

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

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Dear all, we hope that you are staying safe and well.

This is a busy period and it's great to see so many events on sustainable and circular fashion – we really enjoy 'meeting' members of our community at many of these virtual events!

At UNEP, we have been holding consultations and are making great progress on our upcoming report, outlining a roadmap to greater sustainability and circularity in the textile value chain. We look forward to sharing the report with you all later this year!

As always, thank you for keeping us updated and please do keep on sending your news for us to share in our newsletter and on our [website](#).

We hope you enjoy reading this update and look forward to continuing to be in touch!

Upcoming Events



In preparation for World Environment Day on 5th June, the **EU** in partnership with **UNEP** and the **South African Government** invite you to celebrate the end of the implementation of the **Support to Green Business** component under SWITCH Africa Green and the launch of the **InTex project** (Innovative Business Practices and Economic Models in the Textile Value Chain) in South Africa. View the event programme [here](#) and **follow the event live [at this link](#) today (June 4th) at 11h00 to 12h45 CEST / SAST.**



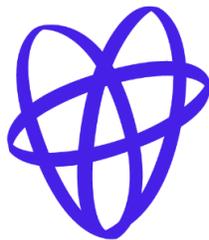
The **Italian G20 Presidency** and the **European Union** invite you to the **G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue Workshop on Circular Fashion**, which will be held on **June 7th at 12:00 – 15:00 CEST**. The workshop is designed to inform discussions in the G20 Environment track as part of the Italian G20 Presidency priority on Circular Economy. It will explore the G20's role in promoting the Circular Economy in the fashion sector, exploring how circular business models can help the fashion sector improve economic, environmental, and social performance. UNEP's Head of the Consumption and Production Unit, **Elisa Tonda**, will be speaking alongside others from our textile expert community! Register [here](#) to participate via Webex.



Textile Exchange is running a webinar on **Creating Material Change – The State of the Sector in 2020** on **June 9th at 10:00 – 11:00 EDT**. This webinar will provide a snapshot of the latest insights on fibre and material sourcing in the textiles sector, drawing on the 2020 Material Change Index and Insights. After a quick tour of the results and new tools, the webinar will dive into Q&A so you can learn directly from the experts. Those interested can register [here](#) to participate.



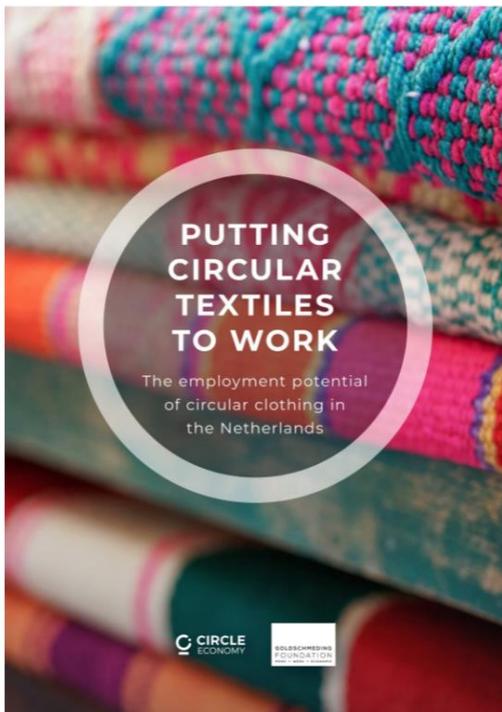
Join the launch webinar for the **InTex project** on **15th June at 11:00 CEST**. [InTex](#) is a three-year project led by UNEP and funded by the European Union (EU) to promote sustainable business practices and economic models in the textile value chain. The InTex project has five components: two components with a global reach, and three components that focus on national implementation in three countries in Africa: Kenya, South Africa, and Tunisia. The national components aim to increase the uptake of eco-innovation and use of Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) within textile SMEs while incorporating a strong component on LCA data generation. The launch will feature insights on the role of circularity and the textile value chain from UNEP, the EU, and InTex partners. Interested in joining the virtual launch? Register [here](#).



Circular Fashion Partnership

The Circular Fashion Partnership invites you to join an upcoming event on **Policy Gaps and Opportunities for circular fashion in Bangladesh** on **June 16th at 14:00 – 16.00 Bangladesh Standard Time or 10:00 – 12:00 CEST**. Join to learn more about the circular fashion business model they have been developing together with leading manufacturers, brands, and recyclers in Bangladesh, and to discuss opportunities and how to overcome barriers to accelerate the transition to a circular industry that distributes value across all actors. The event brings together prominent policy

makers and industry executives to explore how Bangladesh can become a leader in circular fashion - follow [this link to register](#).



Circle Economy have released a report coupling the research conducted by Circle Economy and **HIVA** for the **Putting Circular Textiles to Work** project. This research has been conducted to support the Dutch clothing industry in ensuring a just transition to a circular economy. The research finds that prioritising reuse and repair strategies could create 24,286 new full-time equivalents (FTEs) in repair and maintenance and 4,611 FTEs in second-hand sales, as well as shift 17,319 FTEs from first- to second-hand sales. Following the official launch on June 2nd, a project webinar will be held on **June 21st at 15.00 - 16.00 CEST**, for which you can register [here](#). Those interested can also [download the report](#) or a shorter briefing and snapshot report.

News



**UN ALLIANCE
FOR SUSTAINABLE
FASHION**

At an **informal virtual policy dialogue** held on 19th May and hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), members of the **UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion** and stakeholders of the **Moldovan fashion industry** came together to discuss the potential of this sector to contribute to the country's implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The discussion focused on challenges currently facing the fashion and textiles sector in Moldova with regard to becoming more sustainable; representatives from UNEP, the International Trade Centre, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organization and the UN Industrial Development Organization came together to offer recommendations to tackle these challenges, considering also recent COVID-19 impacts. Read the full **press release** on the policy dialogue [here](#).

UNECE recently launched 'The Sustainability Pledge' for measurable and verifiable sustainability in the garment and footwear sector, as a Call to Action for greater Traceability and Transparency in the sector. In addition to the Pledge, a [toolkit of policy recommendations, guidelines and standards](#) endorsed by UNECE member States has been put together to provide traceability and transparency solutions for tracking any garment or item of footwear from raw components to point of purchase. The Sustainability Pledge invites governments, garment and footwear manufacturers, and industry stakeholders to pledge to apply this toolkit of measures and take a positive step towards improving the environmental and ethical credentials of the sector. You can read the full [press release here](#) and [register your actions](#) up to **10th September!** Feel free also to share with your networks using the hashtag [#TheSustainabilityPledge](#) and tagging [@UNECE!](#)



Have your say!



You may be interested in joining the **workshop on sustainable consumption and circular business models in the textile sector**, to be run by the **EU Commission** on **June 15th at 9.00 - 13.00 CEST**. This will be the third in a series of targeted stakeholder workshops to gather input on challenges and gaps as well as opportunities for the sector towards sustainability. The workshop aims to identify barriers and solutions, including policy measures, to promote consumption with higher value retention and lower environmental impact, including mainstreaming of circular business models. Participants will discuss information needs of consumers in relation to understanding and adhering to sustainable consumption. Moreover, the workshop strives to identify recommendations for promoting, enforcing, reporting, monitoring and training in relation to Green Public Procurement. To participate, preregister via [this link](#) by **June 4th**.



The **EU Commission** is also running a **public consultation on the EU strategy for sustainable textiles**. Input is welcome from actors along the textile value chain, as well as public authorities, citizens, consumers and social partners, investors and research, innovation and training centres. The European Green Deal and the Circular Economy Action Plan, as well as the 2020 Industrial Strategy, all identified the textile sector as a priority sector where the potential for circularity is high and therefore key for the transition towards a more sustainable and circular economy. This initiative aims to help the EU shift to a climate-neutral, circular economy where products are designed to be more durable, reusable, repairable and recyclable. Contribute your opinion via the [online questionnaire](#) by **4th August!**



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](#).