



# THEME COMMONS

## SUB-THEME:

Life Styles

## TITLE OF WORKSHOP

Reuse practices and environmental  
impact assessment



# PROPONENT:

# FACILITATOR:

Patrizia Pappalardo

Fabio Bertoldo

# STAFF:

Christine Pellarini (linguistic mediator)

# NAME OF PARTICIPANTS:

N°	NAME	SURNAME	N°	NAME	SURNAME
I	Sara	Rebecchi			



2	Domenica	Mazzia			
3	Giampiero	Aschiero			
4	Andrea	Busetto			
5	Ettore	Torreggiam			
6	Maurizio	Assogna			
7	Marina	Salvato			
8	Elena	Bokhanova			
9	Francois	Briens			
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

## A METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF REUSE PRACTICES

Serenella Sala, Valentina Castellani, Renato Conca

University of Milano Bicocca, Research Group on Sustainable Development Cooperativa Mani Tese

### Paper Abstract



## Introduction and state of the art

An efficient and sustainable use of resources is considered a crucial step towards sustainable lifestyles, implying sustainable production and consumption patterns. In fact, the transition towards sustainable production and consumption is recognized as one of the major challenges for sustainability, entailing waste prevention and reduction. E.g. by 2020, the OECD estimates, we could be generating 45% more waste than Europe did in 1995. And many of the items are often discarded when much of their potential lifetime is left and there is a reuse potential. Worldwide, through volunteer efforts, for-profit businesses and charities, several forms of reuse exist including: thrift stores and charitable drop-off centers; reuse centers, equipment and materials; "drop & swap" stations at landfills; used equipment stores and salvage yards; local and regional material exchanges.

In the priority of the intervention for waste prevention and reduction, the re-use is considered crucial but usually neglected in term of methodologies for assessing the environmental benefit of its implementation. Actually, the re-use may imply benefits on all the sustainability pillars as avoided impacts are not only at environmental level but also at socio-economic one.

At environmental level, many reuse programs have evolved from local solid waste reduction goals because reuse requires fewer resources, less energy, and less labor, compared to recycling, disposal, or the manufacture of new products from virgin materials. Therefore, reuse provides an excellent, environmentally-preferred alternative to other waste management methods, because it reduces air, water and land pollution, limits the need for new natural resources, such as timber, petroleum, fibers and other materials. At socio/economic level, for many years, reuse has been used as a critical way of getting needed materials to the many disadvantaged populations that exist. Reuse continues to provide an excellent way in which to get people the food, clothing, building materials, business equipment, medical supplies and other items that they may need. There are other ways, however, that reuse benefits the community. Many reuse centers are engaged in job-training programs, programs for the handicapped or at-risk youth programs (ReDO, 2012).



## **PREVENTING WASTE MEANS CHANGING THE LIFE AND ECONOMY**

Marinella Correggia

### **Paper Abstract**

**“Trash is Evil - Durable is Good”**

Preventing wastes means a possibility of changing the economy at an individual or and collective level if we take it seriously and massively.

The overall production can change if:

- The politics = laws: local, regional, National, International



- The technology
- The lifestyles and habits (at home, work, school..)

Choose the durable things/goods instead of the user throw away evils

There are several categories of products according their nature:

- Durable Ones and we should not shown their life for fashion consumerism etc. Furniture, machines, technological items, cloche can be used for longtime and reused
- Disposable use one or few times and then become waste, these have to be avoided and by this way we will change the production. Consumption transport patterns.

Examples: a flower on the sheet

## TACKLED ISSUES:

- It's observed that there's a market interesting for reuse practices (web platforms, international exhibitions like "Salone Mobile Milano 2012")
- Reuse practices creates business for financing projects of charity
- There's a new Italian network that's called "Rete ONU" (operation nazionali usato)
- Method LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) how has been building
- Collaboration between University Bicocca UNIMI (GRISS group) MANI TESE
- Good practices instances from theorical to practical approach
- Difference between more REUSE vs. less RECYCLE. Regarding environmental impact



## **GIVEN ANSWERS:**

- May be that local administration could copy best practices like German management of house hold garbage based on quantity of each family
- LCA method is more complete in compared with the methodology of avoided CO2 emissions
- Local administration can use data supplied by LCA method
- Collaborations among (s): citizens (life style) — assessment reduce impact ecological-local or wide administrations
- Polity makes policies, we belong together to this process of change

## **UNANSWERED QUESTIONS**

### **MESSAGES AND COMMENTS:**

- Come viene previsto di far variare la normative italiana per incentivare il riuso?
- Come portare l'attenzione delle amministrazioni il vostro studio, se c'è più sensibilità verso il riciclo gestito da SPA, vicine alle amministrazioni?
- Come i Comuni possono incentivare il riuso? Quali esperienze ci sono?