



Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway

Report on stakeholder pledges

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Executive Summary

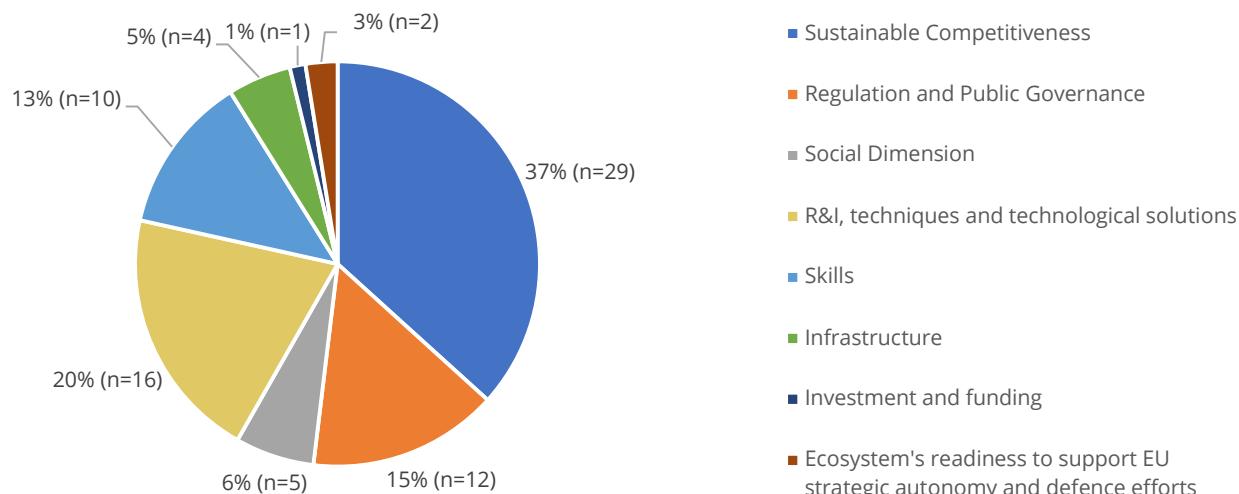
Since 2023, stakeholders of the textiles ecosystem have shared their pledges to show their commitment to implementing the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway. The system to collect pledges has evolved over the years, and a specific tool is now integrated in the [EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform](#). Before publication, the pledges undergo a systematic process of revision and validation, which involves exchanges with the stakeholders.

This report provides an overview of the pledges published on the Platform as of 15 July 2025. These are though only some of the pledges stakeholders have submitted, as in many cases (53 pledges), the revision and validation process is still ongoing.

As of 15 July 2025, there are 79 pledges from 20 organisations across 10 Member States (plus Switzerland) published on the platform. They cover all eight building blocks of the Transition Pathway and address 30 of the **50 specific actions** listed in the Transition Pathway.

The building block "Sustainable **Competitiveness**" has the highest number of pledges with 29 published pledges (37%), followed by "R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions" (16 pledges) and "Regulation and Public Governance" (12 pledges). Action 1¹, promoting circular and sustainability practices, attracts the highest number of individual commitments (14 pledges).

Figure 1 - Number of pledges linked to the respective building blocks and actions of the Transition Pathway (N=79)



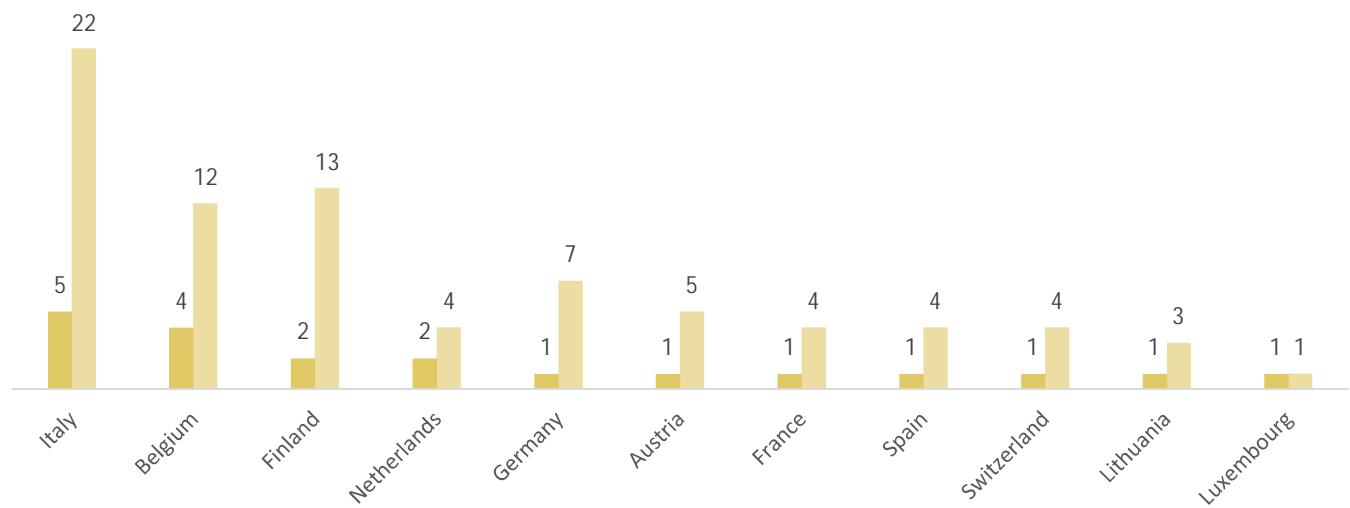
The largest share of pledges comes from networks and federations (27), followed by large companies (21) and academic/research institutions (10). Companies primarily focus on sustainability commitments within building block 1, while other stakeholders show greater activity in areas like research, regulation and skills

¹ Promote, support and implement circular and sustainability practices, services and business models, including social economy enterprises (such as product-as-service models, take-back services, second-hand and repair services, innovative sorting and recycling) including through Horizon Europe, LIFE, and the 'ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow' campaign and actions from the Social Economy Action Plan.

development. Pledge-takers cover different segments of the ecosystem²; some of them specialise on certain products (e.g., stakeholders in the “fibres, yarns and fabrics”, “apparel and clothing accessories”, or “footwear” segments), while others provide services to the entire ecosystem (e.g., stakeholders in the “business support and communication”, “waste management, reuse and repair”, or “research and innovation, technology and machinery” segments). Consequently, the pledges demonstrate varying scope and sector-specific focus, reflecting the diverse nature of the textiles ecosystem and industry operations therein.

Pledges come from organisations from 11 countries (10 Member States and Switzerland). Italy and Belgium are the countries with the highest number of pledge-takers, respectively five and four. Italian entities are organisations primarily operate at national or local level, while some Belgian-based organisations have a broader European focus, often representing industry associations at EU level. This difference in geographic scope among pledge-takers naturally leads to varying scopes for their pledged actions, with some initiatives being local or national, while others extend across multiple countries. The **geographic concentration** indicates opportunities for broader Member State engagement as the collection of pledges continues.

Figure 2 - Geographic distribution of organisations that have published pledges (yellow) and number of pledges by country (in light yellow)



The pledge collection process showcases in particular **many ongoing initiatives relating to sustainability** and circularity among stakeholders, notably companies and industry associations. Companies often leverage existing sustainability reports to make commitments, while industry associations and NGOs address more systemic challenges requiring collective action.

Besides sustainability and circular economy initiatives, significant activity is also observed in areas such as research and skills development. However, areas requiring additional attention include ecosystem readiness for EU strategic autonomy and defence efforts, which attracted only 2 pledges.

Stakeholder engagement presents opportunities for improvement through targeted outreach. Geographically, organisations from Northern, Central, and Eastern Europe remain underrepresented and

² The ecosystem' segments represent the main sectors that make up the textile industry. It includes sectors representing specific products such as fibres, yarns and fabrics, footwear, apparel and clothing accessories, leather and fur, technical textiles, household textiles, and sectors that provide services to the entire ecosystem such as technology and machinery, business support and communication, waste management, reuse and repair.

could be encouraged to participate more actively. By stakeholder type, the platform aims to continue attracting commitments from companies across all sizes—particularly SMEs—which form the core of the textiles ecosystem, while also seeking greater participation from other types of stakeholders such as public authorities, NGOs, or industry associations.

Introduction

The [Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway](#) was published on 6 June 2023. It identifies 50 actions under 8 building blocks, namely: Sustainable competitiveness; Regulation and public governance; Social dimension; R&I, Techniques, and Technological Solutions; Infrastructure; Skills, Investments and funding; Ecosystem's readiness to support EU strategic autonomy and defence efforts.

After the publication of the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway, the co-implementation phase was initiated. This phase is designed to actively engage all relevant stakeholders in a collaborative effort to implement the identified actions. A key component of this process is the collection of **concrete, actionable** commitments or *pledges* from stakeholders. These pledges represent voluntary, ongoing, or future initiatives that directly contribute to the success of the Transition Pathway.

In April 2025, the [EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform](#) was launched as a dedicated digital space to support stakeholders across the textiles ecosystem towards increased sustainability, digitalisation, competitiveness and resilience. The collection, and publication of pledges will also continue on the platform. The transition to the dedicated platform represents a significant step towards streamlined pledge collection, validation and publication of pledges on a continuous basis. Stakeholders are encouraged to update their pledges regularly (e.g., once a year) to help monitoring their implementation and **track progress over time**.

This report aims to take stock of the pledges received and published on the Platform until 15 July 2025. It includes pledges collected through the earlier call for commitments and through the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform, as well as pledges occasionally submitted directly to the platform team. This report is an update of the [Report on stakeholders pledges and commitments](#) published in March 2024. In view of this, a review of the pledges earlier published on the Commission's website (in March 2024) was undertaken, with organisations providing updates on their commitments. Updates revealed both progress toward targets and **completed initiatives, as well as adaptation challenges**, including technical bottlenecks and difficult market conditions requiring scope adjustments. As a result of this revision, some initiatives previously listed as in-progress pledges are now highlighted as best practices or projects on the platform. Conversely, some earlier pledges have been updated and republished, while many others are still awaiting updates. Currently, 58 of the 110 pledges have been published on the platform. Therefore, the comparability between the current report and the 2024 version is limited. The revision process is explained in detail in the following section. The report is structured as follows: after this introduction, the methodology used to collect, revise and publish the pledges is presented. Then, a high-level overview of the published pledges is presented. This is followed by a detailed presentation of the pledges for each build block of the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway.

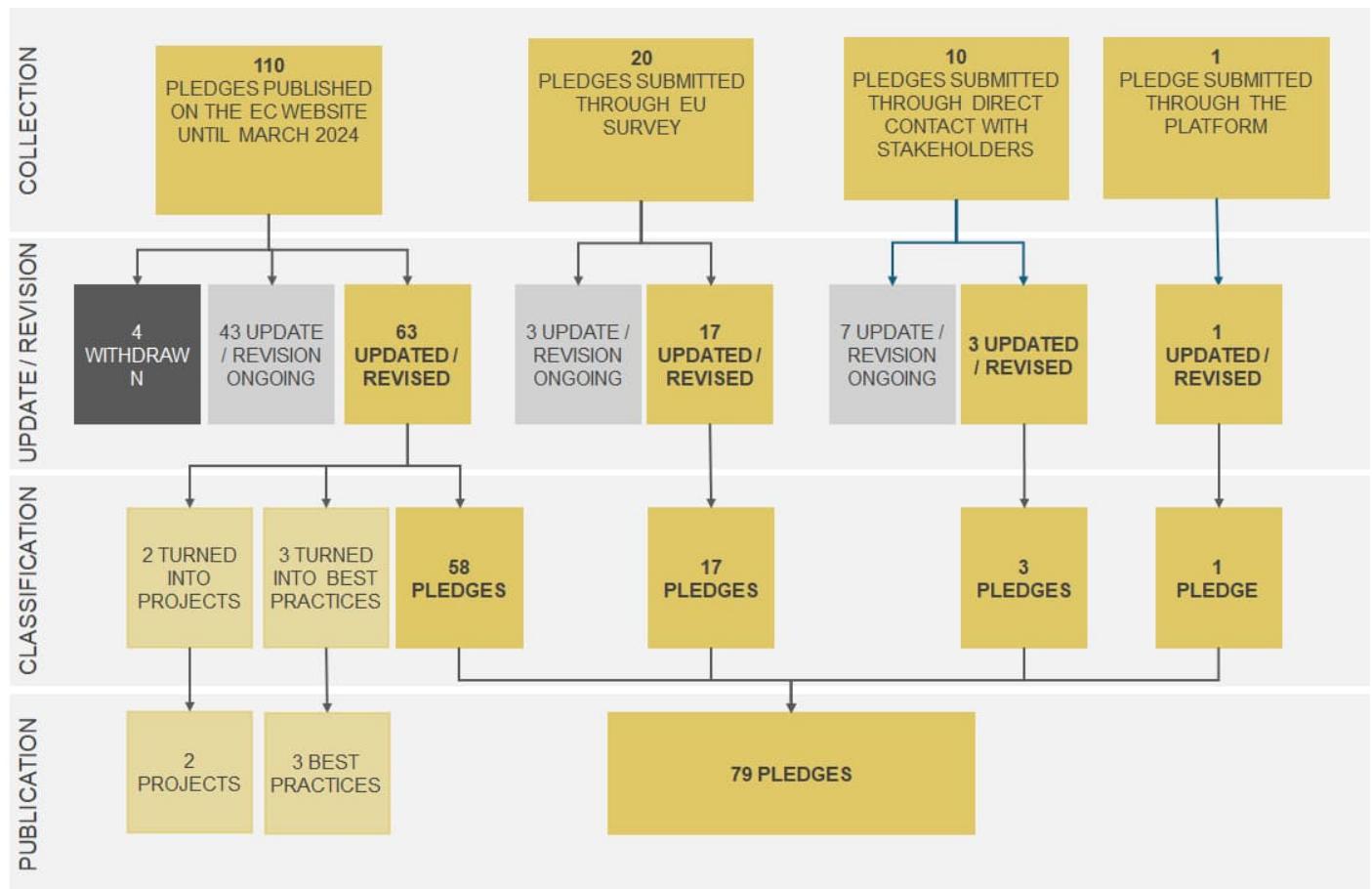
The concluding section provides some preliminary insights based on current published pledges, but also highlights the importance of continuing reaching out to stakeholders across the textiles ecosystem and encourage them to submit their relevant ongoing or planned initiatives as pledges – with the aim of both increasing the number of pledges and giving more visibility to ongoing initiatives across the ecosystem. The hope is that the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform can facilitate both..

Methodology

Pledges pipeline: from submission to publication

Before publishing pledges on the Platform, the consortium team systematically collect and revise all pledges. The figure below outlines the pledge processing steps and shows the number of pledges at each stage as of 15 July 2025.

Figure 3 - The process from collection to publication for all pledges published on the Platform as of 15 July 2025



Step 1. Collection

The pledges published on the platform as of 15 July 2025 came from four sources:

- 1) A first batch of 110 pledges submitted in 2023 and early 2024 that had been previously published on the [EC website](#).
- 2) 91 pledges submitted through the EU Survey collection tool between March 2024 and January 2025.
- 3) 10 pledges submitted through direct contact with stakeholders.
- 4) 1 pledge received through the [dedicated page](#) on the platform.

The new pledge submission tool on the platform was introduced at the launch event on May 16th. However, the initial two months have primarily focused on onboarding users and allowing them to familiarize themselves with the platform's various functionalities, including the pledge submission process. To assist new users, a comprehensive step-by-step guide explaining how to submit pledges has been published. In addition, the team is actively working to enhance the visibility of the pledge tool on the platform and through targeted communication actions to encourage more direct submissions in the coming months.

Step 2. Update, revision **and validation**

The revision process aims to ensure that the pledges are relevant to the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway's actions, they contain all the essential elements - i.e., a tangible, ongoing or planned initiative, a measurable target, and a target date-, and they are written in a clear and concise way. When the pledge title is missing, the team also suggests a possible title. As the pledges came from different sources, each group of pledges required specific actions:

- 1) The first batch of pledges was submitted more than one year before the platform's launch, and the target date for some of them was approaching. Hence, the consortium team contacted the pledge-takers to update their pledges and revise them as necessary. Following this request, stakeholders revised, updated and validated 63 pledges and withdrew 4 pledges. The revision is still ongoing for 43 pledges. Examples of updates include confirming that initiatives are progressing and sharing initial results data, updating targets, extending target dates when initiatives require more time, and sharing information about encountered challenges. Challenges reported concern technical difficulties (e.g., bottlenecks to find technological solutions) and difficult market conditions, which required adapting the scope of the pledge and/or the target date.
- 2) The pledges submitted through the EU Survey tool were often duplicated or overlapping. Therefore, after a thorough analysis, the consortium team eliminated duplicate pledges and combined related pledges into single comprehensive commitments. As a result, the initial 91 pledges were consolidated into 20 pledges. These pledges were further revised to improve clarity and conciseness. The consortium team contacted the pledge-takers to validate the revised pledges and, when necessary, add missing information (e.g., on measurable targets or target date). Following this request, stakeholders revised and validated 17 pledges. The revision is still ongoing for 3 pledges.
- 3) The pledges submitted through direct contact with stakeholders were revised by the consortium team and sent back to the pledge-takers with suggestions for improvement and requests for additional information, when necessary. The revision was finalised for 3 pledges, while it is still ongoing for the other 7.
- 4) Lastly, the consortium team helped a new stakeholder who had submitted his pledge through the Platform to improve it, suggesting an improved structure and indicating the missing information.

Step 3. Classification

In this step, the consortium team verifies whether validated contributions are still fit for publication as pledges on the platform or should be moved to other sections. This verification is particularly important when a pledge has achieved its target. For completed initiatives, the team follows these guidelines:

- If the original pledge described a specific project, the contribution is republished in the '[Projects](#)' section.
- If the initiative represents a broader effort, the team evaluates whether it qualifies as a possible best practice based on the results reported in the updated pledge.³

In this way, the platform can also showcase successfully finished initiatives which in turn can continue to inspire others.

Step 4. Publication

³ Best practices do not need to be completed initiatives, but there must be some reported progress and/or achievements.

Following this assessment, it was decided to publish two pledges as projects and three as best practices. The other 79 validated contributions were published as pledges on the platform.

Figure 4 - Examples of projects and best practices from pledges



The following sections of this report focus on the pledges published on the Platform up until 15 July 2025 (79 pledges). As it is clear from Figure 3 above, other 53 pledges are in the pipeline, awaiting updates, revision or validation.

Pledges overview

Summary statistics on pledges

As of 15 July 2025, 79 pledges have been published, covering all 8 building blocks of the Transition Pathway, with pledges for 30 **of the 50 actions** of the Transition Pathway. Overall, building block 1 "Sustainable **Competitiveness**" has the highest number of pledges (29 pledges), followed by building block 4 "R&I, techniques and technological solutions" (16 pledges) and building block 2 "Regulation and Public Governance" (12 pledges). Among specific actions, **Action 1⁴** is the one with the highest number of pledges

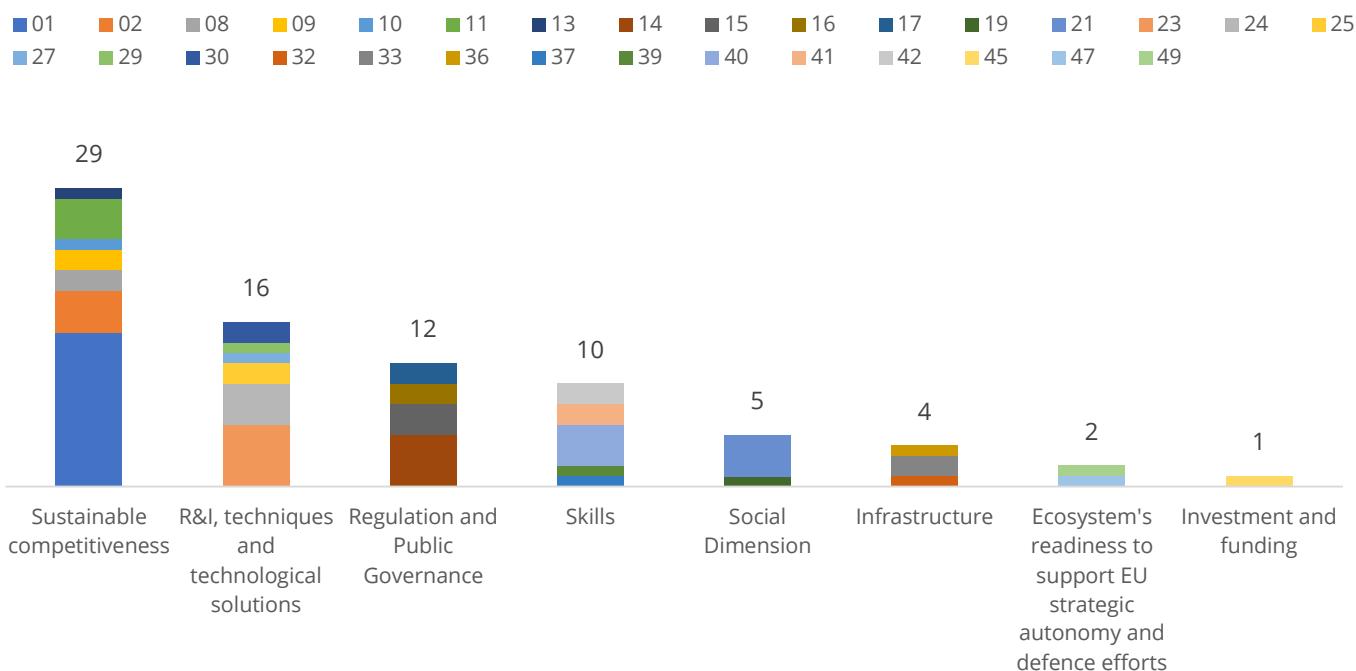
⁴ Action 1 "Promote, support and implement circular and sustainability practices, services and business models, including social economy enterprises (such as product-as-service models, take-back services, second-hand and repair services, innovative sorting and recycling) including through Horizon Europe, LIFE, and the 'ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow' campaign and actions from the Social Economy Action Plan."

(14). With the exception of Action 1, the pledges are quite fairly distributed among the other 29 actions, with **Action 23⁵**, **Action 14⁶** and **Action 2⁷** having the highest number of pledges, respectively six, five and five.

It is important to note that, in several cases, the **pledges could be linked to more than one action**. Hence, the statistics below are indicative of the actions that better embody the main topic of the pledge – but initiatives can span across several actions.

The following sections give some more information and examples of published pledges in all the building blocks.

Figure 5 - Number of pledges linked to the respective building blocks and actions of the Transition Pathway (N=79)



Summary statistics on organisations submitting pledges

A total of 20 **organisations**, from 10 Member States and Switzerland, have published pledges on the platform. The Member States with the highest number of organisations are Italy (5) and Belgium (4). Whereas in Italy these organisations are companies or organisations representing sectoral interests at the national level, organisations based in Belgium often have a European scope of action (e.g., EURATEX, ETSA, RREUSE). Likewise, while based in Switzerland, CEMATEX (Comité Européen des Constructeurs de Machines Textiles) is

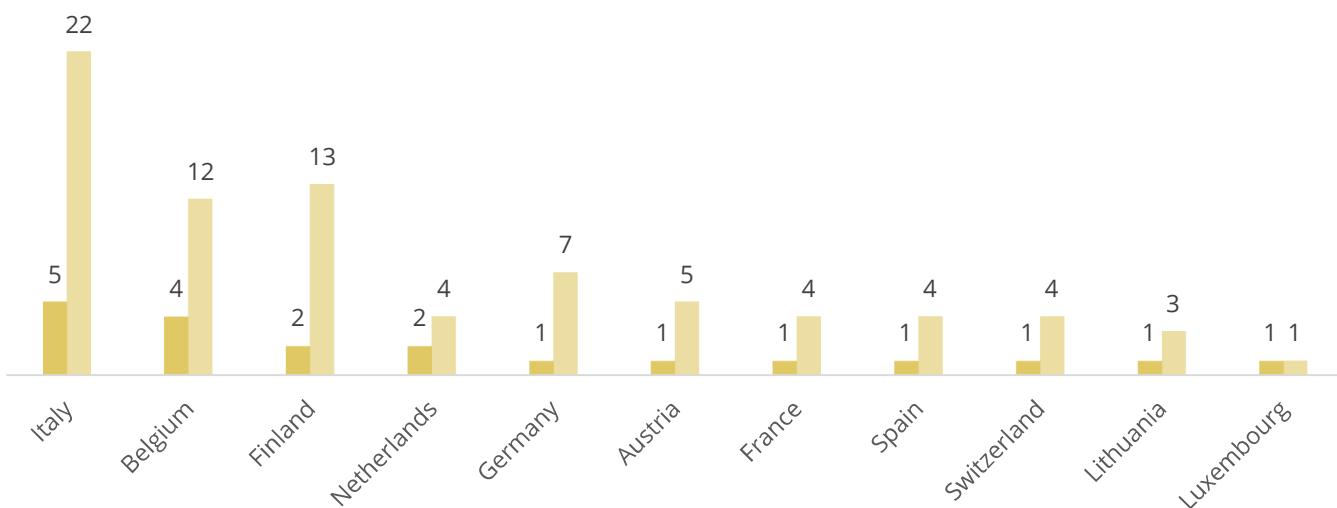
⁵ Action 23 “Foster innovation and research on sustainable manufacturing processes and innovative technologies with low-carbon footprint for the development of new safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials to make products circular, as well as support development of new digital technologies under the work programmes of Horizon Europe, Digital Europe and LIFE.”

⁶ Action 14 “Follow-up on actions in the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles, including specific ecodesign requirements, the Digital Product Passport, circular and sustainable management of textile waste and possible extended producer responsibility rules, and encourage industry participation in the relevant consultations.”

⁷ Action 2 “Recognise and value specific sustainability practices undertaken by the industry through, for example, promoting the uptake of safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials, and promoting the visibility and uptake of the EU Ecolabel scheme.”

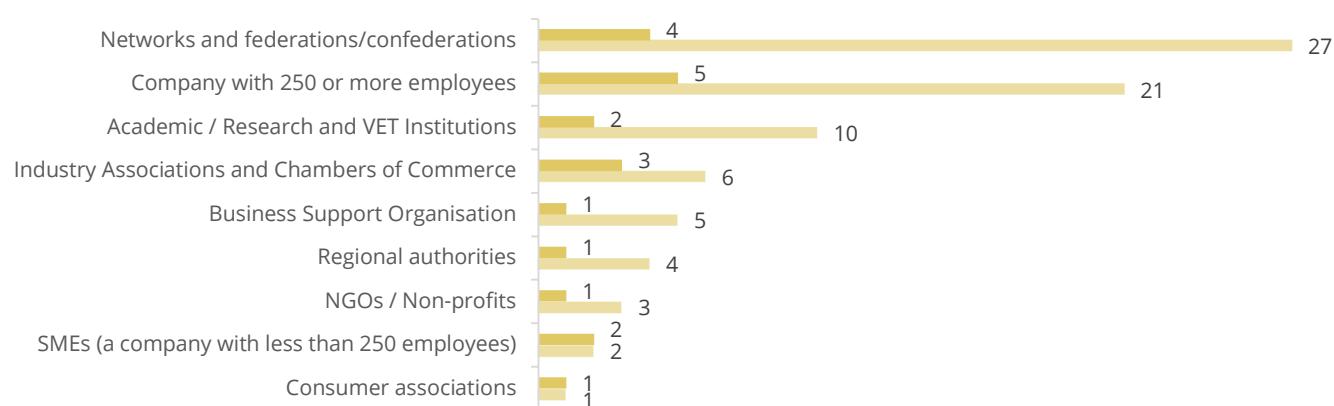
an organisation comprising 9 national European textile machinery associations, including 7 EU Member States. This difference in geographic scope among pledge-takers naturally leads to varying scopes for their pledged actions, with some initiatives being local or national, while others extend across multiple countries.

Figure 6 - Geographic distribution of organisations that have submitted pledges (yellow) and number of pledges by country (in light yellow)



Pledges have come from different **types of organisations**⁸, including industry (large companies and SMEs), umbrella organisations representing industry and consumers, NGOs and non-profit, academic and research institutions and a regional public authority. **Networks and federations** have the highest number of pledges published on the platform (27), followed by large companies (21) and academic research institutions (10). Non-profits, SMEs and industry associations have also contributed with a significant number of pledges. Companies that have published pledges include four manufacturers and two retailers, and a company that is both manufacturer and retailer.

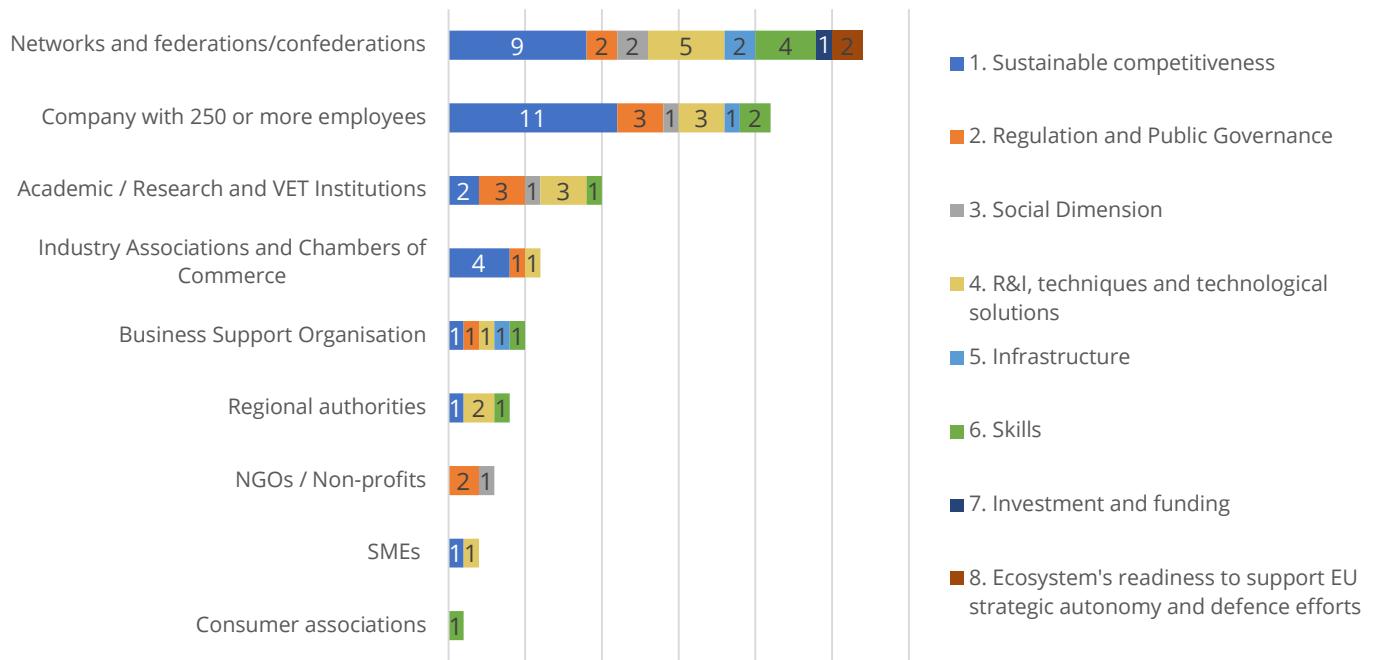
Figure 7. Number of organisations that have published pledges by type (yellow) and number of pledges by type of organisation (in light yellow)



Companies have primarily published pledges related to building block 1 on sustainable competitiveness, possibly existing sustainability reports already provide established targets and action plans that facilitate such commitments. Other organisation types show greater activity in different building blocks, for example, academic and research institutions are more active in building block 4 relating to research and innovation.

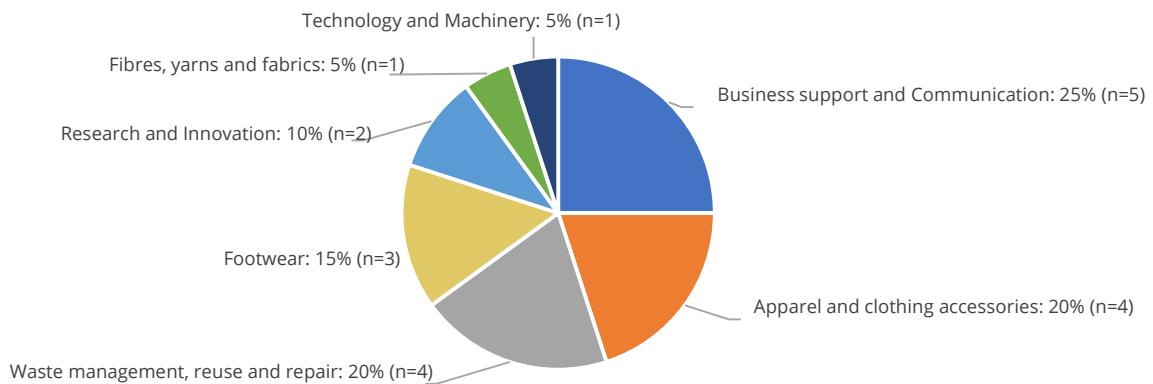
⁸ The type of organisation is indicated by the pledge-taker, choosing among some pre-defined categories.

Figure 8 - Distribution of pledges by type of organisation and Transition Pathway building block (N=79)



Pledge-takers come from different segments of the ecosystem (Figure 9). The ecosystem's segments represent the main sectors that make up the textiles ecosystem. It includes sectors representing specific products such as fibres, yarns and fabrics, footwear, apparel and clothing accessories, leather and fur, technical textiles, household textiles, and sectors that provide services to the entire ecosystem, such as technology and machinery, business support and communication, waste management, reuse and repair. Each organisation has been classified depending on the area in which it mostly operates. Two-thirds of pledge-takers come from three ecosystem segments: business support and communication services (mainly networks and federations), apparel and clothing accessories (companies and NGOs), and waste management, reuse and repair (various organisations, including companies and consumer associations). There are no pledges yet for some segments of the ecosystem, for example, from stakeholders working in the "leather and fur" segment or in the "technical textiles" segment.

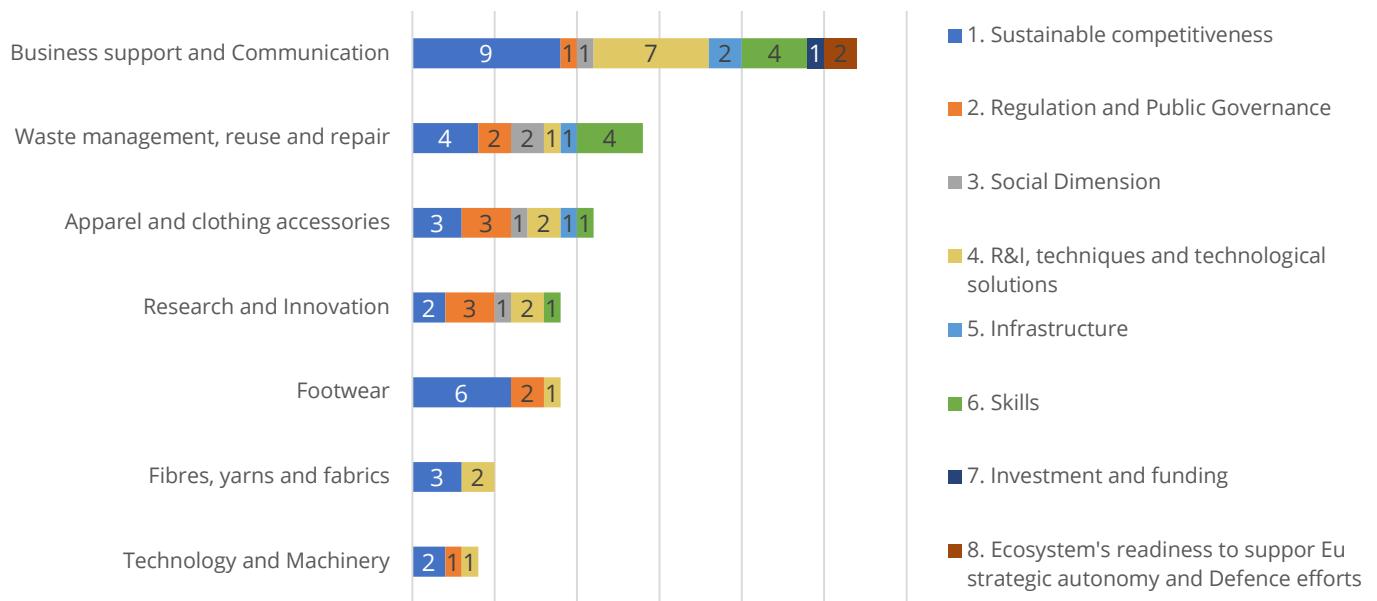
Figure 9 Distribution of pledge-takers by ecosystem area (N=20)



The pledges from the different ecosystems' areas address actions across multiple building blocks (although building block 1 "Sustainable Competitiveness" is prevalent for most of the areas).

Pledges from stakeholders of the "business support and communication" segment are initiatives that industry associations, chambers of commerce, networks, federations or regional authorities undertake to support businesses in the green and digital transition. Organisations in the "apparel and clothing accessories" segment have published commitments to improve the sustainability of the fashion industry. Organisations working on "waste management, reuse and repairs" undertake initiatives to promote circularity and support businesses in adopting circular business models. Pledges from organisations of the "fibres, yarns and fabrics" segment mainly concern companies' commitments to developing more sustainable materials and improving the transparency and resilience of their value chain. Pledges from the footwear industry also focus on developing more sustainable products and business models.

Figure 10 - Distribution of pledges by ecosystem's area and Transition Pathway building block (N=79)



Summary of pledges

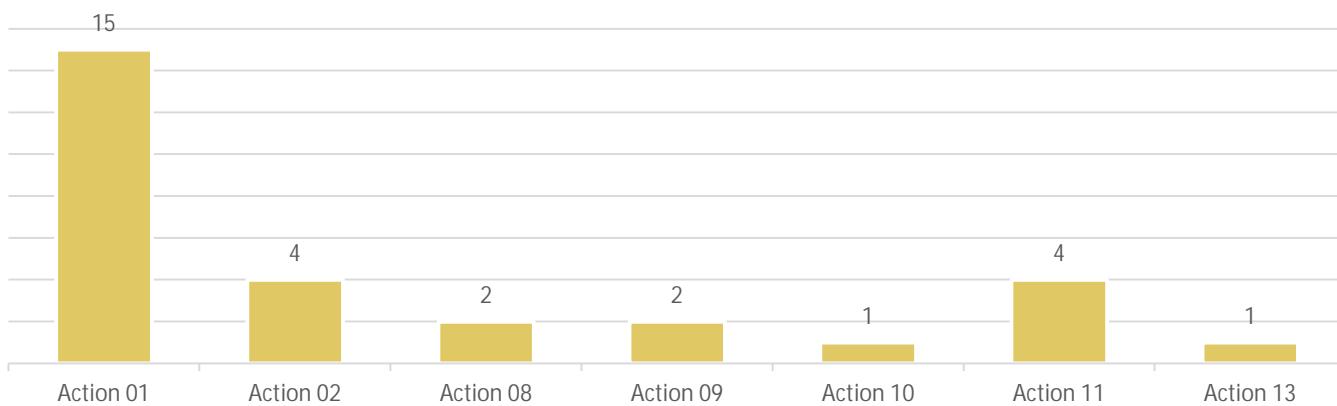
Sustainable Competitiveness

Building block 1 “Sustainable Competitiveness” has the highest number of pledges (29, 37%). These pledges come from various stakeholder groups: large companies and SMEs have submitted 40% (12) of the pledges of this building block. Other pledges were submitted by industry associations, networks and confederations, business support organisations, academic and research institutions, and regional authorities.

Most of the pledges under building block 1 concern **Action 1**⁹. The pledges under this action represent diverse initiatives to help transform the textile and fashion industry toward circularity and sustainability. The pledges span from describing how companies are implementing their sustainability targets, to training, awareness campaigns and policy support from industry associations and NGOs to reduce waste and encourage circular practices.

A significant part of pledges also focused on **Action 2**¹⁰ and **Action 11**¹¹. Among Action 2 pledges, there are initiatives such as *promoting the Verified and Certified Steps certification* by Assocalzaturifici Italiani, the *mapping of practices relating to corporate social, environmental, and economic responsibility* by Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e della piccola e media impresa, and the award of an *Industry Excellence Award on sustainable and innovative solutions* by CEMATEX. Among Action 11 pledges, there are awareness-raising campaigns such RREUSE “Green Friday Campaign” and events such as the “*Responsible Fashion Fortnight*” organised by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region.

Figure 11 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Sustainable Competitiveness” (N=29)



⁹ Promote, support and implement circular and sustainability practices, services and business models, including social economy enterprises (such as product-as-service models, take-back services, second-hand and repair services, innovative sorting and recycling) including through Horizon Europe, LIFE, and the ‘ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow’ campaign and actions from the Social Economy Action Plan.

¹⁰ Recognise and value specific sustainability practices undertaken by the industry through, for example, promoting the uptake of safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials, and promoting the visibility and uptake of the EU Ecolabel scheme

¹¹ Create more demand for sustainable products and onboard consumers in the green transition by launching consumer campaigns to create awareness and to reshape consumption patterns including under the motto ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow, as well as supporting emotional durability by designing products that people want to keep.

Examples of published pledges

Action 1: Promote, support and implement circular and sustainability practices, services and business models, including social economy enterprises (such as product-as-service models, take-back services, second-hand and repair services, innovative sorting and recycling) including through Horizon Europe, LIFE, and the 'ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow' campaign and actions from the Social Economy Action Plan

Lenzing Group pledges to increase the share and types of alternative feedstocks by using recycled textile waste or agricultural waste. By 2030, Lenzing aims to increase the share and types of alternative feedstocks by using recycled textile waste or agricultural waste. Lenzing is making efforts to innovate the use of at least 5 alternative feedstocks providers (e.g., from recycled textiles and agricultural waste) until 2030. Results however strongly depend on the commitment of value chain partners in sorting waste, stimulating demand for recycled fibres, and a supportive policy environment to create incentives, such as investments to ensure systemic change.

Measurable Target: Increasing recycled content in viscose and lyocell fibre types from 20% to minimum 30% from post-consumer waste on a commercial scale by 2030. [LINK](#)

Adidas pledges to reduce pollution and hazardous chemicals by ensuring compliance with higher standards among its suppliers: By 2025, Adidas has set a target for 80% of its supplier facilities to reach the highest compliance level (level 3) with the ZDHC 'Manufacturing Restricted Substances List' for 80% of their input chemicals. Additionally, by 2025, Adidas targets 90% of suppliers with on-site effluent treatment plants to achieve the ZDHC Wastewater 'foundational level.' Adidas prioritises pollution reduction in the textile industry, which is reflected in these wastewater discharge performance targets for their suppliers. More information about this initiative can be found in the Pollution, Metrics and Targets section of Adidas's 2024 Annual Report. [LINK](#)

Action 2: Recognise and value specific sustainability practices undertaken by the industry through, for example, promoting the uptake of safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials, and promoting the visibility and uptake of the EU Ecolabel scheme

Assocalzaturifici pledges to value sustainability practices in footwear by promoting the VCS (Verified and Certified Steps) certification and supporting companies in meeting international standards: Assocalzaturifici Italiani's sustainability certification mark VCS (Verified and Certified Steps) for footwear companies. It helps manufacturers understand, measure and implement strategies to improve their positioning vis-a-vis environmental and social sustainability issues. It informs stakeholders and brands about the level of sustainability achieved by Italian footwear manufacturers and in the form of a sustainability certification mark, it promotes the latest in the international market. [LINK](#)

Action 11: Create more demand for sustainable products and onboard consumers in the green transition by launching consumer campaigns to create awareness and to reshape consumption patterns including under the motto ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow, as well as supporting emotional durability by designing products that people want to keep

Humana LT pledges to create more demand for sustainable products by launching consumer campaigns and showcasing second-hand styles: Humana LT works to promote sustainable fashion. Through a proactive social media account @HumanaLithuania, it regularly showcases selected pieces for each season to encourage social media users to think about how to incorporate second-hand fashion pieces into their

everyday style. From time to time, it also offers consumers significant discounts of up to 70% thereby increasing access to affordable and high-quality fashion choices. Humana has implemented six key strategies to promote circularity in the textile industry:

- HUMANA HERO Influencer Campaign
- Celebrity Collaborations
- #ThrowbackThursdays Campaign
- Community Engagement
- Live Streams
- In-Store Customer Features

[LINK](#)

Regulation and Public Governance

Building block 2 "Regulation and Public Governance" has the second highest number of pledges, with a total of 12 pledges. These pledges come from various stakeholder groups: large companies, NGOs, industry associations, business support organisations, academic and research institutions, networks and confederations.

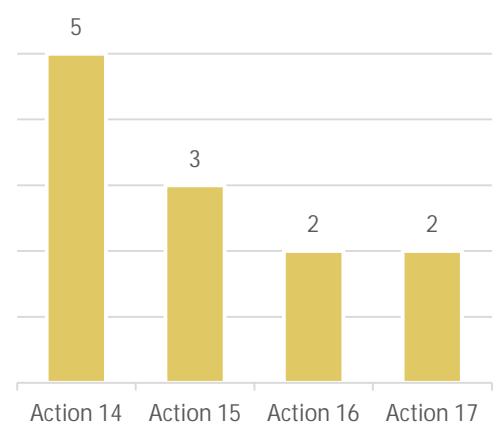
Action 14¹² is the action with the highest number of pledges in this building block. They mostly concern **participating in consultation activities** launched at the EU level and encouraging other stakeholders to participate (e.g., by Adidas, RREUSE). There is a similar number of pledges for **Action 15**¹³, **Action 16**¹⁴ and **Action 17**¹⁵. These actions all relate to the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles and actions announced therein. A specific focus of these pledges is on the **implementation of the Digital Product Passport** for the textile sector.

Examples of published pledges

Action 14: Follow-up on actions in the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles, including specific ecodesign requirements, the Digital Product Passport, circular and sustainable management of textile waste and possible extended producer responsibility rules, and encourage industry participation in the relevant consultations.

SDA Bocconi Monitor for Circular Fashion pledges to support EU policy development by engaging in **consultations for digital product passport and textile labelling regulation**: The Monitor for Circular Fashion commits to actively participate in consultations in the context of the foreseen ecodesign requirements, the

Figure 12 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Regulation and Public Governance" (N=12)



¹² Follow-up on actions in the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles, including specific ecodesign requirements, the Digital Product Passport, circular and sustainable management of textile waste and possible extended producer responsibility rules, and encourage industry participation in the relevant consultations.

¹³ Anticipate enhancing information to consumers on sustainability aspects of products in the context of foreseen ecodesign requirements through the proposed Digital Product Passport and the planned revision of the Textile Labelling Regulation, as well as in the context of the information requirements and fight against greenwashing practices following the Empowering consumers in the green transition and the Green Claims proposals.

¹⁴ Finding common methods to assess and compare the sustainability performance of textile products in the context of the foreseen ecodesign requirements.

¹⁵ Improving traceability and transparency in the textile value chain through the proposed Digital Product Passport.

proposed Digital Product Passport and the planned revision of the Textile Labelling Regulation, as well as in the context of the circular and sustainable management of textile waste and possible extended producer responsibility rules and in the context of the information requirements and fight against greenwashing practices following the Empowering consumers in the green transition and the Green Claims proposals. The Monitor for Circular Fashion started to actively engage the partner companies in working groups dedicated to Digital Product Passport and other legislative focuses: the results will be communicated directly to the policymakers during events organised in Brussels on a yearly basis. Updated KPI: event with policy makers (starting in 2025). [LINK](#)

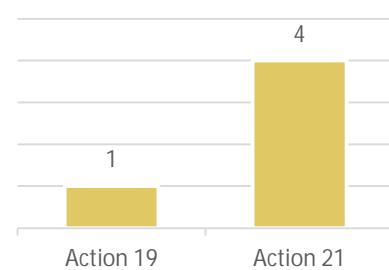
Action 15: Anticipate enhancing information to consumers on sustainability aspects of products in the context of foreseen ecodesign requirements through the proposed Digital Product Passport and the planned revision of the Textile Labelling Regulation, as well as in the context of the information requirements and fight against greenwashing practices following the Empowering consumers in the green transition and the Green Claims proposals

Sioen pledges to improve product traceability and enhance the information available to consumers by adding woven QR codes to all garments: Sioen is implementing woven unique QR codes across their entire product line in preparation for the Product Digital Passport initiative. These QR codes will provide digital access to comprehensive product information, including technical data sheets, composition details, Declarations of Conformity, Users Instructions, and Care & Maintenance instructions (including repair guidance). Some of their products, particularly Fire Fighting PPE, already feature RFID tags. Sioen aims to incorporate woven QR codes (which remain readable at end-of-life) into 100% of their clothing products by the end of 2025, integrating them during the manufacturing stage. The implementation process is currently underway, with the full roll-out expected between Q4 2025 and Q1 2026. [LINK](#)

Social Dimension

Building block 3 "Social Dimension" has five pledges: two from networks and confederations, and one from large companies, NGOs, and academic and research institutions. Four of them relate to **Action 21**¹⁶. They concern the *provision of training and tools to help employees in the textile ecosystem adapt to the green and digital transition*. Sometimes they are internal initiatives by companies, in other cases they are training provided by business support organisations or academia. One pledge concern *upholding ethical labour standards* (**Action 19**¹⁷).

Figure 13 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Social Dimension" (N=5)



Examples of published pledges

Action 21: Support up-and reskilling, access to lifelong learning and training opportunities through for example, the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem, to ensure workers are skilled for the twin transition.

Cascale pledges to support climate action and responsible purchasing practices in apparel by delivering trainings and tools to help value chain actors set and achieve science-based targets: Cascale is driving

¹⁶ Support up-and reskilling, access to lifelong learning and training opportunities through for example, the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem, to ensure workers are skilled for the twin transition.

¹⁷ Support a fairer and more inclusive European Union through the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Social Economy Action Plan.

industry-wide climate action by equipping professionals across the apparel value chain with practical knowledge through regular trainings and workshops delivered by sustainability experts. These sessions focus on using the Higg Index tools and setting science-based targets (SBTs) to reduce Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions, as demonstrated in a dedicated training held on 14 June 2023. Between December 2023 and February 2024, four additional training and educational events were planned. Moving into 2024 and 2025, Cascale expanded its impact with events such as the Brand and Retail Forum in Brussels, Manufacturer Forums in Dhaka and Shanghai. Cascale's efforts will continue throughout 2025 by holding the largest Cascale Forum in May in Ho Chi Minh City and the Annual Meeting in Hong Kong in September. Participation in major regional events and the upcoming Industry Decarbonisation Roadmap launch in 2025 reinforce Cascale's strategic action pillars - combating climate change and supporting decent work. [LINK](#)

Action 19: Support a fairer and more inclusive European Union through the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Social Economy Action Plan.

RREUSE pledges to advance the social economy action plan by sharing member data on green jobs, skills, and circular practices, and contributing to EU policy tools: RREUSE is committed to taking part in the implementation of the Social Economy Action Plan (SEAP), by providing data on behalf of our members on: work integration, inclusive green jobs, upskilling and reskilling opportunities. RREUSE will release the 2024 members' impact in Q4/2025. It will provide the number of waste streams the sector is working with, of people employed, of customers and CO₂ emission avoided, and the tonnage of material collected and reused. [LINK](#)

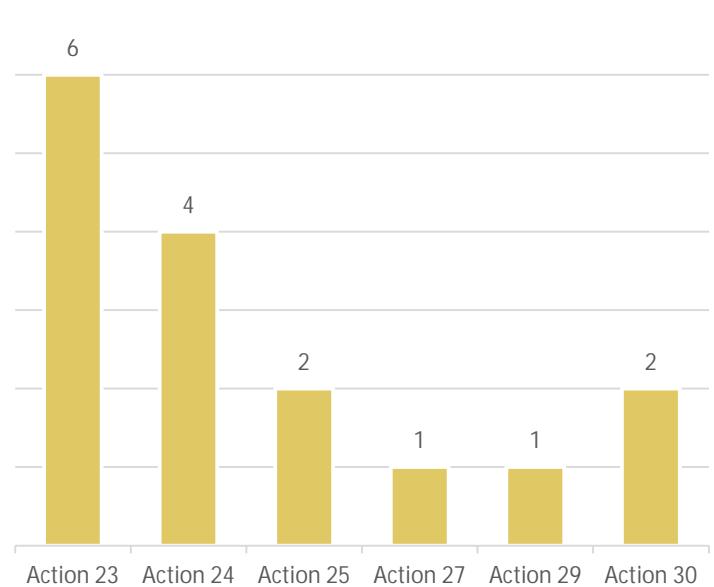
R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions

R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions is the building block with the third largest share of pledges (16 pledges). Around a third (5) of these pledges were submitted by networks and federations. The others were submitted by large companies, SMEs, industry associations, business support organisations, academic and research institutions and regional authorities.

The pledges span across six different Actions.

Action 23¹⁸ and **Action 24¹⁹** have the highest number of pledges in this building block, respectively six and four. Pledges of Action 23 encompass **research and innovation activities** conducted within industries (e.g., by Lenzing and Primal Soles) as well as support actions by business support organisations to foster R&I (e.g., by Finnish Textile & Fashion). Pledges of Action 24 show the interest of stakeholders in participating in Horizon Europe projects on textiles. Other pledges in this building block describe initiatives to *improve collaborations with SMEs* to improve their

Figure 14 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions" (N=16)



¹⁸ Foster innovation and research on sustainable manufacturing processes and innovative technologies with low-carbon footprint for the development of new safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials to make products circular, as well as support development of new digital technologies under the work programmes of Horizon Europe, Digital Europe and LIFE.

¹⁹ Explore the possibilities for focused and generic support for R&I on textiles under Horizon Europe.

access to technologies and digital skills (**Action 25²⁰** and **27²¹**) and **cooperation with standardisation organisations (Action 30²²)**.

Examples of published pledges

Action 23: Foster innovation and research on sustainable manufacturing processes and innovative technologies with a low-carbon footprint for the development of new safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials to make products circular, as well as support the development of new digital technologies under the work programmes of Horizon Europe, Digital Europe and LIFE.

Primal Soles pledges to advance sustainability and circularity in the footwear sector: Primal Soles commits to delivering measurable environmental impact through two concrete sustainability initiatives aligned with the UN SDGs: SDG 13 - Climate Action: Primal Soles commits to reducing the carbon footprint of its footwear production by sourcing and using cork as its main raw material. The cork's production process begins with a carbon-negative input of -8.2 kg CO₂/m², as verified through the Footcork Evolution assessment. Based on Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) conducted by Amorim and Manufy, Primal Soles footwear generates one-sixth of the emission compared to the industry average. SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production: Primal Soles is committed to reducing footwear waste sent to landfill. This is achieved by implementing a circular product model that considers the entire lifecycle, from design to end-of-use. Every product is created for easy disassembly and reuse, in full compliance with the EU regulation on shipments of waste. Through a network of established retail and distribution partners, Primal Soles facilitates the collection, monetisation, and reintegration of 100% of its post-consumer waste. [LINK](#)

Action 24: Explore the possibilities for focused and generic support for R&I on textiles under Horizon Europe.

Centexbel-VKC pledges to submit proposals for funding from Horizon Europe and the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking for R&I **projects relevant for the transition of the textiles ecosystem**: Centexbel-VKC will review Horizon Europe calls to identify research opportunities relevant for the textiles ecosystem transition. Centexbel-VKC aims to submit 10 proposals under calls of the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking and Horizon Europe. Leveraging its extensive network of companies, the organisation is committed to including two SMEs each year. [LINK](#)

²⁰ Increase access and interaction of SMEs in the textiles ecosystem to/with tech support structures (for example through tech federations, digital innovation hubs, campuses, incubators, clusters, industry alliances).

²¹ Support SMEs for development of digital skills through the Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem in cooperation with multi-stakeholder skills partnerships at local and regional levels.

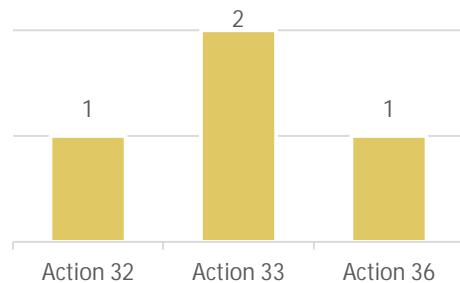
²² Establish cooperation with European standardisation organisations (for example CEN, CENELEC) and industry to identify and fill main standardisation gaps for innovative digital technologies relevant for the textiles ecosystem (including via the Annual Union Work Programme for European Standardisation).

Infrastructure

Building block 5 “Infrastructure” has four pledges: two from networks and confederations, one from a large company and one from a business support organisation.

Two pledges relate to **Action 33**²³. They are *initiatives to improve collection, sorting and recycling*. For example, EURATEX contributes to the ReHubs initiative. Others (e.g., Erion, Inditex, and Finnish Textile & Fashion) aim to encourage the adoption of the Extended Producer Responsibility system.

Figure 15 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Infrastructure” (N= 4)



Examples of published pledges

Action 33: Promote creation of innovative sorting and recycling hubs specialised in textile waste management across Europe for example with Hubs4Circularity support, funded by Horizon Europe, the national recovery and resilience plans, national or regional investments and programmes for infrastructure development.

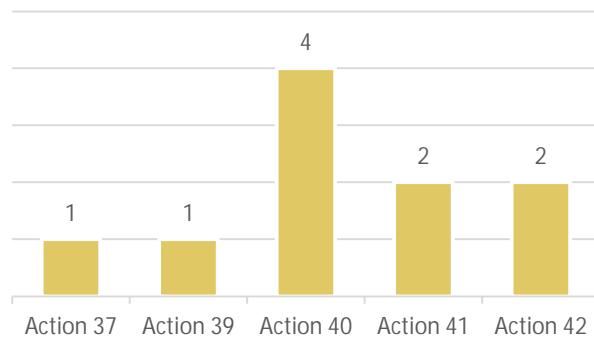
Euratex pledges to contribute to scale textile recycling by launching Rehubs Europe to help building up to 250 facilities to recycle textile waste through collaborative projects:

ReHubs Europe, launched in late 2023, has now established itself as a stand-alone, Brussels-based non-profit initiative dedicated to accelerating circularity within the European textile industry. Supported by a coalition of more than 30 stakeholders (including fashion brands, textile manufacturers, waste collectors, and recyclers) the initiative maintains the ambitious target of processing 2.5 million tonnes of textile waste by 2030. [LINK](#)

Skills

The building block on skills has 10 pledges under all of its five actions. While this is 13% of all pledges published, it should be noted that relevant initiatives on up- and reskilling are also in building block 3 on Social Dimension (4 pledges under Action 21). The pledges of this building block concentrate mostly on **Action 40**²⁴ and **Action 42**²⁵. Pledges under Action 40 are mainly initiatives from various organisations (e.g., confederations, industry associations, academia, NGOs, consumer organisations) that organise *training and raising awareness initiatives* (including towards consumers). Pledges under Action 42 are companies’ internal initiatives to *improve gender equality*.

Figure 16 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Skills” (N= 10)



²³ Promote creation of innovative sorting and recycling hubs specialised in textile waste management across Europe for example with Hubs4Circularity support, funded by Horizon Europe, the national recovery and resilience plans, national or regional investments and programmes for infrastructure development.

²⁴ Organise events and awareness-raising activities on the attractiveness of the sector and new opportunities to work in the industry around the European Year of Skills.

²⁵ Promote women participation to managerial and senior positions in companies, for example via the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem actions, raise awareness on EU programmes facilitating the exchange of entrepreneurial and management experience such as Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

Examples of published pledges

Action 40: Organise events and awareness-raising activities on the attractiveness of the sector and new opportunities to work in the industry around the European Year of Skills.

RREUSE pledges to organise, lead and promote training and upskilling for circular social enterprises active in textile reuse and recycling: In the Horizon project CISUTAC (Circular and Sustainable Textiles and Clothing), RREUSE contributes to organising training for members active in textile waste prevention and management. As the project helped develop three innovative pilots for circular textile management (specifically on repair and dismantling, sorting, and fiber-to-fiber recycling), RREUSE will lead in organising hands-on training focused on textile repair and sorting, aimed at spreading innovation and allowing the replication of innovative practices such as the ones identified through the pilots. This practical focus, with training aimed at practitioners actively engaged in circular activities, will directly contribute to improving the operations of circular social enterprises and, as a consequence, increasing the circularity of textile waste systems.

[LINK](#)

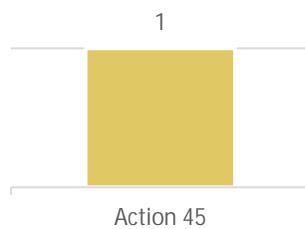
Action 41: Develop skills and capacities of textiles ecosystem education staff and students through Erasmus+ mobility opportunities for vocational and higher education.

Erion Textiles pledges to organise training on circular economy: Erion Textiles will continue organising 2 trainings every year on circular economy and contributing to the development of curricula on circular economy. This activity includes participating in Erasmus+ projects such as the Circular innovation Ecosystem REdesign Skills project. [LINK](#)

Investments and Funding

The building block "Investments and Funding" includes only one published pledge. This is about **promoting green public procurement** (Action 45). However, funding opportunities are also at the core of some actions in building block 1 (Action 1²⁶) and building block 4 (Action 24²⁷), as these actions explicitly refer to funding opportunities for the textiles' ecosystem through programmes such as Horizon Europe and LIFE.

Figure 17 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Investments and Funding" (N= 1)



Examples of published pledges

Action 45: Use and promote the Green Public Procurement criteria to facilitate the inclusion of green requirements in public tender documents.

Finnish Textile & Fashion pledges to promote green public procurement by promoting green public procurement criteria and guiding public procurers: The Finnish Textile & Fashion association is committed to supporting the use and promotion of Green Public Procurement criteria and providing textile-specific information and support to public procurers. The Finnish Textile & Fashion Association published a new guide for public procurement units on sustainable textile procurement in autumn 2023. In addition, in 2023, the

²⁶ Promote, support and implement circular and sustainability practices, services and business models, including social economy enterprises (such as product-as-service models, take-back services, second-hand and repair services, innovative sorting and recycling) including through Horizon Europe, LIFE, and the 'ReSet the Trend #ReFashionNow' campaign and actions from the Social Economy Action Plan.

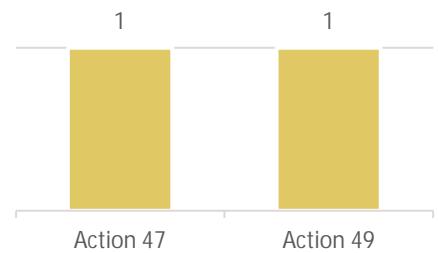
²⁷ Explore the possibilities for focused and generic support for R&I on textiles under Horizon Europe.

association launched a joint project on innovative public textile procurement between public procurement units, textile companies and VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, and aims to start an innovative textile procurement process. [LINK](#)

Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU strategic autonomy and Defence Efforts

The "Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU strategic autonomy and Defence Efforts" building block has two published pledges, one under **Action 47**²⁸ and one under **Action 49**²⁹. However, these are crucial actions to face the challenges posed by the current geopolitical developments. The pledges concern **collaborations with public authorities in the defence sector to ensure the supply of textile products**. Both these pledges come from a Finnish federation (Finnish Textile & Fashion).

Figure 18 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU Strategic Autonomy and Defence Efforts" (N= 2)



Examples of published pledges

Action 47: Liaise with national defence authorities to ascertain how the ecosystem could contribute to the development of military capabilities.

Finnish Textile & Fashion pledges to strengthen emergency preparedness by liaising with national authorities to define emergency agreements and textile stockpiling needs: The Finnish Textile & Fashion has been involved in the Finnish National Emergency Supply Organization, specifically in the Textile and Equipment Committee, where the association assesses the preparedness of the Defence Forces concerning textiles. Additionally, the National Emergency Supply Agency makes emergency procurement and production reservation agreements with companies in the association's industry using various procedures.

During 2024, the Textile and Equipment Committee had quarterly meetings, and thus the work was continuous. Moreover, the association launched cooperation with the responsible Ministry and the National Emergency Supply Agency to better define the textile products to be stockpiled. [LINK](#)

²⁸ Liaise with national defence authorities to ascertain how the ecosystem could contribute to the development of military capabilities.

²⁹ Develop plans to increase the readiness to shift production and prioritize deliveries for defence purposes to sustain Armed Forces, defence companies and other relevant sectors in case of crises of war.

Conclusions

Pledges are central in co-implementing the Transition Pathway, translating high-level objectives into practical actions aligned with EU strategies. Since 2023, the process of collecting pledges has slowly progressed. The new platform aims to simplify and streamline this process, with the support of a dedicated team.

Although pledges are voluntary and may be modified and updated as needed, they show a commitment to work towards a more sustainable, digital, competitive and/or resilient textiles ecosystem and sharing them with the textiles community has various advantages and positive effects. It can, for example, show how sustainability targets can be translated into concrete commitments and give recognition to the organisations undertaking such actions. This visibility is particularly crucial for SMEs, which form the backbone of the textiles ecosystem but often lack the resources to showcase their sustainability efforts. Through the Platform, SMEs can gain recognition for their contributions to the ecosystem's transformation alongside larger industry players. A pledge can also act as a multiplier, inspiring others to act in a similar way.

Certain preliminary insights emerge from the current pledge inventory. These should be further monitored as more commitments are collected:

- **Differential engagement across stakeholder types:** Companies, particularly large enterprises, have shown strong engagement in building block 1 "Sustainable Competitiveness", possibly facilitated by existing sustainability reporting frameworks and established target-setting practices under regulations such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). In contrast, other building blocks, such as "Skills" and "Infrastructure" see greater participation from industry associations, NGOs, and public authorities.
- **Geographic concentration and potential expansion:** The current geographic distribution of pledges showcase more activities in Italy and Belgium, with Italian organisations representing national sectoral interests and Belgian-based organisations often having European scope. As more pledges are collected, monitoring whether engagement expands to other Member States will be important. This will help see if specific Member States would need targeted actions to encourage more pledge submissions.

These preliminary observations provide a foundation for a deeper analysis as the pledge inventory grows. The important work of reaching out to more stakeholders across the textiles ecosystem and encourage them to submit their relevant ongoing or planned initiatives as pledges continues. Hopefully the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform can facilitate this process and thus help increase the number of pledges and give more visibility to ongoing initiatives across the ecosystem.