

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

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Dear all,

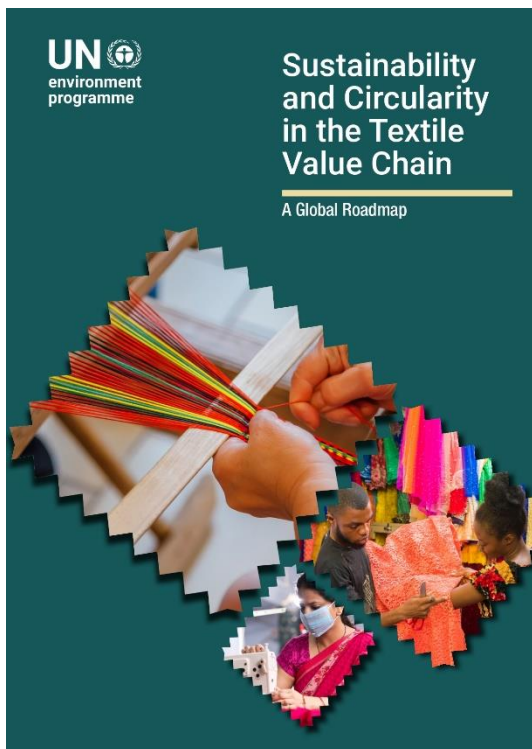
We hope you are all well, safe and healthy! We are excited to share a new round of updates and news from the world of sustainable and circular textiles with you.

The past month has been an exciting one for us - we launched our Global Roadmap report at the World Circular Economy Forum. Many of you have been involved in the development of the Roadmap and we thank you all for helping us achieve this important milestone and hope it will be useful for your work! More on this report below, as well as other important updates from the industry.

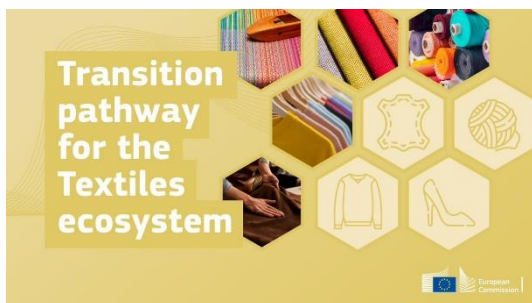
June is another exciting month, with the Global Fashion Summit coming up, where we will launch the Sustainable Fashion Communications Playbook (see below). We hope to see many of you at the Summit!

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.

Publications and Resources



We are delighted to announce **UNEP's** latest report: **Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain - A Global Roadmap**. Launched at the WCEF, this report outlines what each stakeholder group can do individually and collectively to reach the shared destination of a circular textile sector. The report builds on research and consultations with over 140 textile value chain stakeholders, whom UNEP thanks for helping define a common agenda of transformation towards sustainability and circularity. Access our [website](#) to read more about this report and to download a PDF version. The Executive Summary is also available [here](#), as well as a video highlighting the key findings [here](#). Stay tuned, as the Annexes, with a deep dive into each stakeholder group's priorities, will be available soon.



The European Union has launched their **Transition pathway for the textiles ecosystem**. This policy paper aims to explain what the digital and green transitions entail for the textiles ecosystem, as well as what particular

commitments and activities are required to support this transformation. Access it [here](#).



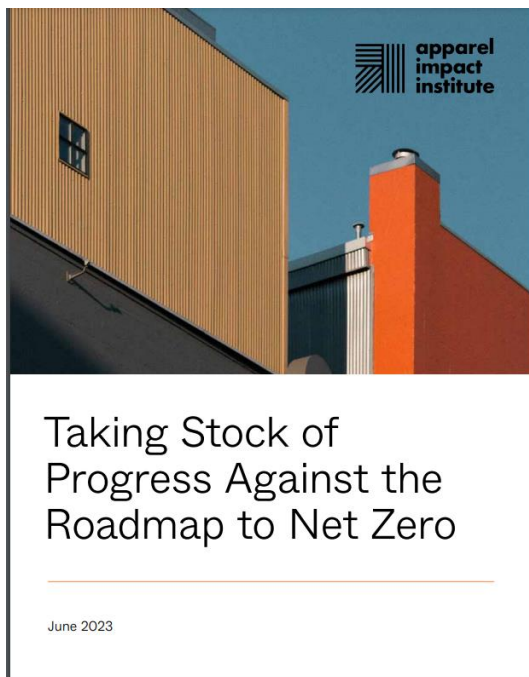
Planet Tracker has released a new report: **Textiles Compensation**. This publication critically assesses textile companies on their environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance. With this report, Planet Tracker calls on investors to extend pay performance policies beyond financial metrics and include sustainability-related elements. Access the report [here](#).



The **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** has published a brief on practices, initiatives and policies around the **circular economy and emerging services in the retail sector**, arguing for quality circular jobs and an equitable transition to a circular economy. The study provides an overview of established and new circular business models (particularly repair, resale, rental, and reuse) in three industries: clothes, electrical and electronic equipment, and food. The report explores relevant decent work opportunities, challenges, and crucial areas for future action by mapping these business models. The publication can be accessed [here](#).



Developed within the framework of the GEF project 'Global Best Practices on Emerging Chemical Policy Issues of Concern under the **Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)**', a policy brief on **chemicals in the textile sector** was published. The brief explains the progress so far and how sector interest in the issue could be tapped into sectoral engagement under the post-2020 chemicals and waste framework (see also entry under 'upcoming events'). Please find a link to the brief [here](#).



Taking Stock of Progress Against the Roadmap to Net Zero is the sequel to the **Apparel Impact Institute's (Aii) 2021 Roadmap to Zero** report. With this new report, Aii aims to refresh the GHG estimate for the apparel sector. The publication also includes examples of companies and organisations taking action to reduce emissions across six interventions. While the reductions needed to stay within 1.5°C will take a large effort, the examples in this report are intended to show that progress is possible. Access it [here](#).

We want to hear from you



Organised by **United Nations University (UNU) FLORES**, the **Textile Symposium** will take place **6 and 7 September** in Dresden, and UNEP will be attending. Hence, feel free to reach out if your organisation will attend as well and wants to be in touch. Bringing together representatives from academia, industry, international organizations, and government officials from Germany, Bangladesh, and other countries, the symposium aims to address challenges and share best practices in the textile sector, with a focus on responsible resource

usage along the supply chains of both the Global North and the Global South. The project team invites you to submit an abstract for an oral presentation along the proposed themes. The deadline for this Call for Abstracts is **14 June** and submissions can be made [here](#).



The **Product Lifetimes And The Environment (PLATE)** conference plans to release special issues on textile sustainability and circularity themes. In case of interest, please find here a call for abstracts on their [International Journal of Sustainable Fashion & Textiles](#) (due 30 June 2023), [Circular Economy Journal](#) (due 30 June 2023), and [Resource, Conservation, and Recycling Journal](#) (due 31 October 2023).

How We Wear Our Culture Is How We Tell Our Stories

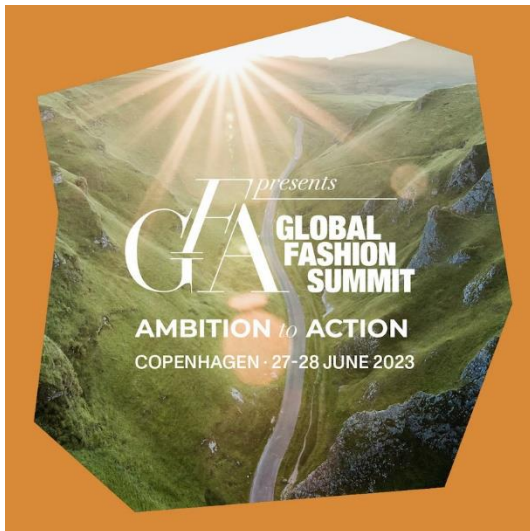
WIPO Photography Prize for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Youth 2023



The Traditional Knowledge Division of the **World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)** has launched the second edition of the **WIPO Photography Prize for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Youth**, with this year's theme being "How We Wear Our Culture Is How We Tell Our Stories". Under this theme, members of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities who are under 30 years old are invited to take and submit photographs that deliver an important message about their

communities' clothing. Contestants of this competition have a chance to win up to CHF 3,500 (~ USD 3,850). More information about the prize is available on [WIPO website](#) in the 6 UN languages + Portuguese. The entries should be submitted through this [online submission platform](#) by **July 2**.

Upcoming Events



On **27-28 June**, the [Global Fashion Summit](#) will take place in **Copenhagen, Denmark**, with the theme 'Ambition to Action'. In hosting this event, the **Global Fashion Agenda (GFA)** intends to present impact-driven experiences and convene core fashion stakeholders, including designers, youth citizens, industry leaders and representatives from investment, policy and NGOs. Sessions will include the launch of the Global Textiles Policy Forum, a platform for governments and textile industry associations, as well as the session on 'Shifting the Narrative: The Storytelling Playbook', where we will officially launch our **Sustainable Fashion Communications Playbook**. We are very excited to attend this event and hope to meet many of you there as well!



On **20 and 21 June**, the **Inter-Organizational Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)** will hold a two-day multi-stakeholder expert workshop on "Advancing Chemicals and Waste Management in Economic Sectors and Industries" in **Geneva, Switzerland**. More information on this can be found [here](#).

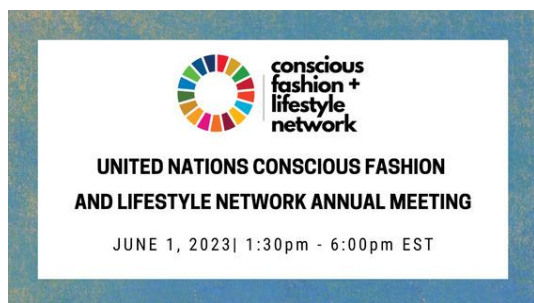
For those not able to attend the workshop in Geneva, the IOMC will host an [online consultation](#) to collect further stakeholder input on **20 June** at 2:30-4:30pm (Geneva time), addressing cross-cutting topics of relevance to industries including textiles. Discussions will focus on developing international guidance and activities to spur and scale-up action to achieve the sound management of chemicals and waste within the future "Beyond 2020" framework. Feedback and results from the consultation will inform the second day of in-person workshop discussions.

Please register your interest to participate with Oliver Wootton, UNITAR (oliver.wootton@unitar.org), by **10 June**.

Past events



Last week the [World Circular Economy Forum \(WCEF\)](#) took place in Helsinki, Finland. We were delighted to participate in this event, represented by Claire Thiebault, who launched our new Roadmap report during the session "Wardrobe of the Future". Recordings of the [event](#) and the particular [session](#) are available online.



On 1 June, the **UN Conscious Fashion and Lifestyle Network Annual Meeting** took place in New York. During this event, the Network reviewed how the stakeholders in the fashion industry are mobilizing expertise, innovation, technology, and resources towards achieving a more just and equitable world. UNEP's Isabella Marras spoke in the session on climate action, linking to our recently launched Roadmap report. The event can be rewatched [here](#).



The **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)** has announced a new study on **global second-hand clothing trade and disposal in Chile**. In 2021, Chile was the world's fourth-largest importer of second-hand and unsold clothes and the first in Latin America. The research, conducted with assistance from the European Commission, is scheduled to be launched in Santiago and Geneva in the second half of 2023. More information on this study as well as its preliminary findings can be found [here](#).

In the News



On 1 June, with 600 votes in favour, 17 votes against, and 16 abstentions, the **European Parliament** approved suggestions for the **EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles**. The text calls for textile products sold in the EU to be more durable, easier to reuse, repair and recycle. Their production should respect human, social and labour rights, the environment and animal welfare throughout the supply chain. Members of the European Parliament also want EU and national measures to put an end to “fast fashion”. More information can be found [here](#).



In April, the Canadian environmental non-profit organisation **Canopy** was awarded \$60 million in funding through **The Audacious Project**. This presents a milestone for the organisation and will empower Canopy's work on decarbonising supply chains - including those in the textile industry. By catalysing the commercial production of low-carbon and circular solutions across the globe, Canopy aims to promote the adoption of circular, next-generation materials for paper, packaging, and textiles over this decade. Learn more about their plans through this [video](#) and dig deeper on their website [here](#).



Around the World in 80 Fabrics is a non-profit organisation that celebrates the global biodiversity of eco-friendly fabrics and works to elevate the voices of maker communities by reconnecting humanity and textile manufacturing with our living ecosystems. Online, you can access the [fabric library](#), which features sustainably-sourced and produced fabrics from across the world and is regularly updated. In June, the team will be in Morocco to explore local plants and soil microbes for natural dye potential and as healthier alternatives to current toxic dye practices. For more information, access this [webpage](#).

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](#).