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ETP Fibres Textiles Clothing

Issue #15 - March 2024

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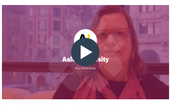
Follow the Thread

Meet the Textile ETP Members



Meet Kirsi Niinimäki from Aalto University

Kirsi Niinimäki is a leading scholar in the field of sustainable fashion. She is an Associate Professor in Aalto University where she leads a research group Fashion/Textile FUTURES. The research done in this group integrate closed loop, bio-economy and circular economy approaches in fashion and textile systems and extends the understanding of strategic sustainable design. In 2022, Kirsi Niinimäki was awarded with State's Design Award from her international and impactful research work.

Want to meet people like Kirsi? Join Textile ETP! With our strong community of professionals, you will have access to a vast network of textile experts, opportunities to participate in collaborative research projects, and stay updated on the latest textile trends and developments.

Join the Textile ETP

Textile ETP News and Events

A couple of days left to secure your early-bird discount for the Textile ETP Annual Conference 2024

The 18th Textile ETP Annual Conference will take place as a physical event on 14-15 May 2024 in Mechelen, Belgium.

This event will be an exclusive opportunity to attend the first and only event about the EU Textile Research Partnership, the first EU funding program exclusively for the textile sector. To launch the 'Textiles of the Future' Partnership, we are proud to welcome a expert panel including:

- Textile ETP President and Kathelm Fibres's Director New Business Development, Marina Crespo Cosic
- Amaryllis Verhoeven, Acting Director for Ecosystems II: Tourism, Textiles, Digital Transformation of Industry, and Social Economy, at DG GROW, European Commission
- Dirk Vantyghem, Director General at EURATEX - European Apparel and Textile Confederation
- Textile ETP Secretary General, Lutz Walter

We will also showcase the successes of textile start-ups supported by the **European Innovation Council**. We will explore the industry's future amidst technological shifts, new regulations, and evolving business models through plenary lectures, thematic sessions, and panel debates. **The event also offers the opportunity to take part in networking opportunities and a site visit to HOGENT's FTLLab+.**

Register now

European Commission announces "Textiles of the Future" Partnership under Horizon Europe: an important step ahead to develop an innovation-driven European textiles industry

In the fringes of the EU Research and Innovation Days, the European Commission has announced 9 new European co-funded and co-programmed partnerships, including "Textiles of the Future".

This dedicated Partnership brings a strategic focus that is critical and timely to help the textile industry succeed in its green and digital transformation and reinforce Europe's global leadership role in textile research, technology development and higher education.

The "Textiles of the Future" Partnership will be co-managed by EURATEX - European Apparel and Textile Confederation and Textile ETP.

You will shortly receive more information regarding the next steps to work on the strategic agenda for this "Textiles of the Future" Partnership.

More information

RegioGreenTex annual consortium meeting in Portugal brings together 43 partners from 11 European regions to move the textile industry towards circularity

On 11-13 March, representatives from all 43 European partners of RegioGreenTex met for the Annual Consortium Meeting, hosted by CITEVE. The annual consortium meeting is a pivotal point to assess the project's progress and impact, **for one its opportunity for Textile ETP Secretary General Lutz Walter and Project Manager Judith Bosch to lead the pitching and business canvas sessions to initiate the coaching of SMEs within the project.**

More information

ECOSYSTEX and CISUTAC at New Cotton Project's Policy Workshop

On 7 March, Textile ETP and several other CISUTAC partner attended a policy roundtable on EPR, hosted by the New Cotton Project. The roundtable brought together EU policy makers and leading textile industry stakeholders. Textile ETP Secretary General Lutz Walter presented the ambition and results ECOSYSTEX community, while Ekaterina Stoyanova (EURATEX - Confederation) shared a shared vision on EPR, emphasising on the significance of harmonisation, robust partnerships, and effective enforcement to establish a well-functioning system for textile waste management.

Read more

Exploring the Future of Printed Electronics in Textiles: Insights from LOPEC 2024

Judith Bosch, the Project Manager of Textile ETP and the Smart4 Innovation Hub, travelled to LOPEC, engaging with key players and discussions shaping the future of printed electronics in textiles. Judith paid a visit to renowned Hub and ETP members.

Judith also took the stage at the LOPEC Conference, shedding light on the market dynamics and business environment surrounding printed electronics.

Read more

Advancing Circular Textiles: Textile ETP and ECOSYSTEX at the New Cotton Project Final Conference

On 21 March, Textile ETP participated in the New Cotton Project and Teknalyve's seminar in Finland together with textile stakeholders. Participants shared findings and exchange ideas on driving circular initiatives in the sector as the projects come to a close. **Lutz Walter, Secretary General of Textile ETP, outlined the long-term vision for textile circularity developments, when our Sustainability Programme Office, Textile Innovation Hub and ECOSYSTEX join the wider ECOSYSTEX community, underscoring the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration and knowledge sharing in driving sustainable innovation.**

More information

Knowledge Centre

EURATEX Facts and Key Figures 2024

The textile and fashion industry is going through turbulent times and, on top of that, the EU is still debating legislations which will impact the textiles and clothing sector. Therefore "facts and figures" are essential, to ensure a quality debate (based on facts and not on ideology) to make sure we develop a regulatory framework which is ambitious but realistic. EURATEX just published the 2024 edition of Facts and Key Figures of the textiles & clothing industry.

Read more

The destruction of returned and unsold textiles in Europe's circular economy

The ERA briefing "The destruction of returned and unsold textiles in Europe's circular economy" provides an overview of existing knowledge on returned and unsold textiles in Europe.

The briefing is underpinned by a technical report by the ERA's European Textile Centre on Circular Economy and Resource Use.

Read the Report

Coming Up

The Calendar of Events

Textinnovation

23-26 April, Germany

At the upcoming Textiinnovation from 23 to 26 April 2024, international exhibitors will showcase a comprehensive range of technical textiles, nonwovens, functional apparel and smart textile technologies.

The Textile ETP team will be present every day at Textiinnovation: come and meet Lutz Walter, Judith Bosch or Nell Li Li, and gain insights into our services, activities, and EU projects!

More info

ETSA Congress 2024, 2-3 May, Czech Republic

Join ETSA for the ETSA Congress 2024, a pivotal event for the textile and nonwovens sector, taking place in Prague. This year is particularly significant as ETSA celebrates its 30th anniversary. The ETSA Congress from 2-3 May 2024 will gather textile leaders and professionals will gather to explore the sector's evolving landscape, sustainability goals, and digital synergies.

More info

ADD International Textile Conference 2024, 21-22 November, Germany

The regions of Aachen, Euregio Maas-Rhein and Limburg a triangle for textile research and innovation. They organise the ADD International Textile Conference, which is one of the most important textile conferences in Europe with regularly more than 600 participants from industry and research. **The Call for Papers has started and the deadline for presentation submissions is 30 April.**

More info

Exploring the World of Textiles

Our Member's Monthly Blogpost

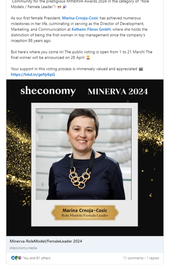
Textile Sustainability without Regulation?

"Regulation is an important tool to impose limits on (short-term) profit maximising businesses and to reduce their negative impacts on nature and society. [...] But it by no means a perfect tool, nor is it a costless tool, far from it. But since it is an available tool and since most stakeholders, including industry itself, is asking for it, it will be used, quite generously as it seems."

In his latest blog post, our Secretary General Lutz Walter delves into the ongoing discourse surrounding the necessity of strict regulation in the textile and fashion industry to attain sustainability. He acknowledges the industry's historical failure in implementing voluntary measures and meeting sustainability targets, attributing it to entrenched practices prioritising profit over sustainability.

Read "Textile Sustainability without Regulation?"

Social Post of the month



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