

File no. 1153-00001B

Final Report

Project acronym and title	OTD – One Textile Direction
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Partners	<p>Danish Technological Institute, Bornholms affaldsbehandling, Affaldplus, Eldan, Kentaur, Copenhagen Airports, Køge kommune, Aalborg University, Aarhus Kommune, Gate 21, Bestseller, Ganni, Kolding School of Design (DSKD), Lifestyle & Design Cluster (LDC)</p> <p>DT Solutions (bankruptcy 2025), Textile Change (resigned from project 2025), New Retex (resigned from project 2023)</p>
Project period	[01-11-2022 – 31-10-2025]
Total budget	17.553.123 kr

Contents

A. Executive summary	2
B. Overall results	3
C. Contribution to and impact on Trace roadmap	5
D. Key learnings from the execution of the project	6
E. Future needs for increased impact	7
F. Gearing of Investment	7
G. Milestones and deliverables	8
H. Communication, synergy/cooperation, dissemination and outreach activities	10
1. Scientific articles (include full reference, DOI and status (submitted/published) for each)	10
2. Events/Conferences (include organiser, date, location, number of participants and link if applicable).....	11
3. Media (include link, or list relevant information about the activity).....	12
4. Patents (include application no., data and granted (y/n))	13
5. Educations/Courses (include title of programme/course, and the number of participants).....	13
6. Other activities including Trace internal synergy and co-operation activities, Trace Academy etc.	13
K. Synergies to other projects/initiatives	14

File no. 1153-00001B

A. Executive summary

The One Textile Direction (OTD) project united 17 partners across the textile value chain—including municipalities, waste operators, technology providers, apparel companies, a design school, a university, a GTS institute, and an airport—to address barriers to textile circularity in Denmark.

Key results:

- Comprehensive mapping of textile manufacturers and recycling actors in Denmark, made publicly accessible through interactive tools and published in an international book chapter
- Best-practice recommendations for textile waste collection, optimising efficiency, sustainability, and value recovery
- Technical tests demonstrating that recycled materials perform on par with conventional materials in terms of durability and washing resistance, providing concrete evidence that the selected recycled textiles do not compromise on quality for the tested workwear.
- Consumer tests confirmed user acceptance of recycled workwear, with feedback addressing material performance, fit, and design.
- A textile waste tracking study mapped post-consumer textile flows from Bornholm, generating new insights into actual waste destinations.
- Successful demonstration of electrospinning recycled PET and cellulose into nanofibers, proving new potential applications for recycled textiles
- Commercialization of Textile Change's chemical recycling technology, including development of requirement specifications and OPEX/CAPEX models for a commercial-scale plant

Key learnings:

- Managing 17 partners required a substantial time to build internal coherence and shared goals
- Regulatory uncertainty remains the primary barrier to industry investment in textile recycling infrastructure
- Recycled textiles can meet the same technical standards as virgin materials, removing a key market barrier
- Cross-sectoral collaboration between public and private actors created valuable mutual learning opportunities rarely achieved in conventional projects

The project has generated a spin-off project on sustainable public procurement, building on the extensive knowledge base and partnerships developed.

Note! Chapters I, J, and L are for intern reporting use and have been removed from this external report.

File no. 1153-00001B

B. Overall results

ONE TEXTILE DIRECTION



VISION

ESTABLISH A SUSTAINABLE DANISH TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

PROJECT FACTS

FUNDED BY INNOVATION FUND DENMARK
17 PARTNERS
BUDGET: DKK 17,5 MIO.
PERIOD: 2022-2025

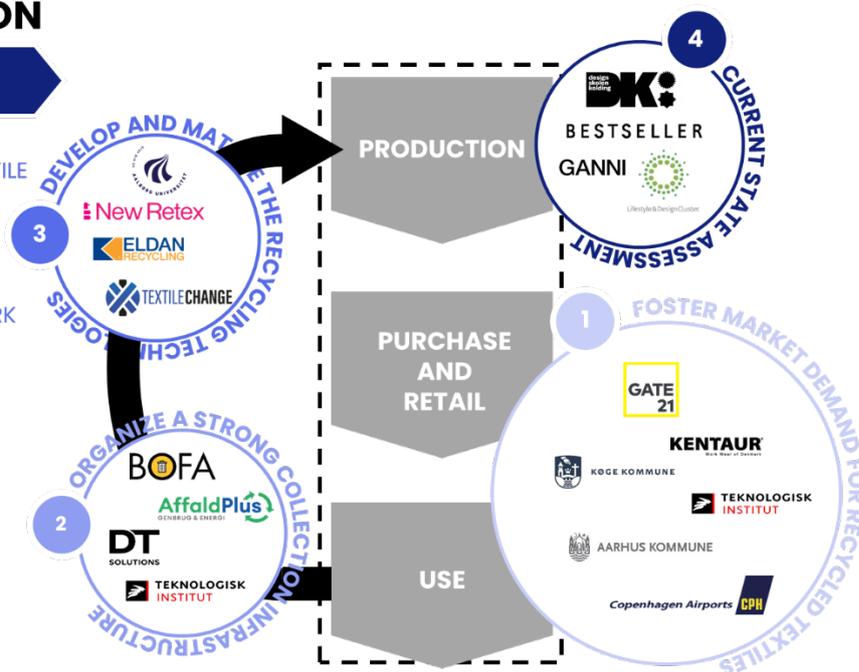


Figure 1. Overview of the “One Textile Direction” project, showing its partners and how the work is structured along the textile value chain. Each circle corresponds to a main track/work package and lists the partners involved. Track 1 “Foster market demand for recycled textiles”. Partners include: Gate 21, Kentaur, Køge and Aarhus Municipalities, Copenhagen Airports (CPH), and Danish Technological Institute (DTI). Track 2 “Organize a strong collection infrastructure”. Partners include: Bornholms Affaldssortering (BOFA), AffaldPlus, DT Solutions, and DTI. Track 3 “Develop and mature recycling technologies”. Partners include: Aalborg University (AAU), New Retex, Eldan and Textile Change. Track 4 “Current state assessment”. Partners include Kolding School of Design (DSKD), Lifestyle & Design Cluster (LDC), Bestseller and Ganni.

Overall, the concept figure shows how different partner groups work on four complementary tracks -market demand, collection, recycling technology, and state-of-play assessment -across the Danish textile value chain.

The following sections present the main results from the One Textile Direction (OTD) project across key work packages and tracks. Together, they document how the partners have (1) tested and validated market readiness for textiles with recycled content, (2) developed recommendations and tools for more effective textile collection and sorting, (3) advanced chemical and high-value recycling technologies towards commercial application, and (4) created a robust knowledge base on Danish textile production, waste, and recycling actors.

Track 1 – Foster market demand for recycled textiles: The partners tested workwear made with recycled materials through both technical and consumer tests. The technical tests demonstrated that fabrics with the selected recycled fibers performed on par with conventional materials in terms of durability and washing

File no. 1153-00001B

resistance, providing concrete evidence that recycled textiles can deliver the same technical quality as current textiles on the market. Consumer tests showed that user feedback was comparable to conventional materials, with no significant material-specific complaints. The users were generally just as satisfied with recycled workwear as with conventional workwear, with feedback focusing mainly on fit and design. This finding is significant as it suggests recycled materials can be introduced without compromising user satisfaction.

A series of workshops on green procurement brought together municipalities, workwear manufacturers, and procurement specialists to discuss requirements for more sustainable textiles. The workshops identified four priority areas for ambitious green procurement: extending product lifetimes, reducing total textile volumes, improving tracking and statistics on textile flows, and establishing systematic reuse schemes. These priorities now underpin ongoing work on joint commitments and procurement specifications.

Track 2 – Organize a strong collection infrastructure: Best practice recommendations for textile waste collection were developed based on literature reviews, data analysis, and input from key stakeholders. The recommendations show how collection systems can be improved to increase efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and raise the value of collected textiles.

A textile waste tracking study using AirTags was carried out to follow textile waste from Bornholm after collection. The study provided new insight into where textiles actually end up, confirming some expectations but also revealing unexpected transport routes that require further investigation. The methodology proved highly educational for participating partners and will be documented in a peer-reviewed publication in 2026.

Sorting studies categorized textile waste fractions, providing specifications for pre-sorting outputs and detailed information about the categories of textiles in specific waste fractions. This data provides valuable input for recycling operators seeking consistent feedstock.

Track 3 – Develop and mature recycling technologies: Textile Change successfully brought its core chemical recycling technology to commercial stage during the project. The technology is now in the process of being acquired by an external company, representing a direct commercial outcome and showing that mission-funded projects can help move technologies to market.

Textile Change's chemical recycling development included optimization of pre-treatment processes essential for stable chemical recycling, iterative testing of polyester dissolution resulting in improved output quality, and development of updated safety and environmental frameworks including ATEX zone revisions and wastewater handling solutions. Updated workflows and safety routines reduced risks and identified areas where full-scale plant costs can be lowered. A requirements specification for a commercial-scale plant was developed, describing capacity, efficiency, and safety requirements, along with operating and capital expenditure (OPEX/CAPEX) models for full-scale implementation.

Market dialogues with fibre spinners, retailers, and innovators provided concrete insights into quality requirements for cellulose pulp (e.g. purity, metal content and filterability) for use in viscose/lyocell production. This feedback has guided product development and strengthened relations with industry partners, supporting a market-driven scale-up.

In collaboration with Textile Change, Aalborg University demonstrated that recycled PET and cellulose can be electrospun into nanofibres. Using advanced analytical methods (SEM, FTIR, XRD, Raman, DSC and TGA),

File no. 1153-00001B

the team documented fibre structure and material properties. Results indicate that residual solvent in PET samples is not a barrier, potentially reducing energy needs in purification. This proof-of-concept opens opportunities for future industrial partnerships and could give waste operators such as AffaldPlus new ways to valorise polyester waste fractions.

Track 4 – Current state assessment: Design School Kolding (DSKD) and Lifestyle & Design Cluster (LDC) carried out a comprehensive mapping of textile producers and recycling actors in Denmark. The result is an objective baseline, presented through interactive maps and reports, which can be used by future projects and policy initiatives. The work has been highlighted at DAKOFA network meetings and recognised as a particularly strong and rigorous research contribution.

The mapping covered four perspectives:

- **Textile sorting** – analysis of textiles in waste fractions by fibre type, material composition, product category, brand and circularity potential.
- **Textile recovery** – mapping of sorting and recycling actors in Denmark, including data cards describing their sorting levels and recycling routes.
- **Textile production** – mapping of companies engaged in textile-related production in Denmark.
- **Textile waste tracking** – GPS-based tracking of textiles after consumers dispose of them.

A webinar on “One Textile Direction and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)” shared these results with 63 participants, including presentations on textile waste recycling in Denmark and panel discussions with industry stakeholders on key challenges and opportunities.

Cross-cutting learning: The cross-sectoral collaboration between GTS institutes and public institutions (municipalities and waste operators) created valuable mutual learning opportunities that are rarely achieved in conventional projects. This collaboration model represents a significant value of mission-led partnerships and has strengthened the partners' ability to address circular economy challenges in future initiatives.

C. Contribution to and impact on Trace roadmap

Impact on the mission: The project contributed to the mission roadmap by turning the goal of a sustainable Danish textile value chain into concrete steps across all stages. With 17 partners, it (i) documented that workwear with recycled fibres performs on par with conventional textiles and is accepted by users, (ii) developed best-practice recommendations, tracking studies and sorting data to improve collection systems and secure quality feedstock, (iii) matured a core chemical recycling technology to commercial stage (now in acquisition) and delivered specifications and OPEX/CAPEX models for a full-scale plant, and (iv) produced an objective national baseline of textile production, sorting, recycling and waste flows, disseminated through interactive maps, reports and a webinar with 63 participants. The project has already generated a spin-off project on green public procurement.

Overall, this de-risked circular textiles for buyers, enabled better investment decisions, and supplied evidence and tools that support EPR and future roadmap actions.

Benefit from mission partnership: Partners did not experience a strong added value from the Trace mission partnership itself. Facilitation and cross-project interaction were limited, and synergies with other projects

File no. 1153-00001B

did not arise spontaneously. The main benefits came from the project's own cross-sector collaboration and concrete outputs, with the mission mainly adding some framing and visibility.

D. Key learnings from the execution of the project

The most important learnings from the project that could benefit the mission partnership and/or should be taken into account when launching new projects and/or updating the mission roadmap:

1. Project scope and partner alignment:

Managing 17 partners across multiple work packages was highly complex. Establishing internal coherence and shared project goals took around 1 ½ year.

2. Clear project objectives and deliverables from the outset:

The project experienced challenges with vague milestones defined too abstractly in the application phase. Concrete, measurable milestones should be required in project applications, with clearer guidance from Trace on expected outputs.

3. Cross-project synergies require active facilitation:

Synergies between mission projects do not emerge spontaneously. Project teams are fully occupied managing their own partnerships. Trace must actively facilitate structured networking events with clear themes and objectives, rather than expecting project leaders to self-organize. Dedicated time and budget for synergy activities should be explicitly included in project plans.

4. Value of cross-sectoral partnerships:

A major success was bringing together a GTS institute, municipalities, waste management operators, technology providers, and manufacturers. This created mutual learning opportunities that single-sector projects would miss.

5. Importance of regulatory clarity for industry impact:

Industry partners consistently reported that regulatory uncertainty prevents investment, regardless of technological readiness.

6. Mission identity and belonging:

Partners did not strongly feel part of a larger "Trace mission." The partnership could be strengthened through more visible Trace facilitation, regular mission-level events, and clearer communication about how individual projects contribute to overall mission goals.

Summary:

Complex, multi-stakeholder circular economy challenges can be addressed through mission-led partnerships, but this requires active facilitation, clear objectives, dedicated resources for collaboration, and realistic timelines. Cross-sectoral dialogue created valuable insights, but translating these into systemic change requires parallel policy work and sustained follow-up.

File no. 1153-00001B

E. Future needs for increased impact

Several critical barriers must be addressed before the project results can achieve full impact:

Regulatory uncertainty:

Industry stakeholders consistently identify regulatory uncertainty as the primary barrier preventing investment in textile collection and recycling infrastructure. The current lack of clarity regarding Denmark's long-term approach to textile waste management creates a "wait-and-see" situation where:

- Collection operators cannot justify infrastructure investments without knowing future regulatory requirements
- Recycling technology providers face uncertain feedstock availability
- Manufacturers are reluctant to commit to recycled materials without stable supply chains

What is needed: Clear political decisions and long-term policy frameworks (10-year horizon) for textile waste management in Denmark, including collection responsibilities, sorting requirements, and treatment standards. This would enable industry actors to develop viable business cases and commit to necessary investments.

Market barriers:

The current waste collection system prioritizes reusable textiles over recyclable textiles, limiting the economic viability of recycling operations. Additionally, the business case for textile recycling remains challenging compared to established waste fractions.

What is needed: Economic instruments that support textile recycling alongside reuse. Active dissemination of the best practice guidelines to collection operators and municipalities

In summary, regulatory clarity is the foundational prerequisite. Without clear policy direction, industry actors will not make the investments needed to scale the technologies and practices developed in this project, regardless of funding availability.

F. Gearing of Investment

The project has attracted further investments and generated significant spin-off activities:

Commercialization of technologies:

- Textile Change has successfully advanced their core recycling technology to a commercial stage during the project period. The technology is currently being acquired, representing a direct commercial outcome of the project's support for technology development.
- Aalborg University, in collaboration with Textile Change, has demonstrated the feasibility of electrospinning recycled materials into new applications, opening pathways for future industrial partnerships.

Spin-off projects:

- A new project focused on green public procurement are currently being developed, building directly on the extensive knowledge, partnerships, and barriers identified in the procurement work package along

File no. 1153-00001B

with inputs from other Trace funded projects. This new project will investigate concrete green procurement specifications with both municipalities and private companies.

Continued partnerships:

- The cross-sector collaborations established during the project, particularly between DTI, DSKD and public institutions (municipalities and waste handlers), have created new opportunities for knowledge transfer and future collaborative initiatives that would not have emerged without this project.

Industry impact:

- Kentaur's introduction and testing of recycled materials in workwear, though part of the project activities, positions them for future commercial application of sustainable materials in their product lines.

G. Milestones and deliverables

Milestone/Deliverable	Achieved/Delivered [y/n]	Outcome
Milestones		
M1 Approval of Project Plan	y	Project plan approved
M2 Press release upon completion of the project	Expected in January 2026	Article for social media
M3 Workshop organised	Y	Internal workshop in the consortium marts 17 th 2023 focusing in needs and barrier when introducing recycle material in workwear textiles (connected to D2.1)
M4 Workshop organised	Y	Workshop (marts 20 th 2024) for track 2 participants and IKA network members. The workshop centered green procurement criteria for public procurement of workwear, and invited actors from across the value-chain to participate in a market dialogue centering ambitious, preventative procurement of textiles. The purpose of the workshop was to define procurement areas/criteria where the market is ready to deliver or test solutions and bring scale to these through procurement.
M5 Consumer tests completed	Y	Consumer test completed in 2025 (connected to D2.5)
M6 Washing/Technical tests completed	Y	Washing/Technical tests completed in end of 2024 (connected to D2.5)
M7 Workshop organised	Y	Workshop (October 2 nd 2024) for Track 2 participants and IKA network members. The

File no. 1153-00001B

		workshop built on the previous workshop, centering on green procurement criteria for public procurement of workwear, and invited actors from across the value chain to formulate action statements for ambitious green procurement of textiles and cross-sector partnerships. The purpose of the workshop was to formulate joint statements of action and procurement and disseminate these ideas to network participants.
M8 Completion of literature review and data analysis on best practices in textile waste collection	Y	Note containing affaldsplus' learning of best practice for textile waste collection
M9 BOFA sends 100 kg tekstile waste to AffaldPlus	Y	BOFA sends 100 kg tekstile waste to AffaldPlus
M10 DT Solutions sends 100 kg textile waste to AffaldPlus	Y	DT Solutions sends 100 kg textile waste to AffaldPlus
M11 Sorting Day 1 completed at AffaldPlus	Y	Sorting Day 1 completed at AffaldPlus (31/7/2024)
M12 BOFA sends 100 kg textile waste to AffaldPlus	Y	BOFA sends 100 kg textile waste to AffaldPlus
M13 Sorting Day 2 completed at AffaldPlus	Y	Sorting Day 2 completed at AffaldPlus(6/9/2024)
M15 AirTags have been placed in 35 pieces of textile waste from BOFA and shipped	Y	AirTags have been placed in 35 pieces of textile waste from BOFA and shipped (connected to D3.4)
M17 Shredded textile waste is delivered to Textile Change.	Y	Shredded textile waste is delivered to Textile Change.
M18 Electrospun fibers have been made.	Y	Electrospun fibers have been made.
Deliverables		
D1.1 Project Plan	Y	T5 Timeline
D1.2 Final Scientific Report		This document
D2.1 Note on Needs and Barriers for Textile Reuse in Workwear	Y	Note from consortium workshop on Needs and Barriers for Textile Reuse in Workwear
D2.3 Test plan	Y	a test plan for technical and consumer tests
D2.4 Note with initial conclusions on consumer tests	N	A full conclusion report was made instead (D2.5)
D2.5 Test conclusion report	Y	Test conclusion report
D2.6 Draft of Joint Statement of Procurement	Y	Power point with Draft of Joint Statement of Procurement
D3.1 Report on recommendations for improving textile waste collection methods for increased efficiency, sustainability, and valorization.	Y	Recommendations for improving textile waste collection methods for increased efficiency, sustainability, and valorization (word) and presentation for partners at final project meeting September 18 th 2025.

File no. 1153-00001B

		Anders from Affaldplus is in dialogue with DAKOFA about presenting recommendation at a DAKOFA meeting.
D3.2 Note regarding specifications for a presorting output.	Y	Note regarding specifications for a presorting output.
D3.3 Note or spreadsheet with information about the categories of textiles in specific waste fractions.	Y	Spreadsheet with information about the categories of textiles in specific waste fractions.
D3.4 Report on the Tracking experiments	Y	Tracking activities are reported in powerpoint presentation and spreadsheet
D4.1 Report or graphical presentation of the textile related companies in Denmark.	Y	Report or graphical presentation of the textile related companies in Denmark.
D6.2 Report summarizing the results of the iterative tests	Y	Power point with results
D6.3 First draft document specifying the requirement specification for a first commercial plant.	Y	2-page technical note: Preliminary requirement specification for a first commercial-scale plant based on Textile Change's chemical recycling process.
D7.1 Pre-treated separated textile samples that are ready for use in the electrospinning process	Y	Samples ready for use in the electrospinning process
D7.2 Report documenting the pre-treatment methods and results.	Y	Power point

All deliverables can be found in the T5 Teams [channel](#).

Note: the deliverables are NOT for publication.

H. Communication, synergy/cooperation, dissemination and outreach activities

Please list all activities related to this project under each subtitle below.

Note! You can copy-paste the relevant tables from the Output Summary Excel when applicable.

1. Scientific articles (include full reference, DOI and status (submitted/published) for each)

	Author	Title	DOI
1.	DSKD	Manuscript in Preparation (Sorting Study)	
2.	DSKD	Manuscript in Preparation (Air Tag Study)	
3.	AAU	Mohtaram, F.; Fojan, P. From Waste to Value: Advances in Recycling Textile-Based PET Fabrics. <i>Textiles</i> 2025, 5, 24.	https://doi.org/10.3390/textiles5030024
4.	AAU	Mohtaram, F., Petersen, M., Ahrenst-Mortensen, M., Boysen, L. S., Gram, F. H., Malling, H. H., ... & Fojan, P. (2024). Near-Field	https://doi.org/10.3390/ma17246242

File no. 1153-00001B

		Direct Write Electrospinning of PET-Carbon Quantum Dot Solutions. <i>Materials</i> , 17(24), 6242	
5.	AAU	Mohtaram, F., Fojan, P. Cellulose-Based Aligned Carbon Nanofibers, <i>Cellulose Journal</i> (In Preparation 2026)	In preparation
5.	AAU	Mohtaram, F.; Fojan, P. Electrospinning of Pre- and Post-Consumer PET Textile Waste: A Comparative Study with Virgin PET Fibers (in Preparation 2026)	In preparation

Other publications

	Author	Title	Type (dissertation, report, etc.)
1.	DSKD	Denmark	Book Chapter (Sustainability, the Circular Economy and Digitalisation in the European Textile and Clothing Industry: How Digital Technologies are Enabling the Circular Economy)
2.	DSKD, LDC	Textile Manufacturers in Denmark 2024	MyMaps map: https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=10L-c0XHSoSeHedXFrgGYCrHsIEfL5eU&ll=56.36521872048882%2C9.647146821875026&z=6
3.	DSKD, LDC	Danish Recyclers & Sorters Mapping 2024/25	Map on MyMaps: https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1iXZEwYulUXoFuzPAKjaRa-NIn92fEOE&usp=sharing
4.	DSKD, LDC	Ongoing: Map of Textile Recovery Actors (sorters and Recyclers) in Denmark	Report (primo 2026)

2. Events/Conferences (include organiser, date, location, number of participants and link if applicable)

No event or conferences held

However, two conferences were attended and oral presentations were given

	Author	Title	Type (talk, poster, invited)	Conference (name, country, date)
1.	Mohtaram, F., Fojan, P.	Preparation and characterization of different types of aligned Cellulose nanofibers	Oral presentations	The International Nanotech and Nanoscience Conference, 5-7 June 2024, Paris

File no. 1153-00001B

2.	Mohtaram, F., Fojan, P.	Electrospinning of Pre- and Post-Consumer PET Textile Waste	Oral presentations	Circular Materials Conference ,15-16 October- 2025, Copenhagen
3.	Hall, C.A, Christensen, D.*, Donslund, A.S, Hasling, K.M	Tracing Circular Potential: Textile Sorting and Global Post-Consumer Flows in Denmark	Oral presentation based on abstract	International Workshop on Advances in Cleaner Production, 13-16 October 2026, Jouy-en-Josas, France

3. Media (include link, or list relevant information about the activity)

	Title	Date	Venue/source	Purpose
1.	Krav og kriterier til fremtidens cirkulære tekstilforbrug - Netværks møde	06-06-2023	Online, hosted and facilitated by Gate 21	Network meeting and workshop, with the purpose of disseminating best existing practices for public textile procurement and methods for testing textile fibers in hospital workwear
2.	Netværksmøde i IKA Tænketank: Tekstiler og arbejdsbeklædning	20-03-2024	Venue: Miljømærkning Danmark Göteborg Plads 1 · 2150 Nordhavn. Hosted by IKA foreningen af offentlige indkøbere, facilitated and coordinated by Gate 21	Workshop for track 2 participants and IKA network members. The workshop centered green procurement criteria for public procurement of workwear, and invited actors from across the value-chain to participate in a market dialogue centering ambitious, preventative procurement of textiles. The purpose of the workshop was to define procurement areas/criteria where the market is ready to deliver or test solutions and bring scale to these through procurement.
3.	Textile Manufacturers in Denmark	18-06-2024	DSKD presented at DAKOFA Network, Copenhagen	To share findings from the textile manufacture mapping task
4.	Netværksmøde i IKA Tænketank: Tekstiler og arbejdsbeklædning	02-10-2024	Venue: Borch Textile Group, Slagelse. Hosted by IKA foreningen af offentlige indkøbere, facilitated partly by Gate 21	Workshop for Track 2 participants and IKA network members. The workshop built on the previous workshop, centering on green procurement criteria for public procurement of workwear, and invited actors from across the value chain to formulate action statements for ambitious green procurement of textiles and cross-sector partnerships. The purpose of the workshop was to formulate joint statements of action and procurement and disseminate these ideas to network participants.
5.	Netværksmøde i IKA Tænketanken for Tekstiler & Beklædning	19-06-2025	Venue: Textilia Group A/S, Kolding. Hosted by IKA foreningen af	To present outputs and facilitate dialoge around workshop outputs on ambitious green procurement criteria

File no. 1153-00001B

			offentlige indkøber	
6.	Udforskning af Tekstilaffald i Danmark	26-06-2025	Online, hosted and facilitated by LDC. 70 participants	Join this webinar where we present the findings from the One Textile Direction project, funded by the TRACE Partnership. The event will provide an overview of Denmark's role in textile waste recycling, including sorting and production processes. We will also explore how Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is impacting the industry and hear from key stakeholders.

4. Patents (include application no., data and granted (y/n))

No patents

5. Educations/Courses (include title of programme/course, and the number of participants)

No educations or courses were held or attended

6. Other activities including Trace internal synergy and co-operation activities, Trace Academy etc.

Trace academy events were attended by the PI and the project management team in the project period.

File no. 1153-00001B

K. Synergies to other projects/initiatives

Limited synergies within the Trace mission:

While initial networking groups were established by Trace to facilitate collaboration between textile projects in the early project phase, sustained synergies proved difficult to achieve in practice. The primary reasons for this were:

- **Internal project complexity:** With 17 partners and multiple work packages, the project team needed to prioritize establishing internal coherence and alignment on project goals. This left limited capacity for external networking activities.
- **Unclear objectives for cross-project collaboration:** The purpose and expected outcomes of cross-project meetings were not sufficiently clear, making it difficult to justify dedicating project resources to these activities.
- **Lack of active facilitation:** Cross-project networking was largely expected to be self-driven by project participants. However, without active coordination and facilitation from Trace, these initiatives lost momentum.

Identified synergies with other Trace procurement projects:

During the project period, other Trace-funded projects working on procurement and circular economy specifications were identified as having overlapping interests with this project's procurement work package. However, formal collaboration mechanisms were not established.

Spin-off project building on broader Trace knowledge:

A new project on green public procurement has been developed that will use learnings from this project and other Trace-funded initiatives working on textile circularity and procurement barriers, demonstrating how accumulated mission knowledge can inform future projects.

Key learnings on synergy creation:

A critical insight from this project is that **cross-project synergies do not emerge spontaneously**. For future mission-led programs, the project team recommends:

- **Active facilitation by Trace:** Rather than expecting project leaders and partners to self-organize networking, Trace should facilitate structured networking events with clear themes and objectives.
- **Dedicated resources:** Time and resources for synergy activities should be explicitly included in project budgets and work plans.
- **Clearer mission integration:** Projects need more concrete guidance on how they contribute to overall mission goals and how they can leverage or support other projects within the mission portfolio.

The most valuable synergies emerged from **cross-sector collaboration** between GTS and knowledge institutes, municipalities, waste operators, technology providers, and textile manufacturers - bridging organizational silos that typically do not interact in the textile value chain. This setup, enabled by the project structure, created mutual learning opportunities that would not have occurred otherwise. While synergies with other Trace textile projects remained limited, the project itself created strong internal synergies between sectors and disciplines that rarely collaborate.