

Collectief Circulair Textiel - the impact-driven producer responsibility organisation for textiles

Collectief Circulair Textiel fulfills the Dutch legal EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) [obligations](#) on behalf of producers, focusing on the collection and processing of discarded textile products. By producers, we mean companies that put textiles products onto the Dutch market for the first time, including clothing and household textiles such as bed linen.

Sustainability and transparency as key pillars

Collectief Circulair Textiel is unique, because unlike traditional producer responsibility organizations (PROs), it does not solely prioritize cost-efficiency. Traditionally, PROs focus on collecting and processing waste at the lowest possible costs, putting environmental benefits as a lower priority. Those PROs are often not transparent about financing, data, and decision-making, thereby hindering innovation, monitoring, and dialogue.

Collectief Circulair Textiel is now taking a different approach. The starting point is a distinctive governance structure. In this new setup, textile producers, collectors, recyclers, municipalities, NGOs, and socially-oriented organizations jointly formulate the strategic goals that the Collectief Circulair Textiel will implement. Transparency is central because we believe that transparency is the starting point for trust, cooperation, and accelerating sustainability. In summary, the following three pillars are central:



As other legally registered PROs, Collectief Circulair Textiel will focus on reaching the set targets. But we want to go beyond that. Ensuring that producers that already invest in circular solutions find partners to scale up their activities, actively work on education and awareness raising, and ensuring that promising innovations get the chance to succeed. In short, we will work on:

- Stimulating collection systems and technologies that promote high-quality recycling;
- Encouraging reuse and repair, including through partnerships with socially-oriented organizations;

- Preventing the destruction of unsold goods;
- Creating incentives for the production of textiles with a focus on lifespan extension and recycling;
- Promoting system innovation and sustainable business models;
- Nurturing and stimulating public debate about the sustainability of textiles;
- Showcasing best practices of the producers participating in the collective, thereby fostering knowledge sharing;
- Advancing the position of biobased, natural fibers within EPR schemes and broader legislation.

Registration Procedure

Producers who want to accelerate the sustainability of the textile sector with us can register via the [website](#) and will then be further informed about the next steps.

For additional questions or registration via email, contact us through info@collectiefcirculairtextiel.nl.

Background

The textile industry is one of the most polluting industries in the world. Increasingly, fossil materials are being used, cotton production requires enormous amounts of water, textiles shed infinite amounts of microplastics during use, and discarded textiles are being dumped on a large scale in countries like Ghana and Chile. The rise of online sellers and the popularity of cheap, disposable fast fashion has only exacerbated the problem.

There is increasing attention to textile legislation in Europe. A European textile strategy has been developed, and textiles have been identified as a priority within the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation. Additionally, the Netherlands - after France - is the second European country to introduce an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for textiles. This is a good development considering the enormous amounts of textiles still ending up in residual waste, but the EPR instrument needs to be deployed more effectively.

The idea behind EPR is not only to improve the end-of-life (EOL) management of discarded textiles but also to make producers responsible for this part of their product's life cycle, which will encourage them to redesign their products to be more environmentally friendly. Unfortunately, the focus is mainly on EOL solutions, such as collection and downcycling. True sustainability in the textile industry should consider other production methods, such as using recycled materials and reducing overproduction, extending the lifespan of products

through repair and reuse, and adopting different consumption patterns, including rental and/or buy-back options.

Besides policy developments, there is also growing awareness of the environmental impact of textiles among many (smaller) entrepreneurs in the textile industry. Investments are being made in fiber-to-fiber recycling and reuse developments. More and more companies are choosing more sustainable business models, with deposits on clothing, offering used textiles, and mainstreaming repair and reuse.

Collectief Circulair Textiel wants to play an active role in scaling up sustainable (local) initiatives and aims to demonstrate that a producers' organization can have a positive (environmental) impact.

EU Compliance - a simple solution

Weee Nederland - Consultancy

Producers and importers increasingly find themselves confronted with the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) within Europe. This means they need to register their business with the proper authorities or compliance schemes in the countries concerned and report their sales on a regular basis. The associated procedures and regulations differ per country which can make EPR compliance a complex bureaucratic exercise.

[Weee Nederland](#) B.V. possesses the knowledge and experience to efficiently handle the necessary EPR related registration and reporting procedures throughout Europe. Weee Nederland handles all communication with the relevant authorities and schemes in the different European countries on behalf of its clients. Part of the service is assistance regarding all kind of questions related to requirements necessary to ensure compliance of its clients in those countries.

At the moment, Weee Nederland Consultancy offers this service for e-waste, packaging, batteries and textiles, assisting companies with compliance in 30 countries.

Collectief Circulair Textiel

For the textiles EPR obligation in the Netherlands, Weee works together with a.o. [Collectief Circulair Textiel](#). Collectief Circulair Textiel executes the EPR stipulations with a focus on inclusive governance, sustainability, and transparency. They work on enhancing and expanding the positive environmental impact of EPR implementation on textiles.

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