

Join us to explore
the future of
sustainable fashion!

Design of Use - Exploring novel textile technologies for extending the life of materials.

Call for research participants and experts in materials, textiles, apparel, and repair, from start-ups and brands.

We would like to invite experts in materials, textiles, apparel, and repair, from start-ups and brands to participate in a circular design research study conducted by UKRI Interdisciplinary Textiles Circularity Centre's Material Circularity (MC) research team.

This research aims to investigate how novel textile technologies can extend the life of materials in textiles and apparel within the context of localised fabrication hubs.

When: 5th – 14th March 2024

Where: Regenerative Fashion Hub, Rich Mix, 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA

WHO CAN TAKE PART

We invite you to this study as an expert in **materials, textiles, apparel design, co-creation, production, and repair**, from small and medium businesses and industry representatives from textile and apparel/design brands, and/or material start-ups, and/or working with repair of apparel/textile products. To be included in this study, you must be 18 years old or over, and able to provide your own consent.

PARTICIPATION

Through workshops and guided tours, you will be guided through the **materials showcase** of our Regenerative Fashion Hub to explore **creative and cooperative design** for designing the use of TCC Materials Circularity (MC) fabrication technologies in the context of **material longevity** in a circular textiles economy. The **Design of Use catalogue** will be used as a tool to understand how MC textile fabrication technologies (robotic arm, 3D woven loom, 3D printer, and needle punching machine) can be used to **extend the life of textile materials and apparel**. The participants will be introduced to MC technologies through the lens of circular design approaches and will further explore how their own specialism can help to centre these technologies into collaborative approaches between different elements of a circular supply chain. Total duration of your participation (the workshop and exhibition visit) will be up to 2.5h. The number of participants in each session will be between up to 6 working in groups. 2-3 members of the research team will be present as facilitators, with a live illustrator documenting ideas generated in the workshop. This will take place at Rich Mix in East London.

Register here:



You will be contacted by email to confirm date and time based on the availability you provided. Descriptions and illustrations produced in the studies will be used to expand the Design of Use catalogue and made into additional cards and potential material prototypes. The data from studies will be used in the following ways: As the basis for discussion amongst the TCC consortium on the insights and findings arising from studies; to produce academic publications (In which we will use images from the studies); to give presentations at academic conferences, and other fora; to publish the research in other outlets such as websites, social media, etc. You will receive an information sheet describing the ethical considerations of this research in more detail for your informed consent.

The Regenerative Fashion Hub

The Regenerative Fashion Hub is an exhibition of the Textiles Circularity Centre’s research on sustainable apparel-textiles to engage the public, industry, NGOs and government in discussion, learning and knowledge-exchange. The Regenerative Fashion Hub will host a series of talks, ‘open house’ sessions and other activities.

The exhibition showcases **circular bio-based textile designs, product and consumer experience designs, and alternative local economy supply chain systems based on a social production network.** The exhibition brings to life the circular journey of biomaterials from source of waste through to the design, manufacture, reuse, repair, reproduction and consumption of apparel.

The exhibition is a platform for the supply chain’s stakeholders to **interact** with changemakers through a series of talks and discussions on important issues relating to circularity of textiles, **experience** new ways in which we can interact with materials and each other in the fashion system, and **engage** in our research through participating in the upcoming studies.

