**Organic textiles, part of the solution**

### Cotton production accounts for:

- 16.1% of the world’s insecticides use (more than any other crop!)
- 5.7% of the world’s pesticides use
- 8.2 million tonnes of chemicals

### Textiles industry accounts for:

- 3 billion tonnes CO2/year
- 1,000 kg of textiles: 15-35 tonnes CO2
- 6.7% global greenhouse gas emissions
- And harmful impacts on biodiversity, water quality & human health

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**Organic cotton, part of the solution**

- Uses no hazardous pesticides & fertilisers
- 40-46% less global warming potential
- 62% less energy
- 70% less acidification
- 26% less eutrophication

**Consumers want to act** but false claims and greenwashing can be confusing

**Organic cotton: an expanding market**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018-2019</th>
<th>2019-2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>222,213 farmers</td>
<td>229,280 farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grew 239,787 tonnes</td>
<td>grew 249,153 tonnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on 418,935 hectares</td>
<td>on 588,425 hectares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in 19 countries</td>
<td>in 21 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EU consumers care** about environmental and labour conditions

82% think there is not enough information on environmental impacts

86% wants labels on clothes with indications about environmental and labour conditions

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**Organic growth**

- 8.2 million tonnes of chemicals
- 6.7% of global greenhouse gas emissions
- 16.1% of the world’s insecticides use
- 5.7% of the world’s pesticides use

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**Consumers want to act** but false claims and greenwashing can be confusing

**EU policymakers can help**

- Protect the use of the term “organic” in the same way as it is for the food chain
- Amend the 2011 EU Textile Regulation to allow for a definition of organic textiles
- Recognise already-existing organic standards

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**Read more & sources:**

- GOTS, *Infographic, Compare! From field to fashion*.

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**Organic textiles**

- Ensure high environmental and social standards
- Prevent greenwashing
- Give consumers a clear environmental choice
- Protect organic producers

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**EU policymakers can help**

- Protect the use of the term “organic” in the same way as it is for the food chain
- Amend the 2011 EU Textile Regulation to allow for a definition of organic textiles
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