

Dear all,

Welcome back to this month's newsletter, featuring a selection of sustainable textiles news curated to uplift and inspire you for the month ahead. In this edition, we highlight key events and initiatives shaping the future of sustainability in various industries. Join UNEP at the World Circular Economy Forum workshop on 'Building Sustainable Solutions for Used Textiles Trade,' and apply to UNEP's 2024 Young Champions of the Earth award. Mark your calendars for UNECE's Sustainable and Digital Trade Facilitation Week. Stay engaged and register for these impactful events today!

As always, we appreciate your ongoing contributions and we look forward to sharing your resources in this newsletter, and on our website. Don't hesitate to contact us if there is something you would like to share.

Wishing joy and peace to all observing celebrations, including Ramadan and Easter!

Future and past events



As part of the 2024 World Circular Economy Forum, UNEP's Environment and Trade team together with Circle Economy are organising the [workshop Building Sustainable Solutions for Used Textiles Trade](#). The session will take place in person on Monday 15 April in Brussels, Belgium. It will delve into the dynamics and impacts of the growing global trade of used textiles, focusing on identifying pathways, collaborative approaches, and policy conditions to promote circularity. This workshop will also launch UNEP's [Circularity and Used Textiles Trade](#) project, funded by the European Commission. Read the full agenda and register [here](#).



The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is organising the **Sustainable and Digital Trade Facilitation Week**, taking place from 8 -11 July in Geneva, Switzerland. This event will comprise the [42nd UN/CEFACT Forum](#) and the [30th UN/CEFACT Plenary](#). The UN/CEFACT Forum aims to shape the future of trade facilitation and electronic business, supporting global trade and sustainable development with over 300 participants from 50 countries., Meanwhile, the UN/CEFACT Plenary, scheduled for 11-12 May, will convene Heads of Delegations and representatives to make key decisions, including the adoption of the Program of Work for 2025-2026. For more information, including registration details, please contact: jon.cerezoabeijon@un.org



UNEP launched the **‘Accelerating the Transition of the Indian Textile Sector towards Circularity**

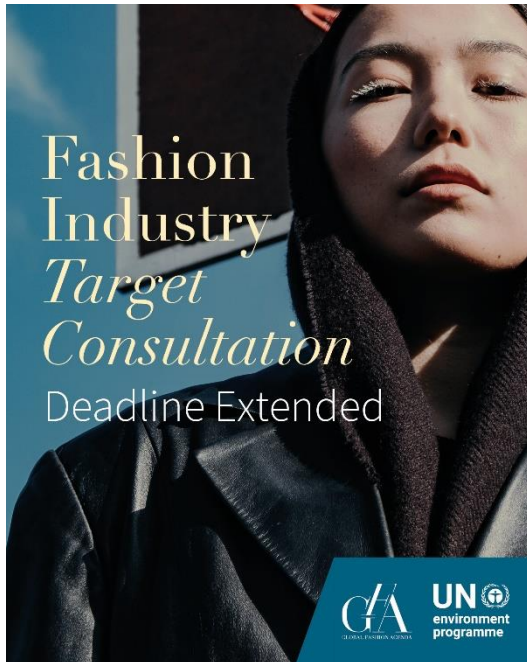
(IndiaTex)’ project at the Bharat Tex Conference 2024 on 28 February in New Delhi, India. UNEP’s Claudia Giacobelli participated as a panelist in the launch. IndiaTex, led by UNEP and funded by Denmark, aims to accelerate India's textile sector transition towards circularity.

Operating at both brand and cluster levels, the project will collaborate with industry stakeholders, particularly SMEs, in two textile clusters in India. The project will assist SMEs in these clusters to assess their Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) and aid SME brands implement and promote circular business models. Read more information about the project [here](#).



The **Eco Chic** project hosted the **Uniquely Chic** sustainable fashion event on 23-24 March, in collaboration with organisations and businesses from Singapore and Viet Nam. This partnership and event aims to champion and raise awareness of the importance of recycled materials and sustainable fabrics in clothing production. Highlights included a fashion exhibition titled "In the Brush of Petal" by 4V Vietnam and a fashion show featuring "Vietnamese Batik Floral Touch" garments made from pineapple fabric. Further details are available [here](#).

We want to hear from you!

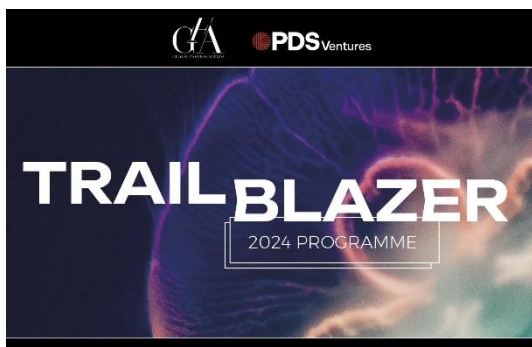


The "[Fashion Industry Target Consultation](#)" has extended its deadline until **1 April 2024**. Led by **UNEP** and **Global Fashion Agenda (GFA)**, this multi-stakeholder project aims to gather insights on key milestones necessary to achieve a net-positive industry. The consultation seeks to collect perspectives on industry ambitions and milestones while identifying essential tools and support for action. The results from the consultation will be presented in the GFA Monitor, expected late 2024. Don't miss this last opportunity to join the consultation by filling out the survey [here](#).



UNEP is inviting young individuals worldwide to apply for the 2024 [Young Champions of the Earth](#) award. This initiative aims to nurture driven individuals between

18 and 30 years old with innovative ideas for environmental protection and restoration. Winners will receive \$20 000 in seed funding, mentorship, skill-building opportunities, as well as access to UN experts, publicity and a supportive community of like-minded peers. Applications are open until 5 April. Find more information and apply [here](#).



The Trailblazer Programme, presented by GFA & PDS Ventures seeks to support early-stage innovators in the fashion industry. Solution providers addressing various challenges in the fashion value chain are encouraged to apply. The programme offers the winning company an equity investment of up to \$200,000, along with commercial and operational support from [PDS Group's Positive Materials](#). Applicants will be reviewed and

shortlisted by a jury including representatives from GFA, PDS Ventures, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Ralph Lauren Corporation, Fashion For Good, and H&M Group. Shortlisted innovators will receive feedback and pitch training, with the winning Trailblazer announced at GFA's Global Fashion Summit: Copenhagen on 22-23 May. Find out more and apply [here](#).

Publications and Resources



The Asia Garment Hub released the white paper "**From Catwalk to Carbon Neutral**", jointly commissioned by Artistic Milliners, Epic Group, MAS Holdings, NITEX, TAL Apparel, Pactics Group, and Simple Approach. The paper identifies the structural disparities in emissions management within the apparel sector, emphasising the urgent need for transformative funding approaches. It explores current constraints, funding options, and proposes innovative financing models. You can access the paper [here](#).

Unlock a network of over **200** textiles sorters and recyclers

Search WRAP's new Textiles Sorting and Recycling Database



wrap.org.uk/textilesdatabase



Building on previous databases and directories developed by Fashion for Good, Circle Economy, and Accelerating Circularity, [WRAP](#) has launched the **Textiles Sorting and Recycling Database**. The database is a centralised directory of over 200 textile sorters, pre-processors, recyclers, and yarn spinners operating within the UK and Europe. The database allows users to find partners, identify potential business opportunities, stay updated with organisations working in the sector, and stay updated on changing regulatory and market dynamics. Access the database [here](#).

In case you know of other people interested in receiving our news, feel free to [share this link](#) to sign up for our textiles newsletter. You can find our previous newsletter editions [here](#).