



UN
TV
UNIT

UN STORIES

Release Date: September 2013

Programme No. 7

Length:

Language: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian

GHANA: DIGITAL GRAVEYARD

VIDEO

AUDIO

MUSIC - OMINOUS

NARRATION

KIDS SORTING AT DUMPSITE

Barefoot, tiny hands and nimble fingers...these children sift through rubbish...looking for anything valuable... 10

For 13-year-old Bafo Chei, who scavenges regularly here, it's dangerous work. 6.5

BAFO: (Ghana)

BAFO ON-CAMERA

"Sometimes I get hurt. I get cuts from the glass. I had one here under my foot. 5

NARRATION

BAFO LOOKING FOR METALS

Life for these young men here at a dumpsite in Ghana is risky business. Bafo and his friends burn wires from these old computers to retrieve precious metals like copper, gold and silver. 13

MORE SHOTS OF BURNING,
RETRIEVING MATERIALS

Many companies in Europe and North America ship obsolete computers and electronics to developing countries as donations. 8

SHIPS/CONTAINERS WITH

But the majority of the items are unusable. Called e-waste,

OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT	they're discarded and begin to pile up everywhere. Experts say that e-waste is now the third fastest growing waste stream in the world. 14
PILES OF EWASTE	
	<u>STEINER:</u> (English) M
STEINER ON-CAMERA	<i>"E-waste is not simply something we should turn our eyes away from and ignore because it is a mountain that is building up across the planet."</i> 6
	<u>MIKE:</u> (English) M
MIKE INSPECTING	<i>"It's rather a disservice to ship all this waste – end of life computers – to Africa under the guise of donations, old second-hand equipments."</i> 7.5
MIKE WALKING AND TALKING	
	<u>NARRATION</u>
OLD MONITORS AND COMPUTERS / CONTAMINATED WATER	And components like computer monitors and motherboards dumped in landfills contain lead, mercury and other hazardous chemicals. Over time, these toxins seep into the soil contaminating ground water. 16
STREET VIEWS	UNEP encourages all countries to uphold the Basel Convention which came into force in 1992. 7
DUMPSITE / FACE OF CHILDREN	The Convention, the first of its kind, stresses the need to responsibly manage hazardous waste, including e-waste, to save lives and protect the environment. 11.5
UN STORIES LOGO	