



Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway

Report on stakeholder pledges - for a more competitive, sustainable, digital and resilient EU textiles ecosystem

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Executive Summary

This document is the second Report on Stakeholder Pledges showcasing the commitments, as of 15 March 2026, of textiles ecosystem stakeholders towards increased sustainability, digitalisation, and resilience published on the [EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform](#). The Report expands on the [first Report on Stakeholder Pledges](#), which covered pledges published by 15 July 2025, and offers a comprehensive analysis of all the pledges published so far.

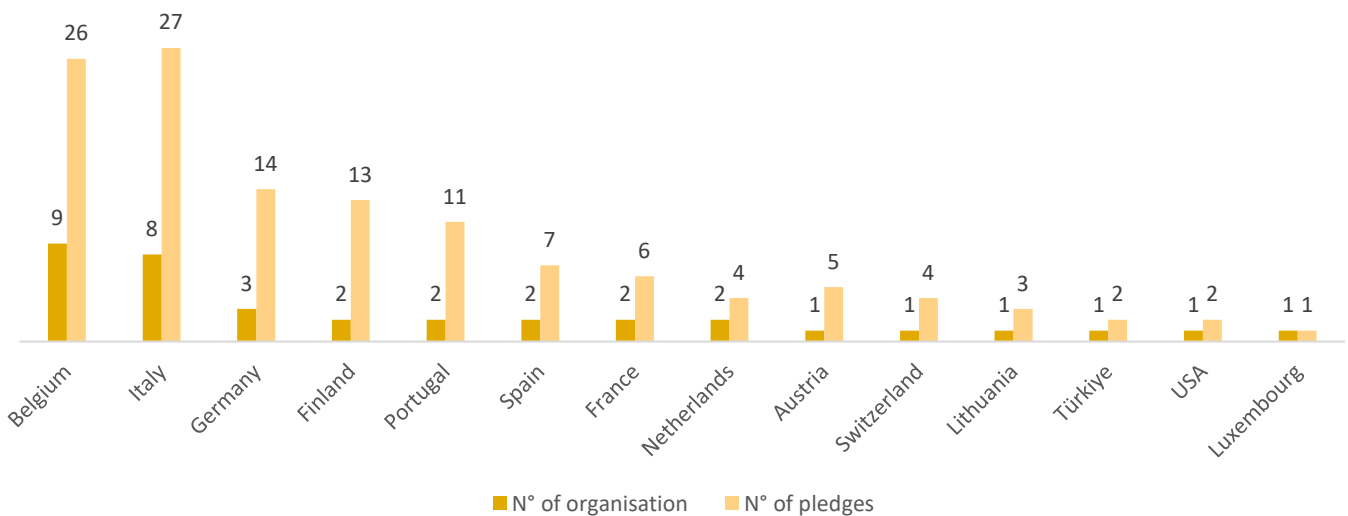
The [Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway](#) was published on 6 June 2023. It identifies 50 actions under 8 building blocks, namely: Sustainable Competitiveness; Regulation and Public Governance; Social Dimension; R&I, Techniques, and Technological Solutions; Infrastructure; Skills, Investments, and Funding; Ecosystem’s Readiness to Support EU Strategic Autonomy and Defence Efforts.

Since 2023, stakeholders in the textiles ecosystem have shared their commitments in the form of pledges to implement the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway. These pledges represent voluntary, ongoing, or future initiatives that directly contribute to implementing the Transition Pathway and its objectives to help make the EU textiles ecosystem greener, more digital, more resilient, and more competitive.

The system for collecting pledges has evolved over the years, and since April 2025, a dedicated tool has been integrated into the [EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform](#).

As of 15 March 2026, in total **125 pledges from 36 organisations** across 14 countries (11 Member States and three non-EU countries) have been published on the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform. Compared to the first Report on Stakeholder Pledges, the number of pledges has increased from 79 to 125 and the number of submitting organisations has nearly doubled, from 20 to 36. The overall geographic coverage has slightly expanded to include Portugal as a Member State, alongside Türkiye and the United States. Pledges from these non-EU entities are highly relevant to the transition, as these organisations maintain significant linkages and operations in Europe. However, organisations from Northern and Eastern Europe remain underrepresented among pledge submitters. The figure below shows the geographical coverage of all submitted pledges.

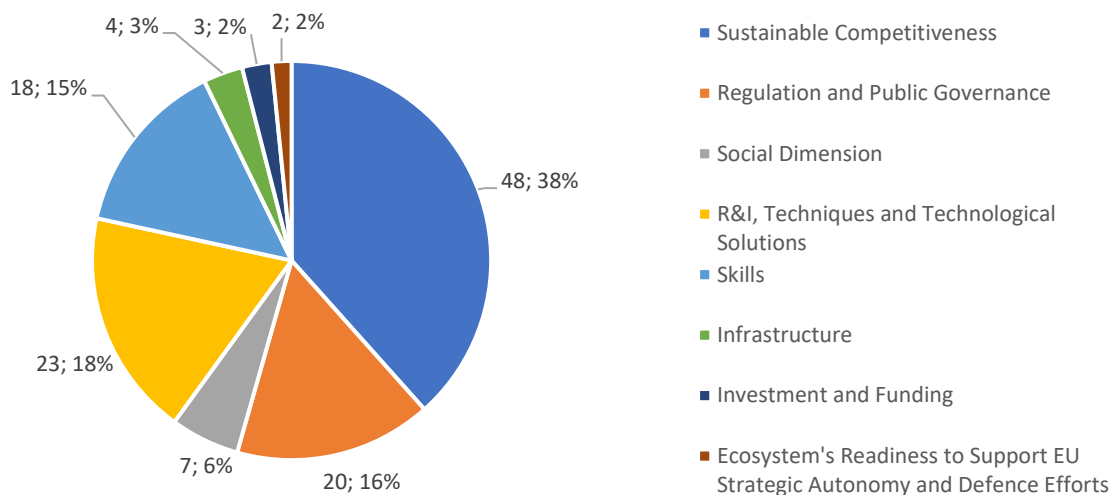
Figure 1 - Geographic distribution of organisations that have published pledges (yellow) and number of pledges by country (in light yellow)



Pledges cover all eight building blocks of the Transition Pathway and address **36 of the 50 specific actions** listed in the Transition Pathway. The building block “**Sustainable Competitiveness**” has the highest number of pledges (38%) with 48 published pledges, followed by “R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions” (23

pledges) and “Regulation and Public Governance” (20 pledges). Action 1¹, promoting circular and sustainability practices, attracts the highest number of individual commitments (28 pledges).

Figure 2 - Number of pledges linked to the respective building blocks and actions of the Transition Pathway (N=125)



Pledges come from a variety of stakeholders. Networks and federations and large companies are the categories with the highest number of pledge-takers (8 organisations each). Other stakeholders that have submitted pledges are NGOs, business support organisations, SMEs, academic and research organisations, consumer and cluster organisations, and regional authorities. Companies primarily focus on sustainability commitments within building block 1, while other stakeholders show greater activity in areas such as research, regulation, and skills development.

Pledge-takers cover different segments of the ecosystem². Some of them specialise in certain products (e.g., stakeholders in the “fibres, yarns and fabrics”, “apparel and clothing accessories”, “leather” 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.

Overall, the pledges reflect a textile ecosystem in an active, collective transition towards increased sustainability, digitalisation, and resilience. The commitments showcase a strategic mix of **short-term operational support**—such as workforce upskilling and securing EU funding—**and long-term systemic shifts**, including ambitious 2030 and 2050 decarbonisation targets. These pledges create direct and indirect effects across the value chain. So far, the analysis of the pledges reveals **six major priorities driving the ecosystem’s transformation**: i) digitalisation and traceability to prepare for the upcoming Digital Product Passport (DPP), ii) proactive policy engagement and standardisation, including the development and adoption of common

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.

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.

requirements across the textiles ecosystem, iii) upskilling and re-skilling to meet the demands of the digital and green transition, iv) social sustainability, v) consumer engagement and vi) collaborative innovation.

As stakeholders continue to submit and annually update their commitments, the [EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform](#) serves as a dynamic and comprehensive tracker, providing insights into the ecosystem's actions to build a more competitive, sustainable, digital, and resilient European textiles ecosystem.

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.

Following the publication of the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway, the co-implementation phase began. 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 implementing the Transition Pathway and its objectives to help make the EU textiles ecosystem greener, more digital, more resilient, and more competitive.

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 monitor their implementation and track progress over time.

This Report aims to take stock of the pledges received and published on the platform until 15 March 2026. It is an update of the first [Report on stakeholder pledges](#) published in November 2025.

The Report is structured as follows: after this introduction, it outlines the methodology used to collect, revise, and publish the pledges. It then provides a high-level overview of the published pledges, followed by a more detailed presentation of the pledges for each building block of the Textiles Ecosystem Transition Pathway along with concrete examples of published pledges. The concluding section provides some reflections and insights based on current published pledges.

Methodology

Pledges pipeline: from submission to publication

Before publishing pledges on the platform, the consortium team systematically collects and revises them using a four-step approach.

Step 1. Collection

The pledges published on the platform as of 15 March 2026 came from four sources:

- 1) **59 pledges** submitted in 2023 and early 2024 that had been previously published on the European Commission (EC) [website](#).
- 2) **18 pledges** submitted through the EU Survey collection tool between March 2024 and January 2025.
- 3) **29 pledges** submitted through direct contact with stakeholders.
- 4) **19 pledges** received through the [dedicated page](#) on the platform.

The new pledge submission tool on the platform was introduced in April 2025. To assist new users, a comprehensive step-by-step guide explaining how to submit pledges has been published.

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, that they contain all the essential elements, i.e., a tangible, ongoing or planned initiative, a measurable target, and a target date, and that they are written in a clear and concise way. The consortium team directly contacts the pledge-takers to suggest improvements, request clarifications, and assist them in uploading the revised pledge on the platform.

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 of the Platform. 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 completed initiatives, which, in turn, can continue to inspire others.

Step 4. Publication

Between 15 July 2025 (the cut-off date of the first edition of the Report) and 15 March 2026, the consortium team published 46 additional pledges on the platform. In total, as of 15 March 2026, 125 pledges are published on the platform.

The following sections of this Report analyse and provide some insights into the entire pool of pledges published on the Platform.

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

Pledges overview

Summary statistics on pledges

As of 15 March 2026, **125 pledges** have been published on the platform, with 46 new pledges published between July 2025 and March 2026. This represents a 58% increase since the first Report on Stakeholder Pledges, which covered 79 pledges. The pledges **cover all 8 building blocks** of the Transition Pathway, with commitments for **36 of the 50 actions**, compared to 30 previously covered. Building block 1 **“Sustainable Competitiveness” continues to be the building block with the highest number of pledges**, growing from 29 to 48 pledges. This is followed by building block 4 “R&I, Techniques, and Technological Solutions” and building block 2 “Regulation and Public Governance”, which account for 23 and 20 pledges, respectively.

Among specific actions, **Action 1⁴** remains the most frequently addressed action by a considerable margin, with its total doubling from 14 pledges in July 2025 to 28 pledges in March 2026. The remaining pledges are distributed relatively evenly, with **Action 23⁵**, **Action 14⁶**, **Action 17⁷**, and **Action 2⁸** each having 12, 8, 7 and 6 pledges respectively.

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 provide additional information and examples of published pledges in all the building blocks.

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.”

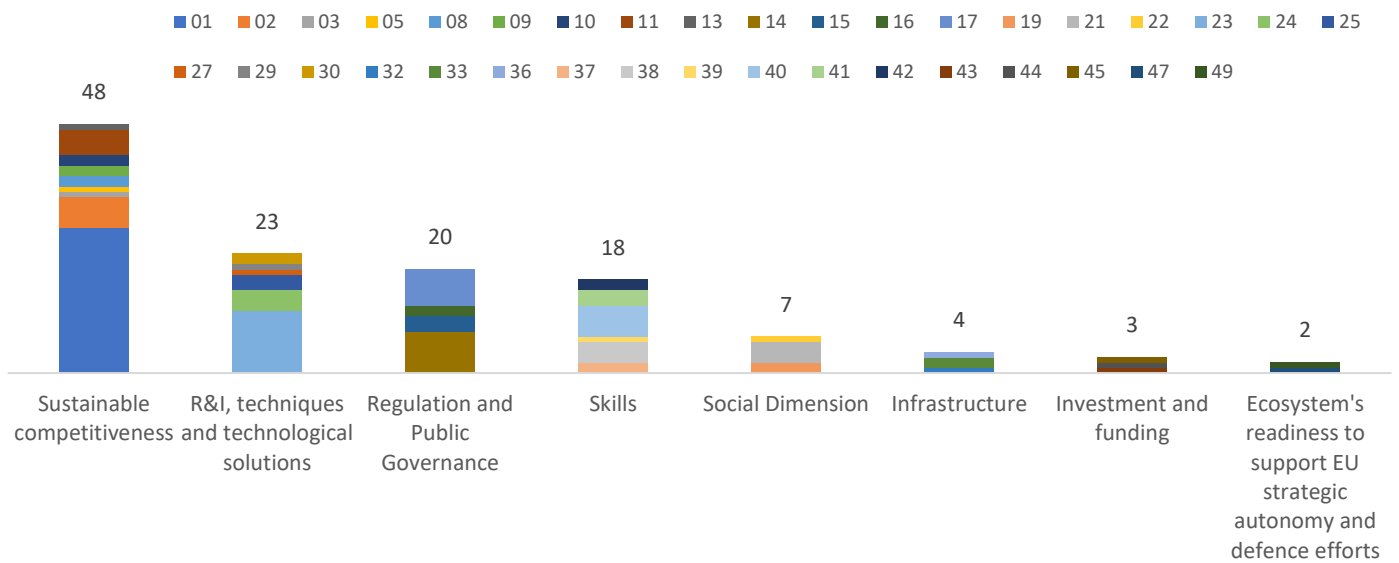
⁵ Action 23 “Foster innovation and research on sustainable manufacturing processes and innovative technologies with low-carbon footprint for the development of new safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials to make products circular, as well as support development of new digital technologies 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 17 “Improving traceability and transparency in the textile value chain through the proposed Digital Product Passport.”

⁸ 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.”

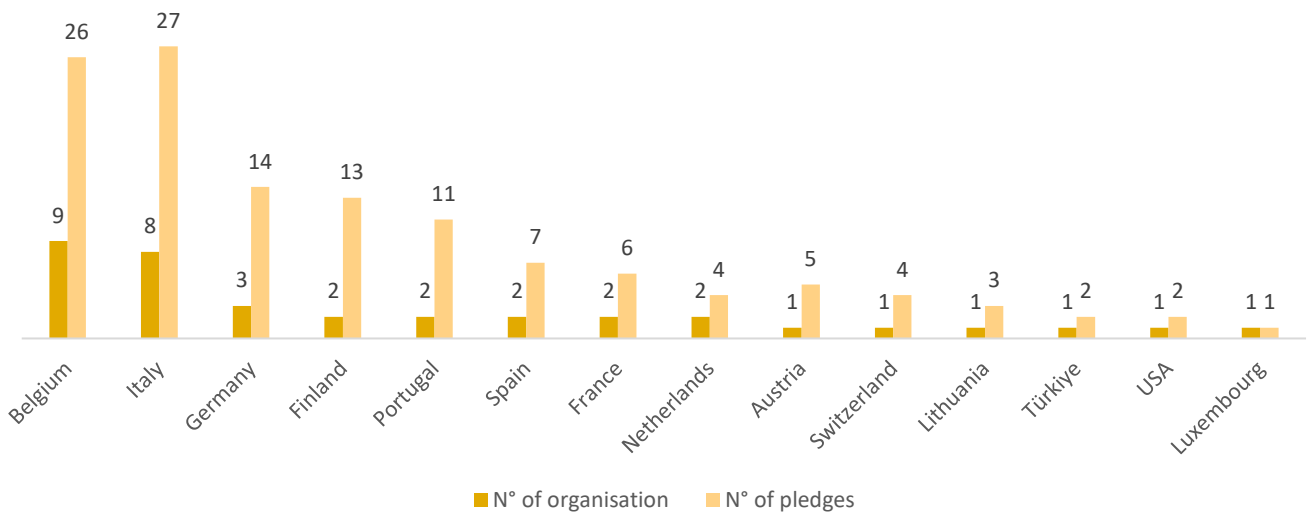
Figure 3 - Number of pledges linked to the respective building blocks and actions of the Transition Pathway as of March 2026 (N=125)



Summary statistics on organisations submitting pledges

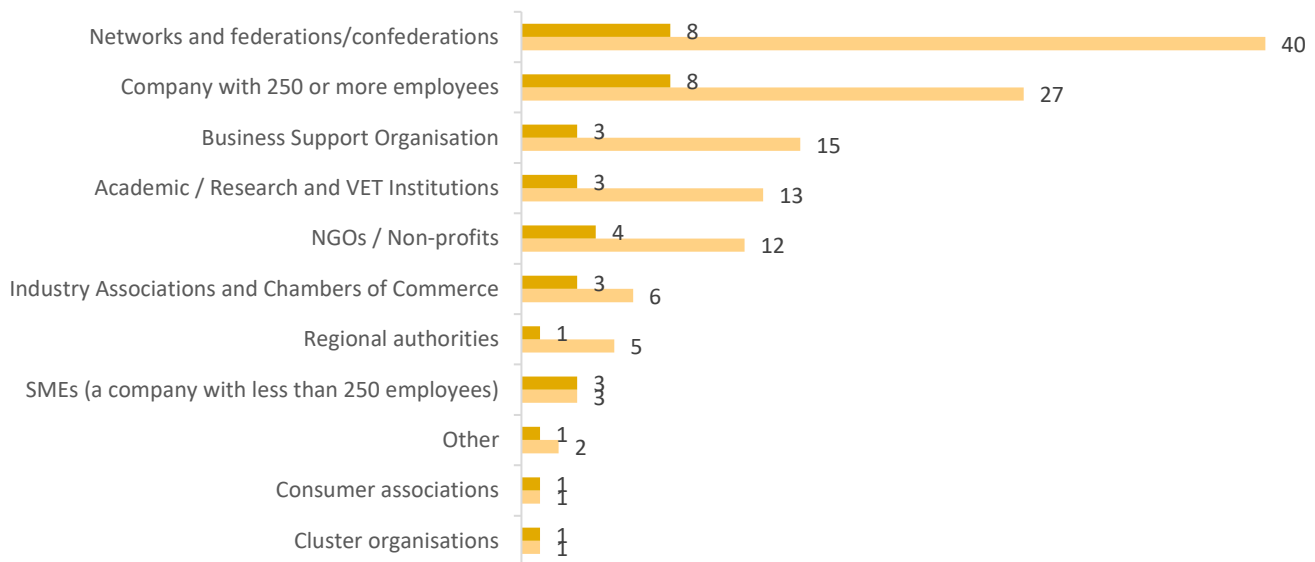
A total of **36 organisations** from **14 different countries (11 Member States and 3 non-EU countries)** have published pledges on the platform, representing a significant increase compared to the previous edition of the Report, which recorded 20 organisations from 11 countries (10 Member States and one non-EU country). The Member States with the highest number of organisations are Belgium and Italy, with 9 and 8 pledge-taking organisations, respectively. While Italian pledge-takers are primarily companies or national-level sectoral bodies, Belgium-based organisations typically have a European scope of action (e.g., European Apparel and Textile Confederation - EURATEX, European Textile Services Association - ETSA, RREUSE, European Confederation of the Footwear Industry - CEC). The three organisations submitting pledges from non-EU countries come from Switzerland, Türkiye, and the United States. Their work, however, is strictly linked to the EU textiles ecosystem. The Comité Européen des Constructeurs de Machines Textiles – CEMATEX, based in Switzerland, is an organisation comprising 9 national European textile machinery associations, including 7 EU Member States. Accelerating Circularity, based in the United States, is a non-profit dedicated to revolutionising the textile industry through circular practices, also operating in Europe. Finally, HS STRATEGIC ADVISOR, from Türkiye, is a consulting firm offering services for circular and digital transformation in alignment with EU regulations.

Figure 4 - 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**⁹, including industry (large companies and SMEs), umbrella organisations representing industry and consumers, NGOs and non-profit organisations, academic and research institutions, and a regional public authority. **Networks and federations have the highest number of pledges published on the platform**, growing from 27 to 40 since the previous Report, followed by large companies and business support organisations. Academic research institutions, non-profits, SMEs, and industry associations have also contributed with a significant number of pledges. Among companies, manufacturers are the main contributors of pledges.

Figure 5 - Number of organisations that have published pledges by type (yellow) and number of pledges by type of organisation (in light yellow)

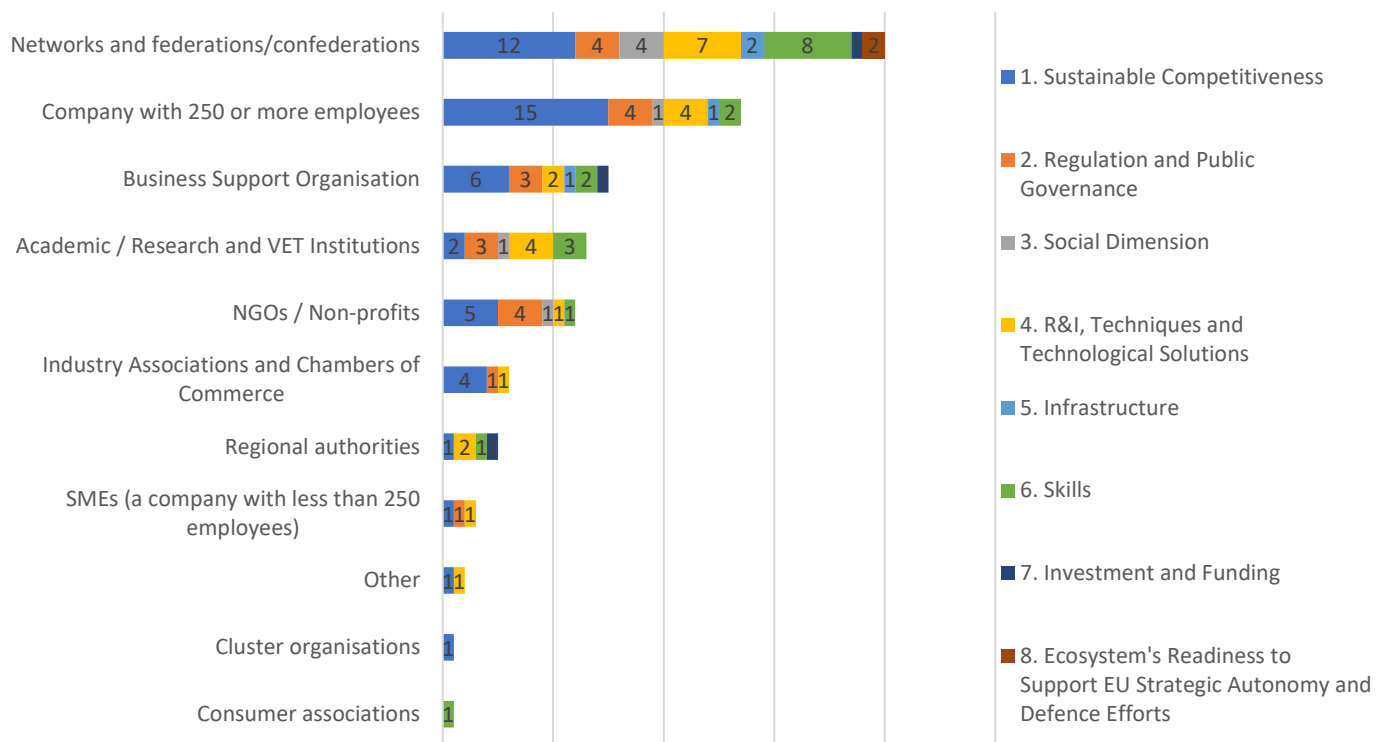


Companies have primarily published pledges related to building block 1 on Sustainable Competitiveness, as existing sustainability reports may already provide established targets and action plans that facilitate such commitments. Networks and confederations show strong activity in building block 6 on Skills, reflecting their cross-sector role in coordinating training and workforce development initiatives across their memberships.

⁹ The type of organisation is indicated by the pledge-taker, choosing among some pre-defined categories.

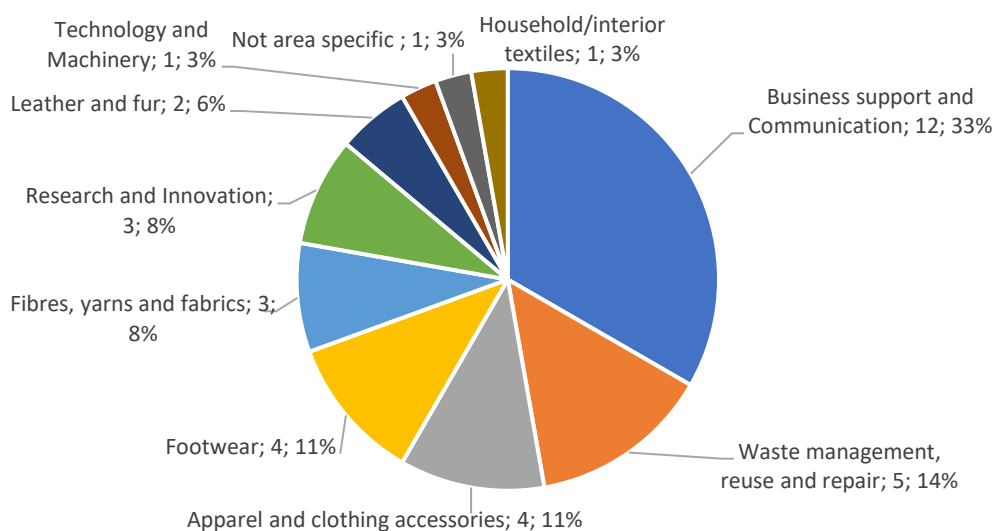
Other types of organisations show greater activity across different building blocks; for example, academic and research institutions are more active in building block 4, which relates to research and innovation.

Figure 6 - Distribution of pledges by type of organisation and Transition Pathway building block (N=125)



Pledge-takers come from different segments of the ecosystem (Figure 7). The ecosystem’s segments represent the main sectors of the textiles ecosystem. They include 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. The 36 pledge-takers represent diverse segments of the ecosystem, demonstrating a collective commitment to enhancing competitiveness, sustainability, and resilience across the industry. Two-thirds of pledge-takers come from four ecosystem segments: business support and communication services (mainly networks and federations), waste management, reuse and repair (various organisations, including companies and consumer associations), apparel and clothing accessories (companies and NGOs), and footwear (companies, industry associations and confederations).

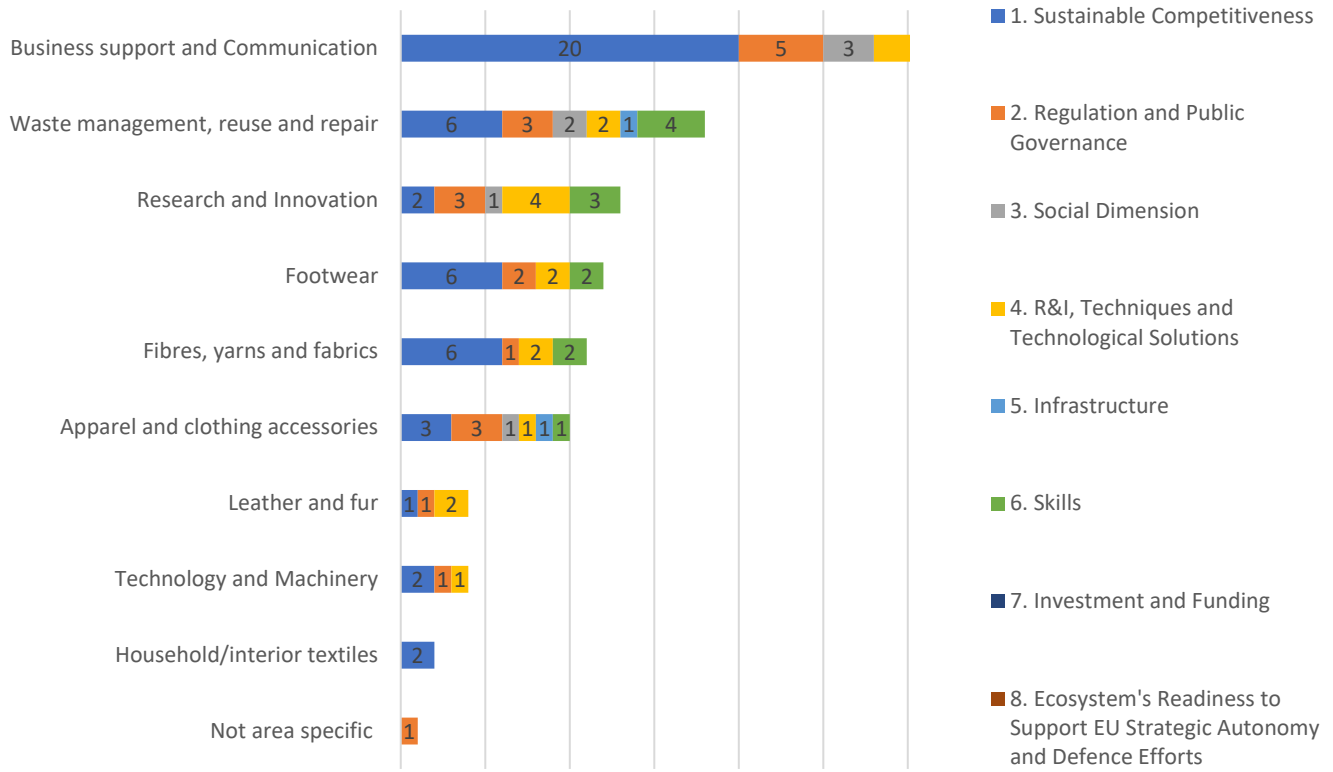
Figure 7 - Distribution of pledge-takers by ecosystem area (N=36)



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

Pledges from stakeholders in 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 working on “waste management, reuse and repairs” undertake initiatives to promote circularity and support businesses in adopting circular business models. Organisations in the “apparel and clothing accessories” segment have published commitments to improve the sustainability of the fashion industry. Pledges from the footwear industry also focus on developing more sustainable products and business models. Pledges from organisations in the “fibres, yarns and fabrics” segment mainly concern companies’ commitments to developing more sustainable materials and improving the transparency and resilience of their value chains.

Figure 8 - Distribution of pledges by ecosystem's area and Transition Pathway building block (N=125)



Summary of pledges

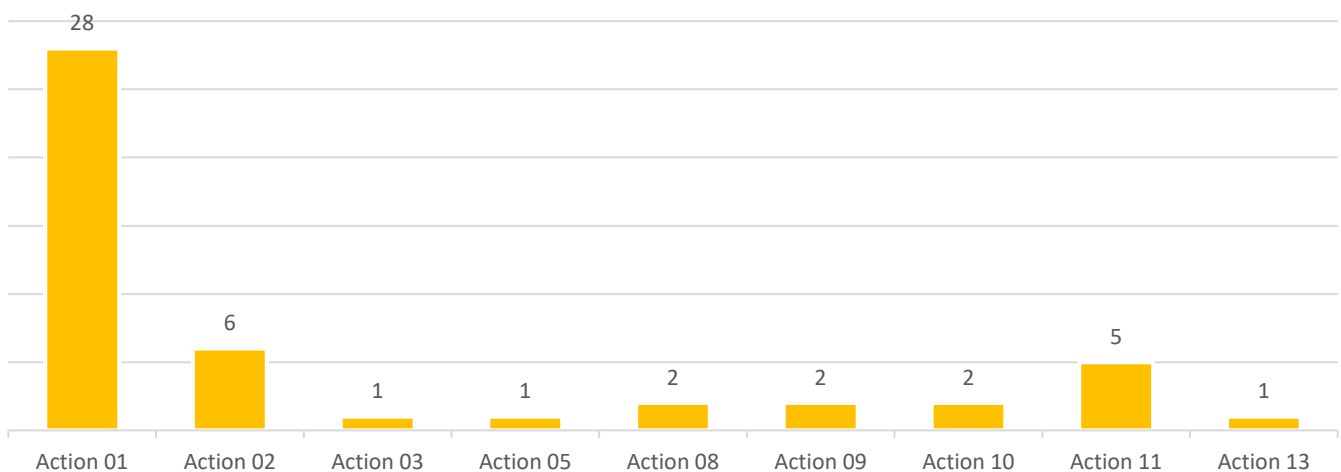
Sustainable Competitiveness

Building block 1 “Sustainable Competitiveness” has the highest number of pledges (48), representing 38% of all pledges. These pledges come from various stakeholder groups: large companies and SMEs have submitted 33% (16) of the pledges of this building block. Other pledges were submitted by networks and confederations, business support organisations, industry associations, NGOs, academic and research institutions, and regional authorities.

Most of the pledges under building block 1 concern **Action 1**¹⁰. 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 the pledges also focused on **Action 2**¹¹ and **Action 11**¹². Among Action 2 pledges, there are initiatives such as *the repositioning of leather as a natural, circular, and responsibly produced material* by COTANCE, and the *promotion of “Portugal Brand” as a European benchmark for ethical, circular, and transparent production* by ANIVEC. Among the Action 11 pledges, there are new awareness-raising campaigns such as the InsideOut campaign by C.L.A.S.S. and events such as the new edition of *“Responsible Fashion Fortnight”* organised by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region.

Figure 9 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Sustainable Competitiveness” (N=48)



¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ 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

¹² 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

BekaertDeslee pledges to build a fully circular textile value chain through eco-design, increased recyclability, and waste elimination: BekaertDeslee strives to accelerate the transition towards circular textiles by aiming for products that are designed for recyclability, contain more recycled content, and generate no fabric waste to landfill. Together with our customers, we seek to achieve these ambitions by co-developing solutions that support circularity across the value chain. The company is working toward ensuring that two-thirds (67%) of all fabrics are recyclable by 2030, integrating 50% recycled content in its products by 2030, and achieving zero fabric waste to landfill by 2027. Progress will be monitored using internal recyclability criteria embedded in the ERP system, annual reporting of recycled content percentages, and tracking of waste streams from operations. [LINK](#)

TEX IS MORE pledges to establish a collaborative hub for sustainable textile transformation: As part of its mission to accelerate circularity in the European textile ecosystem, TEX IS MORE commits to co-organising ten targeted multi-stakeholder innovation and dissemination activities between 2025 and 2030. These activities will address key circularity challenges across the textile and fashion value chain and will be developed through the organisation's quadruple helix innovation hub, connecting research, industry, policymakers and society. [LINK](#)

Recover pledges to advance Zero Carbon by aligning with science-based decarbonisation and enabling Scope 3 reductions: Recover commits to reducing emissions across all Scopes while enabling measurable Scope 3 reductions for brands through textile-to-textile recycling. Recover is the first mechanical recycler with Science-Aligned Targets validated through Cascale's Manufacturer Climate Action Program (MCAP), confirming its Scope 1 and 2 pathway is aligned with limiting warming to 1.5°C. For retailers and brands, MCAP validation provides trusted third-party confirmation of supplier alignment, helping strengthen Scope 3 decarbonisation claims and reduce audit complexity. According to their verified LCA results, 1 kg of Recover™ recycled cotton fiber can reduce CO₂ emissions by up to 93% compared to conventional virgin cotton. Through transparent data, traceability systems and continuous decarbonisation efforts, Recover aims to accelerate credible climate action across the textile value chain. [LINK](#)

Accelerating Circularity pledges to scale the building circular systems program across global regions: Accelerating Circularity commits to expanding its Building Circular Systems Program, currently active in the U.S. and EU, and supporting its continued work across new geographic regions beginning in 2025. The program already includes 12 proposed supply chains in the Americas and 7 in the EU for rCotton and rPoly, with additional developments in MMCs and nylon. Progress will be measured by the number of active supply chains established and the volume of post-consumer feedstock achieved through Building Markets initiatives. [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

COTANCE pledges to reposition leather as a natural, circular, and responsibly produced material that creates jobs and wealth from a residue of the livestock sector, while promoting the European leather industry as innovative, competitive, and attractive: COTANCE pledges to ensure that leather, a naturally bio-based, circular, and biodegradable material, is fully recognised within the EU's upcoming Bioeconomy Strategy, Circular Economy Act, and EU Green Industrial Deal legislation. COTANCE will continue advocating for EU policymakers to acknowledge and incentivise the use of animal by-products in Europe's bioeconomy and circular policies. COTANCE will promote leather as a natural, bio-based material, ensuring its explicit recognition in at least two EU legislative files related to the bioeconomy and circular economy by 2026. [LINK](#)

ANIVEC pledges to promote "Portugal Brand" as a benchmark for ethical, circular and transparent production: ANIVEC will position the Portuguese Clothing and Fashion Industry as a European reference for sustainability and responsible production. Through at least four international campaigns running until 2030, ANIVEC will promote "Portugal Brand" in global markets and European decision-making centres, highlighting sustainability as a competitive export factor and reinforcing the reputation of "Made in Portugal". [LINK](#)

Action 3: Continue making use of trade policies to promote trade and to support the respect of environmental and social with our trading partners through the Trade and Sustainable Development chapter in Free Trade Agreements and through the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP).

TESS GEIE pledges to develop traceability and ensure ethical oversight of textile outside the EU market by developing auditing of export clients based on strong social, economic and environmental criteria: TESS GEIE pledges to develop and implement robust auditing processes for export clients, based on strong social, environmental, and economic criteria, to ensure that exported textiles contribute to sustainable development in full respect of the values of the social and solidarity economy. Where possible, TESS GEIE will engage in EU-funded projects supporting responsible export models that prioritise the primacy of people, transparency, dialogue, solidarity, environmental protection, and adherence to international law. By 2030: Conduct audits for 70% of members' export clients, covering 80% of export volumes. Define a common set of intra-European export standards to be adopted by all members. [LINK](#)

Action 5: Strengthen market surveillance for the ecosystem through cooperation with the EU Product Compliance Network to implement and develop EU joint action projects such as REACH4Textiles.

ANIVEC pledges to safeguard a Level Playing Field through enhanced trade monitoring and market surveillance: ANIVEC will establish an External Trade Observatory contributing to monitor the evolution of the EU Single Market and assess vulnerabilities linked to international trade dynamics, including the impact of the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) on imported products. The association will submit two annual market vulnerability reports to national and EU authorities starting in 2026. In parallel, ANIVEC will implement a market surveillance and fairness programme to identify non-compliance in imported products - particularly regarding labelling and chemical substances - ensuring equal regulatory conditions between EU manufacturers and third-country imports. By December 2028, the association will submit 2 technical reports submitted to the supervisory authorities. [LINK](#)

Action 10: Undertake risk assessment and prepare management plans for potential disruptions of global supply chains.

ANIVEC pledges to reinforce national value chain resilience through strategic raw material mapping: ANIVEC will conduct a comprehensive mapping of the Portuguese textile and clothing value chain to identify gaps in critical raw materials and reduce dependency on external suppliers.

By December 2026, a report outlining vulnerabilities and opportunities for strengthening domestic or EU-based sourcing will be produced contributing to enhance resilience and strategic autonomy. [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.

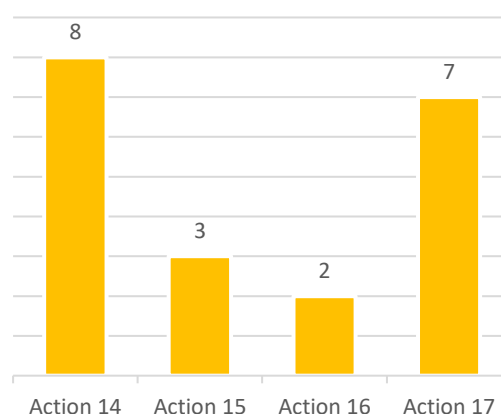
C.L.A.S.S. pledges to contribute to raise consumer awareness through a dedicated campaign: InsideOut: C.L.A.S.S. (Creativity Lifestyle And Sustainable Synergy), as an international eco-hub, pledges to organise InsideOut, a social campaign designed to raise awareness, inform and build a new culture rooted in the values and quality of our wardrobe and aims to uncover and share all visible and invisible - yet always measurable - aspects of the next-generation wardrobe through its Decalogue of Values. Alongside the external values such as: aesthetics, performance, look and touch, it communicates ten parameters addressing: Ethics, Social Initiatives, Traceability and Transparency, Environment, Health, Circular Economy Initiatives, Design, Ingredients, Production, Dyeing and Finishing. The initiative, launched on 25th November 2025 during a public event and already presented at important industry gatherings such as the 65th edition of FILO exhibition and the CSM Meets Sustainability event by Camera Showroom Milano, will continue to be actively promoted throughout 2026. C.L.A.S.S. plans to organise dedicated social media campaigns, joint communication activities and presentations at main sector exhibitions. The first of these presentations is scheduled for 2026 Milano Women's Fashion Week. [LINK](#)

Regulation and Public Governance

Building block 2 "Regulation and Public Governance" has the second-highest number of pledges, with a total of 20 pledges. These pledges come from various stakeholder groups: large companies, NGOs, industry associations, business support organisations, academic and research institutions, networks and confederations.

Action 14¹³ 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 are a similar number of pledges for **Action 17**¹⁴, followed by **Action 15**¹⁵, and **Action 16**¹⁶. 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 upcoming Digital Product Passport** for the textile sector.

Figure 10 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Regulation and Public Governance" (N=20)



¹³ 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.

¹⁴ Improving traceability and transparency in the textile value chain through the proposed Digital Product Passport.

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.

¹⁶ Finding common methods to assess and compare the sustainability performance of textile products in the context of the foreseen ecodesign requirements.

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.

TESS GEIE pledges to actively contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles: TESS GEIE commits to actively supporting the EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles by engaging in policy development, consultation processes, and strategic collaborations. This includes actively participating in all relevant consultations, public hearings, and stakeholder events linked to the Strategy, ensuring the voice of social enterprises in the textile circularity sector is heard. TESS GEIE is also committed to monitoring national legislative developments and emphasising its members' aligned positions in advocacy efforts at the European level through comparative reports and targeted position papers.

[LINK](#)

CENIT pledges to secure regulatory readiness and strategic anticipation: CENIT pledges to ensure Portuguese sector-wide preparedness by monitoring, interpreting, and translating key EU and international sustainability frameworks (including Green Deal/Circular Economy policy, Ecodesign & Digital Product Passport, EPR, eco-labelling and other environmental rules) into practical guidance and publishing a practical circular guide. By December 2028 CENIT will deliver at least 40 regulatory briefings/tools and will provide a practical roadmap with strategies and recommendations for companies to adopt sustainable practices, focusing on circular design and product life cycle extension. [LINK](#)

Action 17: Improving traceability and transparency in the textile value chain through the proposed Digital Product Passport.

Recover pledges to strengthen responsible production through robust HSE standards, supplier due diligence and workforce development: Recover commits to operating under robust environmental, social and governance standards across all production hubs. In 2024, Recover fully implemented their Responsible Sourcing Committee, working with 100% of suppliers in Bangladesh under structured improvement plans covering labor conditions, safety and payroll transparency, while maintaining GRS, Higg FEM/FSLM and ISO certifications across facilities. Recover will continue strengthening supplier oversight, expanding governance frameworks to new hubs, and reinforcing workforce training to ensure consistent global standards as they scale. [LINK](#)

The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles pledges to increase supply-chain transparency for all member companies: The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles commits to supporting the supply-chain transparency among its members by aggregating the members' supply chain data on the Open Supply Hub. This enables brand anonymity but still provides the possibility to identify shared supplier hotspots for collaboration on implementation projects in supplier countries. In 2025, members did not only provide information about tier 1 but also tier 2 suppliers. This promotes a steady increase in transparency and, if used correctly, accountability within the textile industry. Any company, no matter which industry, can upload its supplier data on the Open Supply Hub and contribute to the transparency of supply chains. [LINK](#)

Adirelounge pledges to implement Digital Product Passports for hand-dyed artisan textiles across all EU-distributed collections by 2027: Adirelounge Innovation EURL commits to implementing Digital Product

Passports (DPP) across its hand-dyed textile collections entering the European Union market. By 2027, 100% of Adirelounge fabrics distributed within the EU will carry a unique QR code linked to a publicly accessible transparency page providing structured product data. Each Digital Product Passport will include:

- Fibre composition and material sourcing
- Dye process description (natural and low-impact methods)
- Country of production and artisan attribution
- Estimated carbon footprint indicators
- Water usage insights, where available
- Care and circularity guidance

In parallel, Adirelounge will develop a simplified Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) framework for B2B buyers, enabling fashion and interior brands to access impact data relevant to their sustainability reporting. The company will pilot alignment with the upcoming EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation requirements and contribute to the broader transition toward traceable, low-impact, and digitally documented textile value chains. Progress will be measured through:

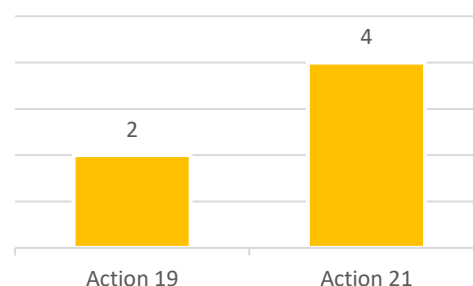
- Percentage of SKUs equipped with QR-enabled DPP
- Number of B2B clients accessing impact data
- Annual reporting of implementation milestones.

[LINK](#)

Social Dimension

Building block 3 “Social Dimension” has six pledges: two from networks and confederations, and one each from large companies, NGOs, and academic and research institutions. Four of them relate to **Action 21**¹⁷. 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. Two pledges concern **upholding ethical labour standards and responsible purchasing practices (Action 19)**¹⁸.

Figure 11 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Social Dimension” (N=6)



Examples of published pledges

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

The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles pledges to promote responsible purchasing practices and the payment of living wages in the textile supply chain: The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles and its members strive for responsible purchasing practices and the payment of living wages in the supply chain. From 2024 to 2025, the Partnership initiative ‘Living Wage Lab 2.0’ promoted the payment of living wages in the textile industry. Over the course of one and a half years, the project focused on collaborating with manufacturers and promoting social dialogue in three countries: Bangladesh, Pakistan and India. Capacity-building measures

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ Support a fairer and more inclusive European Union through the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Social Economy Action Plan.

in selected factories aimed to empower textile workers to assert their rights. Data on wages was used to stimulate discussions with local stakeholders in buyer-supplier and multi-stakeholder dialogues. Furthermore, participating brands are committed to developing individual living wage strategies and integrating living wages into their purchasing processes. [LINK](#)

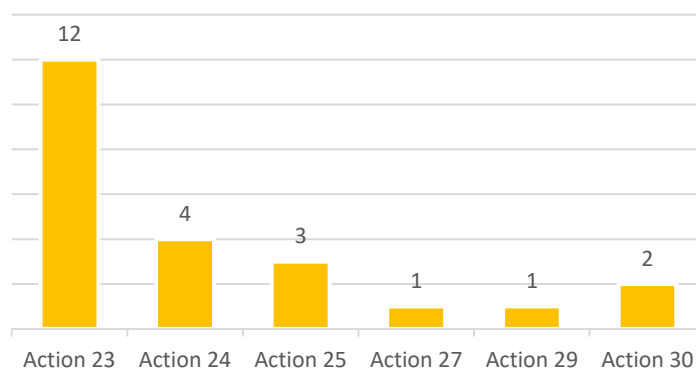
Action 21: Support up-skilling and re-skilling, access to lifelong learning and training opportunities through for example, the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem, to ensure workers are skilled for the twin transition.

Humana LT pledges to support the twin transition by training all employees through tailored induction and hands-on operational programmes: Humana LT is committed to preparing the workforce for achieving the twin transition. Every person employed by Humana LT has access and goes through a rigorous training programme. For those based at their sorting centre, this includes at least 6 months’ worth of on-the-job training to qualify as a professional sorter. Across their shop network, Humana runs two training programmes for employees. The first is a more routine induction to ensure all new employees are well integrated into their role and working environment. The second element of the training involves immersion into the operational side of the business, offering training to shop assistants on all aspects of running a Humana shop successfully including the standards to uphold. To support this commitment, Humana trained 102 sorters and 382 shop assistants in the last two years to ensure the further development of circularity in the textile industry. [LINK](#)

R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions

R&I, Techniques, and Technological Solutions is the building block with the second largest share of pledges (23 pledges). Around a third (7) of these pledges were submitted by networks and federations. The others were submitted by large companies, academic and research institutions, regional authorities, SMEs, industry associations and business support organisations. The pledges span six different Actions. **Action 23**¹⁹ has the highest number of pledges in this building block. Pledges of Action 23 encompass **research and innovation activities** conducted within industries (e.g., by Lenzing, Inditex and Rino Mastrotto) as well as support actions by business support organisations to foster R&I (e.g., by Finnish Textile & Fashion, TEX IS MORE). Pledges of Action 24 show the interest of stakeholders in participating in Horizon Europe projects in textiles. Other pledges in this building block describe initiatives to **improve**

Figure 12 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “R&I, Techniques and Technological Solutions” (N=23)



¹⁹ 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.

collaborations with SMEs to improve their access to technologies and digital skills (**Actions 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.

COTANCE pledges to strengthen leather R&D, innovation, and skills to accelerate the green and digital transition of the European leather industry: COTANCE will mobilise the sector to boost research and innovation in tanning technologies, chemistry, traceability, biodegradability, and LCAs. COTANCE pledges to actively support at least three EU-funded R&I, Erasmus+, or Erasmus Mundus project proposals per year, including securing long-term funding for LEATECH, the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's in Innovative Leather Technology. [LINK](#)

TEX IS MORE pledges to accelerate circular textile innovation through coordinated research, patent exploitation and biobased material development: By 2030, TEX IS MORE commits to supporting academic partners in developing biobased textile materials and improving their spinnability through coordinated research actions, shared infrastructure access and matchmaking with industrial partners. It will stimulate applied research on the automatic identification of multi-layer and blended textiles to enable high-quality sorting and recycling, bridge between academia and industry to exploit at least five patents (new filings or valorisation of existing IP) linked to circular textile technologies and valorise industry-driven solutions addressing elastane as a major barrier in textile recycling. [LINK](#)

Rino Mastrotto pledges to contribute to natural resource saving through “Hearth”, its innovative tanning process: Rino Mastrotto pledges to save 7.5 million litres of water in 2026, equal to three Olympic-sized swimming pools or the capacity of 250 large industrial tank trucks through “Hearth”, its innovative tanning process. The process launched last year enables the company to achieve environmental footprint reduction by cutting water consumption by 91%, chemical usage by 23%, and CO₂ emissions by 22%, setting a concrete benchmark for more responsible tanning and a more sustainable future.

Data are based on a comparative cradle-to-gate Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), made by a third party in accordance with ISO 14040 and 14044 standards and subjected to critical review, on 1m² of finished cowhide, comparing the conventional production process with one in which the HEARTH innovation was introduced, applied to the retanning, dyeing and fatliquoring phases. [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-

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).

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 support SMEs. [LINK](#)

Action 25: 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).

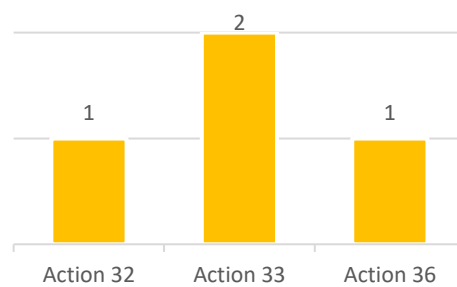
HS STRATEGIC ADVISOR pledges to create meaningful impact by advancing digitalisation and traceability for the textile and apparel industry: HS Advisor commits to generating meaningful impact in the textile and apparel sector by convening solution providers and producers to advance digital transformation in alignment with EU regulations, leveraging extensive expertise and experience. Progress will be measured annually by the number of producers advised and the number of new digital/traceability partnerships facilitated, with an initial target of supporting at least 20 producers by the end of 2026. [LINK](#)

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 and Inditex) aim to contribute to the development and enabling conditions of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) systems at Member State level, ahead of the transposition of the Waste Framework Directive, through the set-up of collective schemes and improved transparency in end-of-life textile management.

Figure 13 - 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 build up to 250 facilities to recycle textile waste through collaborative projects:

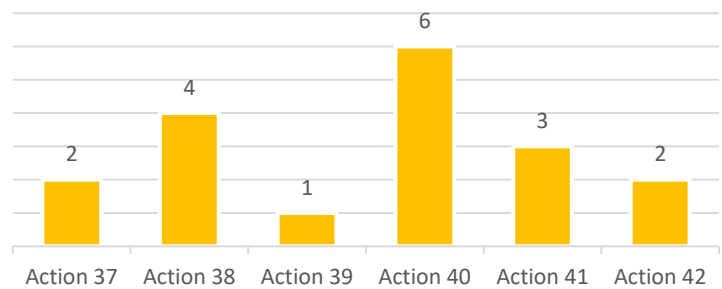
ReHubs Europe, launched in late 2023, has now established itself as a stand-alone, Brussels-based non-profit initiative dedicated to accelerating circularity within the European textile industry. Supported by a coalition of more than 30 stakeholders (including fashion brands, textile manufacturers, waste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

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.

Skills

The building block on Skills has 18 pledges under all six of its actions. While this is 14% of all pledges published, it should be noted that relevant initiatives on up- and re-skilling 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 38**²⁵. Pledges under Action 40 are mainly initiatives from various organisations (e.g., confederations, industry associations, academia, NGOs, consumer organisations) that organise **training and awareness-raising activities (including for consumers)**.

Figure 14 - Distribution of pledges within the building block "Skills" (N= 18)



Examples of published pledges

Action 37: Set up Pact for Skills Multi-Stakeholder Local Partnerships under the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem in relevant Member States/Regions, with dedicated support from the Single Market Programme (action grant of EUR 1.2 million from the SME Pillar - Work Programme 2023).

CEC pledges to assist regional public-private stakeholders in developing TCLF Pact for Skills in Europe: CEC will offer personalised guidance to support public-private regional partnerships in those EU regions with higher TCLF representativeness to develop and implement their respective regional Pact for Skills. By December 2026, 12 TCLF regional pacts for skills should be signed and in an implementation process, and by June 2027, there will be at least 20, each of them gathering a minimum of 10 regional stakeholders. [LINK](#)

Action 38: Engage the ecosystem companies, education providers, trade unions and other stakeholders to commit to jointly agreed actions and targets under the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem, for example increase the use and accessibility of mentoring and apprenticeships schemes, incorporate new skills profiles responding to green and digital skills needs in vocational, education, training policy and curricula.

CEC pledges to upgrade and modernise education and increase the attractiveness of the European footwear sector: CEC will expand training, upskilling and re-skilling opportunities through the EU Pact for Skills and Erasmus+ projects, particularly by reinforcing the EU Network of TCLF Education Providers across Europe. Joint activities will focus on updating occupational profiles and developing the related education material, strengthening VET- industry collaboration, and launching visibility actions to make footwear careers attractive to young people.

By June 2028, the EU Network for TCLF Education Providers should gather at least 50 centres and 14 workshops should have taken place. At least 10 new joint activities should have come up between members of the Network by the end of 2027. [LINK](#)

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 Engage the ecosystem companies, education providers, trade unions and other stakeholders to commit to jointly agreed actions and targets under the EU Pact for Skills for the Textiles ecosystem, for example increase the use and accessibility of mentoring and apprenticeships schemes, incorporate new skills profiles responding to green and digital skills needs in vocational, education, training policy and curricula.

ITA pledges to strengthen workforce skills by offering training and sharing research results with the public:

ITA pledges to promote circular practices until 2030 by working with all textile industry sectors in a model workshop for mechanical textile recycling. In the coming years, ITA will monitor the number of companies taking part in the model workshop in Augsburg and the number of students trained in the model recycling workshop to measure progress. [LINK](#)

Slow Fiber pledges to embed sustainable textiles education across all school levels through a nationwide experiential training programme:

Slow Fiber pledges to promote a culture of sustainable textiles and the incorporation of new skills profiles responding to green and digital skills needs in schools of all levels through an itinerant educational programme that combines sensory experience with technical training. Following the first pilot experiences delivered in Piedmont, Slow Fiber intends to roll out its project nationwide, establishing collaborations with schools and potential partners to support costs and extend the initiative's reach. The project includes:

- hands-on workshops to recognise fibres through touch, sight and smell;
- awareness-raising activities on the textile supply chain;
- training modules on the environmental and social impact of textiles;
- first-hand accounts from companies and professionals within the network.

Slow Fiber's target is to engage at least 50 schools across different Italian regions, reaching students from primary school to university, through a structured programme of sustainable textiles education. [LINK](#)

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.

CENIT pledges to build capability and promote Portuguese sustainable excellence globally:

CENIT pledges to build capacity and market momentum through skills knowledge transfer and promotion, delivering conferences and guidance actions, organising showcases in strategic global markets. By December 2028 CENIT will deliver 60 events/showcases, reaching at least 1500 participants and brands. [LINK](#)

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

Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine through the Bali Chair pledges to train future leaders in sustainable fashion by offering Textile Industry 4.0 courses and certifying high-potential students annually:

As part of the creation of the Textile Industry 4.0 professionalisation course initiated by the Bali Chair, 3 expertise modules are now offered to ESTIA engineering students: circular product redesign (Unilinear method), Industry 4.0, and lean management. At the end of the course, students receive a certificate of individual experience, ensuring that they are identified by companies in the sector as high-potential, highly employable profiles in sustainable fashion and textiles. About 10 certificates have been delivered and this initiative aims to be replicated each year. [LINK](#)

Investments and Funding

The building block “Investments and Funding” includes three published pledges. However, funding opportunities are also relevant for 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.

Examples of published pledges

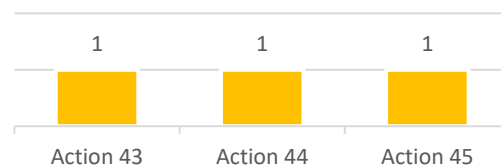
Action 43: Communicate and increase awareness on funding opportunities for the textiles ecosystem such as Horizon Europe, Digital Europe, LIFE, ESF+, InvestEU, Innovation Fund, the Single Market Programme, cohesion policy fund and Recovery and Resilience Facility, for example through the transition pathway stakeholder support platform.

ANIVEC pledges to mobilise investment and strengthen EU strategic autonomy through defence-readiness initiatives: ANIVEC will implement an information and mentoring programme supporting member companies in accessing European funding instruments for decarbonisation and green transition projects, impacting at least 50% of members by 2030. Additionally, the association will launch and update two editions of the “Portuguese Offer for the Army” prospectus by 2028, mapping companies capable of supplying products for EU defence efforts and contributing to Europe’s strategic autonomy. [LINK](#)

Action 44: Explore support possibilities for R&I on textiles under Horizon Europe, including for a possible partnership. Build participation and cooperation with relevant European Partnerships and initiatives under Horizon Europe and other EU funding programmes.

The Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region pledges to support R&D projects in the area of circular fashion and textile-to-textile recycling. The Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region pledges to advance circular fashion through sustained, year-on-year support for R&D projects and industrial demonstration initiatives that improve product circularity across textiles and footwear, accelerating eco-design, repair and reuse, traceability, and scalable textile-to-textile recycling. Progress will be measured annually by the number of innovation and demonstration projects supported by the Region that help bring circular solutions from the pilot stage to real-world deployment. In 2024, the Region supported an R&D project focused on improving circularity in the footwear sector, developing an innovative shoe disassembly solution. In 2025, the Region supported another R&D project, focused on structuring a regenerative, bio-based, traceable, and circular French textile sector. [LINK](#)

Figure 15 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Investments and Funding” (N= 3)



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.

Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU Strategic Autonomy and Defence Efforts

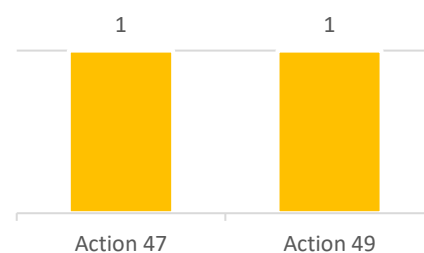
The “Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU Strategic Autonomy and Defence Efforts” building block has two published pledges, one under **Action 47**²⁸ and one under **Action 49**²⁹. However, these are crucial actions to face the challenges posed by the current geopolitical developments. The pledges concern **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). Defence and strategic autonomy considerations are also at the core of some actions in building blocks 1 and 7, reflecting the growing cross-cutting relevance of these themes across Sustainable Competitiveness and Investments and Funding. ANIVEC contributes to Sustainable Competitiveness by assessing supply chain vulnerabilities and mapping critical raw material dependencies to strengthen resilience and reduce reliance on external suppliers (see **Examples of published pledges** below) and it further supports strategic autonomy by promoting access to EU funding instruments and identifying companies capable of contributing to defence-related supply chains, thereby linking industrial capacity with EU financing opportunities (see **Examples of published pledges** below).

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. The association launched cooperation with the responsible Ministry and the National Emergency Supply Agency to better define the textile products to be stockpiled. [LINK](#)

Figure 16 - Distribution of pledges within the building block “Ecosystem's Readiness to Support EU Strategic Autonomy and Defence Efforts” (N= 2)



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 across the EU textiles ecosystem, translating high-level objectives into practical actions undertaken by stakeholders aligned with EU strategies. Since 2023, the process of collecting pledges has constantly progressed. Since its launch in April 2025, the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform has become the central hub for collecting and publishing stakeholder pledges.

The 125 pledges published on the EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform so far provide insights into the implemented and planned actions stakeholders in the textiles ecosystem are carrying out to make the sector more competitive, sustainable, digital, and resilient.

A diverse group of stakeholders — from large companies, SMEs, industry associations and federations to NGOs, research and academic institutions, consumer organisations and regional authorities — have made pledges, highlighting a strong collective effort across the textiles ecosystem. While these commitments begin with individual organisations, **their impact extends far beyond the pledge-taker**. Many initiatives directly engage other actors in the value chain. For example, organisations such as **Erion Textiles** and **C.L.A.S.S.** have pledged to run targeted social campaigns to educate consumers on sustainable fashion, promote reuse, and combat greenwashing. Other pledges create indirect effects that transform the broader supply chain. When a major company commits to reducing its environmental footprint, its suppliers must adapt as well. For instance, **Adidas** has pledged to cut its Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions by 42% by 2030 and requires its supplier facilities to meet strict wastewater and chemical compliance. This example shows how a single company's pledge can drive widespread, tangible change across multiple tiers of the ecosystem.

The pledges reflect a strategic **mix of short-term and long-term actions**. Short-term initiatives are designed to address the immediate needs of the ecosystem, such as closing current skills gaps, raising awareness, or securing financial support. In contrast, long-term commitments aim to contribute to the broader trajectory of the ecosystem over the next decade and beyond. These focus on permanent, systemic shifts in how textiles and leather are produced. For instance, **BekaertDeslee** aims to integrate 50% recycled content into its products by 2030, while **Inditex** has committed to using 100% lower-impact materials by the same year. Looking even further ahead, **Lenzing** has pledged to reduce all its greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2050.

The published pledges indicate how some stakeholders are addressing major industry priorities:

- **Digitalisation and the upcoming Digital Product Passport (DPP):** Companies and associations are actively piloting digital tools. For example, **Sioen** is implementing woven QR codes across 100% of its clothing, **Adirelounge** is linking QR-enabled DPPs to B2B impact data, and the Finnish Textile & Fashion association has completed extensive business pilots to create an industry handbook on DPPs. Additionally, tools like **Cascale**'s Higg Index are being heavily utilised for Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs).
- **Proactive policy engagement and standardisation work:** organisations such as **EURATEX**, **RREUSE**, and **COTANCE** are actively participating in consultations to inform policymakers and provide practical insights and suggestions into ongoing initiatives. Furthermore, bodies such as **Confederazione Nazionale Artigianato** and **Centexbel-VKC** are actively contributing to European standardisation efforts (CEN/ISO) to ensure SME perspectives are included in sustainable textile standards.
- **Focus on upskilling, re-skilling, and education:** initiatives to support skills for the digital and green transition range from European collaborations such as the TCLF SkillBridge and the Pact for Skills

(promoted by [CEC](#) and [EURATEX](#)) to localised efforts like those of the Monitor for Circular Fashion (promoted by [SDA Bocconi](#)). Associations are prioritising capacity building to ensure workers understand eco-design, 3D technologies, and circular business models.

- **Targets for social sustainability and gender equality:** while the majority of targets in the pledges concern environmental targets, social metrics—including gender parity, living wages, and the integration of social enterprises—are emerging as critical components of the industry’s pledges, driven not only by NGOs but also by companies. [Humana LT](#) and [Inditex](#), for example, have set strict targets for female representation in senior management and board levels.
- **Consumer awareness and “slow fashion” advocacy:** as changing consumer behaviour is a key component to circularity, stakeholders are organising public-facing awareness campaigns. Initiatives like [Slow Fiber](#)'s educational programs in schools, [C.L.A.S.S.](#)'s “InsideOut” campaign, [Humana LT](#)'s influencer and live-stream campaigns, and the [Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region](#)'s “Responsible Fashion Fortnight” demonstrate a concerted effort to promote “produce less and better” models and combat greenwashing.
- **Leverage innovation to become more competitive through collaborative projects (Horizon Europe) and frameworks (Enterprise Europe Network):** leveraging innovation to become more competitive requires cross-border collaboration and European funding mechanisms. There is a strong pipeline of stakeholders (like [EURATEX](#), [Erion Textiles](#), and [Centexbel-VKC](#)) actively participating in Horizon Europe projects. Additionally, collaboration with the Enterprise Europe Network is cited in pledges (e.g., by [Confederazione Nazionale Artigianato](#)) as a vital tool for B2B matchmaking, helping SMEs access international markets and circular innovations.

The EU Textiles Ecosystem Platform provides a structured and scalable mechanism to support the continued expansion and consolidation of pledge-based co-implementation. As stakeholders update their pledges annually and new organisations join, the pledge inventory will increasingly serve as a basis for understanding and showcasing what the ecosystem is doing to become more competitive, sustainable, digital, and resilient. The consortium team will continue its active role in outreach and engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the platform grows into a comprehensive and dynamic tool to support the textiles ecosystem’s collective commitment to transformation.

