



ECOSYSTEX

# ECOSYSTEX Insights Series #7 Webinar

*Focus: Biobased materials projects*

*9 February 2024*



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# ECOSYSTEX

## ECOSYSTEX Insights Series #7

9 February 2024 • 10.00 - 11.30 CET

### Introduction

Tilla Kross  
Textile ETP  
10:00-10:10

### FIBSUN: Novel fibre value chains and ecosystem services from sustainable feedstocks

Kristiina Lång  
Luke (FI)  
FIBSUN Consortium  
10:20-10:35

### Glaukos' project achievements on biobased coatings

Koen Van Goethem  
I-Coats (BE)  
Glaukos Consortium  
10:50-11:05

### Wrap-up

Tilla Kross  
Textile ETP  
11:20-11:30

### Presentation of announced circular & bio-based textiles topics

Simone Maccaferri  
CBE-JU (EU)  
10:10-10:20

### Bio-LUSH: Innovating biomass conversion to nano-fibers for eco-friendly materials

Alexey Khakalo  
VTT (FI)  
Bio-LUSH Consortium  
10:35-10:50

### Q&A

11:05-11:20

# Objectives of ECOSYSTEMEX



## Interproject collaboration

- Foster interproject collaboration by sharing best practices
- Exchanging/creating new knowledge to advance sustainable and circular business practices



## Engagement with policymakers

- Engage with policymakers and public programme managers
- Help them design effective policies and programmes to foster textile circularity and sustainability
- Support their implementation



## Dissemination

- Ensure the interested public expert community can be informed about latest developments and results of EU research and innovation projects

**... with the goal to create a long-term community of practice  
and becoming the central European knowledge hub**





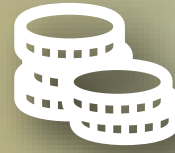
# ECOSYSTEX in numbers



1 year since  
launch



28 member  
projects



Total budget:  
167€ million



175+ registered  
experts



6 working  
groups



7 public  
webinars

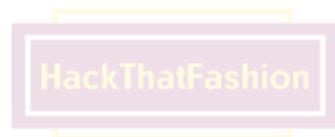


1 publication &  
more to come



1 conference  
with 100  
attendees





# **CBE JU opportunities in the circular & biobased textile sector**

**Simone Maccaferri**

ECOSYSTEX Insight Series, 09 /02/24

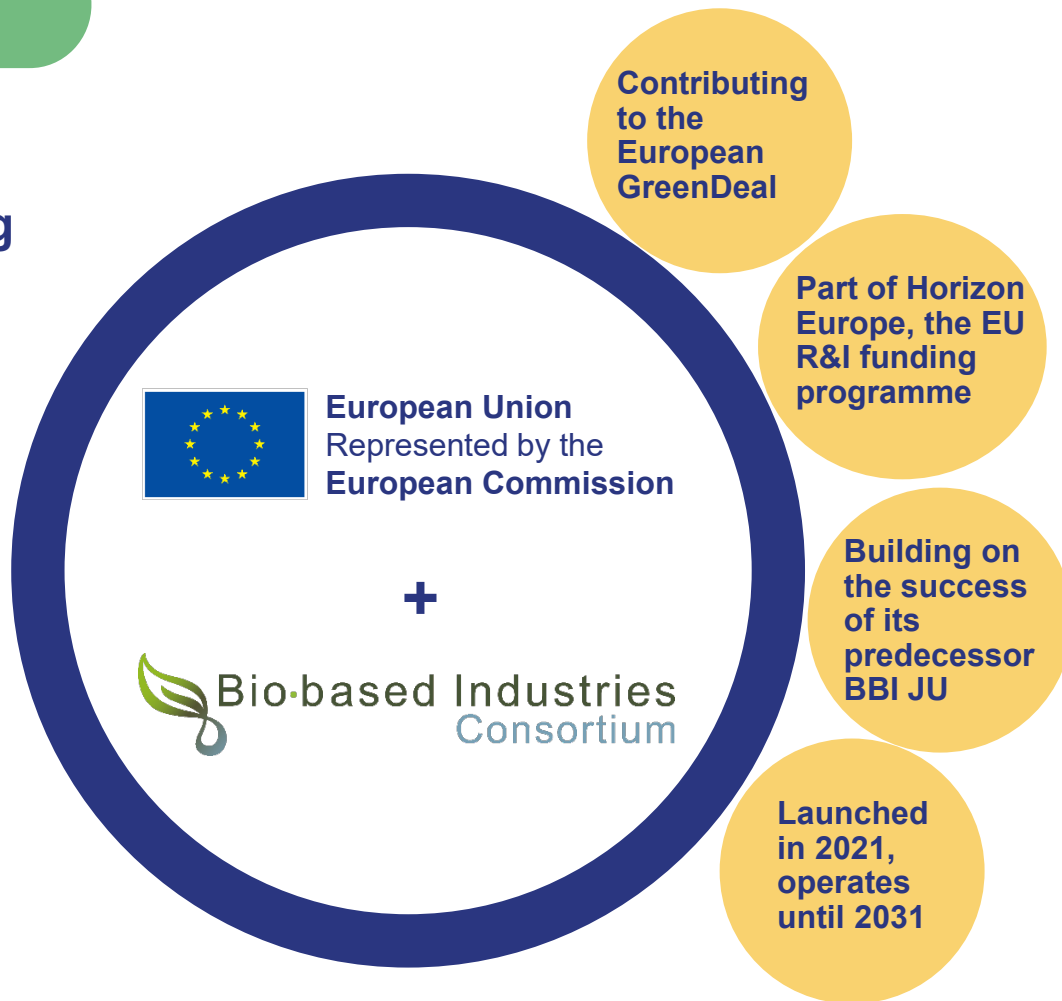




# Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

€2 billion public-private initiative

CBE JU is funding projects that deliver bio-based solutions – materials and products made from waste and biomass – in an innovative, sustainable and circular way



## CBE JU projects relevant for textiles (1/2)

RIA = TRL 4/5





## CBE JU projects relevant for textiles (2/2)

DEMO = TRL 6/7



EFFECTIVE



## 2024 CBE JU funding priorities announced

- HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-IAFlag-03: Bio-based value chains for valorisation of sustainable natural fibre feedstock
- HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-IA-01: Bio-based materials and products for biodegradable in soil applications
- HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-RIA-02: Biotech routes to obtain bio-based chemicals/materials replacing animal-derived ones
- HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-RIA-04: SSbD bio-based coating materials for applications under demanding and/or extreme conditions



## HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-IAFlag-03: Bio-based value chains for valorisation of sustainable natural fibre feedstock

End TRL: 8

Budget: 20 m€

- Implementation of (environmentally and economically) sound value chains for biorefinery applications based on sustainable bio-based fibre feedstock
- Establishment of industrial fibre crop production systems from primary non-woody crops and/or wood-based fibres or respective residues and side streams
- Demonstrate innovative biorefinery processes to convert fibre feedstock into SSbD bio-based materials and products. The scope includes garment applications, technical textiles, composites, nonwovens, fibre-based packaging among others.

## HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-IA-01: Bio-based materials and products for biodegradable in soil applications

End TRL: 7/8

Budget: 15 m€ (2 projects)

- Demonstrate and deploy innovative production processes for SSbD bio-based products for biodegradable -in- soil applications, addressing the problem of (micro)plastics release in soil and their further dispersion in runoff water.
- Among other, the topic could focus on geotextiles



## HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-RIA-02: Biotech routes to obtain bio-based chemicals/materials replacing animal-derived ones

End TRL: 4/5

Budget: 7 m€ (2 projects funded)

- Develop biotech routes for sustainable bio-based alternatives to (a set of) animal-derived product(s). Define, develop and test the related biotech routes and subsequent downstream (separation, purification) up to pilot scale (TRL 5)
- Example of target industries are cosmetics, ingredients, textile, leather, chemical


## HORIZON-JU-CBE-2024-RIA-04: SSbD bio-based coating materials for applications under demanding and/or extreme conditions

End TRL: 4/5

Budget: 7 m€ (2 projects funded)

- Develop innovative and efficient processes to obtain SSbD bio-based alternative(s) to (a set of) conventional coating(s) for applications under demanding and/or extreme conditions
- Address the end-of-life of the targeted final product(s), ensuring that the bio-based coating is not hindering the circularity of the final product(s)
- Example of target industries are transport, construction, processing industry, textiles, energy, electronics, telecommunications, water and waste management

# CBE JU Info Day 2024

 In-person

[Home](#) / [Events](#) / CBE JU Info Day 2024

## Dates

**23 April 2024**

## Location

Brussels, Belgium

## Organiser

CBE JU

CBE JU Info Day 2024 allows you to gain insights into the upcoming call for project proposals 2024 and expand your network.

Networking opportunities will enable you to engage with other CBE JU community members.

The event will take place in the Charlemagne building in Brussels.

The registration link will be available middle of February.



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Contact us

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Novel fibre value chains and  
ecosystem services from sustainable  
feedstocks

ECOSYSTEM Insights Series

9.2.2024

Kristiina Lång



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## Novel fibre value chains & ecosystem services from sustainable feedstocks



Consortium of 17 partners led by Natural Resources Institute Finland



Use of hemp, wood, cardoon, cattail and common reed as feedstock



Optimization of processing technologies: physical, chemical and biotechnological treatments to obtain competitive fibre products



Insulation rolls and boards, composites for cars, bioconcrete and textile yarn



Facilitate provision of sustainable feedstocks for industries and create new valorisation value chains while protecting and restoring degraded soils and biodiversity



## Novel fibre value chains & ecosystem services from sustainable feedstocks

**CBE JU contribution:** € 4.49 million

**Duration:** June 2023 – May 2027

**Feedstock:** Hemp, wood, cardoon, cattail and common reed

**Main products:** Fiber-based products: insulation rolls and boards, composites for cars, bioconcrete and yarn

**FIBSUN aims to support the development of resilient and competitive production systems and enhanced provision of ecosystem services from degraded soils through five sustainable fibre value chains for construction, automotive and textile sectors.**





## Project lead: Natural Resources Institute Finland (FI)



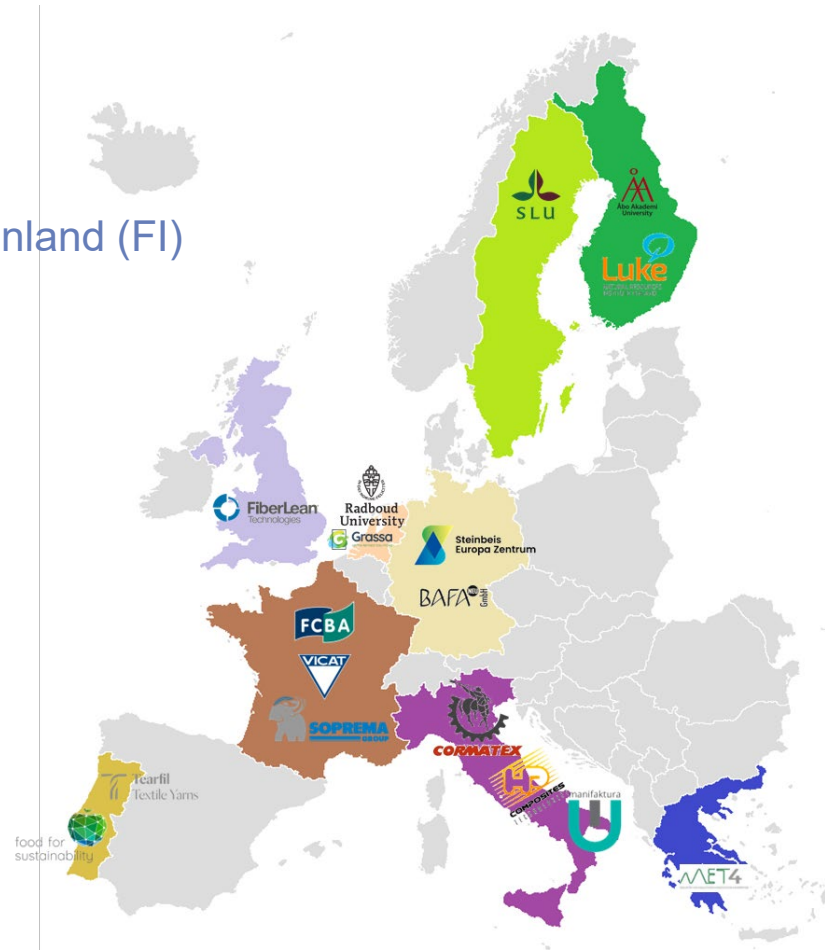
[7] RTOs



[7] SMEs

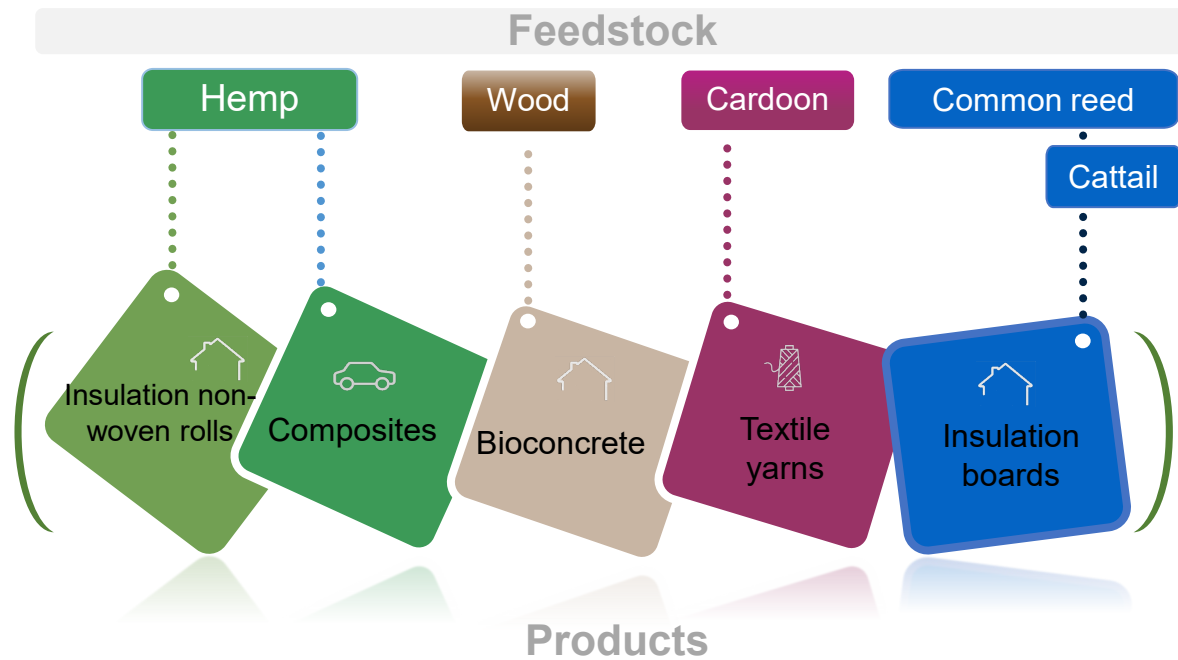


[3] Large  
Companies



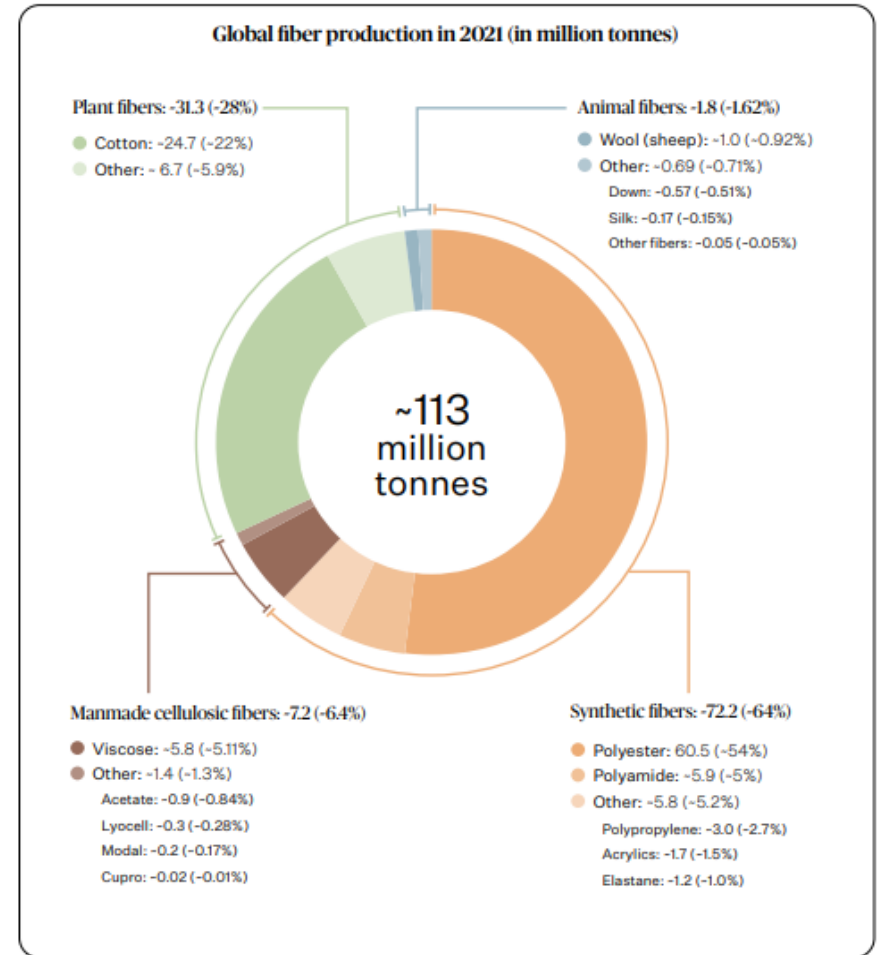


## The FIBSUN concept



There is room for novel fibres?

Main fibres in textile industry are synthetic (64%) and cotton (22%); both cause environmental problems.



## Cardoon (*Cynara cardunculus*)

- Perennial, height >2 m
- Edible
- Favoured by pollinators
- Used in soil improvement:
- “Cardoon produces a dense mat of fine roots that can contribute to increase soil cohesion, thus providing important ecosystem services.”

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2022.106016>

- “*C. cardunculus* and municipal waste can be effective resources for the aided phytoremediation of multi PTE-contaminated soils.”

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-020-10687-2>



## Fibre quality of cardoon

Cardoon fibers, derived from the cardoon plant (*Cynara* spp.), possess several qualities that make them useful for various applications:

**Strength:** Cardoon fibers are known for their strength and durability. They have good tensile strength, making them suitable for applications where strength is required.

**Flexibility:** Despite their strength, cardoon fibers can also be flexible, allowing them to be woven or blended with other materials to create textiles or composite materials with desired properties.

**Lightweight:** Cardoon fibers are relatively lightweight, which can be advantageous in applications where weight is a concern, such as in automotive.

**Biodegradability:** Cardoon fibers are biodegradable, making them environmentally friendly compared to synthetic fibers. They can be composted at the end of their lifecycle, reducing environmental impact.

**Availability:** Cardoon is a fast-growing plant and can be cultivated in various regions, making the fibers relatively accessible compared to some other natural fibers.



## Value chain for cardoon/processing of cardoon

### Cardoon production

- Farming
- Cardoon harvest
- Separation part plants



### Processing of plants

- Drying
- Mechanical decortication
- Re-wetting
- Drying
- Fibers characterisation



### Development of textile yarns

- Fiber processing
- Yarn processing



food for  
sustainability

Tearfil Textile Yarns



## Tearfil Textile Yarns

*"Sustainability is an inbuilt mindset and culture for our company."*

**Tearfil** is a short staple, cotton type spinning mill founded in **1973**. Initially we used classic ring and open end systems, but in **1987** a high quality fine yarn spinning mill was installed.

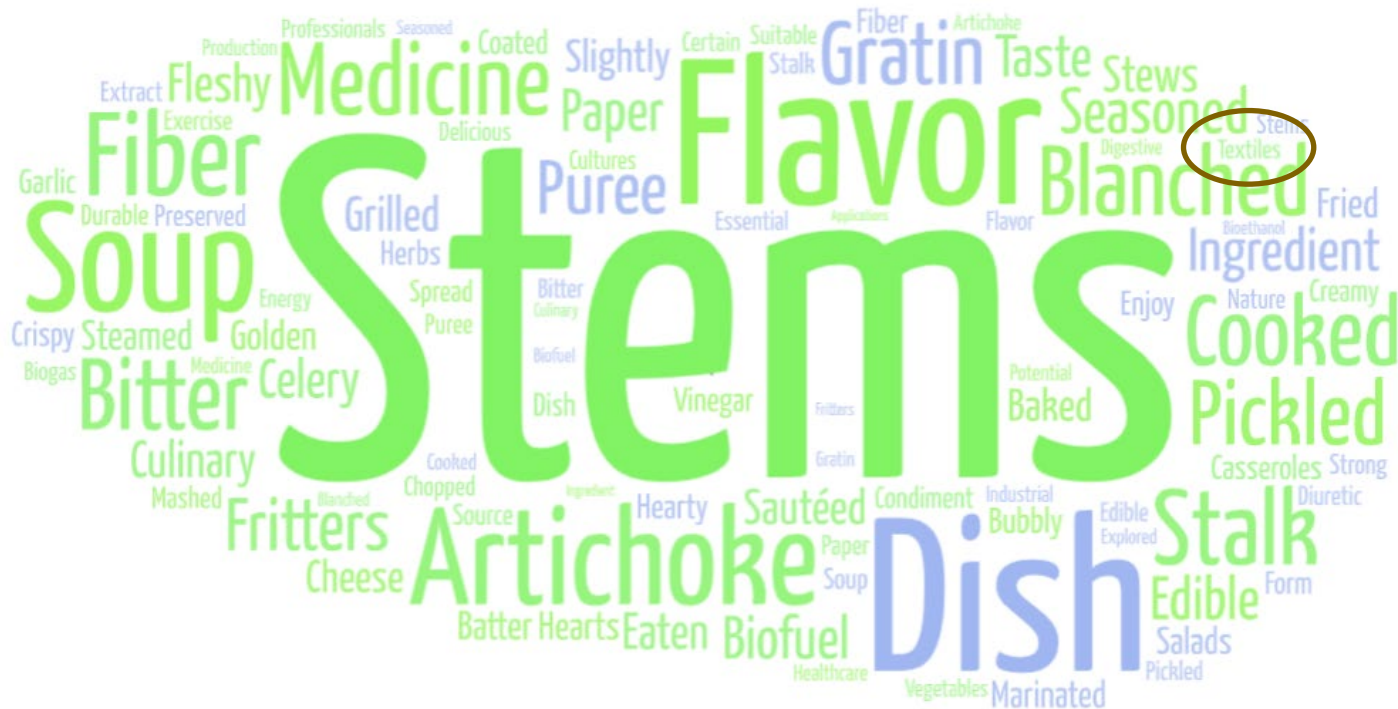
In **2000** as part of our company policy on innovation, a spinning laboratory was created, directed to the research and development of new products.

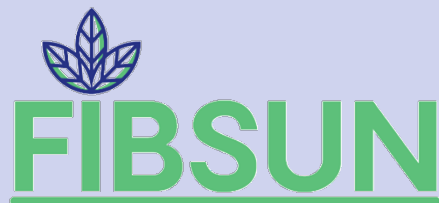
Since **2019**, Tearfil is working independently again under the management of Belém Machado, a private investor with a family background in the spinning business.



## What can you make from cardoon?

Answer by ChatGPT





#### Contact us

Kristiina Lång (coordinator)  
LUKE  
[kristiina.lang@luke.fi](mailto:kristiina.lang@luke.fi)

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## BIOMASS VALORIZATION FOR SUSTAINABLE AND HIGH-QUALITY FIBER MATERIALS

**CBE JU contribution:** €4,479,506.25

**Duration:** May 2023 – April 2027

**Feedstock:** hemp, forest residues and other green underexplored biomass feedstocks (nettle and seagrasses)

**Main products:** edible packaging, antibacterial textiles, and impact-resistant car interior products

The Bio-LUSH project aims to demonstrate a reliable value chain that exploits the cell wall structure of underexplored plant resources in Europe, such as forest residues, marine plants and weeds, to extract high-quality fibers. By combining plant selection, traditional breeding, efficient valorization routes, and advanced fiber characterization, the project ensures the production of high-value fibers with short-term market potential. These fibers are directed towards sustainable bio-based products such as textiles, food packaging, and reinforced composites. The project contributes to retaining the value of the EU's fibrous biomass and promoting the growth of the European fibrous bio-economy, revitalizing marginal and rural areas affected by desertification or socio-economic difficulties. The extended and circular use of plant biomass also contributes to decarbonization and reduced eutrophication.





Project lead: Stockholm University



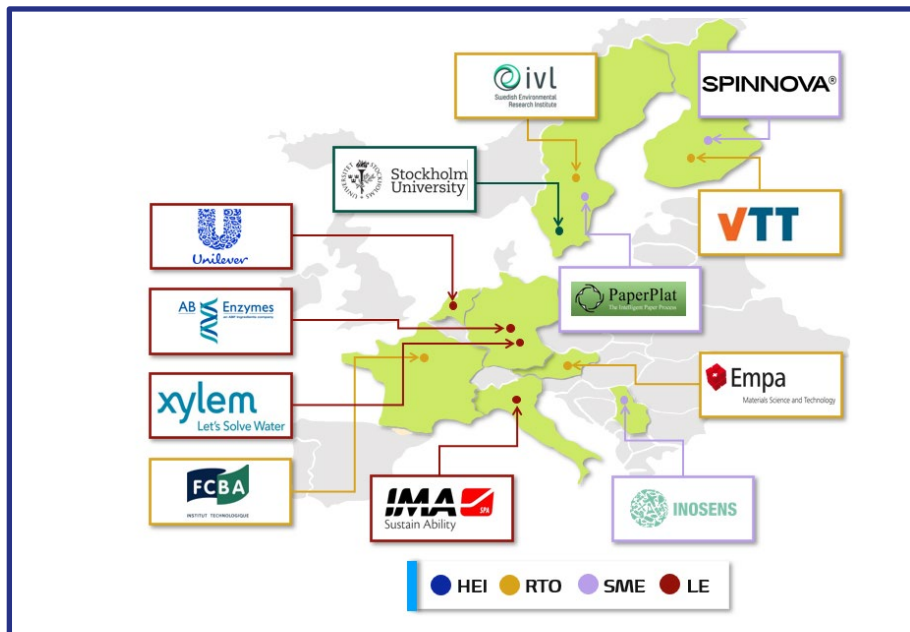
5 RTO's



3 SME's



4 Large  
Companies







## Context and objectives

### Challenges

- **Sustainable biomass supply:** Reliable, homogeneous biomass in sufficient quantities without competing with agriculture and forestry, and standardized data on fibers from under-utilized biomass sources.
- **Processing and application gaps:** Green, scalable processing methods for distributed biomass feedstock and its products, and assurance of circular design for biofiber-based products in terms of decarbonization and reduced eutrophication.

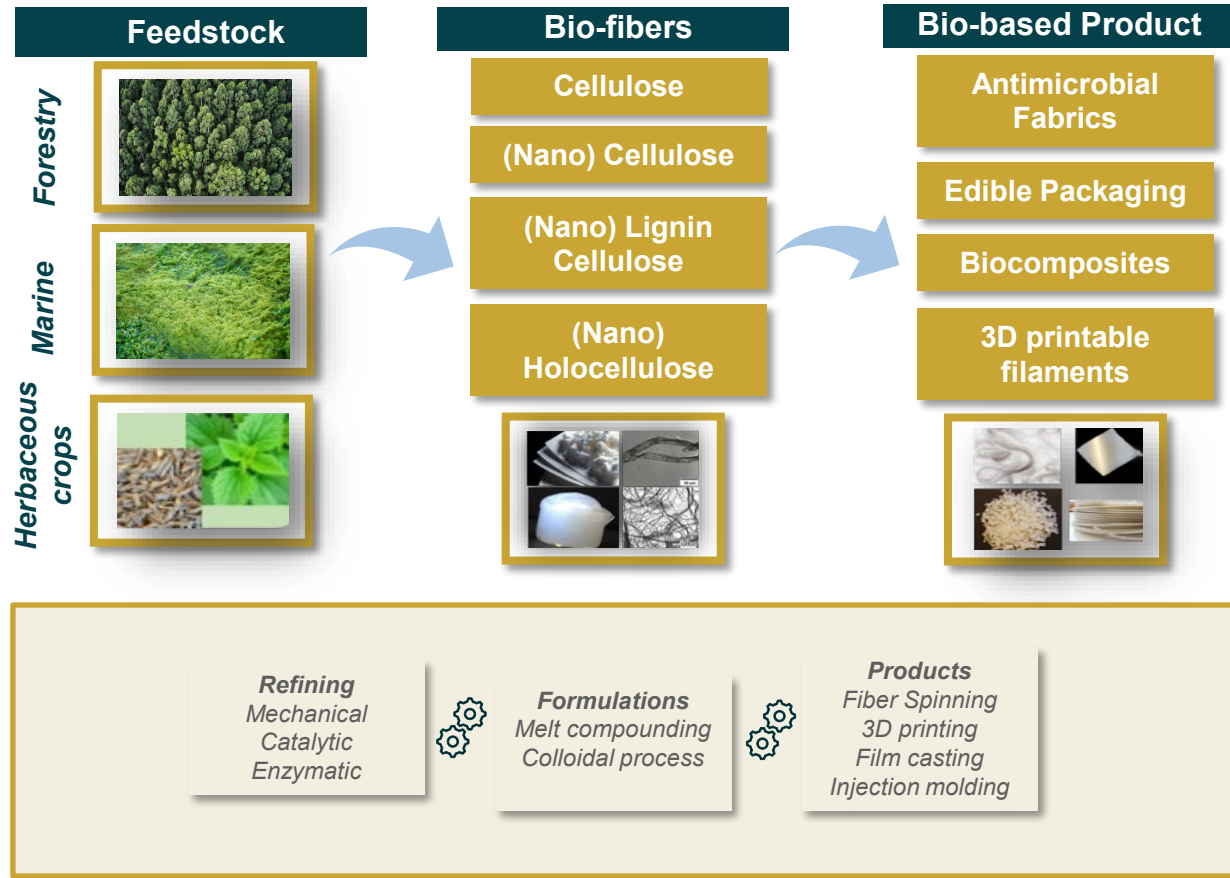
### Objectives

- **Develop a flexible, "green/clean" process for converting high-value biomass from secondary sources**, reducing environmental impact.
- **Demonstrate market entry potential for high-quality fibers** in textile, food packaging and composites, promoting sustainable bio-based products.
- **Quantify the reduction in reliance on fossil resources** in European manufacturing and engage stakeholders in the transition to a bio-fibrous economy.





## The Bio-LUSH concept





## Benefits to society and the environment



Enhancing European bio-based sector competitiveness through **sustainable feedstock processing** for fashion, packaging, and automotive applications.



Utilizing bio-based fibers in composites **reduces greenhouse gas emissions**, offsets fossil fuel use, and enables carbon stocking in long-lasting products with negative net emissions.



Decreasing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, improving policies and decision-making, **raising consumer awareness**, and influencing EU policies and action plans.



Introducing **new products and processes**, increasing efficiency and profits while driving decentralization of biomass refining for economic benefits in rural and marginal areas.

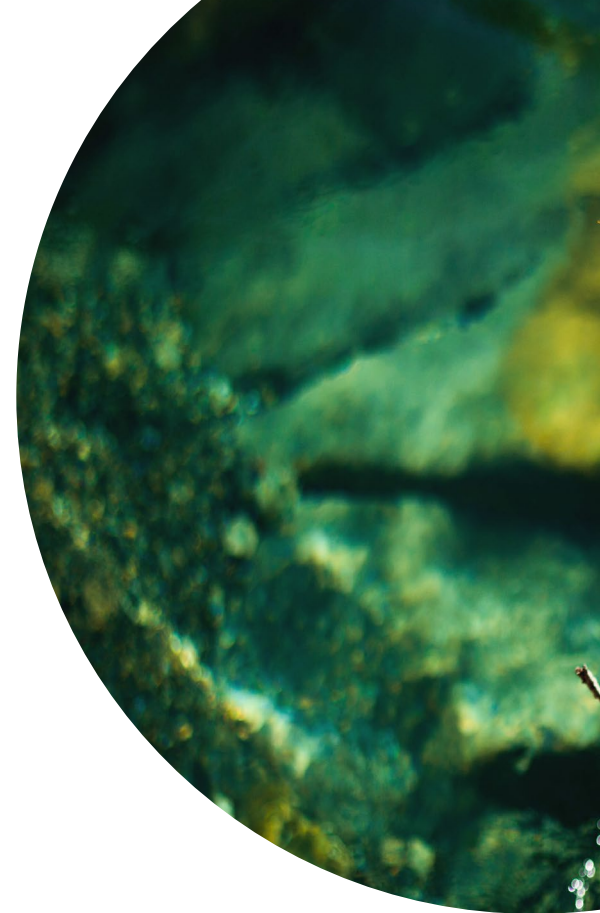




## Contribution to EU policy

The objective of the project is to make a significant contribution to various EU initiatives and strategies, including the **European Green Deal**, the **EU Bioeconomy Strategy**, the **Circular Economy Action Plan**, the **Sustainable Textiles Strategy**, the **Zero Pollution Action Plan**, the **New European Bauhaus Initiative**, the **EU Industrial Strategy**, and the forthcoming **Sustainable Product Initiative**.

Additionally, the growth of the European fibrous bio-economy can serve as a potent means of rejuvenating marginalized regions afflicted by desertification or socio-economic challenges.



# Ecotex Insights: “Glaukos’ project achievements on biobased coatings”

Koen Van Goethem

I-Coats

Date: 09/02/2024

Partners





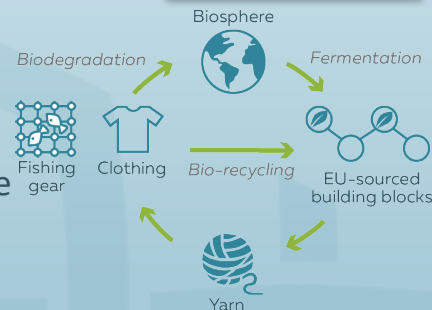
# Glaukos: Intro - Objectives

- # Glaukos is the Greek god of fishermen.
  - # He was commonly believed to protect the oceans, as is the ambition of this project by developing innovative alternatives for textiles that are currently polluting our oceans.
- # Glaukos: aims to develop eco-friendly textiles for the **clothing** and **fishing** industry. (European Project)

Sustainability of these textiles will be enhanced significantly, while technical performance will be matched to end-user requirements.

## Objectives:

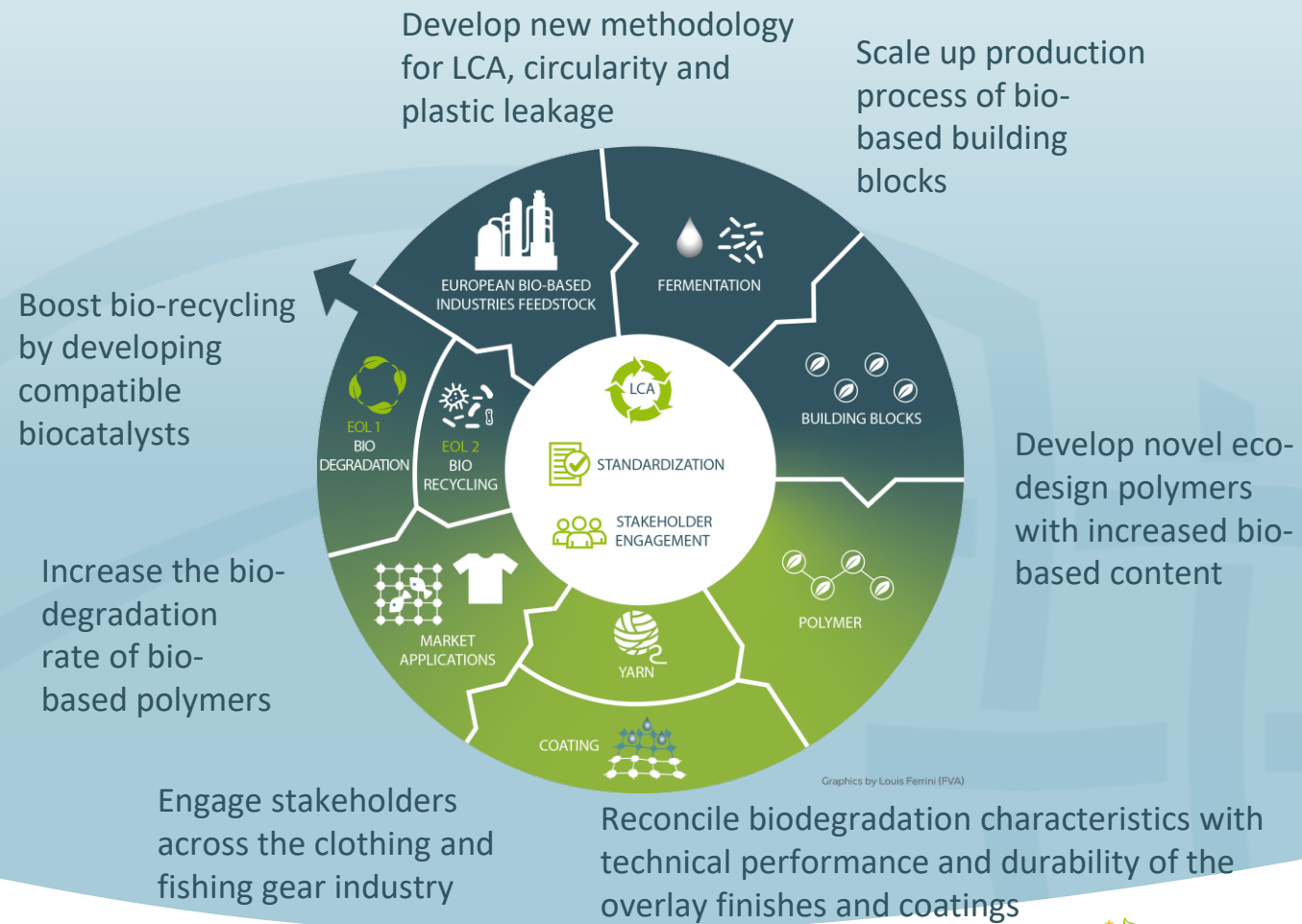
- # Increase bio-based content of polyester and polyamide textiles to at least 50%
- # Mitigate microplastic pollution by increasing biodegradation
- # Reconcile sustainability characteristics with performance and durability
- # Boost bio-recycling potential for textiles by developing recycling biocatalyst.
- # Develop eco-friendly coatings with increased bio-based content (>30%)
- # Engage stakeholders across the industry.



**Project start:** June 1st 2020  
**Duration:** 4 years



# Glaukos approach






(Disclosure or reproduction without permission of GLAUKOS partners is prohibited)



# I-Coats Activities/Achievements in Glaukos

- # Development and testing of bio-based overlay finishes and coatings
- # Mitigate microplastic pollution by increasing the biodegradation of the coatings
- # Support other WP's
- # Engage stakeholders across our industry

Let's talk about Bio-Plastics!			I-Coats
DEFINITIONS	BIO-BASED	BIODEGRADATION	
	 <p>the <i>product</i> is (partly) derived from biomass (m.o.) or renewable organic material generated from plants or animals (eg. cellulose, chitin)</p>	<p>is a <i>process</i> during which micro- and other organisms convert materials into water, CO<sub>2</sub>, and organic matter, driven(affected) by environmental conditions (eg. location, temperature), material and use (eg. agricultural twine in composting, netting in seawater).</p>	
REMARKS	BIO-BASED	BIODEGRADATION	
	 <p>A BIOPLASTIC can refer to either bio-based or biodegradable, or both.</p>	 <p>BIODEGRADABLE does not necessarily mean BIO-BASED or COMPOSTABLE</p>	

# I-Coats results

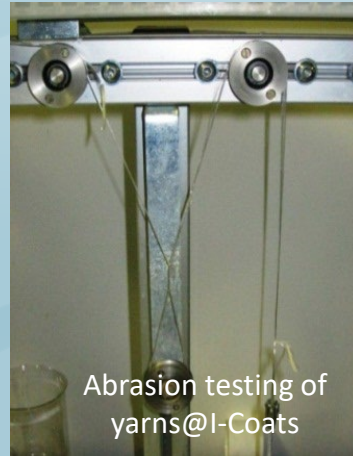
- # Biobased overlay finishes and coatings have been developed for use in fishing and aquaculture:
  - # biobased content 30%
  - # Higher bio-based content is possible (60%), however there are strong indications that bio-degradation in the sea is also higher and consequently performance also decreases quicker.

# I-Coats results

- # The bio-based overlay finishes and coatings tested, show a similar (or better) performance in abrasion and mesh strength of netting as traditional coatings.



Abrasion testing of ropes @I-Coats



Abrasion testing of yarns @I-Coats



Testing netting @ I-Coats

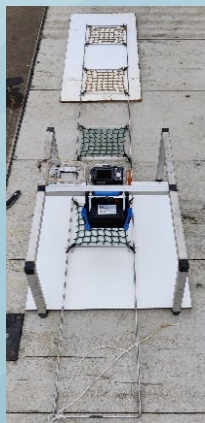


Abrasion resistance Testing of netting against high pressure cleaning



# I-Coats results

- # In aquaculture biodegradation should not have a negative effect on performance for at least one season



## Fouling restraining



Blank



Copper



HP1



HP1 Bio (5%)



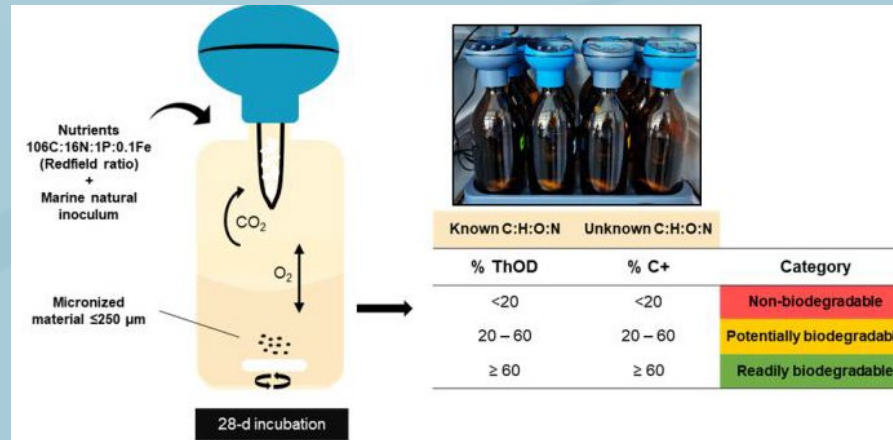
P1 Bio (30%)

Evaluating fouling behavior in the field

# I-Coats results

## # End Of Life (UVigo)

- # in WP6 a tool has been developed for assessing biodegradation of polymer degradation in sea water. (BOD or Biochemical Oxygen Demand)  
This has led to a publication.
- # Our coatings showed a higher biodegradation with a higher bio-based content.



Evaluating biodegradability in the field/lab (UVigo)



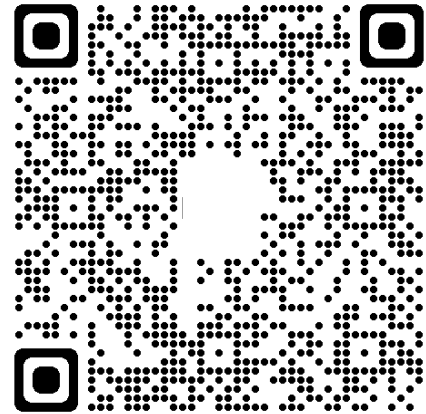
# @Follow Glaukos activities

- # Become a Stakeholder in Glaukos Lab
- # Project website: [www.glaukos-project.eu](http://www.glaukos-project.eu)
- # [www.linkedin.com/company/glaukos-project](http://www.linkedin.com/company/glaukos-project)
- # [twitter.com/Glaukos\\_project](https://twitter.com/Glaukos_project)

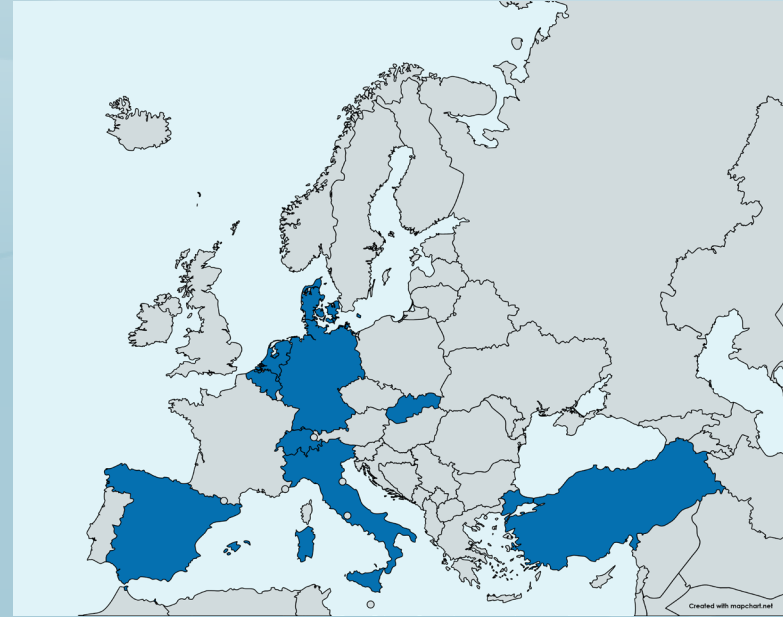
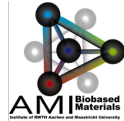
LinkedIn



To ensure that Glaukos will respond appropriately to the stakeholders needs and requirements, considering specific challenges, barriers and bottlenecks, the project is creating 2 stakeholder labs (fishing gear and clothing).



# Thank you



*This project has received funding from the Bio Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 887711*

# Upcoming Activities & Events



ECOSYSTEM  
Insights Series #8  
**8 March 2024**



ECOSYSTEM  
Insights Series #9  
**31 May 2024**



ECOSYSTEM  
Insights Series #10  
**September 2024  
tbc**



# Upcoming ECOSYSTEX Member Events



Bio-LUSH & CBE-JU  
**28-29 February 2024**  
**Amsterdam, NL & online**

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual World  
Biopolymers and  
Bioplastics Innovation  
Forum

**[Register here](#)**



CIRPASS

**5 March 2024**  
**Online**

State of Play and Possible  
Future Developments of  
the DPP

**[Register here](#)**



New Cotton Project

**21 March 2024**  
**Espoo, Finland**

Concluding seminar:  
Exploring the Future of  
Circular Textiles

**[Register here](#)**

# ECOSYSTEMEX Member News



## SCIRT

Interactive tool to learn more about the way you shop

**[Try out here](#)**



## tExtended

Community of Practitioners for knowledge sharing related to textile circularity

**[Read more here](#)**



## IRISS

New publications on SSbD: takeaways from SbD and value chain analysis

**[Read more here](#)**







The Circular & Biobased  
Textiles Innovation Hub **brings  
together European textile  
sustainability experts to  
learn, network and  
collaborate on the hot topics  
of circular and biobased  
textiles.**

Find out more on our website:  
[www.textile-platform.eu/  
innovation-hub-circular-and-  
biobased-textiles](http://www.textile-platform.eu/innovation-hub-circular-and-biobased-textiles)



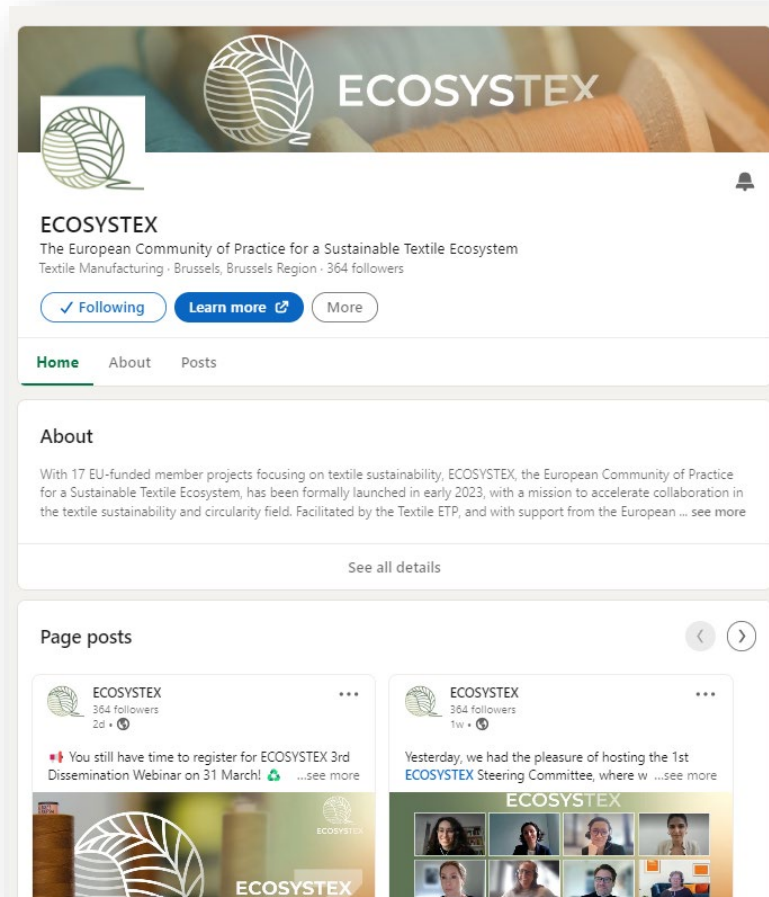
**Programme kick-off:**  
mid-February 2024

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- **Membership request for EU funded, textile sustainability and circularity-focused projects:**  
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# ECOSYSTEM Facilitator:

Textile ETP  
[info@textile-platform.eu](mailto:info@textile-platform.eu)

More information on:

<https://textile-platform.eu/ecosystem>



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101060375.



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