

National WEEE Assessment 2026

Saint Lucia



Supported by



Led by



In partnership with





National WEEE Assessment 2026

Saint Lucia

Abstract & Authors

This national assessment report provides a comprehensive assessment of WEEE management in Saint Lucia, including material flow analysis, economic evaluation, infrastructure assessment, and technical capacities.

Main authors and contributors:

United Nations Institute for Training and Research: Elena D'Angelo, Vittoria Luda di Cortemiglia, Elena Fernandez Cubillo, Vanessa Forti

Suriname Waste Management: Lalieta Somwaru

Please cite this publication as:

V. Luda di Cortemiglia, E. Fernandez Cubillo, V. Forti, E. D'Angelo, L. Somwaru, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, "National WEEE Assessment 2026 – Saint Lucia", 2026, Bonn, Germany

Acknowledgements:

The authors wish to express their sincere appreciation to all individuals and institutions who contributed to the development of this report.

This work was undertaken as part of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) Programme, a global initiative designed to reduce the impacts of chemicals and waste in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through integrated, sustainable, and innovative management approaches. The Programme is implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with a range of executing partners and participating countries.

Special appreciation is extended to the Basel Convention Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Caribbean

(BCRC-Caribbean), which served as the regional executing partner and provided overall coordination, technical guidance, and support throughout the implementation of the activities.

Contact information:

For enquiries, please contact corresponding author E. D'Angelo via elena.dangelo@unitar.org

Disclaimer:

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is an autonomous body of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly dedicated to generating and transferring knowledge and strengthening capacities relevant to global issues such as human security, development, and welfare. The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city, or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Moreover, the views expressed do not necessarily represent those of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, nor does citing of trade names, companies, schemes, or commercial processes constitute an endorsement. We regret any errors or omissions that may have unwittingly been made.

© Maps, photos, and illustrations as specified.



© 2026 United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo>), unless otherwise indicated in the work. Please take the time to learn more about Creative Commons. © UNITAR 2026. Your fair use and other rights are in no way affected by the above.

Table of Contents

List of Figures.....	4
List of Tables.....	4
List of Abbreviations.....	5
Introduction	6
Methodological Note	8
 1. Country Profile	 9
1.1 Country overview.....	9
1.2 Legislative overview	10
 2. WEEE Flows Assessment: A Country Perspective	 12
2.1 Methodology	12
2.2 WEEE flows and outlook, from 2010 to 2030.....	14
2.3 Transboundary flows of WEEE	18
 3. Technical and Infrastructural Capacity for WEEE Management.....	 19
 4. Economic Impact of WEEE Management Facilities at National Level.....	 24
Overview	24
Collection and Financial Structure.....	24
Treatment and Material Recovery	25
Operational Costs and Economic Potential.....	25
 5. Conclusions and Way Forward.....	 27
 List of References	 29
 Annex 1. Online Survey.....	 30
Annex 2. Economic Impact Analysis Template.....	38

List of Figures & Tables

FIGURES

Figure 1. Map of Saint Lucia.....	9
Figure 2. E-waste Statistics Framework.....	13
Figure 3. EEE POM in Saint Lucia, 2010–2030.....	14
Figure 4. E-waste Generated in Saint Lucia, 2010–2030.....	15
Figure 5. EEE POM per category in Saint Lucia, 2024.....	16
Figure 6. E-waste Generated per category in Saint Lucia, 2024.....	16

TABLES

Table 1. Socio-economic indicators, World Bank	9
Table 2. Status of Multilateral Environmental Agreements – Saint Lucia	10
Table 3. E-waste 10 Categories	12

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviations	
ACHS	Advisory Council for Health and Safety
ABWREC	Antigua & Barbuda Waste Recycling Corporation
BAHSFA	Bahamas Agricultural Health and Food Safety Authority
BATs	Best Available Techniques
BEPs	Best Environmental Practices
B2B	Business to business
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EEE	Electrical and electronic equipment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assess
GDP	Gross domestic product
GtC	Greening the Caribbean Inc
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NGO	Non Governmental Organization

Abbreviations	
NSO	National Statistical Offices
POM	Put on the market
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
POPs	Persistent organic pollutants
PRO	Producer Responsibility Organization
SCYCLE	Sustainable Cycles Programme of UNITAR
SIDs	Small Islands Development States
SLBS	Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards
SLSWM	Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority
SUWAMA	Suriname Waste Management
UNU-keys	United Nations University keys
UNITAR – Scycle	United Nations Institute for Training and Research – Sustainable Cycles programme
USD	United States Dollars
WEEE	Waste electric and electronic equipment



Introduction

Global and regional e-waste situation

According to the recently published Global E-waste Monitor 2024 (Baldé et al. 2024), in 2022 a record 62 billion kg of e-waste or Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) was generated globally (equivalent to an average of 7.8 kg per capita per year). However, only 22.3 per cent of this e-waste mass was documented as formally collected and recycled in an environmentally sound manner.

Since 2010, globally the growth of e-waste generation is outpacing the formal collection and recycling by almost a factor of 5. When the total benefits from viable recovery of metals as secondary resources (USD 28 billion) and the monetized savings of avoided greenhouse gas emissions (USD 23 billion) are deducted from the costs of e-waste treatment (USD 10 billion) and externalized costs to human health and the environment (USD 78 billion), the result is a net loss of USD 37 billion in the world's current e-waste management practices.

According to the Global E-waste Monitor, 13.8 billion kg of global e-waste that undergoes environmentally sound treatment at a cost USD 0.36/kg; this is 3 times more than the average cost of e-waste disposed of as residual waste, recycled outside compliant recycling schemes or managed by the informal sector (USD 0.12/kg). The higher treatment costs are mostly attributable to the costs of depolluting e-waste and auditing, administration and attaining the minimum environmental health and safety standards associated with compliant management of e-waste.

The situation related to WEEE management varies significantly in different regions of the world. In the Caribbean, the amount of e-waste grew by more than 60 per cent from 148 million kg in 2010 to 241 million kg in 2022. This equals the generation of 7.6 kg/capita per year of e-waste and is close to the global average of 7.8. The documented formal e-waste collection rate in the Caribbean region was close to 0% in 2022, which is significantly lower than the global average of 22.3 per cent.

Hence, e-waste management poses a pressing challenge in the Caribbean region, in the absence of specific regulations and policies addressing the issue and the absence of a formal e-waste management infrastructure. E-waste management responsibilities in different Caribbean countries are shared among various entities.

Since 2010, globally the growth of e-waste generation is outpacing the formal collection and recycling by almost a factor of 5.

In the Caribbean, the amount of e-waste grew by more than 60 per cent.

Overview of the consultancy

The Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme of UNITAR, Division for Planet, has been contracted by the BCRC Caribbean to conduct the activities related to Output 3.1 of the ISLAND project. SUWAMA representatives, a local organization in Suriname dealing with waste management issues, have been hired as individual consultants by UNITAR SCYCLE.

UNITAR SCYCLE is the global scientific leader in e-waste research and information provision to various stakeholders and the public. SCYCLE's mission is to promote sustainable societies. Its activities focus on the development of sustainable production, consumption and disposal patterns for electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), as well as for other ubiquitous goods. SCYCLE leads the global e-waste discussion and advances sustainable e-waste management strategies based on life cycle thinking. Thanks to its scientifically recognized methodology to quantify the e-waste management, which is recognized at the global level, SCYCLE puts its methodology at the service of the project implementation, as further specified below.

As part of **Deliverable 2** of Output 3.1 of the ISLANDS project, this national assessment report provides an overview on the WEEE management situation in the country of **Saint Lucia**, including some conclusive remarks and recommendations on next steps to be taken at national level to further improve the management of a challenging waste stream such as the WEEE.

UNITAR SCYCLE's mission is to promote sustainable societies.



Methodological Note

The methodology used for the data collection and analysis for the national assessment reports is mixed, both qualitative and quantitative.

The qualitative part included the following main tools:

- A comprehensive survey, mainly distributed online, targeting the main stakeholders in each project country, including governmental officers/policy makers, EEE producers/importers, recycling companies, WEEE importing and exporting companies, CSOs and other relevant organizations.
- Follow-up semi-structured interviews and/or focus groups, based on predefined guidelines and adapted according to the specific needs, also based on the possible gaps in the data collection through the survey.

The structure of the online survey is included in [Annex I](#).

Six stakeholders from both the private as well as the public/government sector have filled in the questionnaire (5 private sector, 1 public sector). In terms of gender balance, 4 respondents identified as males and 2 as females. While the limited number of respondents does not fully allow drawing general conclusions, their specific expertise and experience, nonetheless, offers useful insights on the national context.

In addition to the qualitative approach, quantitative data have been collected and analysed. These include data on Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) Put On the Market (POM); WEEE generated, collected and recycled (if available), economic costs and benefits related to WEEE management by national facilities. The methodology applied on the quantitative data analysis is further detailed under [paragraph 2.1](#), for what concerns the WEEE flows.

The template of the data gathering structure for the economic impact analysis is presented in [Annex 2](#).

However, it must be noted that, for Saint Lucia, no financial information was shared by private stakeholders – therefore the analysis of the economic impact described in [chapter 4](#) is rather based on qualitative information collected through the survey and the Validation Workshop.

The draft national assessment report has been presented to the country's representatives on 11 November 2025 during the national validation workshop. All the additional inputs, information to fill in existing gaps and relevant comments have been reflected in the present final version of the report.





Chapter 1.

Country Profile

1.1 COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Saint Lucia is a small island nation in the Eastern Caribbean, situated between Martinique to the North and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the South. It is bordered by the Caribbean Sea to the West and the Atlantic Ocean to the East. The island displays very fertile volcanic soils but due mainly to topographic constraints only 28% of the total land area is suitable for agriculture (FAO, 2015).

Saint Lucia



Figure 1. Map of Saint Lucia

Map Sources: OCHA, OSM, UNGIS, [Ocha location map Saint Lucia](#). The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Sep 2025.

Table 1. Socio-economic indicators, World Bank

Population	179 744 (2024)
Population growth (annual %)	0.3 (2024)
Human Capital Index (HCI) (scale 0-1)	0.6 (2020)
GDP (current US\$)	2.55 billion (2024)
GDP per capita (current US\$)	14 181.6 (2024)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %)	-0.1 (2024)
Access to electricity (% of population)	100 (2023)
Individuals using the Internet (% of population)	70 (2023)

Source: World Bank, <https://data.worldbank.org/country/st-lucia>

Socio-economic environment

Saint Lucia is a small open economy that is heavily reliant on tourism and services, with high levels of debt, and volatile economic growth, averaging 1.3 per cent between 2010 and 2019. Frequent natural disasters, climate change, and vulnerability to global geopolitical tensions cause significant economic and social losses. (World Bank, 2025). The country is in fact highly vulnerable to climate-related risks such as hurricanes, landslides, and coastal erosion.

Saint Lucia's economy has stabilized post-pandemic but remains at risk from natural disasters and escalating geopolitical tensions. Economic growth is estimated to have accelerated to 3.7 per cent in 2024, contributing to poverty reduction. Nonetheless, high public debt inherited from the pandemic limits development funding (World Bank, 2025).

Waste management system

The Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (SLSWMA) is responsible for waste management in the country. A twice-weekly domestic waste collection service is provided across the island, except the for City of Castries, which receives this service three times a week (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022). The Authority also provides a once-monthly bulk waste collection service for old household furniture and appliances. However, despite the existence of a well-established national household waste collection service, regulations require commercial and industrial operators to transport their waste to the designated landfills operated by the SLSWMA using a licensed waste hauler; however much of the waste generated is still not collected and enters the environment (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022).

The Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (SLSWMA) is responsible for waste management in the country. The Authority provides twice-weekly domestic waste collection and a once-monthly bulk waste collection service for old household furniture and appliances (e-waste). Albeit, the existence of a well-established national household waste collection service, and regulations in place to require commercial and industrial operators to dispose the waste they generate at the designated landfills operated by the SLSWMA, much of the waste generated is not collected and enters the environment (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022).

1.2 LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

St. Lucia has ratified all main international agreements with the notable exception for the Rotterdam Convention that has been signed in January 1999 but not yet ratified. A roadmap towards ratification was prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture however, no progress has been made on its implementation (St. Hill, 2020).

Table 2. Status of Multilateral Environmental Agreements – Saint Lucia

Multilateral Environmental Agreement	Entry into force
Basel Convention	09/03/1994
Ban Amendment	05/12/2019
Rotterdam Convention	Signed but not ratified
Stockholm Convention	17/05/2004
Minamata Convention	23/01/2019

In Saint Lucia, the management of WEEE, hazardous waste, Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and mercury is governed through a range of legislative instruments, policies, and ministerial regulations, with responsibilities spread across several competent ministries and agencies.

The main legal and regulatory instruments relevant to chemicals and hazardous waste include:

- **Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority Act (Cap. 6:10)** (as last amended in 2008) created the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (SLSWMA) to provide coordinated and integrated systems for the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of solid waste, including hazardous waste, and to establish and manage sanitary landfills throughout the country. The Act imposes an environment levy on all visitors, grants the SLSWMA the authority to charge a hauling fee for services provided on request, and a tipping fee to unload any container containing solid waste.
- **Physical Planning and Development Act (Cap. 5:12)** (as last amended in 2005) includes provisions for the development of land, the assessment of the environmental impacts of development, the grant of permission to develop land and for related matters. Section 22 of the Act requires developers of certain developments to submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- **Standards Act (Cap 13.25 of 1990)**, established the Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards (SLBS) as the national standards body responsible for promoting and maintaining standards to enhance industrial efficiency, public welfare, health, safety, and environmental protection. SLBS can promote standard adoption, conduct research, establish testing facilities, declare standards, perform inspections, collect and share information, educate the public on standards, and work with manufacturers on quality control.

- **Standards Regulations (Cap 13.25 of 1990)** detail the processes for declaration of standards, use of standard marks, and designation of laboratories and testing facilities, specifies fees, advertising, labelling and packaging. The adopted standards are available at the official website of the SLBS.¹

- **The External Trade Act (Chapter 13:11)** (as last amended in 2005) contains provisions related to the importation and exportation of goods. Section 3 of the Act provides that the Minister may by Order prohibit the import of any class of goods without a licence.

An initial National Waste Management Strategy was developed in 2003 but not submitted for approval by the Cabinet of Ministers. The development of such a strategy is in the pipeline as one of the outputs of the World Bank-funded project: Unleashing the Blue Economy in the Caribbean (UBEC) (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022). A National Strategy and Roadmap for implementing the Regional Model Policy for four hazardous waste streams, including WEEE, was finalized in September 2025 as an output of the GEF ISLANDS Child Project 10279.

There is no legislation in relation to EPR schemes, although there was a report examining the feasibility of such schemes with regard to e-waste (St. Hill, 2020).



¹ <http://www.slbs.org>.



Chapter 2.

WEEE Flows Assessment: A Country Perspective

2.1 METHODOLOGY

Due to the wide variety of EEE products available on the market, it is essential to categorize them in groups that reflect their key characteristics. The UNU-keys and the categories in the EU WEEE Directive can be used to classify EEE products, as explained below:

- The UNU-KEYS are a product categorisation comprised of 54 categories developed by the United Nations University (UNU) (Forti et al., 2020). The UNU-KEYS are constructed in such a way that product groups share comparable average weights, material compositions, end of-life characteristics, and hazardous profile and lifetime distributions. The UNU-KEYS encompass all possible EEE (more than 900 products), and their classifications can be linked to the EU categories.
- The EU WEEE Directive currently covers 6 categories, as listed in Annex III of the WEEE-Directive 2012/19/EC, entered into force in 2018, and before there were 10 categories that are linked to the UNU-KEYS classification system. The data in this study is presented according to the WEEE Directive's 10 categories for harmonization purposes. The 10 e-waste Categories can be found in Table 3.

Table 3. E-waste 10 Categories

E-waste category	Description
CAT. 1	Large household appliances
CAT. 2	Small household appliances
CAT. 3	IT and telecommunications equipment
CAT. 4	Consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels
CAT. 5	Lighting equipment
CAT. 6	Electrical and electronic tools (with the exception of large-scale stationary industrial tools)
CAT. 7	Toys, leisure and sports equipment
CAT. 8	Medical devices (with the exception of all implanted and infected products)
CAT. 9	Monitoring and control instruments
CAT. 10	Automatic dispensers

Understanding the quantities, characteristics and pathways of e-waste – along with collecting accurate and up-to-date data – provides a solid foundation for monitoring e-waste generation and management. The measurement framework, developed by UNITAR-SCYCLE and detailed in the E-waste Statistics Guidelines (Forti et al., 2020), follows a mass balance approach over the EEE's entire life cycle. The methodology covers production, trade, placing on the market, e-waste generation, e-waste management, and other e-waste related activities, as represented in [Figure 2](#). It covers any product supplied to the national market for consumption that is used by households, businesses, or public authorities.

The methodology follows four steps:

1. The EEE put on the market (POM) is calculated using the apparent consumption method, as the sum of the domestic production and imports of EEE minus the EEE exported for a specific year. The data source used in this calculation are the Comtrade trade statistics² and national statistics offices.

$$POM(t) = \text{Domestic production } (t) + \text{Imports } (t) - \text{Exports } (t)$$

2. After the EEE is placed on the market, it remains in use until the product is discarded – this period is referred as the product's lifetime. A product's lifetime profile indicates the obsolescence rate per year following its sale. The total amount of equipment in households, businesses, and the public sector is referred to as the stock.
3. After a certain lifetime, the product is disposed and it becomes waste, which is referred as the e-waste generated, prior to collection. The quantity of e-waste generated is calculated from the product's POM time-series, taking into account their respective rates of obsolescence in the evaluation year.
4. The e-waste follows different flows, including the formal and compliant collection. Data on the e-waste collection is requested to countries and provided by the national statistical offices (NSOs).

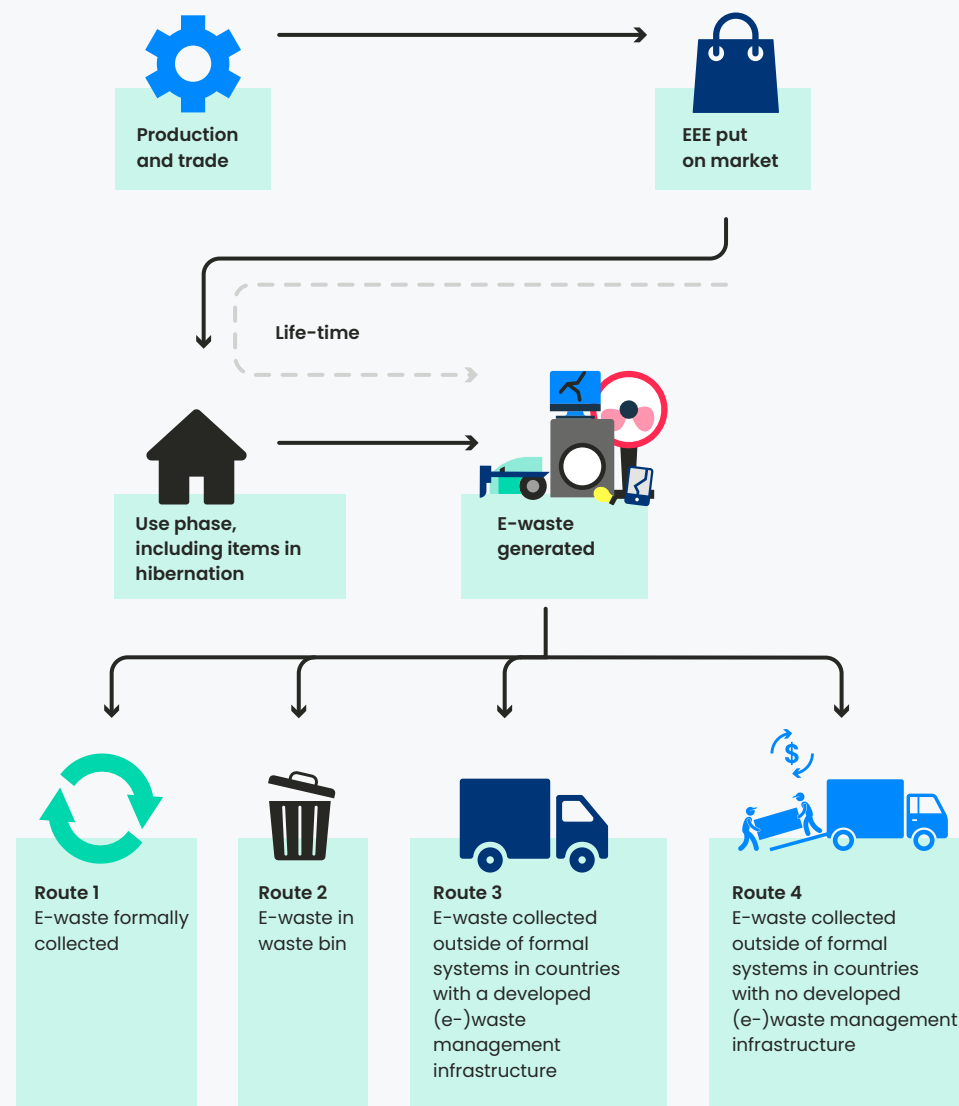


Figure 2. E-waste Statistics Framework

² <https://comtradeplus.un.org/>

According to stakeholders having participated in the online survey, the following bodies collect data on e-waste in Saint Lucia:

1. The Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia	2. Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology
3. E-waste exporting companies	

The respondents who completed the relevant section of the survey, however, were **not aware if a regular reporting or monitoring system on e-waste is in place** at national level, on EEE and/or WEEE. According to a national stakeholder reviewing the present report, this data collection is not part of a standardized national framework and so efforts are often inconsistent and under-resourced. According to the same stakeholder, the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD) has oversight of the operations of the SLSWMA, as Chair the SLSWMA's Board. The DSD coordinates the collection of data for reporting purposes under the Basel Convention, as Focal Point of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions.

2.2 WEEE FLOWS AND OUTLOOK, FROM 2010 TO 2030

This paragraph describes the flows of EEE Put On the Market (POM) and e-waste generated in Saint Lucia, from 2010 to 2030.

From 2010 to 2024, trade data were provided by Saint Lucia Customs Authorities, which were used to calculate the EEE POM and e-waste generated for the same years. Data from 2025 to 2030 was scaled using an adjustment factor that bridges the gaps between the original estimates from the UNITAR datasets (retrieved from UN-Comtrade website) and the figures provided from the country. This adjustment factor reflects the higher values observed in the country values, with respect to the original estimates. The existence of data gaps between datasets shows the **importance of in-country monitoring, in order to obtain accurate information on the country's situation.**

Figure 3 and [Figure 4](#) represent a time series from 2010 to 2030 of the EEE put on the market and the e-waste generated in Saint Lucia, respectively.

EEE Put on the Market (POM)

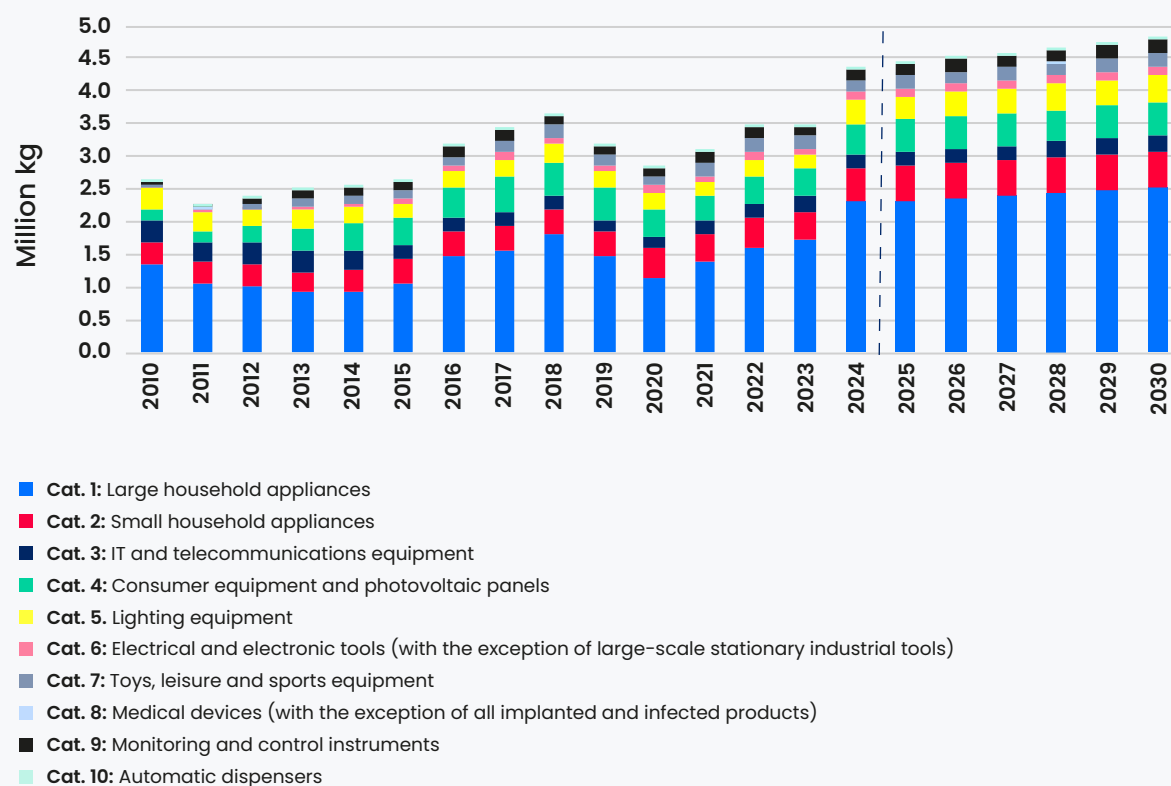


Figure 3. EEE POM in Saint Lucia, 2010-2030

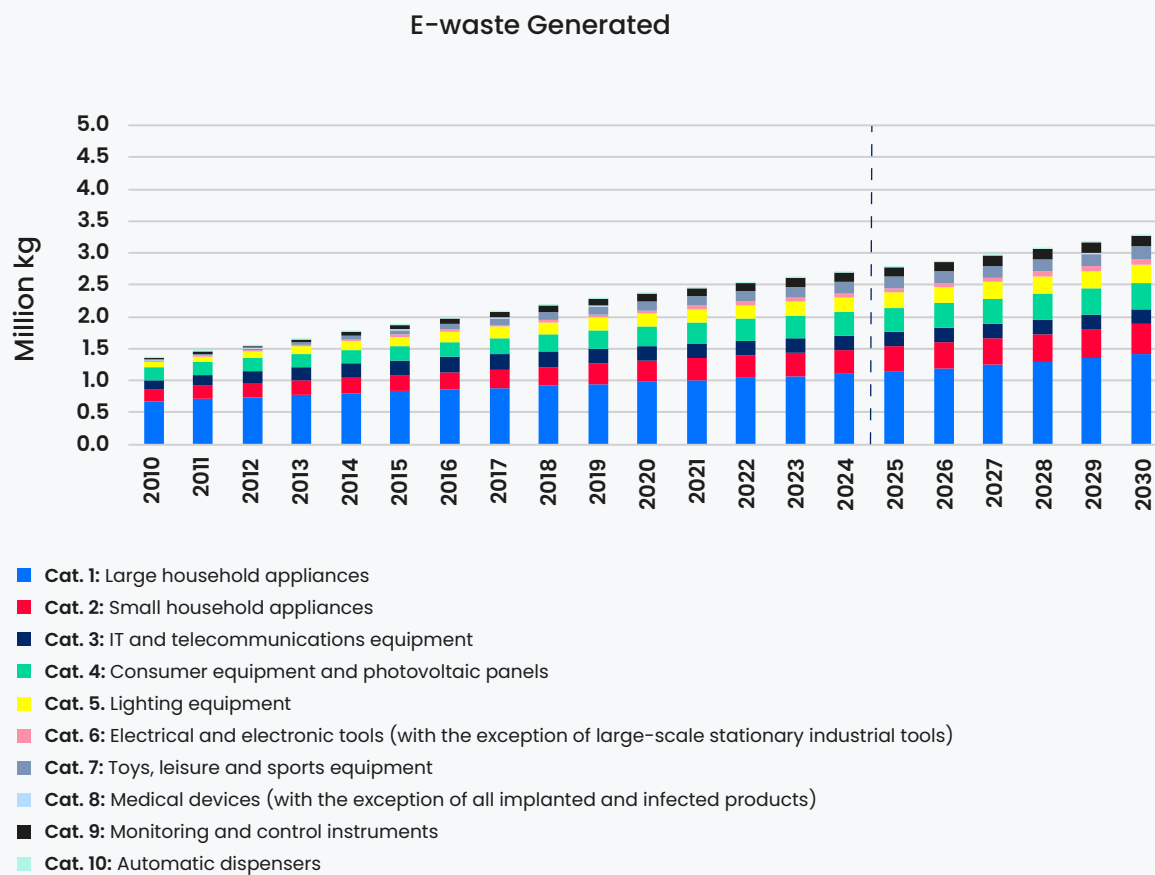


Figure 4. E-waste Generated in Saint Lucia, 2010-2030

EEE POM yearly in Saint Lucia has been increasing since 2010, when 2.60 million kg in 2010 were put on the market, increased to a maximum of 3.64 million kg in 2018 and decreased to 2.81 million kg in 2020 (probably due to the Covid 19 pandemic). It continued increasing to 4.35 million kg in 2024, and it is projected to keep increasing steadily and reach 4.77 million kg in 2030. During the same period, the amount of e-waste generated has increased from 1.36 million kg in 2010 to 2.69 million kg in 2024, and it is projected to increase up to 3.27 million kg in 2030.



In 2024, as it can be seen in Figure 5, the largest contributors to the POM in the country were large households appliances (Category 1 – 53%), small household appliances (Category 2 – 12%), and consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels (Category 4 – 11%).

When it comes to e-waste generated, as seen in Figure 6, large households' appliances (Category 1 – 41%), small household appliances and consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels (Categories 2 and 4 – 14%),

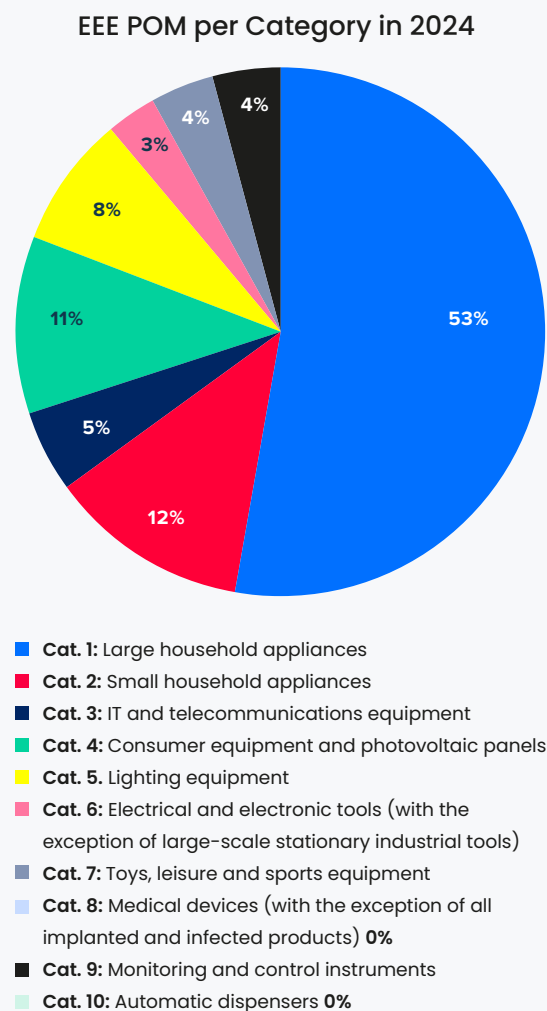


Figure 5. EEE POM per category in Saint Lucia, 2024

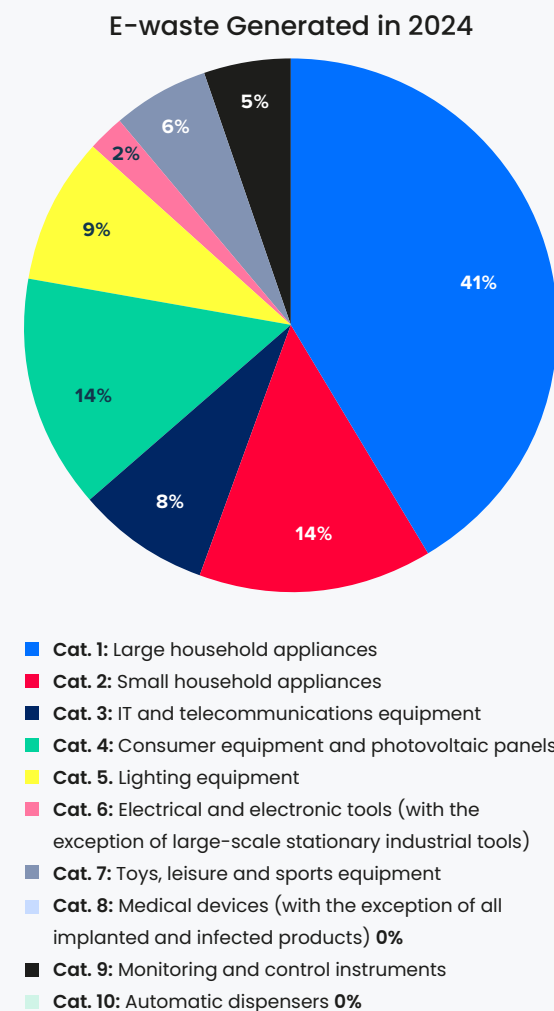


Figure 6. E-waste Generated per category in Saint Lucia, 2024

Globally, Saint Lucia is not a high contributor to the e-waste generated, as the largest contributions come from more populated countries. However, in terms of e-waste generated per capita, according to the Global E-waste Monitor 2024 (Baldé et al. 2024) **Saint Lucia generated 11.4 kg/inhabitant in 2022³, ranking 74th worldwide** – comparable to countries like Brazil, Argentina, and Belarus. Within the Caribbean region, the e-waste generation per capita ranges from 1.1 kg/inhabitant to 20.7 kg/inhabitant, placing Saint Lucia in the mid-range of e-waste generation per capita.

The largest contributor to the EEE POM, in terms of mass, are large household appliances (Category 1), which account for 2.30 million kg of the POM in 2024 (53% of the total): this is due to the high average weight of the products included in this category (e.g., fridges, washing machines, dishwashers). Since Category 1 represents the largest share of total EEE placed on the market, Category 1 trend follows a similar pattern to the overall one, with fluctuations and a peak also observed in 2018, followed by a decrease. Category 1 is projected to increase steadily up to 2030. Category 1 is also the largest contributor to the e-waste generated, with 1.11 million kg in 2024, accounting for 41% of the total e-waste generated in Saint Lucia that year. The amount of e-waste generated has been steadily increasing since 2010, and it is expected to keep increasing after 2024.

Small household appliances (Category 2) are the second largest contributor to EEE put on the market, accounting for the 12% of EEE POM in 2024, 0.51 million kg. The amount of equipment put on the market during the years has been slowly increasing, and it is projected to keep this trend until 2030. E-waste generated from Category 2 equipment accounted for 0.37 million kg in 2024 (14% of the total), being the second largest contributor to the e-waste generated in the country (together with Category 4 equipment). The amount of e-waste generated has been increasing steadily from 2010, and it is expected to continue doing so until 2030.

Consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels (Category 4) is the third largest contributor to EEE POM, accounting for 0.48 million kg in 2024 – which corresponds to a 11% of the total. The amount Category 4 equipment sold per year increased notably from 2010 to 2017, from 0.17 to 0.53 million kg, probably due to the installation of photovoltaic panels to support the country's transition into renewable energy⁴. Since 2017 the amount of Category 4 equipment put on the market has remain relatively stable during the, and it is projected to remain stable after 2024. Regarding the e-waste generated, Category 4 is also the second largest contributor in the country (together with Category 2 equipment)– accounting for 0.37 million kg in 2024, a 14% of the total e-waste generated in the country. The amount of e-waste generated has been steadily increasing from 2010 to 2024, and it is forecasted to continue this trend.

Lighting equipment (Category 5) accounts for 0.36 million kg sold in 2024 – 8% of the total – has remained relatively stable during the years and it is projected to remain stable until 2030. E-waste generated from Category 5 accounted for 0.23 million kg in 2024, a 9% of the total, and has been increasing steadily from 2010 until 2024, and it is forecasted to follow this trend up to 2030. The percentage of Category 5 equipment is relatively high when compared to other countries and, according to a stakeholder reviewing the document, this could be correlated to construction boom in tourism sector or the ongoing, large-scale transition from inefficient lighting to LEDs, driven by high electricity prices. IT and telecommunications equipment (Category 3) accounted for 0.22 million kg of the EEE put on the market in 2024, 5% of the total. This amount has been decreasing steadily from 2010 to 2020 and started increasing again after 2020. It is expected to remain stable until 2030. Category 3 accounted for 0.23 of the million kg of the e-waste generated in the country in 2024, 8% of the total. The amount of e-waste generated has been increasing moderately from 2010, and it is expected to remain stable until 2030.

Toys, leisure and sports equipment (Category 7) and monitoring and control instruments (Category 9) account for 0.09 million kg of EEE POM in 2024 each (4% of the total). The amount of equipment put on the market during the years has steadily increased yearly since 2010, when only 0.02 and 0.03 million kg were sold from Category 7 and 9 respectively. The amount of EEE put on the market is projected to remain stable

after 2024 for both categories. E-waste generated from Category 7 equipment accounted for 0.17 million kg in 2024, a 6% of the total e-waste generated in the country. The amount of e-waste generated from Category 7 follows the same trend as the equipment put on the market, probably due to the short lifespan of the products included in the category. E-waste generated from Category 9 equipment accounted for 0.14 million kg, a 5% of the total, and has also been steadily increasing during the years.

Electrical and electronic tools (Category 6) POM reached 0.12 million kg in 2024, representing a 3% of the total. Category 6 sold in Saint Lucia has increased steadily since 2010, when only 0.03 million kg were put in the market, and it is expected to maintain this trend from 2024 to 2030. Category 6 accounted for 0.06 million kg in 2024, 2% of the total e-waste generated in the country. The amount of e-waste generated has also increased during the years, following a trend like the put on the market, and it is expected to continue increasing until 2030.

³ 2022 data is used for comparison, as global values originate from the E-waste Monitor 2024, which is based on 2022 figures.

⁴ <https://www.govt.lc/media.govt.lc/www/resources/publications/saint-lucia-nets-executive-summary-final.pdf>

Medical devices (Category 8) and automatic dispensers (Category 10) together only account for 0.01 million kg of EEE put on the market in 2024, which corresponds to less than 1% of the total. The e-waste generated from categories 8 and 10 accounts also for 0.01 million kg (less than 1% of the total). The amount of Category 8 and 10 equipment being put on the market and e-waste generated annually has remained stable during the years, without undergoing significant changes.

Regarding the e-waste management, **there currently is no quantitative data available on the e-waste being formally collected and recycled in Saint Lucia**, and the qualitative information that has been compiled is presented in the next chapter.

2.3 TRANSBOUNDARY FLOWS OF WEEE

Exports of WEEE are deemed legitimate only when they serve recycling purposes and exporters ensure that recovery or recycling will be conducted safely in the destination country. For instance, the transboundary movement of waste printed circuit boards to specialized recycling facilities is necessary in regions lacking adequate WEEE management systems. Nevertheless, such movements can present significant environmental and health risks if improperly managed in countries without sufficient infrastructure and capacity. Consequently, it is imperative to establish clear regulations and procedures to differentiate between lawful and unlawful transboundary movements (Baldé et al. 2024).

The main international instrument regulating the transboundary movements of waste, including WEEE, is the Basel Convention which was ratified by Saint Lucia on 9 March 1994.

In June 2022, at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, amendments to Annexes II, VIII, and IX of the Convention were adopted, mainly aimed at increasing the control of transboundary movements of WEEE and making all electronic and electrical waste, including non-hazardous waste, subject to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure.⁵ As mentioned, in some cases, WEEE can be exported to other countries, but they must be subject to the PIC procedure – which forms the heart of the Basel Convention control system and is based on four key stages: 1) notification, 2) consent and issuance of movement document, 3) transboundary movement, and 4) confirmation of disposal (D’Angelo et al. 2025).

No specific data were made available for this study on exports of e-waste from Saint Lucia. According to the survey’s respondents, some exports of WEEE are taking place, either globally or to China – but no further specification was provided.

From the analysis of the reports submitted by the country to the Basel Convention Secretariat, no e-waste exports are reported, but only exports of waste lead-acid batteries, which are not accounted for under this study.

⁵ <https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Ewaste/EwasteAmendments/Overview/tabid/9266/Default.aspx>



Chapter 3.

Technical and Infra- structural Capacity for WEEE Management

INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

In Saint Lucia, **resources, expertise and infrastructure to effectively manage WEEE are reported as very little adequate or not adequate at all** by all stakeholders who filled in the online assessment survey.

The current level of coordination among key stakeholders (producers, recyclers and waste managers) in the national waste management sector is considered by the majority of stakeholders (4 out of 6) as **somewhat effective** – meaning that stakeholders do communicate regularly, however coordination could be improved in certain areas, including in the WEEE sector. Two respondents from the private sector instead rate such coordination as overall ineffective.

Half of the respondents reported that there are some voluntary industry initiatives or measures currently in place to support WEEE management in the country. For example, Greening the Caribbean Inc (GtC) is a Saint Lucia owned and operated social entrepreneurship firm that provides integrated solid waste management Services. GtC designed and implemented the country's first permanent public facing recycling initiative on behalf of Massy Stores as part of their long standing environmental sustainability partnership. This mobile initiative provides access for the public to drop off WEEE, as well as plastic and aluminium beverage containers for on-island processing and dismantling as needed for export into circular economy hubs. In 2025, GtC also partnered with SLSWMA as part of a strategy to divert WEEE from landfilling in a way that enables it to enter their recycling services and the circular economy value chain. The Solid Waste Authority also carries out training initiatives not specifically targeted to WEEE.

FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

The electronic market of Saint Lucia is underdeveloped or at a nascent stage. Local production is minimal, characterised by few market players, and heavily dependent on imports with weak industry infrastructure and underdeveloped supply chain.

WEEE management in the country is primarily financed by government funding (e.g. taxes, municipal budget). According to three of the survey respondents, waste collection fees and landfill tipping fees are applied. Two stakeholders also indicate that this sector also benefits from private sector contributions, establishing voluntary recycling programs, and two stakeholders mention that funding also comes from NGOs and or global organization through international aid and grants.

Respondents also indicated that the following economic and market-based instruments could be used to support the WEEE management and an EPR system:

EPR SCHEMES

Advanced disposal fee (when a non-refundable fee is added to the price of a product and paid by the consumer to cover future disposal and recycling costs).

COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Information gathered on collection, recycling and disposal infrastructure required further verification during the national validation workshop, as stakeholders participating in the online survey provided conflicting feedback as to whether a WEEE collection system is in place on the island and how such waste is collected at national level.

Four respondents from the public and private sector indicated that no such a system is in place with respect to electric and electronic waste; instead, two respondents from the private sector answered the opposite. According to one respondent, no formal pick-up services is available from households, and two waste collectors collect WEEE, as well as other waste types. One respondent indicates that collection points (e.g. bin/boxes in streets or retail stores, collection centers etc) are present, along with informal pick up from households from informal waste pickers. Finally, another mentions that one private sector firm provides WEEE collection service to its clients. Similar discrepancy exists also with regards to answers related to existence of recycling facilities.

Greening the Caribbean Inc clarified the matter indicating that its business to business (B2B) integrated solid waste management service to the private sector includes the collection and pre-processing of WEEE, as well plastic and aluminium beverage containers, cardboard and derelict vehicles. These waste streams are pre-processed on island for export. The WEEE and other fractions that are exported require no manual human labour, which eliminates the risk of unsafe dismantling practices further along in the off-island phase of the value chain.

Stakeholders suggested a few elements that would be required for the establishment of a legal framework supporting the implementation of an Extended Producer Responsibility system in the country, as indicated in the figure below.

Elements most needed in the legal framework to effectively support the EPR implementations – Saint Lucia

**MOST
LEAST**

1. Clear definition of producer's responsibilities
2. Funding and financial mechanisms
3. Capacity building
4. Consumer engagement and awareness
5. Enforcement mechanisms
6. Improved collection and recycling systems
7. Transparency and reporting requirements

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

Differing information was gathered through the online questionnaire concerning to public awareness initiatives related to WEEE in the country. Two stakeholders indicate that public awareness campaigns and education programs are organised at national level. Two stakeholders also mentioned that private sector initiatives also exist: for instance, small dismantling players access grant funding to undertake specific projects, or in one case a private waste management company collaborates with another business to implement WEEE public awareness and drop off events. Two other stakeholders instead claim that no or very little public awareness initiative related to WEEE is taking place at country level.

In conclusion, as noted by a stakeholder reviewing the report, while some positive, small-scale activities are taking place, these seem insufficient to create a well-informed public and are not recognized by a significant portion of the sector itself. This situation likely represents a major barrier to improving WEEE collection and recycling rates.

INFORMAL SECTOR

Informal sector actors are active in collection, sorting and dismantling of WEEE. The size of the sector is though not known to the stakeholders engaged. Currently, there aren't programs or initiatives aimed at integrating the informal sector into the formal waste management system.

READINESS TOWARDS EPR SYSTEM

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach that makes producers responsible for the entire lifecycle of their products, particularly for take-back, recycling, and final disposal. In the context of electronic waste (e-waste), EPR shifts the financial and operational responsibility for collection, recycling, and safe disposal from governments and consumers to manufacturers. This encourages producers to design more sustainable, durable, and recyclable electronics.

This approach is increasingly adopted worldwide, including in developing countries. As an example, in India, the E-Waste (Management) Rules mandate that producers of electronic goods must collect and channel WEEE to authorized recyclers through EPR plans approved by the Central Pollution Control Board. This policy has led to the formalization of parts of the informal recycling sector and improved compliance with environmental standards (OECD 2024). Respondents **were not aware of any existing good practices either in the country or abroad concerning EPR schemes.**

Stakeholders consulted indicated that the following actors should be involved in the implementation of an EPR scheme in the country:

Public and private actors to be involved for the implementation of EPR scheme – Saint Lucia

**MOST
LEAST**

1. Government agencies
2. Private sector/ producers
3. PROs
4. Recycling facilities/ industry experts
5. Consumers
6. NGOs / CSOs
7. Other



The surveyed authorities indicated the following main challenges in the adoption of an EPR for WEEE management in the country, ranked from the most to the least important.

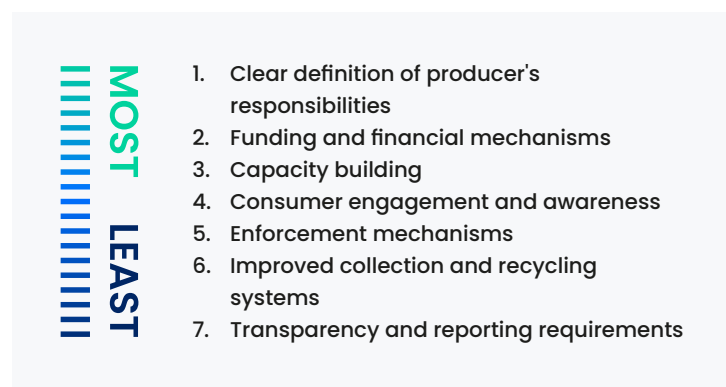
Main challenges foreseen in the adoption of an EPR for WEEE management sector – Saint Lucia



During the national validation workshop, one stakeholder underlined that the advantages of establishing an EPR system should be explained more broadly to obtain strong support from stakeholders at national level, as concerns related to the financial burden and responsibility aspects of involved actors are present.

Moreover, according to the surveyed stakeholders, the elements most needed in the legal framework, in Saint Lucia, to effectively support the EPR implementation are the ones listed below, ranked from the most to the least important.

Elements most needed in the legal framework to effectively support the EPR implementation – Saint Lucia



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Two of the surveyed governmental representatives reported that they had evidence or had heard of **landfills or dumping sites** where WEEE is disposed in a non-environmentally sound manner, co-mingled with household waste. The other respondents did not have evidence of this or did not respond to this question.

In terms of social impact, there is **no evidence of possible jobs creation** in the WEEE sector and/or in the green sector for the upcoming years; nor there's formal evidence of involvement of vulnerable sectors, including women or children, in the informal sector.

CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

The current main limitations in the existing national WEEE management system have been indicated by respondents, as follows (from the most to the least relevant ones):

What are the current limitations of the WEEE management systems – Saint Lucia



Competition from the informal sector, illegal exports and lack of effective enforcement have been highlighted as the most pressing current challenges in Saint Lucia, to improve the WEEE management system in the country.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

All stakeholders indicate that there are no legal nor practical initiatives currently implemented at regional level with respect to WEEE management. No formal cooperation or coordination exists in the region with respect to WEEE management, although one respondent notes that efforts are in progress to establish cross-border partnerships.

All respondents to the online questionnaire concurred in stating that a regional approach would facilitate the implementation of an EPR scheme, by reducing implementation costs and thereby reducing the financial burden on individual countries. In addition, two respondents indicated that such an approach would support the creation of harmonized regulations, ensure consistency in EPR requirements across borders, making compliance easier for producers and stakeholders; and enhance collaboration between countries for improved recycling and waste management systems.



Chapter 4.

Economic Impact of WEEE Management Facilities at National Level

In consideration of the lack of precise financial data related to WEEE management and infrastructure, the present paragraph provides an overview of elements offering insights on the economic impact of such activities at national level.

OVERVIEW

Stakeholder consultations conducted during the project indicate that **Saint Lucia's e-waste management system remains largely informal**, with limited coordination among authorities and minimal infrastructure for collection, dismantling, or recycling. Respondents agreed that no dedicated e-waste legislation or policy exists. Some referred generally to the Waste Management Act (No. 1 of Saint Lucia), but this framework does not include provisions specific to electronic waste.

Institutional capacity for e-waste oversight is considered weak. Most respondents described **existing resources and infrastructure as not adequate or very little adequate**, and coordination among agencies as only somewhat effective, with communication occurring sporadically and without clear leadership.

A few voluntary or private-sector initiatives exist — such as collection depots operated by Massy Stores, and awareness efforts through Greening the Caribbean — but these remain limited in **scope and coverage**.

COLLECTION AND FINANCIAL STRUCTURE

As mentioned, the e-waste management system in Saint Lucia falls under the responsibility of the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority (SLSWMA), established by the Waste Management Act as the statutory body in charge of solid waste management. Since no e-waste-specific legislation exists, e-waste is treated as part of general solid waste management activities. The SLSWMA provides twice-weekly domestic waste collection and a once-monthly bulk waste collection service, whereby all types of bulk items are collected, for instance refrigerators and washing machines. There is currently the intention to establish a sorting mechanism at the landfill for the separation of e-waste.

Despite this structured system, significant challenges remain, primarily due to improper disposal practices and insufficient resources allocated for waste management operations (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022). As illustrated in national assessments, improper segregation and disposal of waste — including discarded electronics — continue to affect overall system efficiency and environmental performance.

The SLSWMA maintains reliable records of waste landfilled since 2004, categorized under twenty waste types. The Authority also conducts periodic waste characterization studies, which provide useful data to estimate waste generation patterns, including fractions that may contain e-waste (Government of Saint Lucia, 2022). However, these studies do not yet disaggregate e-waste as a specific category.

Stakeholders' consultation confirm that **Saint Lucia has no formal national collection system dedicated to e-waste**. Obsolete electronics are typically disposed of with household waste or collected on an ad hoc basis by private firms that also handle other waste streams. **Some informal collectors and landfill pickers recover valuable e-waste components for resale**, while a few drop-off points or collection bins are available at commercial outlets such as Massy Stores. These initiatives are voluntary and not officially coordinated by government institutions.

Financially, as mentioned, Saint Lucia's waste management, including e-waste, is primarily supported by government funding and municipal resources, occasionally supplemented by international aid or grants. Some respondents mentioned limited private-sector contributions through voluntary recycling programs, but these remain small-scale. **There are no EPR mechanisms, eco-fees, or structured cost-recovery systems.**

The domestic electronics market is nascent and import-dependent, with minimal local manufacturing capacity. This limits the potential for financing mechanisms based on producer obligations. Several respondents suggested that introducing EPR schemes, landfill tipping fees, or advanced disposal fees could improve both financing and accountability for e-waste management.

TREATMENT AND MATERIAL RECOVERY

Respondents provided mixed perspectives regarding the presence of dismantling or recycling infrastructure in Saint Lucia, indicating that information and awareness on the issues should be strengthened. Three respondents indicated that such facilities exist, while three others stated the opposite. Where facilities do operate, they appear to implement at least partial elements of Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP), though these are not formally regulated or certified.

Most stakeholders agreed that there are no formally recognized e-waste dismantling or recycling facilities in the country. **Limited manual dismantling may occur informally, but most discarded electronics are disposed of at the Deglos Sanitary Landfill and the Vieux Fort Transfer Station Transfer Station**, where e-waste is mixed with municipal waste.

Compliance with environmental and occupational standards remains limited. Stakeholders confirmed that recycling and disposal practices generally do not meet environmental standards, and that proper safety equipment and tools are often lacking for workers involved in dismantling or collection. E-waste can be observed co-disposed with general waste at landfill sites.

There is no national monitoring or verification system for e-waste treatment or recovery outcomes. The Central Statistical Office and the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology are nominally responsible for data collection, sometimes supported by private firms that maintain internal records, but **there is no systematic reporting mechanism for electronic waste.**

Public awareness and education efforts remain weak. Respondents referred to occasional awareness drives and drop-off events organized by private companies or community groups, but noted that participation is low, and activities are not sustained over time. Most consumers dispose of e-waste with household garbage or sell usable components to informal collectors.

The informal sector continues to play a central role in collection, sorting, and dismantling. Informal workers, including landfill pickers, recover components such as copper wiring and small electronic parts for resale to scrap dealers. The size of this workforce is unknown but estimated to represent less than one-quarter of all e-waste handling activities. No programs currently exist to integrate these actors into formal management systems.

OPERATIONAL COSTS AND ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

E-waste management in Saint Lucia remains primarily financed through public budgets, with limited private participation. Private entities occasionally engage in small-scale recycling or awareness activities, but these efforts are voluntary and commercially marginal. A stakeholder reviewing the report indicated that an existing Cabinet Conclusion provides duty-free concessions for equipment used in waste management.

The economic potential of e-waste recovery remains low under the current conditions. Informal recyclers and landfill pickers depend largely on the resale of valuable metals, particularly copper, to local scrap dealers. There is no evidence of organized exports for recycling abroad, and no established domestic processing industry.

Stakeholders emphasized persistent barriers to developing a more sustainable e-waste system, including:

- Absence of e-waste-specific legislation and enforcement mechanisms;
- Limited institutional capacity and technical expertise;
- Weak coordination among government bodies, recyclers, and the private sector;
- Inadequate financing and absence of EPR;
- Low public awareness; and
- Unsafe informal collection and disposal at landfill sites.

Respondents confirmed that e-waste is frequently co-disposed of with municipal solid waste, creating long-term environmental risks.

While no concrete plans currently exist to expand employment in the e-waste sector, stakeholders view the development of national e-waste policies and regional cooperation as key opportunities to create green jobs and attract investment. Most respondents supported a regional approach to e-waste management, noting that shared infrastructure and harmonized EPR frameworks could reduce costs, improve efficiency, and strengthen compliance across the Caribbean.





Chapter 5.

Conclusions and Way Forward

CONCLUSIONS

WEEE context in Saint Lucia

- The amount of EEE POM yearly in Saint Lucia has been fluctuating during the years. It went from 2.28 million kg in 2010 to a peak of 2.75 million kg in 2018, with a decrease in 2022, and it is projected to reach 2.54 million kg in 2030. The largest contributors to the POM in the country were large household appliances (40%), consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels (16%), and lighting equipment (15%)
- The amount of e-waste generated has increased from 1.37 million kg in 2010 to 2.06 million kg in 2022, and it is projected to increase up to 2.27 million kg in 2030. Large household appliances (48%), consumer equipment and photovoltaic panels (12%), and small household appliances and lighting equipment (10%) are the largest contributors of e-waste generated.

Legal and regulatory aspects

- Saint Lucia has not yet enacted an overarching policy to address the management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, nor has a WEEE-specific legislation. A National Strategy and Roadmap for implementing the Regional Model Policy for four hazardous waste streams, including WEEE, was finalized in September 2025 as an output of the GEF ISLANDS Child Project 10279.
- As there is no specific WEEE legislation, there are no targeted e-waste strategies. Saint Lucia also lacks a national framework tailored to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in this sector.

WEEE infrastructure

- Respondents described existing resources and infrastructure as inadequate or severely limited at present to effectively manage WEEE.
- Nonetheless, the level of coordination among key stakeholders in the waste management sector is perceived as somewhat effective, allowing for regular communication, although coordination could be improved in certain areas, including in the WEEE sector.
- The electronic market in the country is heavily reliant on imports as there is minimal to no local production of EEE, few market players, and a weak industry infrastructure.
- Informal sector actors are active in collection, sorting and dismantling of WEEE, but the size of the sector is unknown to the stakeholders engaged.
- A few respondents had evidence or had heard of landfills or dumping sites where WEEE is disposed in a non-environmentally sound manner, co-mingled with household waste, but information or knowledge on this point seems to be limited.
- Stakeholders mentioned e-waste exports taking place in the country, but without specification on quantities and destination (only China was mentioned by one respondent).

Regional cooperation

- No formal cooperation or coordination exists in the region with respect to WEEE management, and legal or policy restrictions currently hinder cross border collaboration. But efforts are in progress to establish cross border partnerships.

WAY FORWARD

Considering the current situation regarding WEEE management in Saint Lucia, summarized above in the conclusions, the following items are indicated as possible recommendations and way forward to the relevant stakeholders, to improve the current system:

Legal and regulatory aspects

- To effectively scale operations, Saint Lucia should develop robust waste sorting infrastructure, secure investments in cutting-edge recycling technologies, and implement comprehensive training programs to cultivate a highly skilled workforce.
- In parallel, the enactment of dedicated WEEE management regulation, in fully aligned with Basel Convention principles and incorporating an Extended Producer Responsibility scheme, would allow to strengthen the current legal and regulatory framework.

WEEE infrastructure

- By prioritizing investments in technology, infrastructure, and human capital, Saint Lucia can unlock significant economic, environmental, and social value from the recycling sector. In addition, these measures would support the creation of jobs in the circularity sector.
- Saint Lucia could establish a system for regular monitoring of e-waste flows through dedicated data collection and analysis to support decision making and allocation of resources in the WEEE management and recycling.

Regional cooperation

- Finally, support to the creation of a regional cooperation mechanism for the exchange information and good practices on WEEE collection and recycling should be ensured.



List of References

Baldé et al. (2024), Global e-waste monitor 2024, ITU. UNITAR. Geneva/Bonn. Available at: https://ewastemonitor.info/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/GEM_2024_EN_11_NOV-web.pdf

FAO (2015), Country profile – Saint Lucia. FAO Aquastat Report, <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/553f0903-7dd2-413b-bdd7-f5c74499c90d/content>

Forti et al. (2020), E-waste Statistics: Guidelines on Classifications, Reporting and Indicators, second edition. United Nations University, ViE – SCYCLE, Bonn, Germany, available at: https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Climate-Change/Documents/2018/EWaste_Guidelines_final.pdf

Government of Saint Lucia. (2022). Saint Lucia National Source Inventory on Plastic Pollution. Department of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, available at: <https://www.govt.lc/media.govt.lc/www/resources/publications/national-source-inventory-for-saint-lucia-final-for-dissemination0.pdf>

OCHA (2025), Saint Lucia Location Map, available at: <https://www.unocha.org/publications/map/saint-lucia/saint-lucia-location-map-2025>

OECD (2024), Extended Producers Responsibility. Basic facts and key principles, available at: https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2024/04/extended-producer-responsibility_4274765d/67587b0b-en.pdf

St. Hill, R. (2020), Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS): Legal and Institutional Capacity Report for the Preparation Grant Phase (PPG) of the ISLANDS Project, available at: https://www.gefislands.org/sites/default/files/downloads/resource/GEF%20ISLANDS%2010279_%20Legal%20and%20Inst%20Capacity%20Report.pdf

Step Initiative (2014), One Global Definition of E-Waste. Solving the E-Waste Problem (Step) White Paper, UNU 3576 (June), 08, available at: <https://collections.unu.edu/view/UNU:6120>

World Bank (2024), St. Lucia, available at: <https://data.worldbank.org/country/st-lucia>

World Bank (2025), Saint Lucia, available at: <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/e408a7e21ba62d843bdd90dc37e61b57-0500032021/related/mpo-lca.pdf>

LIST OF WEBSITES

<https://comtradeplus.un.org/>

<https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Ewaste/EwasteAmendments/Overview/tabid/9266/Default.aspx>

<https://sluswma.org/>

Annex 1.

Online Survey

1. THE AIM OF THE SURVEY IS TO GATHER QUALITATIVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CURRENT WEEE MANAGEMENT SITUATION IN THE SURVEYED COUNTRIES.

The survey covers the following aspects: legislative and regulatory framework; institutional and organizational structure; financial mechanisms; collection, recycling and disposal infrastructure; data and monitoring; public awareness and participation; informal sector; readiness towards EPR system; environmental and social impacts; transboundary movements; challenges and barriers; regional cooperation.

Countries in scope: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, The Dominican Republic, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

Target audience: main actors involved in the WEEE management and in the possible establishment of a regional EPR system. This includes national stakeholders from the 12 project countries, including governmental authorities, recycling companies, WEEE importers/exporters, EEE producers (if existing), CSOs, NGOs, representatives from the informal sector etc.

Instructions: Kindly answer all sections / questions relevant to your field of work/expertise. You can skip those questions that are not relevant to your area of work.

Contacts: If you require assistance, including if you'd like to discuss a different way to compile the survey (through interview, offline format etc.), please contact the Project Coordinator elena.dangelo@unitar.org.

2. GLOSSARY

Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE): all products with circuitry or electrical components and a power or battery supply. It encompasses a wide range of products such as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines and hairdryers, mobile phones, wireless headphones and tablets, etc.

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE or e-waste): EEE that has been discarded by its owner as waste, without the intent for reuse

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): policy approach that makes producers responsible for the entire lifecycle of their products, including collection, recycling and disposal. It aims to reduce waste and encourage sustainable product design by shifting the burden from governments to manufacturers. In practice, EPR can involve setting up take-back systems for recycling, paying fees to fund collection and recycling programs, or ensuring products are designed for easier recycling.

Best Available Techniques (BAT): refers to the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation, which indicate the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing the basis for emission limit values and other permit conditions designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions and the impact on the environment as a whole. In the context of waste management facilities, BAT includes techniques that are economically and technically viable for reducing emissions and environmental impacts.

Best Environmental Practices (BEP): are the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies. BEP aims to prevent or minimize the generation of waste and its harmful effects on the environment. This includes practices such as waste prevention, reduction, reuse, recycling and proper disposal methods.

Informal sector: the informal sector in waste management refers to unregulated, small-scale activities where individuals or groups collect, sort, and recycle waste materials outside formal systems, often without legal recognition or protection.

3. CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name

Last Name

Phone Number

Email Address

Organization

Country

Gender: How do you identify?

- ☐ Man
- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Other

4. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

If WEEE legislation of WEEE-related policy are in place in your country, which are the products covered? (Please copy paste the list of products from the relevant legislation/policy).

If there is no specific WEEE legislation in the country, are any of the products listed in the 'Correspondence table with UNU-KEY' (included in the data gathering excel) covered in the general waste legislation or specific legislation? If yes, please provide below the official title of the legislation and possibly a link to access it.

Which elements are most needed, in your country's legal framework, to effectively support the EPR implementation? (Please rank from the most to the least needed).

- Clear definition of producer responsibilities – law must outline the obligations for producers to manage end-of-life products _____
- Improved collection and recycling systems – regulations should enhance the creation or support of infrastructure for collecting and recycling products _____
- Capacity building – initiatives to train stakeholders in maintaining collection and recycling systems _____
- Enforcement mechanisms – strong measures to ensure compliance with EPR requirements, including proportional penalties for non-compliance, combined with capacity building for inspectors _____
- Funding and financial mechanisms – legal provisions for financing EPR schemes, such as producer fees or eco-taxes _____
- Transparency and reporting requirements – laws should mandate regular reporting and transparency in the handling of waste and recycling efforts, supported by capacity building initiatives _____
- Consumer engagement & Awareness – regulations to promote public participation and education on EPR practices _____
- Other _____

5. INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Do you believe the operational bodies in your country have sufficient resources, expertise and infrastructure to effectively manage WEEE?

- ☐ Not adequate at all
- ☐ Very little adequate
- ☐ Adequate
- ☐ Fully adequate
- ☐ I don't know

How would you assess the current level of coordination among key stakeholders (producers, recyclers and waste managers) in your country's waste management sector? (Select the most appropriate option).

- ☐ Very effective – there is already strong collaboration, with clear roles and effective communication between stakeholders
- ☐ Somewhat effective – stakeholders communicate regularly, but coordination could be improved in certain areas
- ☐ Ineffective – stakeholders rarely coordinate, resulting in inefficiencies in waste management and unclear communication channels
- ☐ Uncertain – it is unclear how well stakeholders coordinate in the waste management sector
- ☐ Other _____

Which main public and private actors in your country should be involved in the implementation of an EPR scheme? (Please rank from the most – 1 – to the least important – 7).

- Government agencies – responsible for setting regulations, monitoring compliance and ensuring enforcement _____
- Private sector / producers – accountable for financing/organizing collection and recycling systems + ensuring product design for recyclability _____
- Producers Responsibilities Organizations (PROs) – coordinating collection, recycling and reporting compliance with EPR regulations _____
- Recycling facilities / industry experts – managing the infrastructure for recycling and disposal of WEEE, ensuring efficient processing _____
- Consumers – engage in proper disposal and circular strategies (reuse, recycle..) _____
- NGO / Civil society – support in public awareness, education and monitoring efforts to promote effective recycling/circular strategies _____
- Other _____

Are you aware of voluntary initiatives or measures put in place by the industry to contribute to WEEE management?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please specify below, by providing title/info or the link to the relevant initiatives.

6. FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

How would you describe the structure and maturity of the electronics market in your country? (Select the most appropriate option).

- ☐ Well-developed and competitive – mature market with strong local and international producers, diverse product offerings, and advanced supply chains
- ☐ Growing, but still in development
- ☐ Some established players, increasing local production, and expanding market potential, but with room for growth
- ☐ Emerging market
- ☐ Limited local production, reliance on imports, and underdeveloped supply chains
- ☐ Nascent or underdeveloped
- ☐ Minimal local production, few market players, and heavy dependence on imports with weak industry infrastructure
- ☐ Other

What are the financial instruments currently in place to finance the management of WEEE in your country? (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ Government Funding
- ☐ Taxes, municipal budgets, and public funds
- ☐ Waste Collection Fees – Households and businesses pay for waste services
- ☐ Landfill Tipping Fees
- ☐ Charges for waste disposal at landfills
- ☐ Private Sector Contributions – Voluntary recycling programs by businesses
- ☐ International aid and grants – Funding from NGOs and or global organizations
- ☐ Extended Producer Responsibilities (EPR) schemes

- ☐ Advanced Deposit Fee / deposit refund fee (= a refundable deposit is added to the price of a product, which is refunded to consumers when they return the used product or packaging)
- ☐ Advanced Disposal Fee (= a non-refundable fee added to the price of a product and paid by the consumer to cover future disposal and recycling costs)
- ☐ Other
- ☐ None

Which other economic and market-based instruments could be used to support WEEE management / EPR system (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ Government Funding – Taxes, municipal budgets, and public funds
- ☐ Waste Collection Fees – Households and businesses pay for waste services
- ☐ Landfill Tipping Fees – Charges for waste disposal at landfills
- ☐ Private Sector Contributions – Voluntary recycling programs by businesses
- ☐ International aid and grants – Funding from NGOs and or global organizations
- ☐ Extended Producer Responsibilities (EPR) schemes
- ☐ Advanced Deposit Fee / deposit refund fee (= a refundable deposit is added to the price of a product, which is refunded to consumers when they return the used product or packaging)
- ☐ Advanced Disposal Fee (= a non-refundable fee added to the price of a product and paid by the consumer to cover future disposal and recycling costs)
- ☐ Other

7. COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Is there a WEEE collection system in place in your country?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

How is WEEE collected in your country? (Please select all options that apply).

- ☐ Collection points (e.g. bin/boxes in streets or retail stores, collection centers etc.)
- ☐ Pickup at household by informal sector (e.g. informal waste pickers, local collectors)
- ☐ Door-to-door collection system (formal sector)
- ☐ Other

Are there dismantling / recycling facilities in place in your country?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Are existing facilities implementing best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BET)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ I don't know

Do WEEE recycling and disposal practices in your country comply with environmental standards?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ I don't know

Are dismantling / recycling facilities equipped with proper tools and safety equipment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ I don't know

Are workers in the WEEE management sector duly trained to handle collection, dismantling, recovery processes etc.?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ I don't know

What is needed to scale up existing WEEE dismantling / treatment facilities? (Please rank from the most to the least relevant).

- Expansion of facility capacity and land availability _____
- Investment in advanced recycling technologies _____
- Increased access to specialized equipment for dismantling _____
- Technical expertise for the efficient management of the other WEEE categories _____
- Training and development of skilled workers _____
- Better waste sorting and pre-processing system _____
- Other _____

8. DATA AND MONITORING

Who is responsible for collecting WEEE data? (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ National statistic body
- ☐ Ministry of Environment (or other GOV institutions)
- ☐ International organizations
- ☐ WEEE collection companies
- ☐ WEEE treatment companies
- ☐ Other

Is there a regular (e.g. annual) reporting system in place on EEE and WEEE.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not yet, but it is planned
- ☐ I don't know

9. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

What is currently in place in your country to support public awareness and engagement in WEEE disposal and recycling? (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ Efficient network of collection points
- ☐ Public awareness campaign and education programs
- ☐ Incentive programs (e.g. consumers are rewarded through financial incentives for returning WEEE to formal collection points or recycling centers)
- ☐ Other

Can you specify which awareness and education programs are in place?

How do consumers typically dispose of their WEEE ? (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ Drop off at designated collection points or recycling centers (formal channel)
- ☐ Dispose through informal collectors
- ☐ Dispose with other waste (e.g. household waste)
- ☐ Uncertain or unknown

10. INFORMAL SECTOR

At which stages is the informal sector involved in WEEE management? (Select all options that apply).

- ☐ Collection
- ☐ Sorting
- ☐ Dismantling
- ☐ Treatment
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other

Can you assess the size of the informal sector, in the WEEE management sector in your country?

- ☐ <25% of the overall WEEE management?
- ☐ Between 25–50%
- ☐ Between 50–75%
- ☐ >75%
- ☐ Unknown

Are there any programs/initiatives aimed at integrating the informal sector into formal systems? (If yes, please provide title, short description and website if available).

11. READINESS TOWARDS EPR SYSTEM

Are the main challenges foreseen in the adoption of an EPR for WEEE management sector in your country? (Please rank from most (1) to least (6) important).

- Legal & regulatory - lack of specific legislation, enforcement challenges or unclear responsibilities _____
- Financial & Economic - High implementation costs, insufficient funding mechanisms or resistance from producers _____
- Technical and infrastructure - Limited recycling facilities, collection systems, or technology for proper WEEE processing _____
- Stakeholder Cooperation - Lack of coordination among government, businesses and informal sector _____
- Public awareness and participation - Low consumer awareness or engagement in proper WEEE disposal _____
- Other _____

Do you have good practices related to EPR scheme in your country or outside to share (e.g. some steps taken to implement in EPR in WEEE or in another waste stream such as plastic waste etc.)? (If yes, please provide title, short description and website if available).

12. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Do you have evidence, in your country or in the region, of landfills or dumping sites where WEEE is disposed of if a non-environmentally sound manner (including mixed with other types of waste, ELVs, metals etc.)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I've heard about them but never saw them
- ☐ I don't know

Have new jobs related to the WEEE sector been created in the last 5 years in your country?

- ☐ No
- ☐ It is possible, but we do not have evidences
- ☐ Yes, but we do not have specific data
- ☐ Yes, and data are available from responsible entities (please provide information)

Are there plans, at national level, that envisage the creation of new jobs related to the WEEE sector and/or green sector in the next 5 years?

- ☐ No
- ☐ It is possible, but we do not have evidences
- ☐ Yes, but we do not have specific data
- ☐ Yes, and references are available from the responsible entities (please provide reference information)

Are women, children and/or other vulnerable groups involved in the informal sector – e.g. in the collection, dismantling of WEEE?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown

13. TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS

Does your country export WEEE for treatment purposes?

- ☐ Yes, to other countries in the region
- ☐ Yes, globally
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown

Please list the main receiving countries.

Does your country import WEEE for treatment or other purposes?

- ☐ Yes, from other countries in the region
- ☐ Yes, from other countries globally
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown

Please list the main sending countries.

14. CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

What are the current main limitations of the WEEE management systems (please rank/order them from the most to the least important).

- Gaps in legislation _____
- Gaps in infrastructure, technology and expertise related to WEEE management _____
- Lack of financing _____
- Lack of political commitment _____
- Lack of effective enforcement _____
- Competition from the informal sector _____
- Illegal exports _____
- Political and economic stability _____
- Lack of consumers' interest and commitment to properly dispose of WEEE _____
- Other _____

What are your suggestions for improvements of the WEEE management system in your country?

15. REGIONAL COOPERATION

What is the current level of policy harmonization and cross-border cooperation in the region for WEEE management (please select all options that apply).

- ☐ Well established – Formal policies, agreements and active collaboration exist between countries
- ☐ Moderate – Some cooperation exists, but it is limited in scope or effectiveness
- ☐ Minimal – Few cross-border initiatives, with occasional ad-hoc cooperation.
- ☐ Non-existent – No formal cooperation or coordination between countries

- ☐ Regulatory barriers – Legal or policy restrictions hinder cross-border collaboration
- ☐ Ongoing discussions – Efforts are in progress to establish cross-border partnerships
- ☐ Other

Are there any legal or practical initiatives in place at regional level related to WEEE management (e.g. bilateral or regional agreements, regional recycling centers etc.)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please provide details.

Would a regional approach facilitate the implementation of an EPR scheme? (Please select all options that apply).

- ☐ Yes, it would reduce implementation costs – shared infrastructure and systems can help reduce the financial burden on individual countries
- ☐ Yes, it would create harmonized regulations – a regional approach can ensure consistency in EPR requirements across borders, making compliance easier for producers and stakeholders
- ☐ Yes, it would enhance cross-border cooperation – collaboration between countries can improve recycling and waste management systems, benefiting the region as a whole
- ☐ No, it may create additional complexity – differences in national laws, political systems, and waste management capacities might complicate a regional approach
- ☐ No, each country context is too different – local needs and conditions may require tailored, country-specific EPR schemes rather than a regional approach
- ☐ Uncertain – it is unclear whether a regional approach would be beneficial for EPR implementation in my country
- ☐ Other

Annex 2.

Economic Impact Analysis Template

COLLECTION INFORMATION

COLLECTION						
Which e-waste category is collected in your country?	Comment (if the 10 categories are not used, please provide national code or description of the products collected)	How is the category (Column A) or product (Column B) collected in your country?	How is the system (Column C) currently financed ?	Comment (if 'Other' in Column D, further detail here)	What is the estimated number of people involved in the collection in your country?	What is the estimated price for the collection of one tonne of e-waste category (Column A) or product (Column B) in your country? [USD\$]
Example						
Cat 1		Formal	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme		50	300
Cat 1		Formal	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme		50	300
Cat 1		Formal	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme		50	300
Cat 1		Formal	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme		50	300
Cat 1		Informal	Self-financing		200	150
Cat 1		Informal	Self-financing		200	150
Cat 2		Informal	Self-financing		200	120
Cat 3		Informal	Self-financing		200	160
Cat 4		Informal	Self-financing		200	300

TREATMENT OPERATION

TREATMENT

Is the collected e-waste category (Column A) or product (Column B) treated in your country?	If 'No, outside the country' (Column H), to which country the e-waste category (Column A) or product (Column B) is sent to?	What is the average sale price of one tonne of e-waste category (Column A) or product (Column B) exported for recycling [+ or - USD\$]	What is the treatment capacity of the e-waste category (Column A) or product (Column B) in your country? [tonne]	Comment (Column K – specify if the treatment capacity refers to a mix of e-waste categories, codes or products)	What is the estimated number of people involved in the treatment in your country?	Which processes are mainly used to dismantle, treat or recycle the e-waste category (Column A), code or product (Column B) in your country?	Comment (if 'Other' in Column N, further detail here)	What are the main output fractions that are separated?	Comment (if 'Other' in Column P, further detail here)	How much of the output fraction (Column P) is produced yearly in your country? [tonne]	What is the average sale price of the fraction (Column P)? [+ or - USD\$]	Where is this fraction (Column P) usually traded?	To which country this fraction (Column P) is traded to?
Example													
Yes, in the country	USA	150	2000	this is valid for cat 1 and 2	50	Physical Treatment – magnetic separation		Metal frame		250	50	In the country	
Yes, in the country	USA	150	2000	this is valid for cat 1 and 2	50	Automated separation/ dismantling		Compressor		5	25	In the country	
Yes, in the country	USA	150	2000	this is valid for cat 1 and 4	50	Automated separation/ dismantling		Metal fraction		90	30	In the Caribbean region	SUR
Yes, in the country	USA	150	2000	this is valid for cat 1 and 5	50	Physical Treatment – magnetic separation		Plastic fraction		80	-10	In the Caribbean region	TTO
Yes, in the country	MEX, USA	50	500	this is valid for cat 1 and 6	50	Physical Treatment – separation		PCB		2	72	Outside the Caribbean region	USA
Yes, in the country	MEX, USA	50	500		600	Manual separation/ dismantling		Magnet		6	20	Outside the Caribbean region	MEX, USA
No, outside the country	MEX, USA, EU	-50	150		600	Manual separation/ dismantling		Ferrous metals		20	50	I do not know	
No, outside the country	MEX, USA, NLD	100	200		600	Manual separation/ dismantling		Compressor		4	20	I do not know	
I do not know	MEX, USA, NLD	100	350		600	Manual separation/ dismantling		Compressor		2	20	I do not know	





Supported by



Led by



In partnership with

