



PRESS RELEASE

Terrassa, October 13th 2020

AEI Tèxtils releases the LIFE-FLAREX reports to facilitate substitution of flame retardants in the textile industry

LIFE-FLAREX is a LIFE Programme project that aims to reduce the impact on the environment, human health and workers' safety, of current harmful Flame Retardants used in the textile industry and their alternatives, by analyzing their environmental impact and technical functionalities and promoting the best practices for the sector

[LIFE-FLAREX](#) project, led by AEI TÈXTILS, the Catalan Technical Textiles' Cluster, run from July 2017 to June 2020.

The main objective of the project was the mitigation of the environmental and health impacts caused by hazardous compounds resulting from halogenated-, antimony- and formaldehyde- containing Flame Retardants textile finishing products on European ecosystems, by analyzing the best available textile finishing products and implementing those innovative technologies for FR applications in the interior textile contracting.

[View LIFE-FLAREX video](#)

Now, after the closure of the project, the consortium is pleased to inform about the publication of the Layman's report on the project website. The English version can be downloaded [here](#).

This report is a summary of the activities carried out and the results obtained.

The document is available in other six languages: [Catalan, Spanish, Italian, Czech, French and Dutch](#).

All other outputs from the project are also published and available for the chemical and textile industries as well as for the users and general public.

On 17th June, a webinar was organized to present key findings from project as a case study aimed to find sustainable FRs alternatives, to discuss main findings with international experts and increase stakeholders' engagement, to inform the textile industry about policy advances and new approaches and to collect industry feedback about a pressing topic.



LIFE-FLAREX is a project co-funded by the European Union under the LIFE Financial Instrument within the axe Environment Policy and Governance and under the Grant Agreement n. LIFE16 ENV/ES/000374



Presentations of this webinar, as well as the recorded session, are available [here](#).

This project is an example of collaboration between clusters, with the aim to improve the competitiveness of their members, which are SMEs in the advanced textile materials' sector.

Given the interest on the subject and the difficulties that textile SMEs face on the substitution processes, AEI Tèxtils decided to give continuity to LIFE-FLAREX, with the [SUSTEX project](#).

SUSTEX is co-funded by the Waste Agency of Catalonia and will be implemented from January 2020 to October 2021.

The project aims to provide tools and knowledge to the Catalan textile industry in order to promote substitution of hazardous chemicals used in the finishing processes to enable the application of environmental criteria in the manufacturing of its products. This will be achieved through a series of activities including a preliminary study of the current situation in Catalonia, interviews with companies from the textile finishing sector and with chemical suppliers. These preliminary activities are directed to baseline the current market situation and to identify the availability of potential alternatives that will be used in communication and workshops organized for the sector. A sectoral guide promoting substitution of hazardous chemicals for the textile finishing processes will be produced based on the learnings of the different activities and previous projects led by AEI TÈXTILS, such as LIFE-FLAREX. The sectoral guide will facilitate the Catalan textile industry the process of substitution.

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The project coordinator is AEI TÈXTILS, the Catalan cluster of technical textiles. Six additional partners complete the consortium: two Spanish technological centers/research institutes: LEITAT and the Institute of Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia (CSIC), both members of AEI TÈXTILS, the Belgian textile research center CENTEXBEL and three technical textile clusters: ATEVAL from Spain, POINTEX from Italy and CLUTEX from the Czech Republic.

LIFE-FLAREX's objective is to reduce the impact on the environment, human health and workers' safety, of the current flame retardants used in the textile sector, and their future alternatives, by identifying which are the best technologies available, both from the performance and from the sustainability point of view. This will be achieved with the development of the analysis of their environmental impact and functionalities in order to promote the substitution amongst the manufacturers.





For more information: www.life-flarex.eu



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