating to achieve common goals, including waste reduction. The **professorship Biobased Business Valorization** and the **Municipality of Groningen** are working on a Horizon Europe application, identifying and developing a textile ecosystem in Groningen. The project aims to **introduce a model to govern this interorganizational business model** and explore the integration of artificial intelligence to accelerate the transition to a circular economy in the Netherlands and beyond.

Currently, many circular initiatives operate as standalone efforts within individual companies. To address this, the presentation highlights the need for increased interorganizational collaboration. Following the presentation, an invitation from Raul Salanueva of the Regional Government of Navarra led to a presentation on ecosystems at a circular economy meeting on November 21st 2023.

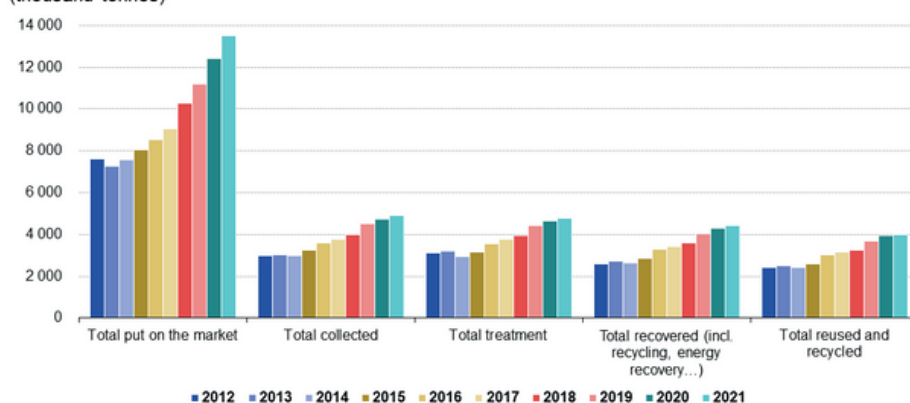
The message encourages interested partners to contact Egbert Dommerholt or Niels Faber to explore options for WEEEWaste ecosystem development on a European level. Contact information: e.dommerholt@pl.hanze.nl and n.r.faber@pl.hanze.nl.

(Hanze UAS)

Why is the WEEEWaste project important?

1. Every year, approximately 50 million tons of e-waste are produced globally, which is equivalent to the weight of around 4,500 Eiffel Towers.
2. Less than 20% of all e-waste is officially collected and recycled, meaning that more than 40 million tons of e-waste are not properly processed each year.

Electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) put on the market and waste EEE collected, treated, recovered, recycled and prepared for reuse, EU, 2012–2021
(thousand tonnes)



Note: 2021: Eurostat estimates
Source: Eurostat (online data code: erw_wasele05 and erw_waselee)



Photo 16: EEE put on the market and WEEE collected, treated, recovered, recycled and prepared for reuse, EU, 2012–2021

3. By recycling 1 million mobile phones, we could recover approximately 24 kilograms of gold, 250 kilograms of silver, 9 kilograms of palladium, and more than 9,000 kilograms of copper.

Source: *A New Circular Vision for Electronics*.



Thank you for reading!

Stay tuned for the next edition
of the WEEEWaste newsletter
with exciting new updates.

The WEEEWaste Team

ZERO WASTE



Photo 17: Zero waste concept (Source: Shutterstock)