

# Make your Business Circular

Driving your sustainability goals through Circular Economy



# The Challenge

The way most of us produce and consume products is unsustainable and generates a lot of waste. It requires us to use vast quantities of finite resources, often leaving disastrous impacts on the environment.

We call this system a linear economy or "disposable economy," that is, we extract, process and use resources and raw materials for a specific purpose and ultimately dispose of the products in the landfill or incinerate them.

# **Circular Economy is Based on Sound Principles**



Preserve and enhance natural capital by controlling finite resources and balancing renewable resource flows.

Optimize resource yields by circulating products, components and materials for the highest utility at all times in both technical and biological cycles.



Foster effective systems by revealing negative externalities and designing them away.

# **Building these Principles into your Organization**

How do you build the principles of circular economy into your organization? The Ellen MacArthur Foundation proposed these four building blocks to make it work for businesses:



# **Circular design**

...facilitates the recovery of components and materials through eco-design principles, such as product modularity, extending product lifespan, design for disassembly, recycling, reuse



## New business models

...change incentives and encourage the collection of products with models, such as sharing platforms and product as a service



## **Reverse cycles**

...recover products from consumers and introduce them back into the supply chain through a range of practices, such as recycling, remanufacturing and generating programs like Extended Producer Responsibility



## Enablers

...improve circular changes at a systems level with education, policy frameworks, collaboration platforms and systems thinking

thinkstep offers a wide range of solutions to identify, measure and monitor sustainability performance in the context of Circular Economy. Let us help you pave the way toward contributing to a circular economy.

# Framing Your Business Case in Circular Economy

Join our series of helpful workshops, from initial frame setting to roadmaps for implementation.

#### 1. Workshop: Future Frame

Focus on the political and social results of global environmental market challenges—address your decision makers. Does your company's vision align with future challenges?

# 2. Workshop: Step Check

Once your vision and mission are set, your internal strategic focus will be clear. With this 3-day workshop, ready yourself with a clear path by tackling the following topics: Readiness check, ReSOLVE Check, SWOT Analysis, Opportunities within the global community and environmental context.

#### Implementation Phase

After completing the workshops, we will guide you through implementation of your identified circularity roadmap with sectoral expertise and sound analytics to measure your sustainability performance all along the way.

# Measuring Your Performance in Circular Economy

How can we ensure that circularity principles and characteristics result in environmental benefits when put into practice? How do you report them inside and outside your organization? We live in a complex world, so analyzing the potential environmental impacts of an activity or a product implies a degree of complexity. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is a thorough methodology to quantify this complex reality. Additionally, you can easily integrate and manage all the related metrics into your corporate reporting to effectively communicate your circularity initiatives

### LCA and Circular Economy

GaBi Software is a modelling tool that supports the evaluation of alternative Circular scenarios and helps identify improvements (hotspots) required for an environmentally sound Circular Economy solution.

## GaBi Circularity Toolkit

Quantify, benchmark and communicate the circularity of your products with the GaBi Circularity Toolkit. The toolkit allows you to implement the Material Circularity Indicator (MCI) within conventional GaBi LCA models.

## 3. Smaller Workshops: Next Steps

Set a plan for defining all necessary steps. Through a series of smaller workshops, we'll create this plan with you, assessing the following: Culture | Product / service | Stakeholders needs and involvement | Financial structure / resources | Management / tools | Value chain | Value proposal

## Cradle to Cradle® and LCA

By combining LCA and Cradle to Cradle®, we support companies to improve their existing products while generating ideas for new product innovation that combines true circularity with resource efficiency.

## **Corporate Reporting** and Circular Economy

SoFi Software is a corporate and supply chain sustainability reporting tool that supports the data management and presentation for innovative Circular Economy initiatives.

# Your Way to Circularity and Business Value

Which business values do you want to tackle the most with your circularity initiatives? Whether you are considering long or short-term actions and whether you are focusing on risk/cost mitigation or product innovation, we can help you maximize your business values along your specific circular economy journey.



# Succeed Sustainably with Software, Data & Consulting



thinkstep enables organizations worldwide to succeed sustainably. Our industry-leading environmental sustainability software, data and consulting services help businesses drive cost reduction, revenue, brand value and risk management.

With a global presence of 20 locations we serve more than 8,000 clients, including 45 percent of the Fortune 100, such as BASF, Hewlett-Packard, Interface, Renault, Siemens and Unilever.

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