



# Pilot Testing of the UNSD e-waste Questionnaire

## Tanzania Experience



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## 1. Background Information

- The fast growing use of ICT, technology and GDP is creating a growing e-waste stream in developing countries such as Tanzania.

- **Annual GDP Growth Rate , 2016 - 7%**

- **Rapid growth of IT sector**

Percentage of households having a mobile phone doubled from 25 % in 2007 HBS to 57% in 2011/12 HBS

- **Increased access to electricity and solar power**

Percentage of households with access to electricity doubled from 9.8 % in 2007 HBS to 18.2% in 2011/12 HBS

## 1. Background Information..

- The challenge of e-waste is of greater concern in Tanzania because **there is no proper e-waste management**
- Lack of e-waste management , **leads to disposal of both e-waste and municipal waste in dumpsites** hence polluting the environment and creating health risks to the population.
- **The magnitude and flow of e-waste generation is not well** known in Tanzania. Only a few studies exist, which contain a rough estimates of e-waste generated (Kaunde 2009, VPO 2005)
- **There is also inadequate information** on the existing practices and strategies on e-waste management in the country.

## 2. National Efforts on E-Waste Management - Institutional framework

- Enactment of the **Environmental Management Act No. 20 of 2004 sets up the institutional framework** for environmental management in the country
- The **key institution** involved in the general waste management in Tanzania is the **Vice President's Office**
- Others include;
  - NBS
  - Local Government Authorities (LGAs)
  - the relevant sector ministries and
  - National Environment Management Council (NEMC)

## 2. National Efforts on E-Waste Management - Legislation

- E-waste is managed through the **solid waste and hazardous regulations** prescribed under the Environmental Management Act (2004).
- Part VIII of the Environmental Management (**Hazardous Waste Control**) regulations, 2009 of the Environmental Management Act (2004) addresses **the issue of electrical and electronic waste.**
- Tanzania has **no specific e-waste management legislation.**

## 2. National Efforts on E-Waste Management - International Conventions

- Tanzania is part to a number of **international and regional Convention** related to environmental management issues
  - **The Basel Convention** on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and
  - **The Bamako Convention** on Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa.

## 2. National Efforts on E-Waste Management – Statistics

- NBS is mandated to **produce, coordinate production and dissemination** of official Statistics within the NSS in Tanzania
- Compilation of Environment Statistics including waste statistics is carried out in close collaboration with the **National Technical Working Group on environment Statistics**
- In addition, NBS has Regional Statistics Offices in all regions with Statisticians working close with the **Regional Administrations and LGAs in production of official statistics**
- **The main challenge:** lack of coordinated system for e-waste statistics compilation
- **There are few uncoordinated estimates** on e-waste generation from different sources such as Government, NGOs, case studies etc.



## 2. National Efforts on E-Waste Management - Challenges

- There is no effective monitoring and sound e-waste management
- Lack of specific e-waste policy and regulation that deals with e-waste management
- Uncoordinated efforts for e-waste management does not match with the gravity of the problem
- There is lack of awareness of the magnitude of the danger of the e-waste and its resultant adverse effects to the environment and public health
- Lack of resources and technical expertise for effective e-Waste management

## 3. Pilot Testing of the UNSD/UN Environment e-waste Questionnaire



United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and United Nations Environment  
**PILOT QUESTIONNAIRE 2017 ON ELECTRONIC WASTE**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Guidance**

**Table EW1: E-waste Generated and Collected**

**Table EW2: Electronic Waste legislation, management and miscellaneous**

**Table EW3: Supplementary Information Sheet**

**United Nations University (UNU)-KEY correspondence**

## 3. Pilot Testing of the UNSD/UN Environment e-waste Questionnaire – Key Observations

- The questionnaire was distributed by UNSD but it was designed in collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU)
- The objectives of the questionnaire was to collect information on:-
  - E-waste generated and collection
  - Track the flows of the generated e-waste
  - Asses the existence of e-waste legislation and management

## 3. Pilot Testing of the UNSD e-waste Questionnaire – Key Observations

- The UNSD e-waste questionnaire was helpful in many ways as it increased awareness and attention to the growing issue of electronic waste in the country.
- E-waste is among the emerging environmental issues in Tanzania and there was no coordinated system for its management. Efforts are now underway by NBS and NTWG to establish e-waste management system.
- It enhanced the knowledge of Statisticians on e-waste compilation including categorization using UNU KEYs
- The assessment of the existing e-waste legislation and other policies informed the Policy makers on special consideration for e-waste management during the revision of the National Environment Policy

## 3. Pilot Testing of the UNSD e-waste Questionnaire – Challenges

- There was no reliable official data for part one of the questionnaire on E-Waste generated and collected due to lack of coordinated system for e-waste management in Tanzania
- The guidance provided to fill the questionnaire indicated some years were prefilled basing on the UNU estimates for countries to validate, but there was no data prefilled for Tanzania
- It was also indicated to report data in the requested unit and that a conversion table was provided but the conversion table was missing in the questionnaire.

## 4. E-waste Training provided by UNU - Observations

- Tanzania benefited from one day training on UNU E-waste calculation tool
- The tool support calculation of the weight of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market, imported, exported, collected and recycled
- The tool has high correlation with the UNSD e-waste questionnaire; for instance; it uses the EU-6 categories, EU-10 categories and UNU categories for e-waste
- It is an additional resource to developing countries such as Tanzania where there is inadequate capacity for e-waste generation and collection.

## 4. E-waste Training provided by UNU - Challenges

- It was only one day training, more time could provide more discussion and understanding of the tool
- There is no facility to perform forecasts on e-waste generated as indicated on Pg 4 of the manual
- The tool does not provide flexibility for adding national classification which might be of interest at country level
- During testing; the tool does not check for extreme values and inconsistencies; for instance; if there is more exports than imports and Placed on the Market (POM) or when there is more collection than POM and imported the tool is silent.

## 4. E-waste Training provided by UNU – The Way Forward

- More training on how to use the tool is recommended within the National Statistics System. Areas of concentration would be:-
  - To review the assumptions used to suit the country specifications
  - Review the concepts and definitions of e-waste compilation for knowledge sharing with specific examples at country level
  - Add a facility for adding country classification
  - Assist on development of country specific e-waste management system



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