Circularity

22nd European forum on eco-innovation
Closing the Loop – delivering circularity in the textiles sector
7-8 May 2019
Vienna, Austria
Welcome to the 22nd European Forum on Eco-innovation
Closing the Loop – delivering circularity in the textiles sector

Well-established evidence suggests that the textile industry in Europe has a high environmental footprint. It is a large economic sector, with an annual turnover of 181 billion euros, which puts great pressure on the use of resources (water, energy and raw materials) with negative consequences for the environment. While the EU applies strict environmental and social regulations, unsustainable productions, wasteful consumer behaviour, and linear disposal methods, such as the low level of recycling and reuse, are all part of the problem. It has been estimated that on average and worldwide one truck full of textile waste is incinerated or landfilled every second (Ellen MacArthur Foundation). This indicates that in the textile industry and in textile consumption there lies considerable potential for innovation and numerous business opportunities.

The industry has started to change. Many companies are transforming themselves through designing/thinking their products, production methods, business models and end-of-life practices to better deal with environmental and social challenges. However, the change is uneven across companies, geographic locations and sub-sectors, and the potential for new opportunities remains large.

Existing European and domestic policies on the circular economy and innovation have already started to address the transition in a series of sectors. Governments, together with the European institutions need to continue their drive in the coming years and focus on barriers that are specific to the textile sector. Accompanying the textiles industry in the transformation would bring huge sustainability benefits while making significant positive economic contributions as well.

The 22nd European Forum on Eco-innovation will be held in Vienna, Austria, on 7-8 May, 2019. The Forum will explore eco-innovation solutions and policies for improving circularity in the textiles sector. The presentations and the discussions will explore what has worked well and why, where the bottlenecks are, and how the enabling environment needs to change so that the right innovations are developed and put in place.

An important objective of the event will be to formulate recommendations for future policy measures and instruments for the European Commission and public authorities on the national and local level.

Beyond the impact of frontrunner companies we shall also want to explore areas with untapped cross-sector potential to draw lessons for scaling up and more widely deploy successful approaches and solutions.

The following issues will be looked at in more detail:

- What is textiles? What are the main sustainability issues?
- Innovations that could lead to a more effective waste management, collection, recycling, shipment across borders, EPR schemes, etc.;
- Solutions for consumer engagement and awareness, including private consumers, supply chains and public procurement;
- Creating, accessing and facilitating funding and investment (public and private) in the sector for higher circularity;
- New circular technologies and products, with improved design, materials, fabrics;
- New types of business models that deliver circularity, including reuse, leasing, renting, sharing

This event is jointly organised by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Environment and the Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism of the Republic of Austria.

Live streaming of the event is available on: https://ec.streaming.at/20190507

You can download the application Evenium ConnexMe directly on your mobile device via App Store or Google Play. Please enter email address you have used during you online registration.

Or, you can use it as a WebApp via the following link: www.connex.me/ECOINNOVATION2019
AGENDA

Moderator: Peter Woodward

Day 1
09:00-17:30, 7 May

08:30 Arrival and registration

09:30 Textiles a major challenge and opportunity (plenary)

Brief welcome
- Gwenole Cozigou, Director, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission
- Christian Holzer, Director-General for Waste Management, Chemicals Policy and Environmental Technology, Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism of the Republic of Austria
- Alberto Paccanelli, President-elect, EURATEX

Framing - What issues are we seeking to address? The Facts:
The scale and reach of the textiles sector in Europe and beyond. Looking at how the sector currently operates throughout the value chain. The environmental problems that the sector generates that concern us. The barriers and difficulties of changing the current system.

TEXTILES AND THE ENVIRONMENT: FROM A LINEAR TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- Lars Mortensen, Expert, European Environment Agency

10:50 Coffee break

11:20 SESSION 1 CONTINUED (plenary)

A compelling vision of textiles in a sustainable circular economy: Bigger picture of overall drive towards a circular economy model. What might a circular model for textiles look like?

MAKE FASHION CIRCULAR
- Eline Boon, Senior Policy Analyst, Ellen Macarthur Foundation, United Kingdom

BOLD POLICIES NEEDED FOR CIRCULAR FASHION
- Arthur ten Wolde, Expert on Circular Economy, Ecopreneur.eu

12:30 Lunch
13:30
Closing the loop (plenary)

Presentations and discussions about three important circularity issues: materials, production, end of use. The objective will be to look at eco-innovation and circular economy practices and policies that can help the transition towards the vision and explore what changes are necessary in the approach and in the enabling environment so that we make progress.

Speakers on materials, production and products

**SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS AND CIRCULAR DESIGN**
- Cecile Martin, Technical Specialist Textiles, WRAP, United Kingdom

**WHY DESIGN FOR RECYCLING MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND (AND THE ECONOMY TOO)?**
- Debbie Appleton, Manager Materials Recovery, DSM-Niaga, The Netherlands

**FASHION INDUSTRY – WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE NEXT SEASON?**
- Andreas Rörhich, Director Product Development & Innovation, Wolford AG, Austria

**CATALYZING COLLABORATIVE INNOVATION**
- Brittany Burns, Strategy Lead, Fashion For Good, The Netherlands

Speakers on end of use

**ECAP: FIBER-TO-FIBER RECYCLING, READY TO MARKET**
- Emile Bruls, Advisor, Rijkswaterstaat, The Netherlands

**INNOVATING FOR TEXTILE RECYCLING: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**
- Krishna Manda, Senior Manager Sustainability Integration, Lenzing AG, Austria

**COIN TEX2MAT – DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW RECYCLING PROCESS FOR MULTIMATERIAL TEXTILES**
- Florian Kamleitner, Project manager, ecoplus. The Business agency of Lower Austria, Austria
- Thomas Pfeiffer, CEO, HERKA GmbH, Austria

15:00
Coffee break

15:30
ConverStation: Closing the Loop (breakout sessions)

An interactive session showcasing companies, and public and private sector initiatives that have succeeded in developing and deploying effective new technologies, products, services and innovative business models for increasing circularity in textiles. The session will offer a wide range of case studies (presented simultaneously), and participants will be able to choose three presentations and group discussions to attend.

1) **TEXTILE RECYCLING IN HUNGARY**
- Huba Lakatos, Managing Director, Texttrade kft., Hungary
- Mihály Hartay, Environmental consultant, Texttrade kft., Hungary

2) **FROM TEXTILE WASTES TO VALUABLE SECONDARY RAW MATERIALS - RESYNTEX PROJECT**
- Aleksandra Lobnik, Leading professor of the Centre of Sensor Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maribor, Slovenia

3) **SUSTAINABLE THOUGHTS - MORE THEN JUST CIRCULAR PRODUCTS!**
- Gerald Heerdegen, CEO, Fahnen-Gärtner GmbH, Austria

4) **EMBEDDING CIRCULARITY IN THE BUSINESS MODEL: LENZING’S CASE**
- Krishna Manda, Senior Manager Sustainability Integration, Lenzing AG, Austria

5) **SUSTAINABLE FASHION AND THE HUMAN RIGHTS GAP**
- Gertrude Klaffenböck, Coordinator, Clean Clothes Campaign / Südwind, Austria
6) NUDIE JEANS ECO CYCLE: JEANS REPAIR SERVICE
   • Ramona Politz, Sales Coordinator / Environmental Representative, Nudie Jeans Co., Germany

7) TOWARDS A ZERO WASTE TEXTILE INDUSTRY - PRACTICAL AND SCALABLE SOLUTIONS
   • Hilde Van Duijn, Project manager Circle Textiles, Circle Economy, The Netherlands

8) ENDLOS FESCH - THE VIENNA FASHION LIBRARY
   • Karin Kuranda, CEO & Co-Founder, Endlos Fesch - The Vienna Fashion Library, Austria

9) INNOVATION OBSERVATORY: A TOOL TO RATE SUSTAINABLE TECHNIQUES
   • Alfredo López Carretero, Policy officer/consultant, Ricardo Energy & Environment, Spain

10) M3P: A DIGITAL PLATFORM FOR INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS AND MATERIAL MATCH
    • Roberto Vannucci, Multisectoral R&I Manager, Centrocot Spa, Italy

11) CONCEPTUAL APPROACHES TOWARDS CIRCULARITIES IN TEXTILES – MATERIALS DESIGN, PROCESSING, SEPARATION AND RECYCLING
    • Barbara Rietzler, University of Innsbruck, Research Institute of Textile Chemistry and Textile Physics, Austria

12) SUSTAINABILITY IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY – PROPERLY ASSESS THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN WITH OEKO-TEX®
    • Helene Melnitzky, Head of Department Ecology, OETI, Austria

13) BRINE RECOVERY FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY
    • Ahmet Baban, Research Scientist, TUBITAK Marmara Research Center, Turkey

14) CHANGING THE SYSTEM
    • Claus Bretschneider, Founder, General Manager, BREDDYS GmbH/ CMB Beratung GmbH, Austria

15) RE-DESIGNING THE FUTURE OF FASHION INDUSTRY, SHIFTING TO A CIRCULAR SYSTEM
    • Dilek Bil, Advisor, Turkish Clothing Manufacturers Association, Turkey

16) BULKY, SINGLE-PRODUCT WASTE STREAMS LIKE CARPETS AND MATTRESSES: PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY
    • Debbie Appleton, Manager Materials Recovery, DSM-Niaga, The Netherlands

17) HOW TO IMPROVE TEXTILE RECYCLING? – AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON WHAT THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS TO BE ADDRESSED ARE AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
    • Arthur ten Wolde, Expert Circular Economy, Ecopreneur.eu

18) CREATING THE ENABLING CONDITIONS FOR CIRCULARITY
    • Sandra Averous-Monnery, Programme Officer, Consumption and Production Unit, UN Environment

19) HOW TO FOSTER A COMMON STANDARD FOR TRANSPARENT MATERIAL DECLARATION TO MAKE THE FASHION INDUSTRY CIRCULAR?
    • Ina Budde, Founder & CEO, circular.fashion, Germany

20) RE:NEWCELL - BRINGING CELLULOSE TEXTILE RECYCLING TO SCALE
    • Harald Cavalli-Björkman, Head of Communications, Re:newcell AB, Sweden

21) CIRCULARITY IN THE LEATHER INDUSTRY
    • Gustavo Gonzalez Quijano, Secretary General, Cotance, Belgium

17:10 Wrapping up Day 1

CIRCULAR.FASHION SYSTEM - SOLUTIONS TO CLOSE THE LOOP
Keynote speech Ina Budde, Founder & CEO, circular.fashion, Germany

17:30 Close

19:00 EVENING RECEPTION

Hosted by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism
Place: Palais Wertheim, Canovagasse 1-5, 1010 Vienna
Session 4

09:00 Engaging all in the transformation journey (plenary)

Presentations and discussions on how to encourage new behaviours by CEOs, value chains and private and public consumers. Case studies will be presented about advanced strategies and campaigns for awareness raising. Participants will debate the existing barriers in this field and will formulate recommendations.

Case studies on engagement strategies:

THE EXPERIENCE OF ENDLOS FESCH – THE VIENNA FASHION LIBRARY
- Karin Kuranda, CEO & Co-Founder, Endlos Fesch - The Vienna Fashion Library, Austria

ECAP CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT – LOVE YOUR CLOTHES AND #LOVENOTLANDFILL
- Hannah Carter, Campaign Officer for #LoveNotLandfill, London Waste & Recycling Board, United Kingdom

CIRCULAR ECONOMY OF TEXTILES BASED ON HUMAN RIGHTS?
- Gertrude Klaffenböck, Coordinator, Clean Clothes Campaign / Südwind, Austria

LOOPING NUDIES
- Ramona Politz, Sales Coordinator / Environmental Representative, Nudie Jeans Co., Germany

A WORLDWIDE FULL-CONSUMER ECO-CARING CAMPAIGN – CHANGING CONSUMER DAY-TO-DAY HABITS IN TAKING CARE OF THEIR TEXTILES
- Pascale Florant, General Secretary, GINETEX, France

10:40 Coffee break

Session 5

11:10 Building momentum to meet the challenge (plenary)

This session will consist of a panel of key stakeholders. They will discuss the most important messages that emerged from the conference and will debate the key recommendations.

Keynote speech by Hilde Van Duijn, Project manager Circle Textiles, Circle Economy, The Netherlands

Panel discussion on recommendations and next steps:
- Paola Migliorini, Deputy Head of Unit for Sustainable Production, Products & Consumption, Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission
- Mauro Scalia, Director Sustainable Businesses, EURATEX
- Arthur ten Wolde, Expert Circular Economy, Ecopreneur.eu

Closing speech:
- Elisabeth Köstinger, Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism, Austria

13:00 Close
Debbie APPLETON

Debbie Appleton is responsible for the materials recovery of products made with DSM-Niaga technology. Her role ranges from strategy design, research & advise, and concept development to implementation. DSM-Niaga is a joint venture and has the mission to redesign everyday products from scratch, making them fully recyclable, without compromising on quality or price. Carpet and mattresses were the first products and many more will follow.

Before this, Debbie Appleton worked for Turntoo, a circular economy frontrunner. She developed and implemented performance based business models in which products are developed as resource depots and producers retain ownership over their materials.

Sandra AVEROUS MONNERY

Sandra Avérous Monnery is Programme Officer at the United Nations Environment Programme. She is in charge of the eco-innovation portfolio, engaging all actors, including the private sector and SMEs towards sustainable value chains and circular economy. She works in particular on the plastics and the textiles sector. Development economist, she joined UN Environment in 2007, and worked on Sustainable Consumption and Production, Chemicals and Disaster Preparedness, as well as Special Assistant to the Division Director.

Ahmet BABAN

Ahmet Baban has been working as a senior research scientist at TUBITAK Marmara Research Center - Environment and Cleaner Production Institute for 28 years. He is conducting research and development activities for related applied national and international projects on mainly water, wastewater and waste management fields. His main research focuses include textile industry brine treatment and recovery, circular economy, wastewater treatment and reuse, cleaner production and industrial pollution prevention control applications, advanced wastewater treatment technologies, food industry wastewater management, sustainable water management and water reuse, zero emission buildings, integrated urban water management. His former positions include research assistant at Bogazici University Istanbul-Turkey and private sector in the field of water and wastewater treatment. He is an Assoc. Prof. in Environmental Sciences and Engineering. He holds PhD and MS degrees in Environmental Engineering and BS degree in Civil Engineering.

He has more than 20 publications in refereed scientific journals (science citation indexed) and edited books, among these 5 of them were on textile industry cleaner production applications and treatment and reuse of textile industry wastewaters. He has also more than 30 papers presented and published in conference proceedings.
Eline BOON

Senior Policy Analyst - Ellen Macarthur Foundation

Dilek BIL

Dilek Bil spent 35 years in both corporate and entrepreneurial ventures;-Worked 10 years in banking for American Express Bank, BNP-Ak-Dresdner Bank and Société Générale.-Co-founded Kangaroo İletisim in 1994.a brand strategy and advertising agency, in 2012 spun-off advertising and re-structured her business as a sustainability consultancy and communications agency Purpose- Sustainable Ideas.

She currently advises companies in defining purposeful businesses, strategies and compelling communications.-Serves as an independent member on the Board of Akmerkez Gayrimenkul Yatirim Ortakligi A.S.-Created and anchored a weekly TV show on Cnbc-e, named “Sürsün Bu Dünya”. Dilek Bil is among inspirational leaders in women empowerment and sustainability, in pursing her task, she also presents at conferences as well as to students.-Recipient of the “2017 Women of the Decade in Media and Social Change” award by the Women Economic Forum.-Advisor to the 35th President of Galatasaray Sports Club. Dilek Bil has been actively working in civil society;.-Former president and honorary board member of KAGIDER (Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey),-Founding member/Vice-President of FODER (Financial Literacy Association of Turkey),-Board Member of WWF-Turkey,-Member of the Strategic Advisory Group for International Council on Women’s Business Leadership Washington DC.-President of Accademia Italiana della Cucina, Istanbul Delegation-an institution of Republic of Italy-Founder of 27-year-old Wine Association of Turkey. Dilek Bil, graduated from Northport High School-New York and has a BBA degree from University of North Texas U.S.A., married and has a son.

Claus BRETSCHNEIDER

I, Claus Bretschneider, have been a successful entrepreneur in the clothing industry for over 30 years. My goal was and still is the further development of clothing products with high functional demands. Already during my first entrepreneurial activity with FRENCYS GmbH, my focus was on the development, manufacture and sale of high-quality functional clothing, produced in my own companies in Europe. In 2016, together with my wife Manuela Bretschneider, I founded BREDDY’S, a clothing company that stands for quality, trust and sustainability.

With BREDDY’S we have set out to create the best and most sustainable pants in the world. And today this not only includes the highest quality, the best fit and top design, but also an all-round sustainable product concept.

We have not inherited our earth from our parents, but have only borrowed it from our children. Compared to most conventional products, BREDDY’S stands for particularly low water consumption and saves our planet the use of fertilizers, pesticides and genetic engineering. They also do not occupy agricultural land that is more urgently needed than ever for the production of food. At the same time, BREDDY’S are designed for a particularly long shelf life. This makes our crossover trousers a real contribution to making the world and the clothing industry a little bit better.

Emile BRULS

Emile Bruls has been an advisor for Rijkswaterstaat, an agency part of the Dutch ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (also responsible for the Environment) in the field of waste and circular economy since 2012. His main tasks are national and international projects in the field of sustainable and circular textiles and circular procurement. Before he worked as a consultant in the field of sustainable nature tourism. Mr. Bruls studied political science and tourism management.
Ina BUDDE

Ina Budde, MA Sustainability in Fashion, works as entrepreneur, circular design strategist and lecturer within sustainable fashion. As founder and CEO of ‘circular.fashion’ she realizes recyclable product and system innovations for a circular economy in textiles and fashion.

Her company offers a Circular Design Software and workshops to enable fashion brands to construct fully recyclable garments. Proven circular clothes are equipped with an identification tag that orchestrates a reverse supply chain network of users, sorting and recycling companies to reuse and regenerate textiles in a closed loop to new fibres again. As circular design expert she coaches and consults design teams of companies like HUGO BOSS. Parallel Ina lectured Sustainable Design at international universities in Hamburg, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Melbourne and currently at AMD Berlin in the Master Program Sustainability in Fashion. Ina is founding member of the global Open Source Circular Economy association and active member of the Future Fashion Forward e.V. Her work received the GERMAN FEDERAL AWARD ECODESIGN 2017, NEXT ECONOMY AWARD 2015, LAVERA GREEN FASHION Award 2014 and was selected as sustainable innovator by LAUNCH Nordic and by the accelerator program FASHION FOR GOOD Plug ‘n Play.

Brittany BURNS

Strategy & Business Development Lead at Fashion For Good. Responsible for global expansion, partnerships, and scaling operations. Previous to Fashion For Good, Brittany worked for the Obama Administration driving sustainable design initiatives across the US Government before moving to Amsterdam to lead fundraising and growth for GeoPhy, an Artificial Intelligence startup. MBA from Johns Hopkins University.

Hannah CARTER

Hannah has been working at London Waste & Recycling Board (LWARB) since September 2017 exclusively on the #LoveNotLandfill campaign. She devised and delivered various campaign activities including installing specially designed clothes banks across London and the #LoveNotLandfill Pop Up Shop. Previous to LWARB, Hannah spent two years building her knowledge and passion for sustainable fashion and social media marketing. She has over 20 years experience working in consumer PR and Communications in London, Shanghai and Amsterdam.

Harald CAVALLI-BJÖRKMAN

Mr. Cavalli-Björkman is Head of Communications at re:newcell. He is tasked with managing external relations and strategic brand development for the company. He has a background as a project manager, analyst and marketing communications consultant working on projects for several global B2B and B2C companies. He has led business strategy, market insight and strategic communication projects on behalf of large multinational clients such as Ericsson, IKEA, Skanska and Sonos. He holds a B.Sc. in Economics from Uppsala University.
Gwenole COZIGOU

Gwenole COZIGOU is Director for Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains, in Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SME. An economist by training, he has been an official in the European Commission since 1985 in the fields of Enterprise and Industrial Policy and of External Relations.

First working in the area of food industry within the Internal Market and Industrial Affairs Directorate-General (DG), he joined the service in charge of relations with Central and Eastern Europe and the USSR in 1989, and became Assistant to the responsible Deputy Director-General in 1990 until 1996 when he came back to Enterprise and Industry DG.

A former Deputy-Head of Office of Commissioner Liikanen in charge of enterprise and industrial policy, he has occupied several management positions:
- Food Industry and Biotechnology;
- Coordination of the internal market legislation for goods;
- Enterprise and Industrial policy;
- Defence, Aerospace and Maritime Industries.

Since December 2008, he has been Director in DG GROWTH (DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs), in charge of competitiveness issues and EU internal market legislation for several industrial sectors, including REACH, engineering industries, medical devices, raw materials, etc..
His main responsibilities today cover: circular economy, energy union and energy-intensive industries, construction, automotive industries, raw materials, engineering industries.

Pascale FLORANT

Since 6 years, Pascale Florant is Secretary General of the International Association for Textile Care Labelling (GINETEX) based in Paris, France. French and Canadian, she gets an MBA from HEC Business School (Paris). After a few years working in the computer industry, business schools of management and organic cosmetic sector, she joined the textile and apparel industry.
She is also the Secretary General of the French National Committee for Textile Care Labelling (COFREET) with 920 members representing textile, apparel and decoration companies. Pascale Florant is also Administrator of the CTTN (Centre Technique de la Teinture et du Nettoyage).

GINETEX has devised an internationally applicable care labelling system for textiles based on symbols. The association defines and promotes the system of care labelling symbols based on the ISO standard, and coordinates its technical background on an international level. The pictograms used are registered trademarks and are the GINETEX and COFREET property. GINETEX is composed of 22 national committees in Europe, North Africa, Brazil and Japan.

Gustavo GONZALEZ QUIJANO

Secretary General of COTANCE, the European Leather Industry Association. Born in Stockholm (Sweden) in 1960, and lawyer by education specialised in EU law, Gustavo Gonzalez-Quijano began his professional career in Brussels as an EU Lobbyist. He has been heading since 1987 the Brussels-based leather industry association COTANCE (national leather Trade Associations of 13 EU countries; over 90% of Europe’s leather production):

- Representative of the employers of the EU tanning industry in the Social Sector Dialogue
- Chairman of the CEN TC 289 “Leather” (Standardisation)
- Chairman of the ESCO TEXTAN Reference Group (TCLF sector taxonomy)
- Member of the Board of the EU TCLF Sector Skills Council
- Member of the UNIDO Leather & Leather Products Panel and of the FAO Sub-Group on Hides & Skins
Mihály HARTAY
Environmental consultant

Gerald HEERDEGEN
Current: CEO (since 2005)
Education: college for economics and textile chemistry in Vienna (HTL-Spengergasse)
former positions: production manager 1995-2000, sales and marketing 2000-2005

Fahnen-Gärtner got a lot of honours especially for topics sustainability and health projects for employees.
My favorite: Best company for sustainable entrepreneurship of Salzburg and nominate for the «TRIGOS»

Christian HOLZER
Director General
Waste Management, Chemicals Policy and Environmental Technology

Florian KAMLEITNER
Florian Kamleitner studied Technical Chemistry at TU Wien and finished his Bachelor and Master with Focus polymer chemistry in 2014. His PhD he made in the field of polymer modification and polymer physics at the Institute of material science and Technology (TU Wien) at the chair of Prof. Sabine Seidler. He defended his Thesis in 2017 and started in December at ecoplus. the Business agency of Lower Austria at the Plastics Cluster in the Team of Mr. Harald Bleier. There he supports the work of the Plastics Cluster, the biggest network along the Plastics value chain in central Europe in the fields of Biomaterials and Circular Economy.

Gertrude KLAFFENBÖCK
Gertrude Klaffenböck is national coordinator of the Clean Clothes Campaign in Austria and project manager with Südwind, a NGO working in the field of international development education and awareness raising. She has managed several national and international projects and campaigns on Human Rights and Development issues, in recent years her work concentrated on violations of labour- and other human rights in the supply chain of garment and footwear, accountability for violations of social, cultural and economic rights and improvements in the supply chain of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) equipment.

Before taking the position as international project manager at Südwind, she has been Section coordinator at FIAN Austria, a Human Rights organisation on the right to food and nutrition. Gertrude Klaffenböck has graduated in Agricultural Economics at University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna and holds a Master degree in Environmental Management and Ecotoxicology from the University of Applied Sciences in Vienna.
Karin Kuranda is the CEO and co-founder of the award-winning start up Endlos Fesch – the Vienna Fashion Library, which was founded in 2017.

She steers the business development and oversees day-to-day operations, including clothing purchases and cooperations with designers. Karin's passion is sustainability and her drive for contributing to it stems from her career in international development. She is also the policy officer at the Austrian umbrella organization for development cooperation and humanitarian aid Global Responsibility, where she also acts as the SDG Watch Austria coordinator. Her previous positions include programme coordinator for international development in the Africa Division at UNIDO; and corporate fundraising at WaterAID UK. She volunteered at the Zero Waste Austria movement, where she wrote blogs on zero waste fashion, organized fashion events and photo projects. Karin Kuranda holds a Master's degree in Management of International Development from the University of Turin and the ITC/ILO as well as a Master's degree in History and English Studies from the University of Vienna. She was also Fulbright scholar at the College of Wooster, Ohio, USA and studied at the University of Nottingham, UK. In 2018, she received an award for leadership in sustainability (Nachhaltige Gestalterin 2018, at BusinessArt) for her work at Endlos Fesch.

Prof. dr. Aleksandra Lobnik is since 2009 a Full professor at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maribor, where she is leading the Centre of Sensor Technology. In 2006 she co-founded a spin-off company IOS Ltd. She is currently interested in applicability of scientific research in the field of sensors, nanomaterials, water treatment & recycling processes. In the meantime, she is involved as a Technical Manager in the Resyntex project, Horizont 2020, dealing with depolymerization of textile wastes to a new secondary raw materials.

Elisabeth Köstinger (born 22 November 1978) is an Austrian politician and since December 2017 the Federal Minister for Sustainability and Tourism.

The Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism covers a broad range of areas including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, the environment and tourism as well as issues related to climate, energy and cohesion policy. Given the broad range of responsibilities, Minister Köstinger strives for holistic approaches especially in the areas of energy transition, protection of the environment and climate action as well as sustainable agriculture and tourism. It is in this context, that an inclusive Climate and Energy Strategy for Austria (#mission 2030) was presented in summer 2018. Elisabeth Köstinger is a member of the Austrian People’s Party (ÖVP). Furthermore, she currently serves as the Vice-President of the Political Academy of the ÖVP. Before assuming her role as Minister, Elisabeth Köstinger was First President of the National Council and Secretary General of the ÖVP. Between 2009 and 2017 she represented Austria as a member of the European Parliament (MEP) acting amongst other as spokeswoman for agriculture, environment and women’s affairs of the Delegation of the European People’s Party (EPP) to the European Parliament.

Prof. dr. Aleksandra Lobnik is since 2009 a Full professor at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maribor, where she is leading the Centre of Sensor Technology. In 2006 she co-founded a spin-off company IOS Ltd. She is currently interested in applicability of scientific research in the field of sensors, nanomaterials, water treatment & recycling processes. In the meantime, she is involved as a Technical Manager in the Resyntex project, Horizont 2020, dealing with depolymerization of textile wastes to a new secondary raw materials.

She is also active in promotion of the science as a President of the Slovenian Academic Association of Natural Sciences and Engineering, and as a Board Member of Director’s of International Sol Gel Society. She promote science also through the TEDx lecturing in CERN (http://tedxcern.web.cern.ch/video/2015/nanosensors-love-and-other-emotions). She received several international and national awards (CITEX Award, France, The UM prize for the best researcher, Slovenian Army Awards for Research & Development, Saubermacher Award, Gold medal for the best innovation). She is member of various scientific organisations, delegations, committees. She is author/co-author of 30 patents/patent applications, of more than 120 scientific and conference papers, she gave more than 30 invited lectures, she is author and co-author of 5 scientific monographs and 7 scientific chapters. She was involved in 56 mentorships of BA, MA and doctoral students. As a project manager, she participated in more than 40 national and international research projects.
Alfredo LOPEZ CARRETERO

Alfredo Lopez is a principal consultant for Ricardo Energy & Environment. Alfredo is currently running the Innovation Observatory on behalf of EC (DG Environment) identifying and characterising sustainable novel techniques for textile and slaughterhouses industries.

Alfredo has worked as a contractual agent for DG JRC (EC) as BREF author. Alfredo has worked as plant manager and process technology manager in Sabic polycarbonates and Cepsa chemicals. He is a mining engineer with postgraduate studies in IFP (Paris) and Chemical Engineering (McGill, Montreal). Alfredo has published various papers in Journal of Cleaner production. He holds several industrial process patents for the manufacturing of polycarbonates.

Krishna MANDA

Krishna Manda is Senior Manager of Sustainability Integration for Lenzing Group, which has been producing fibres from natural wood with innovative technologies for the past 80 years. Krishna has more than a decade of experience in Sustainability in various sectors. Krishna is an active contributor to Sustainable Apparel coalition (SAC) and Make Fashion Circular (MFC) of Ellen McArthur Foundation and a participant of Ashoka Circular futures program. Krishna has a PhD in corporate Sustainability and Life cycle assessment from Utrecht University, Netherlands.

Cecile MARTIN

Cecile Martin is WRAP's Textiles Technical Specialist. She works with the UK clothing sector to drive more resource efficient behaviour change across the supply chain.

Cecile’s role involves providing guidance for strategy and design which helps businesses successfully take action to reduce their products’ carbon, water and waste footprints for WRAP's Sustainable Clothing Action Plan (SCAP) 2020 Commitment and the EU Life project European Clothing Action Plan (ECAP). Cecile supports companies with designing and making more durable clothing and better fibre choices, and connecting their sustainability work with developing the business case for closed loop recovery of textiles. Prior to WRAP, Cecile worked as R&D Manager for used textiles and footwear recycling at Le Relais in France; before that she worked as R&D Engineer and Product Developer at Levi Strauss & Co. Cecile holds an MSc in Environmental Protection and Management from the University of Edinburgh, UK and a Master’s Degree in Textile Engineering from ENSAIT, France.
Paola Migliorini, Deputy Head of Unit at the European Commission, Directorate General Environment, Unit Sustainable Production, Products and Consumption has been working on eco-innovation and circular economy policies since 2012.

As team leader on Circular economy she has coordinated the policy development and implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan adopted by the European Commission in December 2015. Her main area of interest is best practices on sustainable consumption and production from innovative businesses and public authorities. She has both the experience of the European institutions, which includes funding opportunities for environmental protection, and of the private sector, namely the multinational health industry. Her motto: «explain, listen and make it happen».

Lars Fogh Mortensen has worked for the European Environment Agency (EEA) since 2003 as an expert and manager on environmental assessments and sustainability. He is an expert on products, consumption and plastics in the context of circularity economy. He currently leads the preparation of an EEA briefing supported by a report on textiles in a circular economy. Lars is a trained economist from the University of Copenhagen with 25 years of international experience on sustainable development and environmental assessments. Prior to joining the EEA, he was the lead author of the first OECD Environmental Outlook after having lead the work on sustainable development indicators in the UN headquarters.

He is the author of a number of reports, scientific articles and book chapters on sustainability, focusing on measuring sustainability and wellbeing, and assessments of systems of sustainable consumption and production.

Helene Melnitzky, is textile chemist and the head of the department Ecology of OETI. OETI - Institute for Ecology, Technology and Innovation Ltd, is based in Vienna, Austria. The OETI is an accredited testing house for textiles and floorcovering as well as certification body for OEKO-TEX® products and CE-marking for Floorcovering and Protective Equipment.

As head of the ecology department Mrs.Melnitzky is responsible for the testing and certification of textiles and related products according OEKO-TEX® (STANDARD 100, STeP, MADE IN GREEN, ECO PASSPORT, DETOX TO ZERO and LEATHER STANDARD). The department supports also textile companies to fulfil legal requirements or brand/retailers MRSL’s in terms of harmful substances. Furthermore she is lead auditor for STeP by OEKO-TEX® (production certification) and trains new auditors on regular base. Mrs.Melnitzky is developing and participating in several working groups within the OEKO-TEX® Association to develop and improve the products. She holds workshops and presentations in companies and different organisations.

In her function she supports the offices of OETI in Egypt, Czech Republic, Turkey, Morocco and 7 other countries. She has more than 25 years of experience in the testing and certification of textiles and textile production.
Alberto PACCANELLI

2009- today
Employer: Candeggio La Briantea Spa- Arcore (MB) - Company belonging to the Martinelli Ginetto Group operating in the field of textile finishing
Type of business or sector: Textile finishing
Occupation or position held: President and CEO of the company
2009- today
Employer: Giuseppe Brignoli Srl – Leffe (BG) - Company belonging to the Martinelli Ginetto Group operating in the field of high-end fabrics for home linens
Type of business or sector: Textile
Occupation or position held: President and CEO
2007 – today
Employer: Martinelli Ginetto spa – Casnigo (Bergamo)
Type of business or sector: Home Textiles Group
Occupation or position held: CEO and Shareholder
2000-2007
Employer: Linificio e Canapificio Nazionale Spa – Marzotto Group
Type of business or sector: Linen Spinning Group
Occupation or position held: CEO & Board Member
1994-2000
Employer: CAST Consulting - Milano
Type of business or sector: Management Consulting

Thomas PFEIFFER

Thomas Pfeiffer obtained a Master's degree in business administration from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, where his studies focused on corporate accounting, auditing and industrial management. After working for a few years at the Universale International GmbH in Vienna as a construction project developer, he joined his family's company, HERKA Frottier, in 2002 and took on the position of CEO in 2003. Under his leadership, Herka Frottier bought Textilveredlung Gmünd in 2013 and now also offers its customers also textile dyeing and finishing process.

Both companies jointly employ 120 people in the state of Lower Austria. In addition to constantly improving efficiency, sustainable production and resource conservation are of great importance to remain a competent partner for future generations of customers.

Ramona POLITZ

As sales coordinator and environmental representative of the Nudie Jeans Repair Shop in Munich Ramona's main tasks include customer care, managing the flow of goods, stock levels and sales statistics, as well as ensuring the store behaves to its most sustainable extent on a daily basis. The heart of it is to spread the message about repairing, reusing and recycling the garments by offering a free repair service as well as a trade-in option for preloved Nudie denim. Coming from a supply chain management background Ramona's prior responsibilities at Sky Germany included managing logistics service providers in the transportation, warehousing and waste management field.

Ramona holds a degree in Business Administration with a major in Supply Chain Management, a Sky Continuous Improvement Certified Whitebelt as well as a certified qualification as a 200h-multistyle yoga teacher.
Mauro SCALIA

Mauro Scalia is Director of Sustainable Businesses in EURATEX, the European Confederation of Textile and Apparel industry, in Brussels. In addition to his responsibilities in the Confederation management, he is charge of all activities related to chemicals, resources efficiency, circularity, climate change, CSR and sustainable supply chains which he coordinates with the EURATEX member associations. He graduated cum laude in Political Sciences with specialization in Politics and Economics at the University of Catania, Italy, also studying in Germany and France.

He joined Euratex in 2004 after several professional experiences in business consulting, industrial research and at the European Commission. Italian mother tongue, he also speaks English, French and German.

Andreas RÖRHICH

Director Product Development & Innovation
Innovator and out of the box strategic thinker, with a consumer centric approach

A graduate in textile and garment engineering at the Hoehere Technische Lehranstalt in Dornbirn, Andreas is the Director of Product Development and Textile Sourcing at Wolford AG where he has started his carrier back in 1989. With close to 30 years’ experience in the lingerie world, in research and development, product management, knitting and dyeing as well as fabric and fibers sourcing, he brings a vast amount of industry experience to his role.

During his carrier with Wolford he has strongly contributed to expand the company’s innovatory DNA, creating some of the most iconic and widely recognize Wolford signature pieces, such as: the StarckNude - in collaboration with Philippe Starck, the first glued tights or the unique system that allows the elastic waist band to be adjusted to the wearers’ needs. A passionate mountain runner and fast-forward thinker, Andreas is always eager to promote cutting-edge fiber and production innovation that are not only trend driven but environmentally sound. Andreas has spent the last 6 years immerse in quest to bring Cradle to Cradle products to the market. Under his guidance and leadership Wolford has commercialized the first Golden Certified Cradle to Cradle Legwear and Bodywear in 2018.

He set the target for Wolford to have 50% Golden Certified Cradle to Cradle products in the collection by 2025!

Barbara RIETZLER

Barbara Rietzler is close to finishing her PhD in Chemistry with focus on Textiles from the University of Innsbruck. Her research was on finishing treatments of polyamide with a mixture of calcium chloride, ethanol and water, which is more benign as compared to other traditional agents such as formic acid. The action of the mixture on polyamide changes with its composition, and effects from mere swelling up to a complete dissolution may be achieved. One potential application of the mixture is to use it in the recovery and recycling of polyamides from blends, as the treatments do not degrade the polymer.

Previously, Barbara obtained Masters and Bachelors degrees in Chemistry and focused on solid state and organometallic chemistry for her theses. She has 5 publications and a patent from her research, and has presented her work in several international conferences. A full record is available at <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6969-7606>
Arthur TEN WOLDE

Arthur ten Wolde works as Expert Circular Economy for Ecopreneur.eu, the European Sustainable Business Federation, and for MVO Nederland, a member of Ecopreneur.

Ecopreneur represents over 3000 businesses in five member states, mostly SMEs, which strive to deliver sustainable products and services. In line with his drive to contribute to accelerating and mainstreaming the circular economy, Arthur’s main task is advocacy for ambitious European circular economy policies. In addition, he advises companies and governments as Head and Owner of Circular Future. Before this, Arthur worked for De Groene Zaak, IMSA, VNO-NCW, STT Study Centre for Technology Trends and Shell Research. He has a Ph.D. in experimental physics and is certified polymer technologist. Some relevant publications are Circular Fashion Advocacy (2019), the online Circularity Check (2018), Boosting Circular Design for a Circular Economy (2015), and Circular Business Models (2015).

Hilde VAN DUIJN

Realising nobody will actually benefit from our constant hunger for new stuff made with new materials, Hilde van Duijn switched from the start of the textiles production to the – often forgotten – end of the value chain. What actually happens once we discard our textile? How can we valorise these materials, while preferably also creating job opportunities for those that need them?

Circle Economy is a social enterprise, with the mission to accelerate the practical and scalable implementation of the circular economy. It does so on a broad range of topics, including finance, cities and the built environment. The textiles industry is arguably the most lucrative, creative, consumer facing industry on earth, and we believe it has the power to change the world. The Circle Textile Programme strives for a zero waste textile industry and develops the systems innovations necessary to beat and prevent the mountain of (used) textiles we are facing. A main challenge is the valorisation of textile waste. Once textiles are discarded by the consumer, the product of a private supply chain becomes the responsibility of public authorities. Considering the growing supply of (used) textiles and a declining demand, the collector-sorter-trader system that governments have been relying on is no longer financially feasible. The Fibersort technology is able to turn textile waste streams into a reliable feedstock for recycling. As the project manager for the Interreg NWE Fibersort project, Hilde leads the consortium of partners towards their shared objective: the broad adoption of the Fibersort technology to turn the growing textile mountain into valuable circular resources for the industry.

Sonja VAN RENSSEN

Sonja van Renssen is a freelance energy, climate and environment journalist based in Brussels. She has written for Nature Climate Change, Platts, Foresight Climate & Energy, Energy Post, ENDS Europe, NNA Europe and others.

She was the environment correspondent for online broadcaster viEUws.eu from 2010-16. Sonja regularly moderates high-level debates and conferences on energy, climate and environment. Before going freelance in 2010, Sonja was the lead climate correspondent for environmental news service ENDS Europe for four years. She won a BBC-sponsored “Young Broadcaster of the Year Award” in 2005. Sonja has an MSc in Science Communication from Imperial College London and a BA in Biological Sciences from the University of Oxford. She grew up in the Netherlands, Japan and Taiwan, and speaks fluent English and Dutch, with a good command of German and French.
Roberto VANNUCCI

Multisectoral Research & Innovation Manager - Centrocot Spa (since 2002)
Centrocot’s Project Manager
Many years of experience in management and development of complex R&D projects and product and process innovation for SMEs.
Involved in several projects on green economy and sustainable development, focusing on eco-design, industrial symbiosis and circular economy applied to the textile and clothing sectors.
Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Peter WOODWARD

Peter Woodward is Co-Founder and Lead Facilitator at Quest Associates. Peter is in high demand across Europe and internationally for his skills as an independent facilitator. His engaging personality and twenty years of experience combine to lift the normal conference or workshop experience to new levels of energy and value. He enables both clients and participants achieve outcomes beyond their expectations in a relaxed yet purposeful manner.

Based near Bath in the UK, Peter has a particular passion and expertise in designing and running participative processes on issues related to the sustainable development agenda. He has been heavily involved with the Circular Economy agenda and is Lead Facilitator for the World Circular Economy Forum, this year taking place in Helsinki in June. He has facilitated all EcoAp Forums since 2012.

His clients include the European Commission and national governments, public agencies, businesses, universities and civil society organisations. Interventions range in scale from small group internal strategy sessions to major conferences of up to 2,000 participants.

Peter trained in urban planning. He has worked in the social sector and for a multinational company and gained wide experience of helping to bridge differing perspectives on issues.
European Forum on Eco-innovation

Launched in 2006, the annual European Forum on Eco-innovation brings together experts from the worlds of business, finance, technology development, academia and civil society, as well as other relevant stakeholders actively involved in eco-innovation and resource efficiency.

The main goals of the European Forum on Eco-innovation are to:

- Disseminate innovative eco-friendly ideas
- Give leading and emerging eco-innovators the opportunity to learn about policy, finance and technology developments
- Encourage innovation through communication between disciplines and sectors
- Identify key issues requiring action by national governments and the EU
- Help mobilise relevant actors with common objectives
- Develop concrete strategies for future action.

Under the Eco-innovation Action Plan (EcoAP), these objectives are reaffirmed with a greater focus on business stakeholders (especially SMEs), and with the aim of delivering key messages for the shaping of eco-innovation policies at European, national and regional levels.

The Forum is held over two days and presents the latest developments in the field of eco-innovation. Discussions are around a central theme which is proposed by the EcoAP High Level Working Group, the European Commission, or the host country. Each Forum event focuses on a particular issue and features a number of relevant panel sessions.

During each Forum, recommendations are made for future action by the business and finance communities, as well as national and European policymakers. A report is published shortly after the forum based on the presentations, discussions and recommendations and is made available to download.

Eco-innovation Action Plan

The Eco-innovation Action Plan (EcoAP) aims to boost innovations that result in, or aim at, reducing pressures on the environment, and on bridging the gap between innovation and the market.

Useful Links

European Commission
DG Environment
http://ec.europa.eu/environment
Eco-innovation Action Plan
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/index_en.htm
Eco-innovation
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/
Circular economy
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/circular-economy/index_en_.htm

Contact information

Directorate-General for the Environment
Unit A3 - Environmental Technology, Eco-innovation and SMEs
www.ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/index.htm

Executive Agency for SMEs (EASME)
https://ec.europa.eu/easme/
Entreprise Europe Network
http://een.ec.europa.eu/
Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism of the Republic of Austria
https://www.bmnt.gv.at/english/

For further information

Visit the official Eco-innovation Action Plan (EcoAP) website for the latest information on:
- Policies and actions,
- Innovative technologies,
- Funding resources,
- Links and forthcoming events,
- EcoAP news (newsletters and platform)
and other communication tools. www.ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/index.htm

#EcoApForum