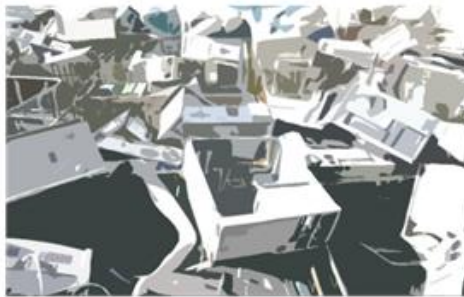


## Annex C Poster



# Countering WEEE Illegal Trade

### Countering WEEE Illegal Trade

The *Countering WEEE Illegal Trade (CWIT)* project provides a set of recommendations to the European law enforcement authorities that will assist them in countering the illegal trade of WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment), also known as 'e-waste', within the EU. Funded by the Seventh Framework Programme, this security research project brings together a team of experts skilled in the fields of e-waste analysis, crime scene investigation, chain security and database management.

#### Project objectives

- Identify existing policy, regulatory, procedural and technical gaps that are exploited in the transport and dispose of e-waste.
- Work together with WEEE actors to quantify flows and typology.
- Prepare a set of recommendations for the Commission and law enforcement agencies countering the illegal trade of e-waste.

#### Participate

Participation is open to all interested parties. You can participate and receive e-mail updates:

<http://www.cwitproject.eu/participate/stakeholders>

#### Contact information

Contact us at: [info@cwitproject.eu](mailto:info@cwitproject.eu)

[www.cwitproject.eu](http://www.cwitproject.eu)

Project coordinator: Dr. Thérèse Shryane (INTERPOL) [t.shryane@interpol.int](mailto:t.shryane@interpol.int)

Scientific coordinator: Dr. Ir. Jacco Huisman (UNU) [j.huisman@unu.edu](mailto:j.huisman@unu.edu)

#### Partners



Zanasi & Partners



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### EVENT NAME, COUNTRY

Conference Room XIX, Address  
Month ##-##, YYYY

"Countering WEEE Illegal Trade"  
[www.cwit.eu](http://www.cwit.eu)

## Annex D Press Release



Brussels, 22 October 2013

### EU Crack Down on Illegal E-waste Trade

An international consortium of seven organisations has launched a new project, 'Countering WEEE Illegal Trade' (CWIT), co-ordinated by Interpol (International Criminal Police Organisation). The project will provide a set of recommendations to the European Commission and law enforcement authorities that will assist them in countering the illegal trade of WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, or 'e-waste'). Funded by the European Union's 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program, this two-year security research project brings together experts skilled in the fields of e-waste analysis, crime analysis, supply chain security and database management. Only about 3 million tons of the estimated total of 8 million tons of WEEE was officially collected, treated and reported to authorities across Europe in 2010. E-waste contains materials such as gold, copper and palladium which make it very valuable on the black market; attracting not only illegal single operators but also organised crime groups.

However, e-waste also contains hazardous substances such as mercury and cadmium. Therefore illegal e-waste handling, often in poorer countries, leads to huge health issues and environmental pollution. At the same time, the European Union is losing a vast amount of rare earth metals and other important minerals due to increasing illicit activities, poor compliance rates, and limited enforcement activities in e-waste.

These issues call for increased attention and enhanced enforcement in the context of WEEE trade, transport and treatment. The CWIT project has been established to identify the policy, regulatory, procedural and technical gaps as observed in today's business environment, and to suggest tangible improvements.

The CWIT consortium is composed of partners that have a great deal of expertise on the WEEE area, crime analysis and the management of large databases, it comprises Interpol, WEEE Forum aisbl, United Nations University (UNU), Zanasi & Partners (Z&P), Compliance and Risks (C2P), Cross-Border Research Association (CBRA) and United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

Find out more: [www.cwitproject.eu](http://www.cwitproject.eu).

ENDS

### More about CWIT (Countering WEEE Illegal Trade)

CWIT will help its two main target groups, WEEE related industries, and governmental policy & enforcement actors, to enhance capabilities to seriously reduce illicit activities around WEEE in the future.

More specifically, the outputs of the CWIT project will comprise a set of recommendations related to the European legal and policy framework, taking account of the objectives and constraints of all key government and business stakeholders, as well as future research directions to undertake and new technologies to develop in order to minimise illicit activities and related problems.

In addition, the project will establish a multi-layer platform for information exchange among the various actors involved in countering WEEE illegal trade. Key stakeholders for the project include: EU-level policy makers and regulators, national law enforcement agencies, including police, customs and environmental inspection agencies, as well as e-waste treatment and electronics sectors and industries.

In achieving these objectives, the CWIT consortium will, among other tasks:

1. Estimate the volume of WEEE generated in Europe; and
2. Identify companies, including brokers, involved in the WEEE export market;
3. Analyse the involvement of organised crime in the global distribution of e-waste;
4. Develop a detailed understanding of the destinations and routes used to carry out illicit WEEE shipments.

The CWIT consortium is comprised of seven institutes with combined experience in: e-waste, crime analysis, supply chain security, management of large databases, and European security research projects. More specifically CWIT-partner profiles include; law enforcement, research & consulting, and technology management.

| Organisation   | Website  |
|--|--|
| Compliance and Risks (C2P)   | <a href="http://www.complianceandrisk.com">www.complianceandrisk.com</a> |
| Cross-Border Research Association (CBRA)                                   | <a href="http://www.cross-border.org">www.cross-border.org</a>           |
| International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol)                      | <a href="http://www.interpol.int">www.interpol.int</a>                   |
| United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) | <a href="http://www.unicri.it">www.unicri.it</a>                         |
| United Nations University (UNU)  | <a href="http://www.unu.edu">www.unu.edu</a>                             |
| Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment Forum AISBL (WEEE Forum)      | <a href="http://www.weee-forum.org">www.weee-forum.org</a>               |
| Zanasi & Partners (Z&P)  | <a href="http://www.zanasi-alessandro.eu">www.zanasi-alessandro.eu</a>   |

For more information, please contact: Lucía Herreras Martínez, CWIT Account Manager in the WEEE Forum – GSM +34 (637) 72 54 02, [lucia.herreras@weee-forum.org](mailto:lucia.herreras@weee-forum.org).

### About the WEEE Forum

The WEEE Forum ([www.weee-forum.org](http://www.weee-forum.org)) is a European non-profit association speaking for 39 electrical and electronic equipment waste (WEEE) producer compliance schemes – alternatively referred to as ‘producer responsibility organisations’ (PRO). It was set up in the early 2000s. The 39 PROs are based in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. It is the biggest organisation of its kind in the world. In 2012, its member organisations reported collection and proper de-pollution and recycling of about 1.9 million tonnes of WEEE. Members in 2013: Amb3E, Appliances Recycling, Asekol, Asekol SK, EÁF, EcoAsimelec, Ecodom, Ecolec, Ecologic, Ecoped, ecoR’it, Eco-systèmes, Ecotic, Eco Tic, EEPa, EES-Ringlus, ElektroEko, Elektrowin, El-Kretsen, elretur, el retur, Envidom, Fotokiklosi, Lightcycle, Lumicom, RAecycle, Recicla Canaria, Recupel, ReMedia, Repic, Retela, RoRec, SENS e-Recycling, SLRS, SWICO, UFH, Wecycle, WEEE Ireland and Zeos.