

Re-use



## Les Petits Riens

[www.petitsriens.be](http://www.petitsriens.be)

Brussels, Belgium

### The collection of 5,623 tonnes of second hand clothes helped to transfer hundreds of thousands of euros to actions against poverty

In the 1930s, Father Froidure created a shelter for men without resources or housing and provided them with a job: harvesting, sorting and reselling second hand clothing and furniture: “Les Petits Riens” was born.

Mostly known for their yellow clothes collection boxes and for their shops selling second hand fashion items and furniture, Les Petits Riens improve the employability of hundreds of people by training job seekers in household electrical appliances repair, getting them back into a daily routine and to the job market.

Combined with private donations (800,000 euros), these shops make for most of the 12 million euro turnover of Les Petits Riens. Thanks to this business model, this non-profit organisation can avoid excessive dependence on public subsidies (only 18% of the turnover) and finance its other activities to fight against poverty and social exclusion in Belgium.



**For more information about the project contact:**

Julien Coppens

CEO

E-mail: [direction@petitsriens.be](mailto:direction@petitsriens.be)



WASTECOSMART stands for "Optimisation of Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategies for the Maximisation of Resource Efficiency" and has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 319969.