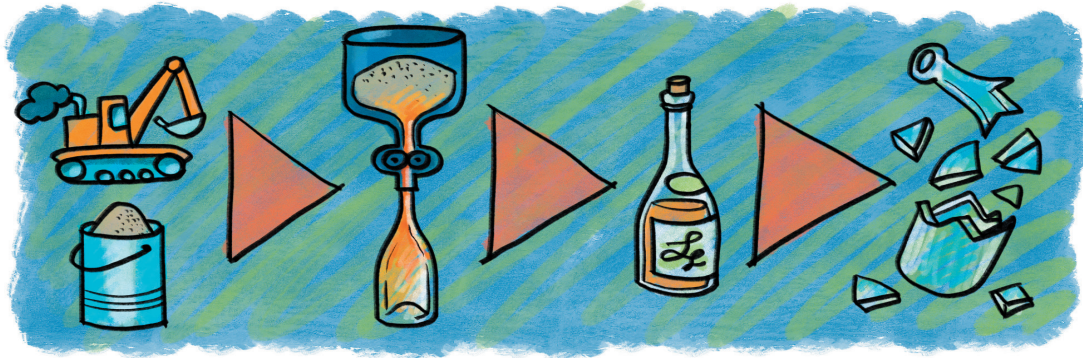




Linear vs circular economy



The linear economy is a traditional method of production and consumption of goods, in which raw materials are taken from nature, goods are created in the production process, consumers use these goods, and after a while the unnecessary items are thrown away as waste.

Example: To manufacture a glass bottle, quartz sand (silica), lime (calcium oxide) and some other inert additives are extracted from the earth. Its production is accompanied by the use of a lot of energy. The bottle can be used as a vessel through which we obtain and consume fruit juice. After consumption, the bottle becomes useless and is disposed in the trash.

The circular economy is a model of production and consumption, limiting waste to a minimum, which is aimed at extending the life cycle of materials and products. In this economic model, after the use of a given product, its partial or complete return to the production-consumption cycle follows. In practice, this means using for as long as possible, sharing, borrowing, reusing, repairing or recycling existing materials and products. Thus, this model of production and consumption brings benefits to the environment, the economy and all of us.

