



AN INITIATIVE OF GREEN INDUSTRIES SA

COMMUNITY CIRCULAR HUB GUIDE



This Guide is an initiative of Green Industries SA. It was developed by Rawtec.

About Green Industries SA

GISA promotes waste management practices that aim to eliminate waste or its consignment to landfill and promote innovation and business activity in waste management, resource recovery and green industry sectors. GISA works with and supports South Australian industry sectors and organisations to improve resource efficiency, waste management, and lean production practices as a way to reduce operating costs, boost productivity and environmental performance.

www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au

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We acknowledge the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work on. We respect their spiritual relationship with Sea and Country and acknowledge their Elders – past and present. We also pay our respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from other areas of South Australia and Australia.



**Government
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Green Industries SA



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Introduction

About the guide

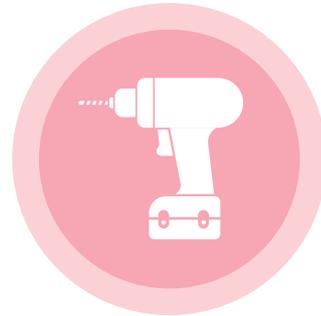
This document provides guidance on developing Community Circular Hubs [Hubs] to support the South Australian community to transition to a circular economy. The guide is intended for developers, councils and planners, to help them consider the opportunity to develop Hubs. The guide is an initiative of Green Industries SA [GISA] and was prepared by Rawtec.

Background

Current production and consumption practices are unsustainable and significantly contribute to climate change. The more goods citizens purchase and consume, the greater their environmental footprint. Many of the items people buy are not fully utilised. For example:



The average Australian wears only half of the clothing in their wardrobe¹



The average power drill is used for just 13 minutes in its lifetime, remaining idle the rest of the time².

South Australians can reduce their environmental impact by adopting circular practices such as

- Renting instead of owning infrequently used items.
- Repairing instead of replacing damaged goods.

There are numerous examples of circular goods and services in South Australia that contribute positively to the community. This includes makerspaces, library of things, reuse shops, repair, recycling drop off points and more. However, several barriers hinder the adoption of these services. For example:

- Not able to visit within opening hours (e.g. some facilities only open during weekdays when people are at work)
- In some cases a lack of inclusivity (e.g. men's shed)
- Need to drive to multiple different locations across the city to visit the locations, taking considerable time and effort compared to throwing in the bin
- A lack of awareness that these circular goods and services exist

To facilitate the transition to more sustainable lifestyles, circular goods and services need to be convenient, accessible and highly visible. This Guide introduces the concept of Community Circular Hubs, which help citizens overcome barriers to living sustainably, whilst supporting and enhancing existing circular initiatives.

1 Marketing Mag, Australian's are wearing half of what's in their wardrobes, April 26, 2021, accessed at: <https://www.marketingmag.com.au/tech-data/australians-are-wearing-half-of-whats-in-their-wardrobes/>

2 Ellen MacArthur Foundation, How tool sharing could become a public utility: Toronto Tool Library and Makerspace, accessed at: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-examples/how-tool-sharing-could-become-a-public-utility>



What is a Community Circular Hub?

A Community Circular Hub is a physical location providing citizens with convenient access to a suite of circular goods and services. Hubs can overcome many of the barriers preventing people from living circular lifestyles, by providing circular goods and services:

- In a central, convenient facility
- Accessible to people of all ages, gender, backgrounds and abilities
- Open during weekdays and weekends to fit different schedules, and
- Helping to reduce costs of living

A Community Circular Hub is a physical location that provides citizens with convenient access to a suite of circular goods and services.



Benefits of Community Circular Hubs

There are numerous benefits of Community Circular Hubs. These include:

Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping products circulating at their highest and best use • Reducing consumption of virgin resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regenerating the natural environment • Lowering carbon emissions • Reducing waste to landfill
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alleviating costs of living pressures • Redistributing surplus food to people facing food insecurity • Connecting community • Supporting mental and emotional wellbeing³ • Educating the community on First Nations culture and language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and skills transfer • Supporting existing circular community initiatives and charities • Empowering citizens to reduce their environmental footprint • Improving safety by providing convenient drop off points for hazardous items, like lithium-ion batteries, that cause fires if not managed properly
Broader economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading the nation in transitioning towards a circular economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing spaces that supports circular innovation, organisations, businesses, and not-for-profits

Community Circular Hubs empower citizens to live more sustainably, connecting community and alleviating cost of living pressures.

³ Sharon Ede, Hearts + Minds: Sharing as a Mental Health Intervention, accessed: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/hearts-minds-sharing-mental-health-intervention-sharon-ed/>

There is growing recognition of the importance of place-based approaches in accelerating the transition to circular economies. Circular Australia and Aurecon recently released a report that highlights the significant opportunity for developing circular precincts⁴.

Policy links

Establishing Community Circular Hubs aligns with several state and national policies.

SA policies

SA Solid Waste Levy to Incentivise Resource Recovery

A Solid Waste Levy is applied for each tonne of waste sent to landfill from kerbside and hard waste services. A Community Circular Hub can help communities reduce their reliance on landfill services by offering facilities to repair, reuse, and donate items.

SA Landfill Bans

The SA government has banned hazardous wastes, such as fluorescent globes, batteries, and e-waste, from landfill. However, waste audits reveal that many residents still dispose of these items via kerbside landfill services. Community Circular Hubs can provide convenient, central drop-off locations for these small-volume, tricky waste streams.

SA Food Waste Strategy 2020-2025

The SA food waste strategy aims to reduce food waste generation, with households wasting an estimated \$3,000 worth of food annually. Community Circular Hubs can help lower this waste and associated living costs by offering educational workshops and programs that teach practical tips for preventing food waste. The Hubs can also provide a location for redistribution of surplus food that would otherwise go to waste.

SA Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020-2025

SA has an aim to improve health and wellbeing for all South Australia. Community Circular Hubs may help achieve Goal 3 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which is to 'improve individual and community capability in managing their health and wellbeing'. Community Circular Hubs can support positive outcomes for mental health and wellbeing by providing isolated and lonely citizens opportunities to connect with others through activities such as community gardening and repair workshops.

SA Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2026

The Department of Premier and Cabinet recognises the importance of respecting, learning and championing First Nations culture in SA. Community Circular Hubs can play a role in educating the community on Aboriginal cultures and languages. For example, by displaying language in signage across the Hub, educational workshops and growing bush tucker gardens.

⁴ Circular Australia and Aurecon (2024), Activating place-based circular economy in Australia: Circular Precincts



National policies

National Goal to Become Fully Circular by 2030

Australia's goal is to become fully circular by 2030. Community Circular Hubs supports this objective by providing residents with the tools, knowledge, and facilities needed for repair, reuse, and recycling, keeping products circulating in the economy.

National Goal to Halve Food Waste by 2030

Australia aims to halve food waste by 2030. Community Circular Hubs can assist residents in reducing their food waste through education and practical initiatives.

Climate Change Act 2022

To reach UN climate goals, 45% of GHG emissions reductions need to be achieved by transitioning to circular design, production, and use of products, materials, and food⁵. Australia aims to significantly reduce emissions by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050. These climate targets require reducing resource consumption and waste associated with products and services. Community Circular Hubs can equip citizens with the knowledge, tools, and resources to address these emissions.

National Preventive Health Strategy 2021-2030

The Australian Government has the vision to improve the health and wellbeing of all Australians at all stage of life through prevention. Community Circular Hubs can support this through not only encouraging active transport to and from the facilities, but offering food swaps and community gardens improve access to healthy, fresh food. Educational spaces can also contribute to share knowledge on cooking and growing healthy food, and other healthy lifestyle advice and support.

To reach UN climate goals, 45% of GHG emissions reductions need to be achieved by transitioning to circular design, production, and use of products, materials, and food.

5 Ellen McArthur Foundation 2023; 'The circular economy: a missing piece in city climate action plans?', access from: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/articles/the-circular-economy-a-missing-piece-in-city-climate-action-plans#:~:text=45%25%20of%20global%20greenhouse%20gas,food%2C%20and%20to%20land%20management.&text=The%20circular%20economy%20offers%20cities,help%20tackle%20these%20remaining%20emissions>.

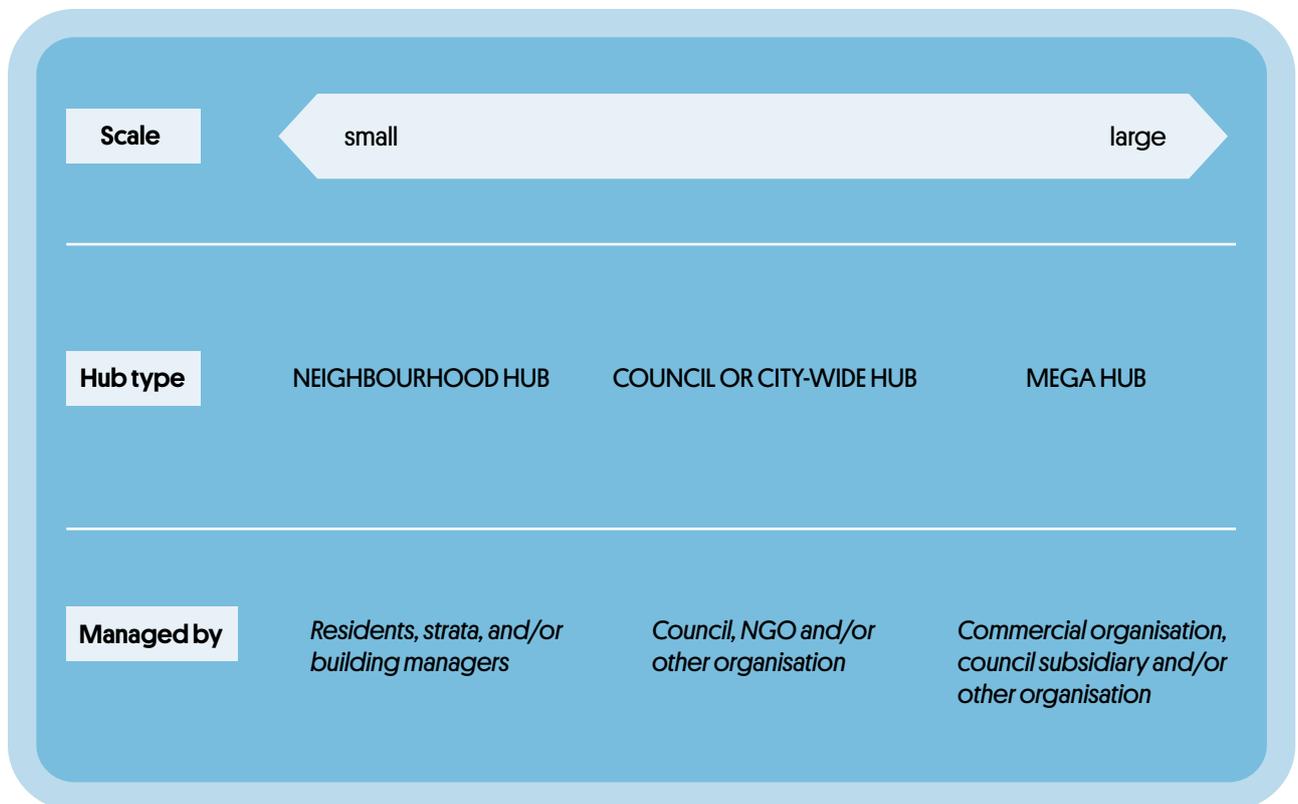
Principles for design and operation

Community Circular Hubs should be designed and operated in line with the following principles.

Convenient and accessible	A suite of circular goods and services in one location. Open on weekdays and weekends. Wheelchair accessible. Good transport networks.
Relevant	Provide circular goods and services that are relevant to the community/ users.
Inclusive	Welcoming to people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds.
Supports existing initiatives	Doesn't duplicate efforts. Potential to provide support and a home for existing initiatives, e.g. co-locate a repair hub.
Attractive and climate-sensitive	An attractive and climate-sensitive space where people want to spend time.

Scales

Community Circular Hubs can be developed at different scales. In this document, we provide guidance on three scales: Neighbourhood Hubs, Council or City-wide Hubs, and Mega Hubs.





Neighbourhood Circular Hubs

Where and who is it for?

Neighbourhood Circular Hubs are for residents living in a development or precinct. They are small-scale and walking distance from people's homes.

These Hubs are well suited to medium-high density developments given they:

- reduce the amount of space that residents need to store items within homes
- provide residents access to circular services, who may not have a car to visit larger circular hubs
- connect neighbours building stronger social cohesion

What types of circular goods and services might be available?

Neighbourhood Circular Hubs may include:

- a **share shed** for residents to borrow items like tools, tents, specialised cooking equipment. See case study overleaf 'Grannbox' describing a subscription based shed.
- a **'resource drop-off point'** for donating used clothing, container deposits, e-waste, cardboard, etc
- a **community garden** for residents to grow food
- a **shared pantry/fridge** for neighbours to drop off/donate their surplus food

How might it be run?

A Neighbourhood Hub could potentially be run by a resident group, strata or building manager.

Potential footprint

Approximately 25-100m² – with spatial requirements depending on the site, services, and facilities.

Cost considerations

Although investment is required to create space and facilities for Hub activities, this may be offset by the reduced need for individual storage space. Neighbourhood Hubs may work well in build-to-rent models.

Depending on the model, there may be ongoing costs for managing the Hub, potentially covered through strata fees. However, these costs should be balanced by the reduced living expenses for residents, such as growing their own food instead of purchasing it and borrowing items rather than owning them.



Photo credit: Ihopa

What is it?

The Ihopa Grannbox, or “Neighbour Box”, is a Swedish subscription-based service for residents to borrow items like tools, cleaning equipment, and party gear without the need for individual ownership. These boxes are available in various neighbourhoods across Sweden.

Users can book items through an app, access the box at a time convenient to them, and watch explainer videos to learn how to use the products.

The Grannbox comes in various sizes and contents, tailored to its specific use and location:

- **Property Box:** Customised for residents of a particular housing development.
- **Neighbourhood Box:** Positioned in residential areas and typically containing around 30 items.
- **City Box:** Larger boxes situated in central locations, offering more than 50 products.

Examples of available items include movie projectors, bread machines, food dehydrators, sewing machines, electric drills, circular saws, window cleaning equipment, grass trimmers, leaf blowers, hedge shears, steam cleaners, bicycle repair kits, knife sharpeners, board games, and more.

Who is it for?

Ihopa Grannbox is mainly aimed at residents who live in densely populated areas where space is limited, and where individuals may not have the means or desire to own infrequently used household items. It provides a shared resource that helps reduce the clutter, environmental footprint and expense associated with individual ownership.

How is/was it funded?

The Ihopa Grannbox is funded through a subscription model, where residents or strata pay a small fee to access the shared items. Some municipalities cover the costs of the Grannbox to promote sustainable living and reduce the environmental impact of their communities.

Subscription fees are kept low because people tend to be more responsible when sharing with their neighbours, leading to better care of the products. The use of high-quality appliances further reduces overall maintenance costs. Additionally, these costs are spread across many members, enabling the service to offer more affordable.

How is it maintained/run?

The Grannbox is maintained by Ihopa, the organisation behind the initiative. Ihopa is responsible for ensuring that the items are kept in good condition, replaced when necessary, and remain up-to-date with the latest versions of commonly needed tools and equipment.

What are the outcomes?

The initiative lowers consumption and waste by facilitating shared ownership, reducing the need for new products. This approach embodies the principles of a circular economy, where the goal is to maximise product utility and minimise waste. It offers a cost-effective alternative to buying expensive, rarely-used items.



Council or City-wide Circular Hubs

Where and who is it for?

Council or City-wide Circular Hubs are for a whole community. They should be strategically located, nearby schools, residential aged care facilities, and accessible via pedestrian routes, bike, public transport, and car.

What types of circular goods and services might be available?

Council or City-wide Hubs may include a:

- **Makerspace and repair hub:** to design, make and repair products
- **Food hub:** to redistribute surplus food from local businesses/charities that would otherwise be wasted.
- **Library of Things:** to loan equipment, such as tents, party supplies, garden equipment and more.
- **Community garden:** to grow fresh produce and natives using compost, and teaching people circular gardening principles to support biodiversity and local food production.
- **Event/retail space:** for clothes swaps, sale of secondhand/refurbished goods, etc.
- **Circular education centre:** bringing community groups, schools, etc into teach circular principles and practices, first nations cultural learning.
- **Resource drop-off:** to provide convenient drop-off point for small, problematic waste items (e.g. old laptop, textiles), which would then be sent offsite for recycling or reuse.

How might it be run?

These Hubs are well suited to councils given they complement existing programs and initiatives, such as:

- Community wellbeing
- Waste reduction and recycling, and
- Economic development

However, they may also be run by an NGO or other organisation. Regardless of who operates them, these Hubs may be home to multiple organisations, such as charities, circular businesses, and community groups.

Potential footprint

Approximately 600 - 2000m² – with spatial requirements depending on the site, services, and facilities. There is potential to locate Hubs at existing council facilities [such as community centres] to activate buildings that may have previously been underutilised or only used by certain groups.

Costs

There are upfront costs for developing Hubs, including buildings, facilities and equipment. There is potential for some equipment to be sourced through donations from local residents and businesses. Hubs can potentially be run out of existing community centres, substantially reducing the upfront capital investment.

Depending on the model, some of the circular services may be run by volunteers, community groups and/or co-located circular organisations. Dedicated personnel are needed to oversee a Hub's operations, coordinate volunteers and community groups, promote the hub, and other administration.



Nordhaven Nærgenbrugsstation (Denmark)

Case Study



Photo credit: Københavns Kommune

What is it?

Opened in 2017, the facility is located in the Nordhavn redevelopment. The facility aims to reduce waste, enhance resource recovery, and educate the community about sustainable practices.⁶

Who is it for?

The facility serves households and small businesses, providing a convenient and accessible location for managing items that can be recycled, reused, or require special handling. Commercial waste is not accepted and there is no space for cars or trailers. The facility is only for pedestrians or cyclists.⁷

⁶ Lendager, **2020**, *Recycle Centre*, lendager.com/project/recycle-centre/

⁷ ARC, **N.D.**, *Nærgenbrugsstationer*, a-f-c.dk/privat/naergenbrugsstationer/

What circular services/facilities does it include?

The facility offers a range of circular services and facilities designed to maximise resource recovery and minimise waste.⁸ It is designed in rings, each containing different circular services for the community:

- **Educational Programs:** There is a seating area for workshops and information sessions. The sessions are aimed at educating the community about sustainable waste management practices and the benefits of the circular economy.⁷
- **'Swap shelf' for reuse:** The 'swap shelf' is for household items that are dropped off but in good condition or needing repair. These items are left here for people to reuse for free. Parts of the swap shelf are mounted on wheels to create a flexible space inside, but also to move the swap shelf to the entrance to invite more visitors in.⁹
- **Recycling Wall:** There is a recycling wall sorting and recycling a variety of materials in to 12 categories, including paper, cardboard, plastics, metals, glass, and electronics.⁶ The recycling wall and slots allow for out-of-hours disposal, while the bulk bins are locked, the recycling wall is available to the public to use.⁸
- **Hazardous Waste Disposal:** Safe disposal points for hazardous materials like batteries, chemicals, and electronic waste are also located on the recycling wall, ensuring they are handled in an environmentally friendly manner.⁶
- Outside the recycling wall are smaller rooms for circular services run by volunteers during opening hours, including:
 - » **Repair workshop:** Where visitors are able to borrow tools, make minor repairs to items, and learn about DIY repairing.⁷ The repair workshop volunteers also make minor repairs to items left on the swap shelf.⁸
 - » **Library:** Where second-hand books are donated and collected and are then made available for reuse to the public.⁷
 - » **Circular Lending:** If visitors have bulky items they are taking from the swap shelf, Nordhavn Nærgenbrugsstation has bicycle trailers and cargo bikes for borrowing to help transport these items.⁷

How is/was it funded?

Nordhavn Nærgenbrugsstation was funded through municipal funding from the City of Copenhagen.⁵

How is it maintained/run?

The facility is managed by Amager Resource Center (ARC), which oversees daily operations, maintenance, and community outreach programs.⁶ A dedicated team of staff and volunteers ensures the smooth running of the recycling station, assists residents with sorting their waste, and facilitates workshops and educational sessions.⁷

What are the outcomes?

- **Environmental Outcomes:** Nordhavn Nærgenbrugsstation significantly reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills by encouraging recycling, reuse, and proper disposal of hazardous materials. It is estimated that the centre was built with 90% upcycled materials, including old windows and doorframes, as well as the innovative recycling wall.^{5,10}
- **Community Outcomes:** The facility fosters a strong sense of community by providing a space for residents to engage in sustainable practices together. Educational programs raise awareness about the importance of recycling and the circular economy, empowering residents to make environmentally conscious choices.^{11,12,13}
- **Economic Outcomes:** By promoting recycling and reuse, the facility supports local second-hand markets and repair businesses, contributing to the local economy and creating jobs for the local community.⁸

In summary, Nordhavn Nærgenbrugsstation is a model for sustainable waste management and the circular economy, delivering significant environmental, social, and economic benefits to the Copenhagen community. Through its comprehensive services and community-focused approach, it sets a benchmark for similar initiatives worldwide.

8 ARC, **N.D.**, *Nordhavn Nærgenbrugsstation*, a-r-c.dk/genbrugspladser/nordhavn-naergenbrugsstation/

9 Architizer, **N.D.**, *Local Recycling Centre Nordhavn*, architizer.com/projects/local-recycling-centre-nordhavn/

10 Danish Architecture Center, **N.D.**, *Konditaget Løders: A roof just for fun*, dac.dk/en/knowledgebase/architecture/konditaget-lueders-2/

11 CSR.dk, **2017**, *Nærgenbrugsstation Nordhavn gør affaldssortering intuitivt*, www.csr.dk/n%c3%a6rgenbrugsstation-nordhavn-g%c3%b8r-affaldssortering-intuitivt

12 @fleurdellie, **2023**, *We love our Recycling Center!*, www.tiktok.com/@fleurdellie/video/727340565395851918

13 @KRDemCT, **2024**, *Check out this public recycling center in Nordhavn*, x.com/KRDemCT/status/1807769314201592283



Mega Hubs

Where and who is it for?

Mega Hubs are large-scale facilities open to the public that offer a wide-range of circular goods and services. The Hubs are co-located with transfer stations to receive bulky and large volumes of used products, which are upcycled, repaired, refurbished and sold onsite.

What types of circular goods and services might be available?

Mega Hubs are large in scale and may include:

- **Drop off stations** – for hard waste, used clothing, etc, which are then upcycled, repaired, refurbished and resold onsite.
- **Larger scale makerspace and repair hub:** to design, make and repair products
- **Food hub:** to redistribute surplus food from local businesses/charities to people in need that would otherwise be wasted.
- **Secondhand shopping mall:** selling the items that were dropped off.
- **Library of Things:** to loan equipment, such as tents, party supplies, garden equipment and more.
- **Circular education centre:** bringing community groups, schools, etc into teach circular principles and practices, first nations cultural learning.

How might it be run?

The Hub may be run by a private organisation, council subsidiary, or other organisations.

Potential footprint

Approximately 25,000 – 40,000m² – with the spatial requirements depending on the site, services and facilities.

Cost considerations

Large upfront capital investment needed to develop the site. Potential to reduce upfront cost by co-locating with an existing transfer station.

Potential sources of revenue include commercial lease of offices and shops within the mall/site for circular businesses, such as commercial repair shops, bulk food shops, and environmental consultancies.

ReTuna Återbruksgalleria in Eskilstuna (Sweden)

Case Study



Photo credit: Eemab

ReTuna Återbruksgalleria, located in Eskilstuna, Sweden, is the world's first reuse mall dedicated to giving old items new life.¹⁴ Opened in 2015, the mall is a pioneering, award-winning initiative that promotes circular economy principles by transforming waste into resources through innovative reuse and recycling practices.^{13,15} The facility hosts a variety of shops, workshops, and educational spaces all centred around sustainability and upcycling.¹⁶

Who is it for?

ReTuna serves the local community, circular businesses, and tourists who visit to learn about and participate in its unique recycling and upcycling activities.

The mall caters to over 700 shoppers each day, who are looking to purchase second-hand items, learn new skills in workshops, or simply engage with like-minded individuals dedicated to reducing waste and promoting sustainability.¹⁴

In order to access the facility door, the public must drive through ReTuna's 'Returner' area first, where items in good condition are donated.^{14,17,18}

14 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *About Us*, www.retuna.se/english/about-us

15 Harger, E., Narishkin, A., **2021**, *VIDEO: Sweden's "secondhand mall" where shops resell old products*, www.businessinsider.com/retuna-secondhand-mall-sweden-eskilstuna-2021-4

16 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *Events*, www.retuna.se/event

17 Drury, C., **2019**, *Eco-mall where shoppers can splurge without it costing the Earth may soon be coming to UK*, www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/retuna-climate-change-shopping-centre-mall-eskilstuna-sweden-sustainability-a8983511.html

18 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *A place for both recycling and reuse*, www.retuna.se/om-oss/atervinningscentralen

What circular services/facilities does it offer?

ReTuna offers a wide range of circular services and facilities¹⁹, including:

- **Donation Centre:** A facility where people can drop off unwanted items that are then sorted and distributed to the various shops within the mall.²⁰
- **Recycling Stations:** For sorting and disposing of items that cannot be reused but can be recycled.
- **Second-hand Shops:** Shops selling refurbished electronics, upcycled furniture, clothing, books, and more.²¹
- **Café and Restaurant:** Serving organic and locally sourced food, enhancing the sustainable ethos of the mall.
- **Repair Workshops:** Spaces where customers can learn how to repair and upcycle their items.
- **Public Educational Spaces:** Areas dedicated to workshops, lectures, conferences, and events focused on sustainability, recycling, and environmental education.¹⁶
- **Formal Education Courses:** ReTuna has partnered with Eskilstuna Folkhögskola [vocational education institute] to allow students to study their year-long course 'Recycle Design Recycling' at the ReTuna facility.²² The facility also partners with local pre-schools to provide arts and craft equipment, instilling reuse early on.¹⁹

How is/was it funded?

ReTuna was primarily funded by Eskilstuna Municipality as part of its commitment to environmental sustainability and innovation. The facility is owned by Eskilstuna Energi och Miljö [EEM], a municipality-owned company that aims to deliver cost-competitive options to consumers- with minimal environmental impact.²³

How is it maintained/run?

ReTuna is maintained and managed by a team employed by EEM. This team is responsible for the overall operations of the mall, including tenant management, event planning, facility maintenance, and marketing.¹³

The individual businesses within the mall also contribute to its upkeep by managing their own shops and participating in the overall mission of sustainability. Revenue is generated from the mall's tenancies, while items donated, after sorting, are supplied to the tenant businesses for no charge.^{14 20}

What are the outcomes?

- **Environmental:** ReTuna significantly reduces waste by diverting items from landfills and promoting the reuse and recycling of materials.¹⁴
- **Community:** The mall has become a hub for community engagement and education, fostering a culture of sustainability and environmental awareness.²⁶ It provides a platform for local artisans and entrepreneurs to showcase their upcycled products and for residents to learn new skills.¹⁴
- **Economic:** In 2018, the mall generated SEK 11.7 million [about 1.6m AUD] in sales and created 50 jobs in a city with high unemployment.²⁴ Through encouraging sustainable consumption, it supports the development of a resilient local economy focused on long-term environmental stewardship.¹⁶

In summary, ReTuna Återbruksgalleria revolutionises shopping by offering only upcycled and recycled products, promoting sustainability and community revitalisation.

19 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *Shops and businesses at ReTuna*, www.retuna.se/butiker-och-verksamheter

20 Planet Aid, **2024**, *Transforming Waste into Wonder: Inside ReTuna, the World's First Reuse Mall*, www.planetaid.org/blog/inside-retuna

21 Shaw, D., **2019**, "Welcome to my high-fashion, trash shopping mall", <https://www.bbc.com/news/stories-47001188>

22 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *Recycle Design Recycling - the course for those who want to contribute to a better world*, www.retuna.se/om-oss/folkhogskolan

23 ReTuna, **N.D.**, *History of ReTuna*, www.retuna.se/om-oss/historien-om-retuna

24 Kalia, A., **2019**, *Eskilstuna: how a Swedish town became the world capital of recycling*, www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jun/18/eskilstuna-how-a-swedish-town-became-the-world-capital-of-recycling



Putting the concept into action

Considerations for Developing a Community Circular Hub

Organisations interested in developing a Community Circular Hub should consider the following:

1. **Scale:** Determine the scale of the Hub you wish to develop. Is it intended to be a Neighbourhood Hub, a Council or City-wide Hub, or a Mega Hub?
2. **Relevance:** Identify your target audience for the Hub and design the circular services to meet their needs and preferences. Do market research to gather insights on these aspects including mapping current services, needs analysis and community feedback to identify barriers and opportunities.
3. **Facilities:** Assess the space requirements and upfront costs. Determine the optimal location for the Hub considering location of target audience, access and transport options.
4. **Operation:** Identify potential operational models. Consider the human resources, equipment, policies and procedures, insurance and administration support needed to successfully operate the Hub. Determine who will manage the Hub, how it will be promoted, and how it will be funded.
5. **Collaboration:** Explore opportunities to collaborate with and support existing circular initiatives. Depending on the scale of the hub, this could involve providing or leasing spaces for circular initiatives to operate, hosting special events, or promoting other circular services to users.
6. **Make the case:** Develop a business case. This should consider the costs, but also the numerous benefits to developing circular Hubs. For example:
 - For developers - consider how a Neighbourhood Circular Hub provides additional amenities to future residents, adding value to properties, while potentially saving space by reducing individual storage needs [e.g. through a shared shed].
 - For councils - consider how a Council Circular Hub can support delivery of programs for waste and recycling, climate action, economic development, community health and wellbeing.
 - For NGOs – consider how a Community Circular Hub can enhance delivery of programs, such as food relief, raising revenue through op shops, skills and training, and more.

We encourage organisations to reach out to Green Industries SA for further information and guidance on developing Community Circular Hubs.

