

Case Study

RecycleLab

RecycleLab is helping the UK's science and healthcare labs recycle single-use plastic, driving more sustainable discoveries. Scientist Danielle Stephens founded RecycleLab after being shocked by the immense amount of plastic waste produced by labs. The company offers companies a circular solution, reducing plastic waste while helping scientists to pioneer research

The social problem

Science and healthcare labs generate large volumes of plastic waste, the majority of which is burned after use. Burning plastic waste generates large volumes of greenhouse gas emissions, creating toxic gases and contributing to air pollution. Much of this plastic waste could be safely recycled, reducing costs and environmental impact.

The venture's challenges

RecycleLab faces challenges encouraging institutions to invest in on-site plastic sterilisation and adopt new recycling behaviours in labs. Securing Health and Safety approval adds complexity. The team is focused on refining their business model to scale sustainably while maintaining long-term financial stability.

The venture's solution

RecycleLab recycles single-use plastic waste generated by science and healthcare industries into CircuLab, its branded line of recycled plastic pellets. The circular approach can significantly reduce the environmental impact of labs, with the plastic pellets used to create new products – including lab consumables.

How can you help?

You can support RecycleLab with guidance on business strategy to help the leadership refine and strengthen its business model and helping it to secure its long-term financial stability. Leadership needs advice on how to measure and communicate the environmental and social impact of the solution to potential partners and customers.

Get in touch

To learn more about our ventures or explore support opportunities, please get in touch with us at londonsocialventures@qmul.ac.uk.