

## TRAINING FICHE

### 01. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION ON USE OF RESOURCES

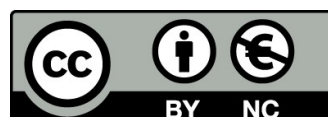
*(Sections in italic only for internal use, not to be published)*

<b>Area</b>	<i>Use of Resources</i>										
<b>Level</b>	<i>ADVANCED</i>										
<b>Topic</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><i>1. RC concept applied to USE OF RESOURCES</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>1. RC concept applied to USE OF RESOURCES</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
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<b>Keywords</b>	Responsible consumption; use of resources; energy; water; raw materials; natural resources, renewable resources / non-renewable resources; air pollution; circular economy; waste; UN SDG12; end of Life (EoL)										
<b>Introduction</b> 500-1000 characters including spaces)	<p>By 2050, the world population is expected to reach 9.6 billion people, and that means that the equivalent of almost three planets could be needed to provide the natural resources necessary to maintain current lifestyles.</p> <p><b>Natural resources</b> are those elements of nature that human beings use to cover certain needs that guarantee their well-being or development. For example: water, trees, minerals, fish, air, oil, etc.</p> <p>The <b>SDG 12 "Responsible production and consumption"</b> proposed by the UN calls</p>										

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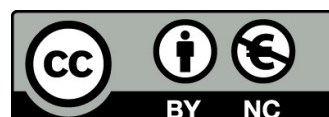
	<p>governments, companies and all citizens to work together to improve resource efficiency, reduce waste and pollution, and shape a new circular economy.</p> <p><b>Responsible consumption (RC)</b> is based on the 'Rs' rules of sustainability: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, etc., as well as on the choosing of quality items respectful to the natural and social environment.</p>
<p><b>Topic development (2000-2500 characters including spaces)</b></p>	<p><b>Sustainable / responsible consumption (SC / RC)</b> of resources is the conscious use of services and products for satisfying needs focused on minimising the use of resources and materials and reducing polluting emissions, so it does not jeopardise the needs of future generations.</p> <p>Natural resources can be categorised into:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Non-renewable resources</b> (fossil fuels-oil, natural gas, coal and nuclear energy, minerals, etc.) are limited in supply and cannot be used sustainably.</li> <li>2) <b>Renewable resources.</b> Elements of nature that are regenerated or renewed every periodically, such as trees, solar radiation, wind, wild fish, etc. Likewise, care must be taken of them because their excessive use can lead to their extinction.</li> </ol> <p>RC, also named ecological, ethical, critical or green consumption, is related to being aware regarding the natural resource limitations in supply. Consumers committed to this model are informed individuals who contribute to improving the quality of life of current and future generations. This new way of life is summarised in "<i>living with less is the best for a sustainable environment</i>", in order to reduce economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and fight against poverty.</p> <p>RC aims to advance to a more <b>circular economy</b> which keeps materials, products, and services in circulation for as long as possible, reduces material</p>

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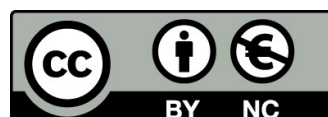
	<p>use, redesigns inputs, products, and services and recaptures waste as a resource to be input again. <b>Zero waste</b> means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserving and recovering all resources, and not burning or burying them. Implementing zero waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air, that mean a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health. So, it is an ethical, economical, efficient and visionary goal, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices, to emulate sustainable natural cycles, representing an extremely developed circular economy. Turning consumers into prosumers (proactive, committed and responsible consumers) will be the key for advancing to a circular economy and even to a zero-waste model that aims to eliminate all discharges to land, water and air which threaten planet life.</p>
<p><b>Good practices</b> (1000 -1500 characters including spaces)</p>	<p>Examples of good practices from government initiatives to promote sustainable consumption can be found in the OECD report "Promoting Sustainable Consumption" which draws on work being done: sustainable buildings and construction (Finland), sustainable public procurement (Switzerland), sustainable tourism (France), education for sustainable consumption (Italy), etc. The Spanish government already ran in 1978 a TV ad campaign to reduce water and energy use after the first oil crisis: 'Save. Even if you can afford it, Spain can't'. Currently, the 'Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge' is running a campaign with the motto 'Are you waste-aholic?' You can also come out of that'. SDG Watch Europe campaign 'Who is paying the bill?' tries to increase the awareness on negative impacts that European policies and practices produce in the world, taking into account the environmental and social impacts beyond our</p>

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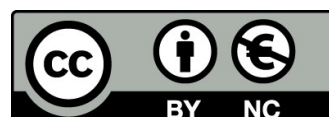
	<p>borders rather than living in the illusion of a low-carbon, resource efficient Europe.</p> <p>Greenwashing, also known as eco-whitening, is a bad practice consisting of orienting the marketing image of an organisation or company towards an ecological positioning while its actions go against the environment.</p>
<p><b>Current and future challenges (1000 -1500 characters including spaces)</b></p>	<p>Current and future challenges must concern all the agents involved in responsible production and consumption</p> <p>Consumers challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To increase consumers' knowledge to make them adjust their consumption patterns.</li> <li>- To extend environmental education to increase ecological motivation, starting from childhood, within families, instead of entrusting that education only to the school.</li> <li>- Turning consumers into prosumers (proactive committed and responsible consumers) will be the key for advancing to a circular economy and even to a zero-waste model.</li> </ul> <p>Enterprises challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To bet on the production of more durable products.</li> <li>- To encourage companies to make the repair of devices, rather than their replacement by new ones.</li> <li>- To improve manufacturing and logistics systems to be more energy efficient and less resource demanding.</li> <li>- To develop responsible business models and improve companies' perception of the strategic value of the circular economy and its great opportunities.</li> <li>- To discard greenwashing as a bad practice and implement true and committed ecological processes.</li> </ul>

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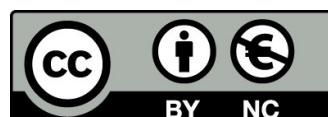


	<p>Government and public sector challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To incorporate environmental education and responsible consumption into all level educational curricula.</li> <li>- To keep alive permanent awareness campaigns and recommendations among the public.</li> <li>- To encourage companies to move towards the circular economy, beyond the Next-Generation programme.</li> <li>- To provide support to families for the energy and use of water adequacy of their homes.</li> <li>- To establish tax penalties for the consumption of non-renewable resources to discourage their use.</li> </ul> <p>Other stakeholders challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To develop research on consumer behaviour that scientifically supports the campaigns and measures for RC.</li> <li>- To explore possible rebound and long-term side effects, such as the bad social and environmental consequences of some forms of sustainable energy production, such as wind turbines or solar farms.</li> <li>- Research and innovation on how to reduce the demand for water, energy and other resources, in all sectors.</li> <li>- To enhance the key role of environmental entities and consumer associations for moving towards a more circular economy.</li> <li>- To stimulate the participation of citizens, communities and associations making visible their good practices and success stories.</li> </ul>
<b>Language</b>	<i>English</i>
<b>Partner</b>	<i>UMA / Dolores Benitez y Ana M. Castillo</i>
<b>Further references</b>	<p><b>Further references:</b></p> <p><a href="https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/nonrenewable-resources">https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/nonrenewable-resources</a></p>

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<https://www.ecoschools.global/>

<https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/page/responsible-production-and-consumption>

<https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/40317373.pdf>

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