



MOBILE PHONE RECYCLING INITIATIVE

A Global 'Serve the Planet' Project of the SSI0



Introduction



- ▶ The Mobile Phone Recycling Project is a humble offering to mark the auspicious occasion of our Beloved Sathya Sai Baba's 95th Year of Advent in 2020.
- ▶ The Project was launched at the inaugural Go Green Conference held on 25–26 July 2018 in Prasanthi Nilayam.

Background



- ▶ When electronic waste (e-waste) is disposed of in the landfill:¹
 - ❑ the **hazardous compounds** used to make electronic equipment (such as lead, arsenic, mercury, cadmium & brominated flame retardants, and plastic) **leach toxic chemicals** into the ground;
 - ❑ **pose** considerable **environmental threats and health risks** for humans, animals, and plants alike; and
 - ❑ the **valuable materials** used to make mobile phones are also **lost**.
- ▶ Therefore, this Project was proposed with an understanding for a need to collectively alleviate some of the environmental burdens of Mother Earth.

¹ <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Climate-Change/Documents/GEM%202017/Global-E-waste%20Monitor%202017%20.pdf>

Project Objectives



- ▶ **Divert e-waste away from landfills** or improper recycling (e.g. incineration, which results in emission of greenhouse gases).
- ▶ **Recover materials** used in mobile phone, such as precious metals, glass and plastic, and divert them back into the manufacturing cycle for beneficial use.
- ▶ **Save energy and conserve natural resources** when manufacturing phones in the future.
- ▶ **Raise awareness** on:
 - **Refuse/Reduce** (avoiding unnecessary upgrade and frequent purchase),
 - **Reuse** (repair or donate),
 - **Recycle** (what cannot be repaired or reused), and
 - **Ceiling on Desires** principle.
- ▶ Dedicate the profit generated from the Project to support service activities of the SSIO.

Project Outline



- ▶ Recycling of mobile phone and its accessories (e.g. charger and cable) and cordless phone irrespective of whether they are damaged, technically antiquated or simply inactive.
- ▶ SSIO members are encouraged to collect phones from their families, friends, neighbours and colleagues and hand them in for this global recycling project.
- ▶ Collected phones will be recycled at an authorised recycling facility in Germany.

Project Phases



4 months
(Sep – Dec 2018)

Phase 1 Communication - Collection

Launch at the Go Green
Conference (26 Jul 2018)

Global project
communication

Collection of phones and
their chargers and cables –
at Sai Centre/Group levels

Quality Check (QC) of
collected phones

1 month
(Jan 2019)

Phase 2 Logistics - Shipping

QC of collected phones
contd.
(QC end date: 14 Jan 2019)

Shipping

3 months
(Feb – Apr 2019)

Phase 3 Recycling

Recycling at a licensed
recycling facility in
Germany

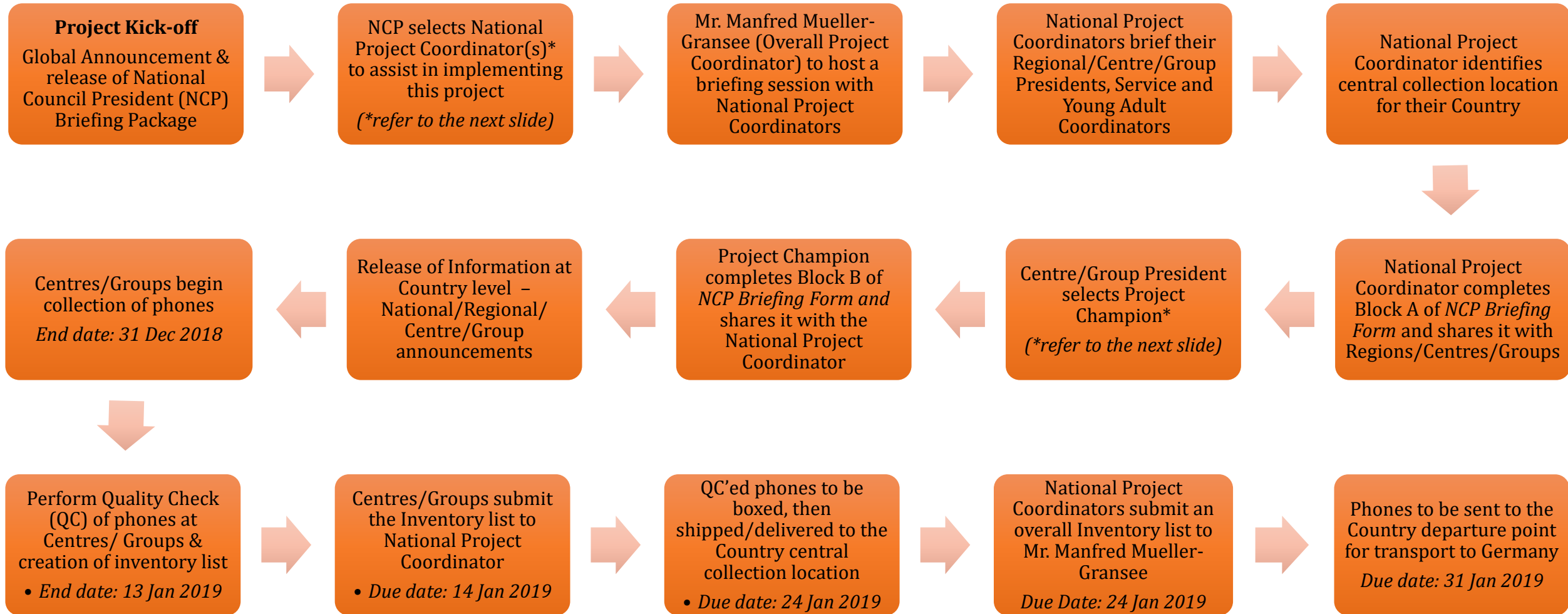
2 months
(May – Jun 2019)

Phase 4 Evaluation - Reporting

Evaluation & findings
report preparation

Presentation of the findings
at Guru Purnima 2019 in
Prasanthi Nilayam

Process Flow – Kick-off to Shipment



Additional Notes



- ▶ National Council President may pick more than one National Project Coordinators, if required, for large countries.
- ▶ Desired candidates for National Project Coordinator may include National Serve the Planet/ National Young Adult/ National Service Coordinators
- ▶ Briefing sessions will be held with the National Project Coordinators to share project information and clarify any queries prior to beginning the collection. There may be multiple briefing sessions held to accommodate devotees from different time zones.
- ▶ Country central collection location is a central point that all the collected phones from Centres/Groups will be sent for consolidation before shipping them to Germany. This location could be the address of a volunteering member, who is ideally close to the Country departure point (departure point's address will be provided).
- ▶ A comprehensive checklist will be shared to aid centres to QC phones before they are shipped.
- ▶ An inventory list template will also be shared with National Project Coordinators to share with Centres/Groups.
- ▶ Mr. Manfred Mueller-Gransee will provide the address in Germany, where all phones are to be sent.
- ▶ Questions on the process or queries from devotees can be sent at any time to Mr. Manfred Mueller-Gransee or Serve the Planet Young Adult subcommittee.

Logistics - Safety & Costs



Safety:

- ▶ If feasible, remove batteries from old mobile phones and consider recycling them locally or return them to the manufacturer.
- ▶ Newer phones, esp. iPhones, have battery glued in place and need special tools and skills for removal. Hence, leave such battery with the unit; it will be removed at the recycling facility.
- ▶ Sai Centers/Groups Project Champions: When performing quality check (QC), please ensure loose batteries are not include in the transport package.

Costs:

- ▶ Transport costs within the country to be covered by respective Sai Centre/Group.
- ▶ All other costs, including shipping from a port to Germany, to be covered out of the profit of the recycling process and the needed money will be advanced by the project coordinators.

Contact



Project Coordinator & Logistics Liaison:

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Project Implementation Lead:

Young Adult Subcommittee - Serve the Planet Team, servetheplanet@sathyasai.org

JAI SAI RAM



A Mobile Phone Recycling Project 