Setting the standard

The Role of International Standards in Tackling E-waste and Achieving a Circular Economy

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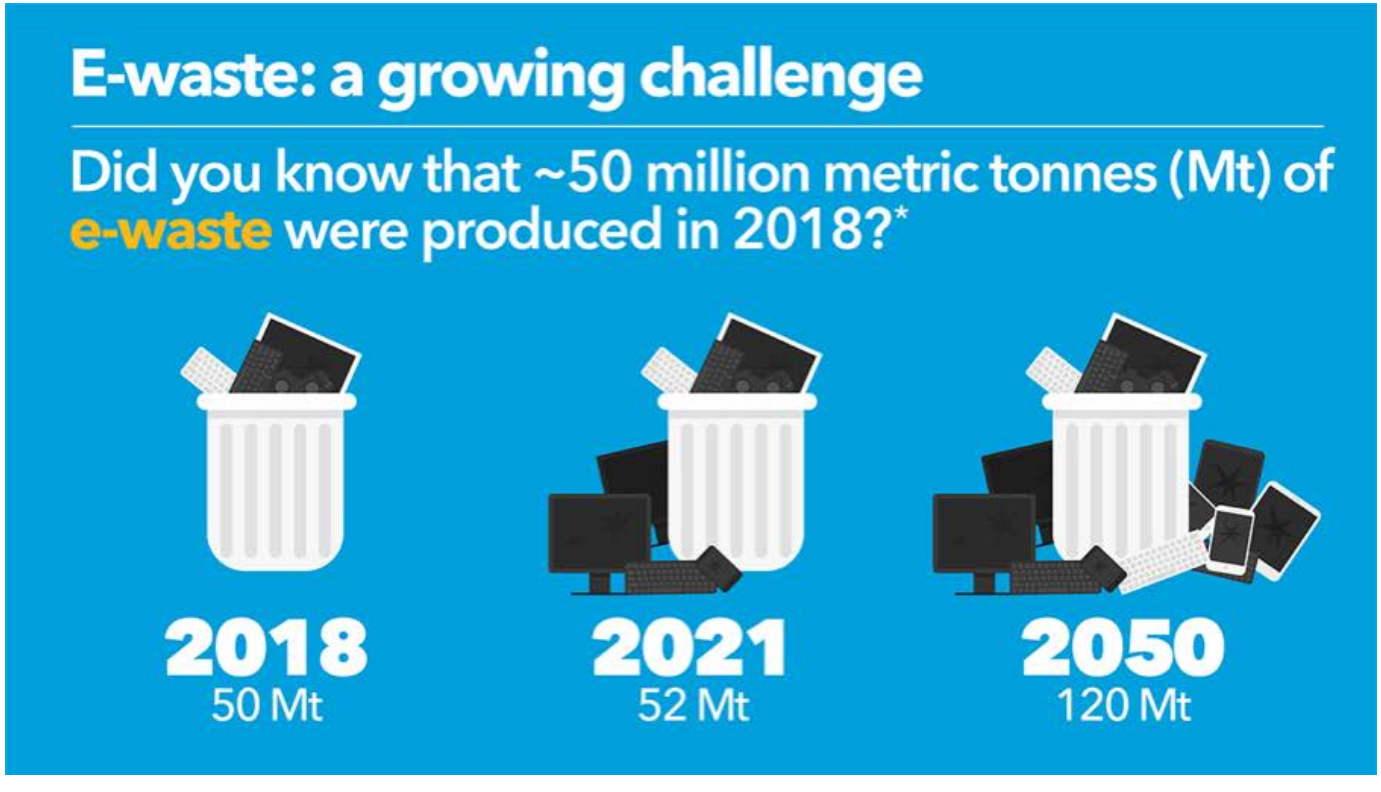

In 2017, just **20%** **of e-waste was recycled** and only **67** **countries** had developed e-waste legislation.

What you can do

Solving the issue together

International Commitments

ITU's activities

ITU: UN specialized agency for ICTs

- ITU-T Study Group 5: lead expert group to develop standards & guidelines to tackle e-waste & achieve a Circular Economy
- Annual Green Standards Week
- Raising awareness & capacity building

ITU & other UN bodies

- U4SSC: A UN initiative which provides an open platform
  - Guidelines on strategies for circular cities
- E-waste Coalition
- UNIDO/GEF Project in Latin America

U4SSC

E-waste Management & Recycling of Rare Metals

Rare-metals should be recycled

A mobile phone contains around 20 rare metals.

A ton of gold ore yields just 5g of gold, whereas a ton of used mobile phones **yields a staggering 400g.**

Recommendation ITU-T L.1100 - A method to provide recycling information of rare metals in ICT products

Details recycling process and provides guidelines as to how organizations may fairly and transparently report on rare metal recycling.

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Power Supply Series

Recommendation ITU-T L.1000: Universal power adapter and charger solution for mobile terminals and other hand-held ICT devices:

- Saves 82,000 tons of e-waste per year
- Saves at least 13.6 million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually

Recommendation ITU-T L.1001: External universal power adapter solutions for stationary information and communication technology devices:

- Saves 300,000 tons of e-waste per year
- Reduces the energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of external power supplies by between 25% and 50%

ITU-T Standards on E-waste & Circular Economy

Classified by

Take back systems	ITU-T L.1021: Extended producer responsibility – Guidelines for sustainable e-waste management
Framework and guidelines	ITU-T L.1030: E-waste management framework ITU-T L.Suppl.27: Success stories
Reduction of e-waste	ITU-T L.1000: Universal Power Adapter (UPA) for mobile phones ITU-T L.1001: UPA for fixed terminals ITU-T L.1002: UPA for notebooks ITU-T L.1005: UPA assessment solution ITU-T L.1006: UPA assessment for stationary ICT ITU-T L.1010: Green batteries
Recycling	ITU-T L.1100: Rare metals ITU-T L.1101: Measurement methods ITU-T L.1102: Use of print labels ITU-T L.1400: Methodologies for assessing environmental impacts of ICT ITU-T L.1410: Methodologies for LCA for ICT
Circular Economy	ITU-T L.1020: Guide for operators and suppliers ITU-T L.Suppl.28: Definition and approaches

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New Report: *Turning Digital Technology Innovation Into Climate Action*

- Responsible use and uptake of ICTs;
- Use of global ICT standards and best practices;
- **Mainstreaming of eco-design principles**; and
- Environmentally efficient applications of frontier technologies.

Setting the standard

GEF Project on “Strengthening of National Initiatives and Enhancement of Regional Cooperation for the Environmentally Sound Management of POPs in Waste of Electronic or Electrical Equipment (WEEE) in Latin American Countries”

Development of two case studies on the implementation of ITU-T Recommendations to tackle e-waste and achieve a circular economy in two Latin American countries.

Call4Action: *Use of Frontier Technologies in Combating Climate Change and Achieving a Circular Economy*

Using AI to accelerate climate and circular economy actions.

Comprehensive framework to ensure positive technological disruption.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships and international cooperation to facilitate sustainable and inclusive growth.

Implementation of international standards to harmonize the deployment of next-generation ICT infrastructure and evaluate the environmental impacts of frontier technologies.

Raising awareness on the role of frontier technologies in combating climate change and achieving a CE.

Reducing the negative impact of ICT-related e-waste to contribute to tackling climate change and moving to a CE.

Frontier technologies to reduce societal greenhouse gas emissions in line with scientific trajectories and to foster a CE.

Thank you!

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