

## 12. PROPUESTAS PARA EL CAMBIO

### (FOTOGRAFÍA 29)

*Here we can see the producer and the user. Where would you position yourself? Of all the people in the photo, who do you identify with the most? Which part of the chain of consumption are you in? What are the “us” and “them” relationships?*

Every one of us can make use of the power we have as consumers to achieve conflict-free technology. But we should ask ourselves this question: what role do we play in consumer society? How can we use our habits, actions and purchases to influence the state of the globalised world and, in particular, technology?



To minimise the unwanted consequences of consuming electrical products, the first thing we should do when an electric appliance or other device breaks is to find out (on the internet or by calling the local council) where the nearest recycling facilities are. They will tell you how to discard your electronic waste.

Another way of supporting re-use and recycling is the Conflict-Free Technology campaign, through the Mobiles for Congo initiative. The income from collecting devices goes to support the humanitarian action programmes carried out by the Jesuit Refugee Service in eastern DRC. But we want to go even further than that, to deal with the root of the problem. To do this, we want to raise the profile of the alternatives that exist in the world of mobile technology, bringing to this field the traditional slogan of responsible consumption: “consume less, consume better”.

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### What can we do?

If your mobile phone breaks:

- Check the company's **guarantee service**.
- Find out about phone repair companies. You will find many options online.
- Try to **fix it yourself**.
- If it's not possible, you can always **recycle it**.

If you have decided to get a new phone:

- Think about re-using an old one or buying a second-hand one (eBay, Craigslist, Wallapop).
- Evaluate the environmental and ethical criteria, not just the price.

There is also the company FAIRPHONE, which manufactures phones respecting ethical standards and human rights. They still buy materials in DRC but, through initiatives such as the Conflict-Free Tin Initiative (CFTI) and the Solutions for Hope Project, the profits are used to support families rather than armed groups. The phones have an open design, that does not follow the patterns of planned obsolescence, to guarantee a longer useful life and, to tackle the issue of electronic waste or e-waste, the company collaborates with several organisations in Ghana. (See <https://www.fairphone.com/es/>)

There are also many opportunities to influence society:

- Actively encourage the use of conflict-free technology in your surroundings.
- Inform and train the groups and people around you.
- Collect “mobiles for Congo” in your area. With these mobile phones, we will fund a number of projects that support people who experience the consequences of that conflict.
- Spread the word about the Conflict-Free Technology and our campaign.

## 12. PROPUESTAS PARA EL CAMBIO

(FOTOGRAFÍA 23)

► **Vídeo:** “Lo que tu móvil esconde” (English subtitles) (Source: ALBOAN)  
<https://youtu.be/uOAwhgU52NY>

If you want to know more, you will find information in our website [www.conflictfreetechnology.org](http://www.conflictfreetechnology.org)

**We can all contribute to the end of violence  
in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.  
Join us!**

a Project of:



**ALBOAN**

Jesultek bultzatutako Fundazioa  
ONG promovida por los Jesuitas

To:



**CONFLICT  
FREE  
TECHNOLOGY**

Help:



**DONOSTIA  
SAN SEBASTIÁN**