

# OUR BACKGROUND WORK ON EU BREFS

## TXT BREF update

The [Textiles BREF](#) (TXT) is supposed to contribute to environmental protection by setting technical standards (BATs) and emission levels (BAT-AELs) for producers of textiles in the EU. The original TXT BREF dates back to 2003 and is currently under review, a process started in 2018 which will make the BREF content binding. Activities in ca. 230 plants EU-wide, ranging from wool scouring to flame-retardant treatments are under scrutiny, most importantly for their emissions to air and water.

Last week, Jean-Luc Wietor took part in the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop to assess and discuss the data on which the new BREF will be based. The workshop confirmed what the first draft of the BREF, released in December 2019, augured: BAT-AELs will likely be set to accommodate most of the European manufacturers' status quo (often substantially weaker than international standards such as the limits set in the [ZDHC certification](#)), rather than to drive improvement, innovation and investment.

The derivation process rests on data collected specially for the purpose of the TXT BREF and already questioned for its accuracy and representativeness. It is regrettably being analysed superficially without much attention for important technical parameters that allow e.g. a waste water treatment installation to run at its best performance.



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## WGC BREF update

A second data assessment workshop will take place on 1-2 December 2020 (tbc). Final meeting will take place Q2-Q3 of 2021 (tbc).



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## CER BREF update

Kick-off meeting to take place in the week of 22-26  
February (tbc).

