



the
wheel

Stronger Charities.
Stronger Communities.

SUMMIT

Croke Park, 23 May

2023

**SUSTAINABILITY: IS IT NOW OR NEVER
FOR THE SDGS?**

AGENDA

Welcome – Sarah Benson

Panel presentations

- Coalition 2030: Setting the scene, halfway to the goals – Sorley McCaughey
- Naomh Breandain Credit Union: Credit Unions and the SDGs – David McDonnell
- Society of St Vincent de Paul: The fast demise of fast fashion – Dermot McGilloway and Mary Butterly
- Coalition 2030: From micro to macro, opportunities for action – Karen Ciesielski

Q&A / Group work

Wrap up

Furthest
Behind First, or
Falling Behind
Further?

The human stories
that challenge Ireland's
claims to be leaving
no one behind.

 coalition
2030
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

coalition 2030

FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Coalition 2030 is an alliance of 70 civil society organisations from the **international development, environmental, anti-poverty and trade union sectors** working together to ensure Ireland keeps its promise to achieve the Sustainable Development





Naomh Breandain
CREDIT UNION LIMITED

The Wheel Summit 23rd May 2023

Is it now or never for the SDG's?



Credit Union

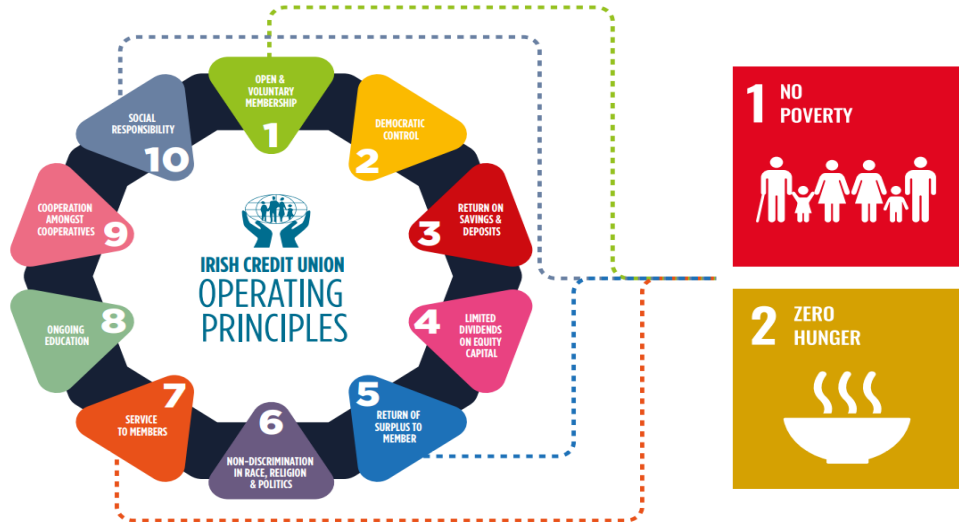
Irish Credit Union Operating Principles



Reporting on Sustainability



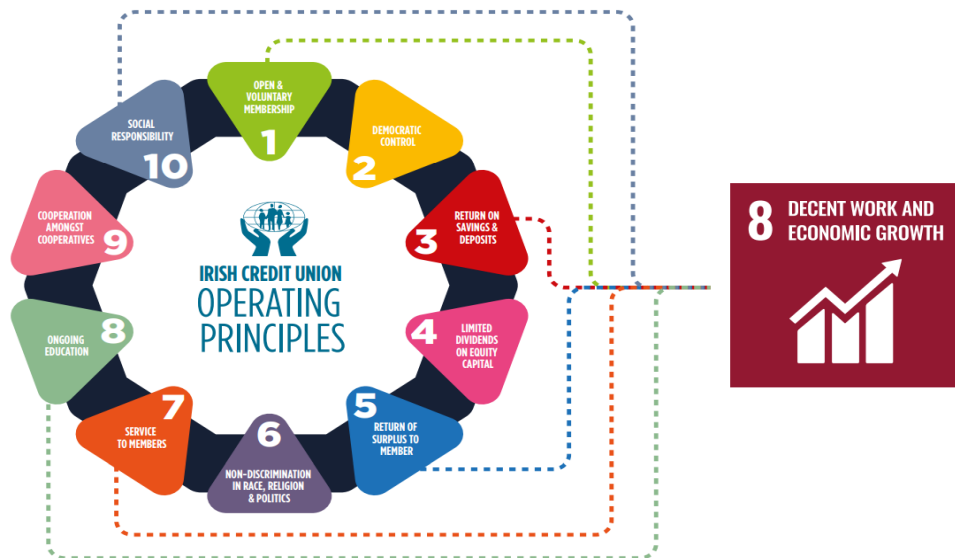
Examples of linking Credit Union Operating Principles to UN SDG Goals



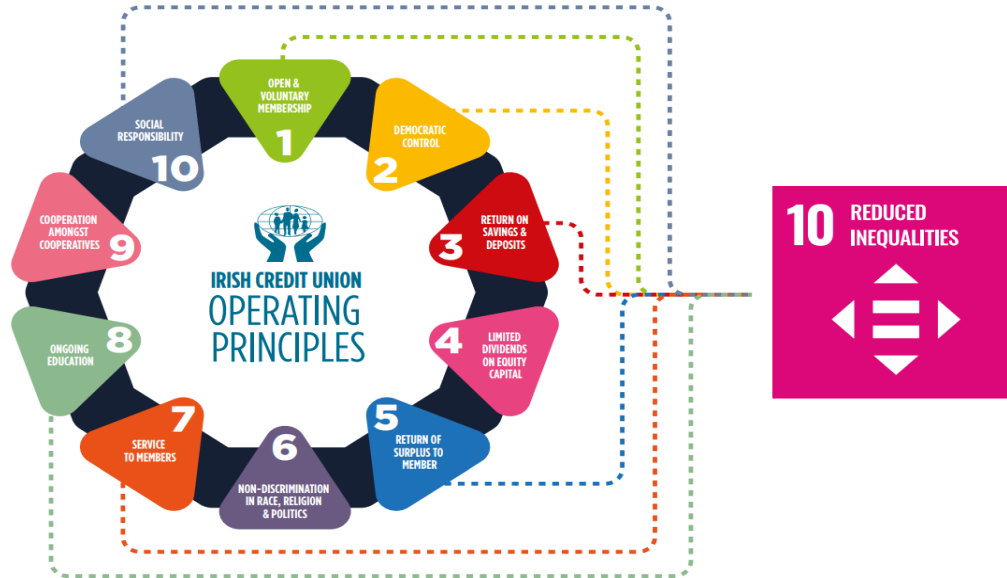
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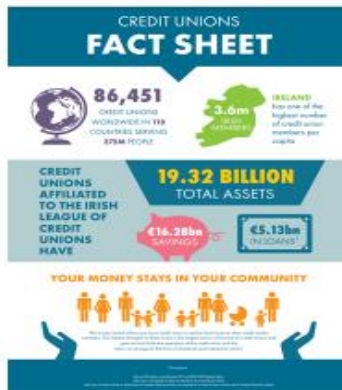


Credit Union Sector



With offices in more than 470 locations, credit unions are at the heart of local communities across the country.

Irish Credit Union Movement



Credit Union Sector



Credit Unions top the Ireland RepTrak® 2023 study of 100 organisations

10 May 2023
in f t v

Credit Union the most reputable organisation in Ireland

Updated / Wednesday, 10 May 2023 08:49



Each organisation receives a score out of 100, with the Credit Union receiving the highest at 82.8.

Credit Unions

Furthest Behind First, or Falling behind
furthest - Coalition 2030

- ▶ Lead from the Top
- ▶ Budgets for SDG's
- ▶ SDG - Proof Policy
- ▶ Measure what matters -
- ▶ Establish a Future Generations
Commissioner

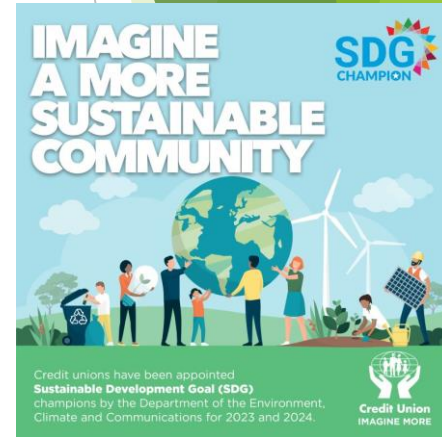
Credit Union Principles & UN SDG's

Is it now or never for the SDG's?

Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

Focus on what is strong not what is
wrong

Credit Unions SDG Champions 2023



THANK YOU

Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote **sustainable agriculture**

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and **empower all women and girls**

Goal 6. Ensure availability and **sustainable management of water** and sanitation for all

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, **sustainable** and modern energy for all

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, **full and productive employment and decent work for all**

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and **sustainable industrialization** and foster innovation

Goal 10. Reduce inequality **within and among countries**

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure **sustainable consumption and production patterns**

Goal 13. Take urgent action to **combat climate change and its impacts***

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for **sustainable development**

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse **land degradation** and halt biodiversity loss

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the **global partnership** for sustainable development

SDG- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption & Production



12.1 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production

12.2 sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

12.4 management of chemicals and all wastes and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil

12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

12.a Support developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production

12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies

Fashion Industry is driving a coach & horses through these UN Sustainable Development Goals



Fast Fashion

/ noun

Fast fashion is the mass production of clothes that represent the latest trends at high speeds and low costs to maximise profits.

- Commonwealth Human Ecology Council



HUMAN COST OF FAST FASHION

- **175 million** child labourers working in sweatshops
- Wages under **\$3** per day
- Excessive Working hours
- Unsafe working conditions
- Exposure to harmful substances

ENVIRONMENTAL COST OF FAST FASHION

- **3,500** chemicals used in textile production
- **750** are hazardous to human health
- **1.2 billion** tonnes of greenhouse gases produced annually
- **215 trillion** litres of water are used each year
- **92 million** tonnes of textiles end up in landfill each year

BENEFITS OF REUSE

- Reusing a garment uses **0.01%** of the water required to make a new garment and **3kgs** less of CO2.
- The environmental impact of reusing textiles is **70 times** lower, even when accounting for global exports for reuse including transport emissions. (TRA)

**FAST FASHION
DO NOT ENTER**

**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE**

WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF

FAST FASHION!

The Greenhouse Effect

Most of the heat is absorbed by greenhouse gases and then radiated in all directions, warming the Earth



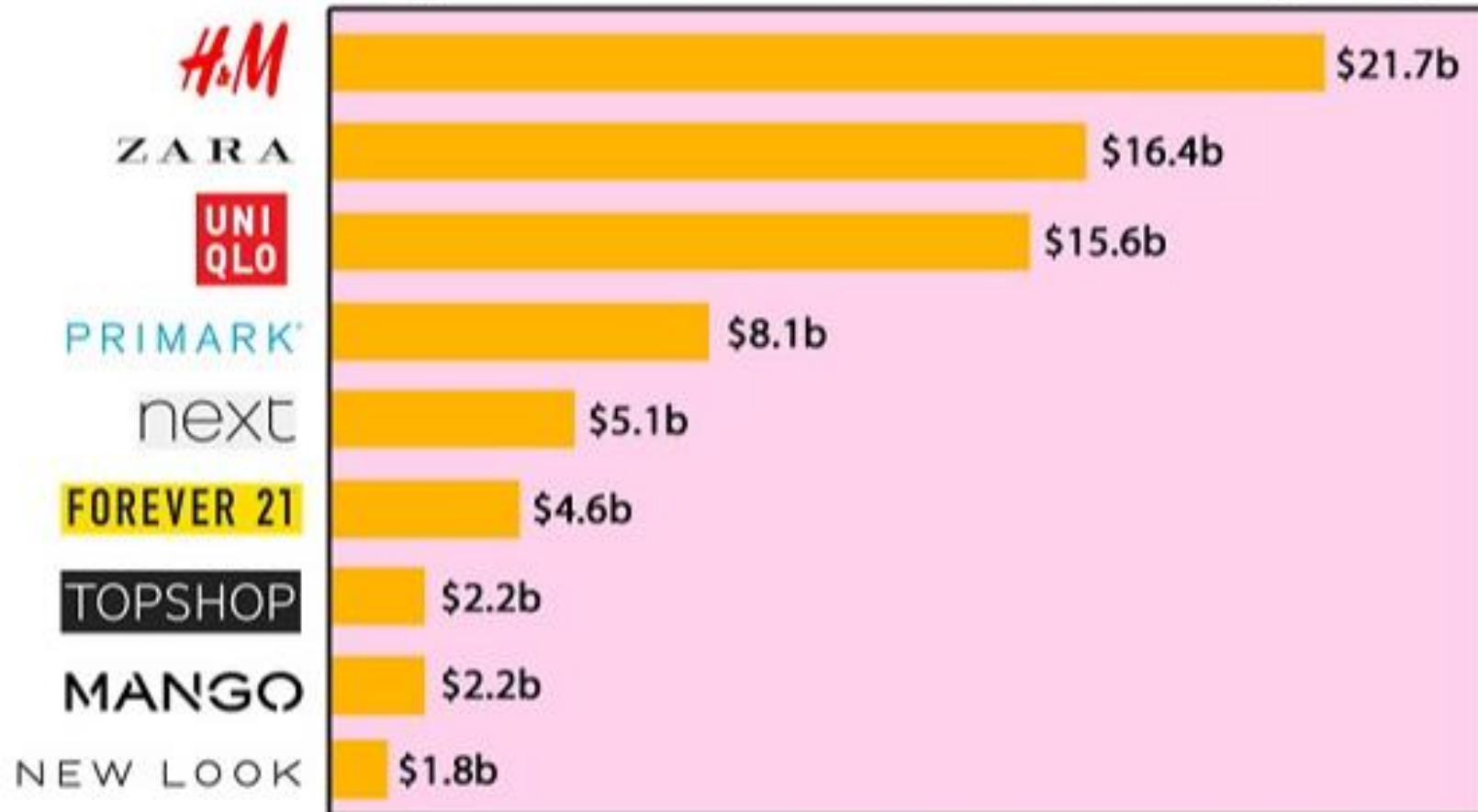
The State is struggling to address the biodiversity crisis, while greenhouse gas levels in Ireland continue to rise (*In 2021, Ireland's GHG emissions are estimated to be 62.11 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂eq), which is 5.2% higher than emissions in 2020*) despite important climate legislation being recently introduced.



NOW
or
Never

- The worsening of poverty rates, the destruction of the biosphere, and the continued marginalisation of certain groups“
- With only seven years until the expiry of the Goals, now is the time for Ireland to be ambitious, courageous and visionary.”

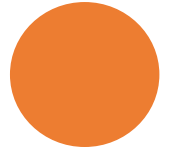
Top Fast Fashion Retailers - Revenues (2016)



Source: www.plunkettresearch.com

- **1 in every 6 people alive work in some part of the Global Fashion industry, which is the most labour dependent industry on earth!**

- **The industry is worth \$2.5 trillion dollars and employs 75 million people
Everybody winsRight ?**



InternationalWomensDay

80%
of global garment
workers are
women

An illustration of a woman with dark hair, wearing a green shirt, smiling as she works at a sewing machine. The machine has two blue spools of thread. A red piece of fabric is being sewn. To the left of the woman is a green circular icon with a smiling face and a blue thread passing through it.

goodclothesfairpay.eu

Are you wearing something today that was made in Bangladesh ?

It was probably made by someone like Shima.

Shima is one of 4 million garment workers working across nearly 5,000 clothing factories across the country.



SHIMA AKHTER

- Shima Came to work in Dhaka when she was just 12
- Shima earned just \$10 per month
- Shima is one of 40 million garment workers globally, many who work in unregistered Sweatshops.



Need another T shirt ?
It might cost you €4 ...
it will cost him a lot
more....

- The garment industry is beset by poor working conditions
- Modern slavery & Child labour are common
- Excessive working hours & low wages
- Unhygienic & unsafe working conditions
- Verbal & physical abuse & sexual harassment
- Exposure to harmful substances

Still need the T-shirt ?





s, sticks, scales

When Shima joined a union, and submitted grievances to management, she was physically attacked.

We consume over 80 billion new garments every year, in one of the most labor- intensive industries on the planet

“ I believe these clothes are produced by our blood”



heads on the walls.

.... But it gets worse

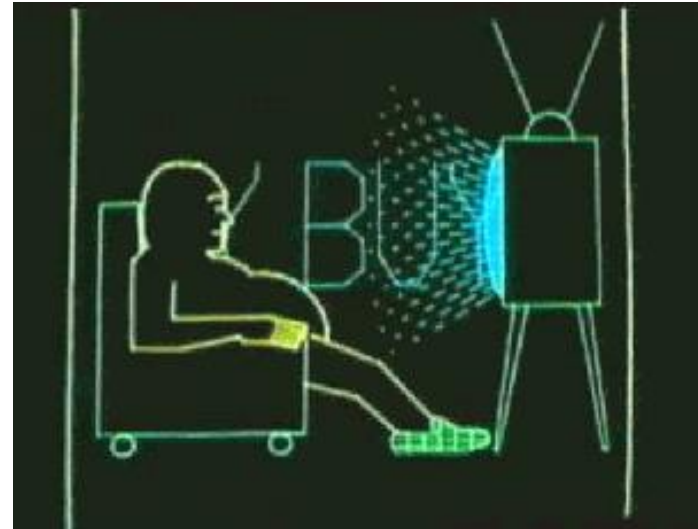
- Rana Plaza – 1,134
- Ali Enterprise – 287
- Tazreen – 112
- Gap Factory – 27





**FULL
DOCUMENTARY**

Meanwhile



Clothes shopping has gone from occasional treat to obsession
fast shoppers want Fast Fashion





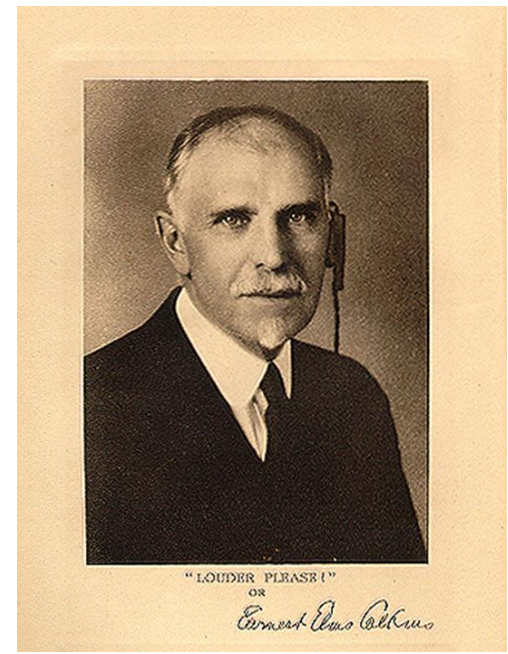
- **Consumer capitalism** is an economic system where consumers are the primary drivers of production. In this system, consumers determine what products are produced and how they are made. The goal of consumer capitalism is to maximize profits by satisfying as many consumers as possible.



It's a race to the bottom

Advertising pioneer and original Mad Man, Ernest Elmo Calkins, wrote an article about how to increase consumption through "Planned obsolescence" Turn something you use into something you use up !

When you combine fashion brands' planned obsolescence, with garments which wear out more quickly due to poor manufacturing quality, you have a business strategy that is inevitably wasteful.





Out of sight Out of mind ?





15 million garments arrive in
Kantamanto Market in Ghana
each week mostly from UK
charities ... 5 million leave as
waste



Old clothing embedded in the sand around Accra in Ghana



Ghana imports more clothes from UK than anywhere else

- The flood of unsaleable textiles is also creating a public health crisis
- Discarded clothing lying in stagnant water is spreading cholera and malaria
- Microfibres & micro plastics are getting into the food chain via oysters & other marine life



The benefits of Re-use

- The environmental impact of reusing textiles is 70 times lower than what is required to make a new garment, even when accounting for global exports for reuse including transport emissions. (TRA)
- 10,200 tonnes (just 15% of 68,000 tonnes currently discarded) would avoid over 100,000 tonnes of carbon (CRNI) .
- A re-used garment uses 0.01% of the water used in producing a new garment and uses 3kgs less of CO₂.(TRA)



Reuse before Recycle

- Reuse is preferable to, and cheaper than, Recycling which has embedded labour and energy costs
- The fabrics we drape over our bodies are complex combinations of fibres, fixtures and accessories. They are made from problematic blends of natural yarns, man-made filaments, plastics and metals.
- “For example, a 100% cotton t-shirt contains many other components such as labels and sewing threads which are usually made from another material like polyester.”
- “Similarly, a typical pair of jeans are made from cotton yarn which is generally blended with elastane, and other components such as zips and buttons and polyester sewing thread and dyed using a range of dyes.”



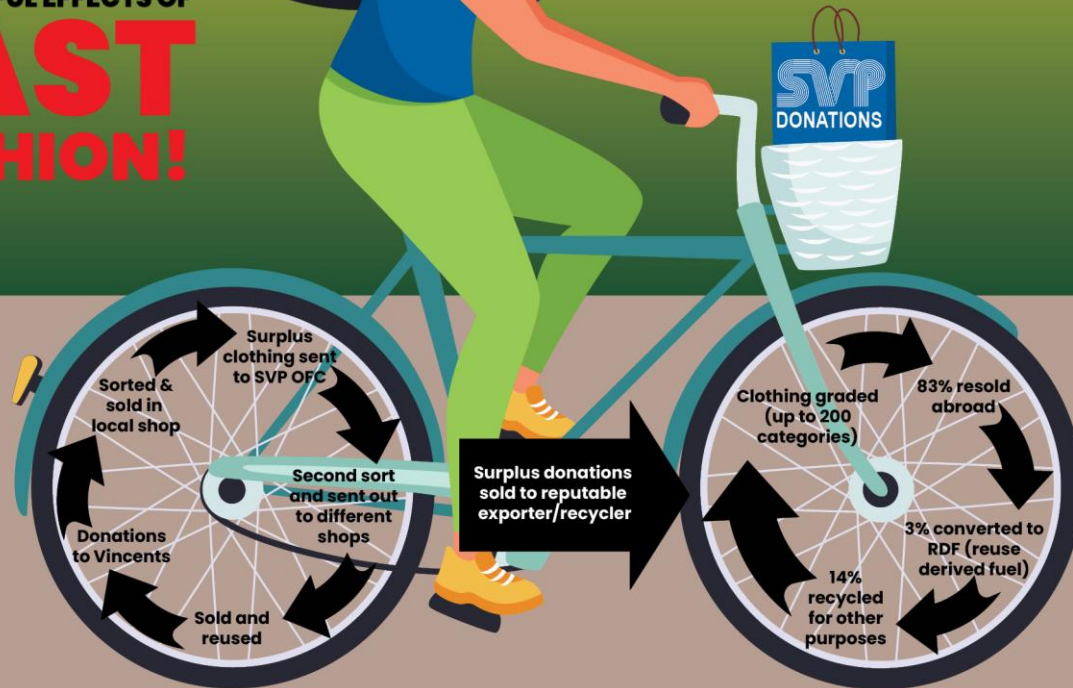


THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ONGOING EFFORTS TO
"REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE"

WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT
THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF

**FAST
FASHION!**

Vincent's Ireland reuses 14,000 tonnes of textiles
per year, keeping them out of landfill



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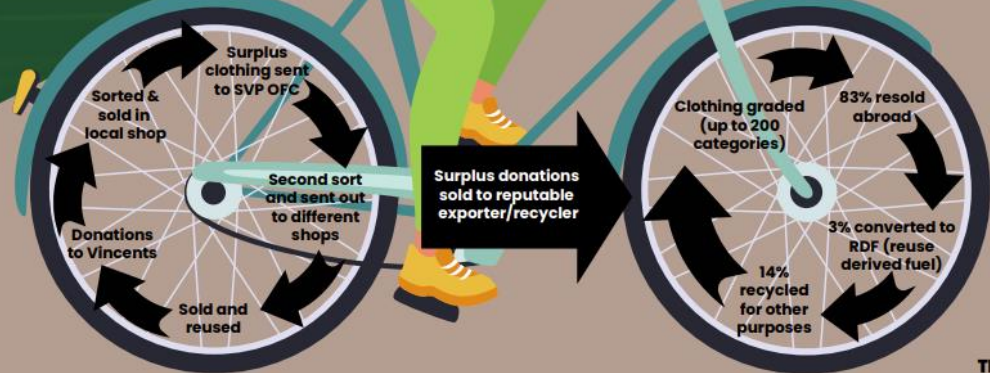
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Stronger Communities.**

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