

Ethical, Green, Youth Entrepreneurship Education

Module 5

Global Trends in Ethical Entrepreneurship



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INTRODUCTION

In this module, we cover Global Trends in Ethical Entrepreneurship, participants will explore current trends, regulatory landscapes, and best practices that promote sustainable growth and stakeholder trust.

This module emphasises the integration of ethical considerations into business strategies, creating innovation and societal impact through real-world experiences and practical application.



SUSTAINABLE FASHION



INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABLE FASHION

Sustainable fashion covers a range of practices aimed at creating clothing that is environmentally friendly and socially responsible. This movement challenges the traditional fast fashion model, which is notorious for its negative impacts on the planet and workers in the supply chain.

Sustainable fashion promotes the use of ethical production methods, use of ecofriendly materials, and designs that promote longevity and recyclability.



SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

Sustainable materials in the fashion industry represent a shift towards a more environmentally, responsible and ethical production practices.

From organic cotton and bamboo to innovative recycled fabrics, these materials play a crucial role in reducing environmental impact and promote circularity within the fashion supply chain.

Embracing sustainability not only addresses resource depletion and waste but also creates healthier ecosystems and supports fair labour standards.







Organic Cotton

Organic cotton is cultivated without synthetic pesticides or genetically modified seeds, reducing the environmental impact associated with conventual cotton farming. By eliminating harmful chemicals and promoting biodiversity, organic cotton supports healthier ecosystems and safer working conditions for farmers.

Bamboo

Bamboo is recognised for its rapid growth rate and minimal requirements for water and pesticides compared to conventional crops. As a sustainable textile option, bamboo fibres are biodegradable and renewable, making them a preferable choice for reducing environmental footprint in the fashion industry.

Recycled Fabrics

Using post-consumer plastics and textile waste, recycled fabrics contribute significantly to minimising landfill waste and conserving resources. By transforming discarded materials into new textiles, such as polyester made from plastic bottles or regenerated nylon from old fishing nets, the fashion industry reduce their requirement for virgin resources and promote a more circular economy.



BEST PRACTICES:
COPENHAGEN CARTEL

Copenhagen Cartel is leading the way in sustainable fashion through their use of recycled materials and commitment to ethical supply chain practices.







Their innovative approach integrates ECONYL®, a recycled nylon made from ocean and landfill waste, into their swimwear and activewear lines.

Copenhagen Cartel sets a high standard for the fashion industry. Their dedication to reducing environmental impact and advancing ethical business practices demonstrates how fashion brands can effectively address ecological challenges while supporting sustainability.

Learn more about <u>Copenhagen Cartel's</u> initiatives by visiting our <u>Compendium of Case Studies.</u>







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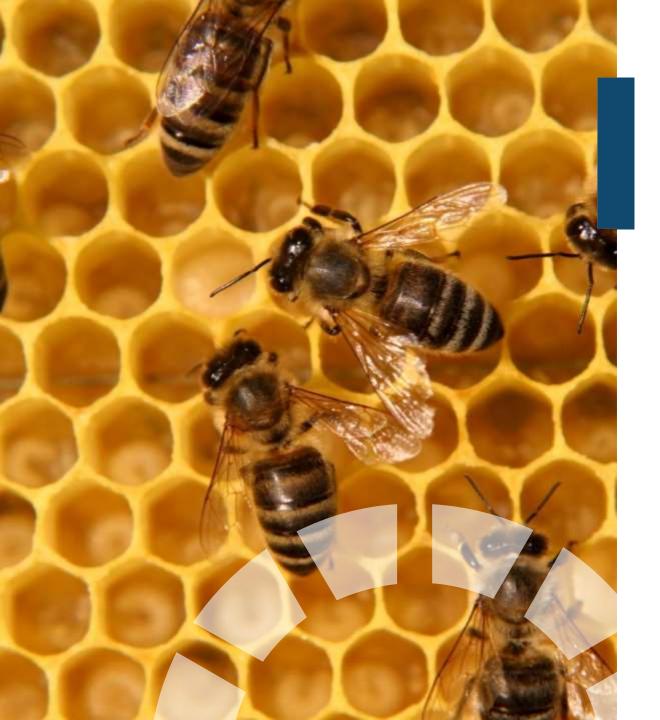


ETHICAL PRODUCTION

Ethical production can be a very essential part of sustainable fashion, ensuring that every stage of garment manufacturing upholds social responsibility and environmental stewardship.

From fair labour standards that safeguard worker rights to promoting local production to reduce carbon footprints, ethical production not only supports human dignity but also contributes to building resilient and transparent supply chains.

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FAIR LABOUR PRACTICES

Fair labour practices ensure that workers involved in the fashion supply chain receive fair wages, work in safe conditions, and are treated with dignity and respect.

Businesses that promote fair labour practices often adhere to international labour standards and certificates, such as the Fair Trade or SA8000, to uphold worker rights and improve the livelihoods in communities where garments are produced.



LOCAL PRODUCTION

Local production involves manufacturing garments closer to consumer markets, reducing transportation emissions and supporting local economies.

By reducing carbon footprints associated with long-distance shipping and promoting regional manufacturing hubs, businesses can enhance supply chain transparency and responsiveness while creating economic growth in local communities.



CIRCULAR FASHION

Circular Fashion is a sustainable approach that aims to reduce waste and extend the lifecycle of materials within the fashion industry.

It promotes practices like upcycling and recycling, which creatively repurpose materials to reduce environmental impact and promote innovate design solutions.

By closing the loop on material use, circular fashion contributes to a more sustainable and reasonable fashion ecosystem.



Upcycling

Upcycling involves transforming discarded or unused materials into new products of higher value and quality. By creatively repurposing textiles, accessories, or even entire garments, fashion designers can extend the lifecycle of materials and reduce waste. Upcycling encourages innovative design approaches that focus on sustainability and environmental responsibility.



Recycling

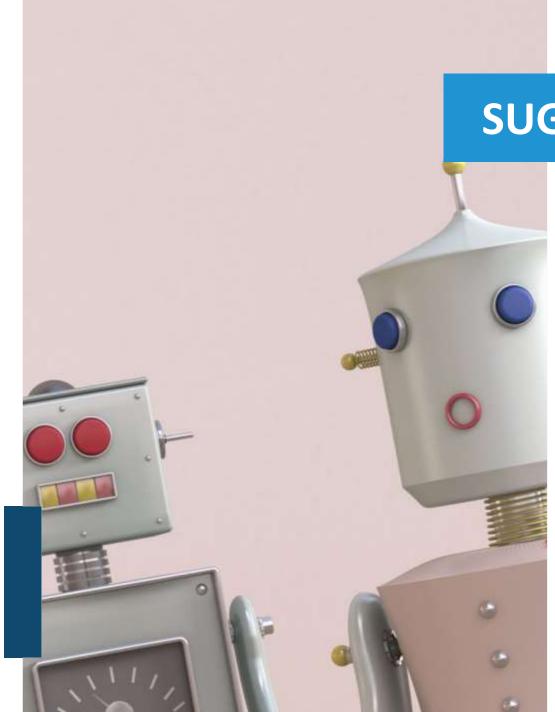
Recycling in fashion refers to the process of converting waste materials into new textiles or garments. Through mechanical or chemical processes, fabrics like cotton, polyester, and nylon can be broken down and regenerated into yarns or fabrics suitable for creating new apparel items.

THE FASHION INDUSTRIES ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACTS

The fashion industry stands as a significant contributor to environmental degradation, notably through water pollution, carbon emissions and waste.

Textile dyeing and treatment processes contaminate water sources with toxic chemicals, while the production, transportation, and disposal of garments emit large amounts of greenhouse gases.

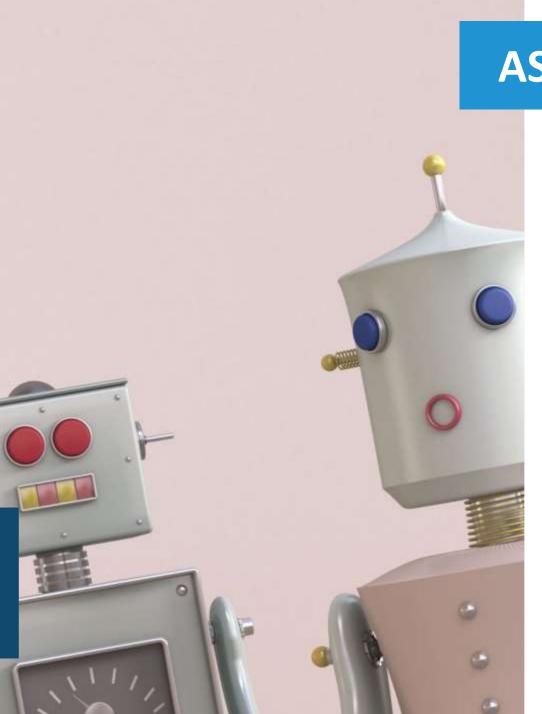
On the social front, fast fashion often maintain exploitative labour practices, subjecting workers to unsafe conditions and inadequate wages. Many garment workers, particularly in developing countries, face long hours and hazardous environments, earning wages below living standards.



SUGGESTED PRACTICAL EXERCISE

To apply the concepts of Sustainable Fashion, we have designed a hands-on activity that encourages critical thinking and creativity.

These exercises aim to evaluate sustainability practices and promote ethical fashion through practical applications.



ASSESSING SUSTAINABILITY

Step 1: Select a few different fashion products (*Cotton T-shirt*, *Bamboo fabrics*, *leather handbag etc.*)

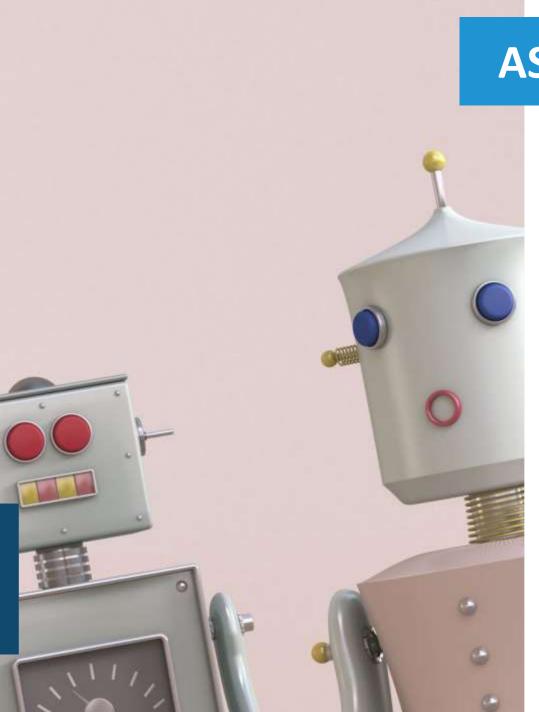
Step 2: Evaluate these products based on their materials, production process, and ethical practices. You can consider the following:

Material: Is it organic, recycled, or sustainably sourced? Try comparing the environmental impact of organic cotton versus conventional cotton.

Production: Are the manufacturing processes energy-efficient and environmentally friendly?

Ethical Practices: Does the brand follow fair labour practices?

Step 3: Write a report highlighting the most and least sustainable products. Discuss the environmental and social impacts, such as carbon footprint, water usage, and labour conditions.



ASSESSING SUSTAINABILITY

Step 1: Create a campaign that promotes sustainable fashion choices. Use platforms like Instagram, Facebook, X and TikTok to reach your audience.

Step 2: Develop campaign materials, including: **Social Media Posts:** Share facts about the environmental impact of fast fashion and the benefits of eco-friendly materials.

Educational Content: Create infographics or videos on sustainable fashion choices, like buying second-hand and supporting ethical brands.

Step 3: Present your campaign, explain your strategies and the expected impact on promoting sustainable fashion. Discuss how you plan to measure the campaign's success, such as engagement metrics.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production by promoting sustainable sourcing, production, and consumption patterns.

<u>SDG 8</u>: Decent Work and Economic Growth through fair labour practices and supporting economic growth in local communities.

<u>SDG 13</u>: Climate Action by reducing carbon footprints and environmental impact through sustainable fashion choices.

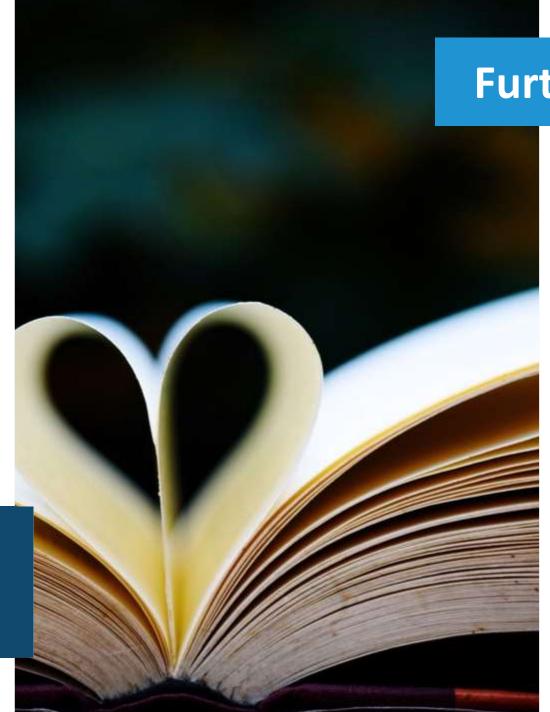
ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT



EntreComp 1.2 Opportunity Recognition: Identifying market demand for sustainable fashion products and services.

EntreComp 2.1 Creativity: Designing innovative solutions and campaigns to promote sustainable fashion.

EntreComp 3.2 Social Responsibility: Integrating ethical considerations into fashion production and consumption to promote environmental and social sustainability.



Further Resources

Changing consumer behaviour: advocating for sustainable fashion

10 simple steps to being more sustainable

What is Circular Fashion?



SUSTAINABLE
FOOD – PLANETBASED &
ALTERNATIVE
PROTEINS



The food industry significantly impacts the environment through resource use, greenhouse gas emissions, and land degradation.

Shifting towards plant-based diets and alternative proteins offers a sustainable solution that can mitigate these effects. This unit explores the benefits and practicalities of adopting such diets.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF FOOD CHOICES

Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Livestock farming, particularly cattle, is a major source of methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas. Plant-based diets have a lower carbon footprint, as they typically produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions per calorie compared to diets rich in animal products.

Resource Use: Animal agriculture requires substantial amounts of water and land compared to plant farming. Shifting towards plant-based foods can significantly reduce water consumption and land use, promoting more efficient resource allocation.



ALTERNATIVE PROTEINS

Alternative proteins are diverse sources of protein that offer sustainable alternatives to traditional animal-based options.

These include plant-based foods like beans, lentils, tofu, and tempeh, which have a lower environmental impact compared to animal agriculture.

Innovations such as cultured meat, produced through lab-grown techniques, and insects, due to their efficient resource use, also contribute to sustainable food choices by reducing environmental burdens associated with conventional meat production.







Plant-Based Proteins

Plant-based sources such as beans, lentils, tofu, and tempeh offer high-quality protein without the environmental impact associated with meat production. These foods require fewer resources to produce, contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions and reduced water usage.

Cultured Meat

Lab-grown or cultured meat presents a promising alternative to conventional meat production. Produced through cellular agriculture techniques, cultured meat avoids the environmental and ethical issues associated with raising livestock. It requires fewer natural resources and emits significantly fewer greenhouse gases compared to traditional meat farming.

Insect Protein

Insects are a highly efficient protein source, requiring minimal water, land, and feed compared to traditional livestock. Insect farming produces minimal greenhouse gas emissions and can provide a sustainable protein source for human consumption.



ALTERNATIVE PROTEINS NUTRITIONAL VALUE

Plant-based and alternative proteins are capable of supplying all essential nutrients necessary when integrated into a well-rounded diet.

It's essential to grasp the nutritional compositions of these foods to develop wholesome and sustainable meal plans that align with dietary guidelines and support overall health.

Understanding these profiles empowers individuals to make informed choices that promote nutritionally balanced and environmentally responsible eating habits.

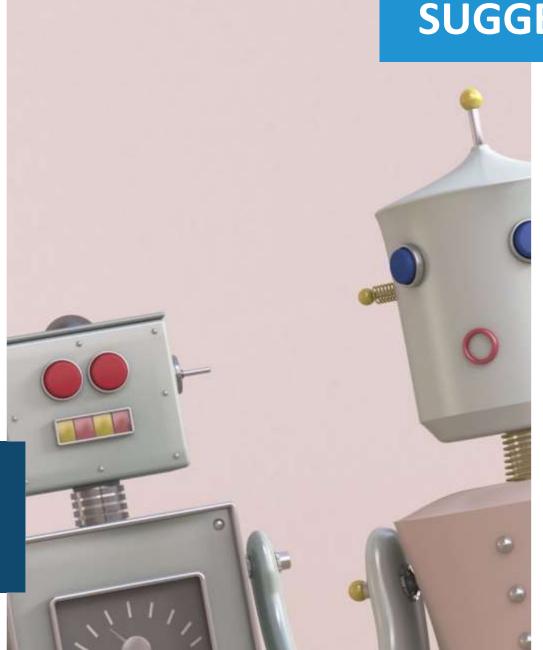


Adopting to a Plant-Based Diet:

Challenge Yourself: Commit to adopting to a plant-based diet for a week. Document your daily meals, nutritional intake (Including protein sources), and any challenges faced during the transition.

Reflect Reflect and Discuss: experiences of adopting a plant-based diet. Discuss the environmental benefits observed, such as reduced carbon footprint and lower water usage compared to typical diets rich in animal products.

SUGGESTED PRACTICAL EXERCISE



Preparing an Alternative Protein Meal:

Experiment with Recipes: Explore different plant-based and alternative protein recipes. Prepare a meal plan for a week that incorporates these foods in various forms, such as salads, soups, stir-fries, and snacks.

Share Experiences: Share your favourite recipes and cooking experiences with your friends, family, colleagues etc. Discuss the taste, texture, and nutritional benefits of plant-based and alternative protein meals compared to traditional meat-based dishes.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



<u>SDG 2: Zero Hunger:</u> By promoting sustainable food sources that reduce resource consumption and environmental impact.

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being: Through providing nutritious and sustainable dietary options that support health and wellness.

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: By encouraging sustainable consumption patterns and reducing the environmental footprint of food production.

ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT

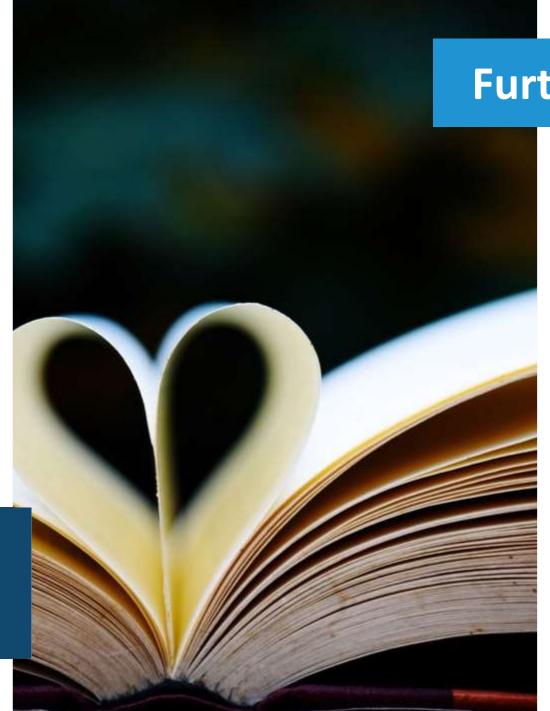


EntreComp 1.2 Opportunity recognition: Identifying the market demand for sustainable food products.

EntreComp 2.2 Creativity: Innovating new plant-based and alternative protein recipes.

EntreComp 3.1 Taking initiative: Launching campaigns or educational initiatives to promote sustainable diets.

Entre Comp 3.2 Social responsibility: Integrating ethical considerations into food production and consumption practices.



Further Resources

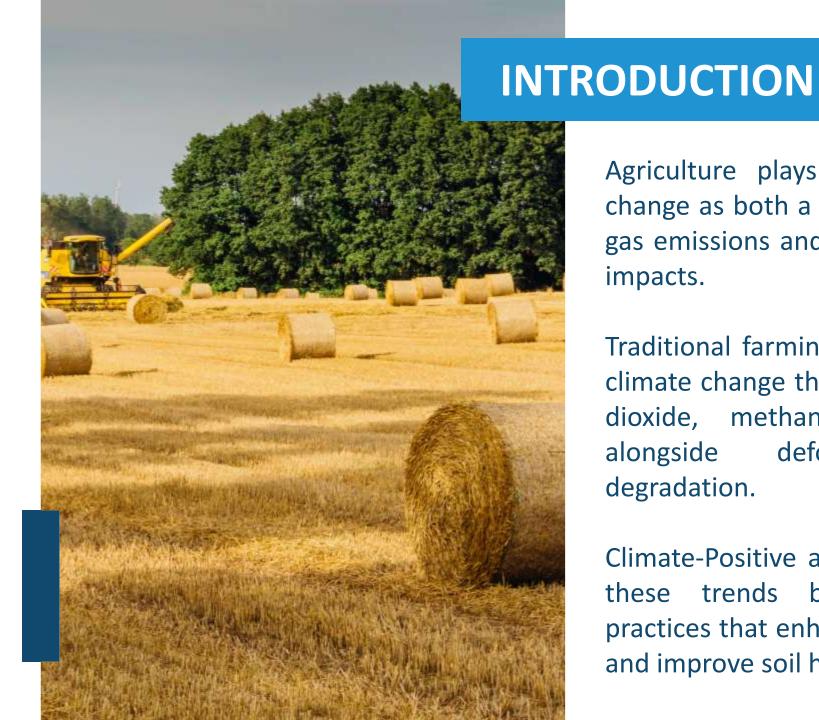
Environmental impacts of alternative proteins

Plant-Based Profits: Investment Risks and Opportunities in Sustainable Food Systems

Alternative Proteins: Shaping the Future of Sustainable Nutrition



CLIMATE-POSITIVE AGRICULTURE



Agriculture plays a dual role in climate change as both a contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and a sector vulnerable to its impacts.

Traditional farming practices often intensify climate change through emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, alongside deforestation and soil degradation.

Climate-Positive agriculture aims to reverse these trends by adopting sustainable practices that enhance carbon sequestration and improve soil health.



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Conventional farming practices contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions including carbon dioxide (CO2), Methane (CH4), and Nitrous Oxide (N2O).

Understanding these emissions is crucial for developing strategies to reduce their impact on climate change.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

In response to the environmental challenges posed by traditional agriculture, sustainable practices have emerged as essential strategies to create ecological resilience and reduce climate change impacts.

These practices aim not only to sustain agricultural productivity but also to restore and enhance natural ecosystems. Among these approaches, regenerative agriculture, agroforestry, and no-till farming stand out for their innovative methods that promote soil health, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration.

By integrating these practices into agricultural landscapes, farmers can contribute to a more sustainable future while enhancing the resilience of their operations against the backdrop of a changing climate.



Regenerative Agriculture

Focuses on restoring soil health, increasing biodiversity, and enhancing ecosystem services through practices such as cover cropping, crop rotation, and integrated livestock management.



Agroforestry

Introduces trees and shrubs into agricultural landscapes to promote biodiversity, improve soil fertility, and sequester carbon.



No-Till Farming

Reduces soil erosion and enhances soil carbon storage by minimising soil disturbance during planting and cultivation.

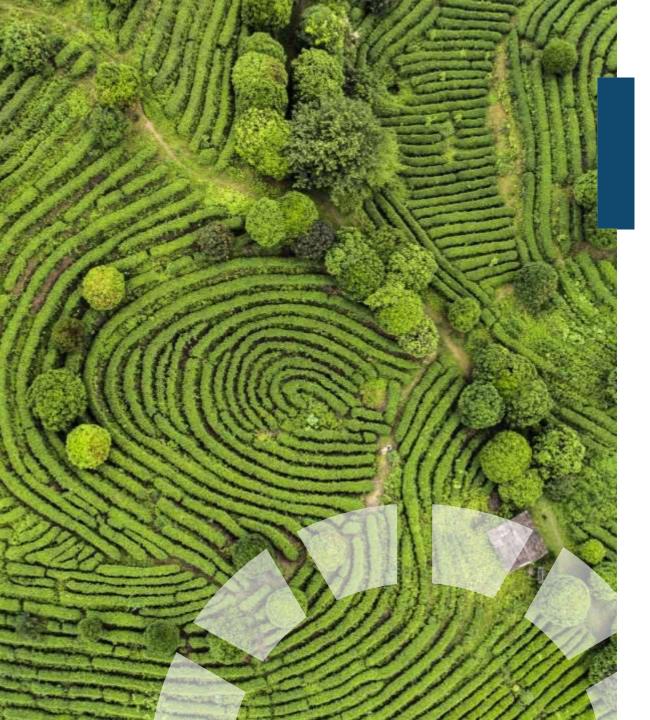




Carbon sequestration methods are crucial in combating climate change by capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide in plants, soils, and other organic materials.

These methods not only reduce greenhouse gases but also enhance soil health and agricultural productivity. Key practices like cover cropping and composting play a significant role in this process.





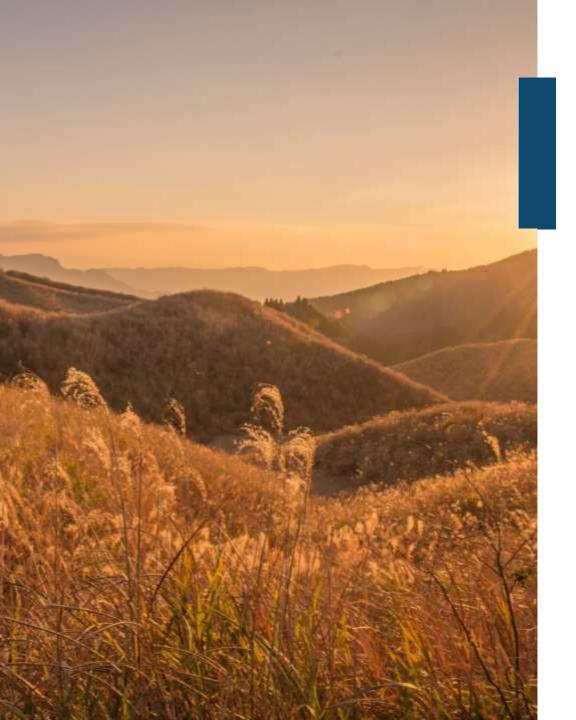
CROP COVERING

Cover cropping involves planting specific crops between the main growing seasons. These cover crops, such as clover, rye, and legumes, provide numerous benefits:

Soil Structure Improvement: The roots of cover crops help to break up compacted soil, improving soil aeration and water infiltration.

Organic Matter Addition: As cover crops decompose, they add organic matter to the soil, enriching it with nutrients and enhancing its ability to retain moisture.

Carbon Capture: Cover crops absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during photosynthesis and store it in their biomass and roots, which eventually become part of the soil organic matter.



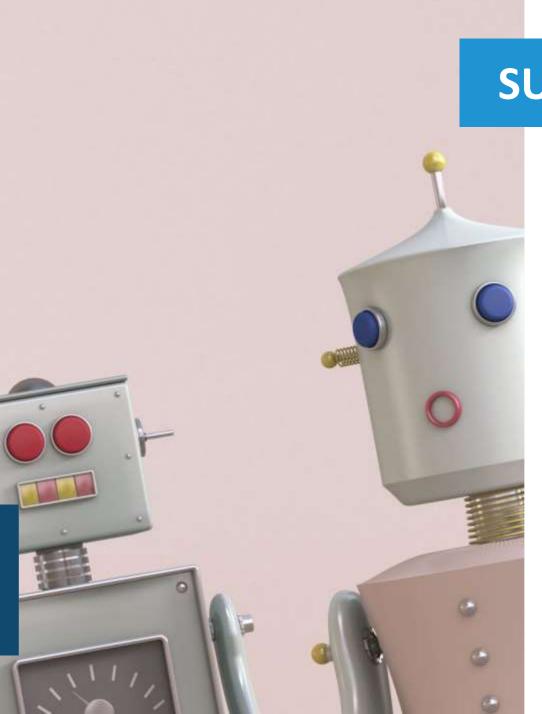
COMPOSTING

Composting is the process of converting organic waste materials into a nutrient-rich soil known as compost.

Nutrient-Rich Compost: Composting organic waste, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, produces compost that is rich in essential nutrients, promoting plant growth and soil fertility.

Carbon Sequestration: The composting process transforms organic carbon into stable forms that are incorporated into the soil. This not only sequesters carbon but also enhances the soil's ability to store more carbon over time.

Soil Fertility Enhancement: Adding compost to soil improves its structure, water retention, and nutrient content, which supports healthier plant growth and further carbon sequestration.



SUGGESTED PRACTICAL EXERCISES

Set up a Small-Scale Garden or Farm Plot:

- Practice climate-positive agriculture techniques such as composting, cover cropping, and no-till farming.
- Document the process and outcomes, including improvements in soil health indicators and carbon sequestration rates.

Exploring Regenerative Farming:

- Research and present different regenerative farming methods, emphasising their environmental benefits and economic feasibility.
- Visit a local regenerative farm to observe practices firsthand, engage with farmers, and discuss their experiences and challenges in adopting sustainable agriculture.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



<u>SDG 2 (Zero Hunger):</u> Promotes sustainable agriculture practices to ensure food security and improved nutrition.

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Encourages sustainable farming practices that minimise environmental impact.

SDG 13 (Climate Action): Focuses on adopting agricultural practices that reduce climate change and enhance resilience.

<u>SDG 15 (Life on Land):</u> Supports the protection, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

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ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT



EntreComp 1.1 Spotting Opportunities: Identifying opportunities to implement sustainable agricultural practices and improve environmental outcomes.

EntreComp 1.3 Ethical and Sustainable Thinking: Understanding the impact of agricultural practices on the environment and promoting sustainable methods.

EntreComp 2.1 Self-awareness and Self-efficacy: Building confidence in applying and advocating for climate-positive agricultural practices.

EntreComp 2.4 Working with Others: Collaborating with local farmers and peers to learn and implement sustainable practices.

EntreComp 3.1 Taking the Initiative: Proactively researching, presenting, and applying regenerative farming methods and global examples of climate-positive agriculture.

EntreComp 3.4 Coping with Uncertainty, Ambiguity, and Risk: Understanding and managing the challenges and uncertainties involved in transitioning to sustainable agriculture.



Further Resources

The benefits of regenerative agriculture

Regenerative Agriculture can play a key role in combating climate change

Tackling climate change



ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



INTRODUCTION

Traditional tourism often has detrimental effects on the environment and local cultures.

Eco-tourism seeks to reduce these impacts by promoting sustainable travel practices that benefit both the environment and local communities.

This unit explores the principles and strategies of eco-tourism and how it can be implemented effectively.

Tourism contributes to carbon emissions, habitat destruction, and pollution. Understanding these impacts helps in developing strategies for sustainable travel.

Tourism significantly contributes to greenhouse gas emissions primarily through transportation (air travel, car rentals) and energy consumption in accommodations (heating, cooling, lighting). Strategies to reduce this impact include promoting low-carbon transport options, improving energy efficiency in hotels, and encouraging tourists to use public transportation or bicycles.

Construction of tourist infrastructure such as **hotels**, **resorts**, and **roads** can lead to the destruction of natural habitats. This not only affects local wildlife but also disrupts ecosystems. Sustainable tourism advocates for careful planning and development that preserves natural habitats, such as building eco-lodges that blend with the environment and maintaining green spaces.

Tourism can increase pollution through littering, sewage, and chemical run-off into water bodies. Tourist activities like diving, boating, and trekking can also harm natural resources. Efforts to reduce pollution include implementing strict waste management practices, using environmentally friendly products, and educating tourists on the importance of maintaining cleanliness in natural areas.



PRINCIPLES OF ECO-TOURISM

Minimising Impact: Ensuring that travel activities do not harm the environment.

Low-Impact Activities: Promote activities that have minimal environmental impact, such as **hiking**, **bird watching**, and **snorkelling** in designated areas. These activities should follow strict guidelines to avoid disturbing wildlife and natural habitats.

Sustainable Infrastructure: Develop infrastructure using sustainable materials and techniques that minimise environmental footprints. Examples include using **solar panels** for energy, **rainwater harvesting systems**, and **composting toilets**.

Environmental Education: Provide tourists with information about the local environment and best practices to minimise their impact. This includes respecting wildlife, staying on designated paths, and reducing waste.



PRINCIPLES OF ECO-TOURISM

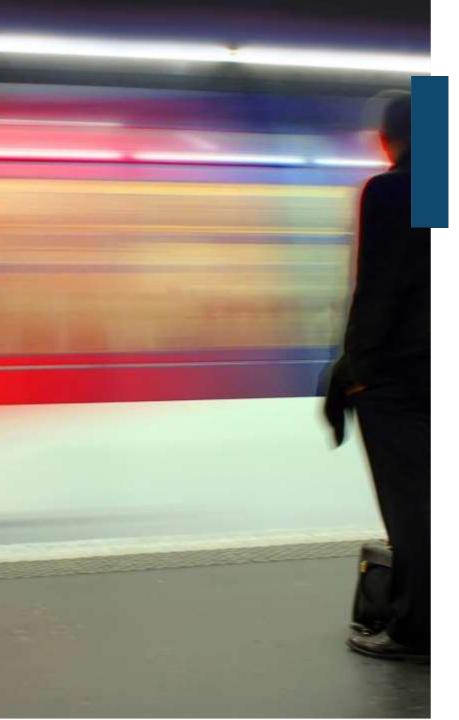
Cultural Respect: Promoting understanding and respect for local cultures and traditions.

Cultural Sensitivity Training: Educate tourists about local customs, traditions, and appropriate behaviours. This helps to avoid misunderstandings and shows mutual respect.

Supporting Local Traditions: Encourage tourists to participate in and support local cultural activities, such as traditional dances, festivals, and crafts. This not only preserves cultural heritage but also provides economic benefits to local communities.

Ethical Tourism Practices: Work with local communities to develop tourism practices that respect and preserve their cultural integrity. This includes avoiding exploitative practices and ensuring that tourism activities do not disrupt local ways of life.





PRINCIPLES OF ECO-TOURISM

Economic Benefits: Supporting local economies by sourcing locally and employing local people.

Local Employment: Focus on hiring local staff in tourism businesses. This provides economic opportunities and helps retain the economic benefits within the community.

Sourcing Local Products: Use locally sourced goods and services in tourism operations. This supports local farmers, artisans, and businesses, creating a more sustainable local economy.

Fair Trade Practices: Ensure that local workers are paid fair wages and work under good conditions. This promotes social equity and helps build a positive relationship between tourists and local communities.



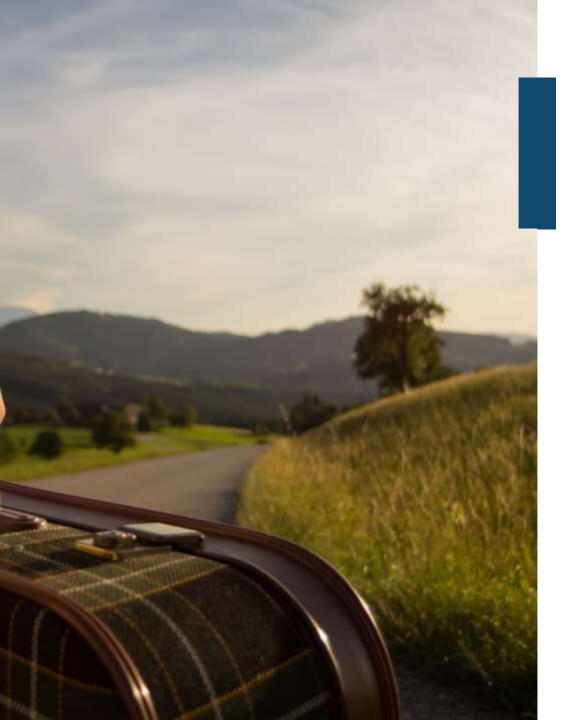
SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL STRATEGIES

Sustainable travel strategies focus on reducing environmental impact and supporting local communities.

These strategies include choosing eco-friendly accommodations, transportation, and activities, as well as investing in carbon offset programmes to reduce travel-related emissions.

Engaging local communities in tourism planning ensures their economic benefit and creates cultural respect.

These approaches aim to promote responsible tourism practices that contribute to environmental conservation and community development.



CARBON OFFSETTING

Encouraging tourists to invest in carbon offset programmes is crucial for reducing the environmental impact of their travel.

These programmes fund renewable energy projects, reforestation, and conservation initiatives, helping to counterbalance the carbon emissions generated by tourism activities.

Promoting accommodations and tour operators with green certifications, which often include carbon offset commitments as part of their sustainability practices, can further support these efforts.

Additionally, educating tourists about their carbon footprint and the importance of carbon offsetting is essential.



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL CHOICES

Opting for eco-friendly accommodations plays a significant role in sustainable travel. Hotels and lodges that implement sustainable practices, such as energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste reduction, contribute to lower environmental impact.

Sustainable transportation options, such as **trains**, **buses**, or **electric vehicles**, should be prioritised to reduce travel-related emissions. Encouraging **carpooling** and the use of **bicycles** or **walking** when exploring destinations can further reduce environmental impact.

Selecting activities that are designed to be environmentally friendly, such as guided nature tours, wildlife conservation projects, and cultural heritage tours, ensures that tourism has minimal negative effects on the environment and local communities.

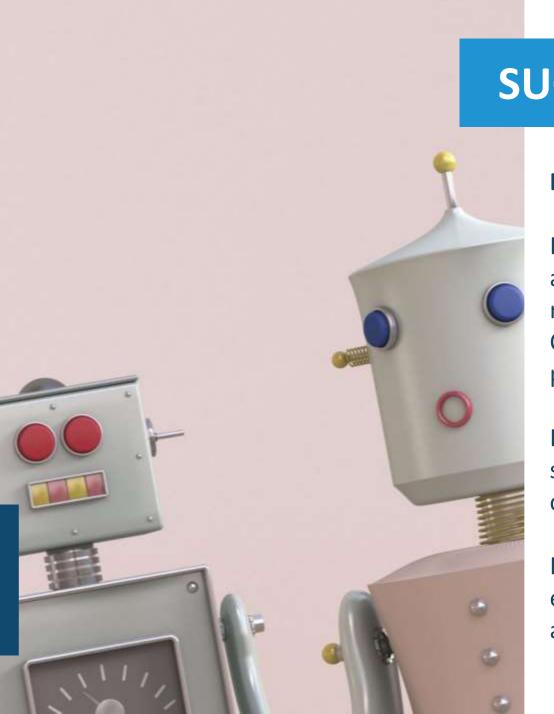


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community-based tourism ensures that the needs and perspectives of local populations are considered, leading to more inclusive and beneficial tourism practices.

Implementing profit-sharing models, where a portion of tourism revenues is reinvested into local community projects such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure development, can provide significant economic benefits.

Providing training and capacity-building opportunities for local communities enhances their skills in managing and benefiting from tourism, including training in hospitality, tour guiding, and business management. This comprehensive approach ensures that tourism supports local development and sustainability.



SUGGESTED PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Designing a Sustainable Itinerary:

Begin by crafting a travel itinerary that focuses on eco-friendly accommodations, transportation options, and activities that reduce environmental impact and promote cultural respect. Consider factors such as energy efficiency, waste management practices, and local sourcing in your choices.

Document how each aspect of your itinerary contributes to sustainability, both in terms of environmental conservation and cultural preservation.

Prepare a presentation for your peers detailing your itinerary, explaining your sustainability choices, and discussing the anticipated benefits for the destinations visited.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



<u>SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production):</u> Focuses on reducing the environmental impact of tourism and promoting sustainable travel practices. It encourages responsible resource management and the adoption of eco-friendly solutions in the tourism industry.

SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth): Supports sustainable economic growth through eco-tourism. It highlights opportunities for job creation and economic development within the tourism sector while ensuring environmental sustainability.

ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT

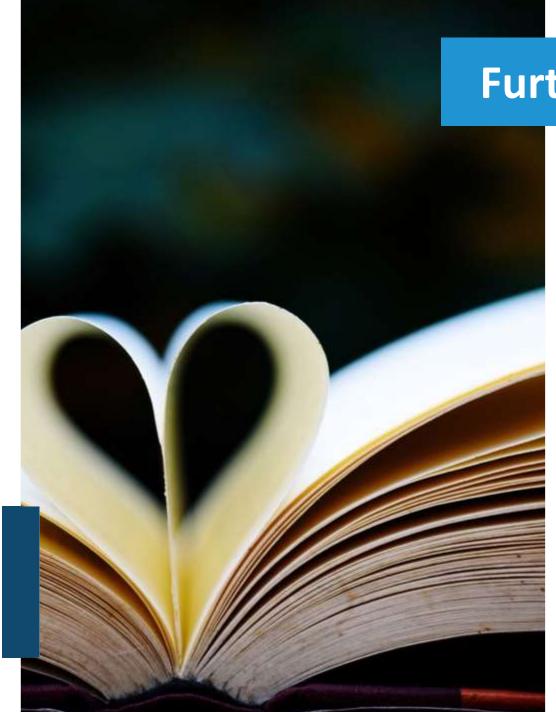


EntreComp 1.5 (Ethical and Sustainable Thinking): Assesses the environmental and cultural impacts of tourism, promoting sustainable management practices and ethical considerations.

EntreComp 2.1 (Self-awareness and Self-efficacy): Develops self-awareness about one's role in sustainable tourism and assumes responsibility for managing eco-friendly travel experiences.

EntreComp 2.5 (Mobilising Others): Encourages inspiring and motivating others to adopt sustainable travel practices and effectively communicate the benefits of ecotourism.

EntreComp 3.1 (Taking the Initiative): Identifies opportunities in eco-tourism, makes independent operational decisions, and strategises on implementing sustainable travel practices.



Further Resources

What is ecotourism? A guide on how to travel sustainably.

The Difference Between Ecotourism and Sustainable Tourism

Eco Friendly Tourism: A new era of conscious travel



ETHICAL SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT



INTRODUCTION

Ethical supply chain management focuses on ensuring that the production, sourcing, and distribution of products adhere to ethical and sustainable practices.

This approach encompasses considerations of labour rights, environmental impacts, and corporate social responsibility throughout the entire supply chain.

By addressing issues such as labour rights violations and environmental degradation, ethical supply chain management aims to promote fairness, transparency, and sustainability in business operations.

ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN SUPPLY CHAINS

Ethical challenges within supply chains encompass a range of issues that impact both people and the environment. Addressing labour rights violations such as child labour, forced labour, and unsafe working conditions is paramount.

These violations not only undermine human dignity but also contribute to social injustices and legal risks for companies involved in unethical practices. As well as, reducing environmental degradation caused by production processes is crucial for sustainable supply chain management.

Pollution, resource depletion, and habitat destruction are common consequences of irresponsible manufacturing and sourcing practices. By addressing these ethical challenges, businesses can uphold their commitment to corporate social responsibility and contribute positively to global sustainability efforts.



PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Ethical supply chain management is grounded in principles that prioritise transparency, fair trade, and sustainable sourcing practices.

These principles guide businesses in ensuring that their production, sourcing, and distribution activities uphold ethical standards and contribute positively to social equity and environmental sustainability.

By following these principles, organisations create trust among stakeholders, reduce risks associated with unethical practices, and demonstrate their commitment to responsible business conduct.



TRANSPARENCY

Transparency serves as a foundational principle in ethical supply chain management.

It involves openly sharing information about suppliers, sourcing practices, production processes, and distribution channels.

Transparent supply chains enable stakeholders, including consumers, investors, and regulatory bodies, to assess and verify whether ethical standards are being met throughout the supply chain.



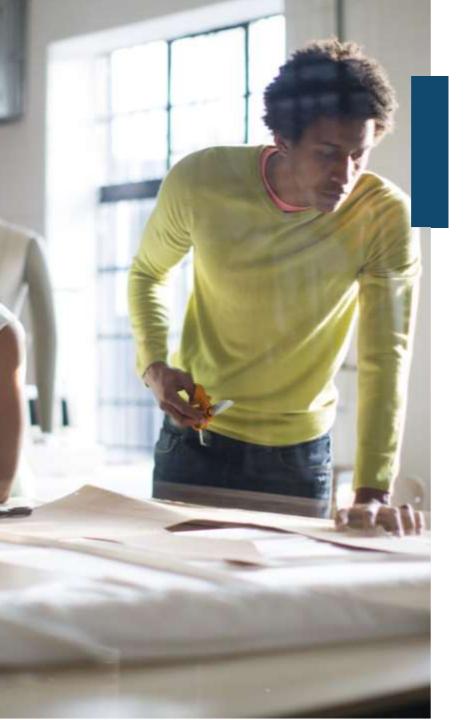
FAIR TRADE PRINCIPLES

Fair trade principles support for fair wages, safe working conditions, and equitable treatment of producers and workers within the supply chain.

By meeting fair trade standards, businesses focus on social equity and support sustainable livelihoods for individuals and communities involved in production.

Fair trade certification programmes provide assurance to consumers that products are sourced ethically and contribute positively to social and economic development in producing regions.





SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

Sustainable sourcing emphasises the procurement of materials and resources that are environmentally sustainable and ethically sourced.

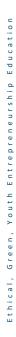
This approach aims to reduce the ecological footprint of supply chain activities by reducing environmental impacts such as deforestation, water pollution, and carbon emissions.

Sustainable sourcing practices often involve partnerships with suppliers who adhere to environmental standards, engage in responsible land management, and promote biodiversity conservation.



Gaia Olea is dedicated to ethical production and sustainable practices in the field of natural aromatherapy.







Their commitment to environmental responsibility is evident through their minimal and recycled packaging, local sourcing of materials, and avoidance of controversial ingredients like palm oil.

Gaia Olea's focus on reducing environmental impact and fostering community engagement highlights their role in promoting sustainability within the natural products industry.

Learn more about <u>Gaia Olea's</u> practices by visiting our <u>Compendium of Case</u> <u>Studies.</u>



SUGGESTED PRACTICAL EXERCISE

Assessing Ethical Risk

In this exercise, you will analyse a hypothetical company's supply chain to uncover risks related to labour rights violations, environmental degradation, or other ethical concerns.

By evaluating each stage of the supply chain—from raw material sourcing to distribution—they will gain insights into the complexities of ethical challenges in business operations.

Then you can develop a detailed plan to reduce identified risks, proposing strategies to implement ethical practices effectively.

This exercise aims to enhance understanding of ethical complexities and equip you with practical skills in ethical risk management.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



<u>SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)</u>: Addresses ethical issues in production and consumption, promoting responsible supply chain practices.

SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth): Encourages sustainable job creation and fair labour practices within the supply chain sector.

ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT



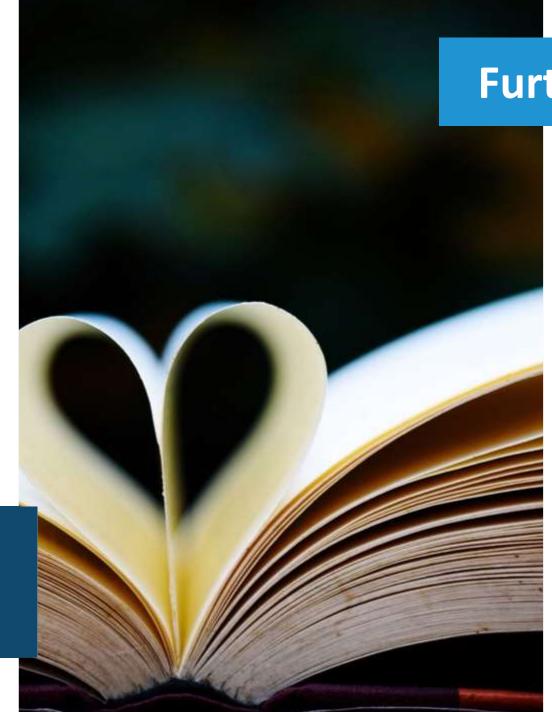
EntreComp 1.5 (Ethical and Sustainable Thinking): Assess the impact of ethical practices and corporate social responsibility.

EntreComp 2.1 (Self-awareness and Self-efficacy): Promote responsible business management and assume leadership in ethical decision-making.

EntreComp 2.5 (Mobilising Others): Inspire and manage teams to uphold ethical standards in the supply chain.

EntreComp 3.1 (Taking the Initiative): Identify and act on opportunities for improving ethical practices.

EntreComp 3.3 (Coping with Uncertainty, Ambiguity & Risk): Manage risks related to ethical sourcing and production.



Further Resources

The ethical supply chain: Definition, examples, stats

Ethical Supply Chain and its Relevance in Today's Time

Ethical Issues in Supply Chain
Management and Procurement



RENEWABLE
ENERGY
SOLUTIONS PROTECTING
RESOURCES



IMPORTANCE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Renewable energy plays a essential role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Embracing renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, and biomass is fundamental for transitioning towards a sustainable energy future.

These sources offer clean, renewable alternatives that reduce environmental impacts such as air and water pollution, supporting efforts to combat climate change and preserve natural ecosystems.



SOLAR POWER

Solar power harnesses energy from the sun through photovoltaic panels and solar thermal systems.

It provides a versatile and sustainable energy solution suitable for various applications, including residential, commercial, and industrial sectors.

Solar energy systems contribute significantly to reducing carbon footprints and energy costs while promoting energy independence and environmental stewardship.





Wind turbines convert wind energy into electricity, making wind power a key component of renewable energy generation.

Wind farms harness natural wind resources to produce clean, renewable electricity on a large scale, contributing to sustainable energy production and reducing reliance on non-renewable energy sources.

Wind power technologies continue to advance, enhancing efficiency and expanding opportunities for wind energy integration across diverse landscapes.





HYDROPOWER

Hydropower uses flowing water from rivers, streams, or reservoirs to generate electricity through turbines.

As a reliable and renewable energy source, hydropower provides a steady supply of clean electricity while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impacts associated with fossil fuel-based power generation.

Hydropower facilities contribute to energy stability and grid reliability, supporting sustainable development and resource management practices worldwide.



GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

Geothermal energy harnesses heat from the earth's core to generate electricity and heat buildings through direct use applications.

Geothermal power plants use underground reservoirs of steam or hot water to produce clean, renewable energy with minimal greenhouse gas emissions.

Geothermal systems offer sustainable heating and cooling solutions, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and promoting energy efficiency in residential, commercial, and industrial sectors.



BIOMASS ENERGY

Biomass energy involves converting organic materials such as wood, agricultural residues, and biofuels into energy through combustion, gasification, or biochemical processes.

Biomass power plants and bioenergy systems use renewable biomass resources to produce heat, electricity, and transportation fuels, offering sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels and supporting waste management practices.

Biomass energy contributes to renewable energy diversification and promotes circular economy principles by using organic waste streams for energy production.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ALIGNMENT



SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy): Promotes the adoption of renewable energy sources to ensure sustainable energy access.

SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure): Encourages sustainable technologies and innovation in energy management.

ENTRECOMP ALIGNMENT



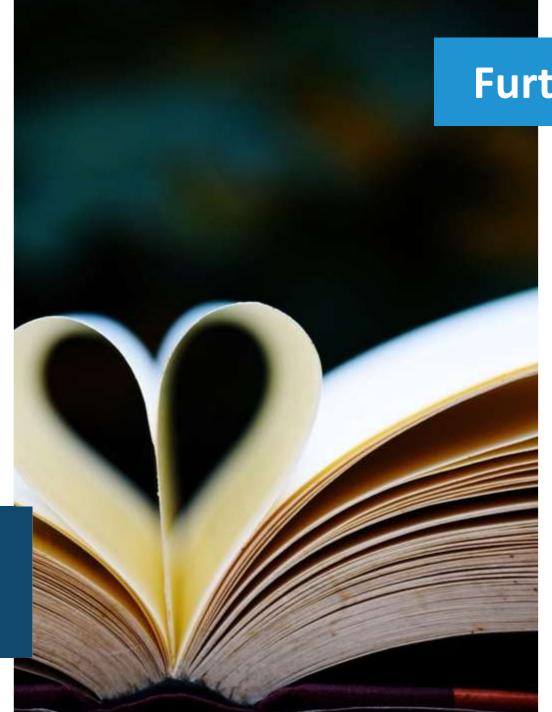
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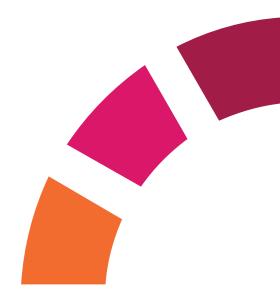
Further Resources

What is Sustainability? 3 Clean
Energy Solutions to Achieve
Sustainability

Renewable energy – powering a safer future

Protecting Natural Resources with Renewable Energy





Follow our journey here











