

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

NOVEMBER 2020 - ISSUE NUMBER 10

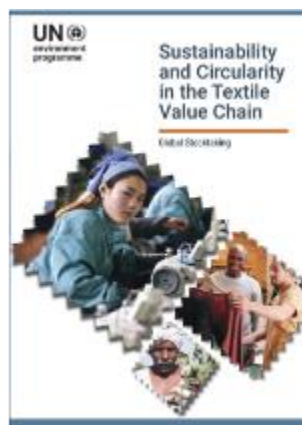
Dear all,

During this busy period, we are happy to share with you our usual round of updates and news on a collection of your work on sustainability and circularity in the textile value chain (in our brand new format).

As always, thank you for keeping us informed and please do keep on sending us your news – we look forward to reading from you and sharing your resources also via our [website](#).

We hope you enjoy reading it and please keep in touch!

New publications



On 20 October 2020, UNEP launched a new report [“Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain”](#). Based on research by UNEP and FICCI as well as multi-stakeholder consultations, the report identifies the key environmental and socio-economic impacts along the textile value chain and takes stock of existing initiatives working to address them. It also identifies three priority actions needed to move towards a more sustainable and circular textile value chain. We’d like to again express our gratitude to all of you who have helped shape the report and its recommendations.



Fashion for Good, together with Circular Apparel Innovation Factory (CAIF) released a new report [“The State of Circular Innovation in the Indian Fashion and Textile Industries”](#). It maps innovation opportunities across India’s supply chain and highlights the exciting developments with which the region is accelerating towards circularity. The report also identifies areas for attention and investment, thereby supporting stakeholders and investors wanting to better understand the sector and maximize positive impact.



The International Labour Organization, together with Cornell University, have released a new research brief: [“The supply chain ripple effect: How COVID-19 is affecting garment workers and factories in Asia and the Pacific”](#). The report assesses how COVID-19 has led to worker layoffs, factory closures and earning inequalities, thereby disproportionately affecting women. It calls for industry-wide solidarity and provides recommendations for increased social dialogue, support for enterprises and social protection.

Vision of a circular economy for fashion



The [“Vision of a circular economy for fashion”](#) by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation is now available for download online. The vision illustrates how a circular economy for fashion can help tackle the root causes of climate change, waste, and pollution. It maps out alternative growth opportunities and targets, for which collaborative efforts, large-scale innovation and investment as well as transparency are required.



A recent survey, [the Consumer Behind Fashion's Growing Secondhand market](#), which provides insights of 7,000 individuals from six countries was released. The survey is powered by data from Vestiaire Collective's consumers and has uncovered deeper insights into the trend. It suggests that the global secondhand market will likely grow over the next five years by a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 15% to 20%.



UNECE has submitted for public review its draft policy recommendation and implementation guidelines. The consultations are open online until the 20 December. You can provide your feedback and suggestions via [this link](#).

Events



For the launch of UNEP's new report "[Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain](#)", the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership (GGKP) and UNEP hosted an [online webinar](#) which gathered 482 attendees. Interesting discussions revolved around questions such as: what are the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the textile value chain? What are priority actions to create a circular and sustainable textiles industry? You can watch the webinar's recording [here](#) and access all presentations and materials [here](#). Feel free to also watch the video highlighting the key findings of the report available [at this link](#).



The African Development Bank has organised the third episode of the Fashionomics Africa webinar series "Technology at the heart of tomorrow's fashion". The session took place on Friday, 13 November 2020 from 12pm to 2pm GMT; you can listen to the recording [here](#). Supported by fashion entrepreneurs, industry experts and business insiders as speakers, the webinar highlighted the promising alliance between fashion and technology and discussed about the technological progresses disrupting the fashion industry.



As part of the 12th edition of its Textiles & Apparel Conference “Building India’s Global Competitiveness in Textiles and Apparel”, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organizing in collaboration with OECD a session on “Circularity to create Sustainable Fashion and Textile Industry” on Wednesday 2 December, 14:00 – 15:00 IST. Together with speakers from UNEP, Aditya Birla, H&M, Lakshmi Machinery, CII and the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB), the session will focus on all issues related to sustainability, compliance and circular economy. [Register here for free](#) and remember to select “invite” as participant type.

FASHMASH

FashMash is organizing on Monday 30 November a webinar interview with Dr Helen Crowley, one of the world’s foremost experts on the intersection of fashion and biodiversity. The interview will focus on how fashion companies can meet their biodiversity commitments and on how fashion’s reliance on nature makes it a huge contributor towards biodiversity loss. You can register [here](#).

INVITATION CIRCULAR FASHION EVENT

The Global Fashion Agenda is organising a [cross-industry event on Circular Fashion](#) on 30 November from 3 – 5 pm CET (8 – 10 pm Bangladesh Standard Time) convening on circular fashion . The event will also presents the final report of the [2020 Circular Fashion System Commitment](#) and launch the Circular Fashion Partnership in Bangladesh.



Textile Exchange will be hosting several round tables from the 7 to 18 December to drive collective action for core preferred fibers and materials. With the launch of the 2030 Climate+ Strategy, the round table summits will be essential contributors to drive industry adoption of preferred fibers to achieve the strategic goal. Registration is required and the cost to attend is free. Learn more and register [here](#).



UNECE hosted its 3rd policy dialogue for the textile and leather traceability and transparency project on 23-24 November. In a rapidly evolving policy and regulatory landscape, the virtual event aimed at providing industry actors and UN/CEFACT experts contributing to the project with a detailed overview of project progress. Please kindly email olivia.chassot@un.org or maria-teresa.pisani@un.org to request the recording.

The seminar “[Dialogue for a sustainable textile value chain focusing on environment and chemicals](#)” organized by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the Swedish Chemicals Agency on October 7 is now available online. Please find the links to the video presentations and PowerPoint slides [here](#).



Textile Exchange organized its 2020 Textile Sustainability Conference from 2–6 November. The event included presentations from more than 100 speakers and over 1,250 people registered from 50 countries. You can download the overview report [here](#) and also participate in the survey [here](#) to send your feedback.

New Goodwill Ambassador and Awards



The renowned Lebanese designer Rami Kadi has been appointed as [Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Environment Programme's Sustainable Fashion Programme](#) in West Asia. As Regional Goodwill Ambassador, Kadi aims to shed light on the detrimental impacts of the fashion industry on the

environment and promote sustainable practices that can be adopted to build back better after the COVID-19 pandemic.



On 11 October 2020, the prestigious North Star Award was given to the United Nations at the [Green Carpet Fashion Awards](#) for its work on sustainable fashion in support of the advancement of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The award has been accepted by UNOG Director-General Tatiana Valovaya with multiple references to the UN Alliance for Sustainable Fashion.

Podcast



The Big Closets Small Planet podcast explores how the fashion and apparel industry can be transformed so that it contributes positively to the lives of people and the health of our planet. Together with business leaders, legislators, citizens and other actors, it discusses the problems of the industry and the solutions required for a more sustainable path. Listen to the [newly released episode](#) discussing the potentials of the industry collaboration Sustainable Apparel Coalition (SAC), and whether the industry collaboration can make a meaningful impact to improving companies' social and environmental sustainability impacts.



v