

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (or [WEEE](#) Directive - into force since 13.08.2012) requires all large electronic retailers to take back old equipment. Systematic collection and proper treatment is essential for recycling materials like gold, silver, copper and rare metals in used TVs, laptops and mobile phones.

The Directive has to be implemented over the next seven years.

The Directive will increase the collection target from its current 4 kilograms per capita to around 20 kg per capita by 2020.

By 2020, EU targets at least 85% of WEEE collected and treated.

From 2018, the directive will be extended from its current restricted scope to all categories of electronic waste.

Note

The WEEE is one the fastest growing waste streams in the EU. But only one-third of WEEE is separately collected and appropriately treated.

Links to Eur-Lex

- [Eur-Lex:32002L0096](#) - WEEE directive
- [Eur-Lex:32002L0095](#) - [RoHS](#) directive

Reading

- <http://www.computerworlduk.com/news/it-business/3375708/eu-updates-electronic-waste-legislation/>
- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/weee/index_en.htm
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waste_Electrical_and_Electronic_Equipment_Directive