



# Elisa Valenti

## PROJECT ABITO

My name is Elisa Valenti and I am coordinator of the ABITO Project. I have always had a passion for sustainability and the fight against waste. The interest in sustainable fashion came thanks to my work as ABITO coordinator.

ABITO is a project for the distribution of clothes and inclusion activities created by the San Vincenzo de Paoli Association to combat poverty and promote integration.

Our values are: Respect for the dignity of others, Sustainability Our social emporium is structured like a real shop where everything is displayed on racks and mannequins, and our users can independently choose what they need. The experience of feeling like you're in a shop encourages all those people who would feel uncomfortable to get in touch with associations and charities.

The aim is to offer a free clothing distribution service to people in difficulty, give clothes a second life, create a space where people in difficulty can be welcomed and integrated.

Concretely, Dress works like this:

citizens donate their second-hand clothes to Abito

Abito volunteers redistribute them to the beneficiaries within the social emporium

part of the clothes are regenerated in popular tailoring and transformed into unique garments, which are then displayed during fundraising events

the beneficiaries take clothes for free in the social emporium and give back their time and skills to the community

citizens, during open days and fundraising events, purchase the selected clothes and contribute to giving economic sustainability to the project.

Furthermore, we constantly carry out projects with schools to raise awareness of the impact of fashion and raise awareness of volunteering.

My advice: buy less and buy better, choose second hand

My reference that I like most at the moment is the project carried out by the Atelier Riforma team, which aims to respond to the problem of textile waste and in particular of its exports abroad through the creation of a territorial network for the recovery of used clothes.