

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

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Dear All,

We hope you are all well and safe! For those who are coming back from holidays, we hope you are well-rested and ready for a busy September!

We are excited to be sharing a new round of updates and news on the world of sustainable and circular textiles. 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 update and look forward to continuing to keep in touch!

Events



On **14 September from 11:00 to 12:30 CEST**, the **Policy Hub** and **MEP Delara Burkhardt** are collaborating to host a webinar on **'Tackling Misleading Claims and Empowering Consumers in the Textiles Sector'**. Policymakers and representatives from the industry and civil society will engage in an open dialogue on some of the remaining challenges surrounding transparency and the solutions necessary to stimulate sustainable customer behaviour, while also driving operational change within businesses. The Policy Hub's recent [position paper](#) on transparency will be launched, presenting key recommendations from the apparel and footwear industry. Read more and register [here](#).



Join **UNEP** at the **World Circular Economy Forum 2021** on **15 September from 13.00 to 14.00 CEST**, where we will be running an event on **'Accelerating sustainability in the textile value chain: inspiring action and behaviour change'**. The event will promote key outcomes of the upcoming UNEP textile roadmap report and will feature insights from UNEP's sustainable fashion communications strategy, focused on the role of consumer-facing storytellers and the power of shifting the narrative to strengthen demand for a positive fashion future. The panel discussion will focus on the importance of consumer engagement for a sustainable transition and how actors can effectively



communicate around sustainability. Register to join and find out who will be speaking [here](#).

SDA Bocconi
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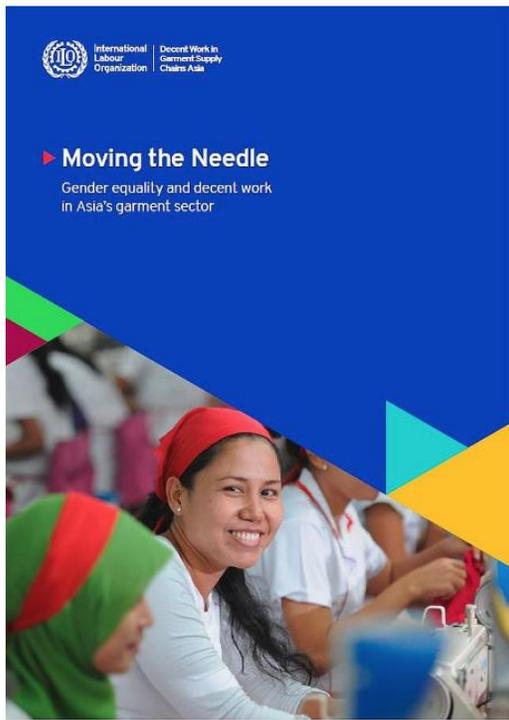
The **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe** and the **Monitor for Circular Fashion, Sustainability Lab of SDA Bocconi School of Management** are holding a [hybrid workshop](#) on **21 to 23 September** in Milan, Italy. Their event, '**Accelerating action for the sustainable and circular garment and footwear industry of the future**' is the culmination of several years of work with hundreds of experts to improve sustainability in the garment and footwear sector. Over the three days, industry stakeholders will gather to share findings and take part in practical trainings on approaches and standards for improved transparency and traceability that can drive progress towards circular economic models. See the full programme and register to join [here](#), either virtually or in person!

Publications



International
Labour
Organization

The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** has released a [Just Transition Toolkit for the textile and garment supply chain in Asia](#) as part of the **Decent Work in Garment Supply Chains Asia project**. The toolkit looks at how to drive environmentally sustainable behaviours and practices throughout the textile and garment supply chain in Asia and provides specific advice on just transition in the garment sector to social partners and industry stakeholder groups. The toolkit consists of reports, briefs, highlights, videos, and infographics on the following topics: best practices environmental regulation and policy settings; eco-innovation processes and barriers to uptake; multi-stakeholder initiatives; and just transition in the sector. Additional materials will be added as they become available.



The garment sector in Asia has brought unprecedented opportunities for advancing women's economic empowerment. Yet, many opportunities remain yet to be realised as persistent gender gaps undermine the achievement of Decent Work for all. The recent pandemic has both underscored and further exacerbated many of these issues. A new ILO report '[Moving the Needle: Gender equality and decent work in Asia's garment sector](#)' examines the status and trends relating to women and gender dynamics in Asia's garment sector. Building off the theory of change and set of recommendations and key messages developed by the paper, a [regional Road Map](#) (currently under consultation) is being developed to promote increased momentum, cooperation and synergies for gender equality within Asia's garment sector during the period 2021-22.

In the news



UN Assistant Secretary-General and Head of UNEP's New York Office, **Ligia Noronha**, was featured as a guest author in the **Centre for Responsible Business's Blog on Responsible Business**. [Read her article](#) to understand more about how value chain-based solutions can address the world's environmental and socio-economic crises. The value chain approach "*fosters connections between all of us – businesses, individuals, policy makers, the scientific community & civil society – to scale sustainable win-win solutions.*"

A screenshot of a Sky News article. At the top left is the "sky news" logo. A navigation bar includes links for Home, UK, World, Politics, US, Climate (which is underlined), Science & Tech, Business, Ents & Arts, Travel, Offbeat, and More. The main headline reads "ClimateCast podcast: Fashion shouldn't cost the Earth". Below the headline is a video player with a play button, the title "Fashion shouldn't cost the Earth", and a progress bar showing 00:00 to 30:15. The video player has social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Email. Below the video player is a small text block: "Why you can trust Sky News". At the bottom, there is a short paragraph: "This week on ClimateCast Anna and Katerina are talking all things fashion, speaking with top designers, luxury brands and activists about how we can make sure the most glamorous of all industries doesn't cost the Earth."

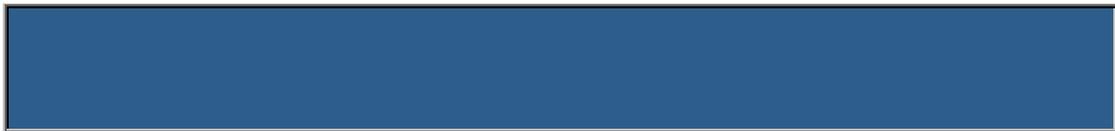
Listen to **ClimateCast**, Sky News' new podcast that unpacks the climate issues facing us and looks for promising solutions to change course. In the episode, '**Fashion shouldn't cost the Earth**', Angela Adams, Quantis' Global Apparel Lead, uses data and science to highlight the scale of the fashion industry's impact and shares insights on how companies and consumers can take action. Other guests include the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, Fashion Revolution, the British Fashion Council. Check it out [here](#).



You may also be interested in [Manufactured](#) - 'a podcast about sustainability and the making of fashion' in which hosts **Jessie Li & Kim van der Weerd** share insights from their experiences of working within the fashion supply chain. Recent episodes have featured Matthijs Crietee, Secretary General of the International Apparel Federation. Among other topics, Matthijs offers examples of partnership models, and shares his thoughts on how digitisation can help reshape business processes, and by extension, supply chain relationships.



META - the news channel of the **European Environmental Bureau** - met some of the people, projects, and businesses on the frontline of Europe's textile transformation to find out what their challenges are and what we can learn from them. Check out their [photo essay](#) on Europe's textile transition, released in 2020. Through these stories, META gives a snapshot of the diversity of activity across Europe when it comes to efforts to ensure textiles don't make their way to waste.



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](#).