



From Regions to a Circular Europe

Inside the RegioGreenTex projects driving circular textiles forward



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Front cover image:
Peignage Dumortier

HOW TO READ THIS BROCHURE

This brochure presents a series of pilot projects carried out under the **RegioGreenTex** initiative, each led by a participating company and designed to address specific sustainability challenges in the textile sector.

Each project page follows a consistent format so you can quickly understand:

- **About the Company & Project** – A snapshot of the company's expertise, their role in RegioGreenTex, and the focus of their pilot.
- **Achievements, Challenges & Impact** – A concise summary of key results, technical milestones, obstacles encountered, and their wider environmental and social contributions.
- **Contact Information** – Direct details for further inquiries or collaboration opportunities.
- **Quote** – A short, impactful statement from the project team, capturing their vision and the spirit of their work.

By keeping the structure uniform, we aim to highlight the diversity of approaches while making it easy for readers to compare insights, identify synergies, and explore potential partnerships.

Whether you are an industry professional, policymaker, researcher, or investor, this brochure offers a window into the innovative spirit driving Europe's transition to a circular and sustainable textile economy.

Foreword



RegioGreenTex is a European initiative uniting regions, industry leaders, research organisations, and innovation hubs to drive a more sustainable, circular textile economy. Funded under the Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, the project brings together a diverse consortium of companies committed to transforming textile production, recycling, and resource management, from fibre recovery and material innovation to eco-conscious manufacturing processes.

At its heart, RegioGreenTex addresses one of the textile industry's most pressing challenges: reducing waste and closing the loop between production, consumption, and recycling. By fostering regional value chains, supporting SMEs, and accelerating the adoption of green technologies, the project shows that new circular models can be created.

Across Europe, companies are piloting innovative solutions tailored to their expertise and regional strengths. What makes these initiatives truly impactful is interregional collaboration connecting regions, companies, and technologies to create stronger, more complete value chains.

By working together, partners link recycling and fibre recovery with advanced processing, combine sustainable materials with market-ready design, and share

expertise and infrastructure to scale up results beyond regional borders.

The companies featured in this brochure illustrate how cooperation turns local innovation into European strength. Each has benefited from shared knowledge, complementary capabilities, and collective visibility through RegioGreenTex.

Together, these pilots demonstrate that collaboration between regions is not just an added value, it is the key to accelerating Europe's transition toward a greener, more resilient textile industry.



Katty Fashion



De Martini Bayart & Textifibra



Polisilk



Marini Industrie



Quest Studio



Recyc'Ent



Hilaturas Mar



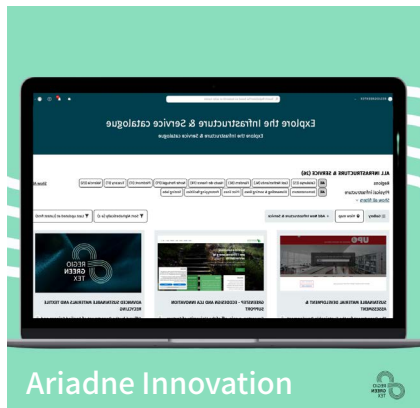
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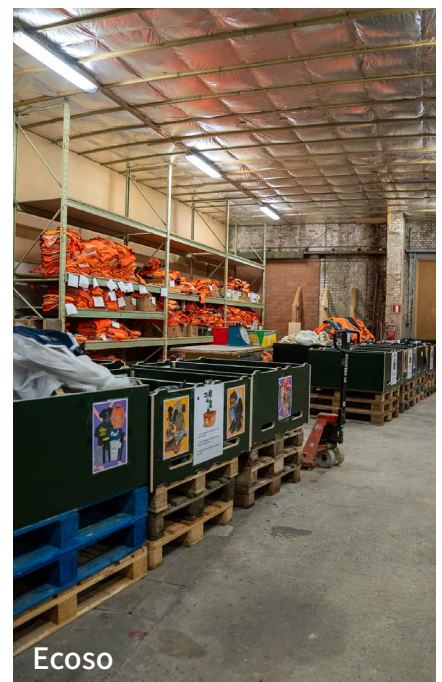
Peignage Dumortier



Tintex Textiles



Ariadne Innovation



Ecoso



Vividye



Casalegno Tendaggi

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Ariadne Innovation

About Ariadne Innovation & the Project

Ariadne Innovation, based in Kortrijk, Belgium, has built its reputation on connecting people, ideas, and solutions in the sustainable textile sector.

Known for turning collaboration into tangible impact, the company has been a bridge between regional expertise and global opportunities, always working with the belief that innovation thrives when shared.

Within RegioGreenTex, Ariadne Innovation saw a unique opportunity to address a challenge that had long held back the industry: the lack of a shared space where sustainable textile actors across different regions could connect and collaborate easily.

Their ambition was to develop a digital environment that could break down barriers, making it easier for companies, research centers, and policymakers to share resources and build partnerships.

This goal fit seamlessly with Ariadne Innovation's mission to strengthen sustainable value chains and promote transparency across the industry.

Over the project, the team worked closely with regional partners to design a tool that would connect regions, map out solutions and facilities relevant to small and medium-sized enterprises, helping them access the tools and infrastructure they need to innovate.

They engaged in strategic workshops and benefited from tailored coaching sessions, ensuring that every feature of the tool was aligned with the needs of those who would use it. Data and feedback collected from multiple regions enriched the design, making the platform not just a database, but a living network.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

By the end of the latest project period, Ariadne Innovation had brought together a network of over ninety members, integrated several new tools, and identified more than twenty key facilities for integration into the regional map.

Their participation in international events, such as the Textile Recycling Expo in Brussels, extended the project's reach and helped spread awareness about circular practices in the textile sector. The work carried out during this phase laid a strong foundation for scaling the innovation within the broader RegioGreenTex framework.

“Collaboration is the key to transforming the textile industry. Together, we can weave a future that is both innovative and sustainable.”

The journey was not without its challenges. Shifts in the sustainability market and evolving priorities meant that the original plan needed to be adjusted.

Rather than viewing these changes as setbacks, Ariadne Innovation used them as opportunities to refine their approach, ensuring that the new tool complemented existing initiatives instead of competing with them.

The experience reinforced the importance of staying adaptable, involving stakeholders from the very beginning, and keeping the long-term vision in sight.

Today, the impact of Ariadne Innovation's work is already being felt in the growing connections between regions and the stronger sense of community within the European textile ecosystem. By making resources more visible and accessible, the

project is helping to accelerate the shift toward a truly circular economy in textiles.

Looking ahead, the team is preparing to optimise the platform, finalise its sustainability plan, and integrate it fully into the main Ellie.

Connect ecosystem, ensuring that its benefits will extend well beyond the lifetime of the project.

For more information about Ariadne Innovation's work in RegioGreenTex, please contact:



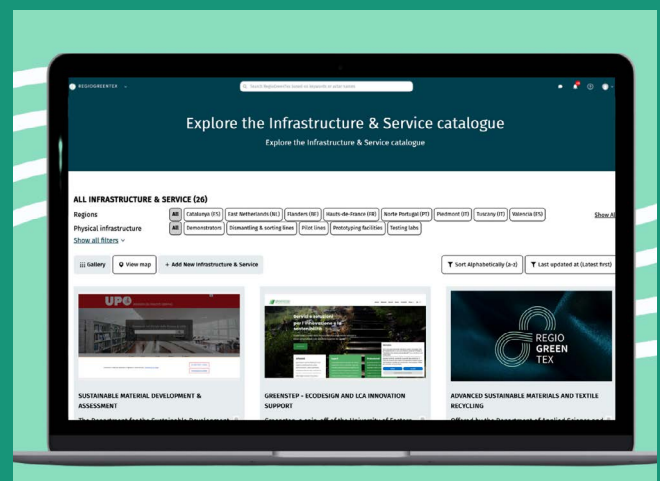
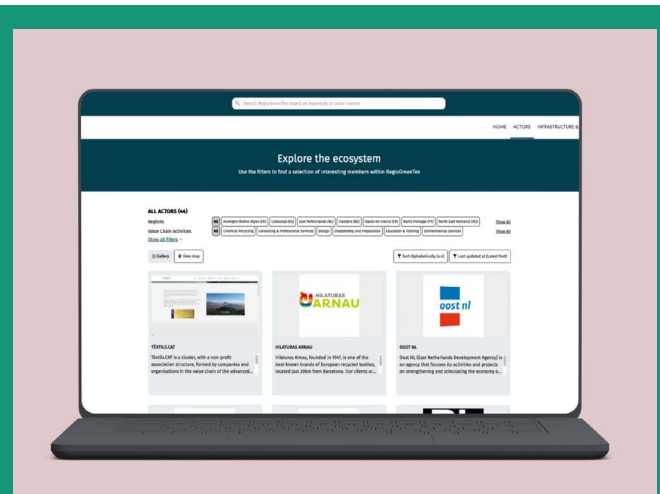
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Ecoso

About Ecoso & the Project

Ecoso, based in Mechelen, Belgium, is a social non-profit enterprise committed to creating meaningful employment opportunities while advancing sustainability in the textile sector. With a mission to integrate circular economy practices into its operations, Ecoso combines environmental impact with strong social value, placing people and the planet at the heart of its work.

“We see textiles not as waste, but as a starting point for innovation, inclusion, and opportunity.”

Known for developing innovative reuse, repair, and recycling models, the company has become a driving force for change within both the local and European textile landscapes.

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Ecoso launched the Circular Sorting Lab, a dedicated space to experiment with new textile sorting processes and identify opportunities for reuse, remanufacturing, and recycling. The goal was to gather precise data on material types and volumes, enabling the company to unlock new markets, design new business models, and ultimately create more jobs for people facing barriers to employment. This work reflects Ecoso's wider mission to close



the loop on textile waste while building inclusive, resilient communities.

Throughout the project, the Circular Sorting Lab became a hub of experimentation. New approaches were tested for reusing clothing through rental models, repairing garments and shoes, remanufacturing products, and mapping textiles for high-value recycling.

Insights from these trials are shaping future strategies, from launching a wedding attire rental service in partnership with local education institutions, to designing a stackable textile block for sustainable construction.

These developments were supported by collaboration with regional partners, input from industry experts, and the valuable perspective gained through dedicated coaching sessions.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

The creation of the Circular Sorting Lab has already generated tangible results. Detailed material mapping now provides a clear picture of the resources flowing through Ecoso's operations, making it possible to target specific buyers and partners more effectively. Early prototypes of the textile block demonstrate the potential to transform materials that cannot be recycled into higher-value fibres into an entirely new product category, opening opportunities in sustainable design and construction.

The preparation for the wedding attire rental service 'Jorinde en Joringel', set to launch in September 2025, reflects Ecoso's commitment to combining creativity, circularity, and social benefit.

The journey has not been without challenges. Evolving legislation, uncertainty in the recycling market, and the complexity

of aligning diverse stakeholders have required flexibility and persistence.

Rather than attempting to convince partners in theory, Ecoso has shifted to demonstrating results in practice, allowing successful initiatives to speak for themselves. This approach has reinforced the importance of collaboration, adaptability, and focusing on solutions that can be implemented immediately and scaled over time.

The project's impact extends far beyond environmental gains. By choosing to stop exporting textiles for reuse from January 2025, Ecoso has made a strong environmental commitment while creating new opportunities locally. Already, four additional jobs have been created within the organisation, with significant potential for further growth once the recycling market recovers.

Training programmes linked to the initiative have increased awareness among employees and strengthened community engagement, proving that sustainable innovation can deliver both economic and social value.



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Quest Studio

About Quest Studio & the Project

Quest Studio is a hybrid consultancy bridging sustainability, innovation and design in the textile sector. Based in Belgium, it operates at the intersection of circular economy principles, material and business model innovation, and systemic change, helping organisations translate sustainability goals into actionable

strategies and scalable solutions.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Quest worked on two pilots: the Circular Garment, applying circular design strategies to prove that textiles with high recycled content can be achieved through a newly defined circular value circle; and the Waste Wizard, a digital matchmaking concept designed to connect surplus textiles with recyclers and designers.

The Circular Garment project involves close collaboration with suppliers, manufacturers, and research partners to test and refine fabrics made from recycled yarns, natural-based finishes, and modular design concepts. By embedding sustainability from the earliest design stages, Quest seeks to extend product lifecycles and set new standards for responsible textile production.

For the Waste Wizard, a concept co-created together with RISE, Ovam and Ariadne Innovation, Quest defined key functionalities, developed user-centric concepts and business models, and engaged stakeholders to validate needs, gaps, and use cases.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Quest translated strategy into tangible outcomes: advancing prototypes of circular garments with high recycled content and low environmental impact, while laying the foundation for the Waste Wizard as an enabling system for textile reuse.

The Circular Garment work included testing different sustainable fabrics, experimenting with eco-friendly dyes and finishes, and exploring modular construction techniques that allow for easier repair, reuse, or recycling. The resulting prototypes combine design appeal with measurable sustainability benefits, attracting interest from potential market partners.

“Circularity is not achieved by one product or one tool alone, but by rethinking entire systems. Through RegioGreenTex, we’ve shown how strategy and design together can turn waste into opportunity and vision into practice.”

Challenges included limited availability and processing variability of sustainable materials. Getting to a concrete result for the Waste Wizard required iterative validation, stakeholder engagement, and close coordination with partners to ensure both creative ambition and systemic feasibility.

The impact lies in proving that circular strategies can deliver quality and competitiveness while fostering ecosystems for reuse and recycling. Economically, the work strengthens collaboration between manufacturers, recyclers, and designers. Socially, it raises awareness of responsible choices and the role of design in systemic change.



Next steps include finalising the circular garment as a reference prototype for industry adoption, piloting the Waste Wizard with selected partners to test real-world application, and exploring pathways to develop and scale it in the future into a commercially viable platform.

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Synthelast

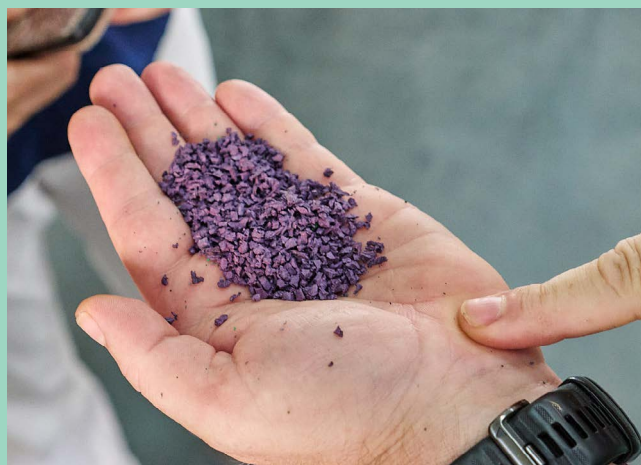
About Synthelast & the Project

Synthelast, a Spanish company with expertise in diverse polymeric materials (polyurethane, polyolefins and PVC among others), has been innovating in sustainable production through the recovery and reuse of valuable components from coated fabrics.

“Turning difficult-to-recycle materials into valuable products is not just an innovation, it’s a necessity. With RegioGreenTex, we’re showing that sustainability and performance can go hand in hand.”

With decades of experience in creating flexible, durable materials for industries such as footwear, sports surfaces, and coatings, Synthelast is committed to developing solutions that reduce environmental impact without compromising performance.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Synthelast’s pilot project focuses on finding new ways to recycle coated fabrics that would otherwise be difficult to process, transforming them into high-quality materials for a variety of applications. The



goal is to extend the life cycle of these materials, lower the carbon footprint of production, and make sustainable options economically viable.

The project is built around three key concepts: optimising the recycling process of textile waste to produce high-performance products capable of competing with traditional alternatives; developing new formulations that incorporate the highest possible proportion of recycled materials without compromising their properties; and, finally, establishing a scalable recycling model that can be integrated into conventional production processes.

This approach not only benefits the environment but also strengthens Europe’s position in sustainable material innovation.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Synthelast made substantial progress in refining its recycling process and proving the versatility of the recovered materials. Tests carried out during the project demonstrate that the products obtained from the recycling process can be used across a wide range of applications with very diverse properties.

These include flexible PU foams for sole manufacturing, binder-type systems for shock-absorbing flooring in sports facilities and playgrounds, and even textile coating formulations through an up-cycling approach, offering high flexibility and wear resistance.

One of the most significant outcomes has been demonstrating the environmental benefits of this approach. Independent assessments have shown that the process can reduce the carbon footprint of certain products by nearly half compared to using

virgin materials. Additionally, the company opening new market opportunities beyond their traditional sectors.

However, challenges remain. Consistently securing a steady supply of suitable material for recycling is key to scaling up production. Price competitiveness with fossil-based alternatives is another hurdle, as market adoption often depends on matching both cost and performance. Synthelast is addressing these by strengthening its supply chain and continuing to fine-tune the process for greater efficiency.

The impact of the project is both environmental and strategic. By diverting coated fabrics from landfill or incineration and turning them into high-performance products, Synthelast is actively contributing to the circular economy. The work also positions the company, and the broader European industry, to meet future sustainability demands and regulatory changes.

Looking ahead, Synthelast plans to further optimise the process, and expand its partnerships to ensure long-term market adoption.



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Ubitech

About Ubitech & the Project

Ubitech, a Spanish company specialising in advanced textile-reinforced materials, has been pioneering innovative composite solutions for over two decades. Known for its expertise in combining traditional textile know-how with engineering, Ubitech focuses on creating high-performance, sustainable products

for applications ranging from industrial equipment to sports and mobility.

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Ubitech's pilot project set out to develop a new generation of lightweight yet durable composites using hybrid yarns featuring a recycled carbon fiber core, combined with thermoplastic materials. This process offers the potential to create composites with improved recyclability compared to conventional thermoset-based materials.

The project aimed to explore the full process, from recycled carbon thread development to thermoforming, and to demonstrate that recycled materials can be successfully integrated into high-value applications without compromising structural performance. By creating a series of prototypes and demonstrators, Ubitech has sought to prove that sustainable composites can meet the technical demands of the market while supporting circular economy principles.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Ubitech successfully finalised a series of composite demonstrators developed with hybrid fabrics containing recycled carbon and thermoplastic fibers, and transformed them into composite prototypes using thermoforming techniques. The resulting demonstrators confirmed that these materials can deliver strong mechanical integrity, consistent quality, and a professional surface finish even when incorporating recycled content.

“Performance and sustainability should not be in competition. With this project, we’ve shown that recycled materials can deliver both, opening the door to a new generation of responsible composites.”

A key achievement was the design and production of specialised tooling that enabled efficient molding and post-processing. While some manual steps were still required for prototype finishing, the team identified opportunities to integrate trimming into the molding stage for future industrialisation, reducing waste and labour time.

The project faced and overcame several challenges: ensuring even pressure distribution during thermoforming, optimising parameters for bicomponent fabrics, and minimising production waste.

By refining processes and integrating recycled raw materials from the outset, Ubitech was able to cut material losses and move closer to a circular production model.

The environmental benefits are clear: greater use of recycled carbon fiber, reduced waste generation, and the replacement of traditional composites that rely on energy-



intensive and less recyclable materials.

Socially, the project has helped maintain specialist jobs and has strengthened technical skills in sustainable composite manufacturing.

Looking forward, Ubitech plans to further optimise its process to improve productivity, explore additional applications for thermoplastic composites, and seek industrial partners interested in scaling the technology for commercial use.

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Hilaturas Mar

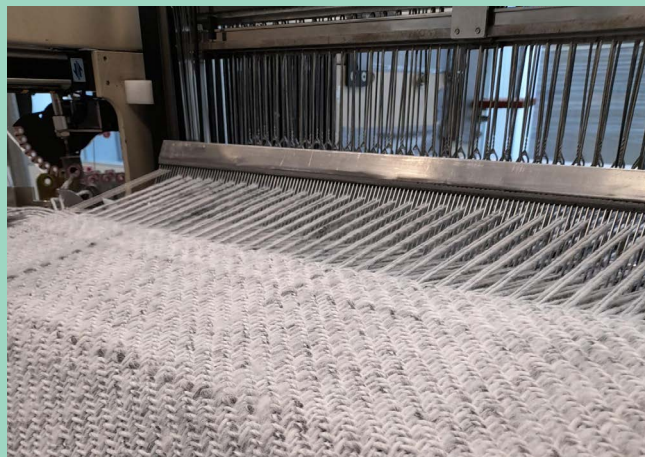
About Hilaturas Mar & the Project

Hilaturas Mar, based in Alicante, Spain, is a specialist in spinning technical yarns that merge high performance with sustainability. With expertise in advanced fibre processing, the company focuses on developing innovative solutions for demanding industrial applications.

“We produce hybrid yarns with recycled carbon fibres and thermoplastics for the development of thermoformed products.”

Known for developing innovative reuse, repair, and recycling models, the company has become a driving force for change within both the local and European textile landscapes.

Within the RegioGreenTex framework, Hilaturas Mar has been working alongside Ubitech to develop hybrid yarns made from recycled carbon fibre (rCF) and polyamide 6 (PA6), specifically designed for use in thermoplastic composites. The challenge lay in optimising fibre blends to achieve a stable balance between the thermoplastic matrix and reinforcing fibres while maintaining high recycled content.



The project's objective was to create yarns and fabrics that could be transformed into 3D composite parts with strong mechanical properties and low porosity, a technical feat given the nature of recycled carbon fibres. During this period, the company refined the DREF spinning process to enhance the quality of yarns with. Process adjustments increased the thermoplastic layer in the yarn's outer structure, improving fibre distribution and bonding potential.

Several blend compositions were tested, with final selections based on stability and performance. These yarns were then used to weave 2/2 twill fabric demonstrators, optimised in density to reduce porosity and improve moulding results in the composite phase.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

By the end of the reporting period, Hilaturas Mar had identified and produced multiple viable hybrid yarn compositions, achieving the targeted balance between recycled carbon fibre and thermoplastic content. This milestone enabled the creation of high-quality woven fabrics suitable for composite processing, bringing the project closer to delivering functional demonstrator parts.

The main technical challenge encountered was that excessive recycled carbon fibre content compromised composite performance, leading to uneven matrix distribution and reduced mechanical strength.

The solution was to limit rCF content to a level that preserved reinforcement benefits while ensuring adequate thermoplastic bonding. Additionally, recycled carbon fibre's circular cross-section posed

impregnation difficulties, which were addressed through adjustments in fabric density to enhance compactness.

Although the environmental impact metrics are still being quantified, the use of recycled carbon fibre in high-performance composites offers significant sustainability benefits by diverting valuable material from landfill and reducing the need for virgin carbon fibre production, which is energy-intensive and costly. This innovation also supports a circular economy approach within advanced manufacturing sectors such as aerospace, automotive, and technical textiles.

The collaboration between Hilaturas Mar and Ubitech has been a key factor in the project's progress, combining spinning expertise with composite manufacturing know-how.

With the hybrid yarn and fabric phase largely completed, the focus will now shift towards moulding trials and demonstrator prototyping, which will showcase the full potential of these recycled composite materials.



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Technocolor

About Technocolor & the Project

Technocolor, a Spanish textile dyeing specialist, has built a reputation for delivering vibrant and durable colours while reducing the environmental impact of its processes.

With growing global demand for sustainable solutions, the company has embraced

innovation to develop dyeing methods that use natural dyes for cellulosic and protein fibres, combining traditional techniques with modern efficiency.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Technocolor's pilot project is dedicated to creating a fully sustainable methodology to dye textiles with natural dyes, achieving performance standards comparable to conventional synthetic dyes but with a significantly reduced environmental footprint.

The work includes expanding the available colour range, particularly into darker and more commercially sought-after shades, and ensuring that these natural dyes deliver high colourfastness and consistent quality.

The broader aim is to make natural-dye processes not only eco-friendly but also commercially viable for industrial use, encouraging wider adoption across fashion, home textiles, and other sectors. By refining preparation, dyeing, and finishing steps, Technocolor is proving that sustainability and high performance can go hand in hand.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Technicolor advanced its natural dyeing process with notable improvements in light fastness. By adjusting dyeing time rather than temperature, the company achieved stronger resistance to fading without raising its carbon footprint.

“Natural dyes are more than a trend, they are the future of sustainable textiles. With RegioGreenTex, we are proving that eco-friendly colours can be just as beautiful and long-lasting as their synthetic counterparts.”

Another highlight was the successful creation of a deep brown natural dye, a shade traditionally difficult to obtain, expanding the colour range available for sustainable textiles.

The new process has already shown strong environmental benefits, including a 30% lower carbon footprint, a 42% reduction in chemical oxygen demand, and a near elimination of water conductivity compared to conventional dyeing. These results align with European ecological standards and reinforce the market potential of natural-dye products. Challenges remain in optimising certain colour ranges and in encouraging wider brand adoption.

To address this, Technicolor is scaling up production, demonstrating industrial feasibility, and highlighting both regulatory and marketing advantages of sustainable dyeing. Looking ahead, the company will validate its brown dye formulations at industrial scale and continue refining processes to meet full market requirements.



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Hilaturas Arnau

About Hilaturas Arnau & the Project

Hilaturas Arnau, based in Sabadell, Spain, is a pioneer in producing high-performance yarns with a focus on sustainability. With decades of expertise in spinning advanced fibres, the company has built its reputation on developing technical yarns with recycled fibers that meet the most demanding performance standards while minimising environmental impact.

Today, Hilaturas Arnau is recognised for its ability to merge innovation, recycling, and functionality into yarns that are both technically superior and environmentally responsible.

“We are proving that even the most advanced technical textiles can be reborn from waste, combining safety, performance, and sustainability in every fibre.”

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Hilaturas Arnau set out to create a recycled flame-retardant, anti-cut yarn designed specifically for public transport seating fabrics. This ambitious goal meant not only meeting strict safety and durability requirements, but also maintaining the highest possible percentage of recycled fibres.



The challenge was significant: yarns used for warp in woven fabrics must have far greater strength and tenacity than those used for weft, making the development of a recycled solution technically complex.

During the project, the company successfully improved the tenacity of the yarn by introducing recycled Para-Aramid fibres, sourced from spinning waste, alongside Vectran and Meta-Aramid.

This adjustment enabled the use of recycled yarns in both warp and weft for the first time, without compromising performance. Each production step was carefully tested to balance maximum recycled content with the mechanical properties needed for real-world application, ensuring the yarn could stand up to the rigorous use demands of public transport.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

By the close of the reporting period, Hilaturas Arnau had achieved a major breakthrough: a 100% recycled fibre yarn with flame-retardant and anti-cut properties, ready for use in both warp and weft applications. Early production runs have already been invoiced for weaving public transport seat covers, proving both technical feasibility and market interest.

The environmental benefits are tangible and measurable. Using 250 kg of recycled materials each year avoids approximately 3.75 metric tonnes of CO₂ emissions compared to virgin fibre production. Energy savings are equally significant, with textile recycling consuming around 70% less energy than producing new fibres, the equivalent of 4,000 kWh saved annually.

Water usage is also drastically reduced, particularly when avoiding virgin synthetic fibres or cotton, which can require up to

10,000 litres of water per kilogram.

Hilaturas Arnau's innovation extends beyond the product itself. The company has established new supply chain links to source high-quality recycled Aramid, strengthened relationships with customers now integrating recycled yarns into their warp and weft production, and demonstrated that advanced technical textiles can be produced locally, sustainably, and at a competitive price.

Looking ahead, the company is preparing to expand its recycling capabilities to include some of the world's most advanced technical fibres, such as PBI and PBO; materials used in aerospace, satellites, and protective gear. Early tests have been promising, but further funding will be sought to commercialise these developments.

If successful, Hilaturas Arnau could become one of the few companies worldwide capable of recycling these ultra-high-performance fibres and blending them into new, sustainable textile products.

It is the only company in the world capable of combining the most advanced materials available, such as PBO and PBI, with other technical materials such as PREOX, Para-Aramid, Meta-Aramid, Tecstar, Vectran, etc. This means that they continue to be textiles with extraordinary performance in terms of temperature and fire resistance, while at the same time being 100% recycled, made from waste, at a much lower price than new textiles.



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Polisilk

About Polisilk & the Project

Polisilk, a specialist in high-performance yarns for demanding textile applications, has been driving innovation in sustainability by integrating recycled and biobased materials into its production processes.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, the company's pilot project focuses on producing new polypropylene (PP) and polylactic acid (PLA) yarns with up to 70% recycled content, and biobased PP yarns.

The project has targeted two key material streams: PP and PLA polymers sourced from Europe, containing up to 70% mechanically recycled post-consumer content, and 100% biobased PP polymer sourced from used cooking oils.

This dual-path strategy allows Polisilk to offer sustainable yarns that maintain the technical standards required by the industrial fabrics market, such as outdoor, furniture and industrial textiles.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Polisilk achieved 3 major milestones:

- Successfully extruding PLA multifilament yarns with 30% recycled content.
- Producing PP yarn with up to 70% recycled content. Nevertheless, some technical difficulties were encountered at this high recycling rates and a 30% recycled content was established as the most reliable rate in order not to compromise the yarn quality.
- Manufacturing 100% biobased PP yarns. This achievement uses the mass-balance approach in order to certify the recycling content.

*“Weaving a sustainable future
with our recycled and
biobased yarns.”*

The project also demonstrated commercial viability. The new products were showcased at the Techtextil 2024 fair and since then 2 large orders were secured, showing clear demand. The main technical challenge variability in recycled polymer grades, was addressed through close collaboration with suppliers, fine-tuning extrusion parameters, and maintaining consistent feedstock quality.

Environmental benefits include a tangible shift toward sustainable raw materials, with the goal of converting 20% of customers to recycled or biobased polymers.

Market expansion is already underway, with orders for recycled-content fabrics expected to quadruple in value from €80k in 2024 to €320k in 2025. The next phase will involve further trials, scaling production, and continuing customer education to overcome price-related barriers.



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Textile de la Thiérache

About Textile de la Thiérache & the Project

Textile de la Thiérache, a French spinning company with deep roots in the textile industry, has long been committed to innovation in sustainable yarn production.

Known for its expertise in creating high-quality yarns for a range of applications, the company is now pushing the boundaries of recycled fibre integration, aiming to combine environmental responsibility with technical performance.

“Every fibre saved is a step towards a more sustainable textile future. Our goal is to prove that recycled yarns can match the beauty, quality, and versatility of virgin fibres, and win their place in the most demanding markets.”

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Textile de la Thiérache's pilot project focuses on developing new yarns made from a variety of recycled fibres including cotton, wool, and linen, at different yarn counts.

The goal is to produce fine-count yarns with high recycled content, offering sustainable



alternatives for markets such as fashion, packaging, and upholstery without compromising on quality.

The company's approach blends traditional spinning know-how with modern recycling practices, creating a platform for circular textile production that reduces waste, preserves resources, and meets growing market demand for eco-conscious materials.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, Textile de la Thiérache carried out a series of trials using post-consumer recycled cotton, recycled wool, and recycled linen.

These trials targeted fine yarn counts, particularly Nm 40 and Nm 50, with the aim of achieving a high-quality finish suitable for demanding end uses. While some results showed promise, others revealed the need for further refinement, particularly in ensuring yarn regularity for finer counts.

Early tests with recycled wool have delivered encouraging results, proving its potential in the company's spinning processes. Recycled cotton trials, however, highlighted variations in quality between post-consumer sources and industrial waste, underscoring the importance of selecting and preparing the right feedstock.

The main technical challenge has been producing fine yarns with the desired

smoothness and strength. To address this, the company has invested in new drawing equipment to improve sliver regularity, which is essential for achieving stable and high-quality output at finer counts.

While commercial uptake is still in its early stages, the environmental benefits are clear: the project reduces the need for virgin fibres, extends the life cycle of textile materials, and demonstrates that recycled fibres can be adapted to a broader range of yarn specifications.

This work also strengthens local employment and expertise in sustainable spinning, contributing to regional economic resilience.

Looking ahead, Textile de la Thiérache plans to experiment with additional types of recycled wool, expand its range of yarn counts, and continue fine-tuning processes to reach consistent quality across all fibre blends.

The long-term ambition is to position recycled fine-count yarns as a viable and attractive choice for mainstream textile markets.



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Peignage Dumortier

About Peignage Dumortier & the Project

Peignage Dumortier, a long-established specialist in high-quality fibres processing based in France, combines traditional know-how with innovative techniques to meet modern textile market demands.

With deep expertise in fibre preparation as carding, combing, converting, stretch

breaking, the company has built its reputation on delivering excellence while embracing sustainable development.

Within the RegioGreenTex framework, Peignage Dumortier is leading a pilot project aimed at integrating various recycled fibres (flame retardant fibres, cotton, wool, artificial and synthetic fibres) into its premium slivers, enhancing their quality and performance to match virgin fibres standards. The initiative focuses on optimising the blending, preparation, and combing processes to maximise fibre recovery, improve performance and reduce waste.

By introducing innovative adjustments, processes and monitoring systems, the project seeks to demonstrate that recycled fibres can meet the most demanding textile requirements without compromising quality.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Peignage Dumortier has refined its fibre preparation process to handle higher proportions of recycled fibres, ensuring consistent sliver quality and minimising fibre breakage. Special attention was given to achieving an optimal balance between recycled and virgin fibres, improving sliver regularity, homogeneity, and cleanliness.

These improvements are essential for maintaining the company's high-end product positioning while expanding sustainable production.

“Our heritage is built on quality, but our future lies in innovation. With RegioGreenTex, we are proving that textiles with recycled fibres can be as performant and durable as any ones with virgin fibre.”

The project faced technical challenges related to fibre length variability and the removal of impurities in post-consumer textiles. Solutions included fine-tuning combing settings, adjusting machine speeds, and implementing additional quality control stages. These changes have resulted in cleaner and more regular and uniform slivers approaching that of 100% virgin fibres.

Beyond the technical milestones, the project is delivering environmental benefits by diverting textile waste from landfill and reducing reliance on virgin resources. The company estimates significant reductions in CO₂ emissions, energy use, and water consumption compared to traditional production, reinforcing its commitment to the circular economy.

Looking ahead, Peignage Dumortier plans to scale the process for broader commercial



use, expanding its recycled fibre use to more product lines and collaborating with partners to integrate these slivers into luxury and performance textiles.

The next steps include validating product performance with end customers and pursuing eco-certifications to strengthen market appeal.

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Recyc'Elit

About Recyc'Elit & the Project

Recyc'Elit, a French pioneer in advanced textile recycling, is developing a chemical process that makes it possible to recycle complex polyester-based textiles which are usually incinerated or landfilled.

These are fabrics that combine multiple fibres, colours, and finishes, and until now were considered almost impossible to recover.

“Our process proves that even the most complex textiles can have a second life. By closing the loop on polyester, we aim to build a truly circular textile economy.”

The company's innovation lies in breaking polyester textiles back down into their original chemical building blocks, known as monomers, which can then be re-used to create new, high-quality polyester. Unlike existing bottle-to-fibre recycling, this approach delivers a genuine textile-to-textile solution while also revalorising other materials present in the blends, such as elastane, polyamide and cotton.



As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Recyc'Elit designed and built an industrial-scale pilot plant to prove the feasibility of its technology. Commissioned in 2024, the pilot made it possible to test the process at scale and to move beyond laboratory validation.

By 2025, the company succeeded in producing several hundred kilograms of purified monomers, which were polymerised into recycled polyester pellets and spun into yarn.

For the first time, textiles once regarded as waste with no viable end-of-life solution could be turned into new materials suitable for creating fabrics again.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, Recyc'Elit reached major milestones with its new recycling process. Using the RegioGreenTex pilot, the company produced large amounts of monomers. Production capacity has been multiplied by more than 3 compared with previous installation.

The monomers have been converted into recycled polyester pellets that matched industrial standards. These pellets were spun into yarn and texturised, proving that even complex textiles can be turned back into high-quality materials.

The journey was not without challenges. The polymerisation process from DMT had to be requalified, and spinning required some adjustments. However, as it has been possible to obtain rPET pellets whose quality enabled to get a textured yarn, it confirms the potential of the technology.

According to a preliminary LCA that has been done, promising results have been obtained especially concerning CO2 emissions compared with traditional waste management. The recycled polyester produced has a footprint significantly lower than virgin polyester (to be confirmed with a complete LCA currently in progress), while the process also recovers co-materials, creating a fully circular solution.

On the social side, the project has supported new jobs and training, strengthening the company's capacity to grow.

With its pilot phase complete, Recyc'Elit has already begun to scale up. Indeed, since June, the company has got a pre-industrial demonstrator (10 times bigger than the RegioGreenTex pilot).

Moreover, plans for its first flagship factory, due to open at the end of 2028, mark an important step towards industrial deployment and a more circular European textile industry.



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Rovitex

About Rovitex & the Project

Rovitex has been exploring ultrasonic lamination technology as a sustainable alternative to traditional adhesive-based processes.

This innovation eliminates the need for glue, reducing chemical usage and cutting both energy consumption and production

waste by up to 50%. Initially tested within the clothing industry, the technology faced slow adoption due to market readiness. In response, Rovitex strategically shifted its focus to sectors more open to change, namely aeronautics, building, and, more recently, the medical market.

The RegioGreenTex pilot project aims to adapt ultrasonic lamination for a variety of applications, from thermal insulation in tents to lightweight, insulating hospital covers, all while prioritising local production and recycled materials.

By targeting these markets, Rovitex is demonstrating that innovation in lamination can meet both performance demands and environmental goals, paving the way for a new generation of sustainable, high-quality laminated fabrics.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, Rovitex made significant progress in validating ultrasonic lamination across different applications. In the building sector, the company successfully developed a 100% polyester tent fabric that reduces energy needs for cooling and heating. A heavier-wadding version is now in testing to enhance insulation performance.

“Change in the textile industry takes courage. With ultrasonic lamination, we’re showing that sustainable innovation can deliver both performance and environmental impact.”

In aeronautics, laboratory trials led to the design and acquisition of a custom cylinder for industrial-scale production in France, with further testing planned to meet strict performance requirements. In the medical sector, Rovitex began developing laminated fabrics for hospital blankets designed to help patients retain body heat, an innovation inspired by similar products from the Chinese market but adapted for local European production.

Key challenges include overcoming market skepticism about ultrasonic technology and securing partners willing to test new methods. To address this, Rovitex has relied on laboratory data, production trials, and close collaboration with trusted local partners to prove the technology’s advantages.

The environmental benefits are measurable: 50% less energy consumption, 50% waste reduction, and a projected 15% of total production using ultrasonic methods by the end of the RegioGreenTex project.



Economically, the technology opens doors to new markets in building, aeronautics, furnishing, and medical textiles, with potential to reduce production costs by 10% compared to traditional lamination.

The next steps include expanding ultrasonic applications into the hotel and furnishing markets, increasing machine utilisation, and strengthening partnerships for continued innovation.

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Casalegno Tendaggi

About the Casalegno Tendaggi & the Project

Casalegno Tendaggi, headquartered in Torino, Italy, is a leader in premium decorative textiles, combining heritage craftsmanship with forward-thinking innovation. Known for its mastery of weaving and finishing techniques, the company has been at the forefront of integrating recycled materials into high-performance fabrics, proving that sustainability and luxury can coexist.

“We have shown that technical excellence, design innovation, and environmental responsibility are not opposing forces, they are the future of textiles.”

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, the company undertook an ambitious project to create new flame-retardant fabrics using recycled polyester yarns. Initially planned as a single-product development, the project quickly expanded in scope as opportunities emerged to explore multiple designs, structures, and finishes.

By the end of the journey, the team had developed twelve distinct fabric prototypes,



each showcasing unique patterns, colours, and textures, all available in 300 cm double-width for maximum versatility in interior applications.

From the weaving stage through to final certification, every step involved close collaboration with designers, yarn suppliers, finishers, and certification bodies.

The company also worked with internationally recognised designers to translate original pattern concepts into woven textiles, achieving results that exceeded both the technical and creative goals of the project.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

The final collection achieved top-tier fire-retardant certifications, including IMO for maritime use and France's M1 classification, an exceptional outcome for fabrics made from recycled materials. The expansion from one to twelve prototypes demonstrated the company's agility and commitment to innovation, while also offering customers a wide choice of sustainable yet high-end textile solutions.

The road to success was not without challenges. Working with recycled yarns brought new complexities to the weaving process, requiring adjustments to looms and structures. The finishing stage demanded larger volumes and more iterations than anticipated, and the testing and certification process was intensified by the expanded range.

Each challenge was resolved through teamwork, problem-solving, and strong

partnerships, ensuring the final fabrics met both performance and aesthetic expectations.

The response from the market has been extremely positive. At Heimtextil 2025 in Frankfurt, the new collection drew attention from major international distributors, who praised its softness, quality, and design flexibility.

By showcasing the fabrics physically, the company demonstrated that sustainable textiles can match, and even surpass, conventional products in both look and feel.

The environmental potential is significant: each meter of 100% recycled fabric prevents approximately 0.5 kilograms of virgin polyester from entering the market. Social and economic benefits are also expected, from job creation and skill development within the company to strengthened relationships across the supply chain.

This project has reinforced the company's leadership in sustainable sourcing, circular economy practices, and raising awareness about the creative possibilities of recycled materials.



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De Martini Bayart & Textifibra

About DBT Fibre & the Project

De Martini Bayart & Textifibra (DBT Fibre), based in Biella, Italy, has long been recognised for its dedication to quality textiles and its commitment to innovation.

The company blends decades of craftsmanship with a forward-looking approach to sustainability, working to

integrate circular economy principles into its operations. Known for its expertise in fibre transformation, DBT Fibre has become a trusted player in advancing responsible practices within the textile industry.

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, DBT Fibre took on the challenge of giving new life to valuable fibres such as wool, cashmere, and silk recovered from textile waste. The goal was to regenerate these fibres and reintroduce them into production, thereby reducing waste and preserving the inherent value of the materials.

This project aligns seamlessly with the company's broader mission to combine technical know-how with environmental responsibility, creating high-quality products while contributing to a more sustainable textile sector.

“From waste to value: our journey proves that tradition and innovation can work hand in hand for a sustainable textile future.”



During the project, regeneration processes were developed and refined, with attention given to maintaining the quality and integrity of the recovered fibres. Both pre-consumer and post-consumer waste streams were explored, and prototypes were created that incorporated high percentages of regenerated content.

Local collaborations supported the sourcing of materials and provided valuable insights, while participation in knowledge-sharing and coaching sessions strengthened the company's approach and prepared it for market opportunities.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

The work carried out under this subproject led to the creation of regenerated fibres ready to be used in high-quality textile production. A significant milestone was the development of a 100% regenerated wool sliver suitable for specific spinning processes, showcasing the potential of waste materials to be transformed into premium products.

The team deepened its knowledge of recycling techniques, enabling better predictions of outcomes from different types of waste and paving the way for future innovations.

The work carried out under this subproject led to the creation of regenerated fibres ready to be used in high-quality textile production. A significant milestone was the development of a 100% regenerated wool sliver suitable for specific spinning processes, showcasing the potential of waste materials to be transformed into premium products. The team deepened its knowledge of recycling techniques, enabling better predictions of outcomes from different types of waste and paving the way for future innovations.

Along the way, the plan evolved as it became clear that each material behaves differently during regeneration. Adjustments were made to improve consistency and ensure that the regenerated fibres met the expectations of end users.

The experience highlighted the importance of careful material selection, the tailoring of processes to suit the final product's intended use, and the need to raise market awareness about the capabilities of recycled fibres. This project's impact extends beyond the factory floor.

By demonstrating that high-quality fibres can be regenerated and reintroduced into the textile value chain, DBT Fibre contributes to building a more resource-



efficient and sustainable industry.

The approach offers a model for integrating recycled materials into premium textile production at both regional and European levels, reinforcing the principles of the circular economy.

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Officina39

About Officina39 & the Project

Officina39 develops low-impact color solutions for the textile industry, translating circularity into practical, scalable dyeing and printing processes. Its patented Recycrom™ technology upcycles post-consumer garments and manufacturing waste into powder pigments/dyestuffs for fabric dyeing and printing enabling brands to reduce reliance on virgin resources while improving traceability.

“Recycrom™ proves that circular colour is possible at scale. By coupling rigorous process innovation with end-to-end traceability, we turn textile waste into value simplifying choices for brands and making sustainability visible to the end customer.”

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Officina39 focused on two complementary pilots:

- Application Innovation (Recycrom™) — expanding and industrialising multiple processes: Recycrom™ Pure, Eco Marble, Printing, GEL (waterless), and Ready to Dye (RTD).
- Scale-up & Digitalisation increasing production capacity through supplier process upgrades and launching a



web app that lets brands and suppliers scope, manage, and trace projects from textile waste onward.

The application pilot refined waterless and low-impact methods with high visual quality. Recycrom™ GEL delivers high-contrast looks, preserves raw areas, achieves more intense tones than traditional exhaustion dyeing, and saves water. Recycrom™ RTD offers 15 stock-ready colours made from ≥65% recycled pre- and post-consumer textile materials, giving brands a fast track to circular dyes.

The digital pilot finalised a web platform (now in testing) to streamline collaboration and data capture, making circular workflows simpler and verifiable. Officina39 also achieved ZDHC Level 3 certification within the relevant scope and maintained a transformation process that uses no chemicals.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025 Officina39 translated R&D into tangible progress completing application development for key Recycrom™ processes, advancing industrial scale-up with an external partner (experimental phase passed; first industrial phase completed), and finalising a traceability-oriented web app now under testing.

The application work validated five processes (Pure, Eco Marble, Printing, GEL, RTD), including waterless GEL and RTD (15 colours, ≥65% recycled content). The scale-up work modified production to boost output and responsiveness; a second round of industrial tests will optimise parameters. Investments supported personnel, travel, and equipment for powder handling and printing upscaling; quality-control instruments are being implemented.

By project end, Officina39 targets a ~1000% increase in produced quantity. Challenges included a complex certification landscape that can confuse end customers and feedstock selection (matching colour and fibre type). The process is currently optimised for cellulosic fibres (e.g., cotton) and can accept ~10% of other fibres. Officina39 addresses these through advocacy for streamlined, harmonised claims, tighter feedstock qualification, and process control.

Impact centers on measurable environmental and system benefits: no chemicals in the transformation step, significant water savings via GEL, and full traceability from textile waste through the new web app. Economically and socially, the pilots strengthen collaboration across brands, suppliers, and recyclers while advancing circular-economy practices and supply-chain transparency.

The next steps will include completing the second bulk-trial round and capacity ramp-up (Sept-Nov 2025), deploying quality-control instruments, and rolling out the web app with staff training (Jun-Dec 2025), paving the way for broader market adoption of Recycrom™.



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Marini Industrie

About Marini Industrie & the Project

Marini, a leader in advanced textile solutions, is dedicated to developing innovative, sustainable processes that combine high-performance materials with eco-friendly technologies.

Based in Italy, the company has built its reputation on integrating cutting-

edge engineering with environmental responsibility, working closely with partners to deliver textiles that meet both functional and sustainability criteria.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Marini's pilot project focuses on achieving advanced properties in textiles made from recycled or sustainable materials using plasma technology.

This green, dry-finishing technique offers an alternative to traditional wet processes, lowering environmental impact while reducing energy, water, and chemical consumption.

Plasma treatment is highly surface-specific, enabling functionalisation of fabrics without altering their internal structure.

The project aims to integrate and optimise atmospheric plasma technology to improve textile properties such as hydrophilicity, wettability, and the stable adhesion of dyes. Air was selected as the technical gas for the process, both for its promising results and its lower cost and safety benefits compared to gases like oxygen or argon.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Preliminary trials explored different plasma power levels to determine the optimal settings for various textiles. Following plasma activation, impregnation treatments were applied using natural-based substances, including customised lignin/chitosan nanoparticles and a chitosan-based formulation.

“We are proving that high performance and sustainability can be achieved together plasma technology is a bridge to the future of textiles.”

These treatments added antibacterial and UV-screening properties features highly valued in the fashion sector. Plasma pre-activation enhanced the absorption and stability of these finishes, resulting in a more homogeneous distribution of functional coatings across the fabric.

The project also tested plasma's role in the dyeing process. Early results suggest that plasma-treated textiles achieve better colour fastness after washing and could improve dye uptake while reducing water, energy, and chemical usage aligning with the project's environmental goals.

A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) study is underway to measure the environmental benefits of these innovations against traditional methods. Using SimaPro and the Ecoinvent database, the analysis will quantify reductions in resource consumption, enabling Marini to communicate its environmental advantages effectively. Some delays are expected due to the complexity of the system modelling. Looking ahead, the next step is scaling the process for industrial use.



The technical results are promising, but further investment is required to achieve full-scale adoption, unlocking the potential for greener, higher-performance fabrics across multiple textile sectors.

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Trafì Creatività Tessile

About Trafì Creatività Tessile & the Project

Trafì Creatività Tessile develops circular textiles and enabling machinery that turn recycled yarns and finishing waste into fashion-grade fabrics. Combining process engineering with design-led finishing, the company adapts looms and needle-punch systems so waste-derived materials meet creative standards while reducing environmental impact.

“Performance, circularity, and aesthetics can align. By upgrading machines and finishes, not just materials, we turn leftovers into consistent, desirable textiles with a fraction of the water.”

Within RegioGreenTex, Trafì's pilot set out to industrialise three linked streams: producing fabrics from recycled yarns via needle punching with programmable local yarn deposition to control appearance, handfeel, and thickness; weaving strips cut from finishing waste by upgrading the loom to handle non-standard wefts; and building a new fabric-decoration



system featuring a placement head on a linear guide with adjustable suction, sensors and motor control.

In response to brand feedback on colour variability, Trafì also developed a low-water pigment uniformisation route using naturally derived pigments and binders, approximately 1.5 L/kg, and began a bleaching pre-step to unlock lighter shades. The objective is to prove that recycled inputs can yield commercially attractive, repeatable textiles while advancing circularity.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Trafi completed key milestones across machinery and finishing. The needle-punch line delivered stable patterned effects through programmable deposition, while loom reconfiguration for strip weaving reduced puckering during weft insertion and clarified the path to consistent quality.

The decoration system moved from concept to a functional pilot, with mechanical assembly, suction control, and sensor/motor checks validated. Colour uniformity trials confirmed excellent results for dark shades at very low water use, and bleaching studies began to standardise light tones.

Challenges included tuning deposition speeds and tensions for fashion-grade effects, defining robust parameter windows for unconventional wefts, and ensuring repeatable colour across mixed fibres;

these were addressed through software control, targeted mechanical upgrades, and the pigment-plus-bleach pathway.

Environmental gains stem from valorising finishing waste, lowering water consumption, and reducing reliance on virgin inputs; socially, the project sustains specialist skills and deepens collaboration with designers and brands.

Looking ahead, Trafi will expand fashion effects, finalise the loom setup and test new needle-loom brushes, tune control software and optimise the decoration device, and refine pigment/bleach recipes for consistent light colours-preparing the technology for industrial adoption and early market use.



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SaXcell

About SaXcell & the Project

SaXcell is a Dutch innovation company focused on transforming post-consumer textiles into high-quality recycled fibres. By advancing circular textile recycling, the company aims to reduce dependency on virgin materials and lower the environmental footprint of fibre production.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, SaXcell's pilot project concentrated on scaling its fibre-to-fibre recycling process and building strong collaborations across the value chain. The ambition was to show that discarded textiles could be given a new life in mainstream applications, from fashion to home and technical textiles, while also strengthening Europe's capacity for circular production.

Partnerships were a key driver of the project. SaXcell worked closely with textile collectors, recyclers, research centres, and global brands, creating a collaborative ecosystem that allowed innovations to move quickly from concept to application.

By connecting local expertise in the Netherlands with international industry demand, SaXcell positioned itself as a central player in Europe's transition toward circular textiles.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, SaXcell made significant progress. The company successfully demonstrated that its recycled fibres could be integrated into a wide range of textile products, gaining recognition from leading brands and strengthening its market credibility.

These achievements confirmed both the quality and the commercial potential of its innovation.

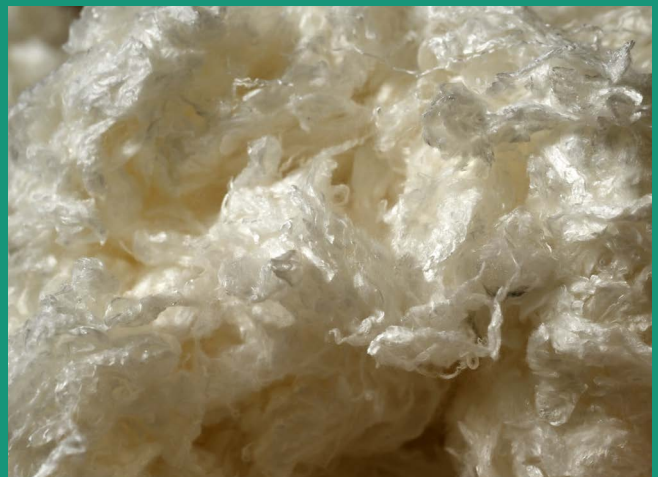
The journey was not without challenges. Difficult market conditions and financial uncertainty within the recycling sector created hurdles for scaling, and progress required resilience and strong partnership support. Nevertheless, SaXcell's ability to maintain momentum and secure the interest of global partners highlights the robustness of its approach.

“At SaXcell, we believe that every discarded textile has the potential to become a valuable resource again. By building strong partnerships and keeping sustainability at the heart of our work, we are paving the way for a truly circular textile future.”

The impact of the project extends well beyond technical outcomes. Environmentally, it contributes to reducing the use of virgin resources and lowering carbon emissions across the textile lifecycle.

Socially, it strengthens regional employment and skills, while economically it demonstrates that circular solutions can attract brand adoption and market demand even in difficult conditions.

Looking ahead, SaXcell plans to expand its reach by moving from pilot to larger-scale production. With strong partnerships



already in place and a clear vision for circular fibre systems, the company is well positioned to accelerate the shift toward a European textile value chain that is both sustainable and resilient.

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Regionaal
Textielsorteercentrum
Twente

RTT

About RTT & the Project

RTT (Regionaal Textielsorteercentrum Twente) is a social enterprise, founded by two thrift store organisations, De Beurs and Het Goed, dedicated to sorting post-consumer textiles collected by Twente Milieu in municipalities in the Twente region of the Netherlands.

RTT processes textiles into two main flows: high-quality product reuse and raw material recycling.

The organisation prioritises local reuse by supplying retail-quality textiles to their thrift stores before sending remaining items to international reuse markets.

“Our work is about more than textiles, it’s about closing the loop while creating jobs. With the right policies and partnerships, we can turn today’s waste into tomorrow’s resource.”

Non-reusable textiles are directed into specialised recycling streams, including chemical recycling with SaXcell and mechanical recycling with Frankenhuis. Since 2023, RTT has integrated near-



infrared (NIR) scanning technology from Matoha to improve fibre identification, ensuring better alignment with recycler specifications. It also collaborates with partners such as Ecoso in Belgium to explore further recycling opportunities.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, RTT’s pilot project focuses on reducing residual waste and maximising recycling quality, while addressing systemic challenges such as volatile second-hand markets, rising operational costs, and the urgent need for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) frameworks to secure sustainable sector economics.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, RTT built on its long-term success in reducing residual waste, cutting it from 28% in 2021 to 16% in 2023–2024. Market disruptions in 2025, including bankruptcies in the recycling sector, caused a temporary rise in residuals. In 2024 about 25% of textiles sorted were prepared for recycling, underlining RTT's role as a vital hub for quality-controlled textile flows.

During this period, RTT undertook several important initiatives. It investigated contaminants in textiles with advanced NIR scanning to improve recyclability, piloted recognition tools to value garments more accurately and boost thrift store revenues, and advanced automation by digitalising sorting data via KringCoop's new platform, strengthening transparency and traceability across the value chain.

Despite these achievements, challenges remain: a depressed recycling market, variability in collected material quality, and the need for systemic incentives to stimulate demand for recycled fibres.

However, a major breakthrough came with the EPR agreement with Stichting UPV Textiel (SUT), whose fees help stabilise operations and supports investments in fibre-to-fibre recycling capacity.

Social impact remains central to RTT's mission. More than 40 employees, many of whom face barriers to the labour market, benefit from improved ergonomic conditions and skills development.

On the environmental side, RTT continues to reduce waste, promote reuse at the highest level of the circular R-ladder, and work nationally to improve textile collection quality.

Looking forward, RTT, expand reuse pilots, and continue to advocate for stronger national and European regulation to drive recycled fibre demand.



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Katty Fashion

About Katty Fashion & the Project

Katty Fashion, headquartered in Iasi, Romania, is an apparel manufacturer blending creativity, craftsmanship, and innovation to deliver sustainable fashion solutions. Known for its agility and strong design-to-market capabilities, the company has consistently embraced new technologies and circular approaches to

meet the evolving needs of global fashion brands.

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Katty Fashion set out to pioneer a smarter, more sustainable way of manufacturing. The company developed a digital tool that enables designers and brands to co-create and adjust collections in real time using 3D technologies, before a single piece of fabric is cut. This innovation drastically reduces the need for fabric samples, minimises waste, accelerates production, and lowers costs.

What makes the tool particularly impactful is its ability to support sustainable design from the very beginning while offering a workflow that is both accessible and transparent. Tailored specifically to the needs of the fashion and textile industry, it provides ease of use, accurate resource estimates, and a clear pathway to designing more responsibly.

Our work within RegioGreenTex highlights Katty Fashion's commitment to advancing a fashion industry that prioritises sustainability while maintaining creativity, efficiency, and innovation.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

By mid-2025, as part of the RegioGreenTex project, Katty Fashion advanced its mission to reshape fashion into a more circular future. The company developed a digital tool that enables designers and brands to co-create and adjust collections in real time before cutting any fabric.

This reduces sample waste, shortens production time, and lowers costs, while embedding sustainability at the earliest design stages through an accessible, transparent workflow tailored to the textile industry.

“From waste to value, from idea to impact designed by hand, powered by code, we’re reshaping fashion into a more circular future.”

To further support circularity, Katty Fashion introduced the Waste Management Toolkit, designed to minimise and manage textile waste across the production cycle. With the global fashion industry generating over 92 million tonnes of waste annually and less than 20% being recycled, this solution provides a timely and practical response. It integrates with 3D design software to visualise waste, offers real-time layplan optimisation, validates bills of material, and tracks detailed cost implications.

At its core is the Waste Report, delivering real-time metrics on fabric allocation, usage, and loss, along with financial overviews that calculate waste costs and total production costs. A recent circular garment assessment demonstrated over 70% material efficiency, with 95% of waste recycled or reused showing both the progress achieved and the opportunities ahead.



Together, these innovations empower fashion professionals to refine processes, reduce waste, and scale sustainable practices, making efficient, responsible manufacturing not just aspirational, but achievable.

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Mai Bine

About Mai Bine & the Project

Mai Bine, based in Iasi, Romania, is a social enterprise committed to transforming textile waste into new, valuable products while driving social and environmental impact.



“We believe every leftover has a story to tell, our mission is to give it a second life with purpose and creativity.”

This mission is aligned with Mai Bine’s broader strategy of reducing waste, extending the lifecycle of materials, and fostering sustainable manufacturing partnerships across Romania and beyond.

Through its flagship upcycling brand, REDU, the organisation has built a reputation for combining innovation with community engagement, creating fashion and accessories from post-industrial leftovers that would otherwise go to waste.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Mai Bine set out to develop a digital software tool capable of streamlining the use of factory textile leftovers in new product design.

The goal was to enable efficient pattern cutting, maximise fabric utilisation, and open new business models for textile circularity.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

During this reporting period, Mai Bine delivered the third and fourth MVPs (Minimum Viable Products) of the software tool, adapting it for compatibility with different CAD systems used in garment factories.

While testing in a second factory revealed challenges with decoding certain file formats, the development team has been actively resolving the issue.

In parallel, a marketing and branding strategy was completed, identifying three core business models, from collaborative manufacturing agreements to software-as-a-service licensing for other enterprises working with textile waste.

A notable success was the integration of the software with Katty Fashion's leftover fabrics for the "Circular Garment" initiative, producing T-shirts and accessories that will

be showcased at Avantex Paris and later at the RegioGreenTex event in the European Parliament.

Key challenges included adapting the software for varied factory systems and managing a team transition, which temporarily slowed progress on outreach activities such as video production and new factory onboarding.

However, these setbacks have been addressed, and the next steps include creating a promotional video, hosting a webinar, and expanding testing to additional factories.

Mai Bine's work promises a significant impact: reducing cutting waste by up to 50%, creating new revenue streams from upcycled products, and offering scalable solutions for other producers in the circular economy.

With its mix of technological innovation and community-driven purpose, the project stands as a blueprint for how digital tools can enable sustainable transformation in the textile value chain.



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Tintex

About Tintex & the Project

Tintex, a Portuguese leader in sustainable textile innovation, has built a strong reputation for combining cutting-edge technology with environmental responsibility.

The company is widely recognised for its commitment to reducing resource

consumption, improving textile performance, and fostering circular economy practices.

As part of the RegioGreenTex initiative, Tintex's pilot project focuses on integrating recycled water into the textile production processes, from preparation for dyeing to finishing, while also sustainability can be achieved without compromising quality, and that closed-loop resource management is both feasible and scalable.

A unique highlight of this pilot is the creation of a fully circular garment in collaboration with other RegioGreenTex partners. This garment combines recycled yarns and recycled water processes within a transparent, traceable value chain, setting a new benchmark for eco-responsible textile production.



Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Tintex successfully validated its water recycling pilot plant through a series of industrial-scale trials. These trials compared fabrics produced using conventional water with those made entirely using recycled water. The results showed that recycled water could be used in all stages of textile processing without affecting product quality, a major step toward reducing the industry's dependence on fresh water.

“Every drop counts. By rethinking how we use and reuse water, we’re showing that sustainability and performance can flow together, creating textiles with a story worth telling.”

The project also advanced its work on circular textiles, producing knit fabrics from recycled yarns and processing them with recycled water. These fabrics formed the basis of the fully circular garment, proving that it is possible to integrate multiple sustainable innovations into a single product. In addition to production trials, Tintex participated in the creation of a documentary that captures the entire journey, from raw materials to the final garment, showcasing that circularity in textiles is not just an aspiration, but a tangible reality.

Challenges remain in scaling operations to ensure continuous use of recycled water and in optimising costs to make the process more competitive. However, market interest is growing, particularly in regions that value sustainability and are willing to support innovations with a higher perceived value. The environmental impact of the pilot is significant: reducing reliance on fresh water, reusing byproducts from production, and demonstrating a model



for integrating circular practices into textile manufacturing. Socially, the project has strengthened collaboration across the value chain, enhanced skills in sustainable processing, and contributed to the broader conversation on responsible production.

Looking ahead, Tintex aims to further improve its water recycling system, continue developing circular products, and explore new markets that are ready to embrace high-value sustainable textiles.

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Sasia

About Sasia & the Project

Sasia is a Portuguese textile recycling company, founded in 1952, that transforms pre and post-consumer textile waste into fibres for sectors such as spinning, automotive, mattresses, geotextiles, and horticulture.

“In textile recycling, every fibre saved is a step away from waste and a step closer to a sustainable future.”

Originating in cotton cleaning for spinning, the company has scaled with new infrastructures and technologies to deliver higher-quality, more diverse outputs.

Sasia positions itself within the textile value chain to demonstrate that sustainability and industrial performance can coexist, prioritising improvements in traceability, quality, and circularity while collaborating with brands, manufacturers, and certifying bodies including GRS and ISO 9001.

Since January 2023, Sasia has integrated a latest-generation Pierret cutting machine from Belgium, featuring adjustable cutting speed via a variator and fully electronic/



digital controls. This upgrade enables precise, rigorous cutting and trouble-free feeding of varied material types and shapes, resulting in higher and more consistent recyclate quality.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Sasia's pilot is: The cutting machine acquired by Sasia in January 2023 is the latest generation, this type of machines is developed by the Belgian company Pierret. The cut is regulated as its speed, can be controlled by a variator, allowing a more precise and rigorous cut, which results in higher quality in the final product.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

From January to June 2025, Sasia completed all tasks. It conducted experimental trials using multicoloured 100% cotton materials, including knitted fabrics, woven fabrics, and yarns with various textures, prints and colours. The main objective was to achieve a high fibre uniformity and defibration quality despite the heterogeneous input.

The main challenge was related to the diversity of colours and structures, which could impact the homogeneity of the final product. However, the trials were successful in producing well defibred fibres.

These advances allowed trials for producing recycled fibres that meet spinning industry requirements, a key step towards textile circularity. In this first year of the project, Sasia had two main objectives: the acquisition and installation of a new cutting machine and carrying out internal trials with different materials. Regarding the new

cutting machine, the obtained results show an improvement in the quality of fibres, the cut material.

Similarly, there is an increase of the production rate, since this equipment allows to work (cut) faster. The cutting machine acquired by Sasia in January 2023 is the latest generation, this type of machines is developed by the Belgian company Pierret. The cutting speed is regulated as its speed, can be controlled by a variator, allowing a more precise and rigorous cut, which results in higher quality in the final product.

Challenges remain, including fluctuating market demand for recycled fibres, competition from low-cost virgin materials, and persistent contaminants such as trims and chemical finishes.

Sasia is tackling these issues through pre-processing protocols and collaborations with technology providers for better contaminant removal. The environmental benefits are already evident: less waste sent to landfill or incineration and more material diverted into high-quality recycling. On the social side, the project supports local employment and skills development, with specialised training for operators.

Looking forward, Sasia aims to scale up its optimised sorting line and broaden its network of partners, with the long-term ambition of replicating this model in other regions to accelerate Europe's transition to a circular textile economy.



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FOV

FOV Fabrics AB

About FOV Fabrics AB & the Project

FOV Fabrics, based in Borås, Sweden, is a specialist in advanced textile solutions, known for combining technical expertise with cutting-edge innovation. With a history rooted in high-performance fabrics, the company has consistently pushed the boundaries of what textiles can achieve in demanding markets.



From functional sportswear to protective applications, FOV Fabrics is committed to delivering products that balance performance, aesthetics, and sustainability.

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, FOV Fabrics embarked on an ambitious journey to install and optimise a complete digital printing line, aiming to revolutionise the way fabrics are coloured and patterned. The goal was not only to bring greater design flexibility and faster production turnaround, but also to significantly reduce the environmental footprint compared to traditional dyeing methods.

During the project, the team oversaw the full installation of the printing line, from mixers and pre-treatment units to high-precision printers, dryers, and steaming systems. Each machine was integrated with advanced software, colour measurement devices, and calibration protocols to ensure seamless operation across the entire process.

In parallel, the company developed and documented every stage of the digital printing workflow, from pre-treatment and colour mixing to printing, steaming, washing, and final inspection. The achievement marked a major step forward in production capability, with the new system already producing high-quality results and poised for large-scale output.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

By the end of the reporting period, FOV Fabrics had successfully commissioned a fully operational digital printing line and defined all key processes for its use.

While some fine-tuning and staff training remain ongoing, early test runs have already demonstrated the potential for exceptional print quality and reduced resource use. With the capability to produce between 50,000 and 100,000 meters of digitally printed fabric in the coming year, the company is now well positioned to meet growing customer demand for customisation, shorter lead times, and more sustainable production methods.

“Digital printing is not just about speed and precision, it's about rethinking the way we create, reducing our impact, and unlocking new possibilities for design.”

The implementation journey was smooth, with no major technical setbacks. However, the process underscored the importance of continuous training and iterative parameter adjustment to achieve optimum results. The team has embraced pre-production series as a way to collect the necessary operational data, ensuring that the system's full potential is realised in commercial runs.

Looking ahead, FOV Fabrics plans to complement the printing line with a comprehensive quality system, detailed operator manuals, and a robust training programme. An upcoming life cycle assessment (LCA) will quantify the environmental benefits, particularly in terms of reduced water use, chemical consumption, and carbon footprint.



This investment has already created new jobs within the company and is expected to open fresh market opportunities, especially in sectors seeking innovative, sustainable textile solutions.

By introducing digital printing at this scale, FOV Fabrics is setting a precedent for combining high-end performance with environmental responsibility, contributing to the broader RegioGreenTex vision of a circular, future-ready textile industry.

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VIVIDYE

Vividye

About Vividye & the Project

Vividye, a Swedish innovation company, specialises in developing sustainable colouring and printing technologies designed to support textile reuse and recycling. The company's work focuses on enabling the removal or transformation of colour from materials so that they can be repurposed without loss of quality a concept that aligns closely with circular economy goals.

“Innovation is not only about creating new solutions, it's about knowing where they can make the biggest difference. By listening to the market, we ensure our technology finds the right place to thrive.”

Within the RegioGreenTex initiative, Vividye's pilot project set out to adapt its removable print technology to a wider range of textile fibres and blends. The aim was to make it easier to recover and reuse textiles that would otherwise be discarded due to permanent prints or colour finishes.

As the project progressed, market feedback revealed that current commercial demand for removable textile prints was very low. In



response, Vividye took a strategic decision to pivot its development focus towards other potential applications for its colouring technology, such as cosmetics and non-textile materials, while still leveraging technical progress made during the pilot.

This shift reflects the company's commitment to applying its innovations where they can achieve the greatest environmental and commercial impact.

Achievements, Challenges & Impact

Between January and June 2025, Vividye achieved several technical milestones, including adapting its technology for use on cotton/polyester blends, other natural fibre blends, and various synthetic fabrics. Testing also confirmed compatibility with alternative inks, such as PVC-free and water-based formulations, opening the door to broader application possibilities beyond textiles.

While these technical advances were promising, the project faced a significant challenge: a lack of market readiness for removable textile prints. Commercial viability was limited by both low willingness to pay and tight pricing margins in the textile sector. Recognising this, Vividye chose to pivot its focus to other markets where its technology could create higher value, avoiding potential financial risk while preserving its innovation potential.

The decision to redirect the project's scope ensured that the knowledge, protocols, and test results generated in RegioGreenTex remain valuable assets. Insights from the pilot will continue to inform applications that prioritise recyclability, low environmental impact, and compliance with evolving chemical regulations.

Although the environmental and social impacts within the textile sector are limited for now due to the market shift, the project still reinforced Vividye's capabilities in sustainable design and strategic adaptation. The pilot also demonstrates the value of early market validation, ensuring that innovation efforts are aligned with real-world demand and long-term business sustainability.

Looking ahead, Vividye will focus on exploring viable applications for its technology in new sectors and will continue to seek opportunities where its expertise in removable and adaptable colour systems can support circular product lifecycles.



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Upwell

Upwell – Connecting Regions, Amplifying Impact

As a consultancy SME, Upwell has been a key partner in the RegioGreenTex project, providing expertise in coordination, communication, and innovation marketing.

Acting as a central connector across all participating regions, Upwell has helped

translate the project's complex technical progress into clear, accessible, and impactful messages that speak to diverse audiences from textile innovators and regional clusters to policymakers and investors.

From the outset, Upwell's role has been to ensure that every company's innovation and every region's contribution are not seen as isolated achievements, but as parts of a shared European story of textile transformation.

Their approach combines strategic communication, ensuring that results are coherent, comparable, and visible across the entire consortium.



Empowering Collaboration and Visibility

Upwell's work has involved building bridges between technical partners providing the project as a whole with storytelling and photo and video expertise, producing most of the video interviews with the SMES and the photo exhibition for the photo catalogue. This has strengthened interregional cooperation, enabling textile SMEs from different countries to see their work as part of a connected value chain rather than an individual effort.

By supporting consistent storytelling and shared identity, Upwell has helped the consortium present itself as a cohesive European ecosystem committed to circularity, sustainability, and innovation.

Service Innovation and Added Value

While Upwell does not develop a tangible product or operate within a defined TRL, its service has proven to be just as critical to the success of RegioGreenTex. Through expertise in communication, branding, Upwell has provided the scaffolding that allows the technical work to shine and the consortium's impact to reach beyond project boundaries.

Their contribution highlights how service-based SMEs can play a pivotal role in European innovation ecosystems, offering connections and visibility that enhance the potential of every technical partner involved. By shaping the narrative of RegioGreenTex, Upwell has helped position the project within the broader European landscape of textile circularity, ensuring that each regional result contributes to a collective European momentum.

Building a Shared European Story

Ultimately, Upwell's contribution to RegioGreenTex reflects the importance of interregional collaboration in communication and visibility. By helping partners align their narratives and showcase their achievements, Upwell has supported the creation of a truly European vision for the textile sector one that connects local expertise, regional strengths, and cross-border innovation.

Their work demonstrates that impact is not only about technology, it's about connection, coherence, and communication.

Through Upwell's guidance, the diverse voices of RegioGreenTex have come together into a single, resonant message: that Europe's textile future will be circular, collaborative, and communicative.

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Conclusions

Interregional collaboration is the catalyst that turns isolated breakthroughs into complete, market-ready solutions.

By connecting regions, SMEs, research organisations and innovation hubs, programmes like RegioGreenTex align complementary capabilities, linking fibre recovery and recycling with advanced processing, circular design, and scale-up know-how to build robust, end-to-end value chains. This is how local strengths become European advantages, and how promising pilots become products, services, and jobs.

Backed by the Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) Instrument, RegioGreenTex demonstrates why coordination matters: partners co-develop tools and infrastructure, share facilities and data, and shorten the path from lab to line. The pilots showcased in this brochure, from digital platforms that map regional assets to industrial trials in water reuse, recycled fibres, circular colour and advanced printing, prove that collaboration doesn't just add value; it unlocks it.

The result is measurable progress on waste reduction, resource efficiency, and traceability, with SMEs benefiting from

shared expertise, visibility and faster routes to market.

Crucially, these interregional links make value chains more resilient. They help regions specialise without fragmenting, ensure quality and consistency across steps (from sorting to re-manufacturing to finishing), and create the conditions for scale, whether that means expanding pilot plants, commissioning new lines, or preparing flagship facilities.

The economic and social dividends are clear: new partnerships, skilled employment, and stronger local ecosystems, alongside tangible environmental gains through reduced virgin inputs, lower water and energy use, and higher-quality recycling.

The message is simple: cooperation is the decisive factor. By weaving together regional strengths through programmes like RegioGreenTex, Europe can establish circular textile value chains that are innovative by design, transparent by default, and ready for the market. What begins as a regional pilot becomes a shared European capability, scalable, investable, and built to last.



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