

Supporting Circular Business Models – a Client Case Study



Sustainability and making the world better is one of Haworth's foundational, company-wide values. Finding new ways to support a more circular business model is an essential part of our strategy. We explore sustainable solutions that drive environmental stewardship, economic growth, and community prosperity.

Aligned with our zero waste to landfill commitment, we work with a network of used furniture brokers and other partners to capture the highest value options for used furniture – through repair, refurbishment or charitable donations – with recycling considered as a last resort. The strategy is dependent on the specific case, including the marketability of the existing furnishings and infrastructure in the region, the demand of organizations who would like to receive used furniture as well as current implementation cost. The program is designed to suit large and small projects.

Haworth products themselves are designed for a long life and for easy dismantling and recycling. We encourage our customers to contact us regarding circular services in their region so that we can help contribute to sustainability by saving on valuable resources.

Haworth is proud to be contracted to provide the European Parliament with an operational lease for 10 years for all their new furniture. Haworth takes complete ownership of the furniture during the 10-year lease and provides cleaning and repair services.

The project started with the take-back of the old furniture of the European Parliament. Living up to its values of sustainability and its commitment to a circular economy, Haworth removed 11816 furniture pieces from the building and assessed them for reuse, resale, recycling or donation. The European Parliament and Haworth chose to donate part of the furniture to 6 schools in Kenya. In partnership with the Dutch charity organization Klaartje Derks, Haworth funded and used its expertise to manage the logistics for the furniture donation.

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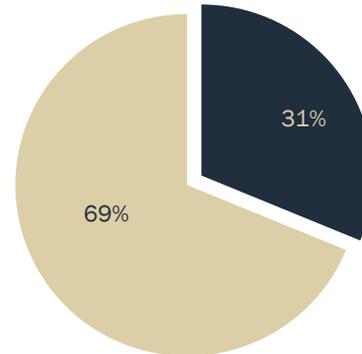
11816 Furniture items were requested by the European Parliament to be removed by Haworth

31% of removed furniture (3687 items) was selected for reuse, resale, recycling, donation

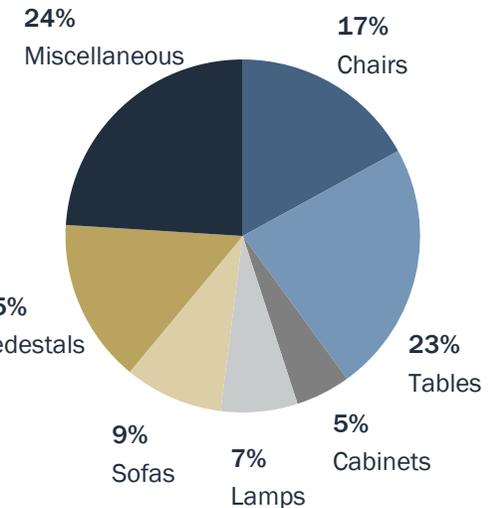
3687 furniture items spanning the entire office product portfolio were assessed



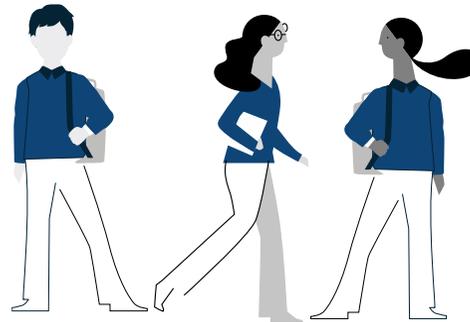
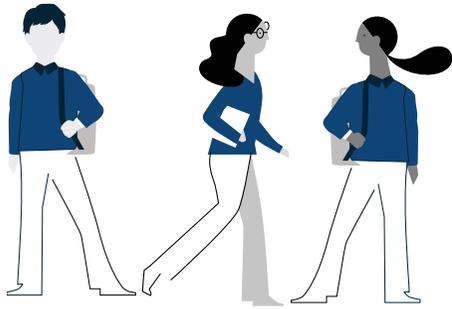
31% reused, resold, recycled, or donated



69% removed by Haworth, stored for future fitouts



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680 Furniture items donated to 6 schools in Kenya

The European Parliament, together with Haworth, as part of a social cause to reuse furniture has made an effort to alleviate some of the school communities in Kenya. Recognizing that education is the future of these communities a number of schools was chosen to work with.

The best pieces of furniture were sorted out for delivery to these 6 schools in Kisumu, Kenya:

- Arya Primary school
- Bar Agulu (Siaya)
- Manyatta
- St Francis Primary (Hambale)
- St Clare opvang en onderwijs
- St Andrews Awasi

