

# LIFE-FLAREX

Mitigation of environmental impact caused by Flame Retardant textile finishing chemicals studying their non-toxic alternatives

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **LIFE-FLAREX meets in Prague to assess safer flame retardants for 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 finishing industry and their alternatives, by analyzing their environmental impact and technical functionalities and promoting the best practices for the sector**

The [LIFE-FLAREX](#) consortium gathered in Prague for its sixth project meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The meeting hosted by [CLUTEX](#) was held at ATOK headquarters, one of CLUTEX members.

The consortium reviewed in depth the progress of all the actions of the project. Several points were treated with utmost detail; particularly, the ongoing industrial trials where the consortium are gathering the data for the Life Cycle Assessment and the Risk Assessment that will be used to assess the human and environmental risks and impact. The partnership also reviewed the progress on the skin penetration of the different products in order to assess the toxicological potential.

Thus far, the consortium has conducted industrial tests in Italy, at [TF2000](#) and [Fini-stampa Giordanetto](#), and at Czech Republic, both at [Inotex](#) and [Tylex Letovice](#). In the coming weeks, the partnership will conduct industrial trials at [Bonditex](#), [E.CIMA](#) and [Pertex](#) in Spain to complete the different assessments.

Other important aspect discussed during the meeting was the strategic plan for promoting substitution towards safer chemicals in the textile finishing process. All partners share a common vision and strategy to involve the different regions of the project and to seek regional synergies with ongoing programs and authorities. It is important to highlight best practices and experiences that companies can relate to in order to make an effective communication that can engage other companies to follow and lead.



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During the last stages of LIFE-FLAREX, the consortium will prepare several communication materials including the Layman's report and a FR Green Procurement Guide to communicate to companies and to the public the different results of the project.



**LIFE-FLAREX team during the project meeting in Prague**

The meeting included a review of the different dissemination and communication activities that have been performed during the first half of the project. It is noteworthy the presentation of the project at several international conferences including [ITMC](#) in Morocco and [ITMA](#) 2019 in Barcelona.

Additionally, on the first day of the meeting, a workshop with Czech textile companies was held prior to the project meeting. The aim of the workshop, led by [Leitat Technological Center](#), was to disseminate current results obtained during the laboratory tests and engage companies to apply substitution of hazardous chemical from finishing processes.



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**Nora Boisseree during the workshop with CLUTEX members**

Lastly, the consortium set the dates for the project final meeting and final event for June 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> in Alcoy, Ontinyent and Valencia in order to present the main results to companies and policymakers.

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*LIFE-FLAREX is co-funded by the European Commission's LIFE program under the Environment Policy and Governance axe with Grant Agreement number LIFE16 ENV/ES/000374.*

*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.*

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**For more information: [www.life-flarex.eu](http://www.life-flarex.eu)**



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