

Business Models

What are circular business models? Types of business practices that improve resource management and decrease waste production and also reduce costs by keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible to get the maximum value from them.

Circular Supplies

Raw materials are replaced with fully renewable, recyclable, or biodegradable inputs. Particularly useful in businesses that use rare resources.

Resource Recovery

Uses technology to recover and reuse byproducts to maximize value. Examples include industrial symbiosis and cradle-to-cradle design.

Product Life Extension

Products that would otherwise be thrown out are maintained and/or improved through remanufacturing, repairing, upgrading, or re-marketing. This involves engineering products for easy disassembly, repair, reassembly, and upgrade.

Incentivized Return

Offer an incentive for consumers to return products at end of life. This allows companies to repair or upgrade products and resell them.

Product as a Service

Customers use products through a lease or pay-for-use arrangement. This allows companies to manage maintenance of their product and recollect them at the end of life for recycling or upgrading.

Sharing Platforms

Products that are not purchased or used often can be rented out or shared. By maintaining ownership, companies can maximize use of their products and consumers do not need to buy products for one time use.

Sources

[Zero Waste Scotland](#)
[GreenBiz](#)

