

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

FEBRUARY 2022 - ISSUE NUMBER 23

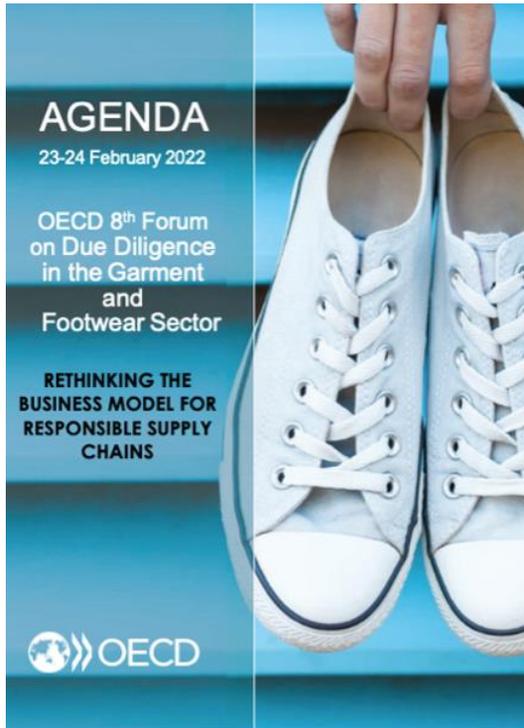
Dear All,

We hope you have had a great start to the new year and are staying healthy.

We are happy to be sharing a new round of updates and news from the world of sustainable and circular textiles – including a number of interesting events happening in February. Thank you for keeping us updated and we look forward to continuing to share your resources here and on [our website](#).

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and look forward to continuing to keep in touch!

Upcoming Events



The virtual **OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector** will take place from **February 21-25, 2022**, and brings together representatives from government, business, trade unions and civil society under the theme of “Rethinking The Business Model For Responsible Supply Chains”. The event will address emerging risks and share learnings on implementing labour, human rights, environmental, and anti-corruption due diligence in the sector across geographies. You can find the agenda and register for the forum [here](#). There are three sessions we would like to especially bring to your attention:



One of the main sessions is titled **Addressing climate risk through due diligence for RBC: Practical actions for business**. It takes place on **February 24, 2022**, from **10-11:30am CET** and reflects on collective steps to bring the sector’s contribution to climate change within global emission reduction targets, as well as preparing adaptation strategies, and includes an overview of an upcoming OECD tool that was developed with **UNFCCC** and **UNEP** to support companies in conducting due diligence on their climate risks. You can register for the different

main sessions and side-events. You will be automatically registered when you register for the forum itself [here](#).



A side session we would like to highlight is organised by **the United Nations Environment Program** and **BSR**. It is titled **Circularity and due diligence: exploring the environmental, social, and commercial potential of circular business models** and is going to take place on **February 22, 2022**, from **1-2:30pm CET**. The side session will shed light on the interplay between due diligence and circular business model innovation in diverse organisations, from large brands to SMEs. It will demonstrate how conducting these processes amidst a changing business context enables businesses to continuously identify, and create new ways of delivering environmental, social, and commercial gains. Find more information and register for the side session [here](#).



Another side session we want to recommend is titled **Europe and Asia Partnerships to Support and Link Governments and SMEs to Adopt Sustainable Textile Consumption and Production Practices**. This side session is organised by the **SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility**. It will take place on **February 21, 2022**, at **10-11am CET**. The discussions will focus on how streamlining sustainable consumption and production policies and practices may minimise economic, environmental, and social risks, while ensuring producers' profitability. Find more information and register for the side session [here](#).



The **European Union**, the **African Union Commission**, and African and EU business organisations are hosting the **EU-Africa Business Forum 2022** from **February 14-18, 2022**. The forum enables public-private dialogue between the EU and Africa at continental level and aims at increasing opportunities of sustainable economic cooperation. **DG INTPA**, the **African Development Bank**, **UNEP**, and **Switch to Green Facility** are organising a side event to the forum titled **Insights from Circular Textiles Initiatives across EU and Africa**. The event will take place on **February 14,**

2022, from 4-5:30pm CET and it will showcase innovation, highlighting learning opportunities and providing recommendations on attracting investment for EU-Africa cooperation on circular textiles, based on lessons-learned from previous interventions, including Fashionomics Africa, the InTex project and SWITCH programmes. Find more information [here](#) and sign up for the forum [here](#).

Job Postings



UNEP is looking for an **experienced consultant to join the Consumption and Production Unit** and work on the circularity agenda. The main responsibilities include conducting research on circular economy policies, raising the profile of the UNEP circularity platform, and supporting the work of the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE). The consultancy opportunity is open until February 8th, 2022, and can be found [here](#).

Initiatives & Projects



The **African Development Bank Group** has launched their **Fashionomics Africa Contest 2022**. This competition is organised in collaboration with **UNEP, Parsons School of Design, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, and BPCM**, and aims to highlight the continent's talented and audacious entrepreneurs who are disrupting the fashion world by placing sustainability at the heart of their design and production. They are looking for African brands that will bring change to the ways we produce, buy, and recycle fashion to encourage more sustainable and circular shifts in the fashion industry. The deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2022**. If you are an African designer and a fashion entrepreneur over 18 years old, based in Africa, operating in the textile, apparel, or accessories industry and you have launched a fashion business you can submit your proposal [here](#).



Siegelklarheit

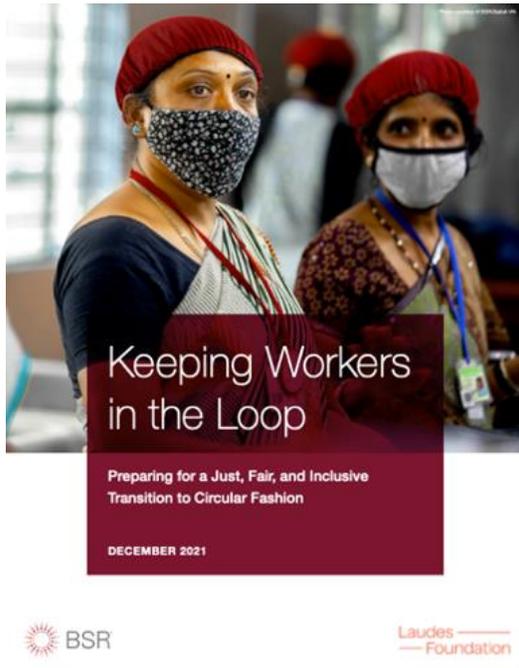
The **German Federal Government** has revised their initiative **Siegelklarheit** to make the site more appealing to users, improve the rating methodology and expand the scope of information. The initiative aims to support consumers in integrating sustainable purchasing decisions into their everyday life by providing information on credible labels through a

transparent, independent, and comprehensive assessment system. Find the page relating to textile labels [here](#).

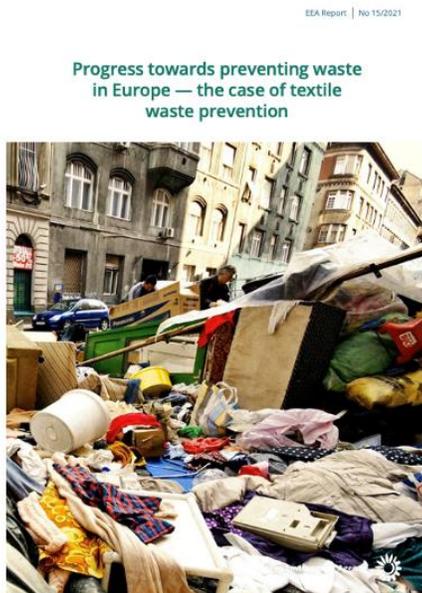
Publications



Remake has released its **2021 Fashion Accountability report**. The report examines top fashion brands' actions on wages, commercial practices, environmental justice, and more. It aims to serve as a wake-up call and a roadmap for systemic change in fashion, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the report [here](#).



A new report from **BSR**, supported by **Laudes Foundation**, titled **Keeping Workers in the Loop**, explores the job impacts of the circular fashion transition. This publication is informed by collective research with industry leaders and stakeholders. From automation to climate disruption, it considers the impact of a changing industry context and dynamics on workers and offers recommendations to industry and policymakers on creating a just, fair, and inclusive circular fashion system. Download the report [here](#), and attend the BSR and UNEP side session at the OECD Forum mentioned above to hear more.



The **European Environment Agency** has published a new report titled **Progress towards preventing waste in Europe — the case of textile waste prevention**. It discusses the opportunities to decouple the waste generation in Europe from the region's economic growth and highlights opportunities to prevent waste more effectively, with a spotlight on textiles. Download the report [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](#).