THE EUROPEAN MAN MADE FIBRES (MMF) INDUSTRY HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON CIRCULARITY FOR MANY YEARS. IT IS A FRONTRUNNER IN MMF IN THIS RESPECT WORLDWIDE BUT ALSO INSIDE THE EUROPEAN TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN. IN ORDER TO REACH A FULL CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN FIBRES AND TEXTILES WE NEED:

MMF and CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- The right eco-design in view of recycling, allowing identification of all components of the textile.
- An efficient waste collection and handling system, with transparency and traceability. The waste status is to be clarified and usable secondary raw materials must remain in Europe.
- Technology for separating and recycling fibres. Ecological and economic aspects of recycling need to be considered when deciding about the best end-of-waste option.
- A shared responsibility for all stakeholders, globally. Supporting measures from regulating authorities are important. EPR schemes should be encouraged.
- To address imported textiles: who owns the end-of-life material and who processes it as a secondary material.
- To consider the benefits of biodegradable MMFs in the biological cycle of circular economy.
- A smooth interface with REACH. Historic waste has to be tackled.
- Standardization and harmonization, as an indispensable pre-condition of circular economy.
- Mutual collaboration, encouragement and support of all stakeholders.
- Public and private funding for R&D on all items leading to circular economy.



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