

BIOSYNTHETICS ROUND TABLE TERMS OF REFERENCE

About the Biosynthetics Round Table

Biosynthetics Round Table Summary

The Biosynthetics Round Table is a collaborative, pre-competitive community for people to connect, share knowledge, and drive collection action with a focus on biobased synthetics.

The Biosynthetics Round Table integrates internal and external stakeholders working together towards these goals. It is a group of high-level experts drawn from innovators, producers, the supply chain, brands and other industry representatives working together to drive the holistic industry engagement agenda.

The Biosynthetics Round Table aims to leverage industry expertise by bringing balanced participation from business, civil society, government, and development partners to discuss specific sustainability themes in the textile industry, through facilitated dialogue while working together to articulate a broad industry strategy and action plan.

Participation in the Biosynthetics Round Table is voluntary. Discussions are confidential within the group, but we ask for regular attendance and contribution to meetings, as well as a willingness to engage in collaborative action.

Vision and Methods

Vision

The vision for the Biosynthetics Round Table is a synthetics textile industry where no new fossil-based synthetics are entering the supply chain and all materials are coming from a biobased, recycled or regenerative source.

Purpose

The purpose of the Biosynthetics Round Table is to support Textile Exchange's sustainability vision with focus on biobased synthetics. The Biosynthetics Round Table will achieve this through gathering industry members to identify barriers to growth and take collective actions that result in meaningful impacts. The Biosynthetics Round Table goal is to create the network, tools, and business case on which the industry has the knowledge, confidence and supply chain connections to collectively move from fossil-based to responsibility managed renewable, biobased and regenerative resources.

Objectives

The objective of our work is defined as:

- Drive accelerated uptake of preferred synthetic fibers to 100% by 2030.
- Build and improve industry knowledge and understanding of biosynthetic materials, defining what they are and how the industry can utilise them.
- Address key barriers to growth of biosynthetic fibers in terms of production, uptake and consumption.
- Catalyze collective action, including cross-sector and cross-regional partnerships, particularly with organizations working on the ground.

Scope

The scope of our work is defined as:

- Focus on biobased synthetics.
- Holistic approach with a focus on carbon reduction, soil health, water, and biodiversity.
- Focus on raw materials while collaborating with others to drive positive impacts along the whole life cycle.

How We Add Value

The Biosynthetics Round Table adds value to the international synthetics textile industry by:

- Providing an inclusive space for all stakeholders to come together at a pre-competitive level.
- Building on a community approach to address key barriers to growth by sharing experiences.
- Operating through a number of activities including The Hub, meetings, summits and working groups.

Round Table Membership Agreement Form

[\[Round Table Sign-up Forms\]](#)

Background Information

Textile Exchange is a global non-profit driving positive impact on climate change across the fashion and textile industry. It guides a growing community of brands, manufacturers, and farmers towards more purposeful production from the very start of the supply chain.

The Round Tables support [Textile Exchange's Climate+ vision](#) for a global textile industry that protects and restores the environment, reduces the climate impact of our industry, and enhances lives. It inspires and equips people to accelerate sustainable practices and reduce climate impact in the textile value chain. We focus on minimizing the harmful impacts of the global textile industry and maximizing its positive effects. Our goal is to help the industry to achieve a 45% reduction in the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that come from producing fibers and raw materials by 2030. This is known as Tier 4 of the supply chain, and it accounts for 24% of the industry's GHG impacts related to the supply chain.

Textile Exchange's Round Tables are global stakeholder platforms that support and bring together the textile community to be inspired, share knowledge, and drive collective action with a focus on achieving our common goals.

For real change to happen, everyone needs a clear path to positive impact. That's why we believe that approachable, step-by-step instruction paired with collective action can catalyze change, mobilizing leaders through attainable strategies, proven solutions, and a driven community. The Round Tables will deliver our strategy by:

- Convening a community of stakeholders across materials and fibers,
- Identifying market issues and barriers,
- Aligning the textile industry on common, actionable goals and
- Creating an action plan that reflects regional needs.

The Round Tables are open to all (including non-members of Textile Exchange) but everyone must register to become a member and gain access to the Round Table Hub.

The Round Table Hub community is the virtual home for the Round Table members and is hosted in Textile Exchange's online membership portal, The Hub.

Round Table Terms of Engagement

Convener and Strategic Lead	Textile Exchange
Eligibility	Participation in the Round Table is voluntary
Composition, Representation	Representatives from Textile Exchange and the global textile industry: Suppliers, Brands, NGO's, and other industry professionals
Member Requests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular attendance of and contribution to meetings • Non-disclosure and confidentiality of shared information within the group • Support the Round Table development and collectively create solutions to address Climate+ and supply barriers and uptake challenges in the global textile industry. • Commitment to achieving Climate+ goals and outcomes • Sign the Membership Agreement below
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization: The Round Table Textile Exchange Lead will chair meetings and design them to facilitate discussion and action. • Determination: The Round Table will identify opportunities for the global textile industry to drive beneficial impact in their sector. • Action: The Round Table is committed to addressing and increasing positive impacts in the global textile industry.
Decision Making	The Round Table shall strive for consensus among all members of the group. As the entity ultimately responsible for delivery of initiatives, Textile Exchange reserves the right to make the final decision, and will disclose any decisions that differ from the will of the wider feedback obtained through the advisory stakeholder groups.
Length of Membership	The Round Table members can participate within the Round Table for as long as they have an interest in the subject.
Meeting Frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Round Table Summit will happen annually with the purpose of bringing the community together to share knowledge and learning and will be an opportunity to workshop strategies and plans for the Round Table. In-person attendance is encouraged, although a virtual option will be available. These are open to all interested parties. • The Round Table meetings will happen quarterly with the purpose of being regular meetings that drive action and will be an opportunity to present projects, ideas, concepts that will help us achieve our Round Table strategy and shared objectives. These meetings will be virtual. The Round Table participants sign up to join these meetings. • The Round Table Working Group meetings will happen as needed with the purpose of focusing on a specific task to drive progress towards our Round Table strategy and shared objectives. These meetings will be virtual. The Round Table participants join if they have the right skills to contribute to the task.
Time Commitment	Members are expected to have regular attendance of and contribution to meetings – which is envisioned to be between 2 – 10 days a year.

Round Table Terms of Reference

Please read the relevant Round Table Terms of Reference(s) below or click the arrow icon to download it to your computer. Click "Next" to confirm your agreement to the Membership Requirements outlined in the Terms of Reference and to join the Round Table. The membership includes access to the Round Table Hub, our online community network.

Round Table Membership Agreement

The undersigned has read and understands the Round Table Terms of Reference and agrees to the Membership Requirements therein:

- Contributing time and expertise during participation in Round Table activities.
- Working openly and collaboratively to meet the objectives of the Round Table, sharing best practices and lessons learned.
- Respecting Textile Exchange values (integrity, respect, inclusive community, learning, and collaboration) in all RT activities.
- Non-disclosure and confidentiality of shared information within the group and compliance with all applicable antitrust and anti-competitive laws, including, without limitation:
 - Treating any information that is shared as part of any Round Table meeting or activity in accordance with the Chatham House Rule (*Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed*);
 - That none of the information shared as part of the Round Table may be used to cause competitive injury or disadvantage to another Round Table member, participant, Textile Exchange, or the (Name of) Round Table; and
 - Abstaining from any conversations or activities that may restrict competition or set prices.
- Refraining from using any information obtained through the Round Table, other than to advance the objectives of the Round Table and in no event to disparage Round Table Members, their products, practices, businesses, or their reputations.

Non-mandatory but highly encouraged:

- [Become a Textile Exchange member](#) .
- [Familiarize yourself with the Textile Exchange Climate+ Strategy](#)

Signed* _____

Date:

(X) I confirm that I have read and agree to the Round Table Terms of Reference and Membership Agreement

(X) I understand that failure to abide by the terms of my membership in the Round Table in any material way may result in my termination of membership and ability to participate in the Round Table.

(X) Optional – I give permission for my organization to be publicly listed as a member of the Round Table.

(X) Optional – I agree to receive communications from Textile Exchange, including industry news and relevant information (this can be changed at any time using the “update your preferences” option in any email you receive from us).