

## NEWSLETTER #3

### ABOUT

ReSoCart-ED means Recycling Solutions for Non-Reusable Printer Cartridges in Emerging and Developing Countries. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety, and Consumer Protection (BMUV), started in May 2022 and runs until February 2024. ECOLOGICON GmbH and Umweltcluster Bayern e. V. form the ReSoCart-ED consortium to examine whether the recycling of printer cartridges could be an economically sustainable business model in the target countries.

### NEW DESIGN

A warm welcome to all readers of the ReSoCart-ED newsletter! As you already might have noticed, we have a new layout for our written output and presentations. We hope you like it as much as we do!

### PROJECT MEETING AND NEW TEAM MEMBERS

The first in person project meeting in 2023 was held in Eibelstadt in Germany on 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. The project team welcomed their new colleagues [André Rückert](#) (for ECOLOGICON GmbH) and [Dr. Stefan Riegg](#) (for Umweltcluster Bayern e. V.). In Figure 1 the project team is euphoric to bring forward the topic of cartridge recycling. During the fruitful one day meeting the work packages for 2023 were scheduled and responsibility for them distributed. Since two important milestones are waiting in the



**Figure 1:** ReSoCart-ED project team from ECOLOGICON and Umweltcluster Bayern at the project meeting in Eibelstadt

project and a lot of more tasks need to be worked on, we decided on important dates and results. We already had a call for proposals (see details below) this year and plan the next visit to Ghana in April to meet stakeholders and contractors. For example, new partners are searched for a cartridge collection test-run. Additionally, we discussed ideas for public outreach for the project in Ghana as well as in Germany later this year to develop the project into a continued success story. Ideally a material stream of cartridges can be started before finishing the project to feed a recycling process directly in the target countries.



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## TENDERING OF SUBCONTRACTS

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Umweltcluster Bayern e. V. had started a call for proposals for research work on three different topics related to the cartridge recycling in Ghana and is evaluated at the moment. The topics targeted „legal requirements“ of cartridge handling, collection and transport (import/export), the „market situation“ of cartridges circulating or disposed, and the very important „informal sector“ in which most of the recycling of old electronics takes place and which is almost not available for externals. We are looking forward to winning new partners who share their knowledge about these three crucial topics. In April we plan to receive first data during our visit to Ghana and meet the contractors.

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## GHANA VISIT IN APRIL

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For the second time during the project team-representatives will visit Ghana in April 2023. Probably the week between April 15th and 19th 2023 will be used to meet stakeholders, partners and contractors mainly in Accra and possibly in Kumasi. Florian Werthmann, André Rückert (both ECOLOGICON GmbH) and Dr. Viktor Klein (Umweltcluster Bayern e. V.) are looking forward to meeting you there! We will set up the travel programm soon and inform you about possible meeting timeslots.

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## INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR CARTRIDGE COLLECTION

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It is planned that starting with June 2023 a located partner is found to start a test run for the collection of printer cartridges to learn about the necessary incentives to establish a stable return of the cartridges. A continuous flow of end-of-life products is essential to economically run a cartridge recycling program. The technology to use and elaboration of the implementation plans of the recycling are topics to be tackled until the end of 2024.

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## PUBLICATION

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An article by Dr. Viktor Klein about the project has been published on the EU Recycling Portal: <https://recyclingportal.eu/Archive/77744>

Although the text was originally written in German for the "Recyclingmagazin", the mirroring publishing website of the EU offers a useful English google-translation by a button in the lower right.

We hope you enjoy reading!



## IMPRINT

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### EDITING

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Date: 14th March 2023

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### PROJECT PARTNER

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