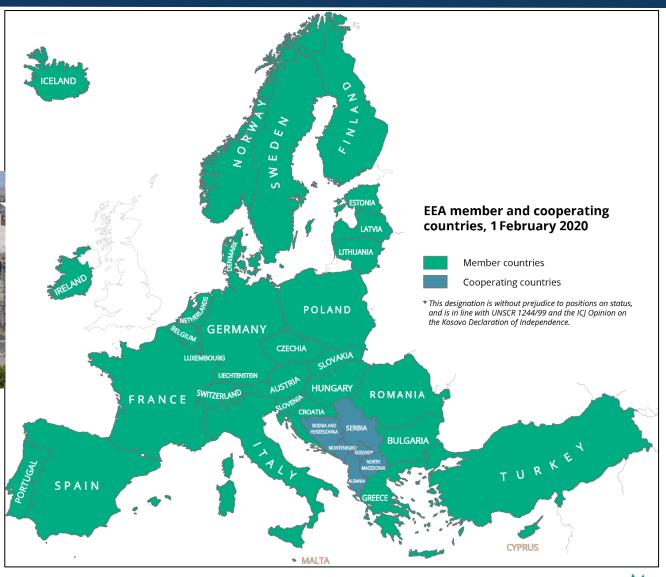


# The European Environment Agency

EU mandate to monitor Europe's environment and climate



I am responsible for our work with textiles in a circular economy



## 1. Amounts

2. Problems

3. Solutions

# High volumes of textiles in the EU

Average times clothes used:
Seven to eight times (Remy et al., 2016)

Probably less times in 2023!



2.7

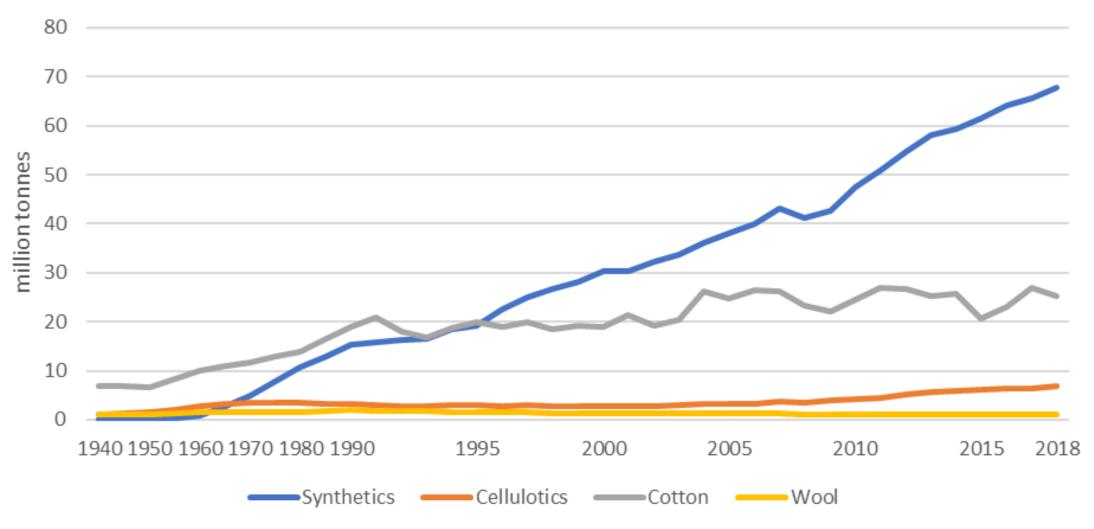
Annual consumption of 14.8 kg per person in the EU (2020)

Source: Textiles and the environment: the role of design in Europe's circular economy — European Environment Agency (europa.eu)

Note: Shoes also made of non-textiles



#### Global fibre demand





1. Amounts

2. Problems

3. Solutions

### Fourth highest pressures on average as shown by EEA



**Fourth highest impact**on the environment and climate change,
after food, housing and mobility.



It is one of the **top three**pressures on water and land use,
and the **top five** in terms of
raw material use and greenhouse
gas emissions.

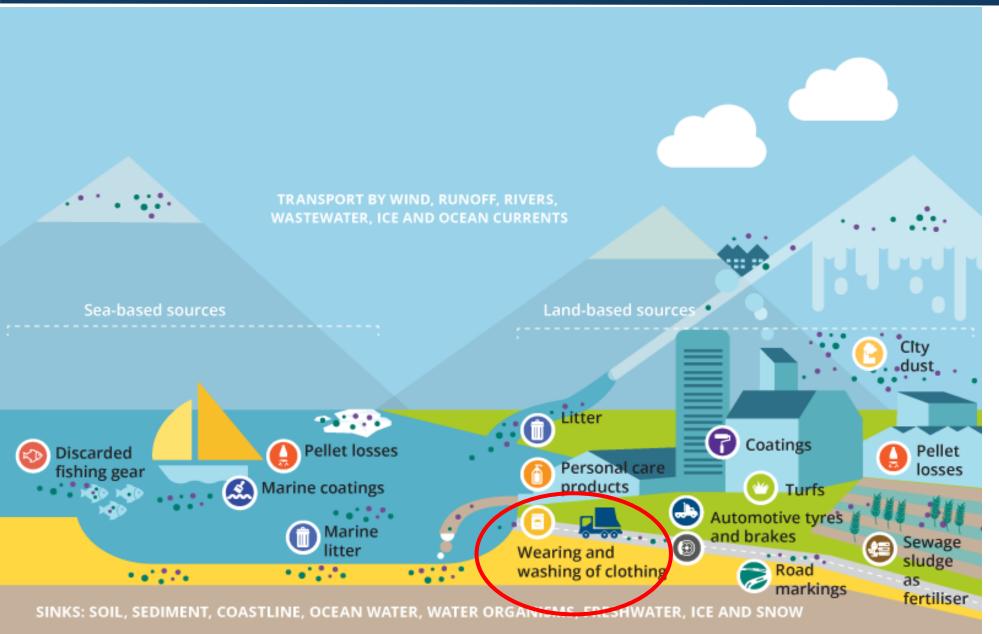
Source: <u>Textiles and the environment: the role of design in Europe's circular economy — European</u>

<u>Environment Agency (europa.eu)</u>

<u>European Environment Agency</u>



# Microplastics from textiles

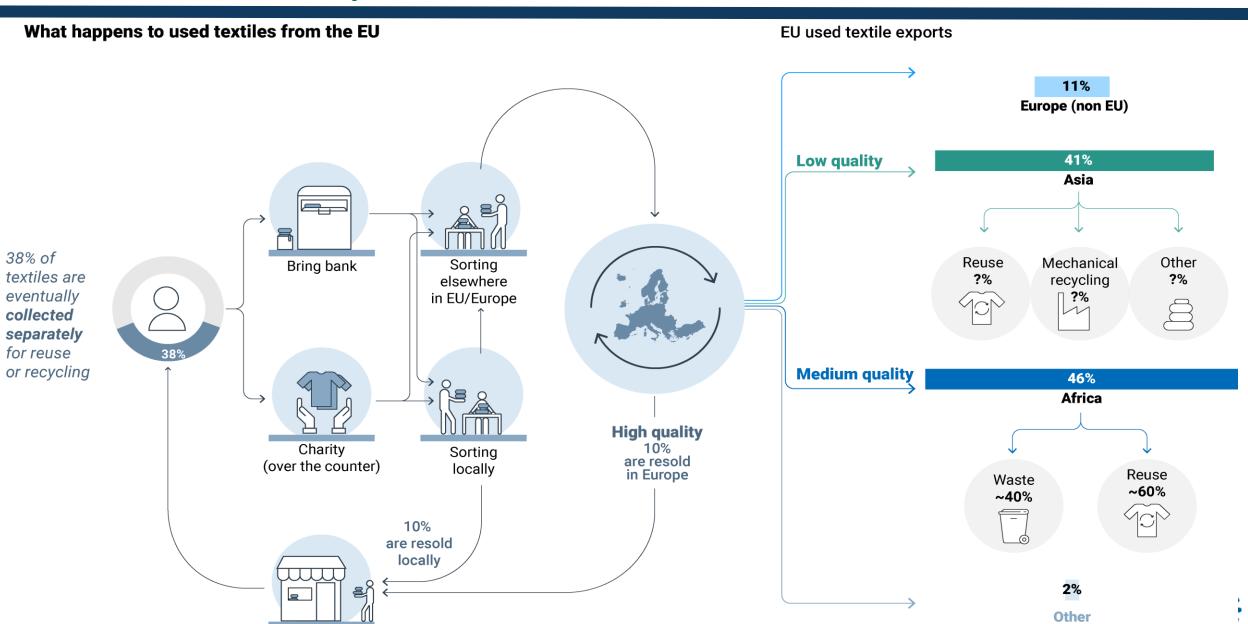


About 8% of
European
microplastics
released to oceans
are from synthetic
textiles — globally,
this figure is
estimated at 1635%

Source: Microplastics
from textiles: towards a
circular economy for
textiles in Europe —
European Environment
Agency (europa.eu)

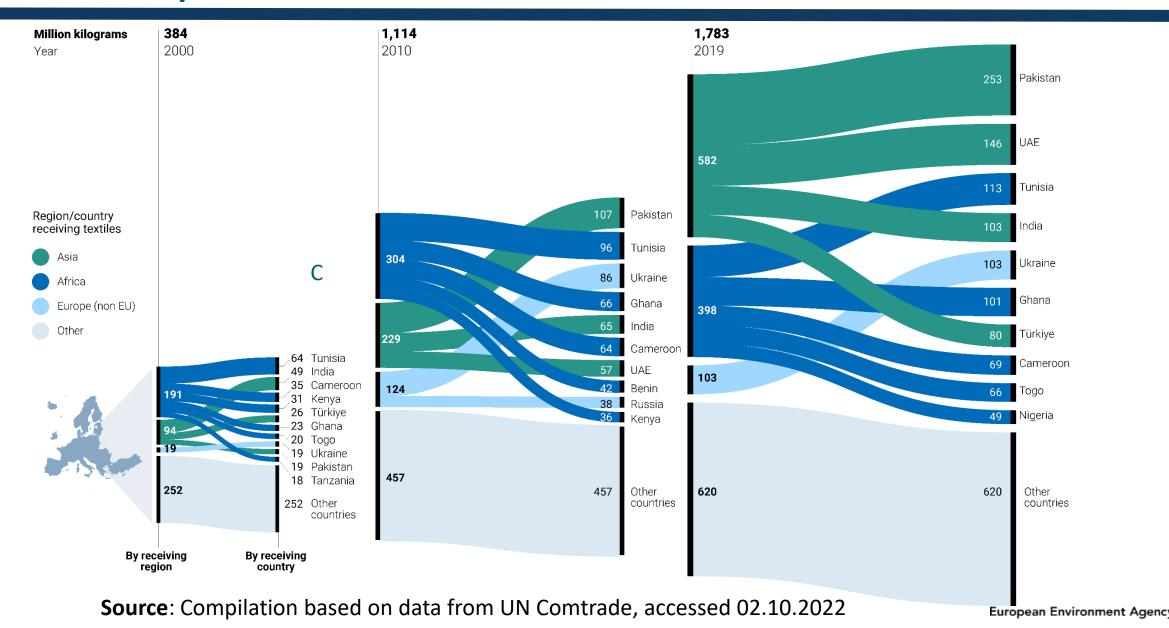


# EU exports of used textiles flows



Second hand shop

## EU exports of used textiles, 2000, 2010, 2019

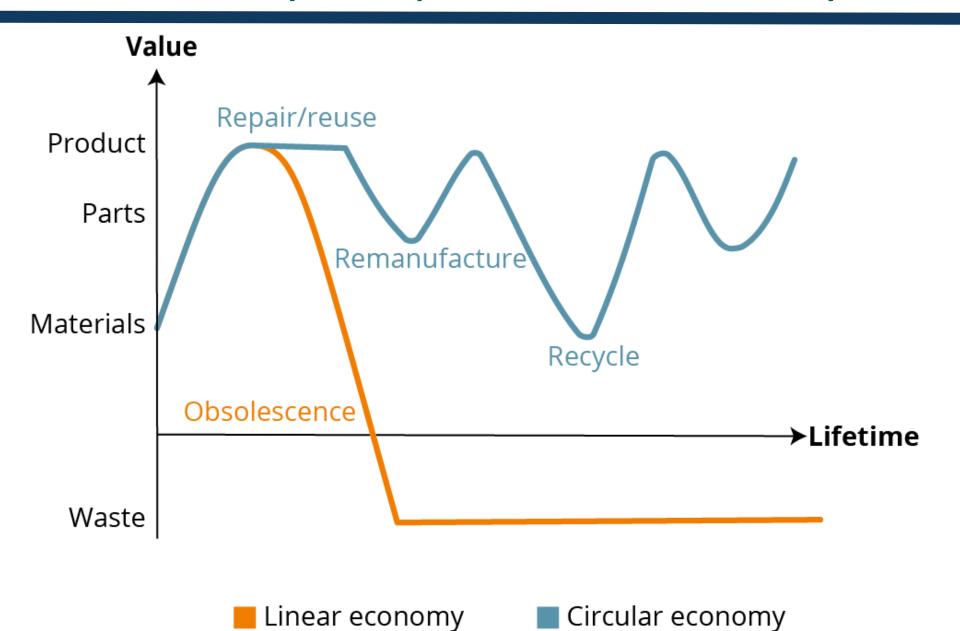


1. Amounts

2. Problems

3. Solutions

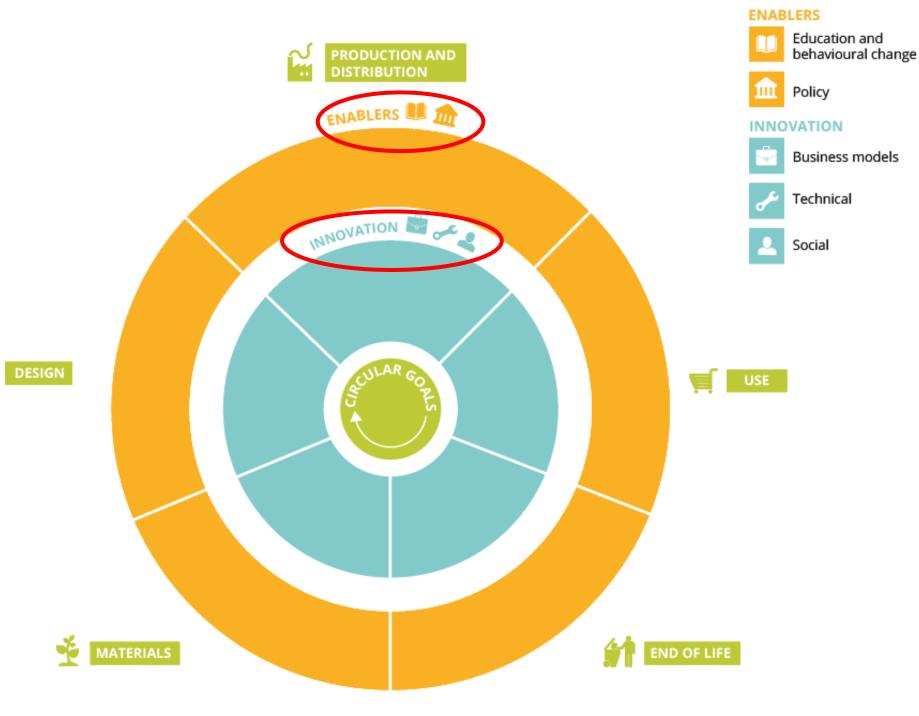
#### Circular economy: Keep the value in the system





# EEA Framework for circular business models

A framework for enabling circular business models in Europe — European Environment Agency (europa.eu)



#### EEA "menu" of solutions

EDUCATION & BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE POLICY OPTIONS **PRODUCTION** Sustainable production & pro-Investment support policies. Tax on resource use & Sustainability environmental impact in designer CIRCULAR SINESS MOD education SHARED USE Startup & SME Investment Production on-demand funding & support Mind-shift from **ECO DESIGN** owning tion & online Green public to sharing platforms procurement Renting & leasing services Reduced VAT on sharing Sharing platforms Legal support Design for longevity Eco design guidelines **PRODUCTION** Durable products LONGER USE AND DISTRIBUTION Promoting longer Maintenance Reduced VAT services Repair skills & DIY on repair Durability standards Maintenance Labour subsidies **ECO-DESIGN** Repair services Personalisation REUSE AS PRODUCT Take-back & resale Reuse targets Design AND STOCK Reuse stores & Reduced VAT on Pro-sumerism knowledge platforms second-hand hubs Competition Promoting support to reuse secondhand stores COLLECTION **SAFE & CLEAN MATERIALS** WASTE MATERIALS Collection schemes Extended producer Phasing out of Manual & automated responsibility chemicals of concern sorting Safe by design Separated collection Quality & safety obligations requirements **REUSE AS MATERIAL** Binding minimum Enhanced traceability Research on Recycling & recycled content Reuse of fabric standards & safe substitute targets complementary Upcycling materieals voluntary targets Yarn respinning Quality requirements for recycled fibres SUSTAINABLE FIBRE PRODUCTION Clear end-of-waste criteria Use of recycled fibers Investment funding & support Waste separation & Sustainable WASTE PREVENTION collection sourcing labelling campaigns Sustainability in Taxes and bans on Resource taxes incineration and landfill materials on new fibres engineering education Revaluing handicraft Demand for recycled fibres and products Demand for Waste prevention sustainable fibres campaigns

https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/ textiles-in-europes-circular-economy

#### EU Strategy on Sustainable and Circular Textiles (2022)



Propose mandatory Extended Producer Responsibility for textiles with ecomodulation of fees



Address the unintentional release of microplastics from synthetic textiles



Restrict the **export of textile waste** and promote sustainable textiles globally



Incentivise **circular business models**, inlcuding reuse and repair sectors



Encourage companies and Member States to **support the objectives** of the Strategy



Set **design requirements for textiles** to make them last longer, easier to repair and recycle, as well as requirements on minimum recycled content



Introduce clearer information and a **Digital Product Passport** 



**Tackle greenwashing** to empower consumers and raise awareness about sustainable fashion



Reverse **overproduction and overconsumption**, and **discourage** the destruction of unsold or returned textiles



