

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS:

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION WITH CLIMATE ACTION WEEK 2022

The fashion and textile industry is one of the largest and constantly growing polluters, along with the demand for fast fashion since the pandemic's start. The fashion industry also emits more carbon than international flights and maritime shipping annually.¹

In Singapore, textile waste generated from the non-domestic and domestic sectors ranged from about 189 000 tonnes in 2021. That is a 25% increase in textile waste from 2016. Even though there is an increase in waste, the recycling rate remains low at 4%.² More than 90% of the waste is sent to landfill or incinerated. Singapore's landfill, Semakau Landfill, is expected to run out of space by 2035 if no action is taken.

To tackle climate change and waste, Singapore Green Plan 2030 was launched in 2021 as a nationwide sustainability movement to advance sustainable development in Singapore. The Green Plan consists of collective action toward climate change.

Under the five pillars of the Green Plan, Sustainable Living is a necessary key target to reduce waste and resource consumption. Sustainable Living includes reducing the amount of waste transported and dumped into our Semakau Landfill per capita per day by 20% by 2026 and 30% by 2030.³

To reduce textile waste and play our part in responsible consumption, we hope to educate consumers on sustainable, circular fashion and make informed and responsible choices on how we can be involved individually.



You can play a part to make
a positive environmental impact!



Here are some tips:



Water

- ✓ Reduce water wastage
- ✓ Use water-efficient appliances



Food

- ✓ Support local produce
- ✓ Grow your own edibles at home or in a community or allotment garden



Energy

- ✓ Switch off electrical appliances at the socket
- ✓ Use fan instead of air-con
- ✓ Set air-con temperature at 25°C
- ✓ Use energy-efficient appliances



Waste

- ✓ Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Right
- ✓ Buy, order, use only what you need
- ✓ Bring your own bag or container
- ✓ Repair instead of buying new items



Transport

- ✓ Take public transport, walk or cycle, instead of driving
- ✓ If you need to drive, choose an electric or hybrid vehicle



Do more!

- ✓ Start an environmental movement in school or at your workplace
- ✓ Volunteer in environmental activities for example, tree planting, citizen science programmes, litter picking, community outreach, etc

www.GreenPlan.gov.sg

Image Source: Green Plan

Climate Action Week

Over the week of 19-25 September 2022, Singapore Fashion Council under the ambit of Climate Action Week organised by Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment to organize informative workshops on fashion sustainability.

Climate Action Week is a week-long event that takes place annually to raise public awareness of climate change and sustainability. 2022's theme, "Towards a Net Zero Future,"

looked at taking collective climate action to achieve net zero emissions by mid-century throughout the various sectors in Singapore.

Singapore Fashion Council partnered with Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment to push initiatives for fashion sustainability.

Community outreach is essential for a greener future as through public engagements, we aim to empower consumers and communities respectively to make sustainable choices.

In support of the Singapore Green Plan, Singapore Fashion Council organized an informative webinar and upcycling workshop - Towards a Sustainable and Fashionable Future with SFC.



Held on 21 September, the virtual webinar covered the theoretical overview of fashion sustainability through the journey of clothes and responsible consumption of garments. Through this webinar, we hope to empower consumers with the understanding of making conscious and sustainable fashion choices and what we can do with our old garments.

Following the webinar, an upcycling workshop was organized as part of a hands-on segment for participants to learn upcycling techniques.

We taught participants how to transform pre-worn garments into new items for new uses. By repurposing and reusing items, we can keep waste out of the ecosystem and maximize its value for as long as possible.



Aside from our general community engagements, we have also kickstarted our initial education talks on fashion sustainability for students. We were extremely excited to interact with the young students and teachers and raise awareness. Through these series of talks and workshops, we hope to foster and nurture students to be better stewards for a sustainable fashion future.

To create a circular fashion economy, each individual must take conscious steps and actions for a sustainable, zero-waste nation. We are proud to have taken our first public engagement step in our fashion sustainability journey.

Keep a look out for future community talks and workshops for both schools and the public on our consumer portal - **Bethechange.fashion**. You can also learn about the journey of clothes and the steps you can take to be a responsible consumer.



For potential collaborations and partnerships, please drop us an email at sustainability@taff.org.sg.

References:

1. Bush, Janet, and Michael Chui. "Forward Thinking on the Sustainability Revolution in Textiles and the Fashion Industry with Edwin Keh." McKinsey & Company, 27 July 2022, <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/retail/our-insights/forward-thinking-on-the-sustainability-revolution-in-textiles-and-the-fashion-industry-with-edwin-keh>.
2. "Waste Statistics and Overall Recycling." National Environment Agency, <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/waste-management/waste-statistics-and-overall-recycling>.
3. "Sustainable Living." Singapore Green Plan 2030, <https://www.greenplan.gov.sg/key-focus-areas/sustainable-living/>.

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