



**JOMO KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
OF
AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY**

E-WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

JOMO KENYATTA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

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FOREWORD

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) pride herself as a University of Global Excellence in Training, Research and Innovation for Development.

In order to sustain its focus of global excellence and nurture continual improvement, JKUAT acknowledges the need for proper e-waste handling and disposal. E-waste is a growing problem in today's society and poses many health and environmental problems if disposed improperly due to the hazardous materials it contains.

To meet the strategic interests of the University and its global vision, this e-waste policy is drawn to minimise generation of e-waste, prevent and control e-waste, provide guidelines for e-waste management and in so doing protect health, environment and improve quality of life.

It is my sincere hope that the university community and all the stakeholders will strive at all times to uphold the standards highlighted in this e-waste policy.

My sincere appreciation goes to the team that was involved in the development and improvement of this policy, including the University Senate, the Deans committee, the office of the Vice Chancellor and the ICT Directorate.

Prof. Mabel O. Imbuga, Ph.D., EBS
Vice Chancellor

UNIVERSITY VISION, MISSION, CORE VALUES AND PHILOSOPHY

Vision

A University of global excellence in Training, Research and Innovation for development.

Mission

To offer accessible quality training, research and innovation in order to produce leaders in the fields of Agriculture, Engineering, Technology, Enterprise Development, Built Environment, Health Sciences and other Applied Sciences to suit the needs of a dynamic world.

Motto

Setting trends in Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

Core Values

Quality

Team work

Professionalism

Innovation

Dynamism

Accountability

Integrity

Philosophy

JKUAT's success depends on visionary leadership, innovation and teamwork JKUAT will endeavour to attract, develop, motivate and retain a multi-skill workforce and nurture consultative working environment. JKUAT shall also adopt ethical standards, best practices, and latest up-to-date and appropriate technology, and strive to contribute to the community to realise both her vision and mission.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Electronic waste, also known as e-waste, is electronic products that have outlived their usefulness and are due for disposal. These products have toxic components such as lead, mercury and cadmium. Improper disposal of electronic waste pollutes the environment with hazardous toxins, thereby causing widespread health problems and environmental degradation. With the increase of e-waste generation and the consequent threat of environmental degradation, there is need for a regulatory framework to mitigate this hazard.

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) utilises a wide range of electronic products which results in e-waste. In addition, the University is one of the leading institutions of higher education that the government relies on to devise solutions to emerging challenges such as e-waste. Environmental contamination can be minimised by practising safer and more responsible methods of e-waste disposal including recycling of the waste.

Establishment of e-waste management infrastructure, awareness and education, and human resource development resource mobilization are some of the key strategies encompassed by this policy document.

2.0 E-WASTE POLICY PRINCIPLES

The following are the guiding principles of the e-waste policy:

1. Environmental conservation – The University endeavours to ensure environmental conservation and protection from the effects of e-waste.
2. Safe disposal – The University recognises the need to dispose e-waste in a manner that is safe and sound with respect to its staff, students, institutional operations and stakeholders.
3. Public awareness – The University acknowledges the importance of an informed society in the sustainable management of e-waste.
4. Policy framework – The University recognises the need to establish clear guidelines on e-waste management.

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

In developing this e-waste policy, JKUAT seeks to meet the following objectives:

- i. To minimize e-waste generation.
- ii. To mobilise and sensitise stakeholders on the proper management and handling of e-waste on a sustainable basis.
- iii. To develop and implement a critical human resource base knowledgeable in handling e-waste.
- iv. To develop beneficial environmentally sound e-waste recycling.
- v. To provide guidance on the standards of electronic equipment that is imported into the University.

4.0 SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy covers JKUAT main campus and other campuses, colleges, faculties, directorates, departments and sections. It also covers all electronic equipment and devices and e-waste management operations on e-waste resultant from staff and students' activities within the University.

5.0 ELEMENTS OF THE POLICY

This policy covers and is informed by the following elements: legal framework, capacity building and environmentally sound management of e-waste, awareness and information dissemination and resource mobilisation.

5.1 Legal Framework

The e-waste management policy is underpinned by environmental laws including the Environmental Management and Co-Ordination Act, 1999.

5.2 Capacity Building

E-waste management activities shall be strengthened through capacity building and continued efforts on research and development. The existing skills in the area of e-waste are limited, yet these skills are a prerequisite for successful protection against e-waste hazards for both the environment and human health. With this JKUAT shall;

1. Facilitate development of e-waste management training modules to cover technical maintenance, dismantling, and sustainable e-waste management, to provide for environmental and human health benefits.
2. Develop e-waste business models which will yield social benefits. These social benefits are, jobs and skills transfer from universities to central and local governments in partnership with the private sector.

5.3 Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste

Environmentally sound recycling refers to recycling without leading to adverse impact on environment and health. The use of environmentally sound technologies needs to be encouraged in order to increase efficiency in processes, maximise recovery materials and conserve energy, thus reducing waste generation. The policy shall enable access to such technologies and make the informal stakeholders accountable.

Environmentally sound e-waste management shall be achieved through the following measures:

1. E-waste sound recycling in authorised/centralised areas.

2. Ensure use of environmentally sound technologies to maximize recovery and minimize waste generation.
3. Appropriate technologies for recycling to be sourced.
4. Training and skills development to be encouraged for using environmentally safe operations in handling e-waste.

5.4 Awareness and Information Dissemination

There is low awareness on hazards of e-waste among the public stakeholders and nationally but extremely limited to the community surrounding the University. Community awareness campaigns on how to safely handle e-waste are non-existent. To this end, the University shall:

1. Develop a strategy for education efforts including partnerships with manufacturers/retailers/recyclers.
2. Develop an e-waste resource web portal.
3. Organise annual events to promote e-waste awareness.

Awareness needs to be created among all stakeholders in the e-waste value chain. Training and awareness programmes need to be organized involving other stakeholders.

5.5 Resource Mobilisation

The University shall provide resources for e-waste management as follows:

- 1) Increase the budgetary allocation to the initiative targeted at reducing e-waste risks;
- 2) Put in place mechanisms for resource mobilisation from development partners;
- 3) Provide the buildings, equipment and devices and other support systems for effective and efficient management of e-waste.

6.0 E-WASTE POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

6.1 E-waste Collection Plan

6.1.1 E-Waste Generated From University Operations

The ICT Directorate shall:

1. In liaison with the respective College /Campus /Faculty/ Directorate/ Department / Section, identify e-waste in the University.
2. Ensure that e-waste is collected every quarter and kept in an appropriate storage pending the recommendations/approval of recommendations of the Disposal Committee.
3. Profile all e-waste generated at least once every quarter and prepare a report to the Disposal Committee including recommendations for disposal.
4. Execute the recommendations of the Disposal Committee and prepare a report for the University Management.

6.1.2 E-Waste Generated From Students Operations

The University shall, through the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Registrar (Academic Affairs) and the Dean of Students:

1. Organise quarterly awareness forums for sensitisation of students on e-waste.
2. Organise quarterly voluntary surrender of e-waste through the students' Halls Management.

6.2 Advisory Committee

The University shall constitute an e-waste advisory committee that shall:

1. Oversee implementation of this policy.
2. Develop procedures and work instructions for collection, sorting, dis-assembly, packaging, storage and disposal of e-waste.
3. Minimize the unintended consequences due to e-waste handling.
4. Encourage decisions consistent with the national policies.
5. Provide flexibility to adopt the changes required from time to time.
6. Review inputs from all stakeholders.
7. Monitor the implementation of this policy and advise university management as appropriate.
8. Advise review/improvement of this policy from time to time.

6.3 Research and Development Organisation

Research and development shall be facilitated to carry out specific research to evolve cost effective technologies and effective adaptation of the best available technologies for e-waste management.

6.4 Staff and Skills

The University shall facilitate development of skills requisite for the implementation of e-waste management operations. The staff shall be provided with the requisite instructions and procedures, equipment and devices for e-waste management operations.

7.0 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW STRATEGIES

7.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

Realisation of the output of this policy shall require consistent monitoring and evaluation of the output indicators. The Government and any other relevant stakeholders will carry out monitoring and evaluation at different levels. A monitoring and evaluation framework shall be developed to ensure midterm review of the policy.

The policy implementation shall be reviewed through the performance contracting execution and reporting structures. A policy implementation plan shall be developed every financial year including actions, actors, time and resource plans.

7.2 Review of Policy

The policy shall be reviewed after every 5 years or earlier, as need arises.