

OVERVIEW OF THE TEXTILE SECTOR IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

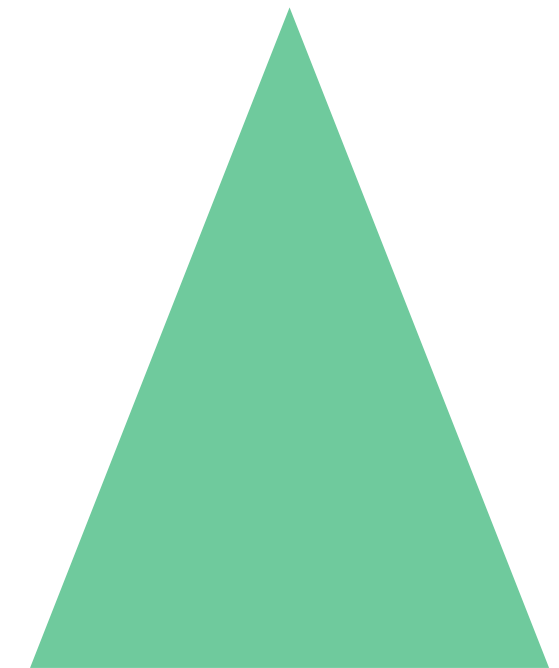
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Vienna

26. – 27. March, 2024

Textile sector in the Western Balkans

- Clothes and other textiles manufacturing
- Production of primary textiles (dyeing, coloring...) stopped
- Relevant role in the global supply chain
- SMEs as local brand/producer



Some numbers

Manufacturing companies

Serbia – 1800
Albania – 1050
BiH - 500

Employees

Serbia – 61000
Albania – 150000
BiH - 35000

Waste production

- Serbia 2018:
- ~7500 ton/year of post-industrial waste
 - ~15 kg/inh/year of post-consumer textile waste is produced
 - Recycled/re-used quantity is irrelevant

Type of waste produced

Post-industrial

- fibres, pieces, fluff
- **Composition: extremely variable, including polyester/viscose/cotton/other natural and artificial materials**

Post-consumer

- **Clothes, linen...**
- **Mostly cotton but also artificial materials**
- **Coloured and treated**



Circular economy: an overview

- ✓ No structured/industrial solutions
- ✓ Small initiatives for upcycling used textiles (production of bags, blankets, tools from used clothes)
- ✓ Some small-scale examples of industrial downsizing (production of insulating material for construction)
- ✓ Only mechanical treatments



Good practices: some examples

- ✓ RecycAI (Albania): heavy duty bags from used leather or canvas
- ✓ Texeco (Serbia): rags for industrial cleaning from used clothes
- ✓ Felt i Jezgro (Serbia): hard felt for furniture from post-industrial textile waste



What is missing?

Knowledge about quantities and type of available material (post-industrial and used)

Structured system for a separate collection of these types of waste

Market demand for recycled/re-used textiles

Sectoral strategies and policies

Perspective/challenges

Legal framework (by-products)

Data collection and analysis

Financial mechanisms (EPR)

THANK

FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND COOPERATION

YOU