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Textile and Apparel sector analysis

Republic of Moldova



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RECOVERY THROUGH A CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND POLLUTION REDUCTION IN THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP
COUNTRIES

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About this report

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About EU4Green Recovery East

The EU4Green Recovery East programme is a regional programme supporting the EU's Eastern Partnership countries on their path towards a greener, more resilient, and competitive economy.

With an EU-contribution of EUR 21.3 million (2025-2028), it builds on the results of a decade of EU support for better water management and green economy adoption and focuses on five key components:

- (1) promoting a circular economy,
- (2) ensuring water is managed as a critical resource,
- (3) advancing legal approximation with EU environmental legislation,
- (4) strengthening integration into EU-wide environmental cooperation and data exchange, and
- (5) fostering cross-border environmental cooperation.

The programme is implemented by five partners: Expertise France with the French International Office for Water (OiEau), OECD, UNECE, UNIDO, and the Environment Agency Austria (UBA), as the consortium coordinator.

<https://www.eu4greenrecoveryeast.eu>

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List of abbreviations

CAEM – Classification of Economic Activities of Moldova

CPC – Central Product Classification

DPP – Digital Product Passport

EPR – Extended Producer Responsibility

ESPR – Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation

EU – European Union

GOST – State Standard (Gosudarstvennyy Standart)

GPP – Green Public Procurement

ISO – International Organization for Standardization

MDL – Moldovan Leu

OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OiEau – Office International de l'Eau

PaaS – Product-as-a-Service

SME – Small and Medium-sized Enterprise

UBA – Environment Agency Austria (Umweltbundesamt)

UNECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNIDO – United Nations Industrial Development Organization

USD – United States Dollar

VAT – Value Added Tax

VET – Vocational Education and Training

WRAP – Waste and Resources Action Programme

1. Executive Summary

This report has been developed as a foundational document to support Component 1 of the EU4Green Recovery East (EU4GRE) Programme “Promote Circular Economy & Resource Efficiency” in the Republic of Moldova¹. The textile and apparel sector was identified as one of Moldova’s priority sectors for circular economy intervention, based on the sector screening. Its selection reflects its economic relevance, material and waste pressures, and potential for circular solutions to improve resource efficiency, competitiveness and domestic value retention.

CORE CIRCULAR ECONOMY BOTTLENECK — significant circular value remains untapped, as structural barriers limit both domestic production and the development of reuse and repair markets. Textile collection and recovery remain weak, while reuse and repair services are still underdeveloped. At the same time, not yet operational EPR and circular procurement, the dominance of Lohn production with limited influence over design and take-back, and large amount of used-clothing import, constrain the development of stronger domestic circular value chains and viable local reuse and repair services in the sector.

The sector remains an important component of Moldova’s economy. Between 2014 and 2024, the number of active companies increased from 393 to 517 and turnover rose from MDL 3.664 billion to MDL 6.284 billion, while employment declined by 6.4%.

The sector is strongly import-dependent: only around 19.3% of clothing consumed in Moldova is locally produced, while the remaining 80.7% is supplied through imports. Direct trade data confirm this dependency at scale, gross imports of finished garments (HS chapters 61-62) reached approximately USD 220.0 million in 2025, compared with gross exports of only USD 21.6 million, a trade deficit of USD 198.4 million that has widened by 26.5% since 2023. In 2025, imports of used clothing reached 3,260.6 tonnes and USD 6.0 million. In 2024, used clothing represented 24.0% of the physical volume of clothing imports (latest verified estimate)².

To translate the sector-level diagnosis into a more focused intervention pathway, the analysis identified **clothing, including workwear as the most relevant value chain for deeper assessment**. Its selection reflects its economic importance, the concentration of key circularity challenges across production and product use, and the potential for interventions related to material efficiency, design, repair, reuse and end-of-life management.

Overall, the Republic of Moldova should not approach textile and apparel sector circularity primarily as a recycling challenge. The transition should focus first on **creating stronger market conditions** for sustainable and recovered materials and circular procurement; and **supporting companies and service providers** in circular design, repair, reuse and higher-value business models. Near-term entry points include collection and sorting, preparation for reuse, repair and lifetime extension, improved management of second-hand flows, and circular procurement for institutional textiles.

¹ <https://www.eu4greenrecoveryeast.eu/>

² <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow>



2. Introduction

2.1. Purpose

This report has been developed as a foundational document to support Component 1 of the [EU4Green Recovery East](#) (EU4GRE) Programme “Promote Circular Economy & Resource Efficiency” in the Republic of Moldova. It aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the textile and apparel sector, identifying the product groups and value chains with the highest potential for circular economy (CE) intervention. By establishing a robust, evidence-based understanding of the sector’s economic profile, material flows, trade dependence and circularity bottlenecks, the report serves as a critical reference point for guiding technical assistance, investment support and policy measures that help Moldovan businesses adopt circular models, reduce production costs and decrease reliance on imports. The findings herein will feed into the further activities of Component 1 – value chain mapping, pilot project design and policy recommendations – ensuring that future interventions are grounded in robust evidence and tailored to the national context.

2.2. Main Objectives

The primary objective of this report is to map and evaluate the textile and apparel sector in the Republic of Moldova in order to identify where circular economy intervention can deliver the greatest impact. Specifically, the report seeks to:

- map and evaluate the current status of the textile and apparel sector – market size, enterprise structure, production and trade flows – building on official statistics and trade data;
- identify the priority product groups with the highest circular economy potential through a CPC-based screening (CPC 282 – clothing, CPC 271 – made-up textile articles, CPC 263/264 – yarns and fabrics, CPC 272 – carpets);
- identify the main circularity bottlenecks and define core circularity priorities with concrete entry points and scaling methods relevant to Moldovan market conditions;
- support the objectives of Component 1 – helping businesses adopt circular models, create new jobs, reduce costs and decrease reliance on imports – by providing a decision-ready evidence base for pilot interventions and policy recommendations.

2.3. Methodology

The analysis draws on the evidence base developed under UNIDO’s framework within EU4Green Recovery East. The selection of priority sectors for the circular economy was carried out through a participatory Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis of the national economic sectors, and the textile and apparel sector was identified and validated as a national priority together with key sector actors and the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Economic

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Development and Digitalisation³. Building on this sector-level selection, a detailed product-level analysis was conducted for each priority sector, applying the UN Central Product Classification (CPC) methodology⁴ to identify the product groups with the highest circular economy potential. The analysis was complemented by fieldwork: discussions and interviews with economic operators from the sector, grounded in 13 survey responses and semi-structured interviews. The preliminary results were examined in a working session⁵ held in an interactive circular canvas format, with the participation of sector stakeholders, to jointly analyse and validate the value chain canvas and the proposed circular economy interventions. Building on this evidence, the present report provides the full sector-specific analysis: the structural diagnosis, the priority product groups, the circularity bottlenecks, and the core circularity priorities with entry points and scaling methods, supplemented by the value chain canvas and trade annexes.

3. Core sector diagnosis

The textile and apparel sector represents an important component of the economy of the Republic of Moldova, maintaining its relevance through its contribution to industrial activity, exports and employment. According to information presented by National Bureau of Statistics and reflected in Table 1, between 2014 and 2024, the number of companies in the sector increased from 393 to 517, while turnover rose from MDL 3.664 billion to MDL 6.284 billion. Over the same period, employment declined by 6.4%, indicating that sector expansion has not translated into broader labour absorption and that productivity gains have been accompanied by structural labour contraction.

Table 1. Evolution of the main structural indicators of the textile and apparel sector in the Republic of Moldova, 2014–2024

Indicator	2014	2024	Trend
Number of active companies	393	517	+31.6%
Turnover (<i>million MDL</i>)	3,664	6,284	+71.5%
Number of employees	18,703	17,508	–6.4%

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

³ <https://www.eu4greenrecoveryeast.eu/index.php/news-opportunities-eu4greenrecoveryeast/78-moldova-identifies-priority-regions-and-sectors-to-advance-circular-economy-activities-with-eu-support>

⁴ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/classifications/Econ/cpc>

⁵ <https://e-circular.org/economie-circulara/cartografierea-lanturilor-valorice-pentru-accelerarea-tranzitiei-moldovei-catre-economia-circulara-in-cadrul-programului-eu4green-recovery-east/>

Table 2. Value of manufactured production, CAEM C13 and C14 groups, 2019–2025 (million MDL, current prices)

CAEM group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
C1300 – Manufacture of textile products	2 531.9	2 704.9	3 144.1	3 314.5	2 976.0	2 632.7	2 668.1
C1400 – Manufacture of wearing apparel	2 628.7	2 537.5	3 033.3	3 214.8	3 083.7	2 828.2	3 113.0

Source: National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova, Value of manufactured production by economic activity, 2019–2025.

The domestic market remains highly import-dependent. Only 19.3% of clothing consumed in Moldova is locally produced, while the remaining 80.7% is supplied through imports. This weakens domestic market capture and limits the ability of local firms to scale circular product-service models through national demand alone.

Direct trade data corroborates this import dependency at the whole sub-sector level. Aggregate value of exports across the HS codes associated with the sector's priority and secondary product groups (CPC 282, 271, 263/264, 272 and 279) was USD 39.5 million in 2025, against imports of USD 422.9 million — a trade deficit of USD 383.3 million, which has widened by 17.9% since 2023 (Table 3). This confirms that the sector's manufacturing base is structurally oriented toward processing for export under Lohn arrangements (see Section 3), while the domestic market itself is supplied almost entirely through imports.

Table 3. Aggregate trade balance for textile and apparel priority and secondary product groups, 2023–2025

Year	Export (thousand USD)	Import (thousand USD)	Trade balance (thousand USD)
2023	58 180.6	383 398.1	–325 217.4
2024	38 510.7	399 741.8	–361 231.0
2025	39 541.6	422 866.7	–383 325.1

Source: UN Comtrade (comtradeplus.un.org), Reporter = Republic of Moldova, Partner = World, HS 4-digit codes covering CPC 282, 271, 263/264, 272 and 279 (81 codes in total).

Within import flows, one segment stands out due to its important implications for the development of the circular economy in the Republic of Moldova: **imports of used clothing**. In 2025, these imports reached 3,260.6 tonnes, with a total value of USD 6.0 million. Although used clothing accounted for only 2.7% of the total value of clothing imports, it represented 24.0% of the total physical volume imported (2024 estimate; a directly comparable 2025 volume share could not be verified from the available trade data).⁶

From a consumption and waste-generation perspective, the Republic of Moldova shows levels broadly comparable to the EU average. Apparent textile consumption is estimated at around 20 kg per capita per year, close to the EU-27 average of 19 kg, while textile waste generation is estimated at approximately 17 kg per capita, or around 41,000 tonnes annually. The main gap lies in waste management rather than generation. Separate collection of textile waste in

⁶ https://e-circular.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Sectorul-textile-si-imbracaminte_2026.pdf

Moldova is estimated at below 0.3%⁷, or less than 1 kg per capita per year, compared with an EU average of around 4.4 kg per capita. This points to significant structural gaps in collection, sorting and preparation for reuse infrastructure, as well as the absence of dedicated economic mechanisms for managing post-consumer textiles.

The Republic of Moldova has a decentralized and resilient network of technical expertise in clothing repair services. According to data from the State Tax Service, the number of entrepreneurial license⁸ issued for the activity “sewing, knitting and repair of clothing and headwear, including their sale” has remained relatively stable at around 800 license per year nationwide: 813 in 2021, 798 in 2022, 807 in 2023, 850 in 2024 and 778 in 2025. The highest concentrations are recorded in Chişinău Municipality, particularly in the Râşcani, Botanica and Centru districts, as well as in Bălţi.⁹

In policy terms, circular interventions are part of the response to the sector's current vulnerabilities: weak domestic market capture, external dependence, mounting pressure from cheap inflows and insufficient capacity to manage textile materials after use.

This dynamic has at least two direct implications for sectoral policies.

1. First, the fact that employment has declined while turnover has increased limits the traditional sector's potential to generate new jobs. This makes the development of new categories of green jobs in high-circularity segments even more relevant, including textile sorting operators, upcycling and repair specialists, material recycling technicians, and similar professions. These segments do not currently exist in Moldova as structured economic activities.
2. Second, the sector is not in decline but rather undergoing transformation. Public policies should therefore focus on accelerating this transition, through incentives for clean technologies, workforce training and reskilling, and improved access to financing for investments, rather than attempting to artificially preserve segments that are experiencing structural erosion.
3. Third, the sector's transformation is uneven across the value chain, requiring differentiated policy instruments. While large importers and other operators placing significant volumes of textiles and clothing on the market can be more effectively identified, monitored and regulated, downstream activities such as repair, reuse, local services and small-scale trade remain highly fragmented. This supports a policy approach in which EPR, traceability and reporting obligations are concentrated upstream, while the resources generated through these mechanisms are channelled downstream to develop sorting, repair, reuse and social-inclusion capacities.

4. Priority product groups for circular economy interventions

The textile and apparel sector is not homogeneous: different sub-segments show different profiles in terms of production value, number of firms, material losses, market linkages, and feasibility of circular interventions. Prioritization of main value chains helps direct policy

⁷ <https://am.gov.md/ro>

⁸ Entrepreneurial licence refers to the Moldovan *entrepreneurial patent* regime, which allows individuals to carry out specified business activities for a defined period under simplified registration, taxation, record-keeping and reporting requirements (Law No. 93-XIV of 15 July 1998).

⁹ https://e-circular.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Sectorul-textile-si-imbracaminte_2026.pdf

measures, technical support, and investment toward those areas where systemic impact is most likely.

To move from a sectoral to a value-chain level of analysis, the Central Product Classification (CPC) codes within CAEM C13-C14 were screened against three quantitative criteria: production value (2024), number of active enterprises, and availability of a consistent product-level series for 2020–2024, combined with a qualitative assessment of circular economy potential, strategic relevance and feasibility of enterprise-level data collection. Four CPC codes were retained for in-depth analysis: CPC 282 – Clothing, CPC 271 – Made-up textile articles, CPC 263/264 – Fabrics/Textiles and CPC 272 – Carpets and rugs.

Table 4. Quantitative Profile of CPC Codes within CAEM C13-C14 (2024)

CPC code	Product/service	CAEM	Enterprises	Production value, million MDL	Share in industry, %
CPC 282	Apparel / articles of apparel	C1400 / C1410 / C1413 / C1414 / C1430	284	2 828.2	3.29
CPC 271	Made-up textile articles, except apparel	C1392	83	1 824.7	2.12
CPC 263/264	Textile fabrics / woven fabrics	C1320	4	451.0	0.52
CPC 272	Carpets and textile floor coverings	C1393	4	251.6	0.29
CPC 279	Nonwovens, technical and other textile articles n.e.c.	C1395/C1396/ C1399	16	76.3	0.08
CPC 881	Textile finishing services	C1330	5	7.3	0.01

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

4.1. Priority product group 1: CPC 282 - Clothing

CPC 282 – Clothing represents the largest sub-segment of Moldova’s textile and apparel sector in both economic and enterprise terms, with approximately MDL 2.83 billion in production value in 2024 and 284 enterprises.¹⁰ It is therefore the most relevant entry point for a first-phase intervention. This value chain covers clothing products, including workwear and uniforms, and is prioritized not only because of its scale, but because it concentrates many of the sector’s most pressing structural challenges and offers the broadest potential for impact across the product life cycle. As presented in figure 1, product data show a mixed trend. Workwear fell from 6.23 million units in 2020 to 3.53 million units in 2024, and blouses/shirts fell from 1.87 million units to 0.38 million units. At the same time, coats and similar items have increased from 673,000 units to 979,000 units in 2024. This trend indicates a diversified structure, but also volatility across product categories.

¹⁰ <https://statistica.md/>



Figure 1. Evolution of the sector's production structure

Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

The strategic importance of CPC 282 lies in the fact that much of the segment remains organized around Lohn (cut-make-trim) production with limited local value retention. Gross margins are typically low, while firms remain highly exposed to rising labour costs, exchange-rate volatility, and competition from other nearshoring locations. In parallel, the domestic apparel market is also shaped by large volumes of imported used clothing, which create additional price pressure in the mass market and further limit the competitiveness of locally produced garments in lower-value segments. Together, these factors make CPC 282 the clearest expression of the sector's current vulnerability: dependence on imported inputs, weak control over branding and design, material losses in production, and limited capture of higher-value functions.

For this reason, intervention in CPC 282 should go beyond resource efficiency alone. The objective is to support a gradual shift from low-value subcontracting toward higher-value, more circular, and more resilient apparel business models. This includes reducing material losses, improving design and material choices, extending product lifetimes, strengthening repair and refurbishment activities, and using circular procurement and service-based models where relevant, particularly for workwear and uniforms. It also includes improving the sector's readiness for sustainability and traceability requirements such as the Digital Product Passport (DPP) and Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR).

4.2. Priority product group 2: CPC 271 – Made-up textile articles

CPC 271 – Made-up textile articles represents the second largest sub-segment of Moldova's textile and apparel sector with approximately MDL 1.82 billion in production value and 83 enterprises. According to Figure 1 below, the product ranges include bed linen, table linen, toiletries and kitchen linen, production increased from 198.3 tonnes in 2020 to 272.6 tonnes in 2024. This segment is important for consultations as it is directly linked to textiles for domestic use, hotels, institutions, commerce and services, and the products have lifecycles and post-consumer flows that can be more easily discussed with stakeholders.

Although smaller than clothing, it is strategically important because it covers non-clothing textile products used in households, hospitality, institutions, commerce, and services, including bed linen, table linen, toilet and kitchen linen, and related service textiles.¹¹ This value chain is

¹¹ <https://statistica.md/>

prioritized because it offers a distinct and highly practical circular economy pathway: not primarily through apparel upgrading, but through the potential to link recovered textile flows with domestic production of selected made-up textile goods.

The strategic relevance of CPC 271 lies in its strong connection to domestic and institutional demand, combined with the possibility of greater national value retention through circular reprocessing and import substitution. Moldova imports a large share of such products, yet better-organized systems for textile collection, sorting, and recovery could support local production in lower-complexity categories that do not depend on branding intensity in the same way as apparel. In this sense, CPC 271 provides one of the clearest opportunities to transform textile waste and recovered materials into economically useful outputs at national level.

For this reason, intervention in CPC 271 should focus on building the market and material conditions that make circular domestic production viable. The objective is to connect post-industrial and post-consumer textile flows with products such as industrial wipes, cleaning cloths, padding and non-woven applications, insulation materials, and selected institutional or service-based textile articles. This also makes CPC 271 particularly suitable for circular procurement models in non-clothing institutional textiles, such as hospital linen, hospitality textiles, and other service textiles where longer life, repairability, and in some cases recovered content can be integrated more easily. In this way, CPC 271 complements CPC 282 by providing a practical downstream pathway for waste valorization, local manufacturing, and circular market development.

The circular potential is very good: textile reuse, repair, post-consumer collection, mechanical recycling, upcycling, the use of recycled materials, reducing packaging and collaboration with collection operators can all be addressed in a practical way. The segment is also suitable for discussions on green public procurement, institutional textiles and service models based on usage, not just on sales.

4.3. Other product groups

CPC 263/264 – Fabrics/Textiles with a production value of approximately MDL 451.0 million in 2024, but a very limited business base, comprising only 4 enterprises. This makes it less representative of a broad sample of companies, but important for understanding material inputs into the textile chain. Product data for fabrics is volatile: 10.8 million m² in 2020, an unusual peak of 139.5 million m² in 2023, and 11.1 million m² in 2024. For interpretation, this series requires further verification through consultation, as the fluctuation may reflect methodological changes, large orders, reporting structure or other statistical peculiarities. From a circular perspective, the segment is relevant to fibres, material composition, technological losses, finishes, input quality and the potential for using recycled fibres. However, due to the small number of companies, it is recommended that this be treated as a cross-cutting sub-component of the value chain, rather than as a primary selection option.

CPC 272 – Carpets and Rugs with a production value of approximately MDL 251.6 million in 2024 and comprises 4 enterprises. The segment is smaller than clothing and made-up textile articles, but may be of interest due to specific material flows, product lifespans and the difficulty of recycling composite products. The circular potential relates to product design, material

separability, fibre recovery, reuse, refurbishment, post-consumer waste management and links to the construction, hospitality and retail sectors. However, due to its small scale and the more limited availability of product data, the segment is better suited as a fallback option or as a complementary topic in consultations.

4.4. Trade exposure of the priority product groups

Direct trade data (UN Comtrade, HS 4-digit) confirm that Moldova runs a trade deficit in nearly every priority and secondary product group identified above (Table 5). Clothing (CPC 282) accounts for the large majority of the sector's aggregate deficit — USD 198.4 million in 2025, up 26.5% since 2023 — consistent with the import-dependent domestic market described in the Executive Summary and Section 3. Made-up textile articles (CPC 271) show the fastest-widening deficit in relative terms (+54.2%), though from a much smaller base. Fabrics/textiles (CPC 263/264) and nonwovens (CPC 279) also run persistent deficits, both used mainly as material inputs rather than finished products for the domestic market.

The carpets and rugs segment (CPC 272) is the one exception: Moldova was a net exporter in both 2023 and 2025, although the surplus narrowed from USD 4.8 million to USD 2.2 million over the period. Given the segment's small enterprise base (Table 5), this reflects a small number of export-oriented producers rather than a broad market position, and should be read alongside the caution already noted for this product group in Section 4.4.

Table 5. Trade balance by priority and secondary product group, 2025 (with 2023–2025 trend)

Product group	Export 2025 (th. USD)	Import 2025 (th. USD)	Trade balance 2025 (th. USD)	Change in balance 2023– 2025
CPC 282 – Clothing	21 557.0	219 979.5	–198 422.5	+26.5%
CPC 271 – Made-up textile articles	2 009.5	57 007.8	–54 998.2	+54.2%
Worn clothing (HS 6309/6310)	67.7	6 071.0	–6 003.3	+14.7%
CPC 263/264 – Fabrics/Textiles	1 284.4	90 563.8	–89 279.5	–4.2%
CPC 272 – Carpets and rugs	14 489.8	12 291.2	+2 198.6	net exporter
CPC 279 – Nonwovens	133.2	36 953.4	–36 820.2	–5.9%

Source: UN Comtrade, Moldova, Partner = World, HS 4/6-digit codes, 2023–2025. Exp. = Export, Imp. = Import, thousand USD. See Annex 2 for the full HS-code-level breakdown.

5. Circularity bottlenecks

The sector analysis combines quantitative statistical and market data with qualitative evidence from a participatory Value Chain Mapping exercise conducted with key textile and apparel stakeholders. The resulting Value Chain Canvas is presented in Annex 1. Together, these informed the identification of the main circularity bottlenecks below and the corresponding entry points for circular economy intervention presented in Section 6.

- The main circularity gap in Moldova's textile and apparel sector is systemic rather than conceptual. The country generates around 41,000 tons of textile waste per year, yet separate collection remains below 1%. Most textile waste, particularly post-consumer textiles, which account for more than 90% of the total textile waste generated is collected together with mixed municipal waste. As a result, these materials are effectively lost for sorting, reuse, repair, preparation for reuse, or material recovery. Consequently, the lack of dedicated collection and sorting infrastructure represents a more immediate constraint to circularity than the absence of recycling ambitions.
- A second distortion relates to second-hand imports. In 2024, used clothing imports reached about 3,214 tonnes. Although they accounted for only 2.9% of the value of clothing imports, they represented 24.0% of the physical import volume.¹² This indicates a high-volume, low-value flow. Under current market conditions, such inflows should not automatically be treated as a circular opportunity. Without clear quality rules, pre-sorting requirements and residual-waste management, they risk suppressing demand for local repair, weakening domestic producers and transferring waste-management costs to municipalities.
- Another bottleneck concerns enabling infrastructure and policy conditions. The sector still faces a regulatory vacuum following the elimination of GOST standards (*Gosudarstvennyy Standart - system of technical standards inherited from the Soviet Union*), lacks accredited testing capacity, does not yet have an operational textile EPR scheme (the government is in the process of developing one), and has very limited organized channels for deadstock valorization or post-consumer textile management. These barriers were already clearly identified in the project's working-group outputs and remain fully consistent with the quantitative trade and market evidence.
- A major circularity bottleneck is the sector's strong dependence on **Lohn / processing-on-behalf production for foreign markets**. While this model supports integration into European value chains and provides access to technical know-how and stable export demand, local manufacturers generally operate according to specifications set by external clients. As a result, they have limited influence over key circularity decisions, including the use of recycled materials, design for durability and repairability, product take-back, or circular packaging. This constrains the ability of Moldovan producers to independently introduce circular product strategies and keeps much of the higher-value activities—such as branding, product design and direct market access—outside the country.

¹² <https://statistica.md/>

- Repair and life-extension services represent an existing but underutilized circularity pathway. A stable base of entrepreneurial licenses for sewing, knitting and clothing repair shows that technical skills and small-scale capacity are available nationwide, yet this has not translated into a strong repair market: costs are often high relative to low-cost new or second-hand clothing, and many garments are hard to repair economically given their design and materials. No incentives or support mechanisms currently exist to change this. The bottleneck, then, is not a lack of skills but weak economic and regulatory conditions, worth addressing given that repair is low-risk, labour-intensive and immediately monetisable, with WRAP evidence showing an 82.2% substitution effect against new-garment purchases¹³.

This repair base is strategically important because it gives Moldova a credible first step that is compatible with current market conditions. Unlike large-scale recycling, repair does not require homogeneous feedstock, sophisticated sorting technology or major industrial capital. It can be expanded through training, quality improvements, formalisation, municipal support and targeted demand stimulation. In practical donor terms, this makes repair the strongest short-term circular entry point and the most visible bridge between social, environmental and SME-development objectives.

6. Core circularity priorities

The sector's circular transition should be explicitly structured around the three strategic priorities presented in Table 6. As visible in the table, each row links one priority to a corresponding barrier and a corresponding opportunity, forming a clear intervention logic: Priority → Barrier → Opportunity. This table should be treated as a central organizing framework in the summary, not merely as supporting material.

Table 6. Top 3 priorities, barriers and opportunities in the Textile and apparel sector

#	Priority	#	Barrier		Opportunity
P1	Develop the national framework and infrastructure for textile circularity (standards, testing, collection, sorting and EPR)	B1	Regulatory vacuum after elimination of GOST standards, lack of accredited testing laboratories, absence of textile collection and sorting infrastructure, no operational EPR scheme for textiles.	O1	Establish a national EPR scheme for textiles; develop regional collection and sorting centres; create accredited textile testing laboratories; adopt international quality standards; develop a digital platform for textile waste and deadstock flows; export sorted textile fractions to EU fibre-to-fibre recyclers.
P2	Create fair market conditions and stimulate sustainable textile materials and circular procurement	B2	Customs duties on natural raw materials, VAT asymmetries favouring second-hand imports, strong dependence on imported synthetic fibres, lack of markets for deadstock and recovered	O2	Reduce or eliminate customs duties on natural and recycled raw materials; establish a national deadstock marketplace; promote recycled fibres; engage importers and e-commerce platforms in EPR obligations; introduce Green Public

¹³ <https://www.wrap.ngo/resources/report/displacement-rates-untangled>

			textiles, limited demand for sustainable products.		Procurement for institutional textiles and uniforms; implement operational leasing models for uniforms in hospitals, schools and public services combined with industrial washing services.
P3	Transform the textile sector towards circular business models and higher-value products	B3	Labour shortages and skills gaps, limited circular-design capabilities, high textile losses during cutting, weak repair and reuse culture, lack of local recycling and valorisation capacity.	O3	Design for repair, reuse and recycling; production of non-woven materials (sintipon), insulation materials and industrial wipes from textile waste; establish upcycling hubs and incubators for women entrepreneurs; support repair and refurbishment businesses; introduce VET programmes for circular skills; prepare companies for DPP and ESPR requirements.

Taken together, these three priorities define the core logic of the sector summary. **P1 builds the enabling system, P2 corrects market incentives, and P3 transforms firms, products, and business models.** This framing should be made explicit in the main text.

6.1. Main entry points for a realistic circular transition

Based on the circularity bottlenecks identified and the stakeholder evidence gathered, the analysis points to a set of practical entry points that reflect Moldova's current market conditions, infrastructure gaps and existing sector capabilities. Rather than proposing generic measures for the sector as a whole, this study identifies targeted circular entry points for two priority value chains — clothing (CPC 282) and made-up textile articles & institutional uniforms (CPC 271/28236), which correspond to distinct customer bases, garment lifecycles and intervention logics.

Circular entry points for clothing, including workwear (CPC 282/28236):

- Repair, alteration and refurbishment as the first and most feasible intervention space: evidence used in this analysis shows clothing repair has the highest displacement effect of any circular intervention.
- Collection, grading, sorting and preparation-for-reuse capacity, currently the missing middle layer of the system: Moldova is estimated to need 8,000–10,000 tonnes per year of sorting capacity to begin managing textile flows credibly.
- Controlled expansion of reuse and second-hand markets, under clearer quality, traceability and pre-sorting conditions, with EPR obligations and eco-modulated fees extended to clothing importers and e-commerce operators to help manage the volume of textile inflows.
- Green Public Procurement criteria for hospitals, schools and other public services, using stable institutional demand to anchor repairable-uniform specifications and recycled-content requirements.
- Product-as-a-Service and operational-leasing models for institutional uniforms, piloted with public institutions before extending to hospitality and other service sectors.

- Dedicated professional laundering, maintenance and repair infrastructure to support leasing and service models, extending the working life of institutional garments rather than replacing them.
- Recycling positioned explicitly as a later-stage option for the non-reusable fraction under the same EPR scheme, once repair, sorting and reuse systems are functioning: large-scale fibre-to-fibre recycling should not be treated as Moldova's first intervention step.

Circular entry points for made-up textile articles (CPC 271):

- Collection and sorting integrated into the same infrastructure being built for clothing, rather than a parallel system, given the overlapping material types and logistics between the two streams.
- Downcycling of non-reusable textile waste into thermal and acoustic insulation material for the construction sector, using established fibre-shredding technology that requires no new chemical processing capacity. This represents a direct cross-sector synergy with the construction materials value chain already covered in this programme, converting a waste stream from one priority sector into a raw-material input for another.
- Co-processing of the non-recoverable residual fraction in cement kilns, using Moldova's existing domestic cement production capacity and consistent with the same end-of-life pathway already proposed for non-recyclable plastics in this programme's plastics sector report.
- Extension of national EPR coverage and producer obligations to household and technical-textile importers and manufacturers, building directly on the EPR scheme proposed for clothing rather than requiring a separate institutional structure.

6.2. Preliminary outlook for scaling methods

To assess the transition potential of the two priority value chains, the analysis distinguishes between three complementary scaling pathways: scaling out (replication of business models), scaling up (system-level changes in policy and market conditions), and scaling deep (changes in behavior, trust, and social norms). Together, these dimensions show not only whether a circular model can work, but also how it can spread, be supported, and become socially embedded.

SECTOR: Textile and Apparel		
Scaling method	Value Chain #1 Clothing & institutional uniforms (CPC 282// CPC 28236)	Value Chain #2 Made-up textile articles (CPC 271)
Scaling Out (replication)	Replicate proven repair, alteration and refurbishment services, and locally piloted reuse/resale channels, across additional SMEs, local brands and regions beyond the initial pilot sites.	Replicate the collection, sorting and downcycling model — including insulation-grade fibre recovery for the construction sector — at additional collection points, extending coverage to more regions as capacity allows.

Scaling Up (system change)	Establish a national textile EPR scheme aligned with the revised EU Waste Framework Directive, with eco-modulated fees to fund collection and sorting infrastructure; introduce Green Public Procurement criteria favouring repairable, recycled-content and service-based uniform contracts; align textile standards and testing capacity with relevant international/EU requirements.	Extend national EPR coverage and producer obligations to household and technical-textile importers and manufacturers; formalise offtake arrangements with the construction and cement sectors to create a stable secondary-material market.
Scaling Deep (cultural change)	Build public trust and habitual use of repair, reuse and second-hand clothing through consumer engagement and visible quality assurance for locally recovered garments; embed leasing and service-based models as a routine institutional procurement choice rather than an exception.	Normalise the use of recycled-content insulation and secondary-material products in public and private construction projects, and shift end-of-life household textiles from disposal toward routine collection as a default behaviour.

Scaling Out = replication of a circular model across firms, markets, or regions.

Scaling Up = policy and market reforms that allow circular models to grow.

Scaling Deep = changes in values, behaviours, and trust that support long-term circular adoption

6.3. Gender inclusion in the sector

The gender dimension is an integral part of the sector-screening exercise that underpins this report. Applying it to textiles and apparel reveals a distinctive pattern that shapes how the circular transition should be designed for this sector. Textiles (NACE C13) and clothing and apparel (NACE C14) are the only manufacturing sub-sectors in Moldova with a reverse gender disparity: women account for approximately 68.9% of the textiles workforce and 89.8% of the clothing and apparel workforce, a combined share of roughly 84% across the two sub-sectors, against a national manufacturing average of 52.1%.

The screening methodology treats this reverse disparity differently from male-dominated sectors: the priority is not to open access for an underrepresented gender, but to improve job quality within an already female-dominated workforce.

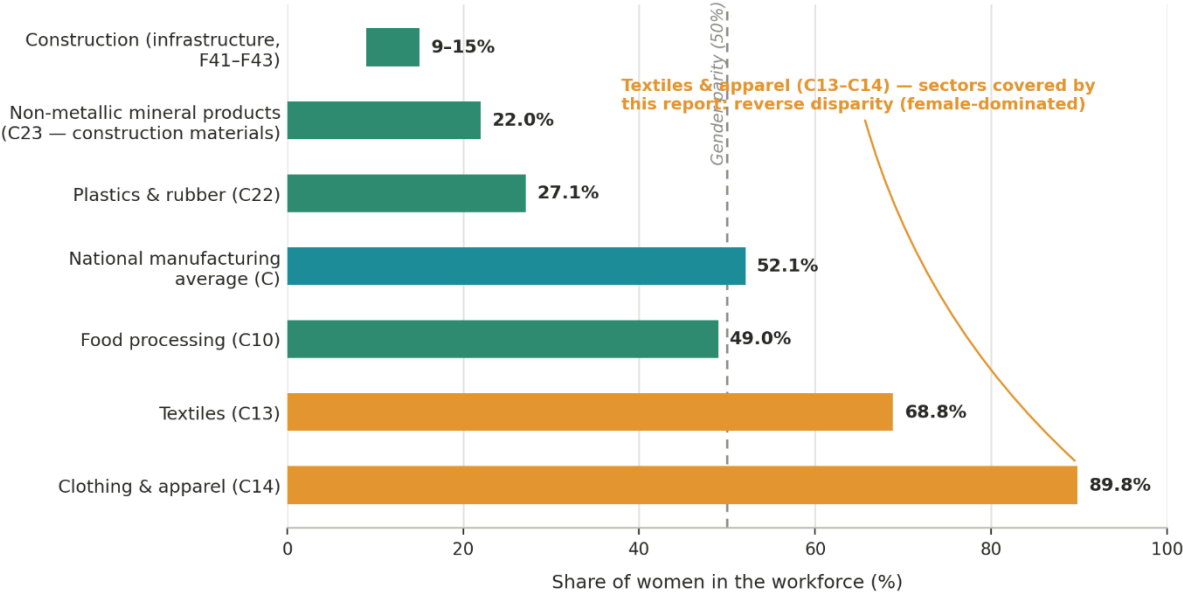


Figure 2. Share of women in the workforce: textile and apparel compared with other circular-economy-relevant sectors, Moldova (2024)

Source: NBS

Textile and apparel employment in Moldova is concentrated in labour-intensive, lower value-added segments of global value chains, largely subcontracting (cut-make-trim) arrangements for EU buyers, which limits the sector’s transformative potential unless circular activities such as reuse, repair and domestic recycling are developed to retain more value, and more skilled roles, inside the country. Emerging circular functions – textile sorting and grading, repair and remanufacturing, fibre-recycling processing, and compliance roles tied to the EU’s Digital Product Passport and due-diligence requirements represent an opportunity to move a predominantly female workforce toward higher-skilled, better-paid positions within the same sector.

Annex 1. Value Chain Canvas for the Textile and Apparel Sector¹⁴

STAGE	STAKEHOLDERS	KEY RESOURCES	LOSSES & PROBLEMS	SOLUTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES
1. DESIGN <i>Product & pattern conception</i>	• Technical universities (engineering & design faculties) • Local sustainable-fashion designers and brands • Sector associations representing producers • Independent design service providers • Quality and standards authorities	• In-house knowledge of innovation and sustainability developed by local sustainable-fashion brands • Academic design capacity from technical universities • International standards (ISO) available as design references, especially for export products • Existing local cohort of designers oriented towards repair/reuse design	• High costs for design services, prohibitive for SMEs • No national standards or accredited bodies verifying product durability • GOST standards eliminated on 01.01.2026 without national replacement • Designs not always ergonomic — material choice, consumer needs and production economics not jointly optimised • Limited integration of circular-design principles in academic curricula	• Design for repair, reuse and recycling — products conceived to be repaired and/or reused in another form (CPC 282, 271) • Adopt ISO and other international standards for durability, especially for export products • Rethink designs to be reusable, repairable and recyclable (input also for Stage 3) • Ergonomic and economically rational design — optimal materials, consumer-driven specifications, affordable production • Integrate circular-design modules in technical university programmes
2. MATERIALS <i>Fibres, fabrics and accessories</i>	• Local textile producers (CPC 282, 271) • Fabric and yarn importers • Customs authority (raw material import control) • Accessory suppliers (buttons, zippers, threads)	• Import documents from various legal and natural persons (canvas finding) • Natural fibres (cotton, wool) preferred for quality and durability — but imported	• Lack of platforms for recovering / purchasing old or unused stocks (deadstock) • Unqualified / sub-standard raw materials entering the value chain	• National platform for deadstock & post-industrial textile waste — matching unused factory stocks with new buyers • Remove or reduce customs duties on natural raw materials for local producers (CPC 282, 271)

¹⁴ This Value Chain Canvas was developed based on a participatory mapping exercise conducted with key stakeholders from the textile and apparel sector during the National Kick-off Workshop on Value Chains Mapping, held in Chişinău on 19.05.2026.

Implementing partners:

	• Potential second-hand & deadstock platforms	• Synthetic fibres (polyester) — dominant on the local market due to lower price • Existing customs control at import as the only quality filter • Unused factory stocks (deadstock) as a potential local feedstock	• Up to 15% customs duty on natural raw materials imported by local producers • No accredited domestic laboratories for raw-material testing — quality checked only at customs for imports • Tax asymmetry: second-hand clothing imports benefit from VAT exemption, while natural raw materials for local production are taxed • Strong dependence on imported synthetic fibres, exposed to price volatility	• Establish accredited domestic textile testing laboratories • Promote use of recycled fibres in production (CPC 263/264 reserve) • Strengthen customs quality controls on imported fabrics and apparel
3. PRODUCTION <i>Cutting, sewing, finishing, assembly</i>	• Garment manufacturers (CPC 282) — ~284 enterprises • Made-up textile articles producers (CPC 271) — ~83 enterprises • Fabric / woven textile producers (CPC 263/264) — ~4 enterprises • Carpet and rug producers (CPC 272) — ~4 enterprises • Sector associations supporting SMEs • Technical universities (engineering and digitalisation partners)	• Labour force — skilled female workforce dominant in CMT (Cut–Make–Trim) operations • Textile and finished-product certification schemes • Sectoral digitalisation initiatives • Normative and trade documents governing production • Raw materials (fabrics, threads, accessories) • Existing know-how in textile waste reduction techniques	• Lack of high-performance, energy-efficient machinery • No domestic testing laboratories for production quality control • Significant textile waste at the cutting stage (15–20% of fabric) generated by garment manufacturers (CPC 282) • Quantitative AND qualitative labour shortage — emigration of skilled workers; young workforce starts microbrands without industrial experience • Returns, unsold or defective products accumulating in factory stocks • Limited capacity to certify products for premium / export markets	• Grants and financing for performance machinery procurement (CPC 282, 271) • Reuse, recondition and recycle raw materials internally • Redesign for reuse, repair, recyclability • Recover cutting-room textile scraps for use as input in other industries (insulation, construction, non-wovens) • Local production of "sintipon" (non-woven padding) from textile waste • Production of industrial wipes from cutting scraps • Establish accredited domestic textile testing laboratories (linking to Stage 2) • VET programme for textile workers to address qualitative skill gap

4. DISTRIBUTION <i>Logistics, sales channels, export</i>	• Local producers exporting to EU markets (Tier-2 suppliers) • Domestic retail chains and independent stores • Foreign apparel importers active on the local market • Global e-commerce platforms (fast-fashion, ultra-low-cost) • Logistics and transport operators • Social-media influencers and content creators	• Export documentation infrastructure for EU-bound shipments • Documents confirming raw-material procurement (traceability evidence) • Existing logistics fleet for EU corridors • Domestic retail network (urban and proximity)	• Lack of sustainability promotion by influencers and content creators • Importers and global e-commerce platforms not engaged in the circular-economy discussion while occupying significant market share • Tax asymmetry favours second-hand imports over locally produced sustainable apparel (linked to Stage 2) • Single-use plastic packaging dominant in logistics • Limited reverse-logistics infrastructure for returns and unsold products	• Engage importers and e-commerce platforms in the national circular-economy framework — EPR obligation applicable to all market actors • Sustainability-focused communication campaigns with influencers and consumer associations • Reverse-logistics network for end-of-season returns and unsold products • Green Public Procurement for uniforms (CPC 271) prioritising local sustainable producers • Mandatory sustainability labelling for products placed on the Moldovan market (alignment with EU ESPR)
5. USE <i>Consumer behaviour and product lifespan</i>	• End consumers (urban and rural) • Institutional buyers (hospitals, schools, public services — uniforms) • Consumer associations • Second-hand retail networks • Repair and tailoring services	• Consumer protection legislation • Information on product sustainability and circularity (where available) • Existing second-hand retail network as a reuse channel • Demand for 100% cotton products (consumer preference for natural fibres, currently hard to satisfy locally) • Institutional uniform market as a stable, quality-oriented segment	• High repair cost for damaged garments • Majority of available products made of polyester, not aligned with consumer preference • 100% cotton products difficult to find on the local market • Limited access to certified eco-products in retail • No collection points for old clothes — consumers forced to discard them in mixed household waste • Global industry focused expressly on consumption — no incentives for sustainable fashion behaviour • Low consumer awareness of long-term health and	• Scale up second-hand retail networks as an organised reuse channel • Consumer education campaigns — long-term cost vs. benefit of natural fibres; health and environmental impacts of synthetics • Repair vouchers / fiscal incentives to reduce the price of repair services • Operational leasing model for institutional uniforms (hospitals, schools) — combined with industrial washing services • Green Public Procurement for institutional uniforms favouring local + certified eco products • Mandatory eco-labelling on retail products to support informed consumer choice

			environmental impacts of synthetics • Low purchasing power drives consumers towards cheap synthetic and ultra-fast-fashion products	
6. REPAIR & REFURBISHMENT <i>Tailoring, alteration, upcycling</i>	• Local sustainable-fashion brands offering repair services • Independent tailoring workshops • Upcycling micro-enterprises • Specialised second-hand retail with repair capability • Vocational training providers (VET)	• Technologists with expertise in maximum reuse within sustainable brands • Existing tailoring workforce (largely informal) • Defective but usable textile raw materials available from production	• Long production time, low selling price → very low profit margin in repair operations • "Fibre-to-yarn" recycling technology (shredding old clothes to produce new yarn) available in the EU but very expensive • Repair culture eroded; tailoring workforce aging • No financial support schemes for repair / upcycling micro-enterprises	• Circular procurement with reduced packaging in repair operations • Use of defective textile raw materials as inputs for upcycling • Co-financing for fibre-to-yarn shredding technology — to bring EU equipment to local market • Recycle, repair and sell in dedicated outlets (specialised stores for refurbished textiles) • Upcycling micro-enterprise incubator focused on female entrepreneurs • VET programme for tailoring and upcycling skills
7. RECOVERY & COLLECTION <i>Separate collection, sorting, recycling</i>	• Local public administration (mayoralities) • Collective EPR operators • Waste management companies • Civil society organisations active on textile collection • Specialised partners with sorting equipment	• Local Public Administration mandate over municipal waste • Existing partial collection and recovery infrastructure • Identified need for collection and storage points • Identified need for sorting and recycling equipment • Qualified personnel for sorting operations (where available) • Inter-institutional partnerships (mayorality + EPR + civil society)	• No possibility to return old clothes — collection infrastructure absent • Lack of containers and collection points for textiles • Low population participation in selective textile collection • High transport and logistics costs for dispersed collection • No recycling or sorting facilities for textiles in Moldova • >90% of post-consumer textiles end up in mixed municipal waste (linked to Stage 5)	• Develop national textile recycling infrastructure • Establish textile collection and sorting centres (regional approach) • National EPR scheme for textiles — aligned with the EU 2025 framework, including importers • Container network in urban and rural areas + awareness campaigns • Public-private partnerships between mayoralities, EPR operators and civil society

				• Digital platform for textile waste flows (factory deadstock + post-consumer)
8. END-OF-LIFE / NEXT USE <i>Recycling, downcycling, secondary markets</i>	• Non-woven materials producers (potential end-users of textile waste) • Construction insulation manufacturers • Industrial wipes producers • Foreign fibre-to-fibre recyclers (EU) • Secondary textile markets (second-hand chains)	• Recycling capacity (limited, mostly downcycling) • Textile waste streams as potential feedstock for non-wovens, insulation, wipes • Demand from EU fibre recyclers for sorted post-consumer textiles • Buttons and accessories (separable hard components)	• Buttons and accessories (hard components) complicate textile recycling — they must be separated • Absence of domestic fibre-to-fibre recycling capacity • Most textile waste landfilled or burned • No certification scheme for recycled-content textiles • Secondary market dominated by informal imports rather than locally recovered textiles	• Collect end-of-life textiles for non-woven material production (national sintipon line) • Use textile waste in construction insulation and industrial wipes (CPC 263/264 cross-sector value) • Export-oriented sorted post-consumer textile streams to EU fibre-to-fibre recyclers • National certification scheme for recycled-content textiles • Mechanical recycling pilot anchored in priority CPC 282 (Clothing) and CPC 271 (Made-up textiles) • Digital Product Passport readiness programme for Tier-2 suppliers (EU 2027 regulation)



Annex 2. Direct Trade in Textile and Apparel Products

This annex presents the HS 4-digit-level detail underlying the trade balance figures discussed in Section 3 (Table 3) and Section 4.4 (Table 5). All 81 HS codes associated with the sector's priority and secondary product groups are listed below, grouped by CPC group, with 2025 export and import values and the percentage change in imports since 2023.

HS code	Description	Export 2025 (th. USD)	Import 2025 (th. USD)	Import change 2023–25
CPC 282 – Clothing				
6101	Men's/boys' overcoats, coats etc. (knitted)	210.5	1 708.4	+11.7%
6102	Women's/girls' overcoats, coats etc. (knitted)	20.3	1 823.9	+40.3%
6103	Men's/boys' suits, jackets, trousers (knitted)	1 005.9	8 990.4	+23.5%
6104	Women's/girls' suits, dresses, skirts, trousers (knitted)	952.0	14 512.2	+16.1%
6105	Men's/boys' shirts (knitted)	1 231.4	3 227.1	+47.3%
6106	Women's/girls' blouses, shirts (knitted)	322.4	1 742.1	+57.4%
6107	Men's/boys' underpants, nightwear (knitted)	15.1	3 712.5	+4.5%
6108	Women's/girls' slips, nightwear (knitted)	77.4	6 993.3	+8.8%
6109	T-shirts, singlets (knitted)	3 883.6	18 055.5	+37.5%
6110	Jerseys, pullovers, cardigans (knitted)	9 087.3	19 240.1	+16.4%
6111	Babies' garments (knitted)	187.4	3 022.2	+19.9%
6112	Tracksuits, ski suits, swimwear (knitted)	31.4	4 300.7	+11.1%
6113	Garments of impregnated/coated knitted fabric	0.5	261.7	+77.8%
6114	Other garments (knitted)	512.6	1 021.2	+9.5%
6115	Hosiery: tights, stockings, socks (knitted)	63.3	11 908.2	-17.4%
6116	Gloves, mittens (knitted)	17.8	2 353.9	+3.2%
6117	Other made-up clothing accessories (knitted)	106.1	26 982.5	+19.1%
6201	Men's/boys' overcoats, coats etc. (woven)	261.0	7 513.4	+7.2%
6202	Women's/girls' overcoats, coats etc. (woven)	215.1	8 727.5	-4.6%
6203	Men's/boys' suits, jackets, trousers (woven)	166.0	18 112.0	+30.9%
6204	Women's/girls' suits, dresses, skirts, trousers (woven)	1 946.4	25 108.0	+21.8%
6205	Men's/boys' shirts (woven)	117.3	4 495.5	+2.0%
6206	Women's/girls' blouses, shirts (woven)	486.5	4 883.3	+7.5%
6207	Men's/boys' underpants, nightwear (woven)	8.0	251.3	-35.3%
6208	Women's/girls' slips, nightwear (woven)	11.5	1 740.5	+5.3%
6209	Babies' garments (woven)	16.0	1 441.0	+7.6%
6210	Garments of impregnated/coated woven fabric	119.6	2 207.3	+29.2%
6211	Tracksuits, ski suits, swimwear (woven)	154.7	3 996.3	+3.1%
6212	Bras, corsets, braces	166.5	5 670.2	+19.4%
6213	Handkerchiefs	0.4	270.0	+19.6%
6214	Shawls, scarves, veils	21.4	646.1	-15.7%

Implementing partners:



6215	Ties, bow ties, cravats	48.3	58.7	-18.0%
6216	Gloves, mittens (woven)	0.7	265.5	+73.1%
6217	Other made-up clothing accessories (woven)	92.6	4 737.1	-21.6%
CPC 271 – Made-up textile articles / worn clothing				
6301	Blankets and travelling rugs	151.2	2 323.2	-12.1%
6302	Bed, table, toilet and kitchen linen	173.3	20 486.4	+37.1%
6303	Curtains, blinds, bed valances	13.1	4 655.5	+16.1%
6304	Other furnishing articles	198.1	2 120.7	+19.4%
6305	Sacks and bags for packing	204.5	13 385.8	+92.8%
6306	Tarpaulins, tents, camping goods	18.3	3 709.0	+129.2%
6307	Other made-up articles	170.8	10 284.1	-11.4%
6308	Sets for making rugs/tapestries	1 080.2	43.2	-34.0%
6309	Worn clothing and other worn articles	62.4	5 961.0	+16.0%
6310	Used/new rags, scrap twine	5.4	110.0	+3.9%
CPC 263/264 – Fabrics/Textiles				
5208	Woven fabric of cotton ($\leq 200\text{g/m}^2$, $\geq 85\%$ cotton)	91.6	7 596.2	+9.5%
5209	Woven fabric of cotton ($> 200\text{g/m}^2$, $\geq 85\%$ cotton)	17.6	5 609.8	-21.1%
5210	Woven fabric of cotton ($\leq 200\text{g/m}^2$, $< 85\%$ cotton)	0.0	2 677.5	+13.2%
5211	Woven fabric of cotton ($> 200\text{g/m}^2$, $< 85\%$ cotton)	59.8	4 207.1	-10.0%
5212	Other woven fabric of cotton	0.0	922.4	-40.0%
5407	Woven fabric of synthetic filament yarn	30.1	31 956.7	+8.4%
5408	Woven fabric of artificial filament yarn	0.0	2 391.6	-2.9%
5512	Woven fabric of synthetic staple fibres ($\geq 85\%$)	0.0	2 290.9	-33.4%
5513	Woven fabric of synthetic staple fibres ($< 85\%$, $\leq 170\text{g/m}^2$)	0.0	2 492.5	-7.9%
5514	Woven fabric of synthetic staple fibres ($< 85\%$, $> 170\text{g/m}^2$)	0.0	4 952.4	-33.5%
5515	Other woven fabric of synthetic staple fibres	2.6	2 477.0	-7.3%
5516	Woven fabric of artificial staple fibres	0.3	2 669.3	-24.1%
5801	Woven pile fabrics and chenille fabrics	3.4	1 526.7	+58.7%
5802	Terry towelling and similar woven fabrics	0.0	692.7	+3.6%
5803	Gauze	0.0	6.5	+170.8%
5804	Tulles, lace and net fabrics	1.1	899.1	+3.4%
5805	Hand-woven tapestries	0.0	1.7	n/a
5806	Narrow woven fabrics; ribbons	33.1	8 778.4	-5.6%
5807	Labels, badges and similar articles	48.0	3 723.3	+6.6%
5808	Braids, trimmings, tassels, pompons	1.1	1 726.9	+23.9%
5809	Woven fabric of metal thread	0.0	1.4	n/a
5810	Embroidery in the piece, strips or motifs	993.3	700.7	-15.5%
5811	Quilted textile products in the piece	2.4	2 263.1	+28.7%
CPC 272 – Carpets and rugs				
5701	Carpets, knotted, of textile materials	5.3	18.4	-34.1%
5702	Carpets, woven, not tufted or flocked	14 482.9	5 812.6	+29.7%
5703	Carpets, tufted	1.2	4 862.4	+55.7%

5704	Carpets of felt	0.0	537.9	+39.1%
5705	Other carpets and floor coverings	0.3	1 059.9	+71.0%
CPC 279 – Nonwovens				
5601	Wadding of textile materials; textile flock	5.9	6 904.6	+19.2%
5602	Felt	0.0	5 540.3	+70.9%
5603	Nonwovens	78.3	19 199.9	-26.1%
5604	Rubber thread and cord textile covered	18.2	382.5	-15.4%
5605	Metallised yarn	1.6	32.8	+83.2%
5606	Gimped yarn; chenille yarn	1.1	127.2	-9.9%
5607	Twine, cordage, ropes, cables	9.0	1 684.3	+9.4%
5608	Knotted netting; made-up fishing nets	1.4	2 798.8	+52.6%
5609	Articles of yarn, strip, twine, cordage n.e.c.	17.8	283.0	-25.5%

Source: UN Comtrade (comtradeplus.un.org), Reporter = Republic of Moldova, Partner = World, HS 4-digit codes.

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