



# CIRCULARITY IN ACTION



# FOREWORD



In the garment industry, circularity represents a big step towards creating a more sustainable future for fashion. By transitioning from a linear to a circular model, we can reduce our environmental footprint, divert waste from landfills, and make a lasting positive impact on our environment. At every stage of the value chain, designers, brands, mills, and manufacturers can work closely together to fully implement circularity in fashion.

Retailers and Brands play a critical role in driving the circular economy. We encourage our customers to make smart choices and use sustainable materials such as InnoGreen™, one of TAL's innovations that help drive sustainability in the industry. When customers choose sustainable materials, they directly contribute to resource efficiency and waste reduction, inspiring others to adopt similarly sustainable practices.

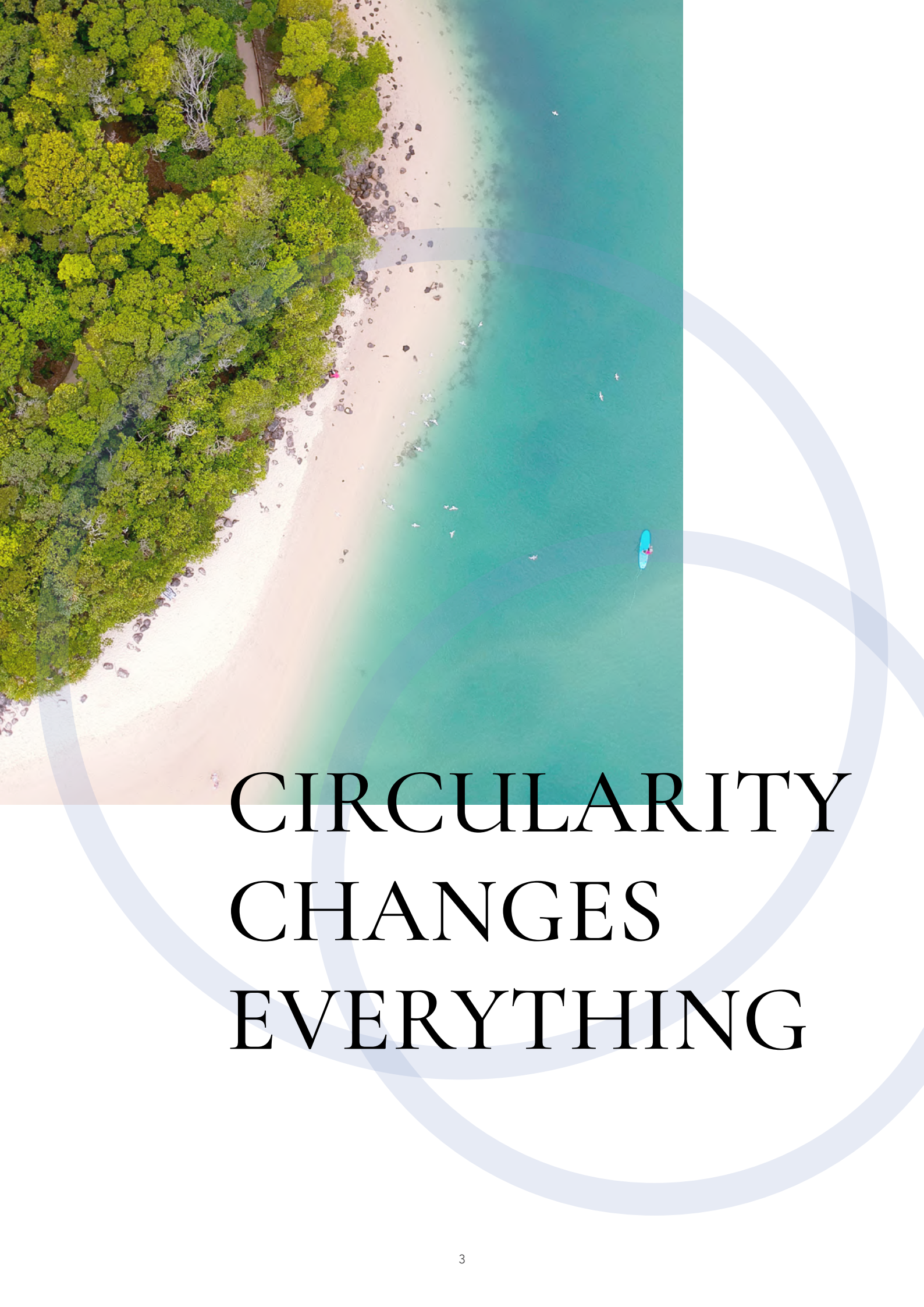
Collaboration is critical to the success of circularity. With an estimated 80% of a product's environmental impact determined at the design stage, fashion creators yield enormous power to make decisions that can have a significant outcome on the circularity of the product. TAL partnered with Redress last year to challenge emerging designers to create garments by redesigning waste from our factory production line. The knowledge generated and shared among future changemakers will help push the industry towards being more circular and sustainable.

Together, we can change the trajectory of what's possible. We can forge a new path to a greener, more sustainable world.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Rod Henderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a dark blue background.

Rod Henderson  
President of Concept2

## INDEX



# CIRCULARITY CHANGES EVERYTHING



# THE ROAD TO SUSTAINABILITY IS CIRCULAR

Since the onset of industrialization, businesses have been following a linear economic model, turning limited resources into consumer products that eventually end up as waste. A circular economy offers a viable alternative. It is a model of production and consumption that involves reuse, repair, and recycle, keeping precious resources and materials in a closed loop for as long as possible. Working together, we can implement circularity practices at every step of the value chain to shape the future of fashion.

## WHAT IS CIRCULAR ECONOMY

LINEAR ECONOMY



Take, make, dispose. Resources are used and then discarded as waste

RECYCLING ECONOMY



Transforming waste into new products to reduce resource consumption

CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Minimize waste, maximize resource efficiency through reuse, repair, and recycling, creating a closed loop system

## THREE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF CIRCULARITY



ELIMINATE WASTE AND POLLUTION



CIRCULATE PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS



REGENERATE NATURE

InnoGreen™:

FROM  
WASTE TO  
WEAR







## SPINNING A NEW TALE FOR FABRIC SCRAPS

In the cutting process, waste is generated, leading to the presence of remnant fabric on the cutting room floor. Through our innovative initiative, InnoGreen™, TAL addresses this challenge by proactively revaluing and repurposing the fabric waste. We meticulously sort and respin these materials, transforming them into textiles that can be utilized for creating new garments. By upcycling these materials that would otherwise be discarded, we actively minimize waste generation and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, the impact of this circularity practice ultimately relies on the demand and widespread adoption of these upcycled products.





## A CIRCULAR SYSTEMS APPROACH





## FEEL-GOOD QUALITY

Our eco-friendly fibers are sourced from pre-consumer waste, which helps to reduce any further degradation to the environment. The cotton produced from this closed loop recycling maintains the quality and performance, offering a feel-good option for environmentally conscious consumers.



### FIBER LENGTH

Comparable to conventional upland cotton fibers



### FABRIC BLENDS

Achieve  $\geq 30\%$  recycled cotton blend for knit and woven



### MATERIAL SOURCE

Exclusively utilize 100% cotton scraps from our Vietnam factories

## DID YOU KNOW?

### THE CYCLE OF RECYCLING



Remnants from

**5**

100% Cotton Polo Shirts



**0.15kg**

Recycled Cotton



**1\***

InnoGreen™ Polo Shirt

\* Estimate based on a 266gsm Polo shirt composed of 30% TAL recycled cotton



COLLECT

**20 Tons**

Cotton Remnants from Our Own Factory Floors (100% Cotton White)



**~53,000\*\***

Casual Shirts



\*\* Estimate based on a 150gsm casual shirt composed of 30% TAL recycled cotton





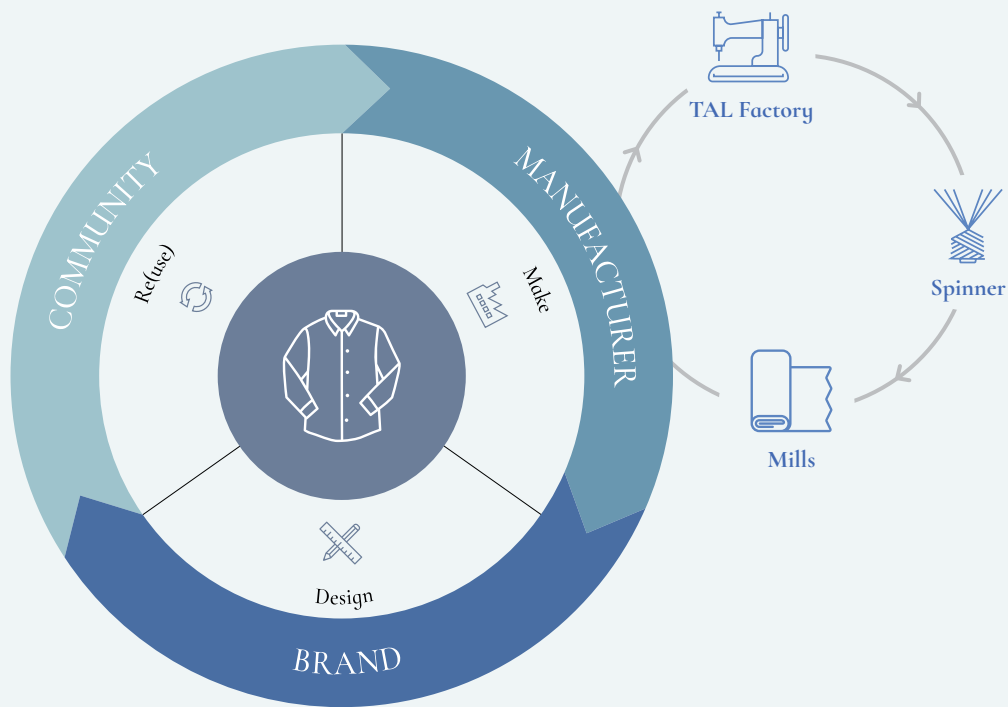
COLLABORATIVE  
ACTION FOR  
POSITIVE IMPACT



# TOGETHER TOWARDS CIRCULARITY

To drive forward meaningful progress in circularity, we are constantly seeking opportunities for collaboration with other changemakers who share our vision for a circular future.

## SUPPLY CHAIN UNITY FOR SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS



TAL has partnered with a spinner in Vietnam to recycle textile scraps and transform them back into high-quality textiles, thereby preserving their premium quality. Mills play a crucial role in this process, facilitating the efficient processing and conversion of the recycled materials. Through this collaboration, we aim to maximize resource utilization, minimize waste, and reduce our environmental footprint. By adopting circular practices in our operations, we strive to set a positive example for the industry, promote sustainability and contribute to the transition to a circular economy in textiles.





## LEADING INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION: REDRESS DESIGN AWARD 2023 AT VNG

Our factory in Vietnam hosted The Redress Design Award 2023, which kicked off with the Circular Redesign Challenge. Nine emerging designers were tasked with producing a new garment by redesigning defective pieces from a factory production line. The challenge generated new insights into circularity that will be shared to lead industry transformation.







## THE CIRCULAR REDESIGN CHALLENGE WITH TAL

Redress Design Award Finalists applied their knowledge and creativity in sustainable design in the Circular Redesign Challenge with TAL. The goal of the contest is to empower creators to bring about transformations of systems from the design stage.



## FEEDBACK FROM DESIGNERS

*"I really valued the challenges and ability to hear and connect with industry leaders. That will be so valuable to our futures as sustainable designers."*

*"I learned a lot about zero waste patterns and techniques. I feel the experience has opened my eyes on the possibilities of using defective material (in this case shirts) and creating a sustainable output."*

*"The TAL Apparel team was incredibly helpful and transparent. They felt approachable and ready to answer questions."*





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# CREDITS

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO CONTRIBUTORS

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**Redress**  
Shirley Aun

**TAL Apparel**  
Sando Chan  
Matthew Guenther  
Kit Li  
Nguyen Thi Thanh Loan

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## TALUSMORE TEAM

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Raingo Tong  
Joss Wong





TO LEAD CHANGE IN HOW THE WORLD  
SUSTAINABLY CLOTHES ITSELF

[www.talapparel.com](http://www.talapparel.com)

