



June 12, 2022
For Immediate Release

**DNFI Innovation in Natural Fibres Award Ceremony During Heimtextil
23 June 2022, 10:30 to 12:00 (CET), Frankfurt, Germany and Virtual**

Natural fibers are among the most important raw materials in the textile and fashion industry worldwide. For centuries, they have fed millions of people through their cultivation or breeding, and it is impossible to imagine daily life without them. Especially at the moment, natural fibers are gaining special importance due to the intense discussions about sustainable living. Even though natural fibers have accompanied mankind for a long time, they are changeable, technical, and adaptable to the challenges of the textile industry.

The Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI) is celebrating natural fibres in a program to be conducted during Heimtextil in Frankfurt on 23 June. Anyone with an interest in the role of natural fibres in the world economy, economic indicators of textile activity, innovations in natural fibre research, and updates on proposed EU legislation affecting textiles is welcome to attend.

The program will be conducted in-person during Heimtextil in hall 3.0, stage D41.

The program will also be accessible via Zoom as live stream from the fairground.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86303874270?pwd=NVJLQjVWZjZVektENWxsTmFUamdFUT09>
Meeting-ID: 863 0387 4270, Code: 072512

The program will include various presentations by the previous and current award winners, presentations, and discussions:

Overview of world natural fibre production, employment, and value,

- Economic indicators and impacts of coronavirus on textile industries,
- Updates on innovative uses of natural fibres:
 - Use of wool in automobile insulation applications for enhanced sustainability,
 - Using cellulose from cotton to produce a biodegradable plastic substitute,
 - Manufacturing waterproof fabric from a blend of cotton and jute as sustainable substitute for polypropylene tarps
- Proposed EU textile legislation and potential impacts on natural fibres

About DNFI

The Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (<https://DNFI.org/>) facilitates the exchange of information and experiences and works to advance the common interests of all natural fibres in the face of competition with oil-based and wood-based manmade fibres. Representatives of natural fibre industries as diverse as abaca, alpaca, angora, cashmere, coir, cotton, flax, industrial hemp, jute, mohair, ramie, silk, sisal and wool participate in DNFI.

The Discover Natural Fibres Initiative (DNFI) was created in January 2010 as an outgrowth of the International Year of Natural Fibres 2009, declared by the United Nations General Assembly. DNFI is a voluntary association of individuals and organizations who work to further the interests of natural fibres by serving as a platform for information exchange and by working to raise awareness of the benefits of natural fibre industries to the world economy, environment, and consumers. DNFI is entirely volunteer supported. There are no membership dues, the organization has no budget or Secretariat, and the organization does not conduct projects. Instead, DNFI facilitates communication and collaboration through the exchange of information.

Anyone with an interest in natural fibres is welcome to join DNFI by registering online. Information about the organization and the DNFI Innovation Award are available at the web site: <https://DNFI.org> .

Contact:

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Chair of DNFI: Ms Elke Hortmeyer

Vice Chair: Mrs Dalena White