

Participants:

- **Hieu Nguyen Minh**
- **Onur Bacaksız**
- **David García Morillo**

Green Mirror was born out of a shared vision to create a marketplace that fosters environmental and social responsibility. This report details our commitment to ethical practices across our platform.

Vision, Mission and Values:

- **Vision:** We envision Green Mirror as a leading platform for sustainable consumption of fashion products, transforming the way people find and acquire second hand clothing.
- **Mission:** Our mission is to empower conscious consumerism by connecting local communities to a wide variety of thrift clothing, promoting reuse, and reducing environmental impact.
- **Values:** Green Mirror prioritizes environmental sustainability, community support, and responsible business practices. We offer a diverse selection of quality items at accessible prices while fostering transparency and user privacy.

Definition of the Service/Product:

Green Mirror isn't just an online marketplace; it's a platform for conscious fashion and responsible living. We aggregate catalogs from local thrift stores, providing users with a convenient and curated shopping experience. Our recommendation engine, powered by weather and user activity data, helps individuals discover clothes and items that fit their needs and local climate.

Once the user has selected their clothes, they can choose between picking them up at a closest store, as each of the partner stores acts as pick-up locations, or having them sent to their home by one of our sustainable transportation partners for a small fee.

When designing our recommender engine, we recognized the potential biases inherent in AI algorithms. To address this, we apply interpretability methodologies that align with Lipton's framework for transparent and fair AI (Lipton, 2016). This approach helps us ensure that our recommendations remain accurate and non-discriminatory, offering inclusive fashion choices that cater to diverse customer needs.

Environmental Awareness:

Green Mirror has rooted into its seeds the importance of being a carbon-positive business, by augmenting the usage of second-hand clothing, we avoid waste, promote recycling, and foster a culture of reusability.

We go beyond simply facilitating sales through our platform. We actively promote environmental awareness through:

- **Educational Content:** We partner with environmental organizations to share educational content about the impact of fast fashion and the benefits of reuse.

- **Carbon Footprint Reduction:** We constantly seek ways to reduce our carbon footprint by minimizing server energy consumption and promoting eco-friendly packaging options.
- **Circular Economy:** We champion the principles of the circular economy by extending the life cycle of existing products and diverting them from landfills.

Our environmental awareness strategy leverages advanced technology to support sustainability efforts.

Governance Model:

We believe in a transparent and accountable governance model and have implemented various structures and policies to uphold this vision.

- **Advisory Board:** We have established an advisory board composed of experts in sustainability, data privacy, and community development. The board provides valuable guidance on ethical decision-making and helps us navigate complex social and environmental issues.
- **Whistle-Blowing Policy:** Green Mirror encourages a culture of open communication. We have implemented a confidential whistle-blowing policy to ensure that any potential ethical concerns are promptly addressed.

Balancing ethical codes with legal regulations is fundamental to our approach. We draw upon the principles laid out in the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which prioritizes individual rights and consent (GDPR, 2018). Green Mirror aligns its data privacy and security practices with these frameworks, ensuring both legal compliance and ethical integrity. Our platform is designed to prioritize transparency and user control over their data, reflecting the GDPR's spirit while fostering trust and accountability in our community.

Appetite for Profit:

While financial sustainability is crucial for Green Mirror's long-term success, we prioritize a balanced approach. We are a for-profit organization, but profit is not our sole driver.

- **Social Impact:** Green Mirror is committed to reinvesting a portion of our profits into community initiatives and partnerships with local thrift stores. We believe in the power of collaboration to create a positive social impact.
- **Living Wage:** We are committed to paying a living wage to our employees and ensuring fair labor practices within our organization.
- **Sustainable Practices:** We implement environmentally conscious practices throughout our operations, from using recycled packaging materials to minimizing energy consumption.

Karaganis (2011) discusses how unauthorized sharing can ultimately lead to creative and economic benefits. In alignment with this research, Green Mirror's business model fosters a competitive yet ethical marketplace that embraces the potential of fair sharing practices. By prioritizing social impact, living wages, and sustainable operations, Green Mirror exemplifies how ethical business practices can coexist with profitability, cultivating a marketplace that benefits both the environment and the community.

Stakeholder Approach:

Green Mirror recognizes the importance of a stakeholder approach beyond shareholders. We are committed to acting responsibly towards all those who are impacted by our business:

- **Users:** We prioritize user privacy and data security. We strive to provide a transparent and trustworthy platform.
- **Employees:** We invest in employee well-being and offer opportunities for professional growth.
- **Thrift Stores:** Green Mirror empowers local thrift stores through increased accessibility and customer base expansion.
- **Communities:** We support local communities by promoting environmental awareness and partnering with relevant organizations.

The transformative potential of big data technologies, as discussed by Mayer-Schönberger and Cukier (2013), allows for innovative solutions that can enhance user experiences while maintaining privacy. Green Mirror adopts these technologies to provide personalized services to its users, using data to optimize recommendations without compromising their privacy. By prioritizing transparency and user consent, our platform ensures that all stakeholders benefit from a data-driven approach that respects their rights and fosters a more inclusive, ethical, and sustainable community.

Role Model Function:

We aspire to be a role model in the online marketplace space. Green Mirror strives to set a positive example by:

- **Innovation:** Continuously exploring new ways to integrate sustainability and ethical business practices into our platform.
- **Transparency:** Publishing clear and accessible reports on our environmental and social impact.
- **Collaboration:** Working with industry leaders and advocacy groups to elevate the standards of ethical practices in e-commerce.

The success stories of platforms like Netflix, which adapted to market demands for fair content access and influenced industry standards, serve as a precedent for Green Mirror (Williams, 2015). Similarly, we aim to be a trendsetter in e-commerce by pioneering sustainable and ethical business practices. Our platform prioritizes transparency and collaboration while actively innovating to lead the marketplace toward a more sustainable future.

By prioritizing ethical considerations alongside our business goals, Green Mirror strives to be a responsible leader in the online marketplace space, one pre-loved item at a time. We believe in the power of our platform to create a positive ripple effect, inspiring a shift towards a more sustainable and conscious future.

References:

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- [5] Williams, R. (2015, June 10). Netflix's CEO credits piracy for the success of Company's Service. *Techgag*. Retrieved from <https://techgag.com/news/netflixs-ceo-credits-piracy-for-success-of-companys-service/>