

E-waste a Growing Threat for Developing Nations

A new UN report suggests that electronic waste (e-waste) will be the next major environmental hazard for developing countries. Old computers, televisions and cell phones often end up in countries such as Africa, China, and India. These have often been disposed of by rich nations whose consumers are buying faster or more stylish technology like smart phones. Even though some countries use special techniques to remove the precious materials from appliances and devices, they also use incinerators that are unsafe to human health. According to Achim Steiner of the UN, this e-challenge could become an "e-opportunity", creating new jobs as nations transition to a green economy.

Source: www.englishclub.com

Vocabulary

e-waste - short for "electronic waste"; old electronic devices that no longer function or are outdated

disposed of - thrown out

precious materials - small parts inside larger items that are expensive to make and can be reused

incinerators - large machines that burn garbage

transitioning - moving into a new stage

Comprehension Questions

1. What was the main conclusion of the UN report?
2. Where does most electronic waste come from?
3. What positive outcome could come out of this environmental challenge?

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

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