

Humana People to People

- Humana People to People is a Network of 29 independent member and associates (14 in the EU) engaged in international development cooperation.
- Our members and associated today is **one of the main actors** when it comes to the collection, sorting (PxR) and reuse of second-hand textiles and accessories the EU and beyond.
- As specialist in textile resource management, Humana Spain is fully committed **to promoting and furthering a more sustainable and circular textile industry** and thus, very much **welcomes the EU's efforts in this regard.**



Our Messages

Collection

- It is essential that:
 - Used textiles are **collected separately**.
 - The collected items are handled with care, and stored carefully (e.g. dry, cool place) **without mixing with any other waste streams**, and stored carefully. (e.g. according to the EuRIC Handling and Sorting Specs).
 - The collection of post-consumer textiles should be **performed by special operators with the scope of reuse**.
- The empowerment of the citizens and communication on how to dispose of their used textiles are required for an optimum collection.
- Transparency must be present at all steps of the handling.

Sorting for reuse

- For **maximum reuse rates**, any sorting of used textiles must start with **manual sorting for reuse by a professional sorted**.
- Manual sorting for reuse = preparation for reuse.
 - During the manual sorting, the unusable items (e.g., oil and other irremovable stains, highly damaged/worn out items, and items that do not fit in the demand of the reuse market) are removed.
- **Reusable textiles are not dirty or damaged.**

EoW (Reuse)

- “The end of waste status can be achieved by preparing for reuse. In the case of used clothes, this is sorting. This means that the decision on the end of waste status is taken when the used clothes are being sorted.” (Fair Wertung, 2023).
- Even though most reusable items are not dirty and do not require, a minor portion of items may require washing to **maximize reuse**.

Our Messages


Reusable Textiles: A Global Market

- To **maximize reuse, export outside the EU is necessary**. For example, currently the 40% of what Humana Spain collects is used in Global Markets.
 - These items judged as “reusable” by professional sorters with the highest standards and do not contain any waste.
- **The global reuse market is not saturated.**
- Besides promoting the right to clothing, the trade of used textiles **creates jobs globally, generates revenue** in the importing countries through taxation and **generates funds to implement social development projects in the Global South.**

PxR and EoW (Recycling)

- For efficiency, it is important that the **sorting facilities for post-consumer textile are involved in the process of preparation for recycling** for non-reusable items, after the reusable items have been identified.
 - No extra logistics and transport.
 - This process should be well organized to fit to the further recycling processes.
- It is essential to provide **clear instructions on how to prepare materials for recycling**, including details about their composition, potential cutting, and removal of metal parts, among other considerations and the EoW criteria.
- It is important to avoid promoting investments in recycling without proper coordination and a clear objective.



 Sorting centers as of June 2023

Humana People to People Collection and Sales of Second-Hand Textiles

In 2022, the European members and associates of Humana People to People:

- **Collected** ~99 000 tons of used textiles.
- **Sorted** ~76 000 tons of used textiles in **10 sorting centers**.
 - **Reuse:** ~60 – 83%.
 - Local reuse: ~20%.
 - Global reuse: ~80% (mainly in Africa).
 - **Recycling:** 13 – 28% (mainly in Asia).
 - **Recyclable nontextile waste (paper, plastic, electronics, etc.):** ~ 1 - 4%.
 - **Incineration/landfill:** ~ 3 - 8%.
- **Created Jobs for** 5 550 people.
 - ~ 1 job / 30 tonnes of collected clothes.
- Gave a second life to textiles in **552 second-hand shops**.

Commitments

- The Humana model for handling post-consumer textiles and unsold items from the producers is an **economically viable, scalable business model**.

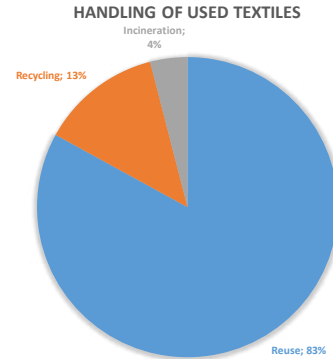
Our activities

- Respect and promote the Waste Hierarchy.
- Enable reuse and its benefits:
 - **Environmental benefits:** Up to 70% savings compared to new textiles or textile recycling (EuRIC).
 - **Social benefits:** Right to Clothing, Green Jobs, etc.
- Are traceable and controlled.
 - Audits and accreditations: MEPEX, ECO TLC, etc.
 - Annual Humana People to People Progress Report.



How do we get the most out of what we collect?

Example: Humana Baltics, Lithuania Sorting Plant



- Finding a market for every single item handled by Humana Baltics' Lithuanian sorting plant.
 - Washing machines and dry cleaning putting more clothes in the **reuse stream**.
 - Exploring new markets.
 - 187 categories.
 - Malawi nightguards.
- Shared knowledge between HPP members and associates in the North and South.
 - Trainings by experienced sorters and shop managers.