

# - Student worksheet for case study - How sustainable fashion contributes to the closed-loop economy?



## Generic green skills

### Cognitive competencies:

- Innovation skills to identify opportunities and create new strategies to respond to green challenges
- Identifying ways of being part of the solution
- Understanding the complexity and interconnectedness of sustainable development issues and challenges

### Technological competencies:

- Procurement and selection



## Learning objective

### You will be able to:

1. Understand the unsustainable nature of the fashion sector and identify solutions for developing a closed-loop model for it.
2. Reflect on how the closed-loop economy can contribute to sustainable development.



## Format

Small group work and reflexive accounts



## Resources needed

A3 paper, case study



## Time required

1.5 hours



## Assessment

### You will be assessed based on:

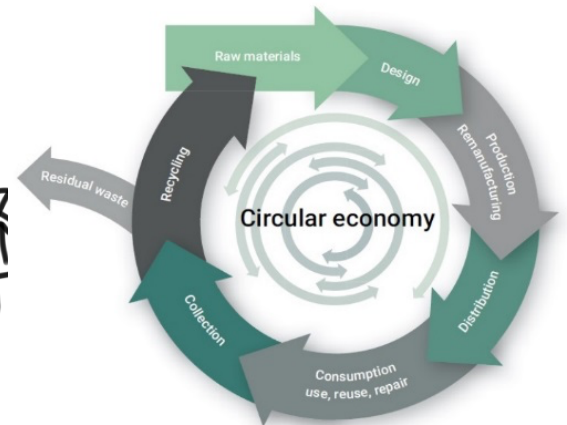
1. Group presentation of the designed closed-loop model for the fashion sector.
2. An individual assignment.

### Before the class:

1. Find out ways of dealing with clothes you don't want to keep anymore in Hong Kong.
2. Read the three case studies about the fashion industry and identify the approaches used for achieving sustainable fashion. You are encouraged to search more information online.
3. Please refer to the closed-loop economy concept and examine Figure 1, 'Circular economy' (also included below). Work out how each case contributes to different stages of this model.

### During the class:

1. Discuss with your groupmates: what you do with the clothes you don't want to wear anymore.
2. What do you think are the 'cradle-to-grave' issues in the fashion sector (e.g., no recycling), and identify solutions from the three case studies or find other examples online. Your group should identify at least three solutions.
3. Share your group work with the whole class.
4. Design a closed-loop model for the fashion sector based on approaches you have identified from the case study as well as your online searches. Try and propose sustainable approaches to each of the processes included in the model on the right. Sketch your group's model on A3 paper.
  - a. Raw materials
  - b. Design
  - c. Production/ Remanufacturing
  - d. Distribution
  - e. Consumption (use, reuse, repair)
  - f. Collection
  - g. Recycling



### After the class:

You need to submit a reflection (500–800 words) on the topic of **'how the closed-loop economy contributes to sustainable development'**. Write your reflection based on one specific industry you are familiar with, or one you are interested in.

## Reference:

- Braham, E. (2017). Closing The Loop On Sustainable Fashion. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/ashoka/2017/05/08/closing-the-loop-on-sustainable-fashion/#c0ac7e02f3fd>
- Brismar, A. (2015). "Closing the loop" in the fashion industry. Retrieved from <http://www.greenstrategy.se/closed-loops-fashion-textile-industry-definition-and-challenges-2/>
- Webster, K., & Johnson, C. (2010). Sense & Sustainability Educating for a circular economy (2nd ed.). Retrieved from [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwiRh8jQsPXkAhVKWH0KHWyXBd8QFjAAegQIAhAC&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.c2c-centre.com%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2FSense%2520%2526%2520sustainability\\_0.pdf&usg=AOvVaw3f3ddVGIX2Td6rTB\\_BCpYA](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwiRh8jQsPXkAhVKWH0KHWyXBd8QFjAAegQIAhAC&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.c2c-centre.com%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2FSense%2520%2526%2520sustainability_0.pdf&usg=AOvVaw3f3ddVGIX2Td6rTB_BCpYA)
- Zhao, Y. (2018). Hongkongers fight 'fast fashion' as clothes-mending workshops and pop-up swaps grow in popularity | Hong Kong Free Press HKFP. Retrieved from <https://www.hongkongfp.com/2018/10/01/hongkongers-fight-fast-fashion-clothes-mending-workshops-pop-swaps-grow-popularity/>