

PLANETE ENERGIES

Transcript Vidéos – HOW CAN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SMARTPHONES BE REDUCED?

Can the principles of the circular economy be applied to smartphones?

In case you forgot: The 5 main steps in the circular economy.

*BUSINESSES: Sustainable sourcing – Eco-design – Resource pooling*

*CONSUMERS: Responsible consumption – Recycling*

Circular economy principles are difficult to apply to smartphones.

*Sourcing –*

The extraction of metals to make smartphones can damage ecosystems and pollute the water, air and soil.

*Design – Resources –*

Design, distribution and all the steps in between are often performed in different parts of the world.

*Production – Design – Extraction – Assembly – Distribution*

*Consumption –*

10 billion smartphones have been sold worldwide since 2007.

On average, smartphones are replaced every 2 years, even though they usually still work.

A smartphone is made of many materials.

*Copper – Silver – Zinc – Gold – Tin – Chrome – Nickel – Aluminum – Platinum – Glass – Cobalt*

This complicates the recycling process.

There are, of course, solutions, most of which are in the hands of consumers.

For example:

Take care of your phone by protecting it.

Buy a phone with a small screen – it has less of an environmental impact.

Choose a sustainable model: Sturdy – Repairable and upgradable – Replaceable battery – Universal charger

If it's not working properly, don't replace it – fix it.

Only get a new one if you need to.

Sell your phone or give it away rather than hold onto it.

Summary:

Circular economy principles are difficult to apply to smartphones.

Pollution, long distances between extraction, assembly and retail sites, recycling challenges, and more.

There are some simple solutions: choose your smartphone carefully, take care of it, have it repaired rather than buying a new one.