



Interreg
Europe



Co-funded by
the European Union

WEEEWaste

WEEEWaste Newsletter #6

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)**.

What happened in Semester 6



Empowering Students for a Circular Future

Slovenia

On **September 17th 2025**, the **Environmental Research Institute (ORZ)** organized an **educational event** at the **Reuse Center** in **Slovenske Konjice** as part of the WEEEWaste project to raise awareness about **responsible e-waste management** among primary school students. Through interactive discussions and practical examples, participants learned what e-waste is, why it should not end up in mixed household waste, and how valuable materials can be recovered through proper recycling. They also explored how discarded items can be repaired and reused, and took part in a hands-on sorting activity. The workshop effectively connected theory with real-life practice, encouraging sustainable habits and a stronger sense of environmental responsibility.



Raising awareness about proper e-waste management and encouraging sustainable habits at the Reuse Center in Slovenske Konjice

Local Stakeholder Seminars

Germany

On **September 18th 2025**, the **6th Local Stakeholder Seminar** for the Interreg Europe project WEEEWaste took place at the **Concept Store Wiederschön**. Organized by **Aufbauwerk Region Leipzig GmbH**, the meeting brought together key stakeholders to discuss the pilot action, coordinate upcoming activities, and plan public outreach.

The session opened with a presentation of the WEEEWaste project, highlighting its goal to improve the Leipzig Energy and Climate Action Programme 2030 (EKSP) through practical pilot implementation. **Alena Gröhn** and **Julia Bade** from **Stadtreinigung Leipzig**, along with **Marc Schoppe** from the **City of Leipzig**, shared insights on local waste management, ensuring alignment with community needs. **Silvana Rückert** and **Nora John** from Aufbauwerk guided discussions on timelines, budget transparency, and responsibilities.

The meeting featured the Good Practice “Geltoki Repair Café” from Navarra, Spain, inspiring approaches for local adaptation. Participants also reviewed strategies for public communication and outreach and received updates on the upcoming international partner meeting in Debrecen, Hungary, emphasizing cross-regional knowledge exchange.

The meeting concluded positively, with participants valuing the collaborative planning, constructive discussions, and strengthened foundation for implementing sustainable waste management and circular economy practices in Leipzig.

Interregional Events



6th Interregional Event in Debrecen

Hungary

The **WEEEWaste project** successfully concluded its **6th Interregional Project Event**, the final milestone of the Core Phase, on **October 21-22, 2025**, in **Debrecen, Hungary**. The two-day event brought together partners and stakeholders from across Europe to share experiences, showcase best practices, and discuss progress in sustainable waste management and circular economy initiatives. Day one featured a **Steering Committee meeting**, a presentation on the Good Practice Maminvent – “Recycling outside the grid” by **Éva Kopócs**, and a brief talk by **Miloš Kužvart** from the **Czech Association of Circular Economy**. Participants also joined study visits to **A.K.S.D. Urban Management Ltd.** and **Decathlon Debrecen** to explore circular electronics and green innovation. On day two, attendees learned about the Good Practice ShowMe and heard policy improvement presentations, including a brief update on WEEE in the Czech Republic from **David Sury** of the **Ministry of Environment**. **Hanze University** shared developments on the **CPET tool**, student research, a forthcoming **Journal of Circular Economy** paper, pilot actions, and new project ideas. The event concluded with a presentation from the **University of Debrecen**, highlighting its leadership in sustainability and innovation.



*WEEEWaste Team in Debrecen,
Hungary*



*Study Visit at A.K.S.D. Urban
Management Ltd*



Study Visit at Decathlon Debrecen

WEEEWaste Events



We planted an electric forest!

Poland

On **November 15th, 2025**, **Reagan Park** became a place where sustainability met community action. Together with the **Mayor of Gdańsk, Aleksandra Dulciewicz**, the **Managing Director of Green Gdańsk, Piotr Kryszewski**, and engaged residents, **250 oak trees** were planted, forming what was named the *Electric Forest*. The initiative highlighted the tangible impact of responsible electronic waste recycling.

In 2024, residents of Gdańsk collected **over 250 tonnes of e-waste** in the red **#ElektryczneŚmieci** containers, with each tonne resulting in the planting of one tree. The project demonstrated how recycling efforts can be transformed into lasting environmental benefits for the city.



Invitation for planting an 'Electric Forest' in Reagan Park



Insights from planting the 'Electric Forest' in Reagan Park

Engaging youth in e-waste solutions

Slovenia

On **November 25th, 2025**, the **Environmental Research Institute (ORZ)** held an interactive session at **CPU Ljubljana** with students from the **Faculty of Social Sciences**, showcasing the progress and real-world impact of the WEEEWaste project. The event introduced students to the project's objectives, the value of international cooperation within Interreg Europe, and Slovenia's active role in improving the management of waste electrical and electronic equipment. Through discussion and hands-on exchange, students explored activities aimed at **better collection, identification, and treatment of e-waste**, while sharing their own reflections on electronic device use and disposal. The session also highlighted key project achievements, including good practices featured in the Interreg Europe database and insights gained from more than 30 stakeholder meetings over the project's two-year implementation. Strong student engagement confirmed growing interest in sustainable e-waste solutions and reinforced the importance of awareness in reducing environmental impacts, encouraging participants to reflect on their own role in responsible e-waste management.



Students of the Faculty of Social Sciences at CPU Ljubljana

WEEEWaste Events

2.6 tons of RAES collected in Navarra during EWWR

Spain

As part of the **European Week for Waste Reduction**, the **Government of Navarra**, together with the public company **Orekan**, launched the awareness campaign **“Do you remember me?”** to draw attention to the environmental impact of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The initiative highlighted the growing number of unused electronic devices stored in households and encouraged citizens to choose reuse, repair, and proper recycling through authorized collection systems. The campaign featured two flagship activities: a concert on November 27th at the Zentral venue, where **2,691 kg of WEEE** were **collected** and exchanged for 700 concert tickets, supported by collection points at recycling centers, public institutions, and the venue itself. In addition, the family workshop **“WEEE, Do You Accept the Challenge?”**, held on November 23th at Civivox Condestable, engaged around 50 participants in a fun, educational game that helped families better understand e-waste and adopt more responsible consumer behaviors.



Concert within the campaign 'Do you remember me?'



Local Stakeholder Seminars

Slovenia

On **November 27th, 2025**, the **Environmental Research Institute (ORZ)** held a **Local Stakeholder Seminar** in **Dolgi Vrh** to share the latest progress of the WEEEWaste project and strengthen collaboration at the local level. The event opened with an overview of the project's goals and key achievements to date, followed by a presentation of ongoing activities focused on raising public awareness about the proper management of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The **vital role of the local community in increasing collection rates, ensuring correct disposal, and meeting the project's targets**, while underlining the **importance of continuous local communication and information sharing** was highlighted. In the second part of the seminar, participants explored the crucial role of stakeholders in greater depth and were encouraged to actively support upcoming activities by informing residents, identifying local needs, and promoting the use of existing WEEE collection systems. A lively discussion concluded the meeting, with stakeholders offering valuable feedback and ideas for improving outreach, and expressing strong interest, ongoing support for the project, and a clear commitment to remain engaged in future initiatives.



Participants of the Local Stakeholder Seminar in Dolgi Vrh

140 students joined the 1st Electronics Ecodesign Hackathon

Spain

On **December 10th, 2025**, the **Pinaquy Hall in Pamplona** hosted the **1st Electronics Ecodesign Hackathon: Creating a Sustainable Future**, organized by **OREKAN, UPNA**, and the **Chair of Electronic Technology**, in collaboration with the **Government of Navarra**. Over 140 students from UPNA and CIP ETI tackled challenges on WEEE traceability and repair/reuse of electronic boards, developing innovative, sustainable solutions. Teams presented their projects to a jury, evaluated on environmental impact, innovation, design, social impact, and presentation. The event highlighted collaboration between universities, government, and industry to promote a circular electronics economy and concluded with winning team presentations and a roundtable on green jobs and reducing e-waste.



Awards ceremony for the 1st 'Ecodesign in Electronics' Hackathon at the Pinaquy Hall in Pamplona

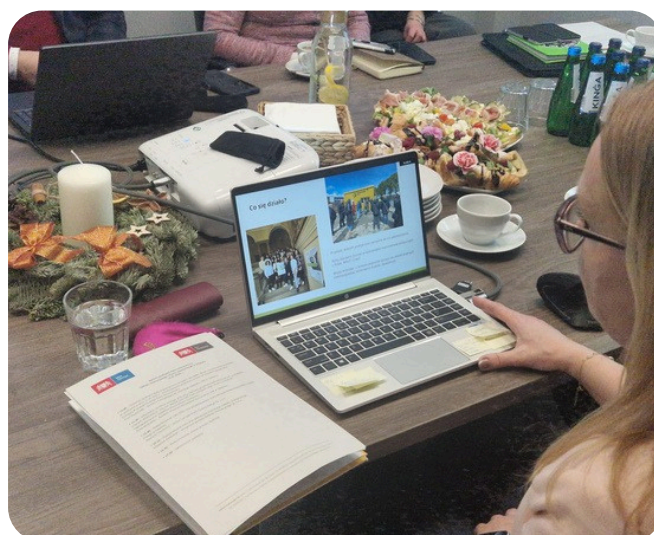
WEEEWaste Events



Local Stakeholder Seminars

Poland

Gdańsk is taking important steps toward smarter e-waste management! On **January 14th, 2026**, the Municipality hosted its **6th Local Stakeholder Seminar**, bringing together key stakeholders to review progress under the WEEEWaste project. Highlights included the **launch of three new selective waste collection points (PSZOKs)**, participation in the nationwide **“ECOreturns” campaign**, and the **development of a new platform to help residents repair and reuse products**. The city also announced plans to propose improvements to national WEEE collection records, strengthening recycling data across Poland. Participants actively shared ideas on how to better engage the local community and boost the use of existing e-waste collection systems. The event also featured updates from two Gdańsk waste management plants, showcasing their 2025 achievements and upcoming investments aimed at improving efficiency and sustainability. Together, these actions mark another strong step toward a cleaner, more circular future for the city.



Insights from the 6th Local Stakeholder Seminar of Gdańsk Municipality

Opening of new Repair Café in Leipzig

Germany

As a **pilot action of the Interreg project WEEEWaste**, a new **Repair Café** has officially opened its doors in **Leipzig**, marking an important step toward waste prevention and circular economy practices at local level. **On January 29th 2026**, the Repair Café was ceremonially launched at the **Konzeptladen Wiederschön**. In a welcoming atmosphere with coffee and cake, visitors came together with the dedicated volunteer team from **Café Kaputt** to give defective everyday appliances a second life. The opening event already demonstrated how small interventions can make a big difference: for example, an old hand mixer was successfully repaired simply by thoroughly cleaning its electrical contacts. A minor technical adjustment – but a meaningful contribution to waste prevention and resource conservation. The Repair Café stands for **exchange, sustainability and shared learning**.

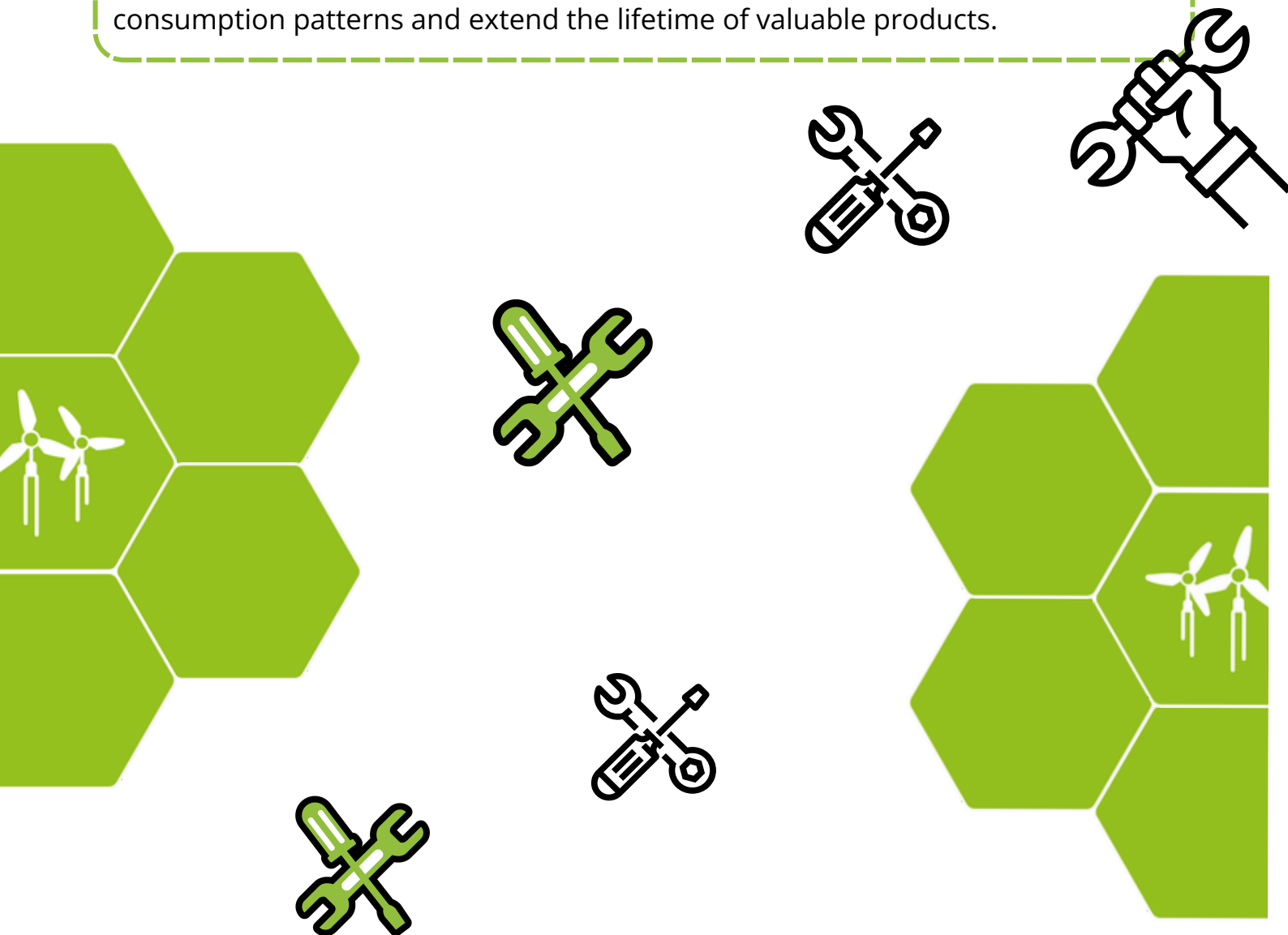


Launch of the Repair Café at the Konzeptladen Wiederschön

Beyond fixing broken appliances, it creates a space where practical repair skills are passed on, awareness for resource efficiency is strengthened, and community engagement is fostered. In the coming months, additional workshops focusing on repair techniques, electronics basics and resource-saving practices will further expand the educational dimension of the initiative.

From now on, the Repair Café will take place regularly **every Thursday from 16:00 to 19:00**. Citizens are warmly invited to bring their small electrical appliances and attempt repair instead of disposal – actively contributing to reducing electronic waste. The service is free of charge.

The Repair Café is located at **Konzeptladen Wiederschön, Höfe am Brühl, Brühl 1, 04109 Leipzig, Germany**. With this pilot action, the WEEEWaste project demonstrates how local initiatives can translate European cooperation into tangible impact on the ground – empowering communities to rethink consumption patterns and extend the lifetime of valuable products.



Local Stakeholder Seminars

Slovenia

On **February 3rd 2026**, the **Environmental Research Institute (ORZ)** held a **Local Stakeholder Seminar** within the WEEEWaste project at the **Reuse Center** in **Slovenske Konjice**. The seminar was attended by representatives of different organizations, such as the **University of Ljubljana** and the **Development Agency of Zagorje (ZARA)**. The seminar opened with a presentation of the WEEEWaste project, outlining its core objectives, progress so far, and the key results achieved to date. Participants were given insight into upcoming activities and the impact expected in the next phase of implementation. The discussion continued with examples of good practices in the management of electrical and electronic equipment, which have been identified by the project so far. An open and constructive dialogue followed, focusing on the challenges of engaging target groups, opportunities for effective awareness-raising initiatives, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of project outcomes. The meeting concluded with participants expressing strong interest in continued active involvement and emphasizing the importance of ongoing coordination.



Insights from the Local Stakeholder Seminar at the Reuse Center in Slovenske Konjice

Local Stakeholder Seminars

Prague

On **February 19th 2026**, **CTU** organised a **Local Stakeholder Meeting in Prague** at **Červený Jelen** focused on the **international projects WEEEWaste (Interreg Europe)** and **Circular WEEEP (Interreg Central Europe)**. Representatives of public authorities and the private sector attended, including **ELEKTROWIN a.s., Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic, Ecobat CZ, Cyrkl, and WEEELABEX Organisation**.

The meeting aimed to share proven European practices, present key project results, and discuss how to further strengthen circularity in e-waste management, from prevention and repair to high-quality recycling and the use of secondary raw materials. Project results were presented by **Michal Tobiáš from CTU**. The discussion confirmed that the greatest added value lies in linking data, regulation, and practical experience across the entire value chain, especially where systems face “grey zones” and hard-to-trace flows.

WEEEWaste: transfer of good practices and recommendations for improved system

The WEEEWaste project focuses on transferring proven solutions between EU regions and using them to improve public policy and practice. Participants highlighted the collection and exchange of good practices, analytical recommendations for systemic improvements, and the growing international dimension of the project consortium. Key challenges repeatedly discussed included free riders, cross-border online sales, inflows of equipment from third countries, and the need for better monitoring of where e-waste actually ends up after collection. A proposal was also raised to organise a broader national conference on reuse and recycling of e-waste following the project’s final events.

Czech Republic in the European context: an advanced system and strong practice

A major conclusion of the meeting was that the Czech Republic ranks among the advanced EU countries in e-waste management due to its robust system and long-term cross-sector cooperation.

Data presented showed that in 2023 the EU collected 11.6 kg of WEEE per capita, while the Czech Republic collected 16.8 kg per capita. Participants emphasised the importance of assessing not only collection rates but also treatment quality and real environmental impact.

Looking ahead, stronger links between WEEE management and measurable environmental performance were identified as a priority, particularly in connection with ESG and CSRD requirements and emerging tools such as the Digital Product Passport. Reliable data will be essential to support longer product lifetimes, reparability, and transparent material flows.

Next steps and continuation of cooperation

Stakeholders expressed strong interest in continuing cooperation, especially in strengthening control of free riders and cross-border sales, addressing missing WEEE streams, developing reuse and repair ecosystems with clear standards, improving data reporting across the value chain, and preparing for new waste streams such as batteries and renewable-energy-related equipment.

The meeting confirmed that combining research, policy, and practice helps move the circular economy from ambition to implementation.

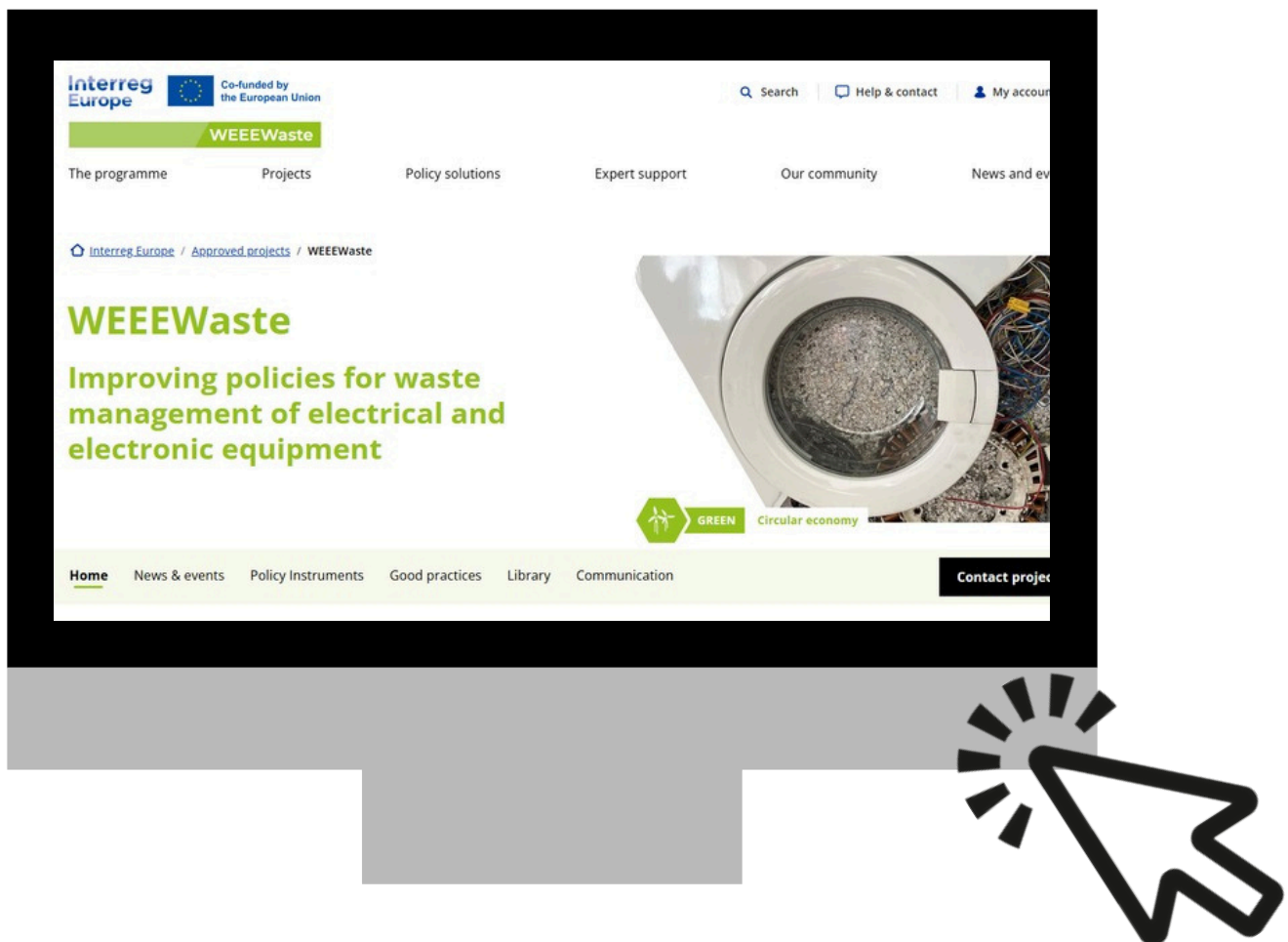


*Insights from the Local Stakeholder Seminar of the Project's Lead Partner, UCEEB
CTU on February 19th 2026*

What to expect in Semester 7:

The beginning of the 2nd phase of project implementation: **The Follow-up Phase**

Check out our website for more:



Thank you for reading! 😊



AI generated

Let's stay connected



[@WEEEWaste](#)



[@_weee_waste_project](#)



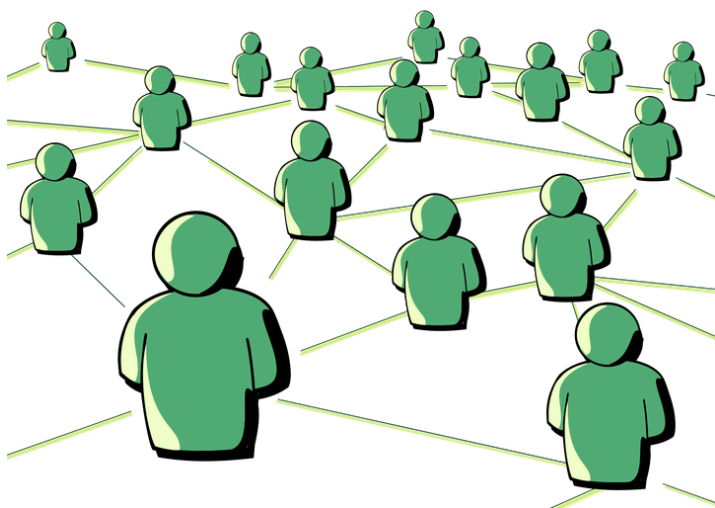
[WEEEWaste Project](#)



[@WEEE Waste](#)



[@WEEEWaste](#)



You have received this newsletter because you are subscribed to the WEEEWaste mailing list. If you do not wish to receive further emails from us, you can cancel your subscription by replying to this email.