UPNOWASTE – WP2

Activity 3: Preparation of common methodology for reuse/recycling

Best practices template and guidelines

The aim of this template is to have a common structure for a best practice about reuse/recycle of materials selected in the previous project activity “Analysing Reuse/Recycling Activities of Materials”. Each partner will research and find two examples from its local community or at national level according to this table:

- ULE: wood
- ULE: plastic
- TREBAG: paper
- ITI: metals
- GEA: textile
- GL: glass
- UMT: electronics

From the examples selected, a report with a common methodology for reuse/recycling of any material will be drafted.

BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE #1

Combination ID	009
Country	Ireland
Type of material	Electronics
Organization / Institution / Association	Unofficial Media and Training Limited (UMT)
Title / Name of the activity	Camara Education
Abstract	Camara Education is an Irish-founded non-profit organisation dedicated to bridging the digital divide by refurbishing donated computers and sending them to schools in Sub-Saharan Africa. Through integrating technology into education, Camara aims to empower students with digital skills that are needed for the modern world, while simultaneously promoting sustainable practices through electronics reuse.
Keywords	Digital inclusion, computer refurbishment, sustainable education, electronics recycling, Sub-Saharan Africa, digital literacy, educational technology.
Objectives	• To enhance educational outcomes by providing access to technology in under-resourced schools. • To promote digital literacy among students and teachers in Sub-Saharan Africa. • To reduce electronic waste through the refurbishment and reuse of computers. • To establish sustainable educational infrastructures supported by technology.
Methodology	1. Camara partners with organisations and individuals to collect used computers. 2. Collected devices undergo secure data wiping and are refurbished to ensure functionality. 3. Refurbished computers are shipped to educational institutions in countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia. 4. Teachers receive training to effectively

	integrate technology into their teaching methodologies. 5. Ongoing technical support and maintenance are provided to ensure the longevity and effectiveness of the technology in educational settings.
Technological requirements / Tools needed	• Used computers and IT equipment for refurbishment. • Secure data erasure tools to protect donor information. • Educational software tailored to the curricula of recipient schools. • Logistical infrastructure for shipping equipment. • Training materials and resources for teacher education programmes.
Why is this reuse/ recycle action considered good practice?	Camara Education provides and example of an innovative approach to electronics reuse by aligning environmental sustainability with educational development. In diverting functional electronics from landfills and repurposing them for educational use, Camara addresses both e-waste concerns and the digital divide. Their model not only extends the lifecycle of electronic devices but also promotes community development and equity through education, making it a replicable and impactful practice.
Additional information (website, contact, references, etc.)	Website: https://camara.org/

BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE #2

Combination ID	010
Country	Ireland
Type of material	Electronics
Organization / Institution / Association	Unofficial Media and Training Limited (UMT)

Title / Name of the activity	Fastrack into Information Technology (FIT) Consumer Electronics project
Abstract	The FIT Consumer Electronics Project is an innovative initiative in Ireland aimed at addressing the shortage of skilled Consumer Electronics Service and Repair Technicians. Funded by the Circular Economy Innovation Grant and led by FIT in collaboration with WEEE Ireland, the project focuses on developing a structured training programme emphasising preventive maintenance, repair, and reuse of consumer electronics. Through introducing the Circular Economy Skillset Initiatives (CESI), the project promotes a more circular and sustainable economy. The pilot phase of the project ran from August 2023 to April 2024.
Keywords	Consumer electronics, repair training, circular economy, skill development, WEEE Ireland, FIT, sustainability, technician shortage, preventive maintenance, reuse.
Objectives	• To develop and implement Ireland's first dedicated training programme for Consumer Electronics Service and Repair Technicians. • To address the national shortage of skilled technicians in the consumer electronics repair sector. • To promote repair and reuse activities within the consumer electronics sector, supporting a circular economy. • To establish a curriculum that aligns with industry needs and receives official QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland) validation.
Methodology	1. Establishment of a Steering Committee and Sub Steering Committee comprising industry champions and independent operators to drive the programme. 2. Conducting research to identify the expertise lacking in the sector and determining the competences required for Consumer Electronics Repair & Reuse. 3. Designing a course curriculum on 'Consumer Electronics Repair' based on the findings from the Skills Needs Analysis. 4. Executing a pilot Consumer Electronics Service Technician training course, seeking

	official QQI validation in collaboration with a specific Education and Training Board (ETB).
Technological requirements / Tools needed	1. Facilities equipped for hands-on training in electronics repair. 2. Access to consumer electronic devices for practical training. 3. Tools and equipment necessary for electronics diagnostics and repair. 4. Educational materials and resources aligned with the developed curriculum. 5. Collaboration with industry partners to provide insights and potential work placements
Why is this reuse/ recycle action considered good practice?	This initiative is considered a good practice examples because it addresses the skills gap in the electronics repair sector, thereby promoting the principles of a circular economy. In focusing on preventive maintenance and repair, the project extends the lifespan of consumer electronics, reducing electronic waste. The collaboration between FIT and WEEE Ireland ensures that the training programme is industry-relevant and supports national sustainability goals.
Additional information (website, contact, references, etc.)	Reference: https://www.weeeireland.ie/close-the-loop-initiatives/fastrack-into-information-technology-fit-consumer-electronics-project-2023/ Website: https://fit.ie/