




AGILite

Developing the digital and entrepreneurial competences
of VET trainers to support agile entrepreneurship training



SELF-DIRECTED ACTIVITY IMAGE OR LOGO	 <p>Image source: Microsoft Creative Commons (n.d.)</p>
DEVELOPER/PROMOTER	
PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION	<p>Plastic waste is one of the biggest environmental challenges of our time, and it has a significant impact on our oceans, landfills, and ecosystems. The circular economy is an approach that can help reduce plastic waste and create a more sustainable future. To reduce this over-reliance on plastic, we need to come up with a more sustainable way to produce, manufacture and shop.</p> <p><i>How can we minimise the amount of plastic we use during the manufacturing, producing, and retailing process?</i></p>
WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE PROBLEM?	<p>The overuse of plastic in the production of nearly all products and goods has led to an overabundance of single-use plastic waste which plagues our natural landscapes and leads to micro-plastics in our food supply. Plastic waste is a significant issue for both business sustainability and the environment because of the environmental impact, the operational impact of recycling, as well as the public perception of overuse of plastic.</p> <p>Businesses looking to increase their sustainability and circular knowledge long-term need to assess the ways that plastic is used in their everyday processes, and how they can work towards eliminating or reducing the impact this has on their waste outputs.</p>
WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW? SELF-STUDY (Learning resources)	<p>To understand the true impact of plastic waste on the environment as well as how to minimise plastic waste in the manufacturing, processing, and retailing processes, you must conduct some independent research.</p> <p>Here are some links to get you started:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.mbrctheocean.com/pages/how-business-can-reduce-plastic-waste• https://journeytozerostories.neste.com/plastics/how-build-winning-business-5-things-you-can-do-reduce-your-business-plastic-footprint• https://www.gallantintl.com/blogs/tips-to-reduce-plastic• https://www.unep.org/plastic-pollution
WHAT DID WE LEARN? PROBLEM SOLUTION	<p>Through this activity, you can see how reducing all kinds of waste, especially plastic waste, is crucial for circular businesses as it enables them to operate sustainably and efficiently. Circular businesses aim to eliminate waste and pollution, keep materials in use, and regenerate natural systems. By reducing waste, these businesses can conserve resources, lower costs, increase profitability, and create a more sustainable and resilient economy.</p>
REVIEW, REFLECT AND REPORT (instructions to VET Tutors)	<p>After reading the articles linked above, VET tutors can get participants to reflect on what they have learned about the importance of minimising all types of waste, especially plastic, for implementing a circular business model through the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What are some ways in which my business currently contributes to plastic waste, and what can we do to reduce this impact?2. How can my business incorporate circular design principles into our product development process to minimise plastic waste and promote sustainability?3. What role can my business play in advocating for policy changes and collaborating with other stakeholders to promote a more circular economy and reduce waste? <p>Complete this activity by asking participants to complete a short five-sentence summary about the importance of minimising waste in the production process to increase business sustainability.</p>
TARGET GROUP	<p>This activity can be completed with business owners and entrepreneurs</p>
LANGUAGE	<p>English</p>
LINK TO THE RESOURCES	<p>National Geographic – The world’s plastic pollution crisis explained [ARTICLE]: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/plastic-pollution</p>



5 Ways Companies Can Reduce Plastic Waste by Gallant

[ARTICLE]:

<https://www.gallantintl.com/blogs/tips-to-reduce-plastic>

How Business Can Reduce Plastic Waste by MBRC The Ocean

[ARTICLE]:

<https://www.mbrctheocean.com/pages/how-business-can-reduce-plastic-waste>

Plastic Pollution by UN Environment Programme **[ARTICLE]:**

<https://www.unep.org/plastic-pollution>