



Dear all,

We hope you are well, safe and healthy!

We are excited to share with you a new round of updates and resources in the world of sustainable and circular textiles. Last month was packed with activities and exciting events on our side: from the OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector during which UNEP hosted a side-session, the conclusion of the Fashion Industry Target Consultation, the release of a case study on textiles and trade in Thailand as well as the InTex partners meeting (more information below). We were delighted to have a chance to meet so many of you in-person or online!

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and as always, thank you for keeping us updated and we look forward to keep sharing your resources here and on [our website](#).

## We want to hear from you



The international trade of used textiles is complex; it is important to understand the flow between countries as well as the environmental and social impacts of traded textiles. Understanding these flows and impacts require both a global overview of the trade flow, as well as on-the-ground analysis of country impacts and operations. To that end, if you are working on any projects on the **trade of used textiles** (including what happens to traded used textiles in their final country of destination), or know of any, **UNEP's Textile Flagship Initiative is calling for information** on those projects to identify synergies and avoid duplication - please email [elisabeth.vens@un.org](mailto:elisabeth.vens@un.org).

## Upcoming Events



On March 14, 2:00 PM (CET), **Zero Waste Europe** are hosting a webinar titled *Beyond circular fashion – Why we need to end overproduction*. The webinar is opening the discussion about their recent report, [Beyond circular fashion](#), and will particularly go into greater depth to answer these key questions: What does a sustainable fashion business model look like?, What challenges do sustainable

businesses face?, How can governments and legislation support the transition?. Find out more and register [here](#).

## Past events



On **February 15, UNEP and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** hosted a virtual side sessions at the [OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector](#) titled *Threading your way out of the policy tangle: coordination for a sustainable and circular textile value chain*. The session brought together governments and industry representatives from different regions to discuss the impact of emerging policies and strategies on the global value chain, as well as opportunities for more systematic policy coordination and engagement between policy makers and voluntary textile industry initiatives. You can watch the recording of the event [here](#).

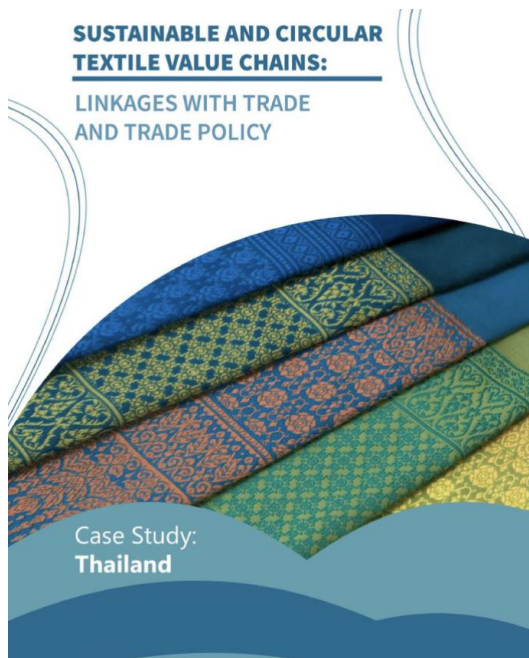


The **Fashion Industry Target Consultation (FITC)** survey and regional workshops have been successfully completed! The FITC survey was open for public consultation for three months, and received responses from 380 industry stakeholders from across all regions, in addition to the feedback collected from regional workshops with a total of 226 participants. The collective feedback from this consultation process will be incredibly valuable in refining the final set of Fashion Industry Targets, which will provide direction for the fashion industry in becoming net-positive. The UNEP Textiles team would like to thank everyone who participated and shared their feedback – the finalized set of targets will be released in June, and we will share more information on them in the coming months

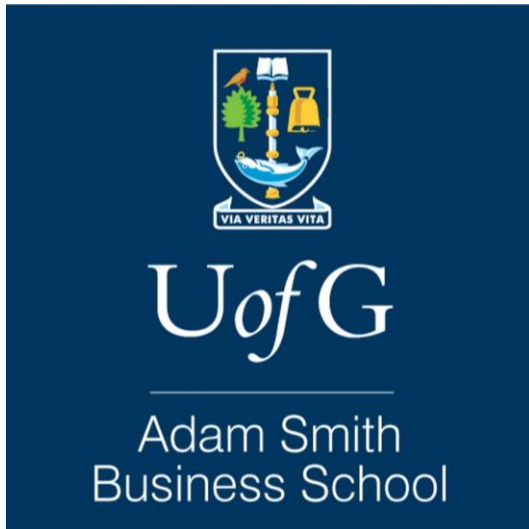


Under the ongoing EU funded project “[Innovative Business Practices and Economic Models in the Textile Value Chain \(InTex\)](#)” UNEP organized an in-person all partners meeting from **February 13– 17** in Paris, France. The meeting reviewed the progress made by the InTex project (up until now) and provided an excellent peer to peer forum opportunity for the project’s national implementing partners from Tunisia, Kenya and South Africa to exchange and learn from each other on best practices, the implementation’s strengths and challenges while also taking advantage of south-south cooperation opportunities.

## Publications and Resources



A new case study report from **UNEP** looks at environmental hotspots in textile value chains in Thailand and trade policy instruments that can have an impact on sustainability and circularity. It builds on UNEP's work on environment and trade, and its framework for Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain. Trade and trade policy have an important role to play in the transition towards a green and circular economy, yet its potential has not yet been fully realised. Find out more and read the full paper [here](#).



In 2022 **The University of Glasgow, Adam Smith Business School** published a podcast series titled *Cleaning the Loop* aimed for academic, industry and policy audiences, interested in learning about and advancing consumer clothing longevity, within a circular economic system. The video of the podcast series is now available [here](#) – of which, **UNEP** joined in conversation on *Podcast 2: Introducing the Literature*.



A new report from **The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) and World Resources Institute** provides guidance to support companies in the apparel and footwear sector in setting ambitious science-based emissions reduction targets. This guidance is intended for companies across the apparel and footwear value chain—retailers, brands, finished goods manufacturers, mills, etc.—that are primarily engaged in activities that contribute to the production, sale, and transportation of apparel and footwear products. Find out more and read the full report [here](#).



A recent briefing by the **European Environment Agency** analyses the patterns and trends in EU used textile exports from 2000 to 2019 and shows how exports have increased year by year and shifted from mainly going to Africa to being almost equally exported to Africa and Asia. The brief highlights the major challenges around what happens to used textiles in the importing countries and also shows how current and proposed EU policies aim to address these export challenges. Read more [here](#).

## In the News



Reuters reports that annual plastic production in G20 countries could rise to 451 million tonnes by 2050 (according to current rates of growth) unless a comprehensive and legally binding global treaty to curb consumption is implemented. The UN began negotiations in November on an agreement to tackle plastic pollution, with the aim of drawing up a legally binding treaty by the end of 2024. As many as 175 countries have signed up to the talks. Read more [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](#).