

Towards a circular economy for textiles

25/09/2024

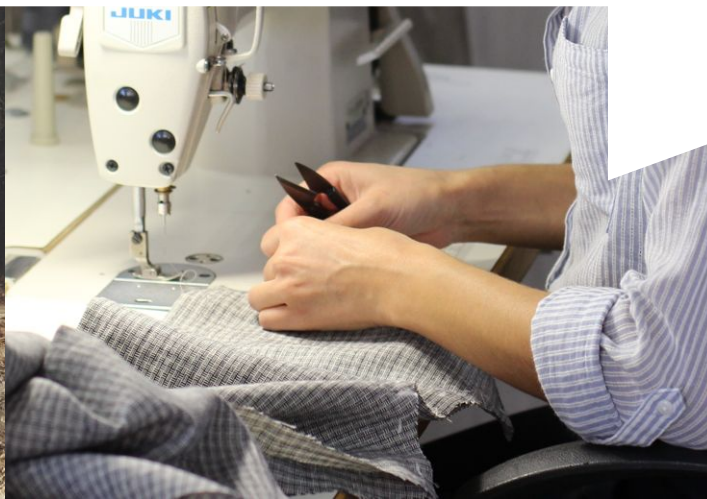
Presented by
Valérie Boiten



TAKE

MAKE

WASTE



Approximately 12 Mt of textiles are placed on the EU market every year.

It is estimated that **more than 8 Mt** of textiles end up in **incineration or landfill** every year in the EU (JRC, 2023).

4-9% of all textile products put on the market in Europe are **destroyed before use** (EEA, 2024).



Vision of a circular economy for fashion

1 used more

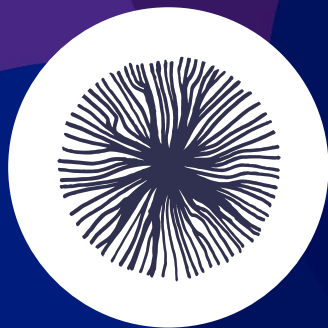
2 made to be made again

3 made from safe and recycled or
renewable inputs





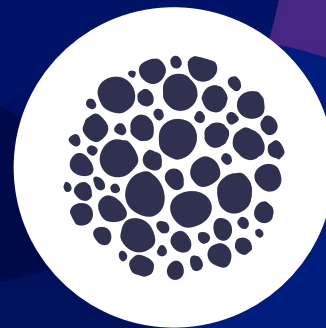
A global policy agenda to keep textiles in use



Design



**Business
models**



Infrastructure

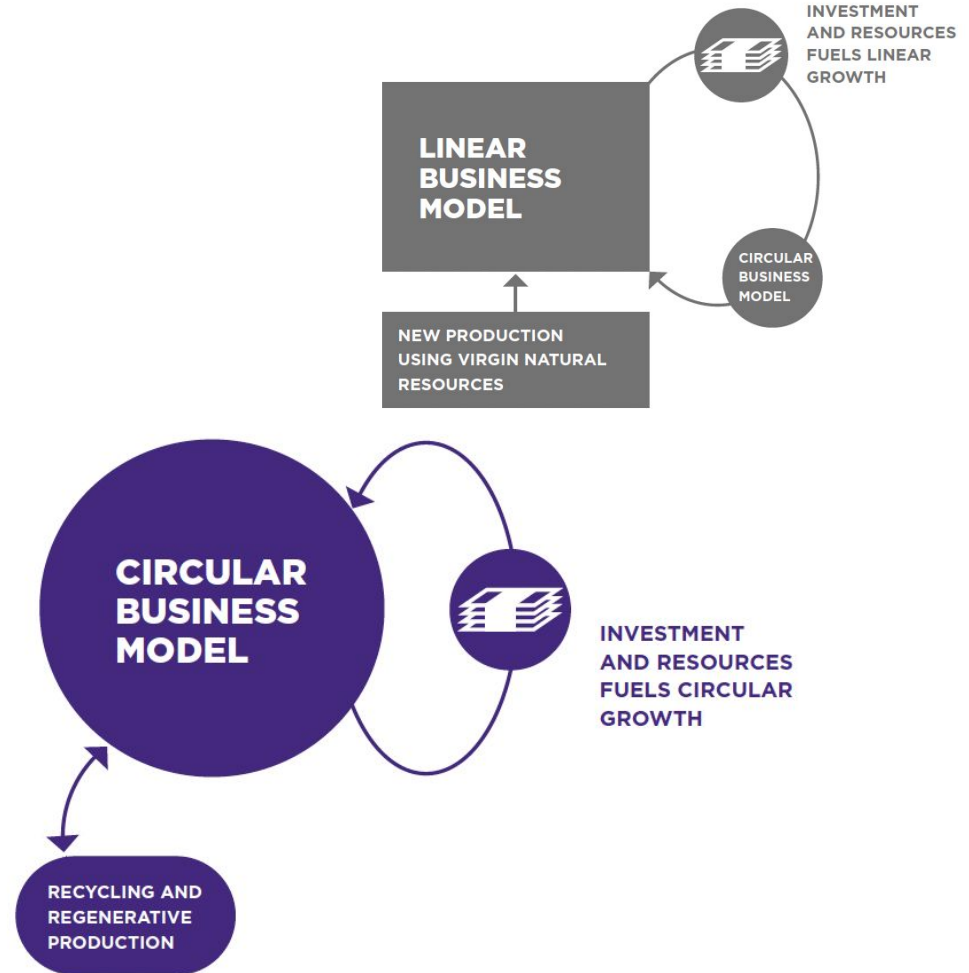
Jeans now



Redesigned jeans



Clothing is generally delivered through linear, single-sale business models, which do not provide for take-back, resale, or repair operations.



EU citizens discard on average **16 kg of textile waste per capita each year.**

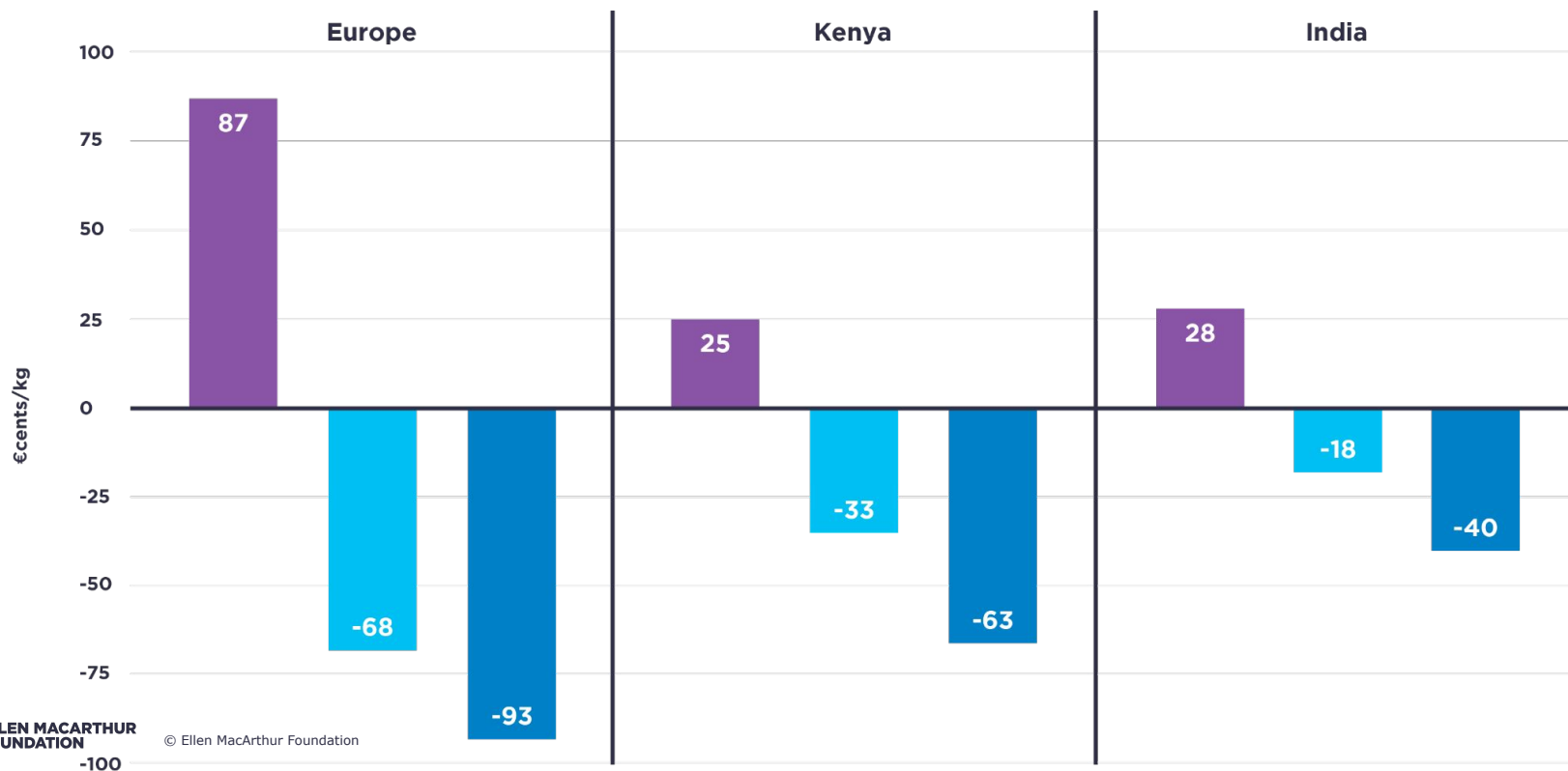
In the EU, the **average capture rate is 12% and reaches a maximum of **50%**.**



The business case for sorters in Europe, Kenya, and India

While sorters are able to turn a positive operating margin for reusable clothing, the non-reusable clothing fraction (sold to downcyclers or recyclers) is operating at a loss, based on current market prices. See Appendix F for a detailed breakdown of the values reported in this figure.

■ Margin generated by the reusable fraction ■ Margin generated by the non-reusable fraction ■ Margin generated by the waste fraction



Mandatory, Fee-based **Extended Producer Responsibility**



EPR provides dedicated, ongoing,
and sufficient funding for separate
collection and sorting

EPR spurs collective
action towards common
targets for collection,
reuse, and recycling

EPR attracts capital
investments in the
infrastructure needed to
reuse and recycle at scale

EPR creates transparency
and traceability on
global material flows

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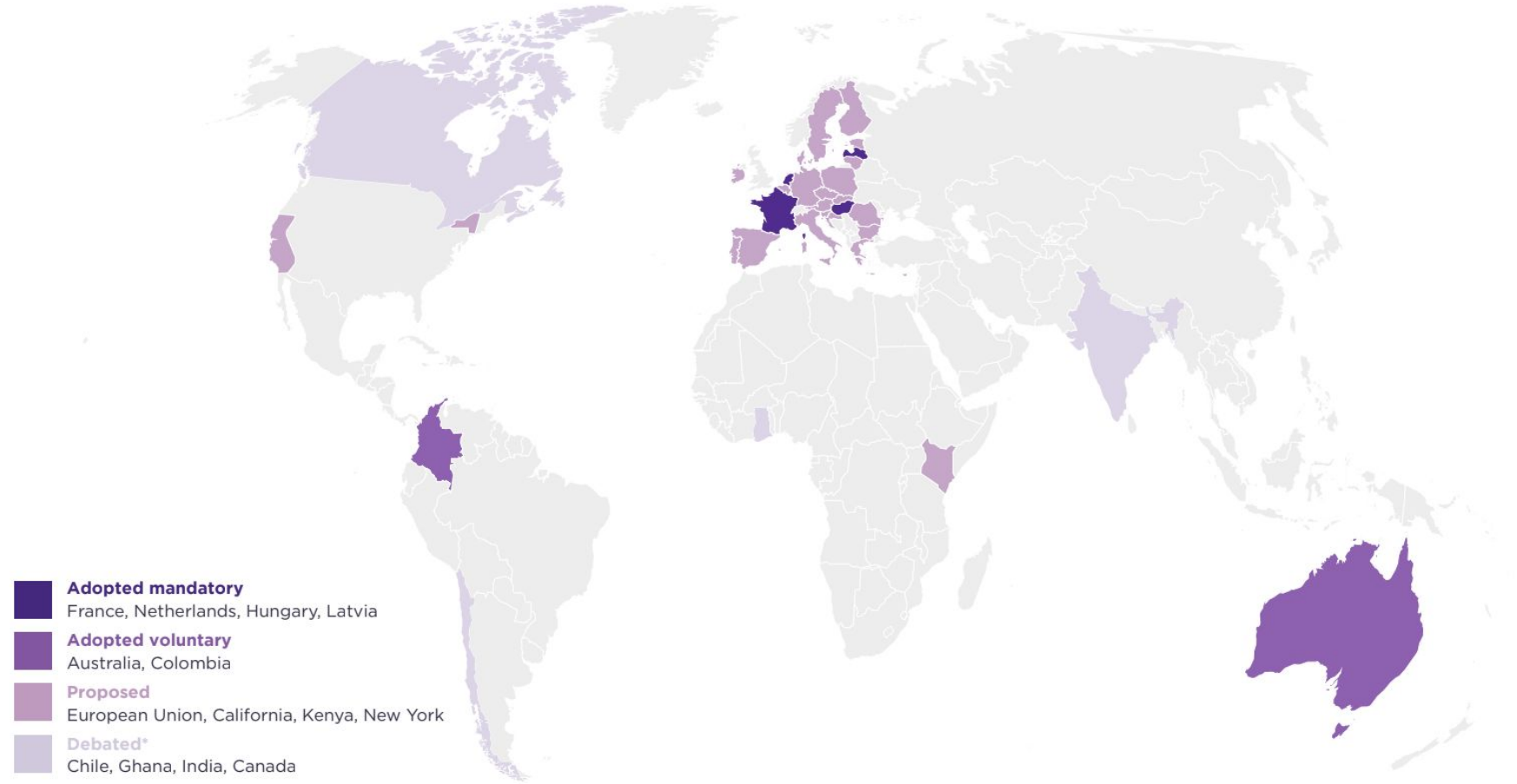


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Figure 4

Map of existing and emerging EPR systems for textiles, globally



How are countries around the world exploring and implementing EPR policy for textiles?

Five focus countries



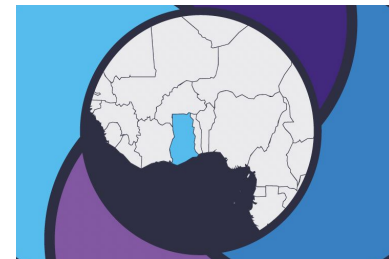
Chile



France



The Netherlands



Ghana



United States

Designing EPR for a circular economy



**Stimulate
circular product
design**

**Extend the use
phase of textile
products**

**Manage
waste beyond
jurisdictional
borders**

**Expand the
scope of
externalities
covered**

Thank you

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