



Framework Initiative

“CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE T/C BUSINESS”

WP6: Circular Economy

1. Background.

The New CBC Framework Initiative “Circular Economy in the T/C Business” stems from the combination of four CBC Specific Initiatives collected during the work in preparation of the project Strategic Workshop.

1. *“CE 1 – From waste to Sub-products portfolio”, proposed by LB TEXFOR*
2. *“CE 2 – Leftovers”, proposed by PP1 CTN*
3. *“CE 3 – Patchwork”, proposed by FIM*
4. *“CE 5 – Second-hand machines”, proposed by PP5 GACIC*

The four proposals are complementary.

The first (From waste to Sub-products portfolio) is an “informative tank” aiming is to outline a possible perimeter of Circular Economy applied to the T/C industry. Within this perimeter, specific initiatives, targeting different goals of the Circular Economy, can take different directions. Envisaging a “second life” for unsold or used items in stock is one of the most promising. The three others Specific Initiatives encompassed in this “NFI Circular Economy in the T/C business” go in such direction.

“CE 1 – From waste to Sub-products portfolio” is perfectly functional to the “Forum of Circular Economy”, that was originally planned in the second project semester. The Forum, whose main objective is to highlight the “state of the art” of the Circular Economy with case histories and best practises, is going to be organized as soon as the Covid-19 allows large meetings. Alternatively, it will be transferred on-line taking appropriate measures for its preparation and execution.

The Second Initiative (Leftovers) has the purpose of supplying good quality fabrics and yarns in stock, made in the European countries of the project, to M-SMEs of the Southern Mediterranean rim at a lowered cost. This would enable Southern clothing manufactures good value for money. The Leftovers Initiative was successfully implemented during the previous “Tex-Med Clusters” Project when a significant number of M-SMEs of MPC met qualified raw materials suppliers in Sabadell and Prato.

The intention is to replicate such experience and extend/improve it by adding an internet tool for facilitating the continuous matching of supply and demand.



Similarly, the Third Initiative (Patchwork), intends to use samples that generally are thrown away after the preparation of collections, as inputs for apparels and other clothes. There are tons of fabrics in the world that are cut into samples by fabric manufacturers; normally all those “sample hangers” and other sample pieces as big as one meter are wasted after fairs or after the season is over. We want that Tex-Med Alliances partners producing fabrics collect these pieces for us from their members, to supply Micro enterprises working in design for creating collections out of them.

The Fourth Initiative (Second-Hand machines) complement the above two by addressing the problem of modern equipment in the Micro and Small enterprises of MCPs which, very often, operate with very old and obsolete machines. This not only reduce productivity (which is not a big problem in the family business) but humper the quality of manufacturing. Since the technical obsolescence of the current equipment is huge, a discarded machine of the European side is more efficient than a machine still in use in many micro-family enterprises of the MPC. Also, the “Second-hand machine” Initiative can benefit of an online tool.

The resulting outcome of Leftovers + Patchwork + Second-Hand is intended to provide support to the most weak and vulnerable enterprises that are at risk of survival because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Objectives.

The general objective is to understand the general feature of Circular Economy applied to the T/C sector. Within this general objective, the project has the specific objective to support Micro- Small Enterprises by supplying them with inputs of little or no value for suppliers but have still value for such Micro-Small Enterprises. We intend to generate mutual advantages. One side (suppliers) can get a minimal value for items that, otherwise, would bring no-value or even costs for waste; the other side (Micro and Small Businesses) can procure valuable (for them) raw materials, equipment and services of a good quality at a very low cost.

The practical objective is to create a market-place for such transactions.

The market-place will be implemented either by “real” commercial events (physical matching of demand and supply) as well as by a digital tool for ensuring a continuity of transactions.

3. Design of the New Framework Initiative.

The New Framework Initiative is composed of two main parts:

The first part is Informative, based on the Specific Initiative “From waste to Sub-products portfolio” and it is strictly linked to the Forum of Circular Economy.

The second part is practical and composed of: Leftovers + Patchwork + Second-hand machines and complemented by the delivery of a Digital Market Place (APP):

4. Tentative Timing and Duration.

Obviously, the timing for the implementation of the NFI is conditioned by the evolution of the covid-19 Pandemic. The following Activity plan is largely tentative.



After a Preparation phase that starts in May 2020 (after the Strategic Workshop) to August 2020, we assume to start the implementation of the NFI in September 2020 when travels and movement of people hopefully would be allowed. If such positive circumstance shall not be realized, some activities will be transformed in digital events.

The duration of the Initiative is foreseen in 28 months: 4 for Preparation (and 24 for Implementation). The foreseen conclusion being planned in August 2022.

5. Plan of Activities.

NFI - Circular Economy in the T/C Sector																											
Act. Code	Activity	NFI Month	PREP.				IMPLEMENTATION																				
			1-4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	CE 1 - From waste to Sub-products portfolio																										
CE 1.1	Study about CE in the T/C sector (input to Forum)																										
Not incl.	Forum on Circular Economy																										
Not incl.	Evaluation of Forum results																										
CE 1.2	Possible launch of New CBC Initiatives (if the case)																										
	CE 2 - Leftovers																										
CE 2.1	Promotion of the Initiative																										
CE 2.2	Selection of suppliers and customers																										
CE 2.3	Match-making events																										
CE 2.4	Follow on event: deals																										
CE 2.5	Needs and goals of the Digital Market Place																										
CE 2.6	Selection of digital expert																										
CE 2.7	Set up of the market place																										
CE 2.8	Implementation market place																										
	CE 3 - Patchwork																										
CE 3.1	Identification of potential suppliers (Progr Area)																										
CE 3.2	Agreements with suppliers																										
CE 3.3	Transfer of items to Micro entities for collections																										
CE 3.4	Experts for tutoring creation of collections																										
CE 3.5	Production of models and sample																										
CE 3.6	Presentation of "patchwork" collections																										
CE 3.7	Marketing collections																										
	CE 5 - Second Hand Machines																										
CE 5.1	Promotion of the Initiative																										
CE 5.2	Portfolio of used machines available																										
CE 5.3	Deals (assisted by PPs)																										
CE 5.4	Transfer to Digital Mkt Place																										
	NFI Circular Economy in the T/C sector																										
NFI 6.1	Meetings, events, visits for implementing NFI																										

6. Budget.

The NFI has two sources of financing:

1. Project budget line "Services" for External Experts: digital expert (Leftovers- Second-hand machines), CE expert (From Waste to sub-product portfolio), designer (Patchwork).
2. Subgrants to SMEs for their participation to NFI activities (financial contribution to selected costs such as Travels & subsistances)

7. Leader of the NFI.

PP1 Confindustria Toscana Nord.