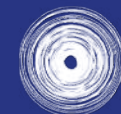


Textiles

- Creating a Circular Closet



Contents

01
Workshop Summary
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02
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Introduction

As the global impact of the textile sector, and the complexity of addressing these impacts particularly at European and national level has become more apparent, so too have we seen a sharp increase in research and policy tackling consumption, use and reuse.

The stats on global impact are stark - Textiles have the same global impact on greenhouse gas emissions as shipping and aviation combined. Less than 1% of all textiles worldwide are recycled into new textiles. The average European consumed 12 - 15 kg textiles per person. But consumption in Ireland is nearly twice this figure. At the same time, textiles are an important industry in Europe - employing 1.5 million people and producing a turnover of €162 billion. Europe is the second largest exporter and the second largest importer of textiles globally. Due to the long supply chains, changes here to our textile consumption impact not just European but global industry and the 175 million people working in textiles altogether.

So how do we transition to a more circular closet, together with industry, while remaining mindful of the global supply chain? This deep dive focused on the immediate and long-term policy and structural measures required, which included the need for separate collection under the European Waste Framework Directive by 2025, and the measures that are being introduced under the European Strategy for Sustainable Textiles. Innovation addressing design and consumption challenges, and opportunities for social enterprise and business in handling existing textiles in the system were also discussed.

These developments were discussed in two parts- firstly with a presentation from the EEA and panel discussion on tackling consumption. Secondly, a discussion on how to deal with post-consumer textiles - what is already in the system, through sorting, reuse and upcycling. Between these sessions there was also an opportunity to view the items on exhibit and hear about the Relove Fashion- a sustainable fashion competition which aims to engage the younger generation in design and upcycling.



Textiles

-Creating A Circular Closet

Chaired by: Claire Downey, Rediscovery Centre and Shane Colgan, European Environment Agency



Circular Economy Hotspot
Dublin 2023

This deep dive will explore how Ireland is supporting the move toward sustainability through creating opportunities for citizens to embrace a more circular closet. The session will feature international and national guests delving into research and initiatives impacting circular design, reducing consumption, driving reuse and repair and collecting and valorising post-consumer textiles behaviour amongst Irish audience groups.

PANEL SESSION

-Tackling textile consumption

Bernie Kiely, DECC

Annamarie Touhy, EPA

Gwen Cunningham, NCAD & DCCI

Mireia Canelle, Waste Agency Catalunya

9:00-12:30pm

Guinness
Enterprise
Centre

31 May 2023



explore our
speakers

PANEL SESSION

Maximising the value of post consumer textiles through sorting, reuse and repair.

Trevor Anderson, Oxfam Ireland

Linda Ward, Charity Retail Ireland

Martina Hourigan, Roscommon Women's Network

Eileen O'Leary, Clean Technology Centre

UPCYCLED EXHIBITION

-Showcase of Relove Fashion winning outfit

-Showcase of Cois Ceime 'GO TO BLAZES' costume - shortlisted for Best Costume by Irish Times Irish Theatre Awards

Arran Murphy, Rediscovery Centre

CONSUMPTION AND POST-CONSUMER TEXTILES

NATEX Report

Eileen O'Leary, Clean Technology Centre

Facilitators



Claire Downey
Rediscovery Centre



Shane Colgan
European Environment Agency

Speakers



Trevor Anderson

Oxfam Ireland



Gwen Cunnigham

NCAD



Bernie Kiely

Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications

Speakers



Mireia Cañellas Grifoll
Catalan Waste Agency (ARC)



Eileen O'Leary
Clean Technology Centre



Annmarie Tuohy
EPA

Speakers



Linda Ward

ICA



Martina Hourigan

Roscommon Women's Network

Textiles in Europe's Circular Economy

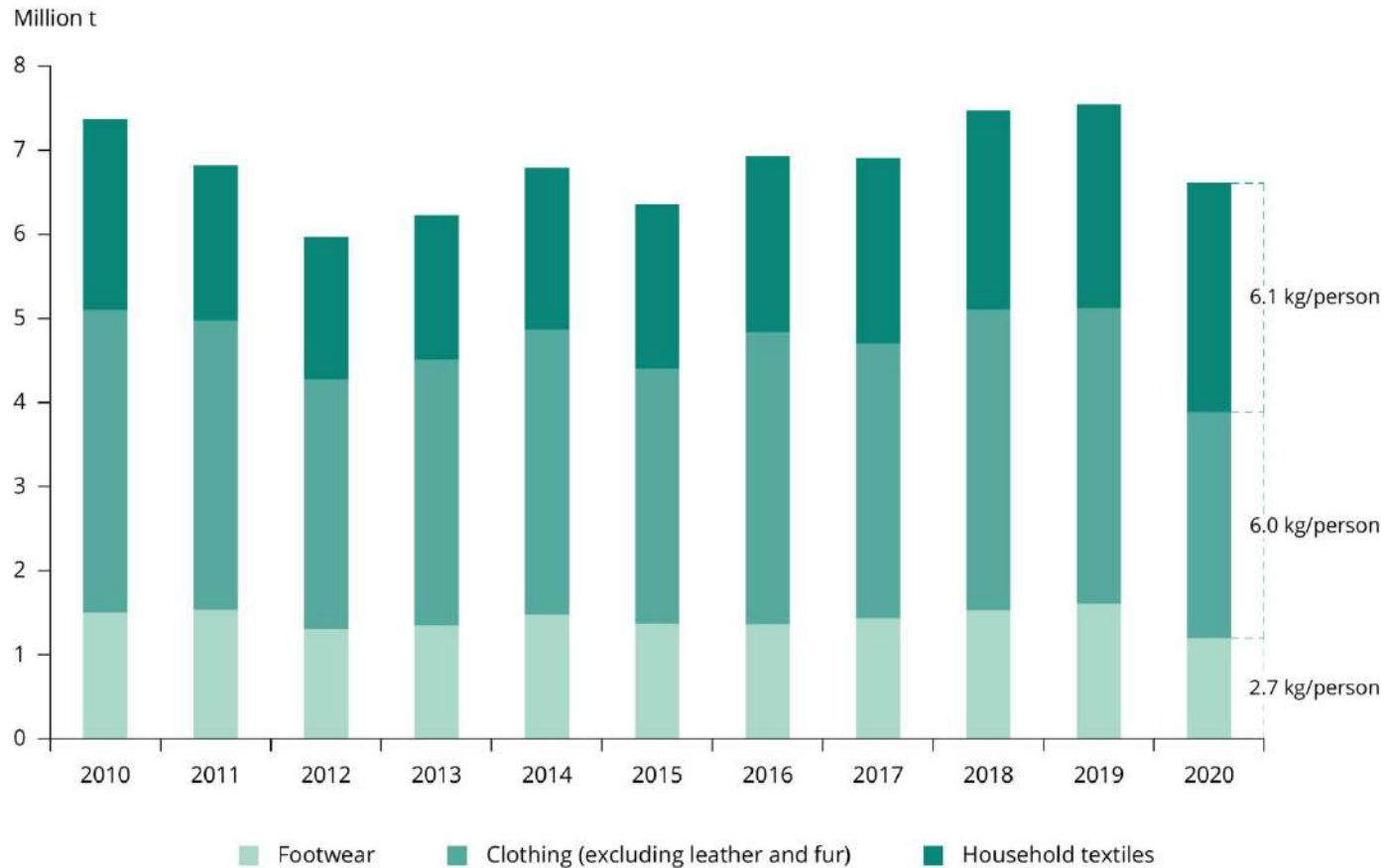


Textiles in Europe's circular economy

Shane Colgan, European Environment Agency
31st May 2023, Circular Economy Hotspot Dublin

- 1. Textile production and consumption**
2. Environmental pressures
3. Exports of used textiles
4. Towards a circular economy

Annual consumption of 14.8 kg per person in the EU



Most textiles are synthetic...



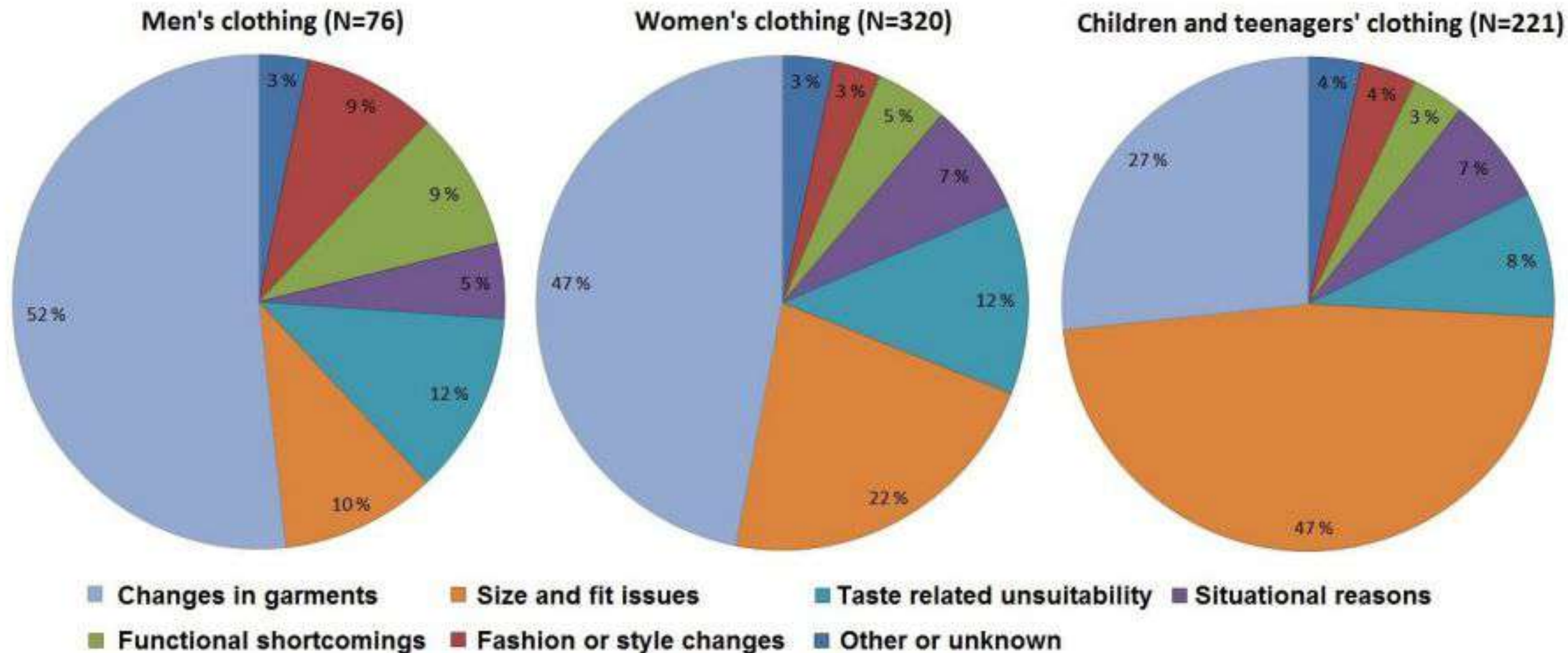
Clothes:
60% synthetic
(mostly polyester / PET)



Household textiles:
70% synthetic
(mostly polyester / PET and nylon)

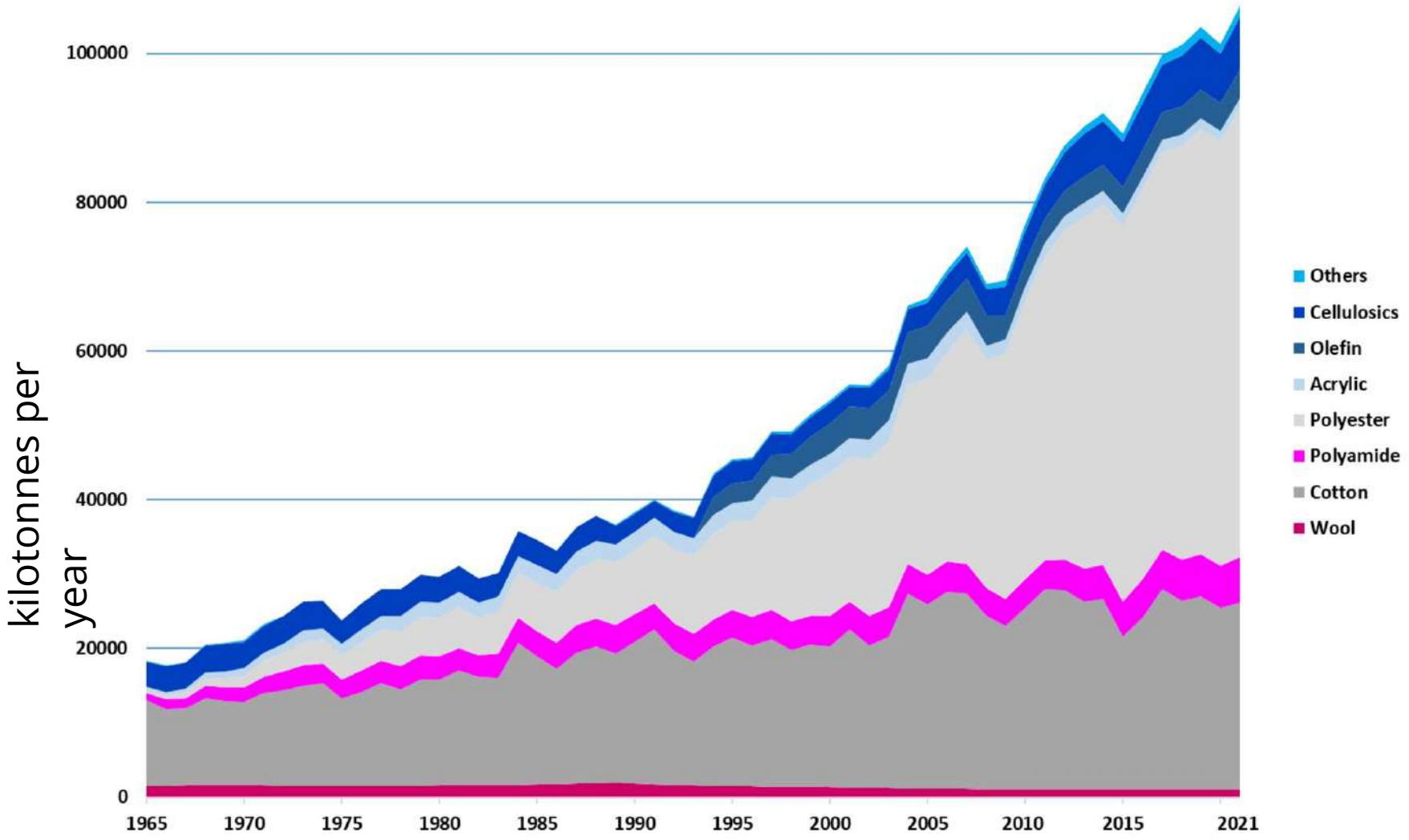
Source: Textiles and the environment: the role of design in Europe's circular economy
(Note: shoes also made of non-textiles)

Why do we dispose of clothes?



Source: [Laitala et al](#), Making Clothing Last: A Design Approach for Reducing the Environmental Impacts

Global fibre production



Source: <https://www.cirfs.org/statistics/key-statistics/world-production-fibre>

1. Textile production and consumption
2. **Environmental pressures**
3. Exports of used textiles
4. Towards a circular economy

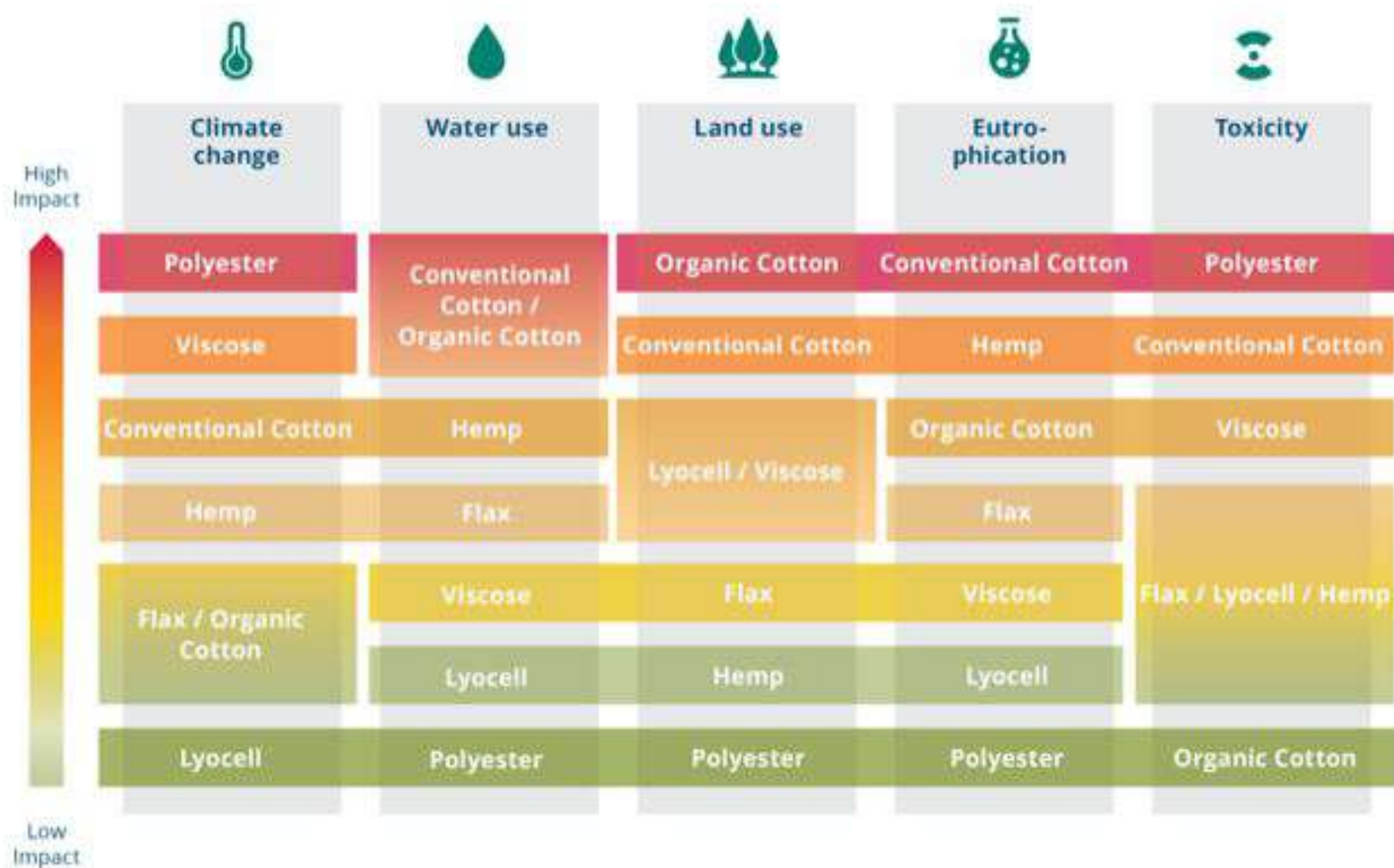
Fourth highest pressures on average



European consumption of textiles has the **fourth highest impact** on the environment and climate change, after food, housing and mobility.



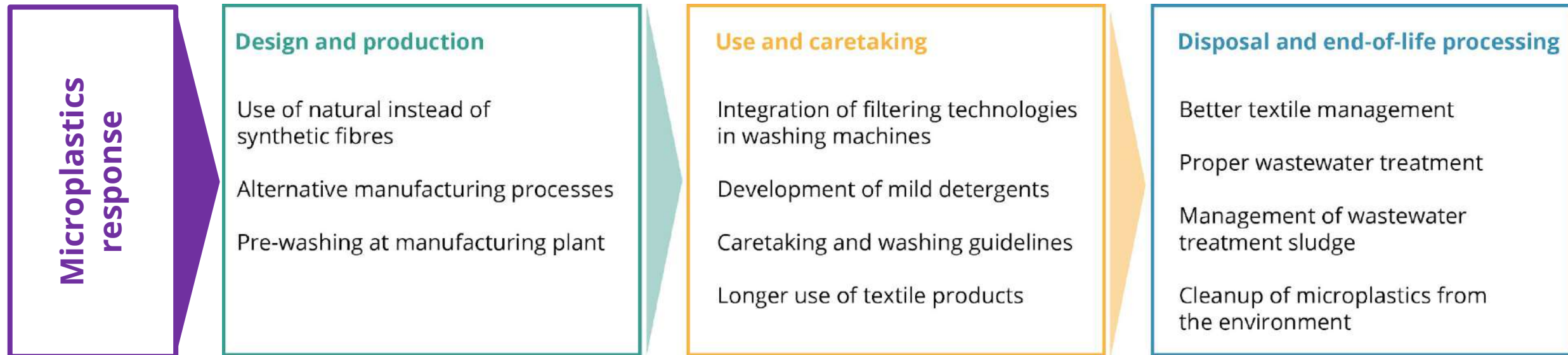
Different fibres have different impacts



Microplastics from textiles

- 8% of European microplastics released to oceans are from synthetic textiles.
- Laundry causes ~500,000 tonnes of microplastics release to the ocean, every year.
- Majority of microplastics from textiles released the first few times textiles are washed.
- Fast fashion accounts for particularly high levels of releases.
(because fast fashion garments account for a high share of ‘first washes’.)

Sources: EEA, UNEP



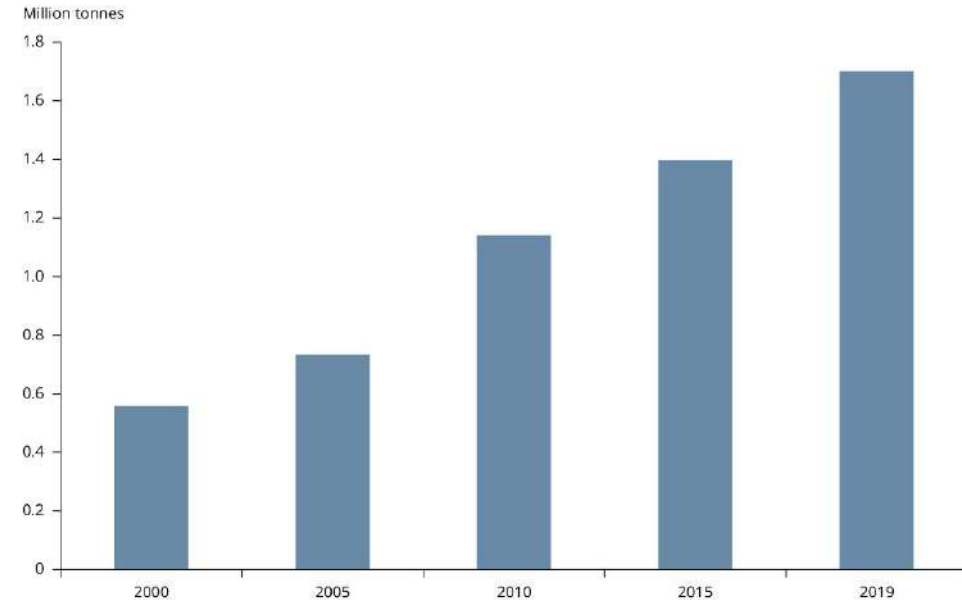
1. Textile production and consumption
2. Environmental pressures
3. **Exports of used textiles**
4. Towards a circular economy

EU Exports of used textiles (2019)

Amounts of used textiles exported from the EU have tripled over the last two decades to **1.7 million tonnes**.

Average is 3.8 kg per person, 25% of annual textile consumption.


The fate of used textiles exported from the EU is highly uncertain...



Exports of used textiles from the EU (EU-27 and the UK) to the rest of the world

EU exports of used textiles (2019)

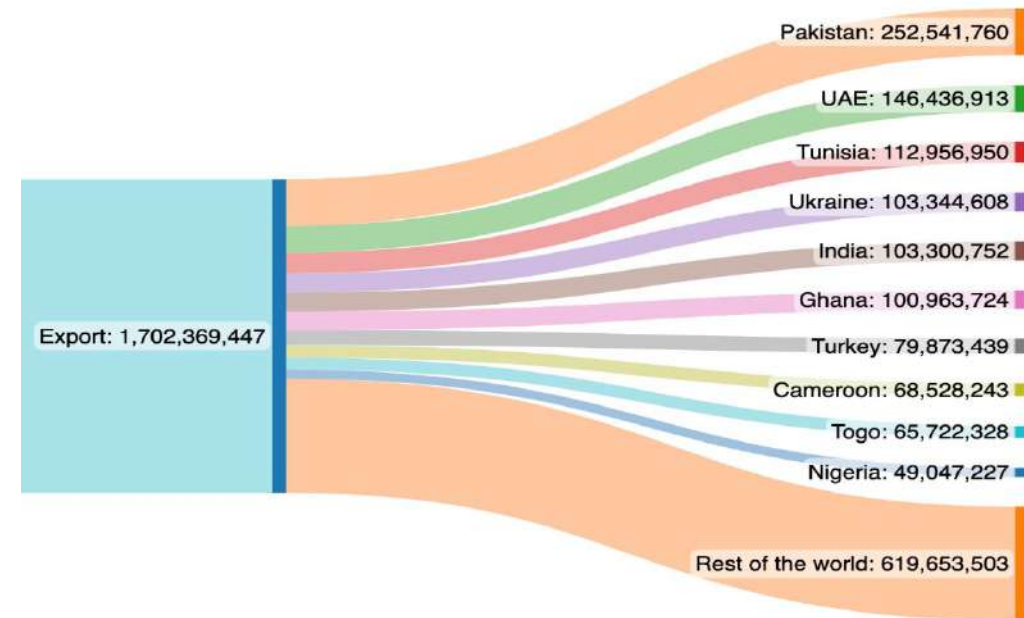
46% of used textiles ended up in Africa.

- Primarily go towards local reuse as there is a demand for cheap, used clothes.
- What is not fit for reuse mostly ends up in open landfills and informal waste streams.
- [ A cautionary tale...]

41% of used textiles ended up in Asia.

- Mostly used imported to dedicated economic zones where they are sorted and processed.
- Used textiles are mostly downcycled into industrial rags or filling - or re-exported for recycling/reuse in other countries.
- Textiles that cannot be recycled or re-exported are likely to end up in landfills.

Source: [EU exports of used textiles in Europe's circular economy \(EEA\)](#)



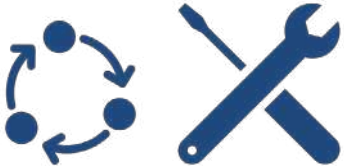
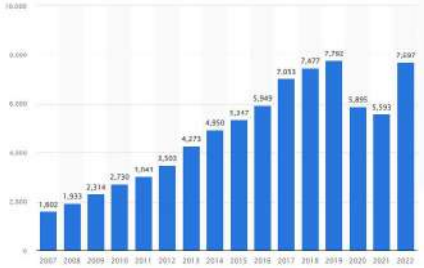
Points

1. Textile production and consumption
2. Environmental pressures
3. Exports of used textiles
4. **Towards a circular economy**

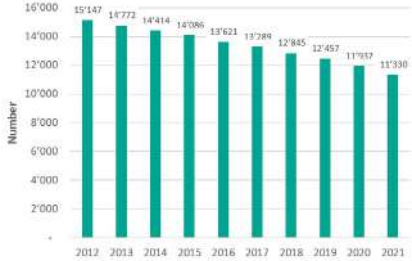
A challenging starting point...



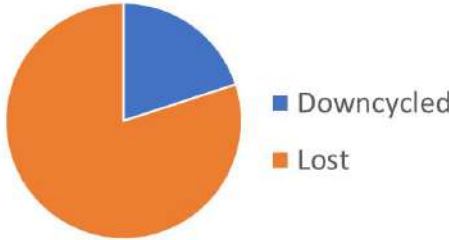
consumption



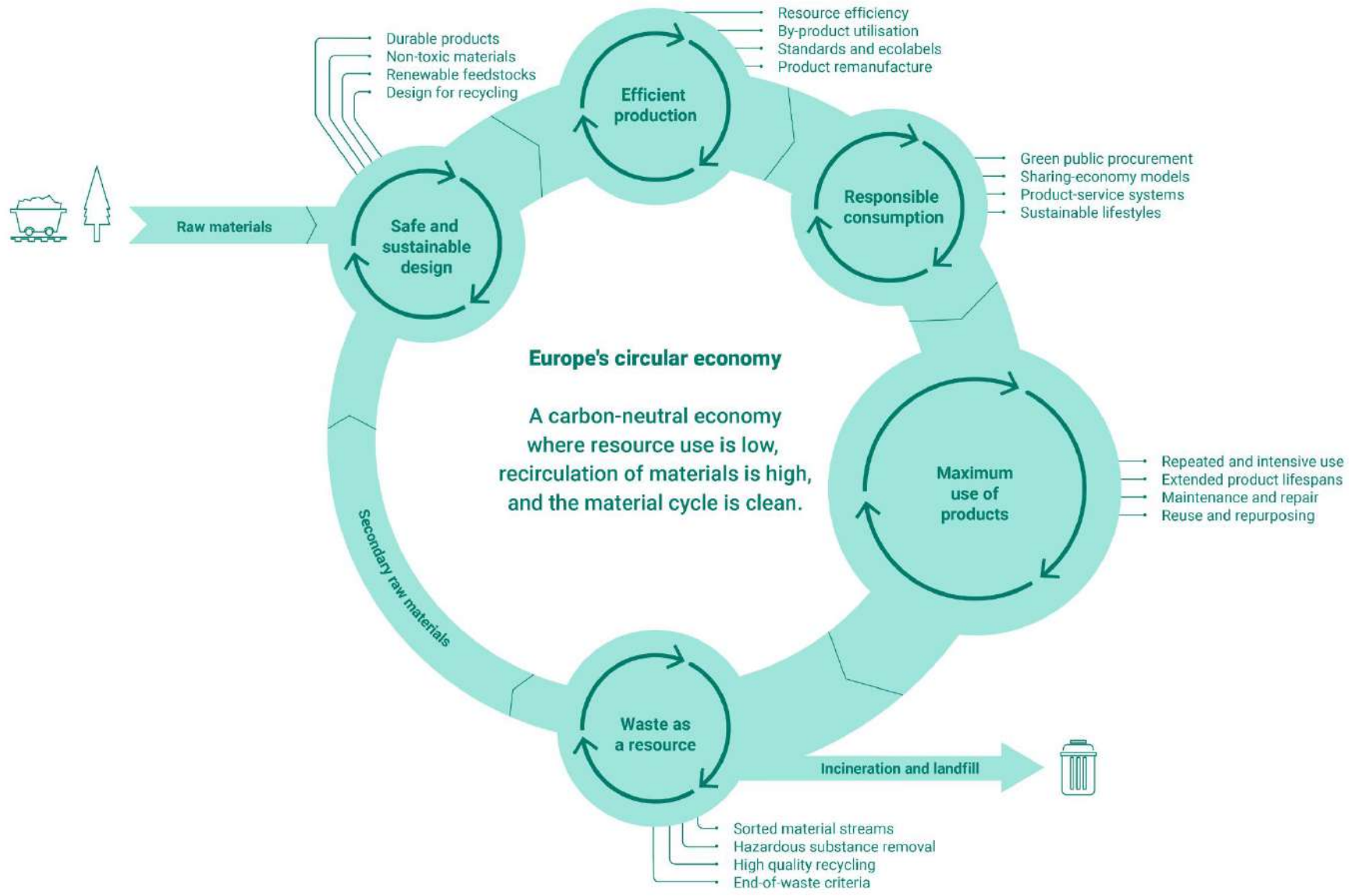
lifespans



materials



EEA circular model...



Pathways for change

- **Design for durability and longevity:** material quality, colour fastness, spare parts
- **Optimise resource use:** production efficiencies, ecolabels
- **Consumer engagement:** responsible purchasing, timeless design, sharing economy
- **Use & reuse:** Keep wearing! good product care, repair, peer-to-peer exchanges, charity, second-hand outlets
- **Recycle materials:** separate collection, high-quality recycling, secondary raw materials

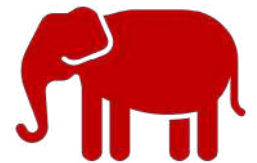


EU Policy response: 2030 Vision for Textiles

- *Textile products are durable, repairable and recyclable ...*
- *“Fast fashion is out of fashion”.*
- *Re-use and repair services widely available.*
- *Producer responsibility, sufficient capacities for recycling, minimal disposal.*

EU Policy response: 2030 Vision for Textiles

- *Textile products are durable, repairable and recyclable ...*
- *“Fast fashion is out of fashion”.*
- *Re-use and repair services widely available.*
- *Producer responsibility, sufficient capacities for recycling, minimal disposal.*
- Member States must establish separate collection of textiles by Jan 2025...
- **Are we ready to manage this extra collected material?**

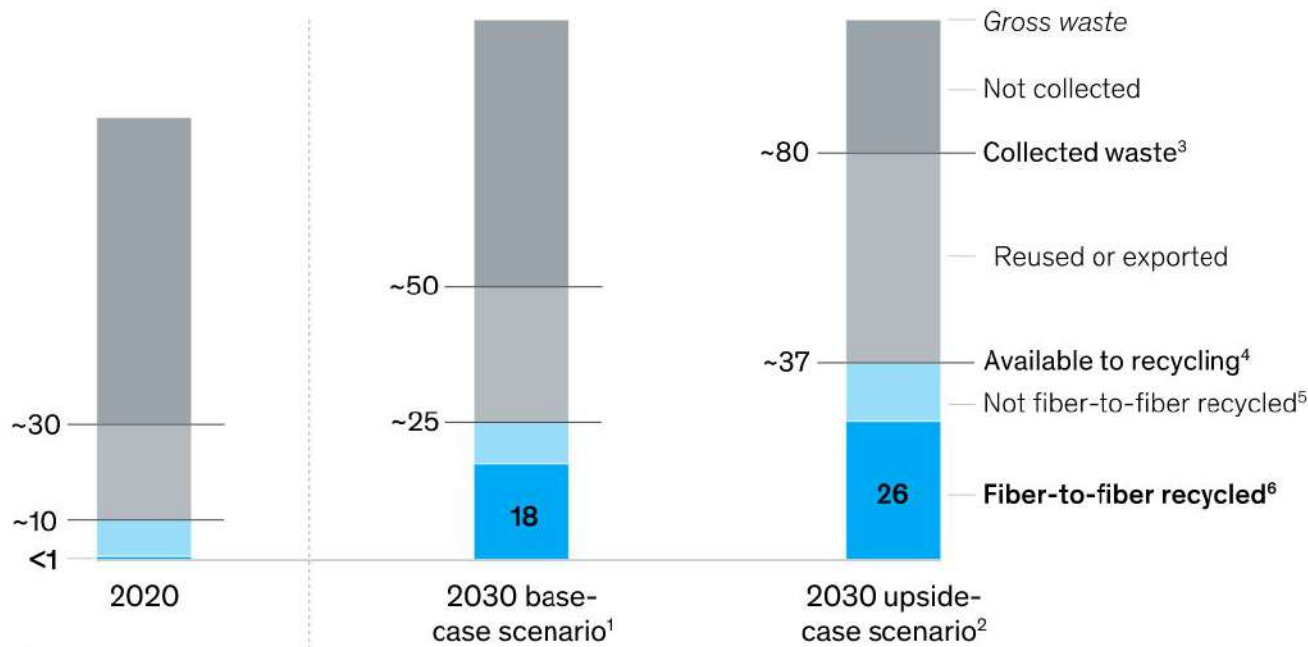


Good data is critical



Future management

Breakdown of EU-27 and Switzerland estimated textile-waste volume as of June 2022, %



Source: McKinsey & Company, Scaling textile recycling in Europe – turning waste into value

Some lessons from France

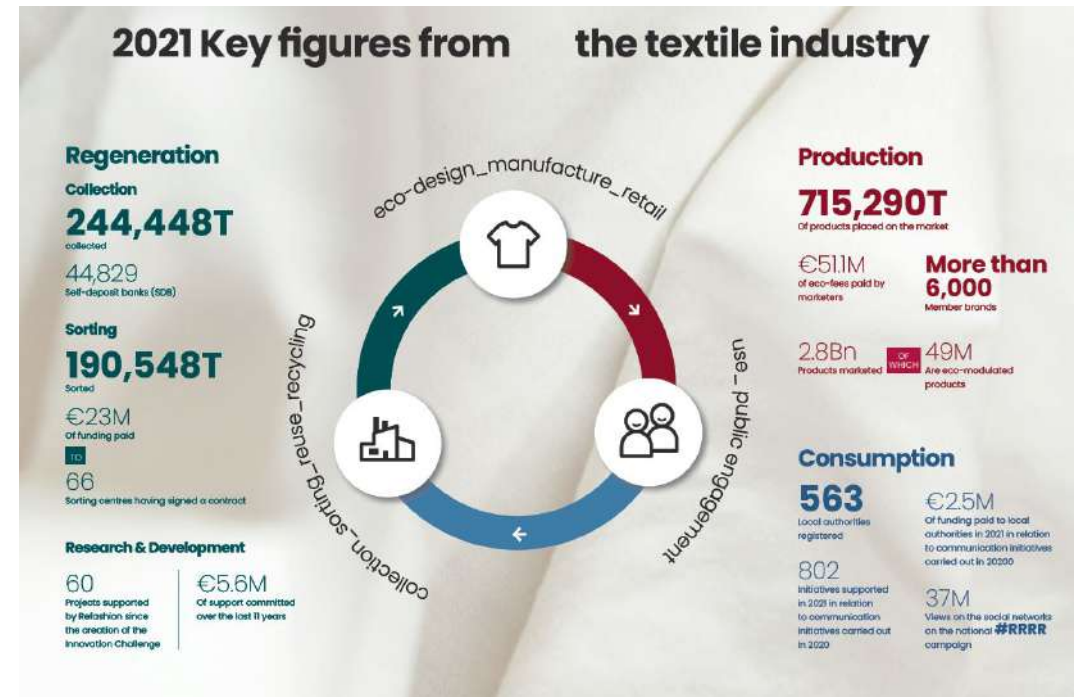
From 2022, unsold textiles may no longer be destroyed, but must be donated or recycled.

EPR scheme (2020): “*prevention and management of the end of life of clothing textiles, household linen and shoes put on the French market by supporting collection, repair and re-use*”.
[<https://refashion.fr/>]

New: Ecomodulation of fees, based on:

- Durability of products
- Environmental labeling product certification
- Incorporation of recycled materials

(See also developments in Netherlands & Sweden)



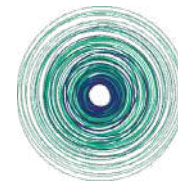
Source: Refashion, 2021 Activity report

Local experience - Denmark



www.eea.europa.eu/en/topics/in-depth/textiles

shane.colgan@eea.europa.eu



OPENING PRESENTATION Shane Colgan, European Environment Agency

PANEL SESSION

Tackling textile consumption

Bernie Kiely, DECC

Annmarie Touhy, EPA

Gwen Cunningham, NCAD &
DCCI

Mireia Canelle, Waste Agency
Catalunya

9:00-12:30pm

Guinness
Enterprise
Centre

31 May
2023

PANEL SESSION

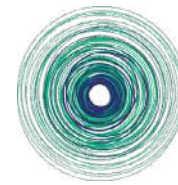
Maximising the value of post
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Trevor Anderson, Oxfam
Ireland

Linda Ward, Charity Retail
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Roscommon Women's
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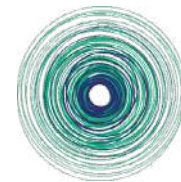
Arran Murphy, Rediscovery
Centre



CONSUMPTION AND POST- CONSUMER TEXTILES

NATEX report

Eileen O'Leary, Clean
Technology Centre



PANEL SESSION

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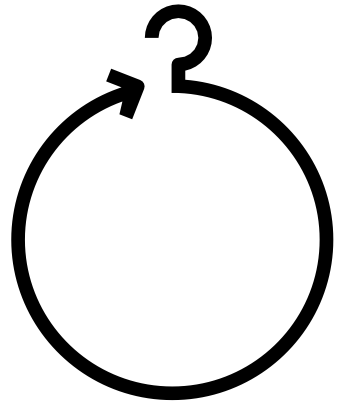
Gwen Cunningham, NCAD &
DCCI

Mireia Canelle, Waste Agency
Catalunya



Circular Fashion Agreement





CIRCULAR FASHION AGREEMENT

WORKING FOR A MORE
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

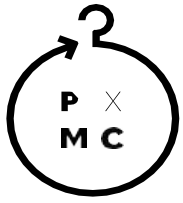
A close-up photograph of several spools of white thread, stacked vertically. The threads are tightly wound and have a fine, textured appearance. The background is blurred, focusing attention on the spools.

Mireia Cañellas
Government of Catalonia

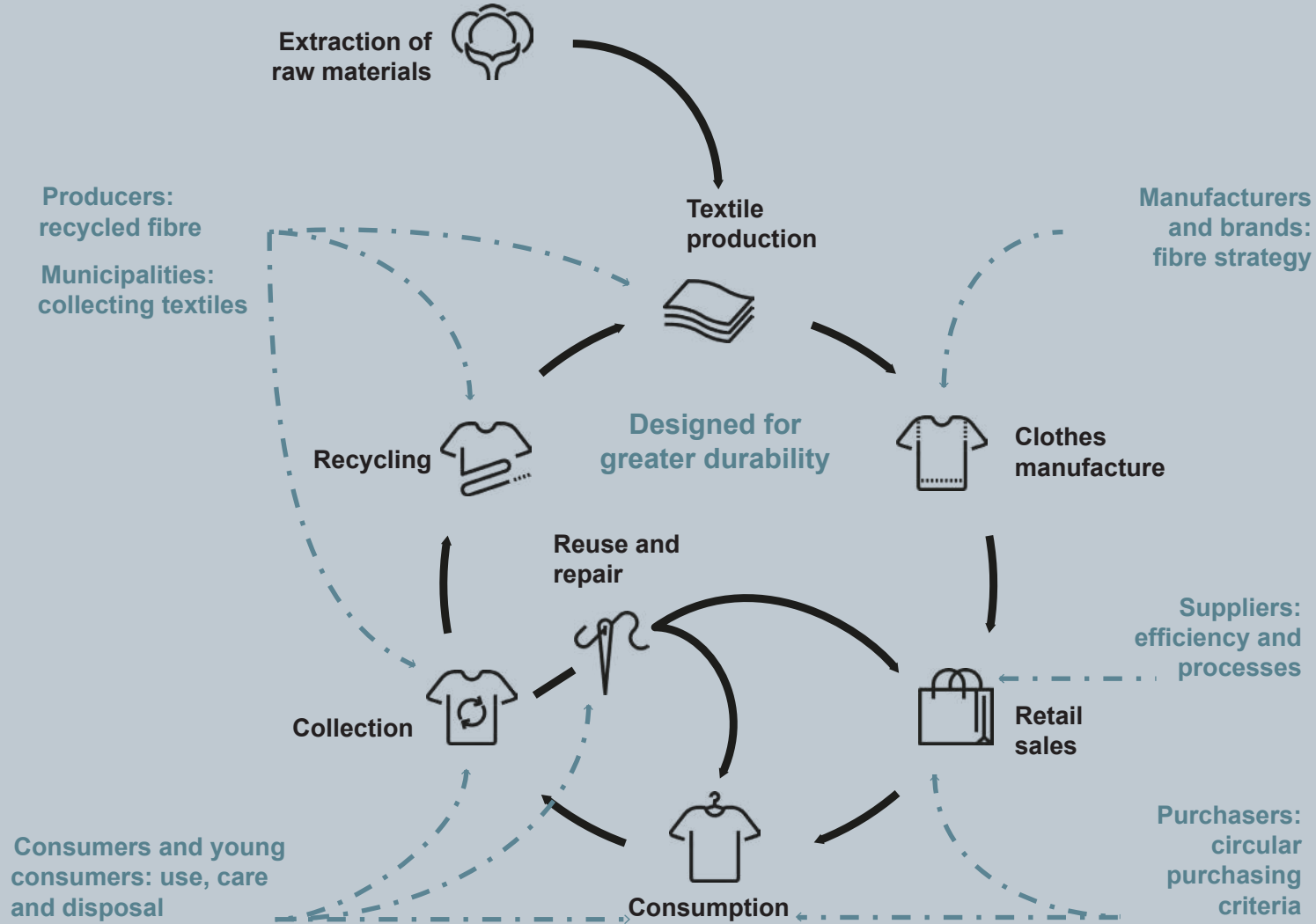
Dublin, 31/05/23

The Circular Fashion Agreement is an initiative that **promotes a voluntary agreement to further the transition of the textile sector towards a circular model**, based on a comprehensive perspective that brings together all the public and private stakeholders in the value chain.

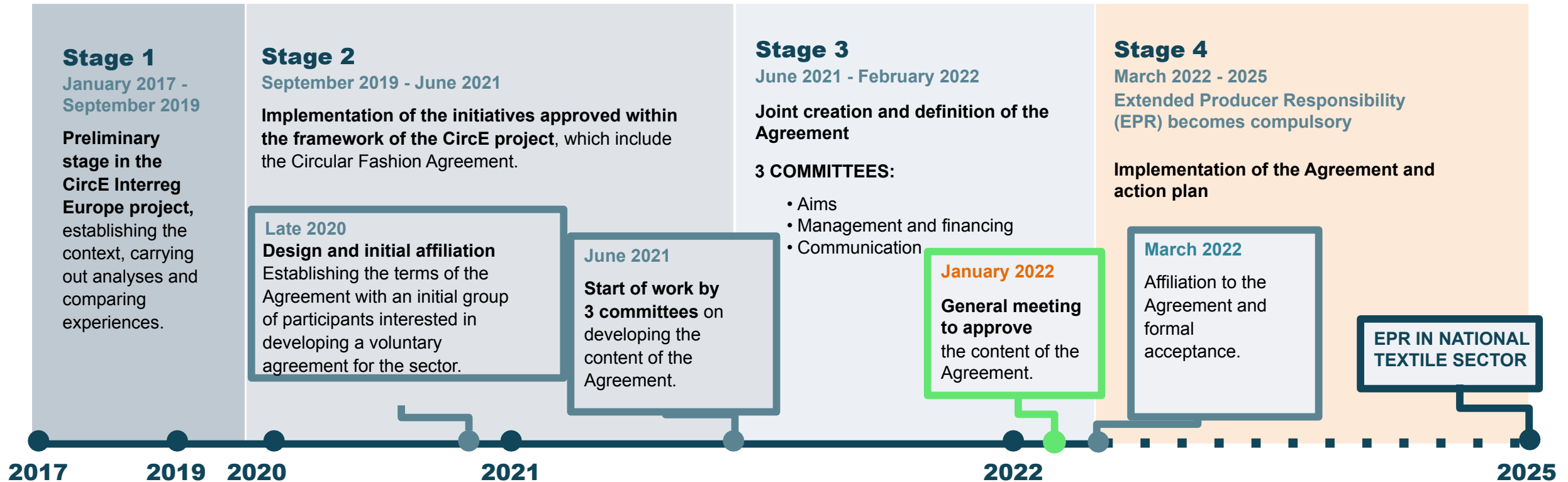




More than 84 members:



The Agreement, a cocreation process open to all the stakeholders in the sector



Overall objectives of the Agreement for 2024*



Reduce the generation of textile waste
(kg/person/year)



Increase the % of textile waste collected separately



Increase the % of textile waste collected separately that is recycled



OBJECTIVES

Reduce generation by 5-10%

(currently 21.5 kg/person/year and 163,478 t/year)

25-30% of textile waste collected separately

(currently 11.7%)

55-60% of textile waste prepared for reuse

(currently 50%)

40-50% of textile waste recycled

(currently 40%)

*All data based on figures for 2019.

Segment-specific goals



Producers (textile industry and distribution to end customers)



- Increase durability
- Increase recyclability
- Reduce/eliminate the use of harmful substances
- Develop strategies for cleaner, more efficient production
- Reduce the environmental impact of micro-fibres
- Increase the % of recycled textile material incorporated in products
- Adapt the industry to the requirements of circular textile production
- Collection of textile waste at points of sale
- Ensure preparations are made for the reuse of all textiles collected
- Organise campaigns to raise consumer awareness



Waste managers



- Increase the % of textiles **reused**, on the local, national and European levels (in that order of priority)
- Increase the % of textiles **recycled**, on the local, national and European levels (in that order of priority)
- Sort textile waste collected in Catalonia locally
- Ensure traceability and transparency in the flows processed and their destination
- Contribute to the development of local recycling industries



Local government



- Increase the number of collection points per inhabitant
- Increase separate collection in terms of kg/person/year
- Intensify efforts to raise awareness among the general public and in government
- Implement public procurement of circular textiles to foster demand
- Establish a model for contracting the collection of textiles in each region that will encourage separate collection and reuse

Segment-specific goals



Government of Catalonia



- Develop policies that contribute to a circular system in the textile sector
- Give institutional support to initiatives promoted by the Agreement
- Implement the public procurement of circular textiles to foster demand
- Support the joint funding of projects developed within the context of the Agreement
- Contribute to raising awareness among the public and in government
- Support the development of the local recycling industry



Universities, research and technology centres



- Promote circular design at all stages of the training cycle for fashion students and professionals working in the field
- Innovate in materials and technologies



Environmenta l third sector



- Take part in initiatives promoted by the Agreement
- Publicise action taken by the Agreement to promote circularity in the sector
- Encourage waste prevention and separate collection, and promote reuse among the general public/consumers

Actions initiated through the signing of the AGREEMENT

WG1 TEXTILE WASTE COLLECTION

Improvement in the collection, sorting and resale of products

Pilot scheme for increasing textile collection in a region

Creation of a framework for contracting the collection of clothing and training in municipalities to address the problem of textiles

Trials to increase the local sale of second-hand clothing and other forms of reuse

WG2 RECYCLING

R&D&I projects and development of the recycling industry and its applications

Trials to develop local recycling schemes for non-reusable textiles

WG3 CIRCULAR PRODUCTS

Eco-label Durability
Recyclability Ecodesign

Design and implementation of a strategy for green public procurement of circular textiles

Viability study of an eco-label to measure its impact on sales

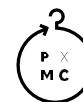
Ecodesign

WG4 AWARENESS

Sociocultural changes
Raising awareness among consumers

Training and support in the circular economy for the textile sector

Communication campaign to raise public awareness



080 REBORN: second hand fashion show



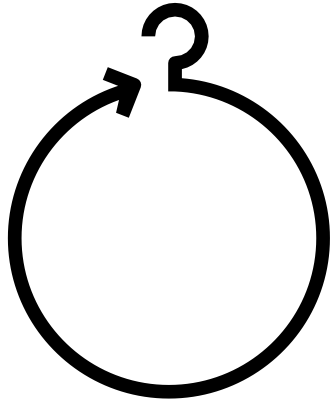
More information at: <https://080barcelonafashion.cat/es/disenador/080reborn>

080bcnfashion 7h 080 BARCELONA FASHION

Propelling circular fashion.
080 Reborn brings second-hand clothing
from specialised shops and waste
managers to the runway.

Learn more about it here:

[080 REBORN](#)



CIRCULAR FASHION AGREEMENT

WORKING FOR A MORE
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

https://mediambient.gencat.cat/ca/05_ambits_dactuacio/empresa_i_produccio_sostenible/economia_verda/catalunya_circular/moda-circular/

Thank you!



**TEXTILES:
ATTITUDES & BEHAVIOURS NATIONAL SURVEY 2021**

**Circular Economy Hotspot | Textiles deep dive session
31 May 2023**

Annmarie Tuohy, EPA Circular Economy Programme

CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROGRAMME

The Driving Force for Ireland's Move to a Circular Economy



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

B&A RESEARCH
& INSIGHT

National Textiles Survey: Introduction

EPA Circular Economy Programme's vision is a circular economy where everyone uses less resources and prevents waste to achieve sustainable economic growth while protecting our environment.

- ❑ Supports the whole of government Circular Economy Strategy
- ❑ Focuses on seven priority areas which includes textiles.

Behavioural insight is a foundation of the EPA's Circular Economy Programme, providing evidence to inform:

Policy | Awareness campaigns | Stakeholders | Behavioural change interventions

EPA National Textiles Survey is a nationally representative survey on people's attitudes, awareness and behaviours towards clothing and other textiles. Fieldwork conducted in November 2021.

Survey topics are presented in a series of five reports:

1. Purchasing of clothes
2. Reuse and repair of clothing
3. Management and disposal of textiles
4. Sustainable consumption and use I
5. Sustainable consumption and use II

Available on epa.ie at this link:

<https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/circular-economy/textiles/national-attitudes-and-behaviours-survey-2021/>



CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROGRAMME

The Driving Force for Ireland's Move to a Circular Economy



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

National Textiles Survey: Top 4 Headlines

We need to buy less clothes and make better decisions on what we buy.

- 49% of people are frequent purchasers of clothes; of these 21% are High Frequency Purchasers buying clothes several times a week.
- 27% of people buy clothes they never end up wearing; this is much higher for High Frequency Purchasers at 46%.

We need to understand there is a link between our consumption of clothes and climate change.

- 72% of people say it is important that the clothes they buy are made without harming the environment.
- Only 31% of people see a clear link between the consumption of textiles and climate change.

We need to make more sustainable choices when we buy clothes.

- 68% of people donate clothes to charity shops or bring them to clothes banks for reuse.
- 82% of people did not consider buying second hand for their last purchase.

High Frequency Purchasers (HFPs) have a clear demographic profile.

- 65% of HFPs are women with the majority under the age of 50 years.
- Men account for 35% of HFPs, most are in the 16 – 34 age group.
- HFPs are strongly biased towards the ABC1 social grade and 'Family Preschool' life stage.



National Textiles Survey: What do we know about HFPs

55% buy clothes they wear only a few times; national figure **30%**

46% buy items they never end up wearing; national figure **27%**

53% wear clothes until they wear out; national figure **70%**

23% always wash clothes after one wear; national figure **14%**

35% bought clothing items made from organic or recycled materials in past 12 months; national figure **24%**



58% donate clothes to charity shops or bring them to clothes banks; national figure **68%**

49% would like to attend textiles repair & repurpose workshops / training; national figure **37%**

30% are willing to rent clothes instead of buying new; national figure **19%**

62% are willing to sell unwanted clothes online; national figure **44%**

28% have bought second hand rather than new clothing in past 12 months; national figure **17%**



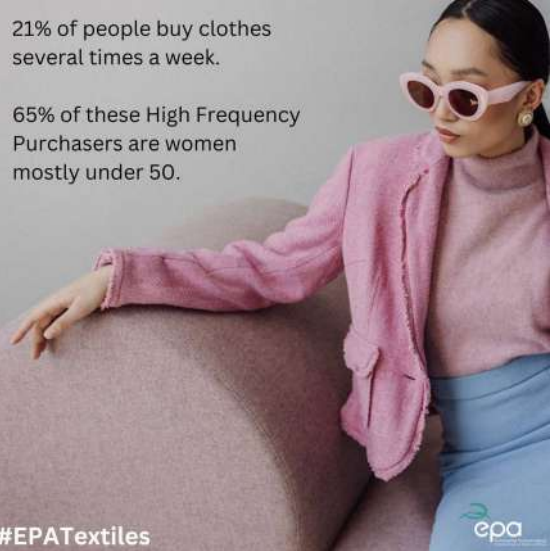
CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROGRAMME

The Driving Force for Ireland's Move to a Circular Economy



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

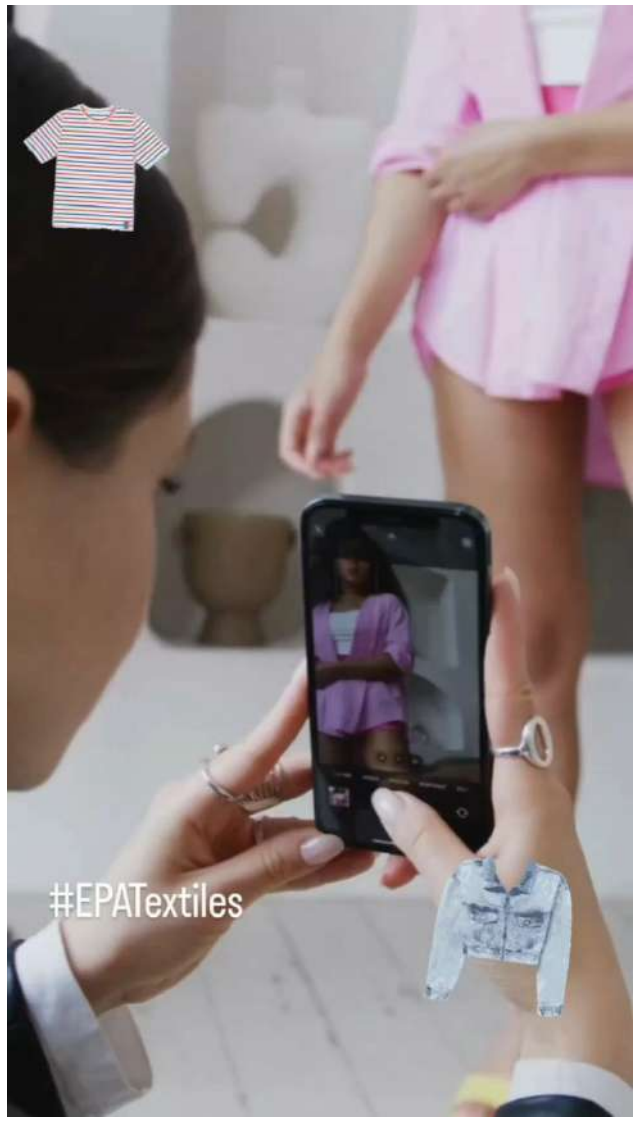
National Textiles Survey: Targeting communications to HFPs for most impact

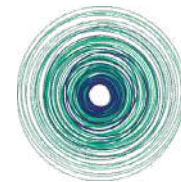


Translating stats to communications

EPA ran social media campaign over 5 days

- Video reel & digital stills on headline stats; Call to Action
 - Stakeholder toolkit for collaboration
- Reach out to online influencers; Paid promotion





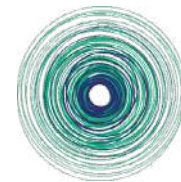
Circular Economy Hotspot
Dublin 2023



Circular Economy Hotspot
Dublin 2023

CIRCULAR TEXTILES IN ACTION





UPCYCLED EXHIBITION

- Showcase of Relove Fashion winning outfit
- Showcase of Cois Ceime 'GO TO BLAZES' costume - shortlisted for Best Costume by Irish Times Irish Theatre Awards

Arran Murphy, Rediscovery
Centre



Circular by Design



ABOUT CIRCULAR BY DESIGN

A first-of-its-kind professional training programme that supports textile and apparel designers, brands and manufacturers **to make the transition to circular practices** in every step of their design practice, value chain and business model.



THE CIRCULAR BY DESIGN PILOT OBJECTIVES

01. BUILD KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY FOR CIRCULAR INNOVATION

Pilot the programme with 7-10 Irish textile and apparel businesses in 2022 and support them to build knowledge and skills needed to design materials, products for circularity.

02. ESTABLISH NETWORKS

Establish a Circular Design Community of Practice (CoP) that connects Irish textile and apparel businesses with peers, experts and innovators, nationally and internationally.

03. DEMONSTRATE & SHOWCASE BEST PRACTICE

Develop and disseminate best practice via a Circular by Design innovation festival and toolkit.





fee G

MCCONNELL



URBAN ARAN



CEADOGAN RUGMAKERS



BEGLEY & BOWIE



ARRAN st EAST

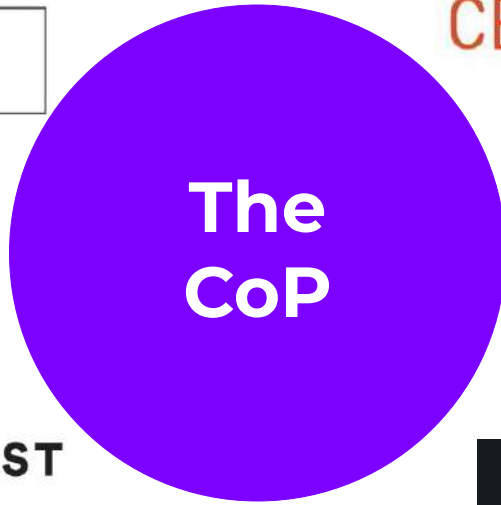
THE ZERO WASTER

august night



AVOCA

studio minti



MCO: Field Trip

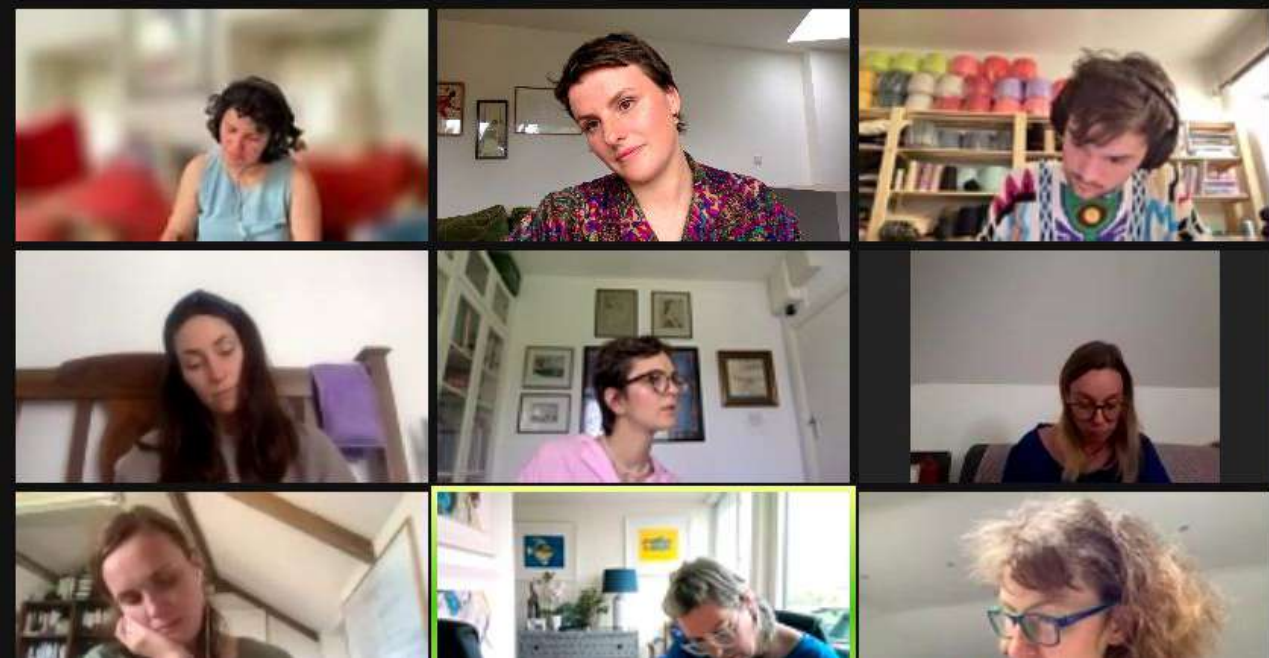
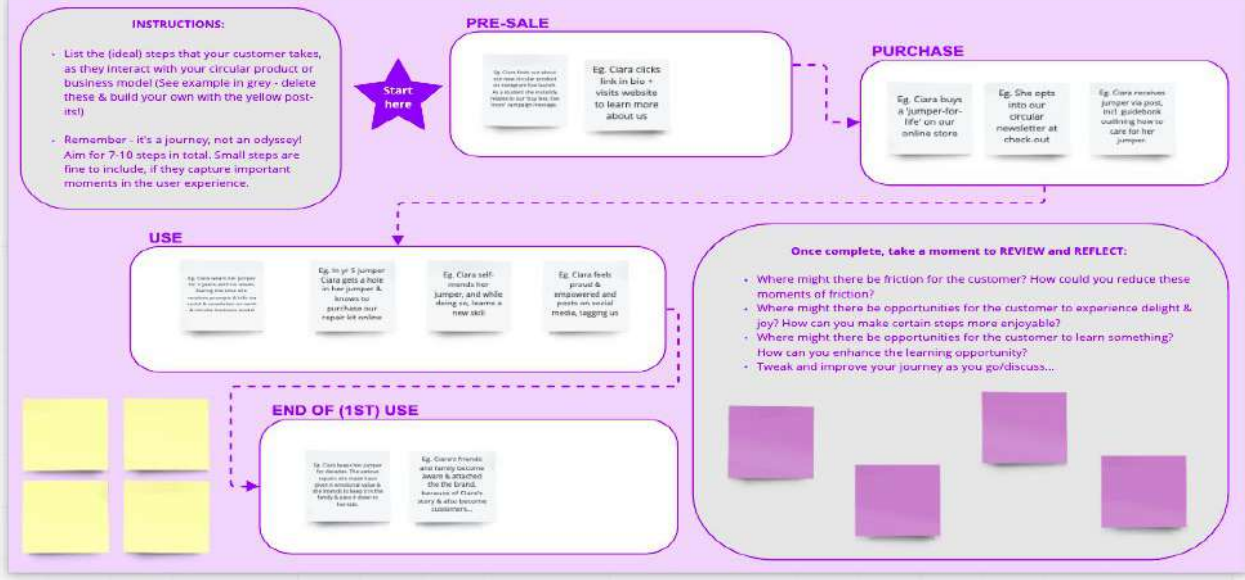
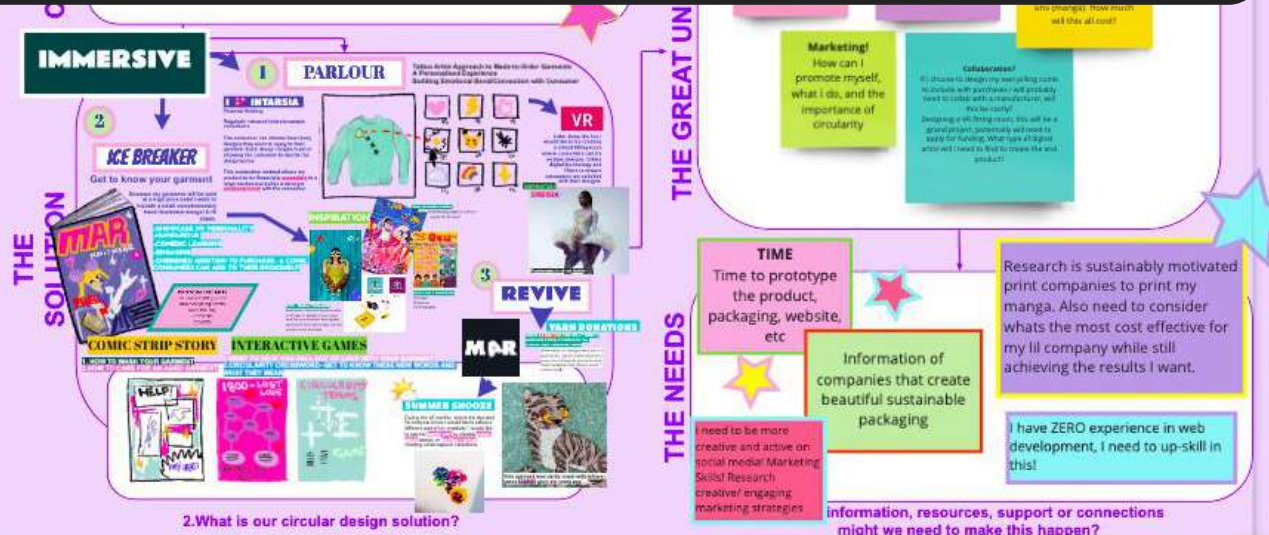


1. CIRCULAR BY DESIGN Case Study Circular Assessment



MCI: Initiate

MC2: Ideate



Customer Persona

Add a photo

Type:

Name:

Age:

Profession:

Location:

Pains
Describe everything that irritates the customer before, during and after trying to solve themselves / buy a rug etc. What are the main challenges and problems your customer faces in relation to your product? What makes her/him feel bad? What risks does your customer fear? (financial, social, technical, etc?)

Gains
Describe the results or desires that customers want to get from your product. Some gains are needed, expected or desired, others can surprise the client. What is your customer looking for (increased confidence? a smart design, specific features etc)?

Jobs to be done
What are the customer's goals, troubles, needs in relation to your product (social, emotional, functional)?

Channel & Product Preference
What platforms & channels are your customer most active on? What additional brands (apparel and otherwise) do they like?

Sustainability Outlook
Is your customer knowledgeable and interested in sustainability, and why? How does it relate to their core values? They could be interested from a perspective innovation and technology, environmental security, wellness & community, spirituality, etc.

MC3: Implement



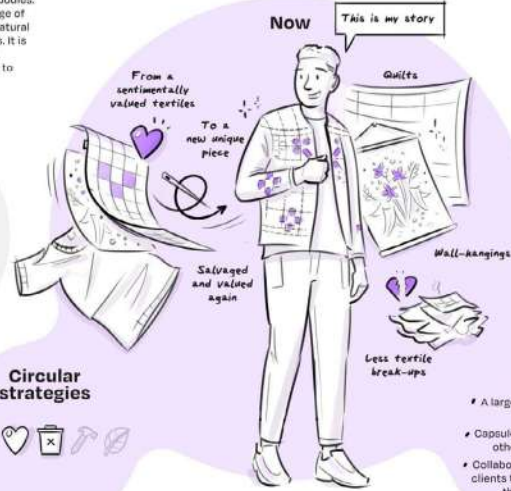
Saturn Cottage Industries is a creative studio producing treasured items for homes and bodies. Saturn Cottage Industries applies their range of sewing skills to repurposed and salvaged natural fabrics, making unique garments and quilts. It is about traditional craft, material reuse, and "cottage industry" as a slow, local antidote to wasteful overproduction.

Crafted to continue

A bespoke 1-1 textile repurposing service

Circular challenge

Accessing a consistent source of used textiles to salvage and curate, in a way that integrates meaningfully and constructively into existing material/waste flows.



CEADOGAN RUGMAKERS

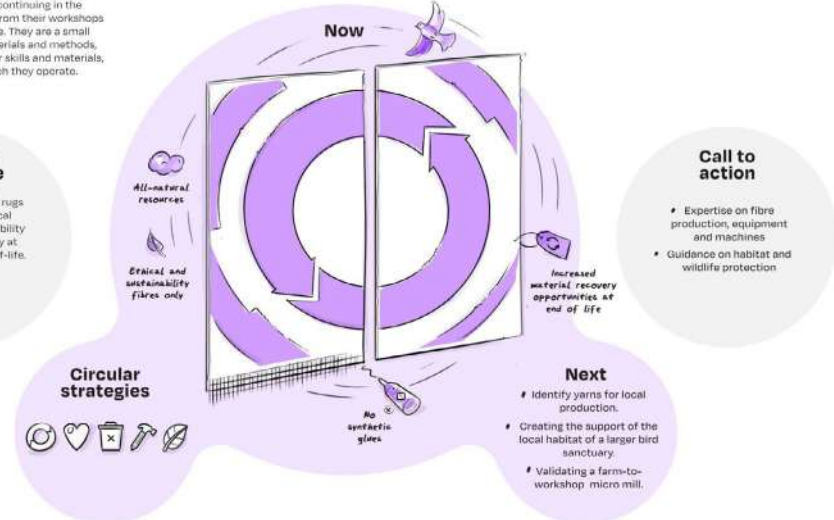
Ceadogán Rugmakers is a family run business which has been based in Wexford for over thirty years. They are committed to continuing in the tradition of hand tufting rugs from their workshops in Barrytown Wellingtonbridge. They are a small business using traditional materials and methods, who are passionate about their skills and materials, and the rural setting from which they operate.

For the birds

All natural rugs

Circular challenge

To create all natural rugs with good technical properties and the ability of circular recovery at their eventual-end-of-life.



ARRAN ST EAST

Intertwined

From salvages to new products

Arran Street East is a pottery and weaving studio based in Dublin where they make homewares to their own functional designs, and where their studio shop, and workshops are based. They use traditional crafting techniques to make and teach their craft, throwing on pottery wheels, and weaving on looms.



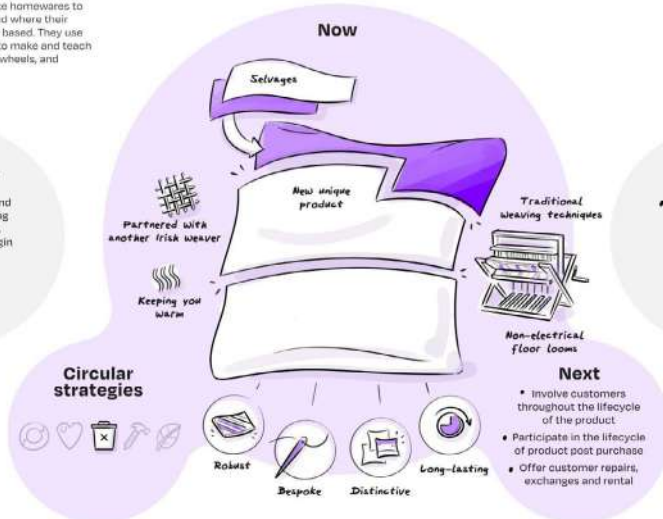
Love all wool

Highly durable and natural knitwear

LA Knitwear started from a desire to create beautiful knitwear that leaves a happy footprint on the earth. LA Knitwear aims to celebrate the uniqueness of their customers through their colour choices so that they feel cosy, loved and ready to shine bright in the world.

Circular challenge

Work with "waste" and incorporate recycling into their weaving, rather than using virgin materials.



Circular challenge

Introducing an alternative Irish-grown yarn to increase durability. The current main yarn tends to be a little brittle and may twist at the seams.



Read the pilot results via the **Circular By Design Toolbox:**

<https://circularbydesign.creativefuturesacademy.ie>

Impact to date

- **100%** have developed, prototyped and begun testing circular solutions on the market
- **100%** have an increased knowledge and understanding of circular design and feel confident and empowered to identify and tackle circular challenges specific to their brand.
- **88%** have the skills needed to assess the circularity of a product, and redesign it according to circular principles
- **94%** identified strong community and networking opportunities relevant to their brand, in Ireland or abroad.
- **7 out of 11** brands have already begun collaborating with other Irish industry stakeholders on a circular project.



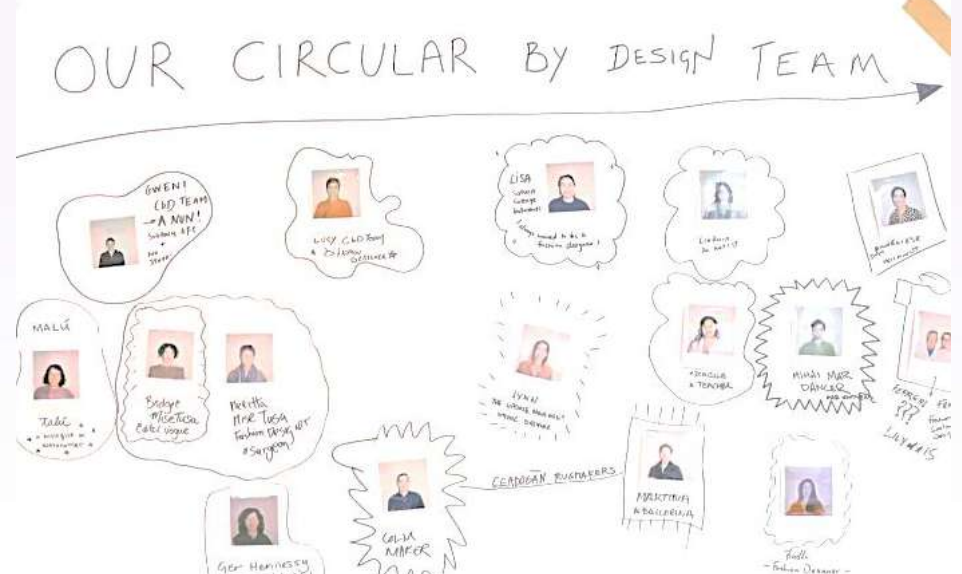
What's next?

Build the circular design capacity of current industry professionals:

- **Rollout CdD Prof Dip to textiles industry** - train 40 apparel brands and manufacturers by 2025
- Scope opportunities to expand to **1-2 other priority sectors**
- **Develop and lead pre-competitive action-research projects**, to build new knowledge & drive innovation across the industry

Build the circular design capacity of current industry professionals:

- **Conduct train-the-trainer** for all NCAD staff
- **Diversify and expand the CbD programme**





Launching today!
**MA in Design for the
Circular Economy**

NATEX Report



Eileen O'Leary

Clean Technology Centre
Munster Technological University



NATEX Report - Nature & extent of post-consumer textiles in Ireland





**How much post
consumer
textiles do we
generate in
Ireland?**



170,000 tonnes
per year
of post-consumer
textiles in Ireland

What **one tonne** of rubbish looks like

© "Half-asleep Chris" on Youtube



Post-consumer
textiles -
clothing,
footwear and
other textile
products

35 kg per person per year

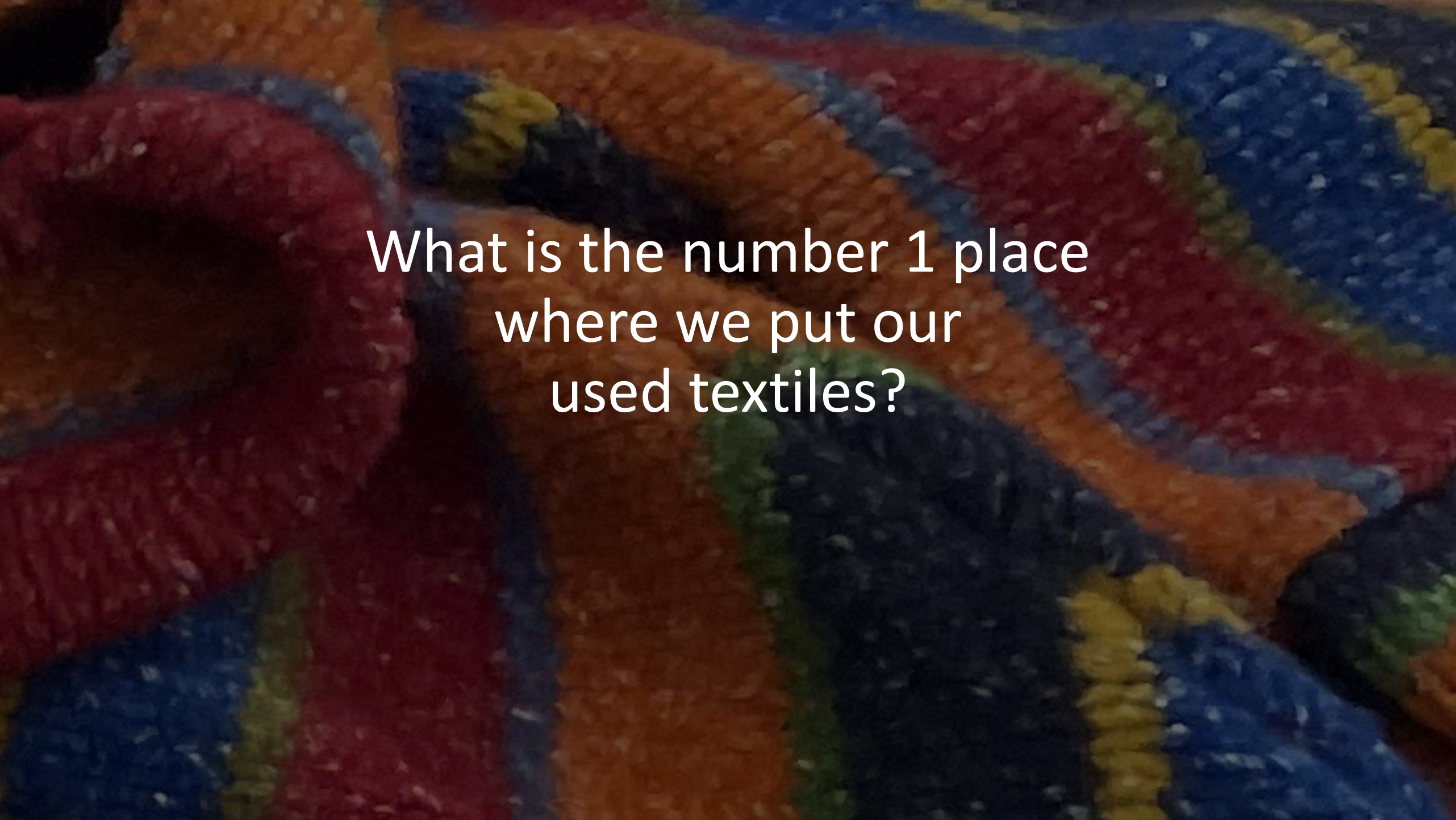


Ireland

26 kg per person per year



EU average



What is the number 1 place
where we put our
used textiles?

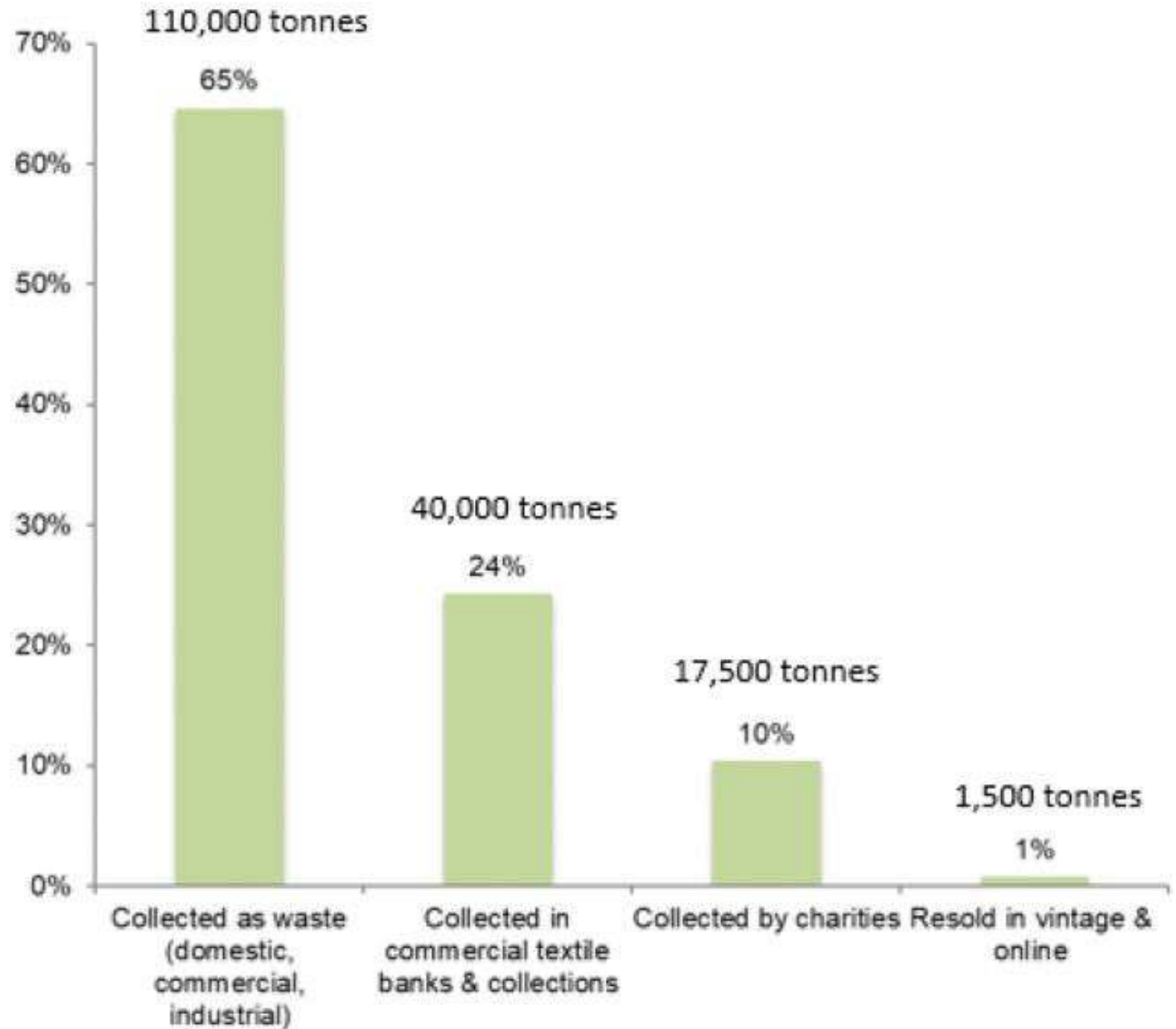
The number 1
place
where we put
our
used textiles

The household general waste bin

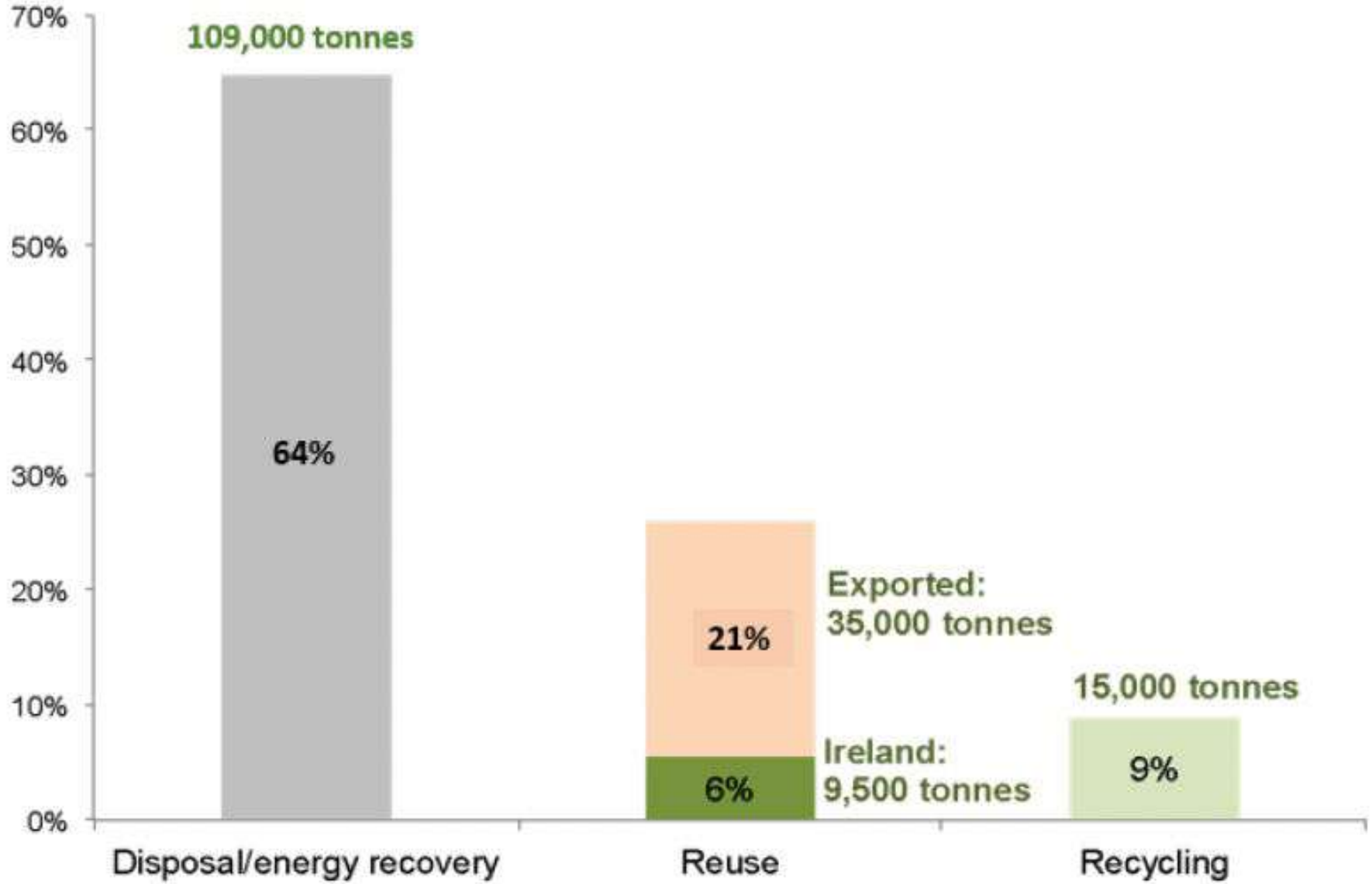


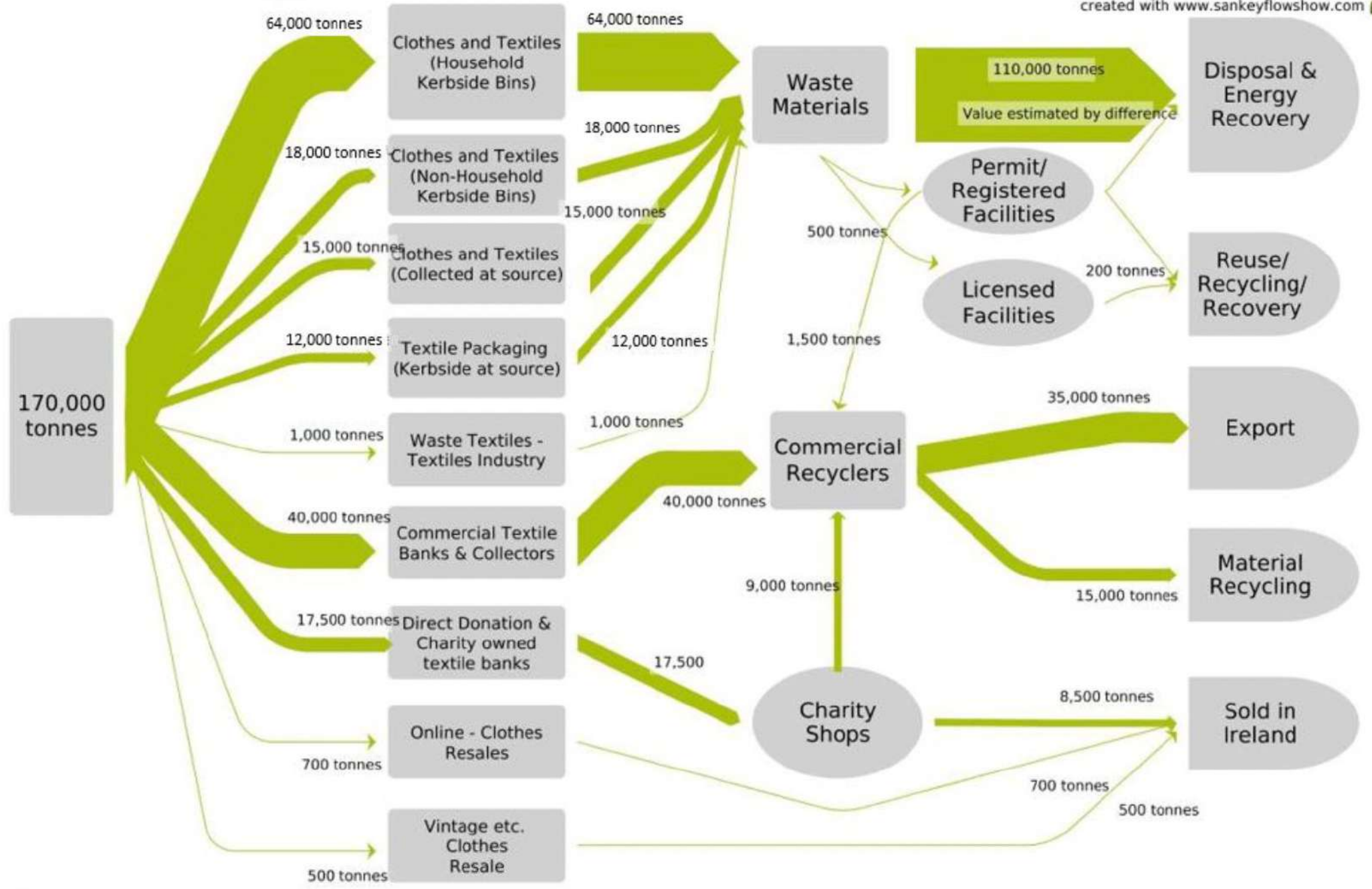
Photo: Unsplash.com Sigmund

Post
consumer
textile
streams in
Ireland



Fate of post consumer textile streams in Ireland





What to do

Collection infrastructure


Public awareness

Sustainable consumption

Circular actions:

- increasing reuse
- facilitating repair
- at end of life - favouring reuse/recycling

Better data

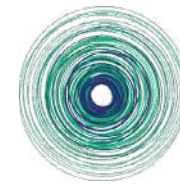


Thank you!

eileen.oleary@ctc-cork.ie

Report available at:
<https://www.epa.ie/publications/circular-economy/resources/nature-and-extent-of-post-consumer-textiles-in-ireland--study-report.php>





PANEL SESSION

Maximising the value of post consumer textiles through sorting, reuse and repair.

Trevor Anderson, Oxfam Ireland



Linda Ward, Charity Retail Ireland



**Martina Hourigan,
Roscommon Women's
Network**



**Eileen O'Leary, Clean
Technology Centre**

Circular and Sustainable Textiles and Clothing Horizon project







Dublin Circular Economy Hotspot

Trevor Anderson – 31st May 2023

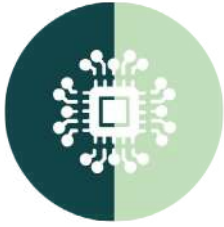


Co-funded by
the European Union

What is CISUTAC?

-  Increases circularity and sustainability in textiles and clothing in Europe
-  Developing pilot digital repair/dismantling workstations
-  Changing sectorial and consumers behaviours
-  €9 Million funding - European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program

What are the CISUTAC objectives?



Enabling technologies for circular textiles by using advanced digital solutions



Developing the capacity and digital infrastructure for circular textiles



Understanding the sector and consumers, and promoting the benefits of circular textiles



Piloting 'circular textiles' via selected pilots



Assisting the sector in the transition towards circular economy

CISTUAC Partners



Oxfam's tasks



Consumers acceptance and behaviour of circular textiles



Influencing consumers behaviour by co-creating interventions to support repair & second hand



Raise awareness of EU citizens about the environmental impact of buying new clothes and the benefits of reusing, donating and shopping second hand textiles

More information on:



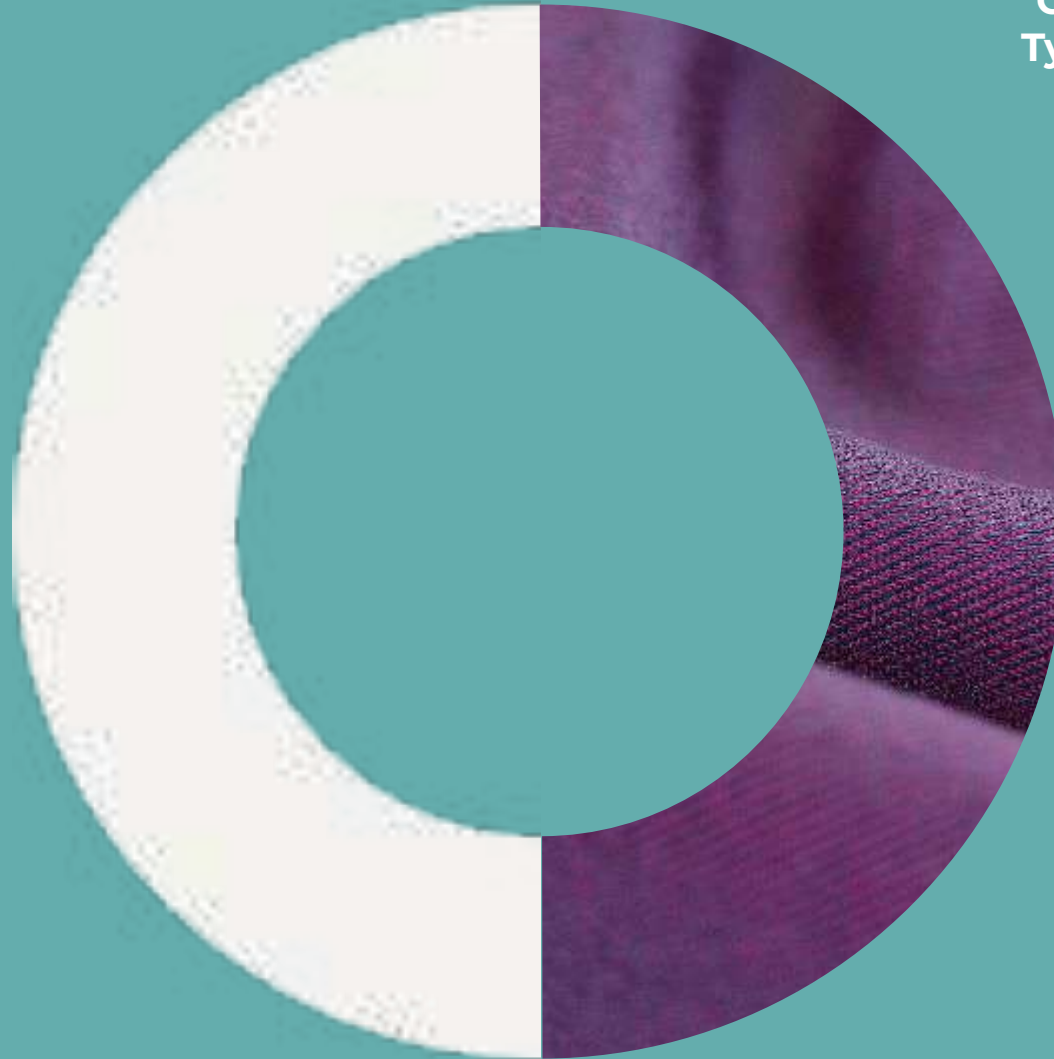
www.cisutac.eu



CISUTAC



@CISUTAC



Project ID:

Call: HORIZON-CL6-2021-CIRCBIO-01

Type of action: HORIZON Innovation
Actions

Grant Agreement N°: 101060375

Total budget: € 9,21 mio

EC : € 7,92 mio

Starting date: 1 September 2022

Duration: 48 months

Coordinator: Centexbel

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101060375.



Co-funded by
the European Union

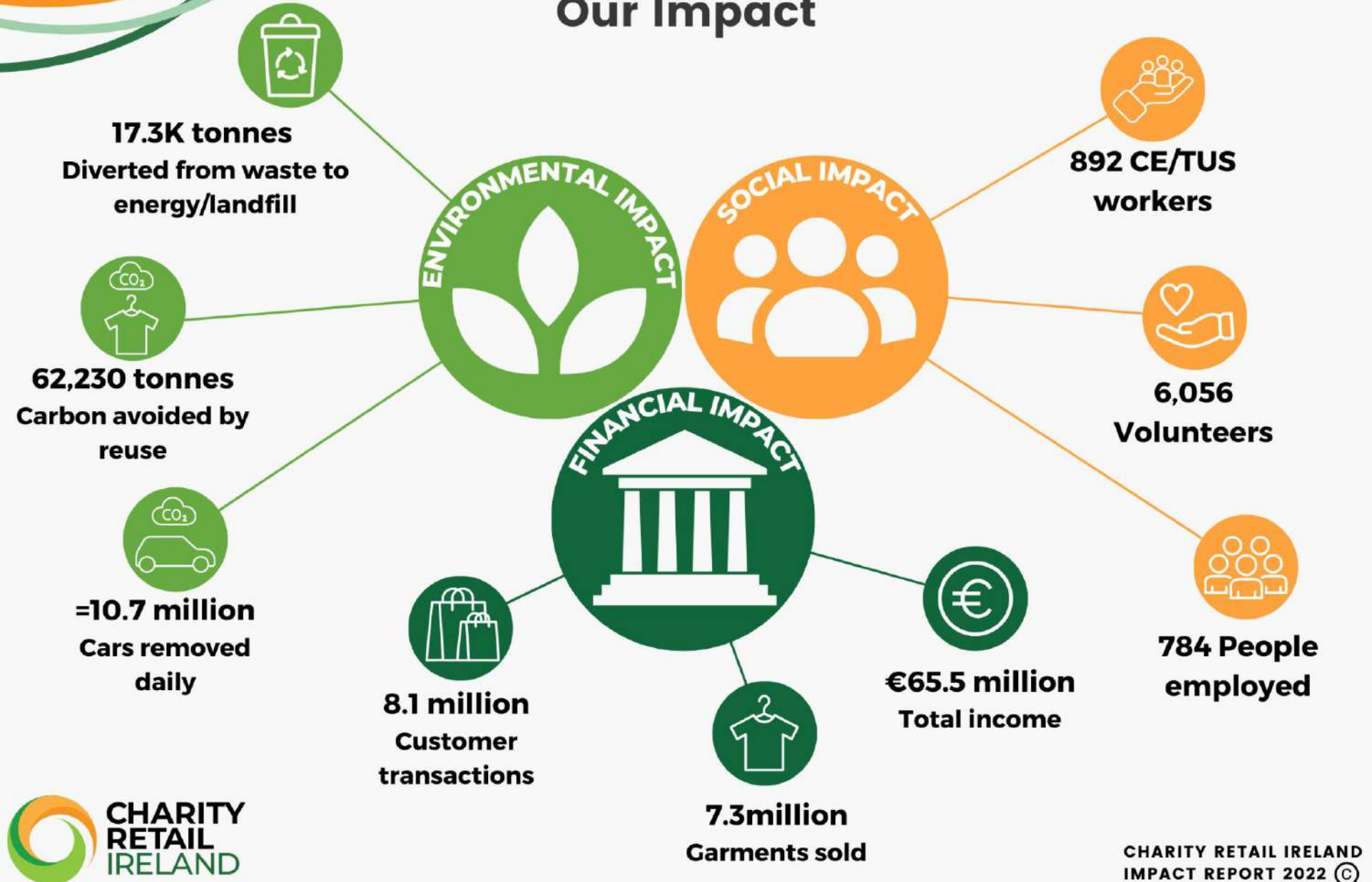


2022

**CHARITY
RETAIL
IMPACT
REPORT**



Our Impact



Financial Impact



The turnover in 2022 for our 42 members operating 492 shops is €65.5 million. 2022 was a good year as it was the first full year of trading since 2019 because of the pandemic.

However success was not universal. There is a large gap between the most successful and least successful shop. The average turnover per shop was €125,000 with a variance from €50,000 at worst to €269,500 at best. The data is split into shop size.

- €125,000 - average turnover
- €107,500 - average turnover for charities with 1 shop
- €156,000 - average turnover for charities with 2-10 shops
- €124,800 - average turnover for charities with more than 10 shops

52% of our members operate 1 shop, 31% operate 2-10 shops and 17% operate more than 10 shops.

The reasons for this disparity are complex and include location, local resources, difficulty in recruiting shop managers due to full employment and getting the volunteer workforce up and running again post pandemic.

In some cases, smaller community based charities depend on their shop income for a large part of the revenue and so invest in their shops with people and resources. They are often at the heart of their local communities who support them with time, expertise and people.

Clothing sales account for the biggest proportion of sales at 66% or 7.3million garments sold. Clothing sales are likely to increase as we move to a more circular approach to fashion shopping. Our 8.1 million customers will only increase in number in future years.

Social Impact



Volunteers are at the heart of charity shops who would not be able to operate without them. We recognise this every year with our Martin Kenny Volunteer of the Year Award, in memory of Martin who was a founding member of our Association and the Head of Retail for NCBI.

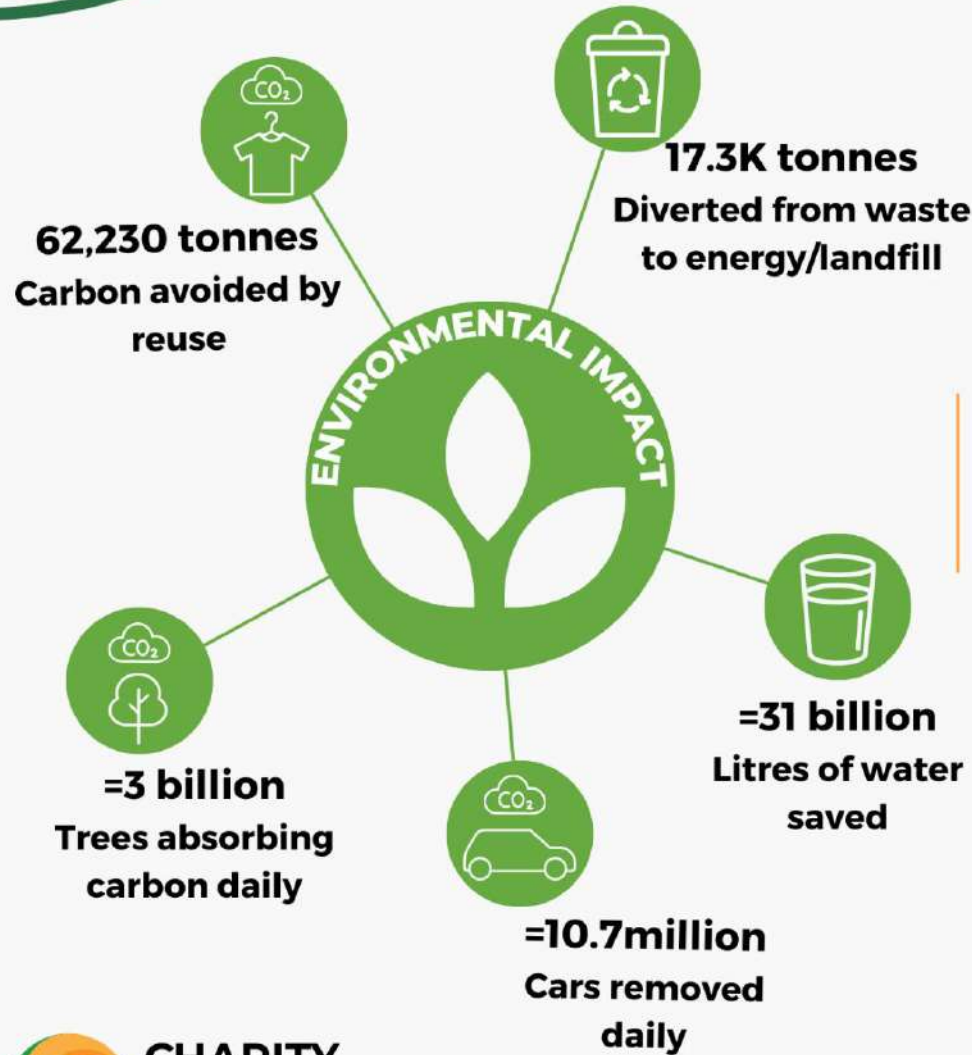
Over 6,000 people volunteered in charity shops in 2022, which is an amazing figure given the effects of the pandemic on many of them. In previous years this number has been higher and we hope that 2023 will see more people volunteering in our members' shops.

Many charity shops rely on the valuable work done by workers through the Community Employment and TUS schemes. This was especially true in 2022 as some shops struggled to recruit new volunteers. However, due to full employment, it is often difficult to attract people to join these schemes. Many who do often go on to become paid members of staff and, in some cases, shop managers. CE and TUS schemes create valuable opportunities for those who are distant from the labour force.

Of the 784 people employed, nearly half were shop managers who were generally full time, with slightly more full time Assistant Managers than part time. 100 people fell into the Other category. This category encompasses stockroom assistants, warehouse managers, van drivers and online and digital assistants. As the charity retail sector grows these support staff will grow in number and importance.

The equivalent employee value in financial terms came to a massive €60.3 million with volunteers contributing €28.5million. An amazing figure considering our turnover was €65.5million.

Environmental Impact

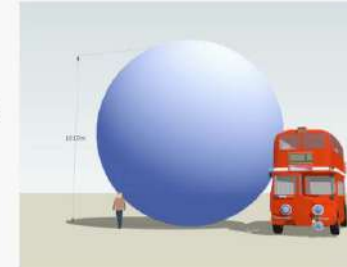


In 2022 our charity members diverted 17,300 tonnes away from landfill or waste to energy. This is the equivalent of 1,440 double decker buses. From 2024 the separate collection of textile waste will ensure that this figure grows.

Textile reuse makes a contribution to carbon emission targets. Reuse is now at the top of the waste hierarchy and, through buying from a charity shop, consumers can extend the life and reduce the carbon footprint of the goods they buy and donate.

62,230 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (CO₂e) were avoided through our members' shops in 2022.

This is what one tonne of carbon looks like. It is 10.07M high. Imagine 62,230 of them, and 1,440 double decker buses too!



This is the equivalent of 10.7 million cars removed from the road daily or 3 billion trees absorbing carbon daily.

Water is becoming an increasingly precious resource. The goods sold through our members' shops saved a massive 31 billion litres of water. This is equal to 632 million showers lasting 7 minutes in an ordinary shower using 49 litres of water.

Charity shops have been delivering on a huge environmental impact since they started operating in the middle of the last century, before sustainability and the circular economy were even conceived.

More information

Download the full report

<https://www.charityretail.ie/impact-of-charity-retail/>

Contact: Linda Ward

Email: secretary@charityretail.ie

CycleUp project







**RWN Charity Shop volunteers
2018**

CycleUp Tutors

CycleUp Tutors deliver 8 week Introductory or Intermediate Upcycling Textiles Training Courses funded by GRETB around Co. Roscommon



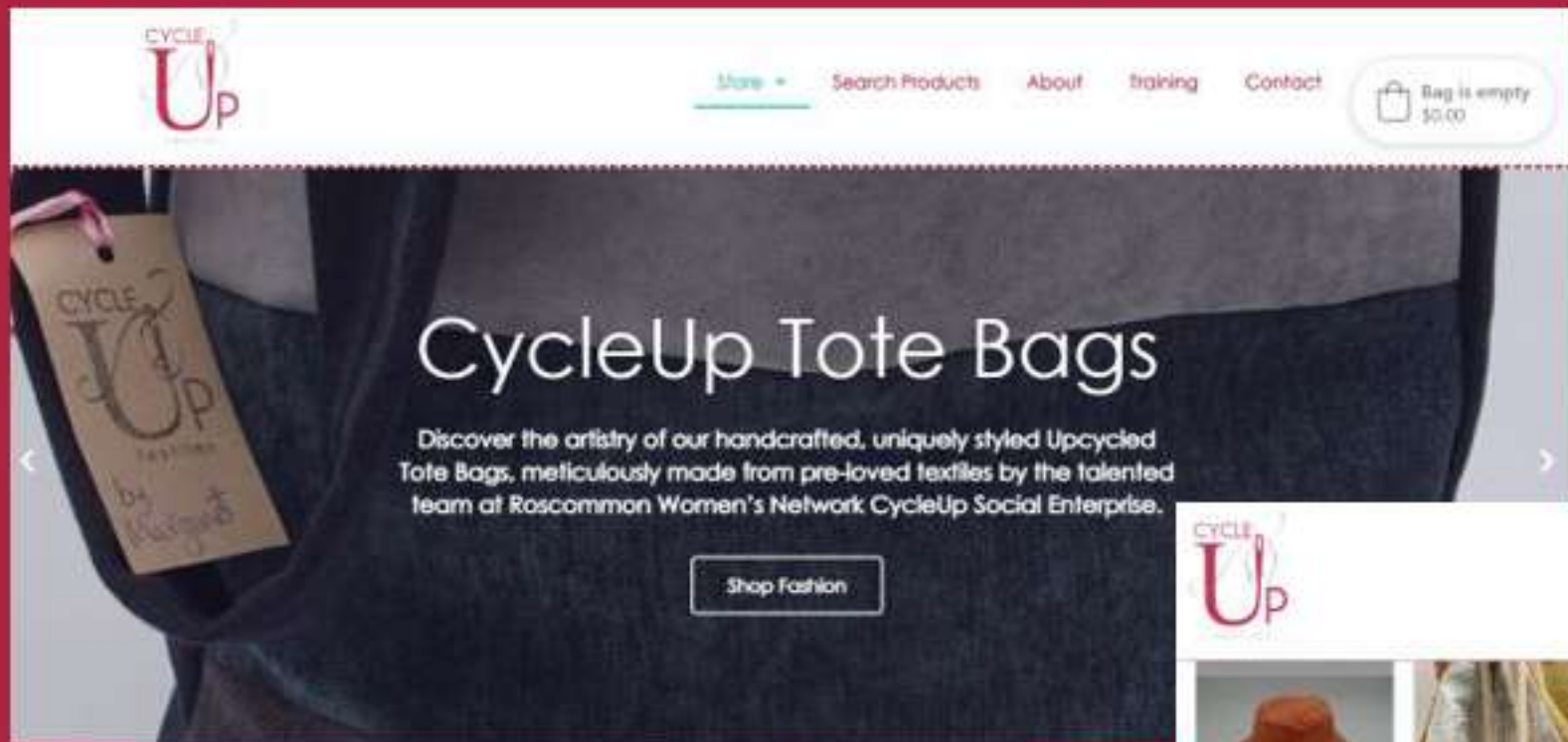
CycleUp Tutors



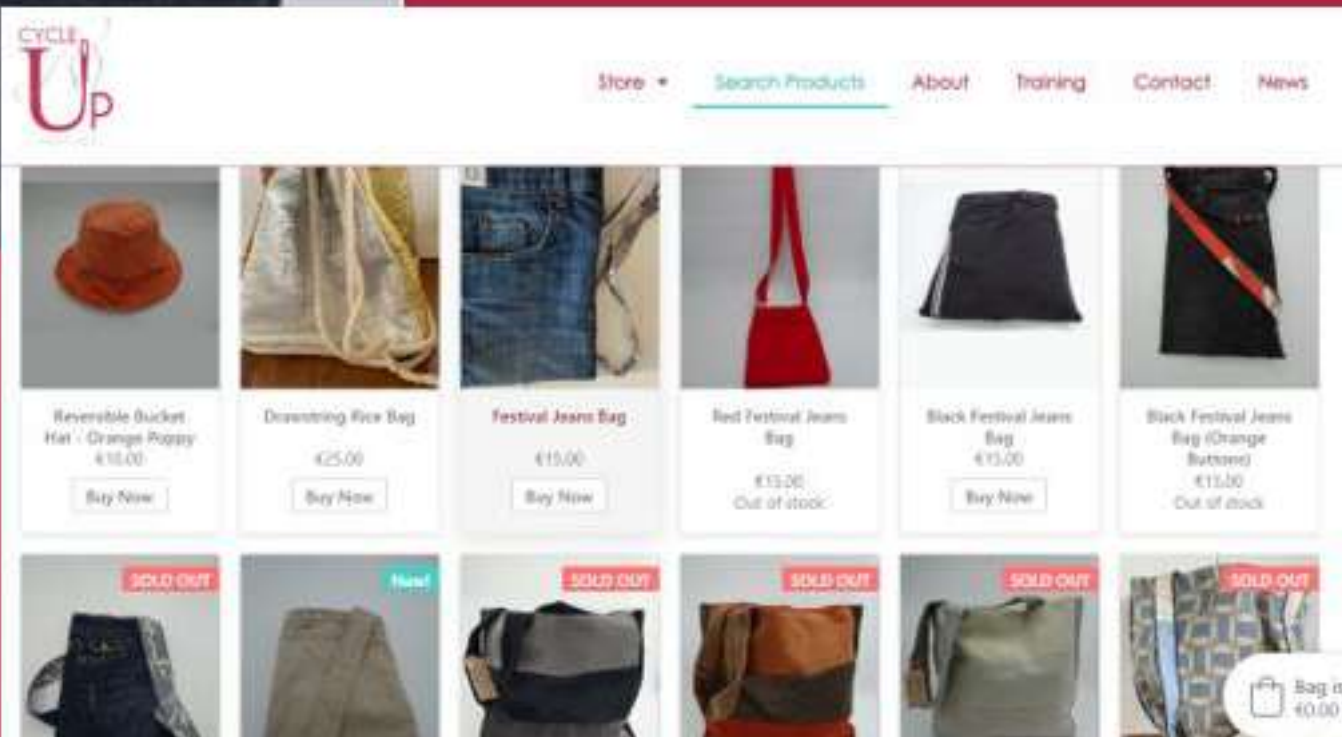
CycleUp Tutors also deliver a series of workshops to schools and community groups.



CycleUp Online Store: rwn.ie/store



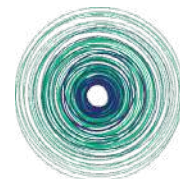
New CycleUp.ie website being launched next month





Project Collaborators & Stakeholders 2018 - present





Circular Economy Hotspot
Dublin 2023

**SUSTAINABILITY
IN FASHION**

THE BANK
85 JAMES' ST.

EVENT
28 MAY 1-2PM

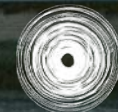
EXHIBITION
28 MAY 3-5PM
29 MAY-2 JUNE 12-5PM

Gallery





Thank You



Circular Economy Hotspot
Dublin 2023