



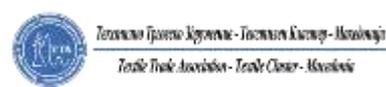
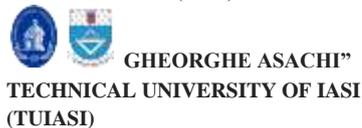
## Design4Circle e-Newsletter #3

### Fourth Technical Meeting

7th May 2020, ZOOM Online meeting

**INNOVATIVE DESIGN  
PRACTICES FOR ACHIEVING A  
NEW TEXTILE CIRCULAR  
SECTOR**

Partners:



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The 4th Technical meeting was supposed to take place in Iasi, Romania, but due to the Coronavirus pandemic, it was replaced with on-line session. During the 5 hours event, the project partners made review of the project activities, including project overview, administrative questions and project timetable.

AMUEBLA and CTCP presented the related occupations matched with necessary skills, and TTC-TC presented the steps and outputs of validation of the defined joint curriculum on eco-design for the circular economy in the textile and fashion industries. Guidelines for future development of the curriculum and its content were given by CTCP.

Since most of the project partners were involved in developing training materials (RTU, TUIASI, ECORES, TTA-TC), in the second part of the meeting they had the opportunity to present it in front of all participants. The presentation of the first Module was done by Mr. Erwan Mouazan from ECORES covered the introduction to the circular economy. In the following session Mrs. Manuela Avadanei informed about the student's guides that would be developed by TUIASI in English language and after translated to the local language of each individual partner.

CTCP and AMUEBLA were in charged for ensure open licenses OER for Training materials. Concerning the learning platform and training test Ms. Raquel Ortega Martínez from AMUEBLA reported that they are already working on it and will start uploading the learning modules once they are completed by the other project partners. The translation of the platform tools to the local languages will be made by each project partner. During the event it was discussed about the project quality assurance and risk monitoring plan by the project quality assurance manager Mrs. Rita Souto from CTCP and about the dissemination and exploitation activities by Mrs. Natasha Sivevska project dissemination manager from TTA-TC.

At the end the meeting project manager Mrs. Dana Belakova made the final conclusions and highlighted next semesters' tasks and intellectual outputs to be done.

# Best Practices Towards Circular Economy

**Gnana Studio** was born by the desire to offer women conceptual, high-quality pieces at a fair price and with a small environmental cost. Every piece offers a love of life, femininity, simplicity, nature, and its expressions. *“We believe in respect and passion when it comes to our team, ateliers, collaborators, suppliers and mother Earth. Therefore, it is a sustainable business which is producing only by order, in small stocks or backorder.”* Gnana’s mission is to bring to life exclusive, limited edition garments to celebrate femininity and freedom.

Design Process - the collections have versatile pieces, which can be worn from the morning coffee, to that important thing you’re attending in the evening. Sourcing - at Gnana, the most important criteria of selection is the potential of the fabrics recycling one day. Therefore, they work only with natural, cruelty free materials, 60% coming from dead stock, while 40% are locally woven by our supplier in a small factory right outside Bucharest, Romania.

G N A N A



*“ We stand for an ethical production, a sustainable and local infrastructure, producing in small stocks or backorder, using only natural & cruelty free, up cycled or locally woven fabrics.”*. 100% of Gnana products are manufactured in Romania in family owned ateliers or well established factories. Built on trust and friendship, Gnana collaborations are all about transparency & quality. *“Sustainability is core to our work, a journey & adventure we believe in and try to stay committed with every piece.”*



**REDU** is a project developed by „Mai Bine” Association, an NGO with more than seven years experience in environmental protection activities as a social enterprise,

aiming to transform waste into resources in a creative and educational way. It was launched in Iasi as a pioneering project at a national level in the field of slow fashion, social economy and green entrepreneurship. In the first two years of its activity, REDU has become a strong initiative for recycling/reusing textiles from consumers and not only and for raising awareness among consumers.

The brand recovers pre-loved materials and transforms them into utilitarian products thanks to a team of highly skilled designers with a background in costume design and slow fashion. What’s not transformed is sorted, cleaned and distributed to disadvantaged social groups or taken to a municipal collection centre.

*“The program and the modules are excellent! Please emphasize that every company has to invest in knowledge and technology for processing the waste that it creates. For that there are excellent grants for technology development which has up to 70% financial assistance, for the development of a new technology. With increased knowledge we can help solving the global problem with waste disposal.”* **Revestia – North Macedonia** has developed an industrial upcycling method that involves complete lifecycle analysis of home textile field products. *“We recycle our waste and create a new product!”*



**Materials developed**

# Guidelines for Design4Circle Course on Eco-Design for the Circular Economy in the Textile and Fashion Industries

A new textiles economy highlights design as strategic action towards a circular textile sector, taking into account that “designing and producing clothes of higher quality and providing access to them via new business models would help shift the perception of clothing from being a disposable item to being a durable product”.

Circular Economy points that “the transition to a circular economy will also require a qualified workforce with specific and sometimes new skills. If the right skills at all levels are to be developed, they will have to be espoused by the education and training systems.” In that manner, the experts from the Design4Circle project team develop training materials and online platform to give opportunity to the employee from the textile and fashion industry (who is working either in the design or manufacturing sector); managers of textiles and fashion companies; students who attend courses in the field of Textile and Design of Apparel Goods; and other interested parties, to improve their knowledge and skills in the field of sustainable fashion.

The developed course is harmonised to the European Qualification Framework and facilitates the validation of the training in all EU countries; The students can get knowledge, necessary competencies and skills to implement new practices on eco-design in the textile and fashion industry; They will acquire knowledge about the new type of business, the circular one, and how to create new textile design companies.

The students can cooperate and exchange experiences among entities from different fields and perspectives (Universities, sector experts, textile and fashion area, business associations, etc.), and among people with different profiles (VET trainers, managers and other categories of employee, entrepreneurs, teachers), and even different countries;

- M1. Introduction to circular economy
- M2. Sustainability challenges in the textile and fashion industry
- M3. Materials for a circular economy
- M4. Design for a circular economy
- M5. Manufacture for a circular economy
- M6. Recycling technologies for a circular economy of textile and fashion industry
- M7. Business management in a circular economy

They will also have access to the training material developed on specific subjects related to circular economy principals for the textile and fashion industry (e-learning platform): a design for a circular model in the fashion and textile sector, entrepreneurship and transversal eco-innovation training.

The Design4Circle e-learning platform offer many tools proposing different ways to facilitate the knowledge transmission. These tools will appear on the web page of the course. The course consist of 7 modules. Each module consists of different theoretic lessons and assessments. This advance content will permit to improve the knowledge of those students that want to take a high-level training course.

The Curriculum contains seven structured and significant modules. The European context in education has been respected. The program complies with competency-based learning requirements, defines learning outcomes, offers online learning while also providing opportunity for independent work. The Curriculum is designed in terms of important areas of knowledge. The Curriculum has been drafted with a clear definition of necessary learning outcomes. A joint curriculum on Eco-design for the circular economy in the textile and fashion industries is necessary. It will significantly enhance designers' and students' knowledge, by improving or updating their knowledge, and / or skills on eco-design and circular economy principles, from the textile and fashion sector standpoint.

**Design4Circle online course:** circular economy design training in the textile and footwear industries. Free course of 70 hours in English starting from December 14th.

**Description:** The course focuses on eco-design and eco-innovation for the textile and fashion industries, but the contents can be extrapolated to other sectors, since the modules on the basic principles of the circular economy, circular business models or eco-design they cover the knowledge gaps in other industrial sectors.

**Strambótica** is a Spanish brand part of the “slow fashion” wave, from which products are allowed to be used widely, timelessly and whose materials do not weaken over time, all thanks to eco-design.

To this is added multicultural and traditional techniques such as water-based inks (without chemical products or allergens), Mayan braiding of bags and recycled paper accessories, and the recovery of items such as espadrilles.

Our philosophy is to balance the fight against climate change, to limit the environmental impacts related to the use of resources and to dress alternative, attractive and sustainable fashion.

For the packaging of all our products we use recycled paper and cardboard, wrapped in silk paper in order to protect and maintain the product.



Find us on  <https://www.facebook.com/stramboticaOfficial>



**ZĪLE** is **Latvian brand** which production is based on concept of upcycling while trying to reflect it as symbol of identity, character and personality in the same time promoting green lifestyle.

*We may describe 21st century as time of humankind returning to nature- demand and wish for eco-friendly products has increased widely therefore course of „upcycling” and green thinking is experiencing fast growth in different fields. Concept of „upcycling” is based on principle to restore existing materials and matter in order to create new, unique form that represents added value, identity and green lifestyle.*

**MISSION:** Highlight personality and character through clothing in the same time creating green lifestyle promoting clothing collection using concept of upcycling as well representing clothing as extensive and transformable materia in context of global environmental trend.

Find us on  <https://www.facebook.com/ziledesign>

**Wear a story** is a ready-to-wear clothing line started by the designer Lauriane Milis. It is offering items with a meaning to women looking for comfort and style. The brand creates one-off pieces, made in Brussels, by upcycling ancient garments into modern cuts.

The challenge of Lauriane Milis, fashion designer and founder of the brand, is to create trendy clothing in a most ethical and efficient way. Local upcycling appeared to be a good answer to the ethical part. As raw material, the brand uses garments that are unsuitable for the Belgian second hand market as well as organic cotton for the quality.

As for efficiency, **Wear a story** focuses on a few styles replicated with different fabrics. Each second hand garment is undone to get the new pattern shapes cut and then picked together.

Each style is named after a woman who could have been the owner of the old dress or top like Berthe, Jeanneke or Marcelle. Each item relates the story behind it through pictures of the original pieces.

More info at: <https://www.wearastory.be/> or  <https://www.facebook.com/wearastoryclothing>

WEAR  STORY

