# SUSTAINABILITY AND THE SUPPLY CHAIN FASHION MARKETING

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### AGENDA

- I. Can fashion be sustainable?
- 2. Sustainability in fashion branding
- 3. Sustainability in retail
- 4. Ioncell

### TODAY'S READINGS

Caniato, F., Caridi, M., Crippa, L., & Moretto, A. (2012). Environmental sustainability in fashion supply chains: An exploratory case based research. *International journal of production economics*, 135(2), 659-670.

Joy, A., Sherry Jr, J. F., Venkatesh, A., Wang, J., & Chan, R. (2012). Fast fashion, sustainability, and the ethical appeal of luxury brands. Fashion theory, 16(3), 273-295.

#### Additional readings:

Achabou, M.A., & Dekhili, S. (2013). Luxury and sustainable development: Is there a match?. Journal of Business Research, 66(10), 1896-1903.

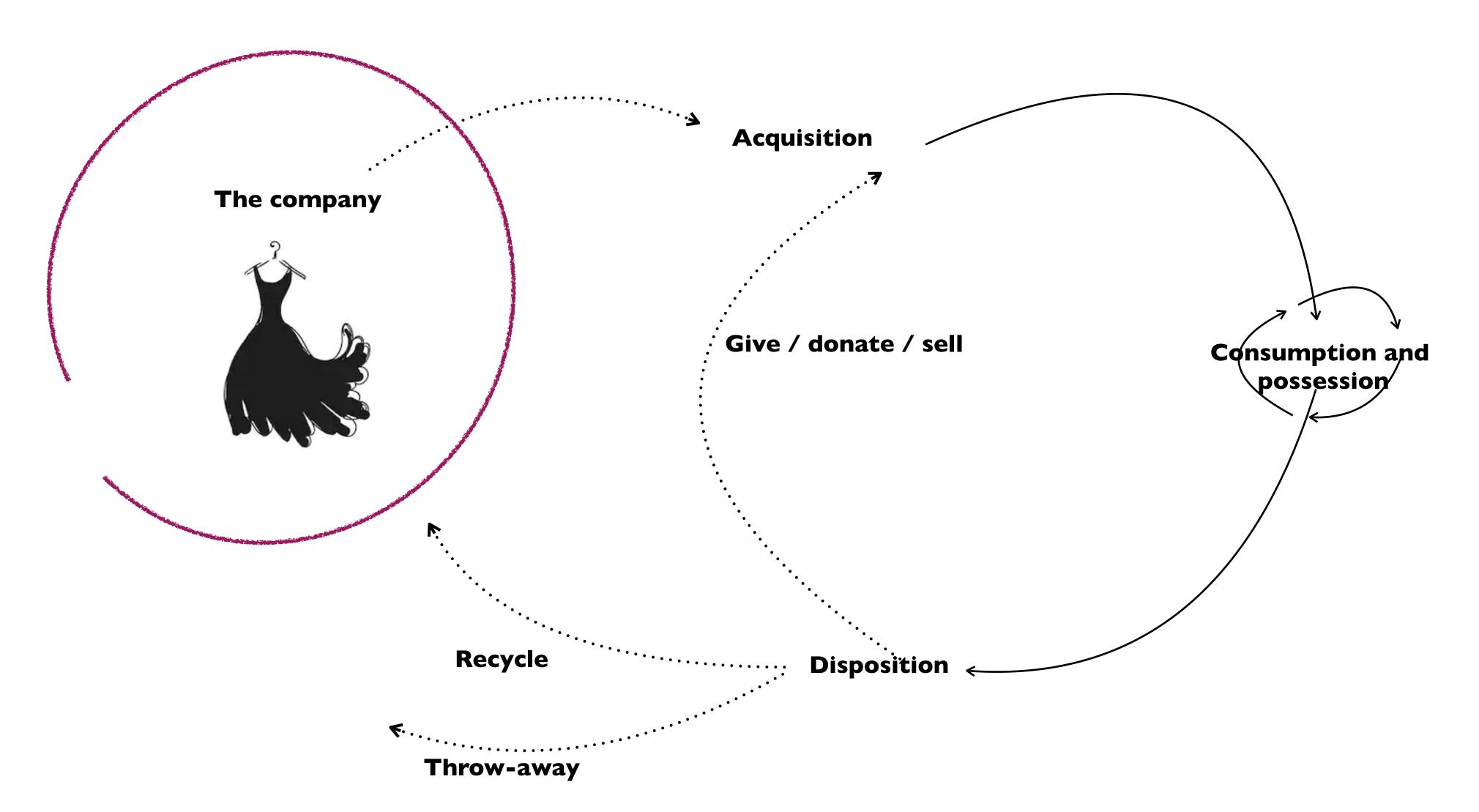
Ozdamar Ertekin, Z., & Atik, D. (2015). Sustainable markets: Motivating factors, barriers, and remedies for mobilization of slow fashion. *Journal of Macromarketing*, 35(1), 53-69.

Turker, D., & Altuntas, C. (2014). Sustainable supply chain management in the fast fashion industry: An analysis of corporate reports. European Management Journal, 32(5), 837-849.

- Fact 1: Around 10% of CO2 emission today is caused by fashion.
- Fact 2: The average consumer purchase 60% more clothing than 15 years ago.
- Fact 3: The average garment is only worn seven times before it gets thrown out.
- Fact 4: 50 percent of fast fashion pieces are disposed of within a year.
- Fact 5: 140 million kilo's of clothing is burned each year.
- Fact 6: Less than 1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing.

"In 2018, Earth Overshoot Day came earlier than ever before, on August 1. Put simply, we are consuming more than we have, fashion being part of the cause. This is not just a threat to nature, but to human society too."

### CIRCULATION OF CLOTHING





## WHAT MAKES FASHION AND SUSTAINABILITY AS A CHALLENGING COMBINATION?

Fast fashion = low-cost clothing collections that mimic current luxury fashion trends (Joy et al. 2012)

- Trends **change** with light speed > inherent dissonance among fashion-lover who is environmentally aware.
- Low price + low quality is good enough for disposability > what happens after the use?
- Lack of **transparency**: fashion industry supply chain is highly fragmented (working conditions throughout the supply chain?)

Consumers do not buy fashion or luxury items to save the world. They buy to look good.

Sustainability should be a new norm, not a way to sell more, or competitive advantage.

Cradle to cradle Social Biodegradable Green choice Ethically responsibility produced Sustainable Charity Take-back World donations business model Re-design, rerecycle manufacture week Extended Repair Second-hand product lifecycle MANY FACETS OF SUSTAINABILITY Circular **Ecological** Sustainable economy Closing **Up-cycled** development Organic the loop collection goals Conscious cotton mix Social collection Planet-Responsibility centred Corporate Locally Recycled produced design responsibility Transparency

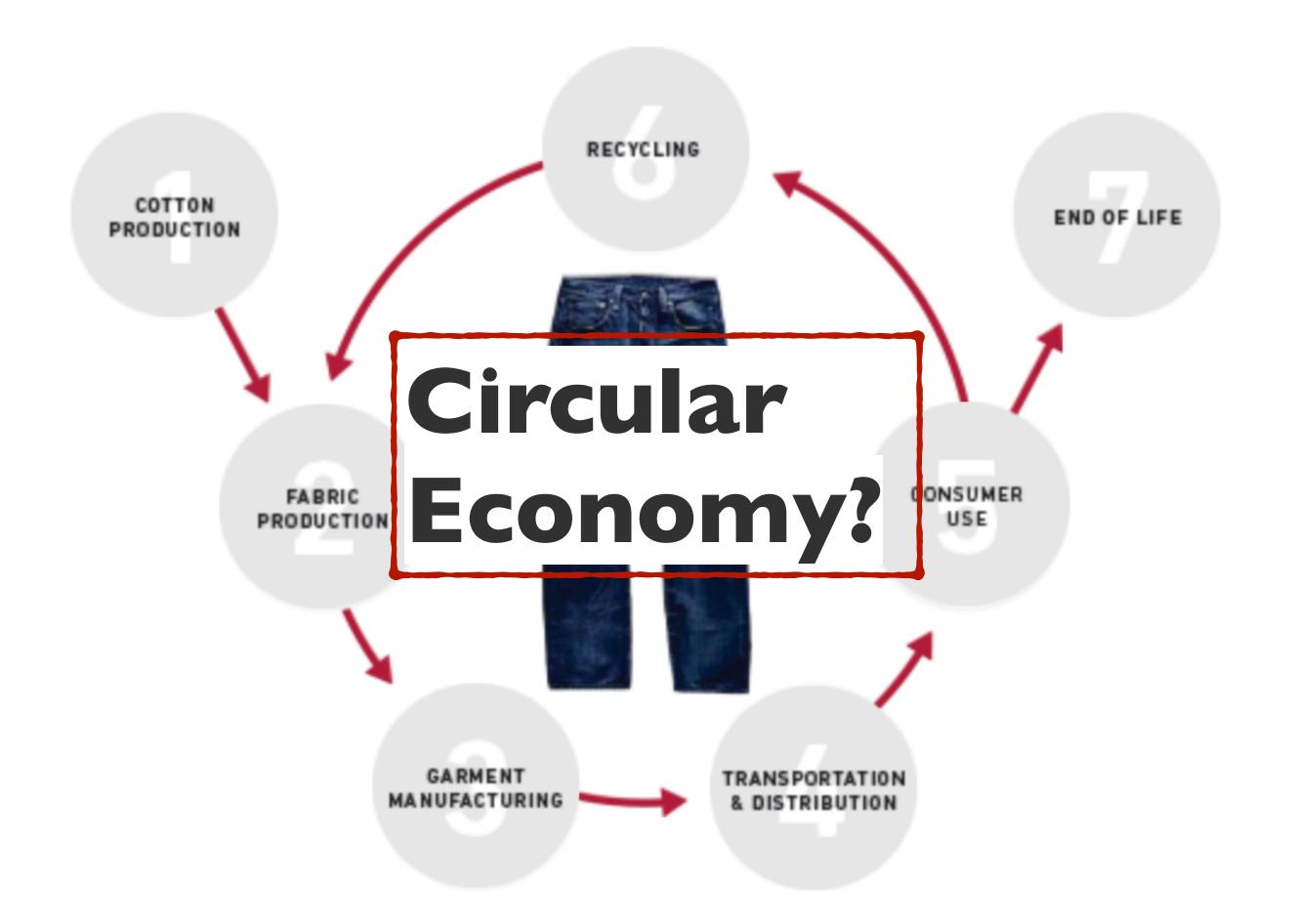
### SUSTAINABILITY BY DEFINITION

Sustainability is defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs." (United Nations, 1987). It has three main pillars: **economic**, **environmental** and **social**.

(e.g. Joy et al. 2012; Duić et al. 2015; Hansmann et al. 2012; Kloepffer 2008).

In other words, besides an economic value, sustainable companies build their businesses also to have positive environmental and social impact.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)

















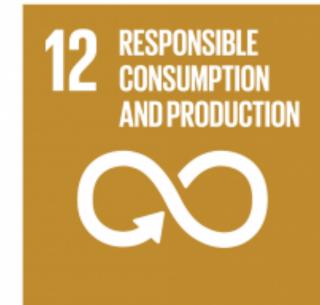






















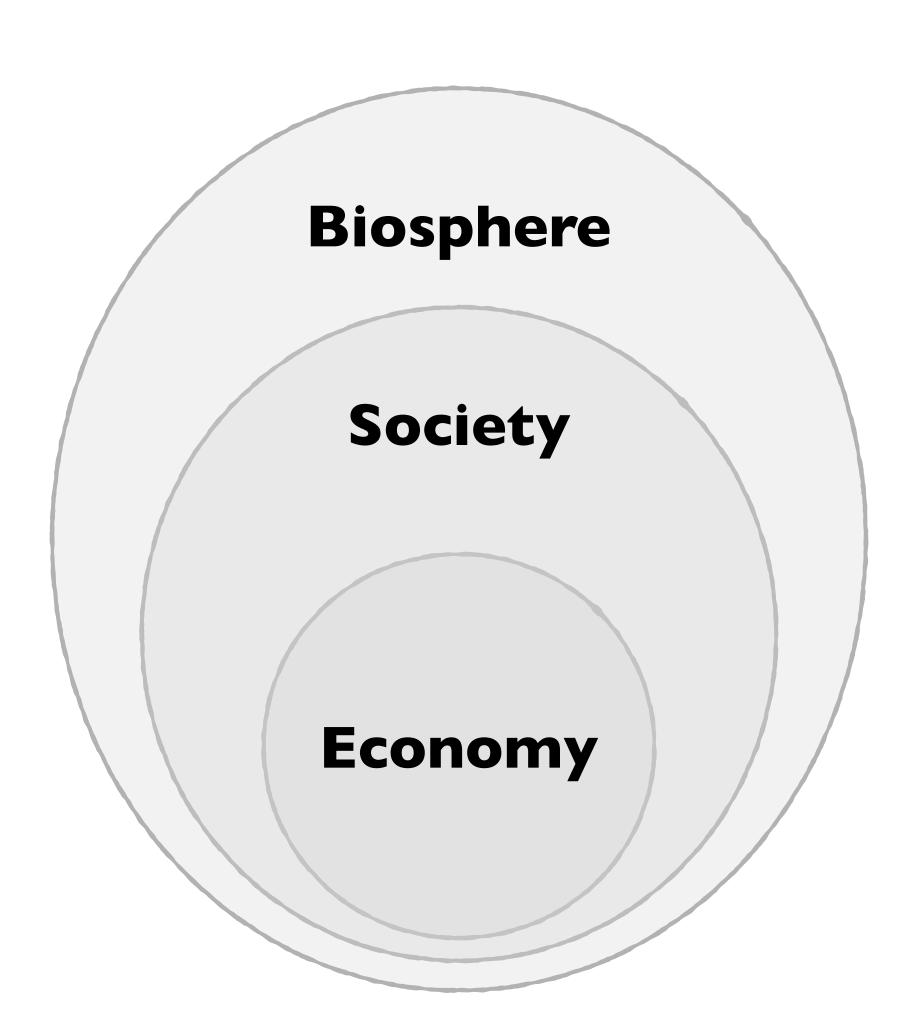


## SYSTEMS THINKING: STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY

AIM to minimise ecological footprint and maximise social impact.

#### Economy is part of society:

- inputs in terms of labour
- outputs in terms of customers and clients
  - > without society there is no economy.



### Society is part of larger Biosphere:

- Everyone needs water/air
- Economy needs raw material and resources.

> economy cannot keep growing eternally, if the biosphere is exploited. Earths capacity has its limitations.

### FASHION + SUSTAINABILITY?

When a fashion company aims to promote sustainability, the main linkage is to develop a sustainable supply chain (Shen 2014).

- Ecological/environmentally friendly materials
- Sustainable manufacturing
- Green distribution
- Retailing

Sustainability is often linked to environmental sustainability.

## (NEGATIVE) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



SOILS DEGRADATION AND DESERTIFICATION



RAINFOREST



DESTRUCTION



WATER CONSUMPTION



WATER POLLUTION



CHEMICALS ADDICTION



**GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS** 



MICROFIBERS IN OUR **OCEANS** 



WASTES ACCUMULATION

Fiber production

(e.g. massive use of chemicals, overgrazing of pastures, wood-based fibres > deforestation)

- Fiber production (e.g. 20 000L water = 1kg cotton)
- Fabric production
- Dying

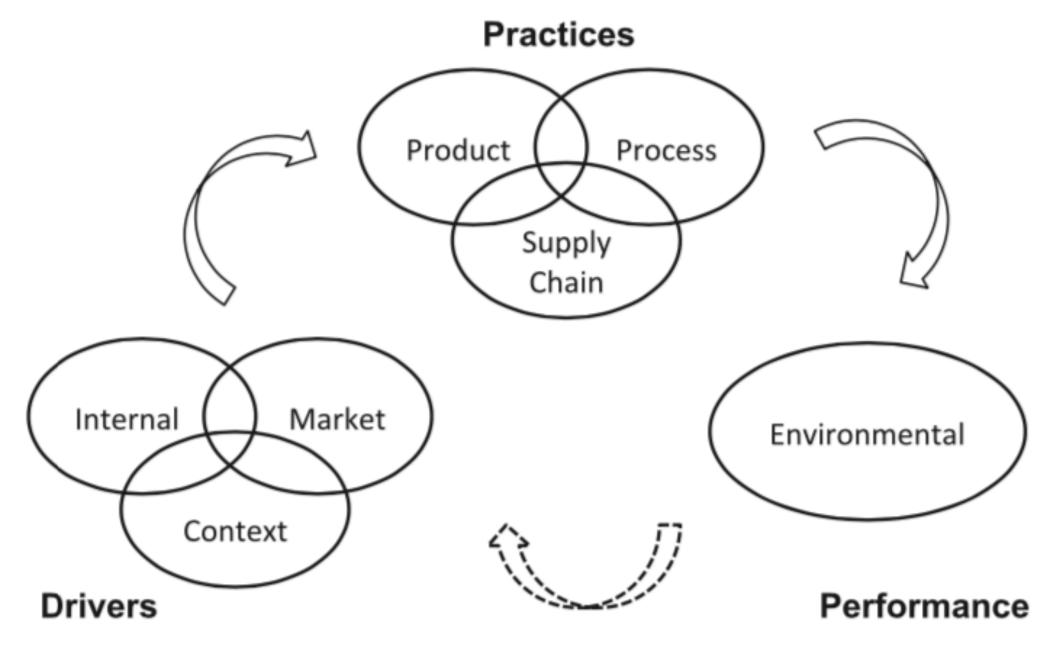
- Fiber & fabric production
- Manufacturing (synthetic fibres are made from fossil fuel. Most of clothes are produced in countries that are essentially powered by coal.)
- Shipping

#### Consumer's impact

- Washing, maintaining
- Recycling, disposing

Source: Caniato et al. 2012; Sustain Your Style

## CANIATO ET AL. 2012: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



#### **Drivers**

Fig. 1. Research framework.

- Internal: efficiency objectives, company specific factors
- Market: customers
- Context: law & regulations

#### **Practices**

- **Product**: design (materials, components, packaging..)
- Supply chain: insourcing & outsourcing, logistic channels, suppliers
- Processes: from raw materials to finished products

What is the environmental criteria company is trying to improve through green practices?

Need to be monitored & measured! KPI throughout the lifecycle

### SYNTHETIC OR NATURAL RAW MATERIAL?

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Organic Cotton vs. Cotton vs. Linen?

Hemp?

Bamboo?

Tencel (lyocel/modal)?

Recycled polyester (from PET-bottles?)

Overproduction of anything is bad.



### ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS

#### Enter the new era of textile production!

loncell is a technology that turns used textiles, pulp or even old newspapers into new textile fibers sustainably and without harmful chemicals. The process converts cellulose into fibers which in turn can be made into long-lasting fabrics.



















Technology ana product concept ready Design of pilot

Technical

2019

development and proven in Construction of 2020

2021

Technology

2023

Commercial industrialization starts

2025



We at Infinited Fiber want to save the planet together with You.

We have created a miracle: a technology that allows textile waste to be used again and again, preserving 100% quality.



loncell

Infinited Fiber

## DESIGNING FROM (PRE-CONSUMER) WASTE





# SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY: WHO MADE MY CLOTHES?











A FRESH GENERATION

ARE MARCHING FOR

REVOLUTION AND THEY

WANT TO WEAR CLOTHES

THAT TELL A NEW STORY.

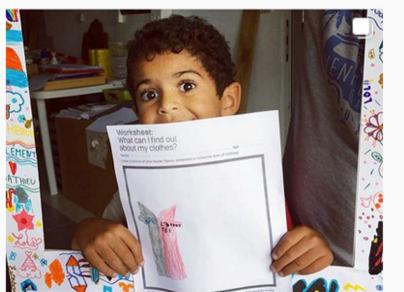
LET'S GIVE IT TO THEM.

- NAOMI KLEIN -

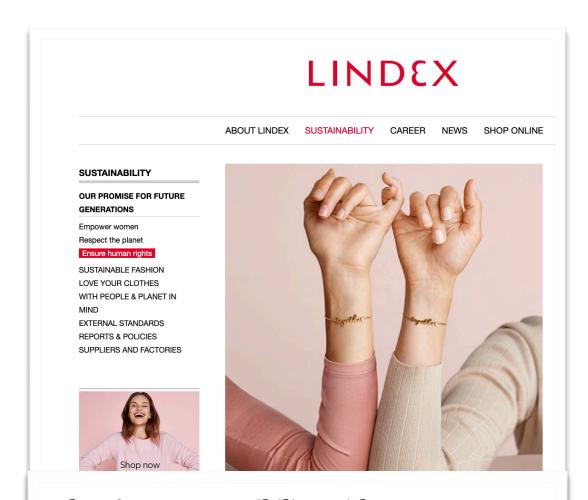
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# CREATING POSITIVE SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



#### There's no responsibility without transparency

The larger and more complex a supply chain is, not only are the risks connected to human rights bigger, issues are also often more complicated to address. While transparency is a major challenge in the fashion industry, it is the key to making progress within all areas of sustainability including human rights. For us to truly be able to take responsibility, we must develop the transparency further down in our supply chain.

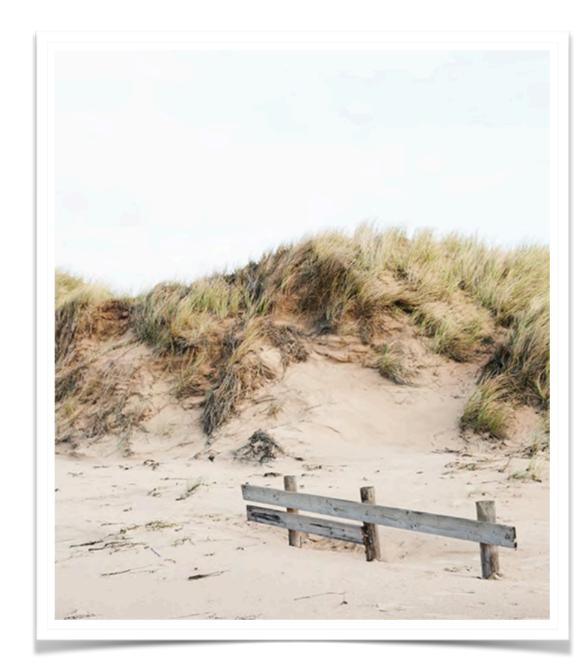
#### Ensure human rights – our core aim

#### Advocating respect for human rights

We want to make sure our whole value chain is progressing within living wage and that its workplaces are safe and healthy, free from harassment and discrimination. Here are our goals:

- By 2021, all Lindex business partners have signed Lindex Sustainability

  Commitment
- By 2025, Lindex suppliers who stand for 80 per cent of our production show total supply chain transparency and commitment to improving working
- By 2025, Lindex suppliers who stand for 80 per cent of our production work actively with a living wage program
- Ensure that no discrimination and harassment occurs in Lindex own operations by 2020





#### Lindex launches sustainability promise – for future generations

Today Lindex launches its new sustainability promise – to make a difference for future generations. With three focus areas, all closely connected to Lindex company vision, the fashion brand raises the b...

April 4, 2019 | Read more



#### Re:Design

At Lindex, we are constantly looking for improvement by finding new innovative and circular ways of working. Re:Design represents one of our latest step towards closing the loop.

#### Respect the planet – our three core aims

#### Taking climate action

We want to make sure that our own operations are climate neutral and that we reduce the negative climate impact in our value chain. Here are our goals:

- By 2023, we will be climate neutral in our own operations
- By 2030, we will have reduced the CO2 emissions in our entire value chain with 30 per cent, with 2017 as baseline.

#### Having a circular business approach

We want to prolong the lifetime of our products and use resources in the smartest way possible throughout our operations. Here are our goals:

- By 2025, 100 per cent of Lindex materials will be recycled or sustainably sourced
- By 2020, we will set goals on reducing material streams and sending zero waste to landfill
- By 2020, we will set goals on design for longevity

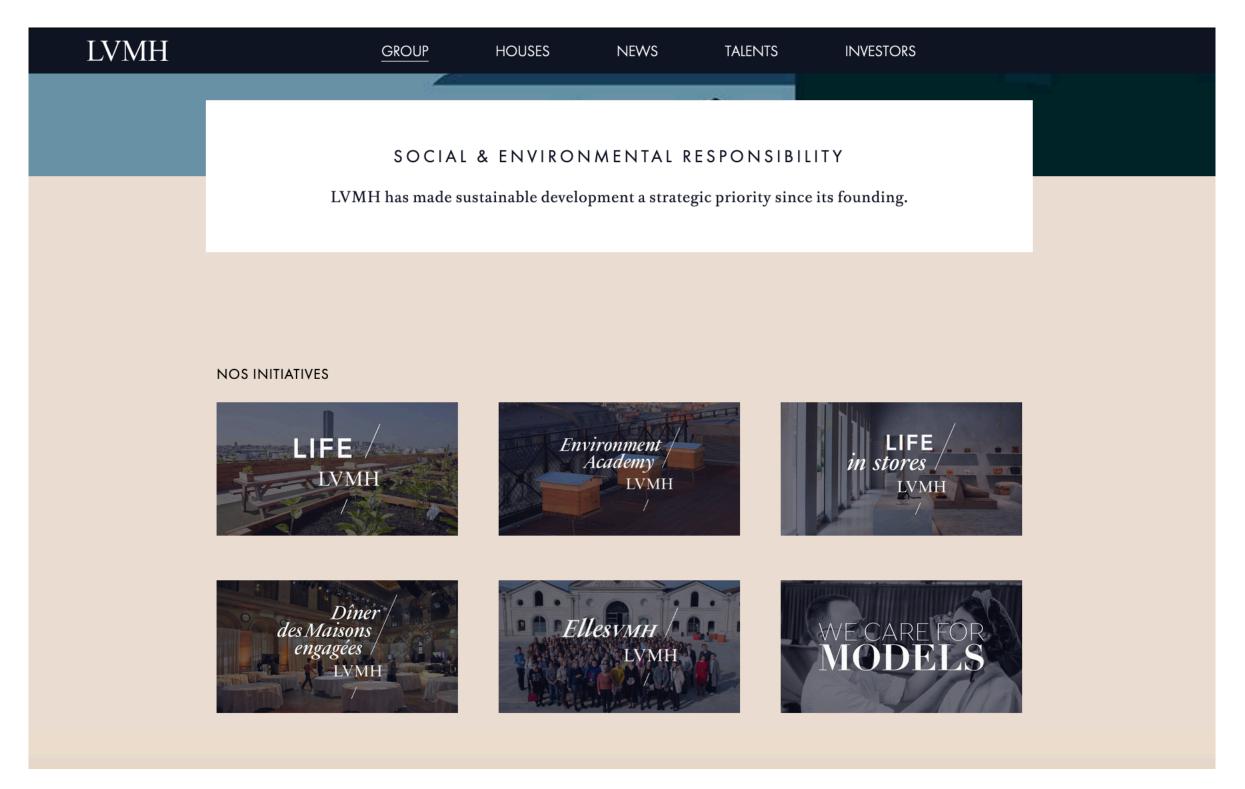
#### Being a water responsible company

We want to be water efficient throughout the whole value chain, reduce the risk of water scarcity in areas connected to our operations and together with business partners provide access to water and sanitation in factories and nearby communities. Here are our goals:

- By 2025, all Lindex business partners with water intensive operations measure their water use, have set reduction goals and incorporated reduction, reuse and recycling of wastewater in the environmental management systems
- By 2025, we have removed the release of all hazardous and toxic substances from Lindex supply chain and promote transparency and more sustainable chemistry

### COMMITMENTS AND REPORTS

### Extensive social and environmental responsibility report exist. Why is sustainability efforts not used in marketing?





Care, Collaborate, Create. Three pillars to develop more sustainable and more responsible Luxury. Three pillars that shape Kering's 2025 Sustainability Strategy in a world where reducing resource consumption and respecting people are absolute necessities. Three pillars that embody and drive our ambition: to craft tomorrow's Luxury.

DISCOVER



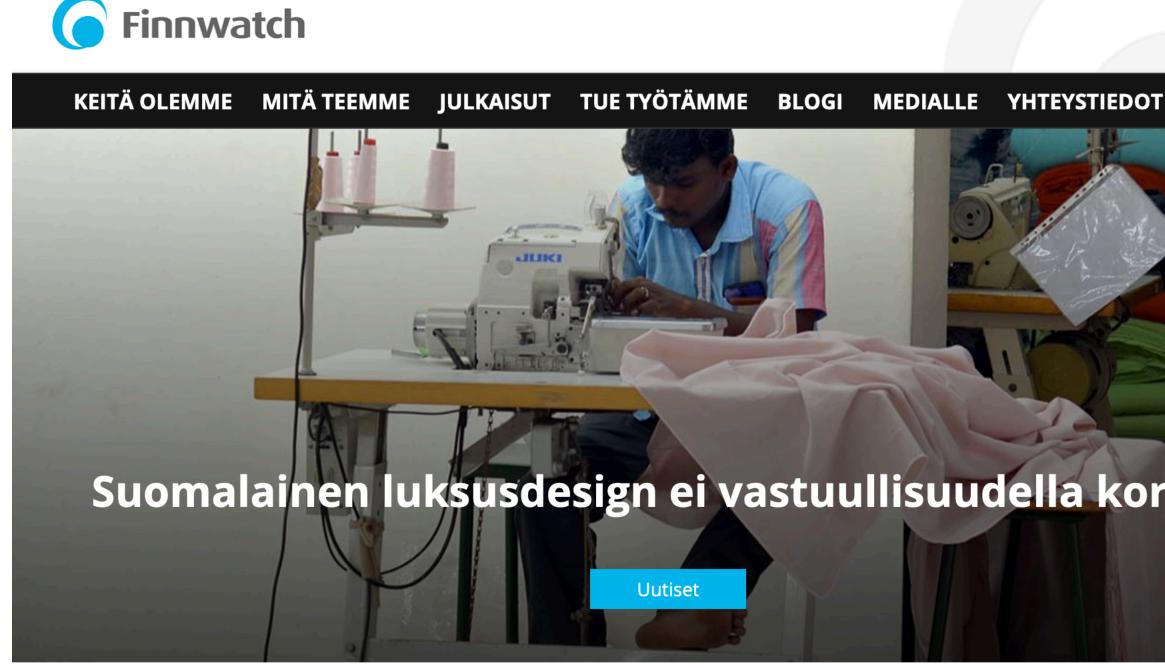
# HIGH PRICE DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN GOOD LABOR CONDITIONS

**MADE IN ITALY** 

## Italian workers are earning near sweatshop wages to make luxury clothes in their homes

By Marc Bain • September 21, 2018





04/04/2019

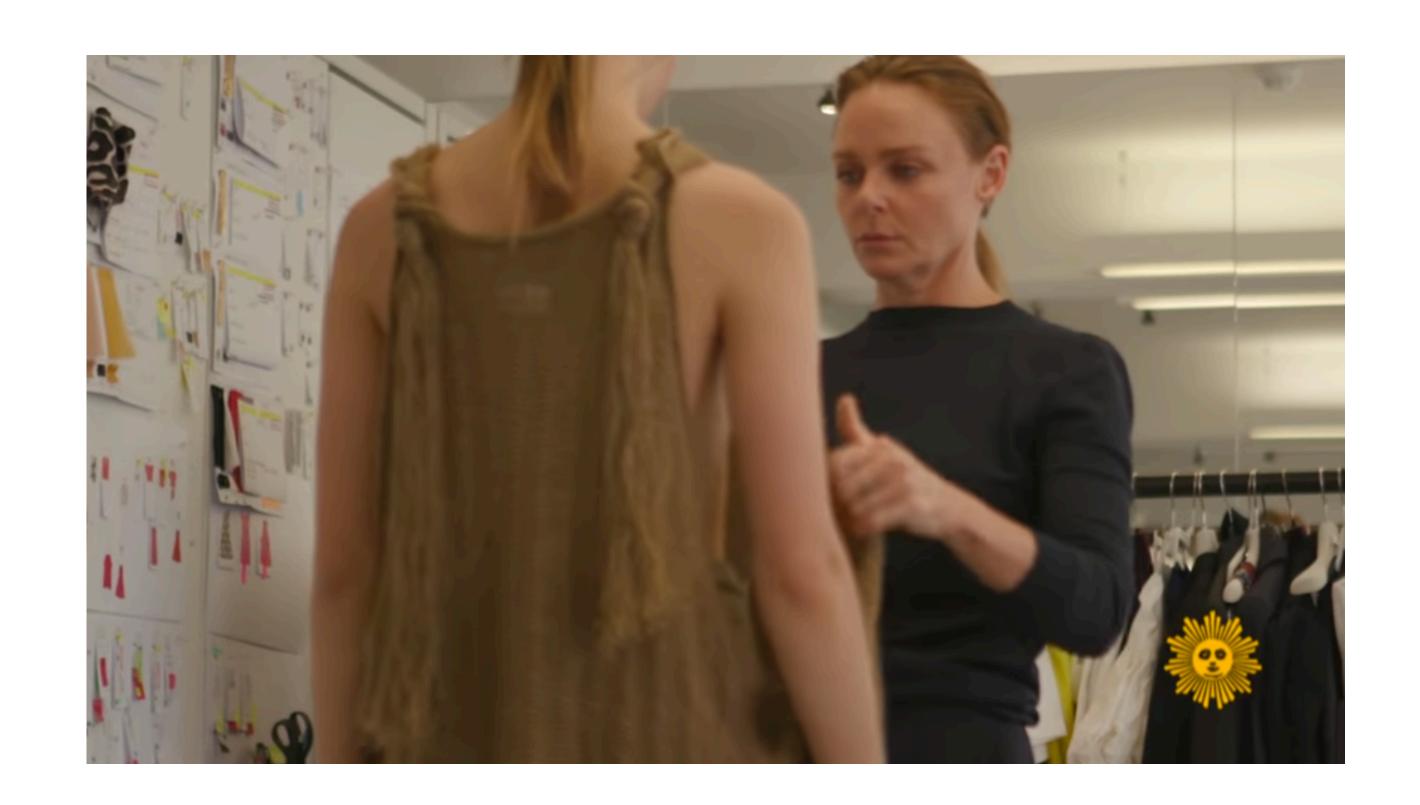
Finnwatch tutki työolot Balmuirin ja Vallilan alihankkijoiden tehtailla Intiassa.



### SUSTAINABILITY AS A STRATEGY

Nobody is perfect!
Something is better than nothing.

<u>Stella McCartney</u>



Sustainability + marketing = ?

Marketing = trying to seduce, to sell more?

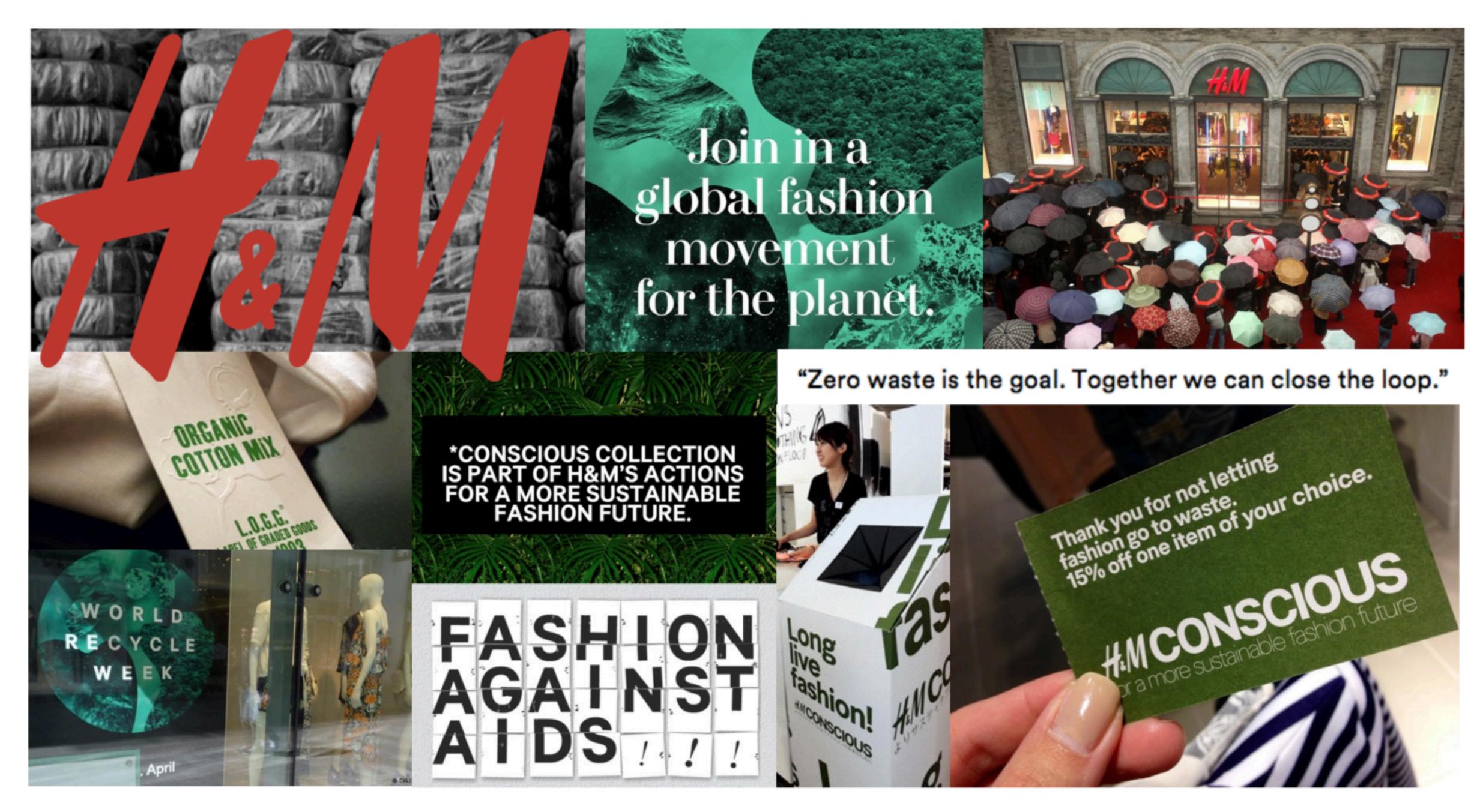
Marketing = trustworthy information, awareness building?

Marketing = creating value for customers?



### IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Information = transparency = sustainability?
- Sustainable collection = building good conscious?
- "Organic cotton mix" = how about its recyclability?



## GREEN WASHING. WHAT IS IT?

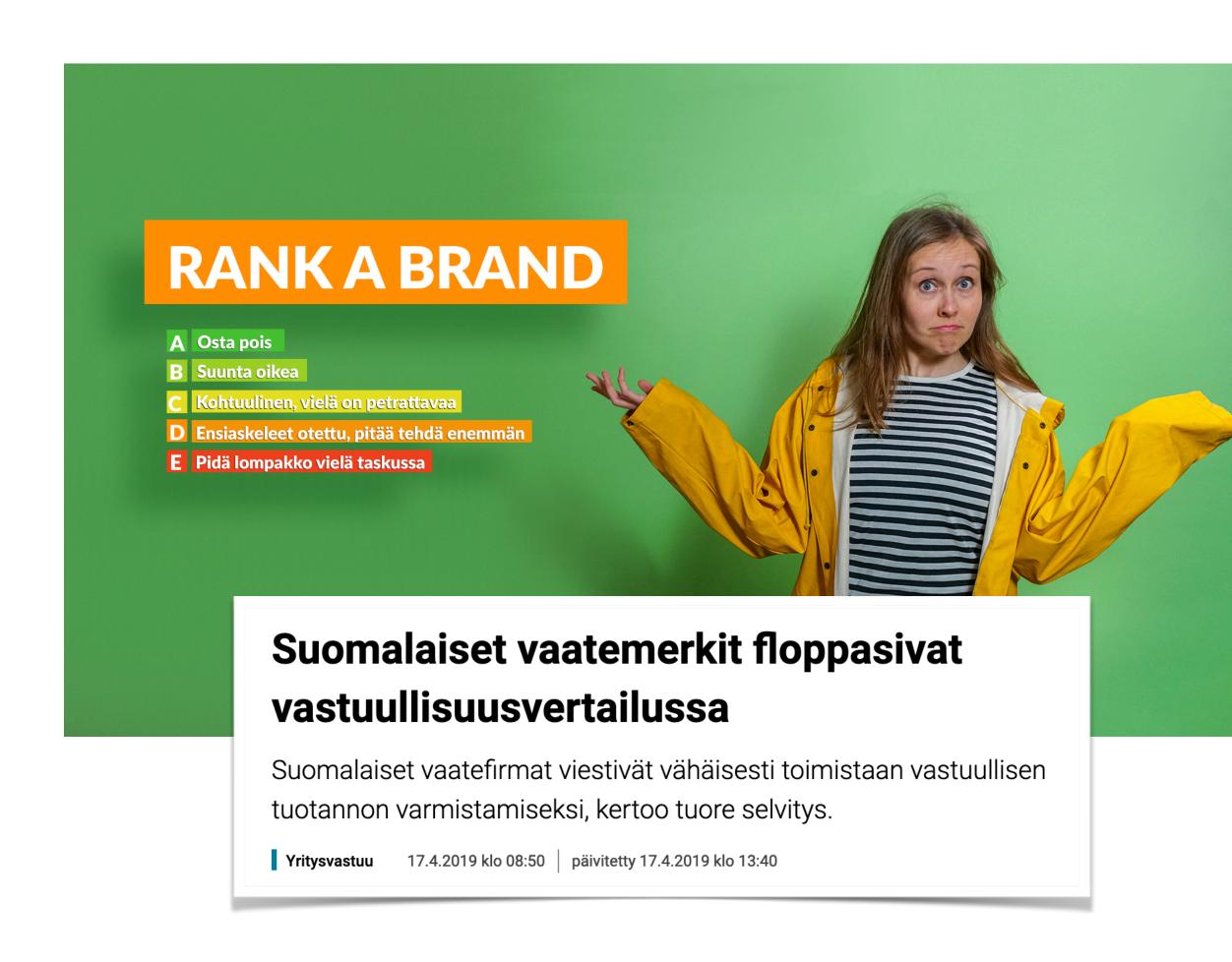
### TRANSPARENCY & TRACEABILITY

Brands such as **Makia** scored bad in the Rank-a-brand -report: No information available enough, although they are working towards it. Makia wants to be desired for other reasons, not because of being sustainable.

Hálo was not even listed/evaluated

#### How would H&M score in the report?

H&M is sharing transparently things, but is it enough? > Post-rationalization, trying to look "less bad".

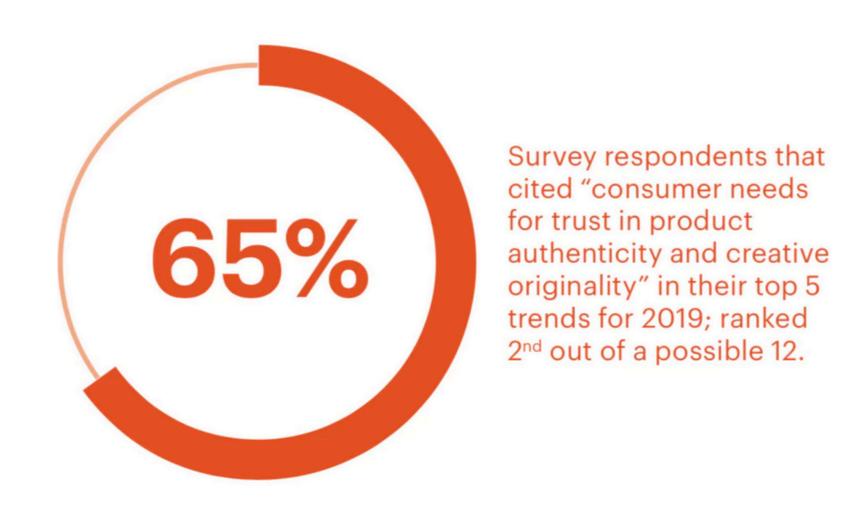


Eetti ry's Rank-a-brand -report

### RADICAL TRANSPARENCY

Fashion executives anticipate consumers' need for transparency

"Fashion companies must come to terms with consumer's desire for transparency across the value chain. (...) The fashion industry suffers from a rising trust deficit." (BoF 2019)



Source: BoF-McKinsey State of Fashion Survey

ARKET X (i) Q Search

Recipes Coffee 2-in-1 Women

Children's outerwear

DRESSES SKIRTS **JEANS** TROUSERS BAGS & DERWEAR & SPORTSWEAR SHOES

WOMEN MEN CHILDREN HOMEWARE

COATS &

ARRIVALS



PATTERN Checks Florais Stripes

MATERIAL Synthetic Regenerated fibre Plastic & Rubber

Cotton

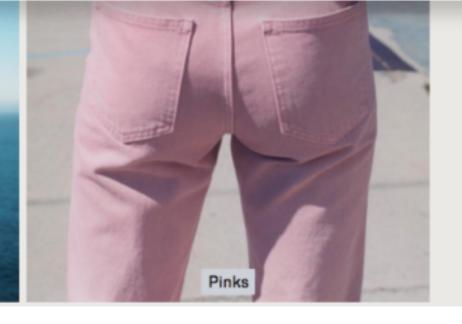
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Romania Turkey Viet Nam

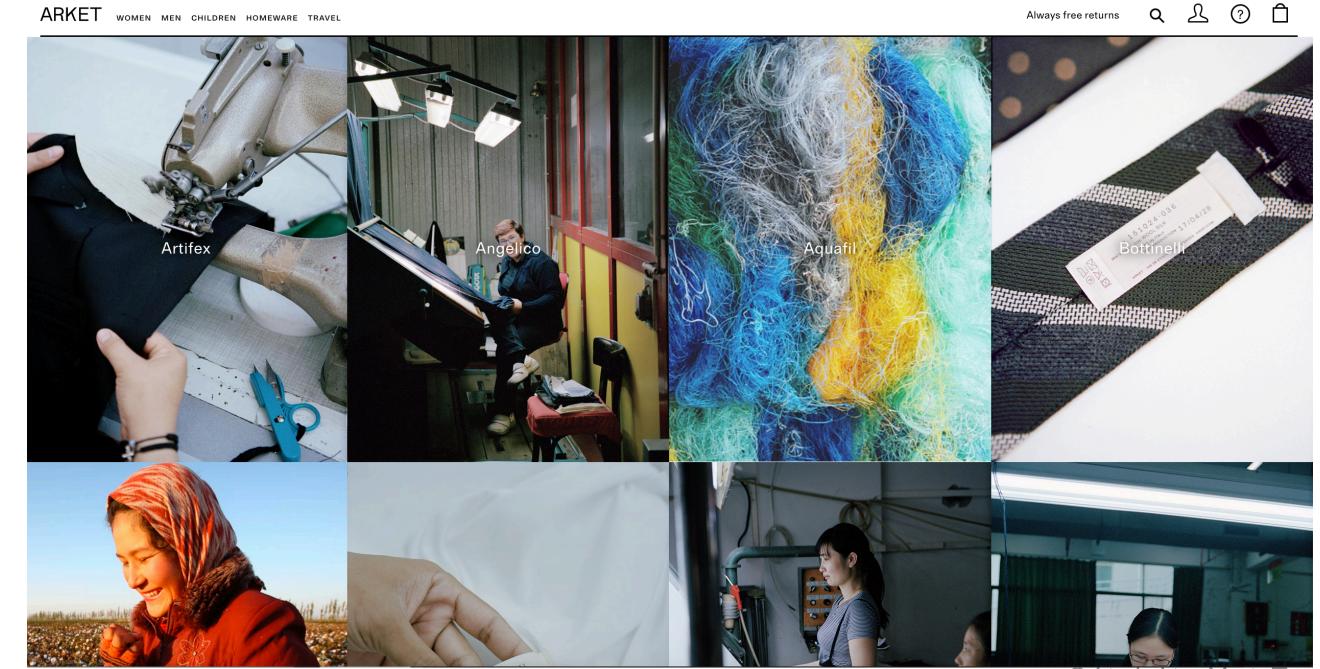
MADEIN

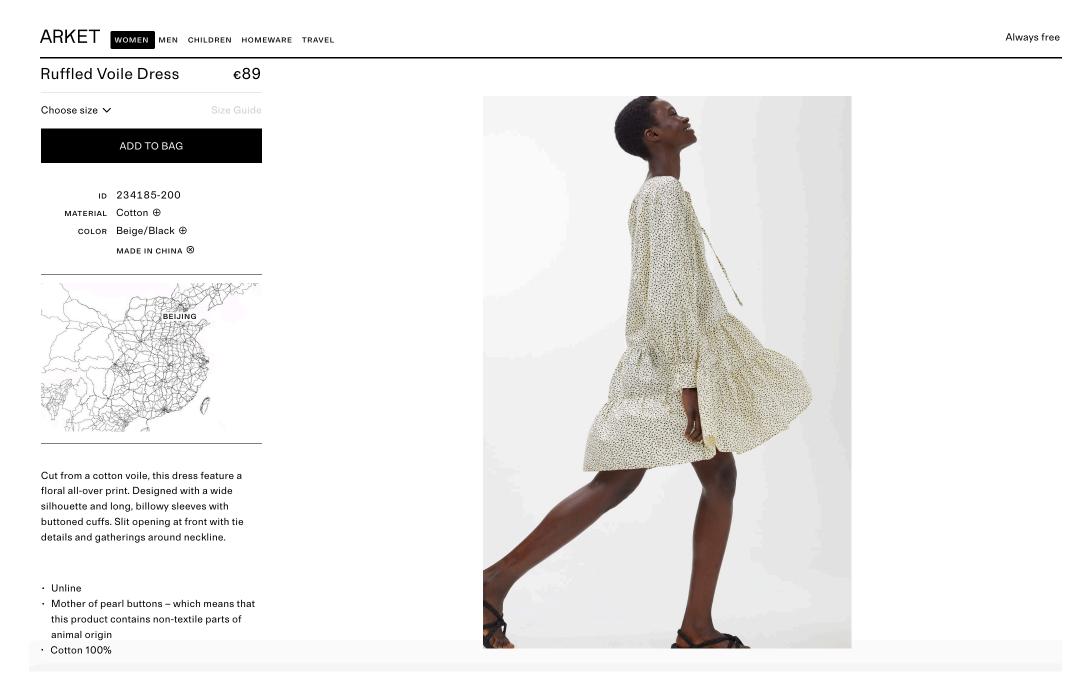






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### THE PROBLEM IS IN THE SYSTEM.

- When keeping up with the fashion cycle, new trends are emerging
  - Sales and discounts to get money (and space) for new collections.

- Producing more than needed (economic reasoning): The price per piece turns to be lower if you buy higher quantity

> How to prevent overproduction?



### SUSTAINABLE LUXURY?

- Fast-fashion vs. Luxury fashion?
- High quality vs. Disposability
  - Generation to generation / Second-hand / long lifecycle
- Conceptual dissonance: superfluousness, conspicuousness, status
   egoistic vs. altruistic aims?
- New products bought before "worn out"

### LUXURY VS. MASS LUXURY

"Whereas luxury historically aligned with sustainability ideals (Kapferer 2010; De Barnier et al. 2012), by producing rare products of ultra high quality, made by hand and with respect for tradition, it has come to look more like consumer- or fashion goods made to fill trash bins after they achieve structural and rapid obsolescence." (Kapferer & Michaut, 2014)



### WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY IN RETAIL?

**Product** - supply chain decisions / local vs. global / production vs. consumption?

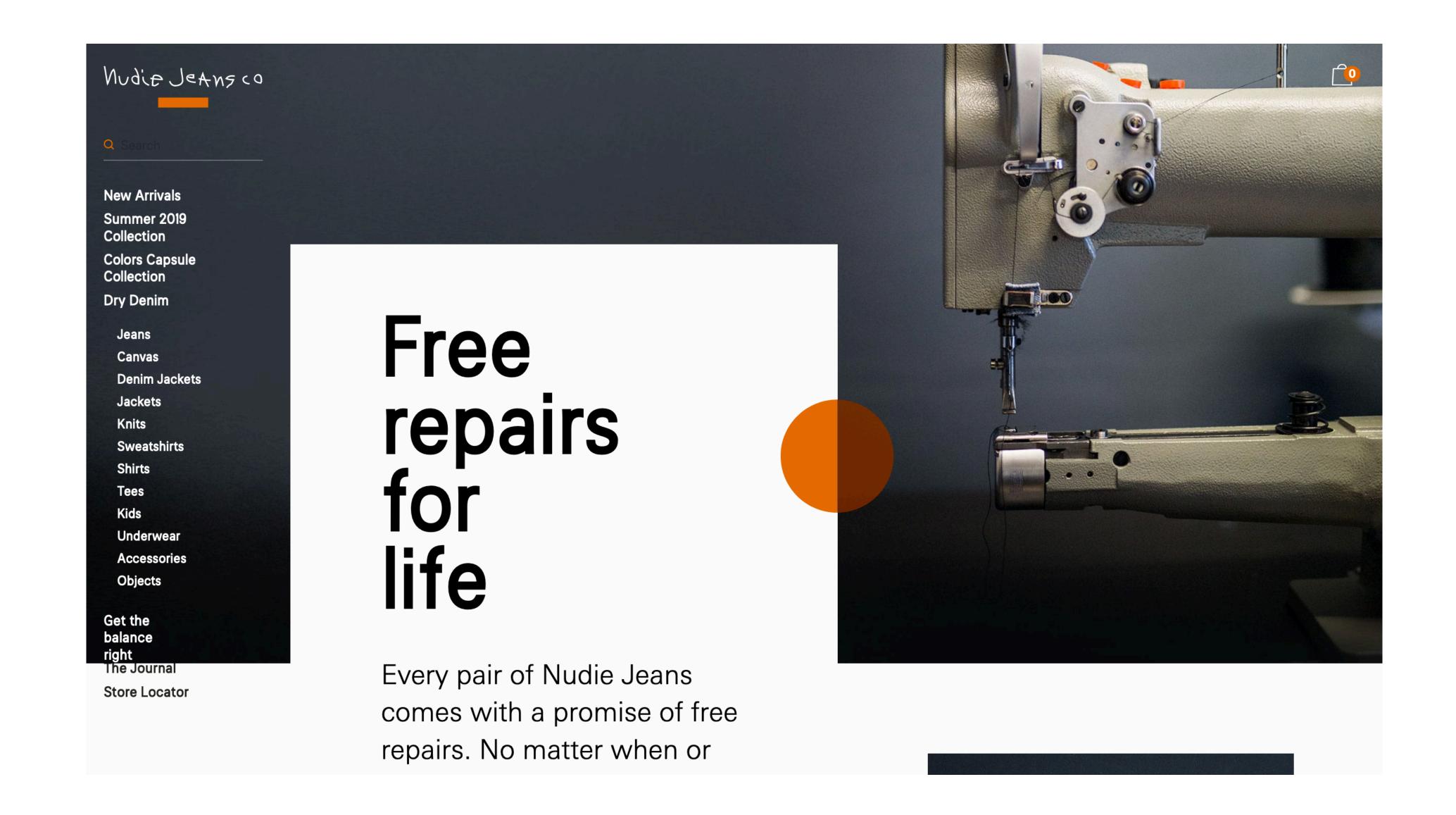
**Store** - commitments for renewable energy?

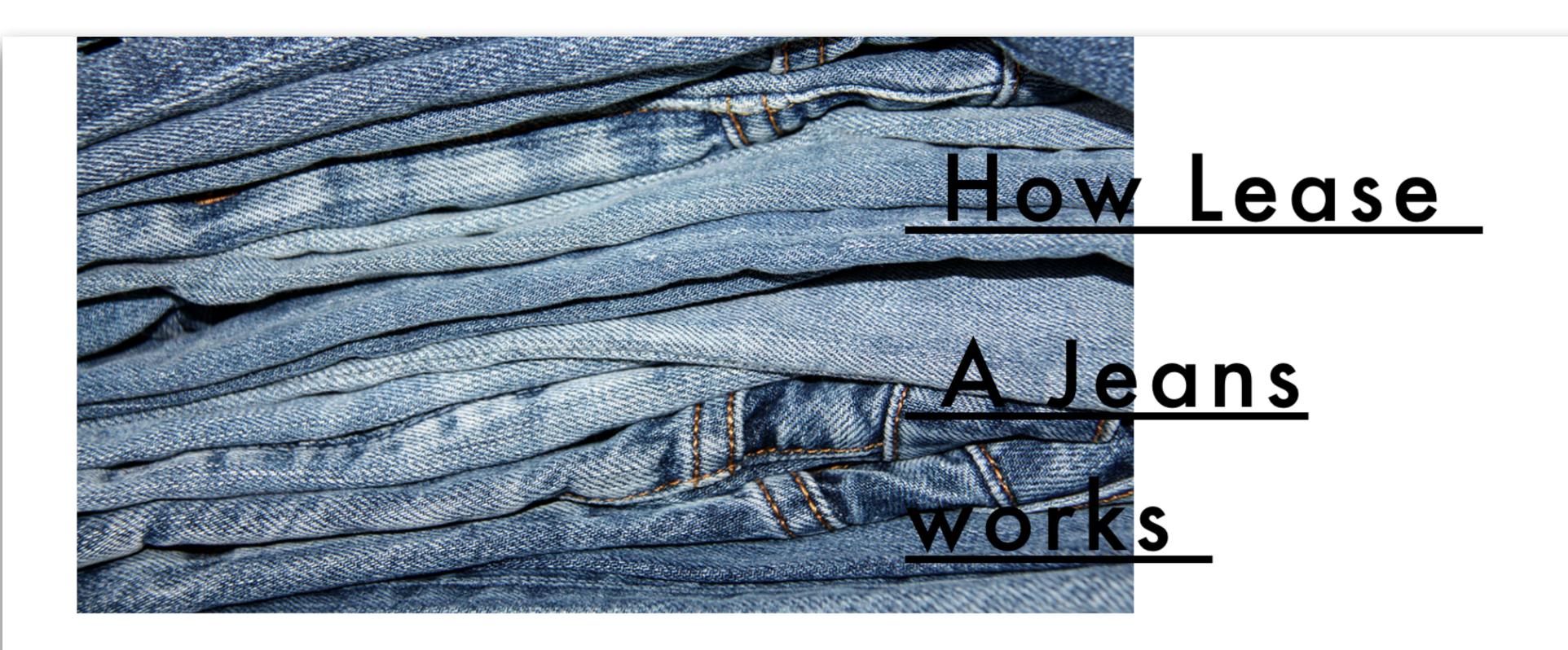
Marketing - discounts?

Online / offline store? - easiness / shipping & transport vs. retail environment impacts?



STORE OF HOPE





- We introduced a pioneering Lease A Jeans model to ensure that we stay the owners of the raw materials and get them back after use.

Lease A Jeans is a formula that keeps the respect of the earth and its resources at its core. Rumor has it; on average, 30% of the garments in our closets have not been worn in almost a The old ones will be recycled to make new wonderful items. Recycling saves water, resources and waste. We love to hear where you take your jeans. Your adventures create unique MUD stories that live on in our vintage jeans collection.

Thanks to the business model of Lease A Jeans we surround ourselves with a community of forward-thinking people. True

### FASHION AS A SERVICE

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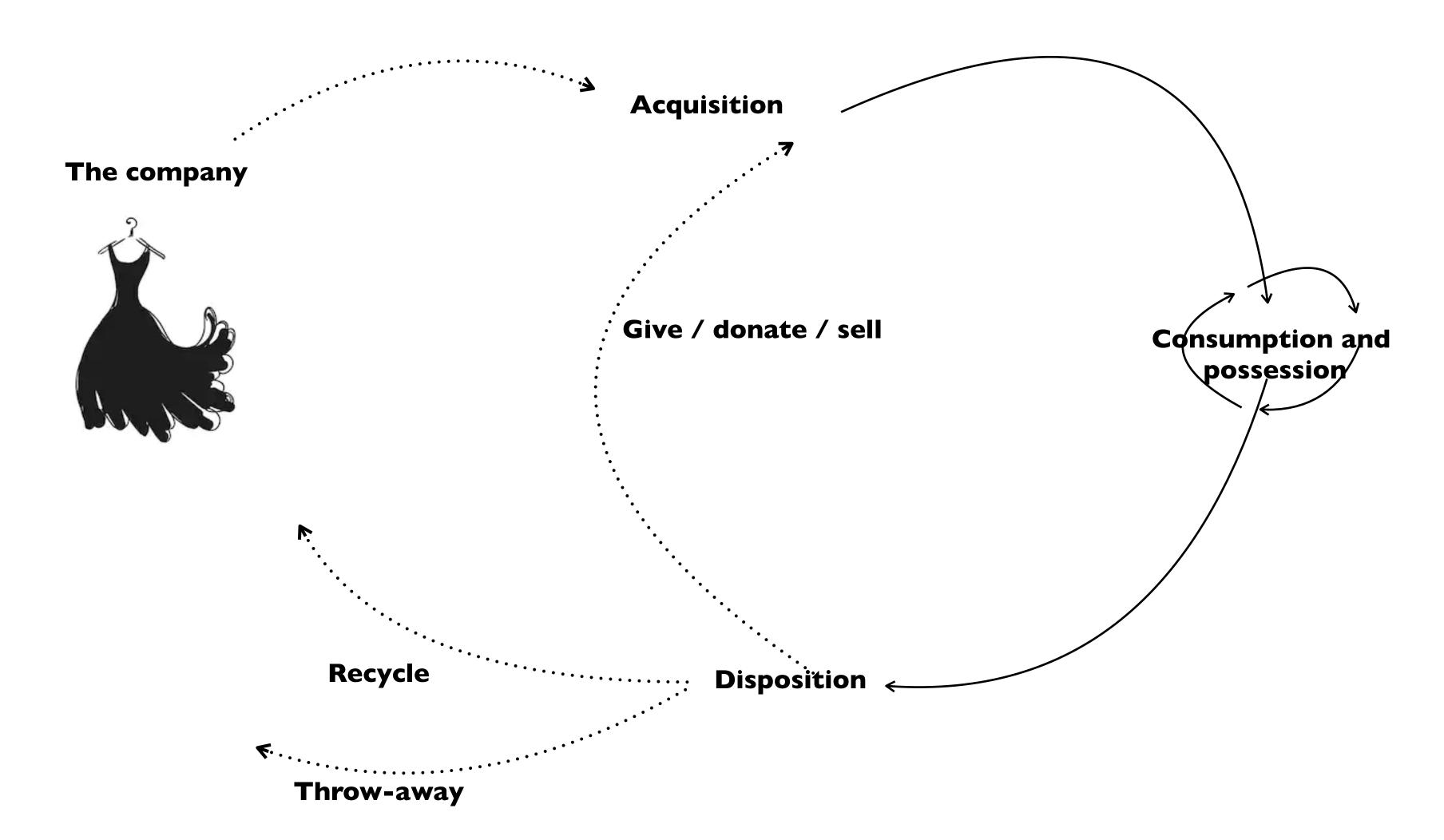
- Fashion as a service, e.g. short/longterm renting
- More usage times for garments
- Company possess the garment (and takes care of the garment's whole lifecycle)





"You are what you can access." (Belk 2014)

# WHERE DOES COMPANY'S RESPONSIBILITY END AND USER'S RESPONSIBILITY START?





#### Designing for waste **Designing for longevity** Designing for circularity Design Design Design **Production** Reuse Consumption **Production** Repair Production Consumption Remanufacturing Repair Consumption Consumption Consumption

Alternative materials, whole system thinking, waste management, product as a service...

Source: Ellen McArthur foundation 2018

### Thank you.

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