October to December: Consumerism

Low-tech - Case Study

Case Study

Month:	October to December 23
Topic:	Consumerism
Case Study Title:	The object library

Unsplash, Pop & Zebra

Name of climate or social enterprise or activist group:	The object library
What is their story?	Everyone knows the library for the books it makes available to the population. Fewer are familiar in Switzerland with the concept of object libraries. It is a place that provides the population with everyday objects, on the same principle as a library of books: several people borrow and use successively the same things. This avoids buying tools or devices that are rarely used and reduces the consumption of new goods.

Link to the case study:	https://www.manivelle.ch/reseau/bibliotheques
Why is this a good example to follow?	Object libraries were born from private initiatives, citizens concerned about the climate and who want to give meaning to the sharing of goods. The fact of lending and borrowing objects may seem simple but it brings a strong impact in the face of the consumerism movement. This initiative goes against overconsumption and most advertising spots that make it seem like we can never have enough.
What did Impact this sample case study do?	The impact is straightforward and robust because these libraries make it possible to limit the purchase and consumption of new goods and significantly reduce waste, on the one hand, but also reduce the CO_2 emissions generated by new interests. According to a study by the French Agency for the Environment and Energy Management (ADEME), the equipment of a single household represents about 6 tons of CO_2 (equivalent to 6 round trips Paris-New York by plane). And up to 25% per year of a person's emissions). [...] When used as part of an object library (2 to 10 users), the carbon footprint will be divided up to 90% between these users.
References	**ADEME. J. Lhotellier, E.Less, E.Bossanne, S.Pesnel. 2017.** Modelling and Assessing the Carbon Weight of Consumer Products and Capital Goods – Report. 217 pages. Link to the website of Switzerland energy telling an experience in a Repair-café: *https://www.suisseenergie.ch/stories/reparer-au-lieu-de-jeter/* Link to electronic device consumption statistics: https://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/fr/home/statistiques/culture-medias-societe-information-sport/societe-information/indicateurs-strategiques/environnement-ressources-naturelles-energie/collecte-dechets-electr.html Link to the erecycling website and some figures: https://www.erecycling.ch/fr/wissenswertes/oekobilanz.html Auféminin, "Fast fashion and its damage: how to change the way we consume": https://www.aufeminin.com/conseils-de-mode/fast-fashion-s4017047.html Oxfam France, "Fast fashion and slow fashion: definition and challenges": https://www.oxfamfrance.org/agir-oxfam/fast-fashion-et-slow-fashion-impacts-definitions/

	Switzerland recycling, FAQ: https://www.swissrecycling.ch/fr/substances-valorisables-savoir/faq