

Workshop & Expert Meeting on Statistics for SDGs

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Providing environmental statistics for SDGs - E-WASTE GENERATED-

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Abstract

Electronic waste (e-waste) is the fastest growing solid waste stream in the world. Electrical and electronic items contain many different toxic substances. National actions are essential to protect communities from dangerous e-waste recycling activities. Therefore, reliable e-waste data is crucial for sustainable waste management.

Reliable e-waste data can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals, especially SDG 12, "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns", where e-waste has a sub-indicator according to SDG 12.4.2, "Hazardous waste management", and SDG 12.5.1 'National recycling rate'.

The Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina used a common methodology and tool for calculating the mass of electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market (POM) and waste electrical and electronic equipment generated (E-WG) (MANUAL for the use of the WEEE calculation tool, 2017).

Key words: *Electrical and electronic equipment, e-waste generated, SDGs*

I. WASTE STATISTICS

1. Waste statistics help to measure general trends in waste generation and treatments and can be used to monitor the effects of the implementation of waste policy. Data on specific waste streams are collected to monitor EU countries' compliance with quantitative targets, such as recycling and recovery rates, set out in EU waste legislation.
2. The circular economy monitoring framework includes waste-related indicators, some of which are also used for measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These mentioned policies use the many waste statistics-related indicators, including indicator Recycling rate of e-waste.
3. The Agency for Statistics BiH continuously works on improving the quality of statistical data on waste, as well as, providing data in accordance with new requirements. Waste statistical surveys were prepared in accordance with the provisions of the EU regulations in the field of Waste and the prescribed methodological recommendations of Eurostat.

II. ITU-UNEP-UNITAR E-WASTE MONITOR FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS

4. The ITU Office for Europe and the Department of Environment and Telecommunications, the UNEP Regional Office for Europe, the Program Office in Vienna and the UNITAR-SCYCLE Program have joined forces within the regional project *ITU-UNEP-UNITAR E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans*.

5. The objective of which was to support national level data producers in making official statistics on e-waste and facilitate the production of globally harmonized statistics in the area. In general, the project contributed to building the foundation for green and sustainable digitization processes, contributed to the achievement of sustainable development goals, especially SDG 12, "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns", where e-waste has a sub-indicator according to SDG 12.4.2, "Hazardous waste management" and SDG 12.5.1 'National recycling rate'.

6. The Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina used a common methodology and tool for calculating the mass of electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market (POM) and waste electrical and electronic equipment generated (E-WG) (*MANUAL for the use of the WEEE calculation tool, 2017*).

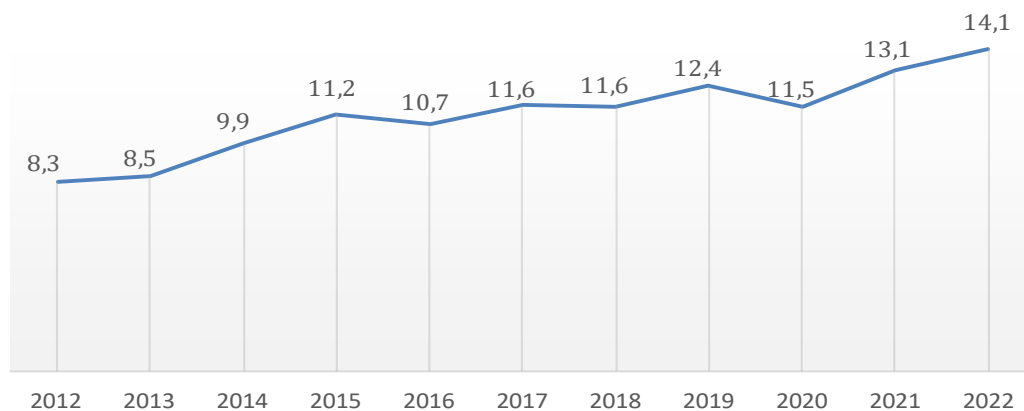
7. Based on the tools and methodology developed by UNITAR, the BHAS managed to compile the e-waste statistics indicators from 2010 up until 2022 in compliance with the UNU-KEYs and the EU-6 classification system.

III. INTERNATIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

8. Based on the tools and methodology developed by UNITAR, the following indicators were constructed:

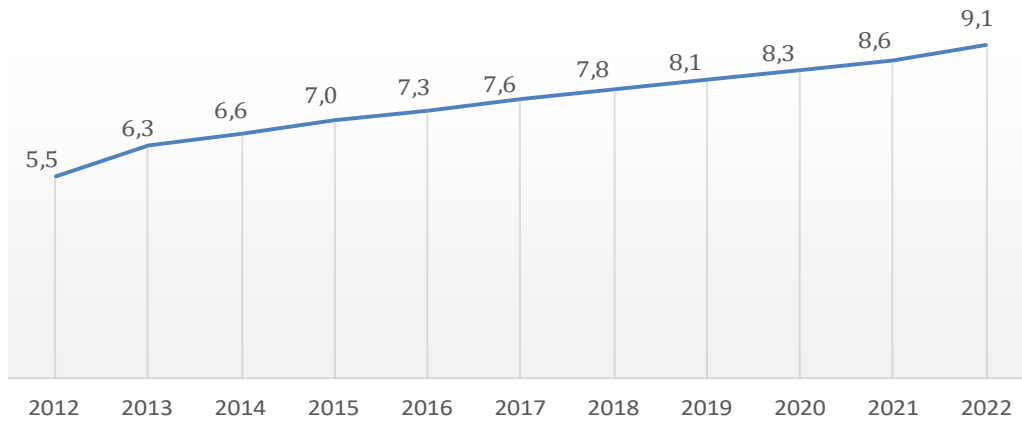
- i. Total EEE Put on Market (unit kg/inh) - this represents the size of the national e-goods market.
- ii. Total E-waste generated (unit kg/inh) - this represents the size of the national e-waste market

Figure 1: Total EEE placed on the market (POM), kg/per capita, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2012-2022



9. The annual amount of electrical and electronic equipment put on the market per capita is increasing, and in 2022 it is higher by 4.3% compared to 2021.

Figure 2: Total generated electrical and electronic waste, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2012-2022, kg/per capita



10. The average annual amount of e-waste per capita is constantly growing, in 2022 it is higher by 5.8% compared to 2021. This growth has seen a concomitant surge in the amount of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) and, subsequently, e-waste.

11. The Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina regularly prepare the transmission of data to Eurostat for POM and e-WG through Questionnaire WASTE_WEEEDAT_A. It is based on data collected within the framework of Directive 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE Directive).

IV. LESSON LEARNED

12. Within the Sustainable Development Goals, the Goals and indicators addressing waste include: SDG 12.4.2 Hazardous Waste generated and treated ((a) Hazardous waste generated per capita; and (b) proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment). The indicator aims at determining the hazardous generated, hazardous waste generated by type (including e-waste as a sub-indicator) and the proportion of hazardous waste treated.

13. E-waste is a complex mixture of materials and components that can cause major environmental and health problems due to its hazardous content. In order to improve e-waste management and contribute to the circular economy and increase resource efficiency, it is necessary to improve the collection of electrical and electronic data, data on waste treatment and recycling of e-waste.

14. The need is visible for better e-waste data and information for policymakers to track progress, identify the need for action, and to achieve sustainable development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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