Dear all,

We hope you are all well! In this month's newsletter, you can expect a collection of sustainable textiles news to keep you inspired during this season.

We've compiled an exciting list of publications, reports, tools and events to consider. Enjoy your reading while counting down to holidays such as Christmas, Hanukkah and other celebrations. To those who celebrate, we also wish you a belated Happy Diwali!

As always, we appreciate your ongoing contributions and we look forward to sharing your resources in this newsletter, and on our website. Don't hesitate to contact us if there is something you would like to share.

Season's Greetings Countdown
Join us in celebrating a year of accomplishments with our Season's Greetings Countdown! Delve into our 2023 highlights as we feature a different item each day in our calendar, reminiscing on the remarkable moments and achievements of the year. You can find our Season's Greetings Countdown by clicking here.

Updates from COP28

During the COP28 event "Runway to Net Zero in the Fashion Industry", United Nations Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action urged fashion brands to establish robust climate targets with suppliers, while policymakers were called upon to
enforce decarbonization of their supply chains. The event provided a platform to explore transformational levers aligned with science, emphasizing the roles of know-how, policy, accessible finance, and accountability, fostering collective industry action and opportunities for meaningful change. You can find more information here.

Publications and Resources

The Microfibre Consortium recently launched their Microfibre Data Portal Annual Insights report which offers an annual quantitative overview, allowing monitoring and reporting of the status of microfibre loss in tested finished fabrics and its evolving trends over time. The Data Portal is as a comprehensive repository of primary data on global
The Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action is an international initiative within the fashion sector initiated by UN Climate Change, requiring committed companies to outline greenhouse gas emissions reduction plans for a 2030 goal and provide updates every three years. The 2023 Aggregate Report of the Transition Plans indicates progress among Fashion Charter signatories: the report signals the collective greenhouse gas emissions of 21 submitting signatories are projected to decrease by approximately 47% from 2023 to 2030. Yet data suggests a need to accelerate efforts, with lack of direct ownership of assets, capacity from suppliers and technological feasibility identified.
as main barriers to transition. You can find the entire report here.

The advanced text for the upcoming Global Framework on Chemicals - For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste has been released: the primary aim of the Framework is to foster the development of chemical and waste management capacities globally while catalyzing a transformative transition to sustainable chemistry across various sectors, including textiles. It includes targets relevant for the textile sector, such as by 2030, companies aim to minimize chemical adverse effects (Target A.3), provide transparent information on chemicals in products across the value chain (Target B.2), and invest in innovations for sustainable chemistry and resource efficiency (Target D1). You can find the text here.
Collaborating with the United Nations Conscious Fashion and Lifestyle Network, Messe Frankfurt's Texpertise mobilizes the textile sector for social, economic, and environmental solutions, promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) awareness at trade fairs globally. The recently published April 2023 SDG Report outlines Messe Frankfurt's work towards the SDGs across its textile events and sets future goals, motivating ongoing efforts toward achieving these targets by 2030. You can find more information on the initiative here.
The Business of Fashion and McKinsey released the State of Fashion 2024 report, where a 2 to 4 percent global growth rate is anticipated, focusing on the luxury segment despite projections of restrained consumer spending, and concerns about geopolitical instability, economic volatility, and inflation. It highlights key themes such as climate urgency, evolving consumer preferences, the influence of AI and fast fashion, and the industry’s pivot toward sustainability. You can find the report here.

Boston Consulting Group, Textile Exchange, and Quantis have released the report "Sustainable Raw Materials Will Drive Profitability for Fashion and Apparel Brands" which, emphasizes the significant climate impact of raw materials in the
fashion industry. The study highlights the crucial need for access to sustainable materials, projecting a potential shortfall of up to 133 million tons in low-climate-impact materials by 2030. The report underscores that investing in sustainable material supply is crucial for brands and suggests that successful brands could potentially increase net profit by an average of 6% over five years. You can find the report here.

The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) India (a collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the International Labour Organization), promoting inclusive and eco-friendly manufacturing practices in India, has released two reports: "Assessment of India's Green Jobs and Just Transition Policy Readiness" examines the
potential for green jobs and the viability of a just transition in the nation, while "Assessment of Green Jobs and Decent Work Opportunities in the Textile/Garment Sector in Jharkhand State," delves specifically into Jharkhand State, a significant coal-producing region and a key area for upcoming industrial development in India.

Global Fashion Agenda (GFA) has released the 2023 edition of The GFA Monitor, offering insights aimed at guiding fashion leaders toward a more sustainable industry. This report serves as a guide, consolidating various actionable solutions and established best practices applicable within the current fashion landscape. The report integrates new data insights derived from GFA’s collaboration with UNEP on the Fashion Industry Target Consultation, drawing from the perspectives of
Textile Exchange released the 10th annual Materials Market Report, which revealed a record increase in global fiber production to 116 million tonnes in 2022, which is projected to increase to 147 million tonnes by 2030. Despite a slight rise in sustainable natural fiber programs, such as cotton and wool, the report highlights a significant increase in virgin fossil-based synthetic fiber production, particularly polyester. Additionally, the Materials Directory tool was launched, an online repository for raw material suppliers, production units, and branded materials. You can find the full report and the Directory here.
WRAP’s annual 2022-2023 report highlights that fashion’s attempts to minimize environmental impact are being hampered by overconsumption. The report finds that although there have been reductions in carbon (12%) and water (4%) per tonne of textiles from 2019 to 2022, a surge in clothing production (13%) offsets these gains. The report includes a call for a reconsideration of buying habits and for pushing the emphasis on using existing wardrobes more effectively, donating, and recycling to reduce production demands. You can download the report here.
A recent Vox article authored by Izzie Ramirez, explores the fast fashion industry and has uncovered concerns surrounding environmental impact and labour practices. The piece dissects the challenges associated with "haul culture," drawing attention to its ecological consequences and labour rights issues. UNEP had the opportunity to discuss these multifaceted aspects with Izzie Ramirez, adding insights from our work into the subject matter. The article underscores the importance of fostering awareness and initiating systemic changes within the fashion industry to address sustainability concerns, fair labour practices, and the overconsumption generated by fast fashion trends. You can access it here.
The Speak Volumes campaign challenged 100 brands to disclose their 2022 production volumes before Black Friday 2023, aiming to address the overproduction issue in the fashion industry. Participants can call on up to three brands to share their production volume data, contributing to a push for transparency and accountability within the sector. Encouraging brands to disclose this information not only aids in understanding the industry’s scale but also helps to develop data-driven strategies and policies. You can access the campaign [here](#).
Textile Exchange’s 2023 Materials Matter Photography Competition, in collaboration with Magnum Photos, aimed to shift the spotlight from the end product to the origins and significance of textiles themselves. Over 500 photographers across 70 countries submitted 8,000 photographs that explored new perspectives on the social, cultural, and environmental dimensions of textiles. Both this year’s winner, Kin Coedel, with his project “Dyal Thak,” and the runner-up, Madeleine Brunnmeier, for her series titled “Gestalten” had their works showcased at an exhibition during the 2023 Textile Exchange Conference in London. You can find the winning entries here.
The short film "Fieldnotes," introduces viewers to three UK-based farmers reshaping the relationship between fibers, textiles, and their local landscapes. Created by Joya Berrow and Lucy Jane of the Right to Roam Films, the documentary emphasizes the efforts of these farmers in sustainable material production in the UK. Focusing on flax, wool, and hemp, the film illustrates how their practices impact the environment, soil, biodiversity, water, and rural communities. You can watch the film here.

In case you know of other people interested in receiving our news, feel free to share this link to sign up for our textiles newsletter. You can find our previous newsletter editions here.