



LIFE10 ENV/IT/000373

ACTION C1 - FIELD VISITS

February - March 2013

REPORT of the Activities

Responsible for the action: La Città Verde Soc. Coop. Soc. a r.l.

Introduction

The present document presents the main evidence emerged from the field visits held in February and March 2013 by the LOWASTE project's partner.

Field visits were originally foreseen in the Action B1 of the LOWASTE project.

Considering the importance of the field visits for the development of the project, the project partners decided to move these activities on the Action C1: it has been considered important to select the waste streams (action B2, September 2012) before searching for best practice and successful experience around Europe.

The project aims at building on an efficient local market for second life product: for this reason, partners are working to collect all the relevant information on the local waste management situation and international best practice to re-organize the knowledge existing in this field and apply it to the local situation.

La Città Verde, responsible for the Action C1, organized the field visits with the strong support of all project partners.

Between December 2012 and March 2012 the project partners organized two field visits in UK (Manchester and London). Moreover, La Città Verde, participated alone to RReuse meetings in Bruxelles and Dublin.

FIELD VISIT IN MANCHESTER, 13th – 15th February 2013

Participants

Nicola Bindini	Hera spa
Fabia Ferioli	Hera spa
Federica Corallini	La Città Verde
Giorgio Rosso	La Città Verde
Leonardo Malatesta	Atersir – Comune di Ferrara
Elisa Petrini	Impronta Etica
Fabrizia Calda	Impronta Etica

Programme of the visit

13 th February	WESLEY COMMUNITY FURNITURE
	CT HOME
14 th February	FAIRFIELD COMPOST
	RAINBOW
15 th February	TIDY PLANET



WESLEY COMMUNITY FURNITURE

Waste stream: Furniture/Households goods

Web: <http://www.thewesley.org.uk/>

Address: 56-58 Lloyd Street South, Fallowfield Manchester M14 7HT

Contact person: Richard Lockwood info@thewesley.org.uk

Description

Wesley is a Furniture Reuse Organisation, a charity that supplies furniture, domestic appliances, household goods and clothing at the lowest possible prices to those in greatest need, from all over the City of Manchester and beyond. Wesley strives to provide the cheapest reusable furniture in Manchester – and to Reuse and Recycle as much of the material we collect as possible.

Wesley's vans can collect donations of most household items free of charge throughout the Greater Manchester/N Cheshire area. These are then sorted, stored and sold from the Wesley's shops and often delivered free of charge to those in need.

The primary charitable object of Wesley Community Furniture is to provide household goods to people in need. To that end, the Wesley provides the transport and labour to collect donations from people throughout Greater Manchester & N Cheshire, and these donations are brought to the shop units where they are sorted, assessed for condition, repaired where possible, renovated when feasible, and displayed for sale.

Clients either come off the street or are referred by agencies, and are helped to choose from stock purchases which can then be delivered to their homes. The collection and delivery is free of charge.

Referred clients are offered Wesley's joblot/homestart packages which consist of the basics people need for independent living for less than it would cost if the items were bought individually.

The second charitable object is concerned with the provision of jobs, volunteering and training opportunities. To this end, takings from the shop cover the paid staff costs, volunteer expenses, building and vehicle costs. Money is also used to pay for training, such as electrical PAT testing, Health & Safety, First Aid etc. The Wesley's volunteers are its most valuable assets: the majority of the work is only possible because of their work and commitment to the charity, its objects and ethos.

A third major aim of the charity is to make an impact on landfill use: by reusing & recycling peoples' unwanted household items we redirect in excess of 200 tonnes of material every year. Furthermore, in its operation WCF endeavours to be as environmentally friendly as possible.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- The system of collection from private houses thanks to donation

Limits to the replication in Italy

- the practice of buying used furniture is still not very widespread;

PICTURES





CT HOME

Waste stream: Furniture/Households goods

Web: <http://www.communitytransport.org/furniture/>

Address: 1 Hope Street off Oldfield Road, Salford Manchester M5 4WN

Contact person: Jo Sugden jo.sugden@communitytransport.org

Description

Community Transport is a UK national social enterprise delivering 3 vital services to communities in the West Midlands, North West and North East of England:

- Passenger transport services
- Re-use & Recycling services
- Training Services

CT HOME and CT Office are the names of the Community Transport's domestic and office furniture re-use and recycling services, supplying furniture through a mix of warehouse and shop outlets in 3 regions.

CT HOME collects donations of good quality furniture - beds, sofas, 3 piece suites, electrical goods, tables, chairs etc. - from people's home (free of charge) and collects surplus or end-of-line stock from retail furniture stores, distribution centres, hotels, and offices.

CT HOME supplies donated domestic furniture at affordable prices to families in need, while CT OFFICE supplies donated office furniture to small businesses, voluntary and community groups, schools and public bodies.

CT HOME gives people work, training and volunteering opportunities.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- The system of collection from private houses thanks to donation
- The agreements with public authorities

Limits to the replication in Italy

- the practice of buying used furniture is still not very widespread

PICTURES



FAIRFIELD COMPOST



Waste stream: Compost

Web: <http://www.fairfieldcompost.co.uk/>

Address: The Cabin, Adj 22, New Smithfield Market, Whitworth Street East, Manchester, M11 2WJ

Contact person: Ian Trippier :ian@fairfieldcompost.co.uk

Description

Fairfield is a social enterprise bringing real environmental benefits to Greater Manchester. Since 2003, Fairfield has been producing quality compost and handling green waste material through a system that avoids environmental degradation.

Fairfield has established the UK's first sustainable waste management system to operate on a wholesale market. Based on the New Smithfield market site in East Manchester, Fairfield has diverted 6,500 tonnes of organic market waste material away from landfill.

The in-situ process means that fruit, vegetable and plant waste travels only a few hundred yards to be made into sustainable, quality compost.

The system has saved on substantial amounts of transportation, reduced fuel usage, reduced carbon dioxide emissions and diverted waste away from environmentally-damaging landfill sites.

Fairfield receives tonnes of biodegradable fruit, vegetable, plant and flowers from the New Smithfield Market, and 'green waste' from landscapers, parks and waste companies. Delivered material is processed using an 'in-vessel' composting method – the first such installation on a wholesale market in the country.

Product consistency is guaranteed as Fairfield's process and products adhere to the BSI PAS100 accreditation system.

Fairfield Materials Management operates on a site fully licensed by the Environment Agency.

Fairfield's business is based upon:

- Sustainable waste management – reduction/re-use, recycling and composting
- Delivering this via a social enterprise business model and retaining the benefits for the local community
- Sustainable energy supply

Fairfield processes organic market waste, landscaping waste and produces a high quality, peat-free compost from materials that would ordinarily end their life in landfill sites.

In the process of commitment to reducing the environmental impact of its' own operations, Fairfield aims to assist others to limit their individual impacts.

Fairfield's experience will enable the organization to guide others; this 'blue print' will ensure that replication of this model can occur throughout the UK.

Limits to the replication in Italy

- In Italy there are regulatory restrictions and necessary requirements which hinder the opening of composting microsites as the one visited in the general market of manchester

PICTURES





RAINBOW

Waste stream: furniture

Web: <http://rainbowfurniturecentre.weebly.com/>

Address: 3-4 Malvern Row Cornbrook Park Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M15 4FD

Contact person: Deborah Elgar rainbow@traffordhousingtrust.co.uk

Description

Rainbow is a furniture recycling centre for low cost quality furniture at affordable prices. Rainbow provides very affordable furniture for people in need and on low income. Rainbow also works in partnership with a variety of organisations including social services and charitable bodies.

Rainbow works in partnership with the social housing agency, and is in charge for the collection of furniture from empty houses.

As well as offering low cost furniture, the project has been set up to offer employment opportunities to ex-offenders and provide NVQ qualifications.

Rainbow Furniture Centre is committed to sustainability and is affiliated to the Furniture Recycling Network. The FRN is the national body which supports, assists and develops charitable re-use organisations across the UK. FRN do this to reduce poverty by helping households in need access furniture, white goods and other household items at affordable prices. In addition, FRN support re-use organisations in providing training and work placement opportunities for people who are socially excluded.

The Rainbow project has been well received with a number of agencies and organisations who have supported the project through funding, furniture donations or hard labour to carry out the refurbishment of the shop.

Volunteering services in Rainbow are considered as a chance to improve people's knowledge and skills around recycling. Rainbow working closely with Trafford College and offering NVQ level 2 in Recycle and Re-use: it's a 6 months course and all volunteers are welcome to be part of it. Volunteering is an opportunity to get to know the community and support local initiative.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- they give a guarantee on the electrical appliances
- employment of disadvantaged people: they have agreements with the nearby prison for the employment of convicts
- collection of furniture from empty houses and building companies

Limits to the replication in Italy

- Rainbow has agreements with the company that manages social housing for emptying the unoccupied dwellings. This allows them to have access to a significant amount of pieces of furniture. In Italy it is difficult (almost impossible) to implement such agreements
- the practice of buying used furniture is still not very widespread

PICTURES



TIDY PLANET Ltd

Waste stream: Compost and cooking oil

Web: <http://www.tidyplanet.co.uk>

Address: Derwent House, Melville Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 2BN

Contact person: Jim Tyler jim@tidyplanet.co.uk

Description

Tidy Planet Ltd offers a complete range of Food Waste and Energy From Waste solutions.

Since 2001 Tidy Planet have been providing innovative solutions to businesses in all sectors of industry.

Companies are becoming increasingly concerned about their environmental impact and many are implementing sustainability initiatives: Tidy Planet offer several patented technologies to assist industry in achieving this objective.

Tidy's range of products not only prevent food waste being sent to landfill or contaminating recyclable materials but also offer sustainable on site alternatives for generating energy or compost.

Tidy Planet produces and sells the following products:

CHiP: a range of Cogeneration Units allow customers to generate Electricity and Hot Water from used cooking oil increasing its value significantly. Tidy Planet also produces a machine for the transformation of cooking oil in biodiesel.

ROCKET: a range of Accelerated Composters allow the recycling of all food waste into nutritious compost in only 2 weeks.

GOBI: a range of Food Waste Dryers enable companies to reduce the volume of waste significantly whilst also producing a Biomass with high calorific value.

DEHYDRA: a Food Waste Reduction system system reduces the volume and weight of food waste significantly whilst using only a fraction of the water of conventional macerating systems.

The Lowaste team visited first an innovative composter located in a holiday village near Blackpool, and then the Tidy Planet's headquarter in Macclesfield.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- The product sold by Tidy Planet are very interesting also for the Italian market, especially for food and food related companies
- it is very versatile and easily usable for micro plants

Limits to the replication in Italy

- There is nothing similar yet and we need to check the regulatory system

PICTURES



FIELD VISIT IN LONDON, 4th – 6th March 2013

Participants

Nicola Bindini	Hera spa
Fabia Ferioli	Hera spa
Federica Corallini	La Città Verde
Marco Busi	La Città Verde
Giorgio Rosso	La Città Verde
Leonardo Malatesta	Atersir – Comune di Ferrara
Patrizia Taddia	Comune di Ferrara
Elisa Petrini	Impronta Etica
Fabrizia Calda	Impronta Etica

Programme of the visit

4 th March	Community Wood Recycling
5 th March	Uptown Oil
	RETROUVIUS reclamation & design
6 th March	TRAID

Community Wood Recycling

Waste stream: Wood

Web: <http://www.woodrecycling.org.uk/>

Address: Circus Street, Brighton, East Sussex

Contact person: Richard Mehmed richard@communitywoodrecycling.org.uk



Description

Brighton & Hove Wood Recycling Project was set up in 1998, in response to the lack of recycling and re-use facilities for wood waste in the Brighton area, and is the first organisation of its kind to exist in the UK. The solution implemented is to collect wood from all kinds of local businesses, and put the re-useable timber on sale to the public at the Wood Store in Circus Street, Brighton.

As a not-for-profit Social Enterprise, the income is derived from the charge made for the collection service and from sales of wood and wood products. Any surplus will be reinvested in the Project, or given in grants and loans to other local environmental groups.

The Community Wood Recycling has increased the amount collected year on year, and have also reduced the amount sent to landfill. They are now collecting around 450 tonnes of waste timber a year, and return less than 1% of this to the waste stream. Not only are they saving waste and resources, they also generate employment: they provide seven paid positions, as well as offering volunteer placements.

The Community Wood Recycling has created a successful self-financing business model with environmental and social aims; an innovative approach which has been recognized with major prestigious awards for Recycling and Social Enterprise. The business model has since been replicated by many further wood recycling projects opening across the UK, with assistance from the National Community Wood Recycling Project.

They offer volunteer placements and training, and encourage people interested in the Project and its aims to get involved. The volunteers come from all ages and backgrounds, and they are specialized in helping the long-term unemployed and other disadvantaged and marginalised people to get back on the road to employment by offering training, skills and support.

The project is financially self-supporting and do not receive any funding for the running of the business. They receive ongoing non-financial support from Brighton & Hove City Council, who have provided low-cost premises for the Project since 1998.

The Lowaste team visited the showroom, where is stored a wide range of hand-made original pieces for home and garden. The team also visited the large timber yard which stocks a huge range of DIY and building timbers, sheet materials, doors, floorboards, scaffold boards, various sizes of hardwood off-cuts, and lots more.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- the system of processing and manufacturing furniture from used wood
- the production and sale of single wooden pieces suitable for private furniture construction

Limits to the replication in Italy

- authorizations for the transportation of wood from construction sites are difficult to achieve, because what it transported is considered waste
- in Italy there is less availability of wood in construction because it isn't a material widely used in construction

PICTURES





Uptown Oil (Uptown Biodiesel Limited)

Waste stream: Cooking oil

Web: www.uptownoil.co.uk

Address: Unit 2 King James Court, King James Street, Southwark London SE1 0DH

Contact person: Nigel Jewison nigel@uptownoil.co.uk

Description

Uptown is Central London's only licensed biodiesel manufacturer - taking positive action to reduce the city's CO₂ and smoke emissions. Uptown's superior quality biodiesel is suitable for use in generators, boilers and all diesel vehicles .

This pioneering London company is dedicated to collecting and recycling used cooking oil and turning it into the biodiesel that is increasingly fuelling the capital and making a real impact on CO₂ levels in the air.

Uptown converts used cooking oil to biodiesel at commercially profitable levels in a low impact and environmentally responsible manner. It promotes the commercial growth of recycling UCO into biodiesel and is well on its way to becoming the UK's leading used cooking oil biodiesel production and technology company.

Not only does it sell Olympic Oil's fresh non-GM rapeseed oil, delivering it direct to the door of the restaurant, but as a fully licensed waste carrier, it can also collect used oil too. As a member of the sustainable restaurant association, fellow members can enjoy a 10% discount on services into the bargain.

Uptown Oil's recycled biodiesel is made from 100% used cooking oil and its use in vehicles such as black taxis has been proven to make a real impact on urban vehicle emissions - that means less smoke and other pollutants in exhaust.

The production facilities showed to Lowaste team during the visit are the following: the GreenFuels FuelMatic TM system provides semi - automated and highly controllable biodiesel processing. The system is ATEX approved and operates a closed system to prevent methanol vapour release. The patented glycerol separator removes +99% glycerol and twin Rohm & Haas BD10 ion exchange columns polish the final product. The biodiesel is filtered to 1µm to remove any microscopic particles.

Uptown Oil sells recycled biodiesel in 1000 litre intermediate bulk containers (IBCs), and provides certificates of analysis for bulk orders. The Biodiesel price is updated daily on the company's website and includes HMRC duty and VAT.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- the complex and complete system of sale, harvesting and processing of cooking oil
- the processing plant: it does not require very large areas of working, has reasonable costs and it is modifiable on different production volumes

Limits to the replication in Italy

- authorizations and requirements for the opening of a plant are difficult to achieve
- small availability of cooking oil

PICTURES



Retrouvius

Waste stream: Furniture

Web: <http://www.retrouvius.com>

Address: 1016 HARROW ROAD NW10 5NS, London

Contact person: Adam Hills retrouviusmail@retrouvius.com

Description

Retrouvius is an architectural salvage and design business, established in 1993. Partners Adam Hills and Maria Speake studied architecture before starting the business in Glasgow. They moved to London in 1997. They sell salvaged architectural pieces, furniture, and a mix of what they describe as "mad and quirky pieces," but they also collaborate with architects and designers to "kit out" homes, hotels, and storefronts.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- Retrouvius manage to qualify in the top end of the market, focusing on product quality and professionalism in interior designing
- They have developed a retrieval system based on collaboration with the construction industry, which allows them easy access to major demolition sites

Limits to the replication in Italy

- regulatory limits: in Italy the process of recovery and transport of this type of objects, often considered waste (not goods), it is much more difficult
- the practice of buying used furniture is still not very widespread

PICTURES





TRAID

Waste stream: textile

Web: <http://www.traid.org.uk/>

Address: 65 Leonard street, EC2A 4QS London

Contact person: Maria Chenoweth MariaChenoweth@traid.org.uk

Description

TRAID stands for Textile Recycling for Aid and International Development. Traid is a registered charity with three main objectives:

- To protect the environment by diverting clothes and shoes from landfill;
- To reduce world poverty by raising funds for overseas development projects; and
- To educate the UK public on environmental and world poverty issues.

TRAID operates over 900 textile recycling banks across the UK. Clothing donated to TRAIID recycling banks is transported to TRAIID's central warehouse and sorted by hand according to quality and style. The clothing is then sold back to the public in one of TRAIID's charity shops. Clothing that is torn or stained is reconstructed and redesigned into new one-off pieces and sold under the award-winning recycled fashion label, TRAIIDremade. The money that is raised by TRAIID through this operation is used to expand TRAIID's recycling activities, fund assemblies and workshops in London schools and donated to overseas development projects.

TRAID has 10 shops located in London stocking high quality secondhand, vintage and designer clothes, shoes and accessories. The shops in Brixton, Camden, Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush also stock TRAIID's up-cycled fashion label TRAIIDremade.

TRAIIDremade is an environmentally conscious fashion label launched in 2002 by clothes recycling TRAIID. TRAIIDremade design and produce clothing for women and men using second hand textiles that would otherwise be thrown away. Each piece is a complete one off and sustainably remade by hand in the workshop in Brighton. Each season, TRAIIDremade designers work exclusively with old clothes and textiles donated to TRAIID to create wearable and original fashion items.

TRAID runs also fashion customisation workshops, school assemblies and classroom activities for primary and secondary schools as well as youth groups, church groups, community centres. TRAIID also regularly lectures at universities and conferences. The TRAIID team works directly with thousands of young people and teachers every year.

TRAID also raises funds to fight global poverty and injustice through its clothes recycling, charity retail and environmental activities in the UK. We have raised over £3,000,000 to date. The majority of TRAIID funding supports projects improving the lives, environment and wages of people working in the global textile supply chain.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- the collection system for used clothing
- the way in which the clothes are reinvented (in collaboration with schools of fashion and design, creation of a specific brand, etc.)
- the organization of the circuit of sale: stores on two different ranges of quality (and price) to meet the needs of a wide range of potential customers

Limits to the replication in Italy

- In Italy the disinfection of used clothing prior to sale is compulsory. This determines a significant increase of the costs which makes the business less effective
- the practice of buying used clothing is still not very widespread.

PICTURES



FIELD VISIT IN BRUXELLES, 7th – 9th November 2012

Participants

Giorgio Rosso	La Città Verde
Federica Corallini	La Città Verde

Programme of the visit

8 th November	LES PETITS RIENS
	DE KRINGWINKEL



LES PETITS RIENS

Waste stream: bric-a-brac, household items , textile, furniture, books, dvd, small wee, bicycles

Web: <http://www.petitsriens.be/>

Address: Rue Américaine 101, 1050 Bruxelles

Contact person: Laurent Cainbier lps@lespetitsriens.be

Description

The association Le Petits Riens is a belgian association, created in 1937 , whose purpose is to fight against exclusion and poverty.

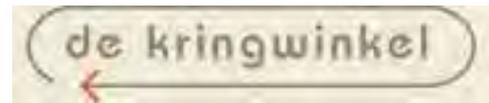
Since its creation by Edouard Chill (1899-1971), Catholic priest active in helping disadvantaged youth, the association aimed to physical and social assistance to homeless or excluded and support their reintegration. During their history, Le Petits Riens have expanded their scope, thanks to government subsidies, private donations and volunteering and their harvesting, sorting and resale clothing and furniture and other objects seconds hand .

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- shops mounting like shops selling new goods
- employment of disadvantaged people

Limits to the replication in Italy

- the practice of buying second hand products is still not very widespread



DE KRINGWINKEL

Waste stream: household items, household items , furniture, textile, bicycles, books

Web: <http://www.dekringwinkel.be>

Address: Bergensesteenweg 386, 1600 Sint-Pieters Leeuw

Contact person: Bert Quintelier bert.quintelier@ateljeevzw.be

Description

De Kringwinkel is a chain of more than 100 hip second hand shops in Flanders, Belgium. This non-profit organisation collects over 50.000 tons a year. These materials are given a second life when they're sold in the Kringwinkel shops. De Kringwinkel reduces waste and enhances social economy. Over 80% of the more than 4.500 people working in the organisation are longtime unemployed or have a limited education level. De Kringwinkel invests strongly in its image and communication and evolved from a "dusty" unpopular image to a hip, young and original image. De Kringwinkel proves that non-profit can be very cool.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- shops mounting like shops selling new goods
- employment of disadvantaged people

Limits to the replication in Italy

- complex legislation
- the practice of buying second hand products is still not very widespread

FIELD VISIT IN DUBLIN, 7th – 8th March 2013

Participants

Giorgio Rosso	La Città Verde
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Programme of the visit

7 th March	REHAB RECYCLE
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REHAB RECYCLE

Waste stream: furniture, weee, textile

Web: <http://www.rehabrecycle.ie/>

Address: 10 Kylemore Road , Ballyfermot Dublin

Contact person: Martin Reddy martin.reddy@rehabrecycle.ie

Description

Rehab Recycle was established in 1984 in Cork, primarily to create employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The company has since grown to become an Irish success story and a major force in Ireland's recycling industry, with facilities in Dublin (Ballymount, Ballyfermot and Tallaght), Cork, Galway, Navan and Eindhoven in the Netherlands. Rehab Recycle's combined glass, can, paper, electrical and electronic waste recycling now accounts for in excess of 100,000 tonnes of material each year.

In purely economic terms, Rehab Recycle is just one of many Irish companies to have grown in recent years. Its real achievement, however, is to have assisted workers with disabilities to prove that they have a role to play in the growth of a company and in the creation of wealth in this country. Although operating in an increasingly competitive market, Rehab Recycle's unique integrated employment model provides a supported environment for people with disabilities within the workplace. Assisted by the Government's Wage Subsidy Scheme (WSS), a total of 105 people with disabilities are employed in Rehab Recycle's 180-strong workforce.

Rehab Recycle has just launched a new corporate social responsibility initiative ***Promise it*** to encourage companies to pass on all their out-of-date and unused computer and other electrical equipment (anything with a battery, cable or plug) for the benefit of others.

Promise it to Rehab Recycle is all about passing on valuable and still useful equipment to local schools, charities, community groups and start-up enterprises, while at the same time helping to safeguard our environment and supporting the employment of people with disabilities. Now that's something any business would be proud of.

Elements of interest for the LOWASTE Project

- the synergy among industrial organization and employment for disabled people
- the high level quality standards in recycling different kinds of waste materials
- the investment of a large part of the earnings in the local social development
- the large number of waste streams treated in small laboratory in Ballymont Dublin ,in particular :
paints, bicycles, sanitary equipment, textiles

Limits to the replication in Italy

- complex legislation
- the reuse culture is not so popular yet

PICTURES



