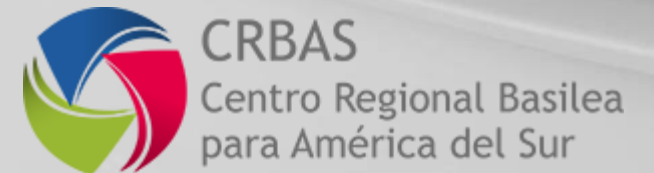


2022 IEMN Virtual Meeting

# Argentina Update

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# Argentina

- Argentina is one of the largest generators of WEEE in the Latin American and Caribbean region
- Argentina does not yet have specific legislation on electronic waste or a legal definition of it.
- Substances (eg POPs) and components found in electronic waste are regulated as hazardous waste.
- Eight provinces of Argentina do have specific regulations in this regard.
- At the national level, its management is contemplated in the Comprehensive Household Waste Law and in the Hazardous Waste Law.

# Argentina



Fuente del mapa: Sección de Información Geoespacial de las Naciones Unidas<sup>(42)</sup>



44.8 million inhabitants



2,780,403 km<sup>2</sup>






Borders: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay, South Atlantic Ocean and Chile





GDP per capita PPP: \$23,040 USD



Average household size: 3.3 members

EEE put on market (2019):	WEEE generated (2019):	WEEE officially collected (2019):
 <p><b>313 kt.</b> 7,0 kg/hab.</p>	 <p><b>328 kt.</b> 7,7 kg/hab.</p>	 <p><b>13 kt.</b> 0,3 kg/hab.</p>

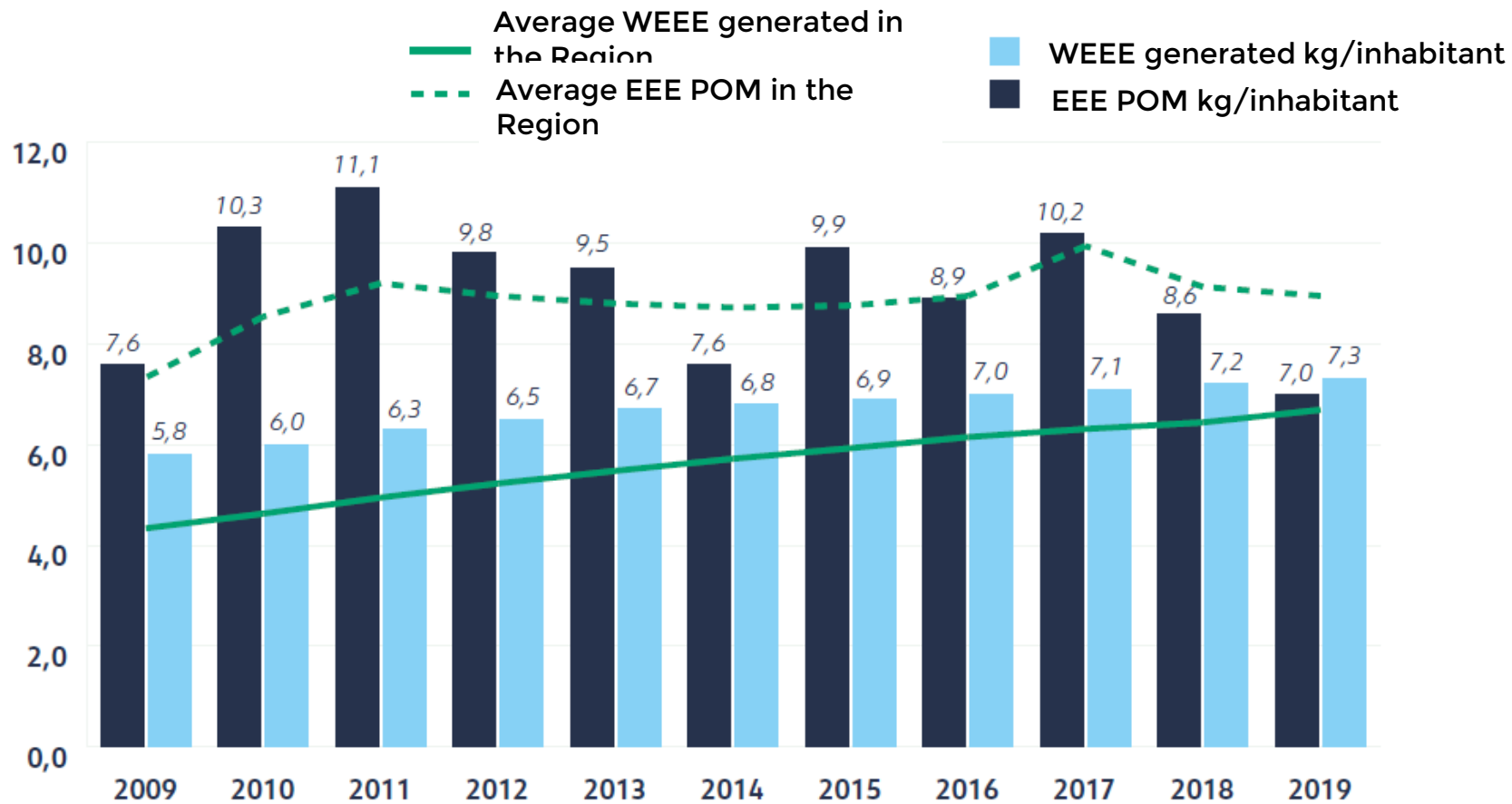
(Fuente: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development<sup>(45)</sup> / UNU / UNITAR)

WEEE plastics generated:	BFR generated from WEEE:
 <p><b>87 kt.</b> 1,9 kg/hab.</p>	 <p><b>6 kt.</b> 0,2 kg/hab.</p>

(Fuente: UNDP / UNU / UNITAR)

# National statistics on electronic waste

At present, no statistics are compiled on electronic waste in Argentina.



# National legal framework

## Main legal and regulatory instruments

- National Law No. 24051 of December 17, 1991 of Hazardous Waste(47), the corresponding Decree Regulation No. 831 of 1993 on Waste Dangerous and the corresponding Resolution of application No. 897 of September 9, 2002.
- National Law No. 23922 of March 21, 1991, Approval of the Basel Convention on the Control of Cross-Border Movements of Hazardous Waste and its Elimination [36].• Law No. 25,675 of November 6, 2002, Law Environment General.
- Law No. 25916 of August 24, 2004, on Management Comprehensive Household Waste(49).
- Law No. 25670 of 2002, on Minimum Budgets of Environmental Protection for the Management and Elimination of PCBs and its corresponding Decree Regulation No. 853 of 2007.
- Resolution No. 522 of 2016 on the development of a National Strategy for the Management Sustainable Special Generation Waste Universal (REGU)(51).

# National legal framework

## **Main legal and regulatory instruments**

- Resolution No. 189 of May 17, 2019, to the implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Special Waste from Universal Generation (REGU) established by the Resolution No. 522/2016.
- Resolution 451/2019 for the Prohibition of Import, Formulation, Trade and Use of Persistent Organic Pollutants.

# National legal framework

- There are five bills presented in the National Congress that try to give, a response to the problem in question.
  - Four of them are framed under the Minimum Budgets for Environmental Protection
  - one of them only presents the preparation of a Management Plan at the national level.



# E-wastes recycling systems

- In February 2020, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development identified that there were 27 companies that manage electronic waste nationwide.
- Authorization from the Ministry of Environment for the exploitation of installations of hazardous waste (e.g. components and substances from WEEE) that work on a interjurisdictional basis.
- It is estimated that 4% of the electronic waste generated (equivalent to 9.4 kt, 0.4 kg/inhab.) are treated formally in recycling companies.
- Argentina does not have a differentiated collection system at the national level, although such collection can be carried out at the provincial level.
- In Argentina, the informal sector is made up of waste collectors and junk dealers, who carry out their work without any environmental safety measures.
- Under the PREAL project, Argentina is carrying out a pilot project using ITU standards to strengthen e-waste management capacity.
- Argentina does not have facilities that process and/or treat POPs from electronic waste, but operators export products that generally contain PCBs (eg, contained in pesticides, WEEE, etc.) for treatment.

# Import and export of WEEE and POP contained in electronic waste

- Argentina has ratified the Basel Convention and the Basel Ban Amendment. Argentina is a Party to the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.
- Article 41 of the Argentine Constitution establishes the prohibition of importing hazardous waste.
- Argentina has specific regulations for the importation of POPs. Resolution No. 451 of November 28, 2019 prohibits the production, import, formulation, trade and use of chemicals covered by the Stockholm Convention on POPs - PFO flame retardants in plastics. The production or importation of articles containing prohibited chemical substances is also prohibited.
- In 2019, 106.85 t of PCBs, 11.02 t of printed circuit boards and 96.19 t of mercury were exported from Argentina to European countries for treatment and final disposal.

# Challenges and policy aspects

- Implementation of the Management Strategy and Systems
  - Poor information and education of the citizens for the take-back activities
  - Long distances for collection and transport
  - High costs of investment in technology for recovery
- Development and implementation of an adequate national Financial Mechanisms
- Difficulty in accepting and applying the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) by the regulated import, producer and retailing sector
- Internalize to the formal system monetary transactions from the informal to the formal sector
- There is still no national framework law for the management of used EEE and WEEE

# Relevant Projects

- BCRC Argentina November 2018
  - Latin American and Caribbean Regional Workshop on the Environmentally Sound Management of E-wastes and Forum on their Transboundary Movements
  - In the frame Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions; funded by EU
  - Sharing experience and disseminating good practices for the ESM of e-waste in GRULAC Region
- Based on guidance and guidelines developed by the Mobile Phone Partnership (MPPI) and the Partnership for Action on Computing Equipment (PACE), and relevant technical guidelines and manuals on e-waste under the Basel Convention
- BCRC Argentina Project 2021 for South American countries
  - Promote Public-Private regional Partnerships (PPP) to implement EPR schemes or systems on wastes, particularly in plastic wastes, WEEE and lead-acid batteries. Lead by countries with experience

# Relevant Projects

- BCRC Argentina Project 2022 for South American countries
  - Implement a “Technician of Re-functional Managers Program”, officially recognized, to promote the training of workers in the proper management of WEEE (all employees linked to EEE, WEEE and Urban Solid Wastes-USW)
- BCRC Argentina Project 2021 for Argentina y Costa Rica
  - Recommendations ITU-TL-1031 and ITU-TL 1032 as a contribution to strengthening Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment management systems with a focus on circular economy.
  - In order to contribute to the fulfillment of the objective of the Stockholm Convention, Ecuador together with other countries in the region and with the support of the United Nations Organization for Industrial Development (UNIDO) have negotiated with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) the project: "Strengthening National Initiatives and Improving Regional Cooperation for the Environmentally Sound Management of POPs in Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) in Latin American Countries. "The project aims to achieve environmentally sound management and elimination of waste electrical or electronic equipment (WEEE), focusing especially on the management of POPs, by strengthening national initiatives and cooperation regional.

# Thank you!

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