

Waste Management Days

What does the
African Second-hand market look
like?

By: Ms. Carlos Cambuta

Finland, October 2024



Topics

1. Africa social and Economical context
2. The impact of second-hand market in Africa
3. Second-hand approach: Does it make sense for Africa?
4. Considerations

1. African social and economical context

- A potential continent with all imaginable natural resources with challenges in the sector of industrialization;
- A continent with high level of multidimensional poverty where the majority of population lives below the International Poverty Line of USD 2.15 a day;
- A continent with high level of social inequality; people with access to livelihood, including goods and services, and people with limited access to livelihood.

2. The impact of second-hand market in Africa

Poverty and dignity	In Angola, 80-90 percent of people dresses second-hand clothes
Limited sources of public funding	Annually, governments take over 73.5 millions tax revenues and they use it for economic and social development of their countries
Unemployment and the right to work	Second-hand market in Africa has been contributing for the access to job for many people and their families. 1.28 Million people are employed in Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia
Environment and climate change	The large number of people looking and using the second-hand goods is an indicator of protecting the planet.

3. Second-hand approach: Does it make sense in Africa?

- Development is a process made by people for people according to their level of Education and instruction. What is old for a given population it can be not for some;
- The value chain of second-hand creates not only job for people but also allows people to participate in the process of the development of their countries;
- When people are employed they are focused in thinking positively.

4. Final considerations

- Second-hand should be seen as an issue of the Human Right. People has the right for dignity of life. Is there dignity of life without clothes or job?

Key-References

- Feyertag, Joseph (2014). Job Creation in Africa's Second-hand Clothing Sector.
- Humana People to People (2023). Relatório de Progresso sobre 29 países membros da Federação para as Associações ligadas ao Movimento Internacional.
- ADPP – Angola (2024). Angola Reuse Communication Plan 2024/2025;
- Gíz (2024). Assessment study. Used textiles at Kantamanto market.