

Recycling of clothes

Sometimes, helping to improve the environment is seen as being well beyond ourselves. Yet, this can be easily be done by choosing what to do with our old clothes. From one season to the other, many people get rid of some of their clothes; either because it does not fit them anymore or else because they are no longer in fashion. The question that more often arises is, what should I do with these clothes?

But in fact there is a better solution, then to throw away or clothes. Have you ever wondered that you can actually recycle the clothes? In Malta, Refab Malta is responsible for the collection of such clothes and other textiles. These clothes are collected in collaboration with some local councils and schools. Yet, in my opinion, there need to be more awareness about this and all local councils should provide a site where these clothes can be collected. All it needs it a clothing bank where citizens can deposit their clothes. These are then collected by a Refab truck and are then taken to the premises for further processing.



Clothes bank in the United States

(<http://www.ecouterre.com/textile-recycling-significantly-reduces-greenhouse-gases-says-epa/clothing-recycling-1/>)

The recycling process include sorting, re-sorting, shredding and pulling, carding and spinning. The only process carried in Malta is sorting, these are then put into big boxes and shipped to Northern Ireland. Shipment takes about two whole days. Once arrived the clothes are separated into four groups; paired shoes, wipers, flocking and fibre reclaim. If some clothes are in really good condition, they are resold. The others are recycled and are used to do new clothes. These recycled clothes will be squashed in a safe bale, and are packed and loaded onto a container truck. Finally they are ready to be shipped all around the world for people to buy their clothes.

Textile recycling is a new phenomenon being introduced in Malta. Thus an awareness campaign must be introduced to help increase this process. By doing this one will be reducing our environmental impact as clothing and textiles are nearly 100 percent recyclable. This will help reduce the greenhouses emissions.

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