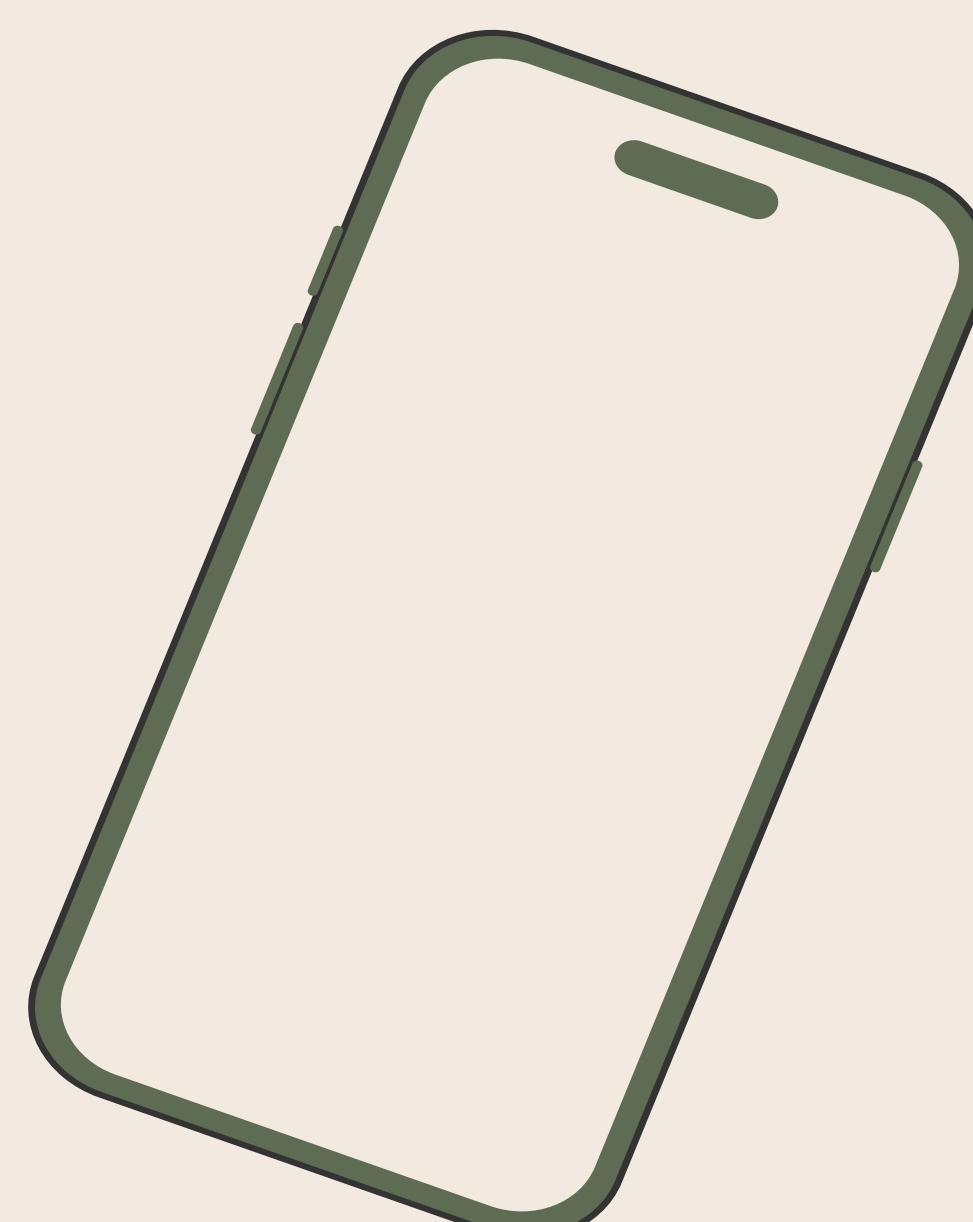


Phone lifecycle and e-waste awareness among students in Slovenia

Motivation for research

Electronic waste is a huge problem in our society. We wanted to see how students add to the crisis with their smartphones. We wanted to see:

- How regularly and why students swap their phones
- What do they do with them
- Are they aware of what they could do with them
- Are they generally aware of e-waste problematic



Results of research

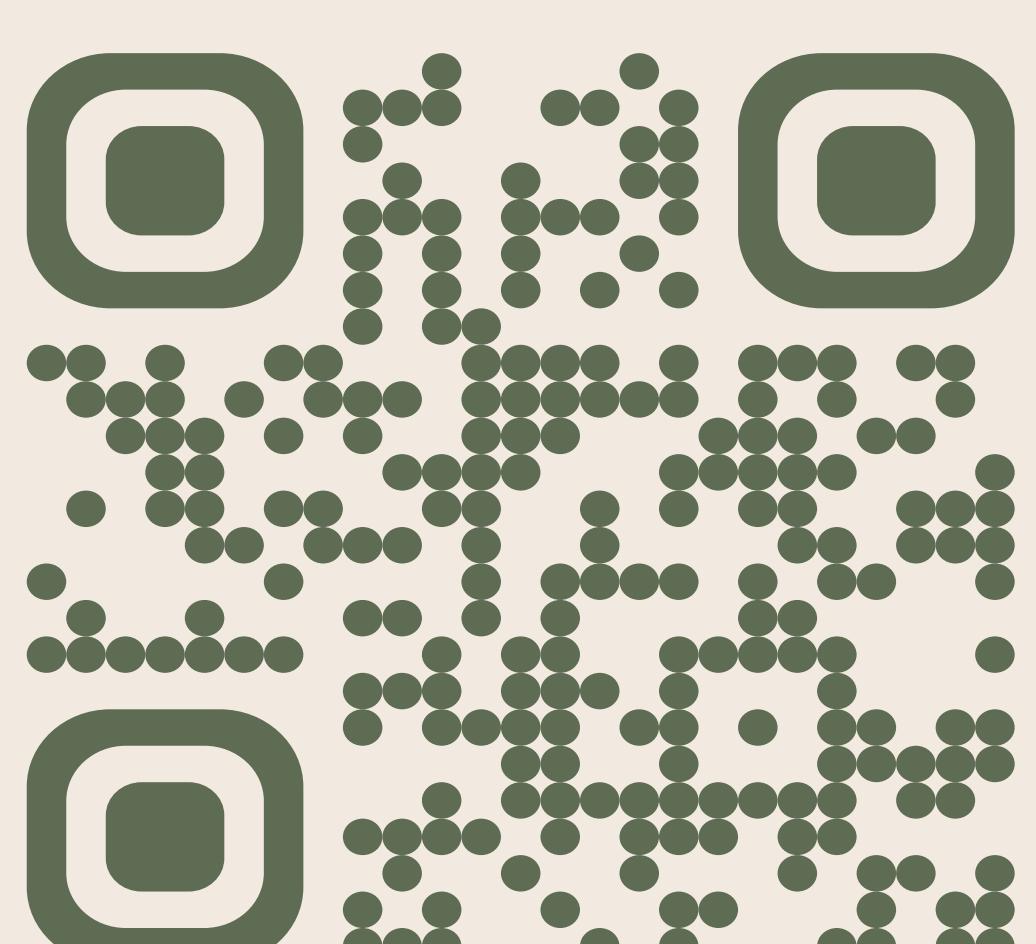
Our research included 114 students in FRI and FMF, spanning multiple programs. We have found out that:

- Students tend to keep their devices for as long as possible
- 74% of students keep their old device in a drawer at home
- ONLY 2 students reported on recycling their old phone
- Students are generally aware of e-waste crisis

What is already done?

European Union already tackled the e-waste crisis by introducing the 2012 WEEE directive for e-waste management. In Slovenia it is implemented as ZVO-2. It implemented the following:

- Producers and sellers must take back e-waste and put it up for recycling
- We must report on how much e-waste we collect
- We must try to support repair and reuse of older electronic devices



ZEOS Collection Points

What can we do?

What can you do or what Slovenia could implement in their recycling system:

- Multiple collection points at schools, and other public spaces alongside current collection points
- Offer financial incentives for recycling old phones
- Improve awareness of e-waste through educational courses and workshops