



# Sustainable and Circular Textiles

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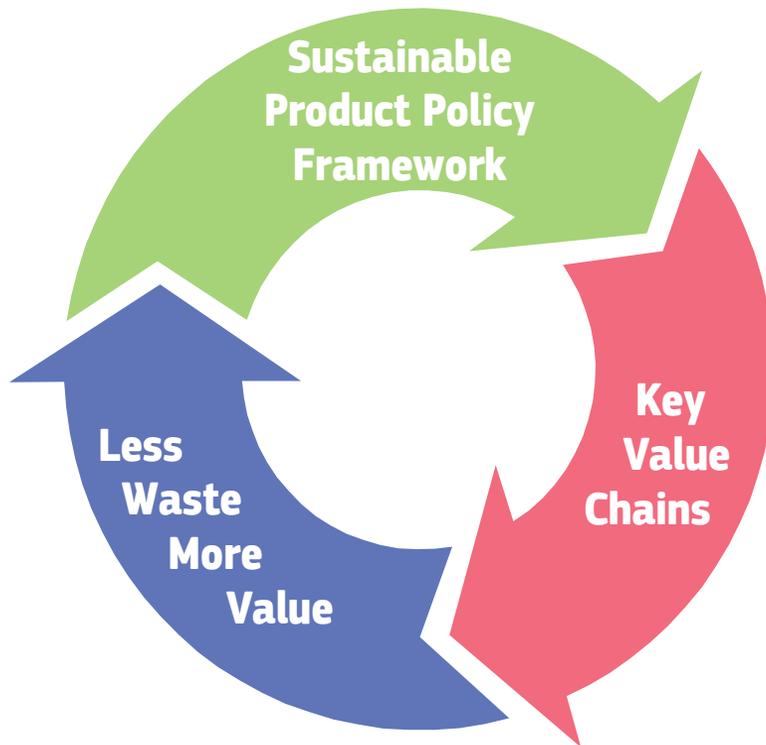
European Commission

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# Textiles within the Circular Economy Action plan



Make sustainable products the norm in the EU  
Empower consumers and public buyers  
Sustainable production processes

Electronics and ICT  
Batteries and vehicles  
Packaging  
Plastics  
Textiles  
Construction and buildings  
Food, water and nutrients

Reduce Waste  
Reduce Waste Exports  
Boost market for high quality and safe secondary raw materials



# EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles

## Need for action



1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing (globally)



About 5.8 million tonnes of textiles are discarded every year, equivalent to 11.3 kg per person (EU)



Almost 9/10 Europeans (88%) think that clothing should be made to last longer



Textiles production doubled between 2000 and 2015 (globally)



European consumption of textiles has the **fourth highest impact** on the environment and climate change, after food, housing and mobility.

# EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles

## Opportunities

- Increase the EU textiles ecosystem's **resilience**
- Boost its **attractiveness, creative** and **innovative** potential
- Tap into **new markets** for sustainable textiles
- An average of 20 to 35 **jobs are created** for every 1.000 tonnes of textiles collected for re-use, such as selling them second-hand



# Road to 2030: the vision of the Strategy



- By 2030, all textile products placed on the EU market are:
  - **durable, repairable and recyclable**
  - to a great extent made of recycled fibres
  - free of hazardous substances
  - produced respecting social rights
- **“Fast fashion is out of fashion”**
- In a competitive, resilient and innovative textile sector producers take responsibility for their products along the value chain
- **Circularity** has become the norm and the incineration and landfilling of clothes has been minimized



# Key actions

1. New **design requirements for textiles** under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation
2. **Stopping the destruction** of unsold or returned textiles
3. Action to address the unintentional **release of microplastics** from synthetic textiles
4. **Clearer information** on textiles and a digital product passport
5. Tackle **greenwashing**
6. Mandatory **Extended Producer Responsibility** for textiles with eco-modulation of fees



# Ecodesign and structural aspects

- Binding **performance** ecodesign requirements:
  - durability, reusability, reparability
  - fibre-to-fibre recyclability and mandatory recycled fibre content
  - minimise and track the presence of substances of concern
- Mandatory criteria for **green public procurement**
- **Transparency obligation** to publicly disclose the number of products they discard and destroy, including textiles + **possible ban** (if appropriate)
- Tackle **microplastics release**



# Empowering consumers in green transition

- Review of the Textile Labelling regulation
  - Aim to introduce mandatory disclosure of information such as sustainability and circularity parameters.
- Setting **information requirements** and building up the **Digital Product Passports** for textiles



# Tackling greenwashing on textile products

- Green claim initiatives (later 2022)
  - **Minimum criteria** for all types of environmental claims, including textiles
  - Use of Environmental Footprint methods as a way to substantiate and communicate environmental claims – **PEF category rules for textiles and footwear** to be taken into account



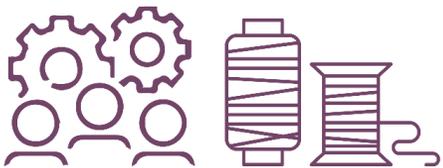
# Extended Producer Responsibility

- **Harmonised EU extended producer responsibility rules** for textiles
  - Eco-modulation of fees
  - The key objective will be to create an economy for collection, sorting, reuse and recycling, as well as incentives for producers and brands to ensure that their products are designed in respect of circularity principles.



# Enabling conditions

- Support **research and innovation**
- **Enhance skills** for the green and digital transitions of the textiles sector
  - Pact for Skills for the textiles ecosystem (2021)
- A **level playing field** and a **well-functioning internal market**
  - EU Product Compliance Network
  - Collaboration between customs and market surveillance authorities



# Promoting sustainable value chains globally

- **Global progress** engagement with international partners
- **Decent work conditions** outreach in bilateral relations
- Addressing the **halting of exports of textile waste**
- **Due diligence obligation**



# Transition pathway for the Textiles ecosystem

To contribute to the way forward and to set out concrete steps on how to achieve the Strategy's 2030 goals.

It aims to:

- ✓ Accelerate the **digital** and **green** transitions and strengthen the **resilience** of the ecosystem
- ✓ Launch discussions with stakeholders through a **co-creation process**
- ✓ Identify what **specific actions and commitments** are needed



Stakeholder  
consultation  
open until **15  
June**

# Thank you



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