

# FiberFact

## About the project

July 14, 2026

## Science-Driven Verification for Recycled Textiles

The textile industry has a long tradition in the German–Dutch border region, evolving from home-based production in the 16th century to thriving textile factories in the 19th century. Today, however, much of the production has moved to low-wage countries, while the rise of fast fashion has made the textile sector one of the most environmentally harmful industries worldwide.

FiberFact addresses this challenge by supporting the transition towards a circular textile economy. The project **brings together a cross-border consortium of universities and sustainable textile SMEs from the Netherlands–Germany border region** to develop innovative analytical technologies that can determine the amount and origin of recycled fibres in textile products. The consortium is led by Saxion University of Applied Sciences and includes FH Münster and HAN University of Applied Sciences, alongside industry partners Textechno Herbert Stein GmbH & Co. KG, Verband der Nordwestdeutschen Textil- und Bekleidungsindustrie e.V., Tailorlux GmbH, Textile4Ever, TextileLab (Nedlabs BV), and Frankenhuis Textielrecycling. The project also benefits from the expertise of associated partners TI-COAST, Categorie Bedrijfskleding Rijk / Ministerie van Defensie and SETEX-Textil GmbH.

Building on previous research on recycled cotton ([for example](#)), the project will further develop and expand the technology to include synthetic fibres such as polyester. Advanced data analysis and artificial intelligence will be used to enable **accurate and automated measurement of recycled materials**. These technologies will be integrated into an **innovative pilot device**.

In addition, the project will develop an implementation roadmap for market introduction after the project's completion and engage with policymakers to maximise the impact of the technology.

FiberFact is funded through Interreg Deutschland–Nederland (EFRE/EFRO), with co-funding from the Ministerie van Economische Zaken en Klimaat, Provincie Gelderland, Provincie Overijssel, and the Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Industrie, Klimaschutz und Energie des Landes NRW.

By enabling reliable verification and certification of recycled fibre content, FiberFact supports a circular and resource-efficient textile industry, strengthens sustainable SMEs, and positions the German–Dutch border region as a leading hub for green textile innovation.

# Links

## Website

[www.fiberfact.net](http://www.fiberfact.net)

## Newsletter

<https://newsletter.fiberfact.net/subscription/form>

## Interreg Germany-Netherlands

[www.de-nl.eu](http://www.de-nl.eu)

## LinkedIn

[www.linkedin.com/company/fiberfact](http://www.linkedin.com/company/fiberfact)

## Instagram

@fiberfact\_de\_nl

## Further sources

\*Ten Berge, A. B. G. M., Temmink, R., Kuppen, M., van Slagmaat, M. B., Kamphuis, S., Groeneveld, R. A. J., Luiken, A., Oelerich, J. & Mahy, J. W. G. (2026). An analytical toolbox to verify the presence, quantity and origin of recycled cotton fibres in textile garments  
Scientific Reports, 16, Artikel 8999.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-39268-y>

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[deutschland-nederland.eu/en/projects/fiberfact](http://deutschland-nederland.eu/en/projects/fiberfact)  
[fiberfact.net](http://fiberfact.net)