

Human Rights and the environment at risk

Many people work in mining under unsafe conditions. Time and again, toxic heavy metals from mining operations end up in water or soil, polluting the environment and causing health problems. In addition, mining and metal processing generate high levels of greenhouse gas emissions and harm the climate.

Learn more:



Foto: Mark Craemer

Protecting the people and the planet with a circular economy

A circular economy means keeping materials in circulation for as long as possible, reducing resource consumption, and preventing waste!



Get active for a globally just raw materials transition!

- ➔ Would you like to show the exhibition “Trash or Treasure – What’s Inside Your Electrical Device”?
- ➔ Are you looking for educational materials, films, or events?
- ➔ Would you like to invite us to speak at your event?

We’re happy to help.

INKOTA

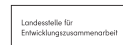
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Every donation helps! **Donation Account:**
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Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung



Landesstelle für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit



Senatsverwaltung für Wirtschaft, Energie und Betriebe



BERLIN



Stiftung Naturschutz Berlin



Brot für die Welt
mit Mitteln des Kirchlichen Entwicklungsdienstes

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Trash or treasure?

What's inside your electric device

How can I keep my phone from becoming waste so quickly?

What can my old headphones still do?

What should I do with my broken washing machine?



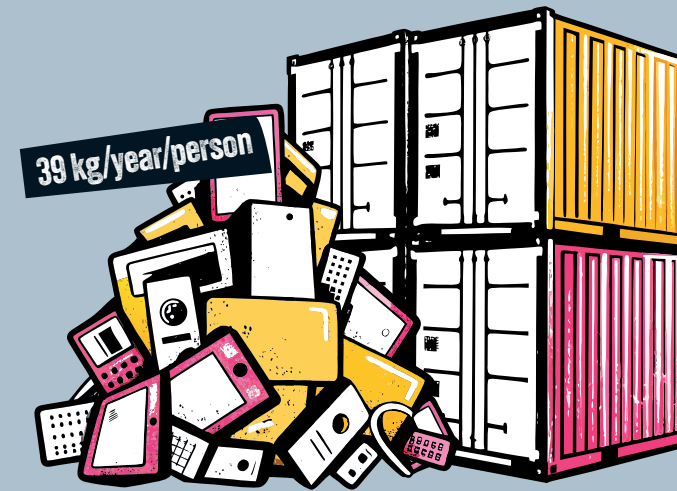
Here's how you can prevent waste and use less resources!

Learn more at
www.inkota.de/kreislaufwirtschaft



Used for only a short time

We're constantly buying new appliances—and using them for too short a time. In Germany, smartphones are often used for only two to three years. On average, each person buys **39 kg of new electrical appliances per year**. At the same time, **195 million old cell phones** are gathering dust in German households. And we produce far too much waste.



39 kg/year/person

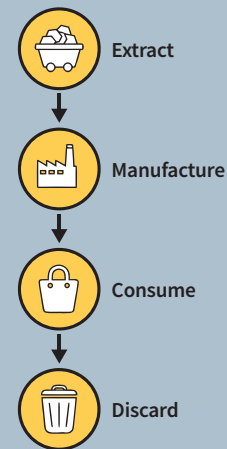
Why our raw material consumption is a problem

Refrigerators, laptops, cell phones, and other devices contain many mineral resources—such as **cobalt, copper, and lithium**. Most of these minerals are mined in other countries—often under unfair conditions. A single smartphone contains **over 60 different types of raw materials**.

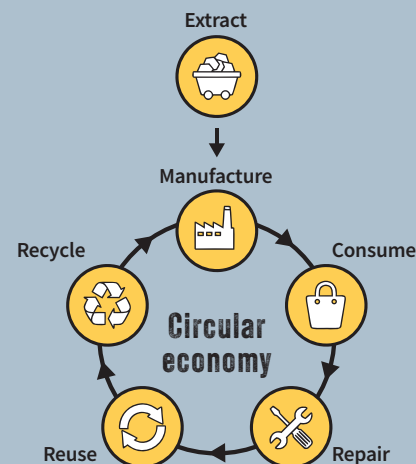
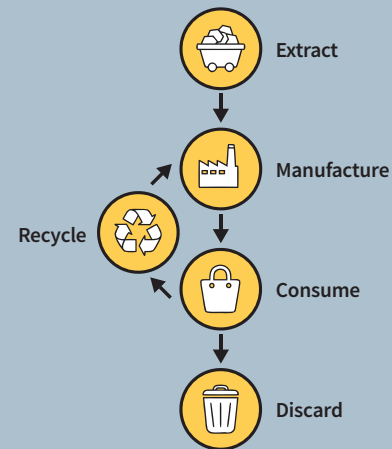
Keeping materials in the loop

Our economy often works like this: Raw materials are extracted and turned into products—which end up as waste after a short time. Circular Economy shows that there is another way.

Linear economy



Recycling economy



What can I do about it?



Think twice before buying



Do I really need this product? And is it durable and repairable? **iFixit** has compared how easy it is to repair different models of smartphones, tablets, smart-watches, and headphones.

Share and borrow



You might be able to rent the device you need. Rental shops, the “Library of Things” (**Bibliothek der Dinge**), or hardware stores rent out equipment. Using BUND’s **‘Remap’**, you can find places near you where you can share, borrow, and more.

Repair together



It’s more fun together: Find a Repair Café near you and connect with others. Through the Network of Repair Initiatives (**Netzwerk Reparaturinitiativen**), you can find locations and lots of up-to-date information about the movement.



Pass it on instead of throwing it away



Pass on devices that still work. Use secondhand marketplaces or repair services. You can find repair options in Berlin through the **Repami network**.



If a device is no longer usable, take it to a collection point, a retail store, or a recycling center so it can be disposed of properly. Not sure how to dispose of your charging cable or your old Nintendo? Check out the **BSR’s Waste Guide**.

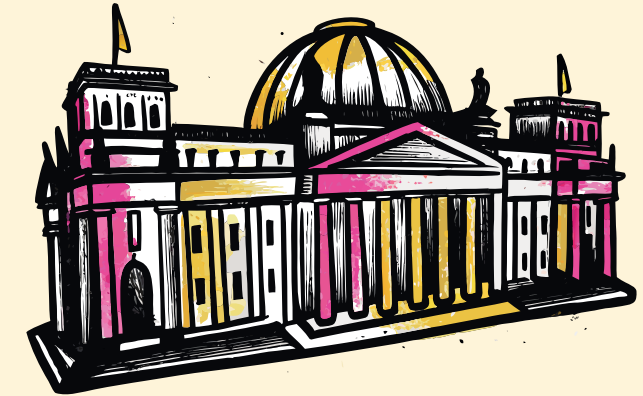


With **INKOTA**, many volunteers collect old cell phones and tablets in Berlin and Brandenburg for refurbishment or recycling:



Organize

Get involved in an organization alongside others to promote the transition towards less resource consumption and reduce waste. For example, join the **Zero Waste Verein**, **Circular Berlin**, your local **BUND group**, the **Kunst-Stoffe Verein**, or the **Runder Tisch Reparatur**.



Stay informed and get involved



Newsletter

Learn more about a globally just raw materials transition for example through the INKOTA newsletter or Instagram: **@inkotanetzwerk**.

Get inspired



There are many ideas about circular economy around the world. We’ve compiled some **video clips** for you featuring people from different countries who are already putting circular economy into practice.

