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**SCIRT.**

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**Fibre footprint at garment level of six SCIRT prototypes**

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## Summary

This Deliverable provides an overview of the environmental and social impacts generated by the SCIRT demonstrator products to be prototyped under WP3, in the as-is textile system. This not only with the aim of gathering insight in the textiles system and their specific supply chains but also to provide a preliminary baseline in terms of sustainability performance, taking into account the foreseen circularity improvements to be realized within the project. The footprint builds on the demonstrator mapping realized in Task 1.4 and the approach, applied methodologies, assumptions and limitations of the analyses are described. For each demonstrator product the environmental impacts are quantified from cradle-to-gate. Social impacts from fibre production and manufacturing, as well as the use and end-of-life phase are approached qualitatively. Due to limited data availability ? both with regards to foreground data and (social) background data ? the resulting footprints and risk indicators remain indicative and should be interpreted with caution. In case methodological adjustments are implemented or additional/more detailed/more accurate data becomes available that might improve the results, an update of the Fibre Footprint will be provided. The Fibre Footprint methodology applied and data collected in this Task serve as a basis for the development of the True Cost Model in Task 4.2.

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## Approval

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# SCIRT.

SYSTEM CIRCULARITY & INNOVATIVE  
RECYCLING OF TEXTILES

Innovation Action  
H2020-SC5-2020-2

## Fibre Footprint

### Deliverable D4.1

Version N°2.0

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## Summary

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## Keywords

Demonstrators, baseline, life cycle assessment, social risks, use phase, reuse potential, recycling potential

## Abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Description
AT	Austria
AU	Australia
B2B	Business to business
BE	Belgium
CN	China
DE	Germany

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<sup>1</sup> Foreground processes are processes that are specific for the garment's life cycle and for which direct information access is available. Foreground processes differ between demonstrators; some have access to information further up the supply chain than others. Examples are: yarn production, fabric production, and confection. Background processes are processes that are not specific for the garment's life cycle and for which information is not directly accessible. Examples are: emissions related to fibre production, transport and production of chemicals.





EOL	End-of-life
ES	Spain
FR	France
GB	Great Britain
GR	Greece
IT	Italy
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
MA	Morocco
MK	North Macedonia
NIR	Near infra-red
NPK	Nitrogen phosphorus potassium
PA	Polyamide
PE	Polyester
PEF	Product Environmental Footprint
PEFCR	Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate
PSILCA	Product Social Impact Life Cycle Assessment
PT	Portugal
PU	Polyurethane
S-LCA	Social Life Cycle Assessment
TR	Turkey
TU	Tunisia
WP	Work Package



# 1 Introduction

A key component of the SCIRT project revolves around assessing the sustainability performance of circular textile systems compared to more linear ones, and monitoring the progress realized within the project. The main lever in this will be the development of a True Cost Model in Task 4.2. As a first step, the 4.1 Fibre Footprint Task assesses the environmental and social performance of the SCIRT demonstrator products in the as-is (mostly linear) set-up. This footprint serves as preliminary baseline value, defining the project starting point and allowing for progress monitoring as the demonstrators (further) implement circularity approaches and increase the recycled content in their products.

This Task takes into account the garment life cycle (raw material extraction, product manufacturing, transport to central distribution centre, use and disposal) - be it not all from a quantitative perspective. To this end, interviews were organised with the SCIRT demos and combined with an extensive Excel questionnaire for specific data gathering. Additionally, a review of existing data on impacts of individual fibres and manufacturing processes took place. The data retrieved in this manner is combined and complemented with data from (S-)LCA databases.

Next, a cradle-to-gate screening LCA was carried out for every product to determine the environmental hotspots and the related social risks were analysed. Environmental impacts were assessed in line with the PEFCR for t-shirts, to the extent possible and calculated using the Environmental Footprint (EF) 3.0 Method. The functional unit (FU) is defined as "one packaged garment at the central distribution centre's entry gate". Social impacts are assessed in a qualitative way and translated to risk indicators based on sector and production location at country level.

The resulting fact sheets provide an overview of the environmental impacts and social risks generated during the partial product supply chain from raw materials extraction through distribution of the representative demo garments. The use and EOL phase are described qualitatively, highlighting the aspects that influence their sustainability performance. The assessment framework and data gathered in this task will serve as the basis to develop the True Cost Model in Task 4.2.



## 2 Methodology and approach

### 2.1 Environmental impacts

The environmental impacts for each demonstrator product were assessed using the LCA methodology.

#### Goal and scope definition

In this task the environmental impacts were quantified from raw material extraction through transport to the central distribution centre, so focusing on the cradle-to-gate processes. The functional unit (FU) is defined as “one packaged garment at the central distribution centre’s entry gate”.

The system boundaries<sup>2</sup> as defined for this assessment are shown in the figure below. The guidelines as prescribed by the PEF CR for t-shirts were taken into account, however since this Task does not concern a PEF study, it was only followed to a certain extent.

#### Life cycle data inventory

To organize the necessary data collection, an extensive Excel questionnaire was developed and bilateral interviews were organised with the SCIRT demonstrators. The questionnaire queried data on all processes included in the system boundaries, i.e. yarn production, fabric production, finishing, confection, and distribution.

All input- and output flows of these processes were requested, such as electricity and heat input, water consumption, chemicals input, transport, production losses and other solid wastes, waste water output, emissions to air and waste water. The specific (foreground) data retrieved in this manner was combined and complemented with (background) data from the Ecoinvent database. In case of data gaps, additional background data was gathered from literature.

#### Life cycle impact assessment

The modelling was carried out using the SimaPro software package (version 9.3). The applied life cycle impact assessment method is the Environmental Footprint (EF) 3.0 Method. Not every impact category calculated by this method is shown in the environmental profiles. The displayed categories were selected based on the most important impact categories identified in the PEF CR for t-shirts, supplemented with some other categories that are frequently reported in literature, i.e. land use and human toxicity (cancer and non-cancer) (Sandin et al., 2019).

The impact categories as calculated by the EF 3.0 Method are shown in the table below. The categories displayed in the environmental profiles in this Task are marked in bold.

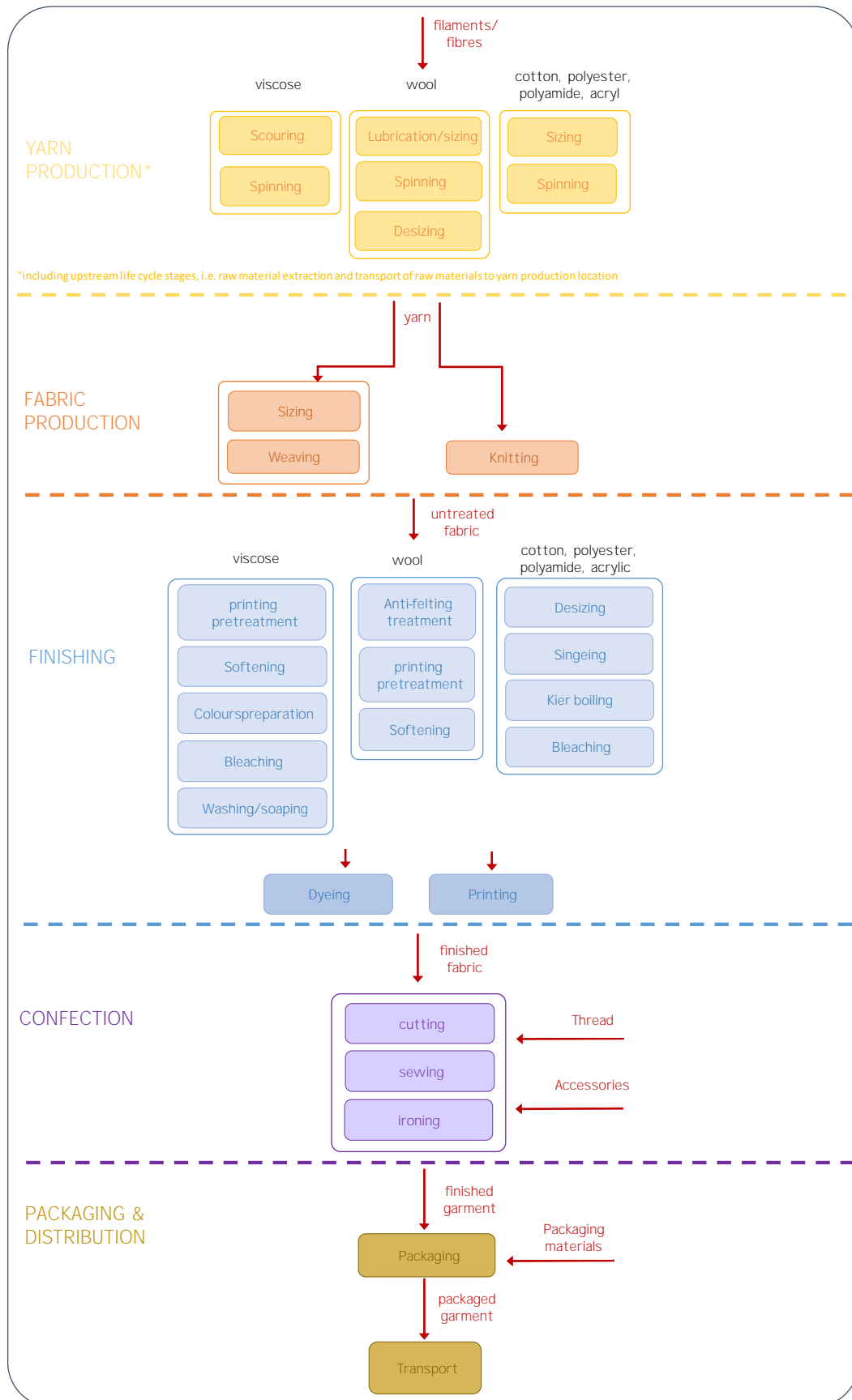
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<sup>2</sup> ‘Yarn production’ in the diagram also includes all upstream life cycle stages, i.e. raw material extraction and transport of raw materials to the yarn production location.



EF Impact Category	Impact category indicator	Unit	Characterization model
Climate change	Radiative forcing as Global Warming Potential (GWP100)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	Baseline model of 100 years of the IPCC (based on IPCC 2013)
Climate change - biogenic	Radiative forcing as Global Warming Potential (GWP100)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	Baseline model of 100 years of the IPCC (based on IPCC 2013)
Climate change - land use and land use change	Radiative forcing as Global Warming Potential (GWP100)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	Baseline model of 100 years of the IPCC (based on IPCC 2013)
Ozone depletion	Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP)	kg CFC-11 eq	Steady-state ODPs as in (WMO 2014 + integrations)
Human toxicity, cancer	Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (CTUh)	CTUh	USEtox model 2.1 (Fankte et al, 2017)
Human toxicity, non-cancer	Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (CTUh)	CTUh	USEtox model 2.1 (Fankte et al, 2017)
Particulate matter	Impact on human health	disease incidence	PM method recommended by UNEP (UNEP 2016)
Ionising radiation, human health	Human exposure efficiency relative to U <sup>235</sup>	kBq U <sup>235</sup> eq	Human health effect model as developed by Dreicer et al. 1995 (Frischknecht et al, 2000)
Photochemical ozone formation, human health	Tropospheric ozone concentration increase	kg NMVOC eq	LOTOS-EUROS model (Van Zelm et al, 2008) as implemented in ReCiPe 2008
Acidification	Accumulated Exceedance (AE)	mol H <sup>+</sup> eq	Accumulated Exceedance (Seppälä et al. 2006, Posch et al, 2008)
Eutrophication, terrestrial	Accumulated Exceedance (AE)	mol N eq	Accumulated Exceedance (Seppälä et al. 2006, Posch et al, 2008)
Eutrophication, freshwater	Fraction of nutrients reaching freshwater end compartment (P)	kg Peq	EUTREND model (Struijs et al, 2009) as implemented in ReCiPe
Eutrophication, marine	Fraction of nutrients reaching marine end compartment (N)	kg Neq	EUTREND model (Struijs et al, 2009) as implemented in ReCiPe
Ecotoxicity, freshwater	Comparative Toxic Unit for ecosystems (CTU <sub>e</sub> )	CTU <sub>e</sub>	USEtox model 2.1 (Fankte et al, 2017)
Land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt; Soil quality index<sup>3</sup></li> <li>&lt; Biotic production</li> <li>&lt; Erosion resistance</li> <li>&lt; Mechanical filtration</li> <li>&lt; Groundwater replenishment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt; Dimensionless (pt)</li> <li>&lt; Kg biotic production</li> <li>&lt; kg soil</li> <li>&lt; m<sup>3</sup> water</li> <li>&lt; m<sup>3</sup> groundwater</li> </ul>	Soil quality index based on LANCA (Beck et al. 2010 and Bos et al. 2016)
Water use	User deprivation potential (deprivation- weighted water consumption)	m <sup>3</sup> worldeq	Available WATER REmaining (AWARE) as recommended by UNEP, 2016
Resource use, minerals and metals	Abiotic resource depletion (ADP ultimate reserves)	kg Sb eq	CML 2002 (Guinée et al., 2002) and van Oers et al. 2002.
Resource use, fossils	Abiotic resource depletion - fossil fuels (ADP-fossil)	MJ	CML 2002 (Guinée et al., 2002) and van Oers et al. 2002





The following sections describe the processes modelled, main assumptions made and limitations encountered for each of the demonstrators.



### 2.1.1 Petit Bateau

Six processes are taken into account: organic cotton yarn spinning, knitting, dyeing, confection, packaging and distribution.

Main assumptions, proxy datasets and limitations:

- Production of organic cotton fibres was modelled using a proxy dataset, which was created by adjusting the *conventional* cotton fibres market dataset from Ecoinvent ("Fibre, cotton {GLO}| market for fibre, cotton | cut-off, U"). This modelling choice was made because the existing organic cotton fibres market dataset is suspected to contain an error in the underlying organic seed-cotton production dataset, leading to an unexpected credit for human toxicity (non-cancer). Sandin *et al.* (2019) also reported doubts about this organic cotton dataset, suspecting an underestimation of the climate change impact and energy use (Sandin et al., 2019).
- The following alterations were made to the underlying seed-cotton production (conventional) dataset ("Seed-cotton {IN-GJ}| seed-cotton production, conventional | Cut-off, U"):
  - increase of land transformation and occupation;
  - elimination of tillage<sup>4</sup>;
  - elimination of water use for irrigation;
  - elimination of pesticides (and related emissions to soil);
  - replacement of NPK fertilizers by manure;
  - decrease or elimination of emissions to air.

These alterations were copied from the original organic seed-cotton dataset from Ecoinvent ("Seed-cotton, organic {IN-OR}| seed-cotton production, organic | Cut-off, U").

- Default loss percentage in spinning of 12,3% (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Estimates for water and lubricant use in knitting (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Recycling of confection waste in padding and insulation was modelled using the circular footprint formula (CFF), as prescribed by the PEF guide
- Estimates for transport distances to confection
- Background data for chemicals (Murugesh & Selvadass, 2013) was used as the reported dyes/ components of dyes were not available in the Ecoinvent database.

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<sup>4</sup> Tillage is the mechanical manipulation of the soil for the purpose of crop production affecting significantly the soil characteristics such as soil water conservation, soil temperature, infiltration and evapotranspiration processes. (Busari et al., 2015)



## 2.1.2 HNST

10 processes are taken into account: fibre production for warp and weft yarn, spinning of warp and weft yarn, dyeing of warp yarn, weaving of denim fabric and pocket lining fabric, confection, packaging and distribution.

Main assumptions, proxy datasets and limitations:

- Global market data for modelling cotton fibres, adjusted as described below
- Production of organic cotton fibres for the pocket lining was modelled using a proxy dataset, which was created by adjusting the *conventional* cotton fibres market dataset from Ecoinvent (“Fibre, cotton {GLO}| market for fibre, cotton | cut-off, U”). This modelling choice was made because the existing organic cotton fibres market dataset is suspected to contain an error in the underlying organic seed-cotton production dataset, leading to an unexpected credit for human toxicity (non-cancer). G. Sandin *et al.* (2019) also reported doubts about this organic cotton dataset, suspecting an underestimation in comparison with the Cotton Inc (2016) report of the climate change impact and energy use (Sandin et al., 2019). The following alterations were made to the underlying seed-cotton production (conventional) dataset (“Seed-cotton {IN-GJ}| seed-cotton production, conventional | Cut-off, U”):
  - increase of land transformation and occupation;
  - elimination of tillage<sup>5</sup>;
  - elimination of water use for irrigation;
  - elimination of pesticides (and related emissions to soil);
  - replacement of NPK fertilizers by manure;
  - decrease or elimination of emissions to air.

These alterations were copied from the original organic seed-cotton dataset from Ecoinvent (“Seed-cotton, organic {IN-OR}| seed-cotton production, organic | Cut-off, U”).

- Lyocell fibres used as a proxy for Tencel™. Tencel™ is in fact lyocell, except it is produced in a more environmentally friendly way; it consumes less water and solvents are recycled in the process (<https://www.tencel.com/sustainability>). The calculated impact of the warp yarn is therefore expected to be overestimated.
- Use of polyester fibres as a proxy for the max. 5% undefined rest fibres content in warp yarn
- The electricity required for warp yarn spinning is assumed equal to the electricity required for weft yarn spinning
- Use of recycled materials as inputs and recycling of production waste in the entire product supply chain were taken into account using the circular footprint formula (CFF), as prescribed by the PEF guide
- Use of proxy for indigo pigment and estimate for the amount of indigo pigment and caustic soda is considered the only other chemical used for dyeing (Smart-Indigo™ dyeing process (Sedo Engineering SA, n.d.))
- Estimates for transport distances to confection

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<sup>5</sup> Tillage is the mechanical manipulation of the soil for the purpose of crop production affecting significantly the soil characteristics such as soil water conservation, soil temperature, infiltration and evapotranspiration processes. (Busari et al., 2015)



### 2.1.3 Bel&Bo

Five processes are taken into account: woven viscose fabric, woven polyamide lining, confection, packaging and distribution

Since limited to no foreground data regarding the processes preceding confection was available, two processes (one per used fibre type) were modelled using background data from literature and from Ecoinvent. These processes are shown as lumped processes, which means they entail all preceding process steps) in order to indicate a lower level of detail compared to other demonstrators. These two lumped process are:

- Woven viscose fabric, which contains viscose fibres production, viscose yarn spinning, viscose weaving and viscose dyeing/finishing (Koc & Kaplan, 2007; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014)
- Woven polyamide lining, which contains polyamide fibres production, polyamide yarn spinning, lining weaving and lining dyeing/finishing (Koc & Kaplan, 2007; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014)

It should be noted that such a lack of foreground data generally results in a lower environmental impact.

Main assumptions and limitations:

- Default loss percentage of 6,25% in weaving (ADEME, n.d.)
- Production waste is incinerated without energy recovery (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Estimates for transport distances for packaging materials and distribution of finished garment
- Use of background data for dyed fabrics (see references above)
- Polyester resin as a proxy for raw material of plastic buttons





## 2.1.4 Xandres

11 processes are taken into account: dyed wool yarn, dyed recycled polyester yarn, dyed polyester yarn, dyed elastane yarn, undyed elastane yarn, weaving of main fabric, weaving of lining, weaving of interlining, confection, packaging and distribution.

Since very limited foreground data regarding the processes preceding weaving was available, four processes (one per used fibre type) were modelled using background data. These processes are shown as lumped processes, which means they entail all preceding process steps) in order to indicate a lower level of detail compared to other demonstrators. These four lumped process are:

- Dyed wool yarn, which contains wool fibre production, wool yarn spinning and wool yarn dyeing (Brent & Hietkamp, 2003; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014);
- Dyed recycled polyester yarn, which contains recycled PET fibres production, recycled polyester yarn spinning and recycled polyester yarn dyeing (Koc & Kaplan, 2007; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014);
- Dyed polyester yarn, which contains PET fibres production, polyester yarn spinning and polyester yarn dyeing (Koc & Kaplan, 2007; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014);
- Dyed elastane yarn, which contains elastane fibres production, elastane yarn spinning and elastane yarn dyeing (Koc & Kaplan, 2007; Muruges & Selvadass, 2013; van der Velden et al., 2014).

Main assumptions, proxy datasets and limitations:

- Background data from literature for the amounts of acrylic acid and electricity used for weaving (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Estimates for transport distances for wool, from Australia to Morocco
- Production waste is incinerated without energy recovery (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Estimates for transport distances of materials to confection
- Recycling of packaging waste is modelled using the Circular Footprint Formula (CFF), as prescribed by the PEF guide.
- Use of background data from Ecoinvent for all dyed yarns (see references above), for wool this is adjusted for the Australian grid mix and estimated transport distance from Australia to Morocco
- Use of background data from Ecoinvent for non-woven lining
- Polyester resin as a proxy for PA adhesive dots
- The finishing steps for the three fabrics are not modelled, as no specific nor generic data was available for finishing alone



## 2.1.5 Decathlon

13 processes are taken into account: polyester yarn, elastane yarn, nylon 6 yarn, nylon 6-6 yarn, knitting of the main component, knitting of the shoulder strap, knitting of the lining, finishing of the main component, finishing of the shoulder strap, finishing of the lining, confection, packaging and distribution.

Main assumptions, proxy datasets and limitations:

- Estimates for transport modes and distances between the different production locations
- Use of market data for chemicals when the origin is unknown
- Polyurethane foam was used as a proxy for polyurethane polymer as the raw material input for elastane spinning
- Background data (Sandin et al., 2019) used for the energy use, chemicals use and waste water quantities in elastane spinning
- Background data for energy use in warp knitting (main fabric and shoulder straps) and circular knitting (lining) (ADEME, n.d.)
- Spinning and knitting waste is incinerated without energy recovery (Sandin et al., 2019)
- Due to limited foreground data availability which also varied between swimsuit components, the finishing processes were modelled using a combination of foreground and background data. The table below shows which type of data was used to model the different flows of the finishing processes: :

Fabric	Main component	Shoulder straps	Lining
<b>Foreground data</b>	chemicals water waste water location	energy water waste water location	energy* water waste water location
<b>Background data</b>	energy (Sandin et al., 2019)	chemicals (Muruges & Selvadass, 2013)	chemicals (Muruges & Selvadass, 2013)

\* The energy needed to finish the lining was considered equal to the energy for finishing the shoulder straps.

It should be noted that limited foreground data use generally results in a lower environmental impact.

- Transport distance for distribution by train from Wuhan (China) to Dourges (France) is estimated at 10.000 km



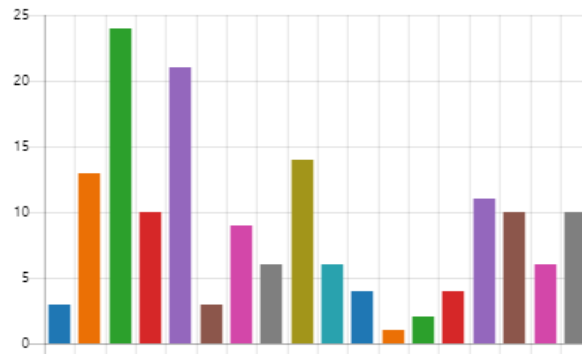
## 2.2 Social impacts

In order to select the most relevant and critical social impact categories to report on in this deliverable, a poll was launched among SCIRT partners and Advisory Board members during the November 2021 consortium meeting. Based on their experience with the textiles industry, they were able to select the five most pressing social impact categories among the ones listed in the S-LCA PSILCA database.

### 2. What are, in your opinion, the most pressing social impact categories to report on for the global textiles sector?

*Please select five categories.*

[More Details](#)



The following five categories came out as most pressing:

- 1 Workers - Fair salary
- 2 Workers - Health and safety
- 3 Local community - Safe and healthy living conditions
- 4 Workers - Child labour
- 5 Value chain actors - Fair competition

The results of this poll were complemented with insights from a social risk expert from the Clean Clothes Campaign, gathered during an in depth interview. As a result three additional impact categories were selected to report on:

- 6 Workers - Forced labour
- 7 Workers - Gender wage gap
- 8 Workers - Freedom of association and collective bargaining



The social impacts listed for each demonstrator product also focus on the cradle-to-gate processes. The same system boundaries apply as for the environmental impact analysis, but unlike the environmental dimension they are presented in a qualitative manner. Social impacts are translated to risk indicators based on sector and production locations at country level. There is no information from demonstrator specific production facilities taken into account for this analysis.

The risk indicators (very low risk à very high risk) from the S-LCA PSILCA database - both versions 2 and 3 - serve as a basis for the assessment. Whenever more recent or accurate data was available in literature, the PSILCA data was substituted.

Below an overview is provided of the external sources that were used as a complement to the PSILCA database to construct the social risk indicators for the different production countries in scope.

### 2.2.6 Turkey

Impact of Syrian refugee crisis on child and forced labour:

- Schone Kleren Campagne - Made in Turkije:  
<https://www.schonekleren.nl/thema/turkije/>
- Fair Labor Association - Mitigating child labor risks in cotton:  
<https://www.fairlabor.org/our-work/special-projects/project/mitigating-child-labor-risks-cotton>
- Fair Wear Foundation Country Study 2017-2018:  
<https://www.fairwear.org/programmes/countries/turkey>

Fair salary:

- The Industry We Want - The Industry Wage Gap:  
<https://www.theindustrywewant.com/wages>

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021:  
<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries/tur>

Other impact categories:

- Fair Wear Foundation Country Study 2017-2018:  
<https://www.fairwear.org/programmes/countries/turkey>

### 2.2.7 Morocco

Fair salary:

- The Industry We Want - The Industry Wage Gap:  
<https://www.theindustrywewant.com/wages>

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021:  
<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries/mar>



Other impact categories:

- International Labor Organization Country Brief 2017

## 2.2.8 China

Fair salary:

- The Industry We Want - The Industry Wage Gap:  
<https://www.theindustrywewant.com/wages>

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021:  
<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries/chn>

Other impact categories:

- Schone Kleren Campagne - Made in China:  
<https://www.schonekleren.nl/thema/china/>

## 2.2.9 Tunisia

Fair salary:

- The Industry We Want - The Industry Wage Gap:  
<https://www.theindustrywewant.com/wages>

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021:  
<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries/tun>

Other impact categories:

- Fair Wear Foundation Country Study 2021:  
<https://www.fairwear.org/programmes/countries/tunisia>

## 2.2.10 North Macedonia

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021:  
<https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries/mkd>

Other impact categories:

- Fair Wear Foundation Country Study 2021:  
<https://www.fairwear.org/programmes/countries/north-macedonia>



### 2.2.11 Other

Freedom of association and collective bargaining:

- Global Rights Index 2021: <https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2021/countries>

## 2.3 Use phase and end-of-life

The use and EOL phase are described qualitatively, highlighting the aspects that influence their sustainability performance. Results are based on demonstrator inputs and literature (ETC/CE et al., 2022; Laitala et al., 2018; OVAM, 2021).

The quality of a garment heavily influences the length of its use life, but is hard to assess in an objective manner. A recent study on ecodesign criteria by OVAM (OVAM, 2021) states that quality is mainly defined by the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre and shape of the fibre. However, also other parameters like colour fastness play a role. Unfortunately limited demonstrator data was available on these technical product parameters, especially for demonstrators who have little insight in their upstream supply chain. All information received is included in the fact sheets.



## 3 Demonstrator Fact Sheets

### 3.1 Petit Bateau

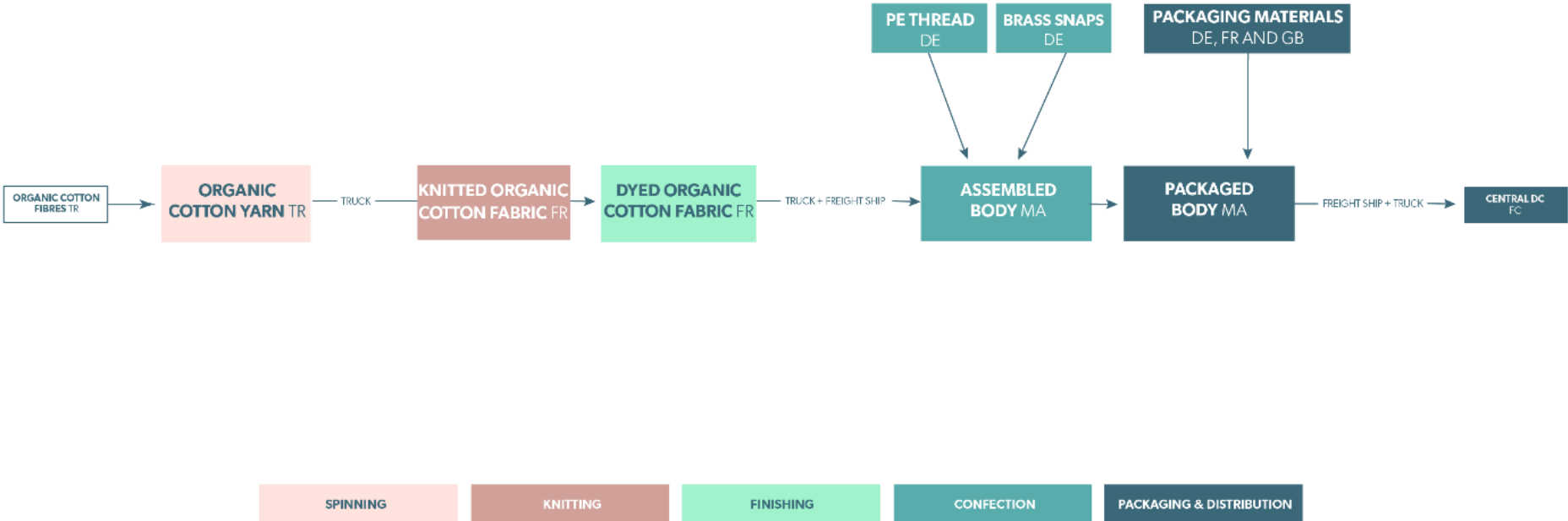
#### 3.1.1 Product profile



Product	Baby bodysuit
Weight	56 g
Material composition	100% organic cotton
Fabric type	Knitted
Production volume	6000 pcs
Representativeness	< 1% of revenue, however, the targeted yarn (Nm 60/1) represents 60-70% of the total yarn procurement.
Sales model	Own stores and online
Main market	France, EU
Customer	Mostly women that buy for themselves (10%), for their babies (45%) or children (45%). Many (and an increasing number of) questions from customers with regard to sustainability.



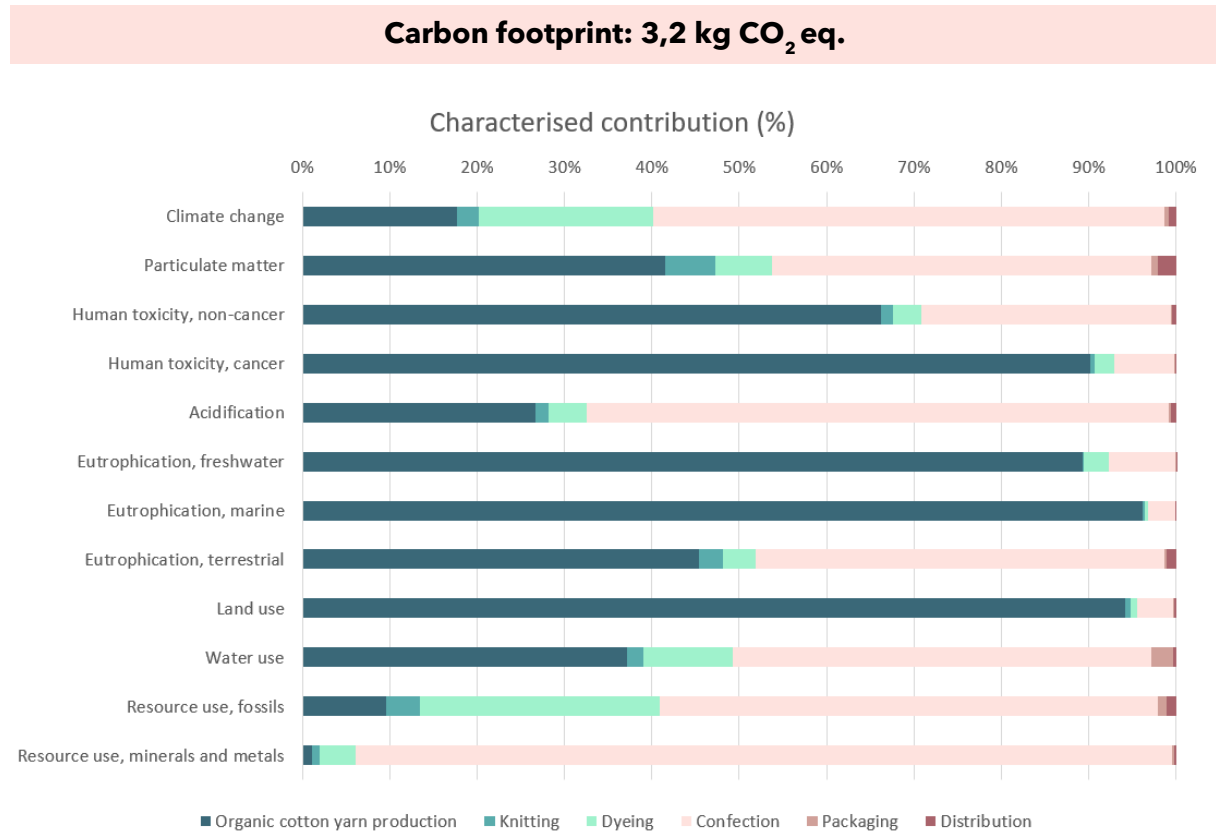
3.1.2 Cradle-to-gate value chain





### 3.1.3 Footprints

#### Environmental



Environmental profile of 1 packaged body, delivered to the central distribution centre

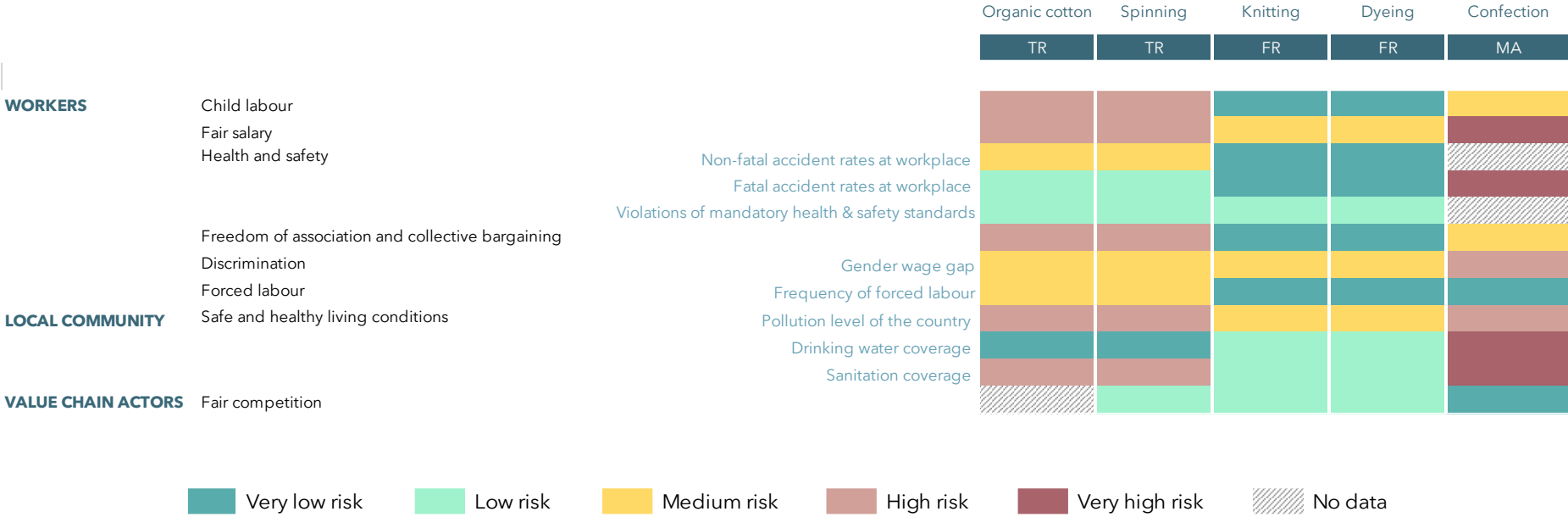
**A large contributor** to the overall impact of a body is **confection**. It is the main contributor to climate change, particulate matter, acidification, terrestrial eutrophication, water use and resource use (fossil as well as minerals and metals). The impact of confection is mainly caused by the electricity use in the process and more specifically the composition of the Moroccan electricity mix; it relies heavily on fossil fuels. Also **organic cotton yarn production** is a hotspot; it shows large contributions (> 35%) to particulate matter, human toxicity, eutrophication (marine, freshwater and terrestrial), land use and water use. These impacts can be explained by the cultivation of (organic) cotton fibre.

**Negligible contributions** to the general environmental impact from **packaging** and **distribution** are observed.

























Social

**Disclaimer.** The risk indicators are based on general data at sector and country level. No data is taken into account from demonstrator specific production facilities.



### 3.1.4 Use and EOL phase

<b>Washing frequency</b>	Stains rapidly, washed heavily	  
<b>Washing temperature</b>	Powerful (high temperature) wash required	
<b>Washing load</b>	Entire machine load can be used for cotton	  
<b>Drying</b>	Often tumble dried, although not recommended by Petit Bateau	
<b>Ironing</b>	Not ironed	
<b>Microplastics release</b>	Assumed to be limited, only shedding from PE stitching yarn and potentially dyes <sup>6</sup>	
<b>PRODUCT USE SPAN</b>		
<b>Quality<sup>7</sup></b>	Cotton has a moderate tensile strength	
	Use of long staple fibres of 26-28 mm	
	Yarn size of Nm 60	
	Fabric weight of 186g/m2	
<b>Size and fit</b>	Shortly used by babies and toddlers	
<b>Repairability</b>	Repair services offered in some shops	
<b>Trend sensitivity</b>	Timeless design	
<b>Care instructions</b>	Provided, including instructions for the removal of spots and stains	
<b>REUSE POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Resales</b>	High, popular items on Vinted, take back and resell pilots launched	
<b>RECYCLING POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Composition</b>	Monomaterial fabric (100% cotton)	
<b>Stitching and trims</b>	PE stitching yarn and metal (100% brass) snaps	

 Electricity use    
  Water use    
  Chemical use    
  Microplastics release

Positive influence    
  Negative influence

<sup>6</sup> Open to further research

<sup>7</sup> "Experts consider the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre, shape of the fibre, etc. as important parameters that influence the quality." (OVAM, 2021)



## 3.2 HNST

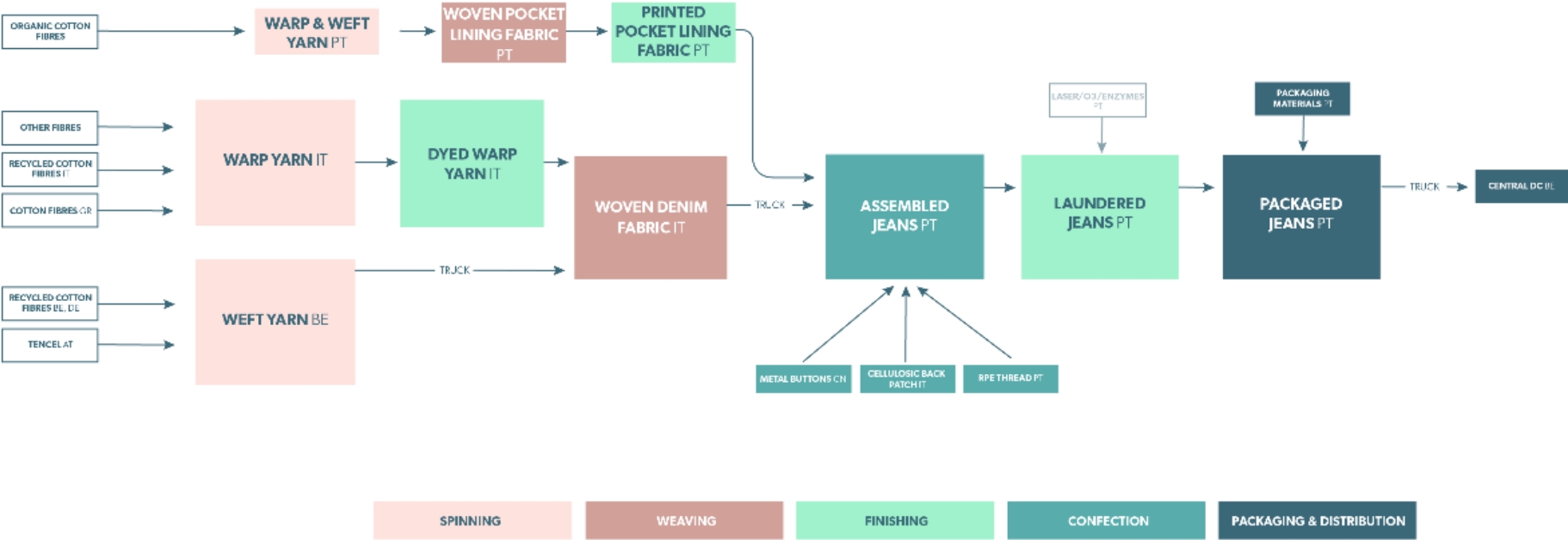


### 3.2.1 Product profile

Product	Jeans
Weight	507 g
Material composition	56% recycled cotton, 23% cotton, 21% Tencel™ (main fabric) 100% cotton (lining / pocketing fabric)
Fabric type	Woven
Production volume	2000 pcs
Representativeness	99% of revenue
Sales model	Wholesale and online
Main market	Belgium, EU
Customer	Currently mostly so-called 'eco-warriors' that highly value sustainability. Eventually HNST wants to become appealing for fashion-oriented customers as well.

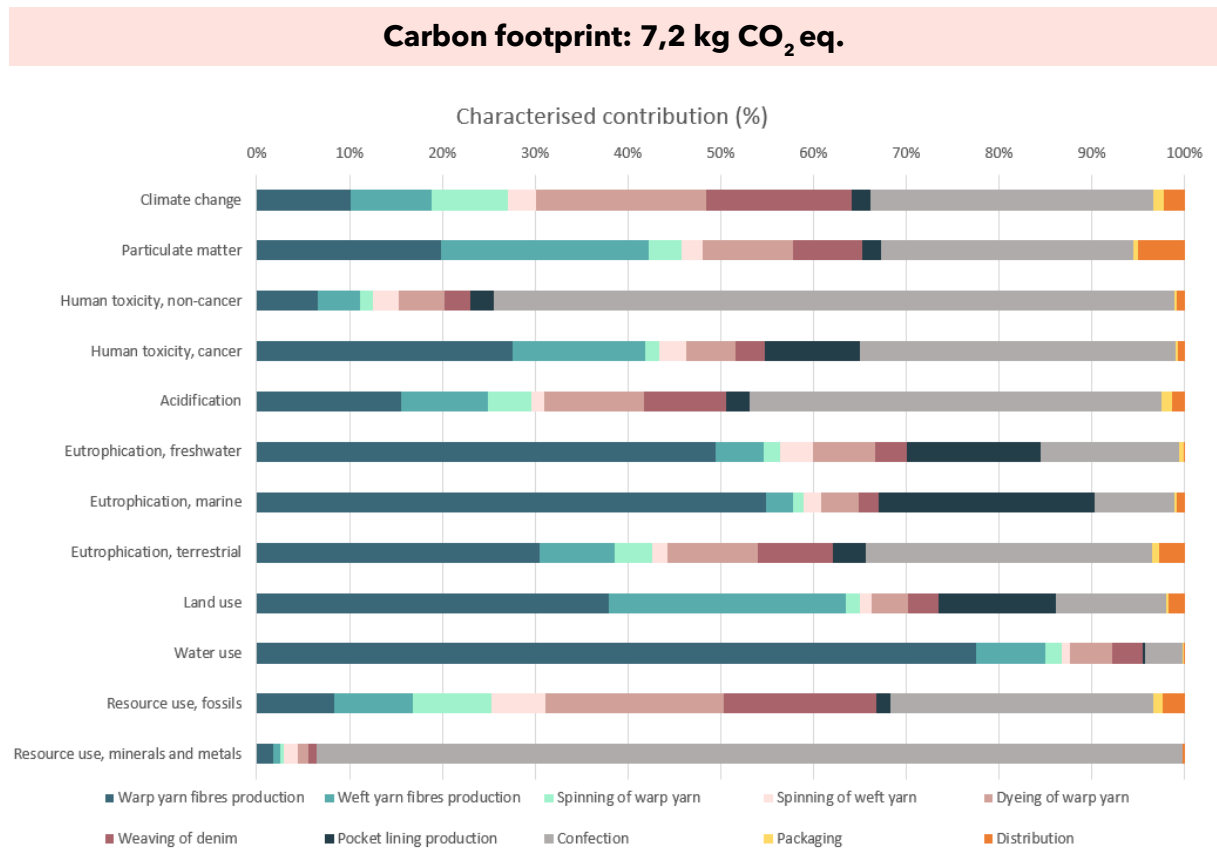


3.2.2 Cradle-to-gate value chain



### 3.2.3 Footprints

#### Environmental



Environmental profile of 1 packaged jeans, delivered to the central distribution centre

The profile shows a relatively **large contribution** to the overall impact of **warp yarn fibre** production compared to **weft yarn fibre**. The ratio of warp to weft yarn fibres used in the jeans is approximately 60:40 on mass basis, which means the weight difference does not fully explain the difference in impact. The composition of the yarn does; the warp contains +/- 40% virgin cotton, 60% recycled cotton with other fibres while the weft is composed of 50% Tencel™ and 50% recycled cotton. Although lyocell was used as a proxy for Tencel™, it is clear that this fibre has a lower overall environmental impact than cotton. Warp yarn fibre production is the largest contributor to eutrophication, land use and water use. This can be attributed to cotton cultivation. Since overall Tencel™ is expected to be more environmentally friendly (due to e.g. lower water consumption and recycling of solvents) than lyocell fibre, the impact (and the contribution to the impact categories) of the weft yarn production is expected to be lower in reality. **Spinning, weaving and dyeing** are mainly electricity-driven, therefore their contributions to e.g. climate change, fossil resources use and acidification are larger than to impact categories that are less affected by energy use.

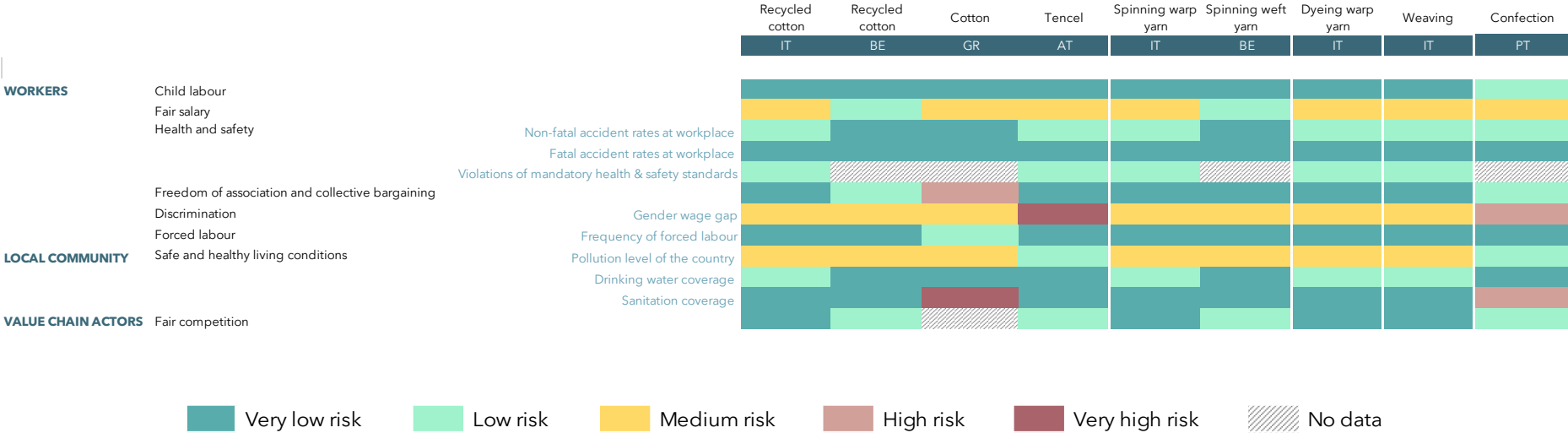
**Confection** is also an important contributor to the general impact, mostly on human toxicity, acidification, resource use, climate change, terrestrial eutrophication and particulate matter. This mainly results from electricity consumption and the use of metal for the buttons.

**Small to negligible contributions** of **packaging** and **distribution** are observed to the overall impact. Also for **spinning of warp yarn** and **spinning of weft yarn** this is limited.































Social

**Disclaimer.** The risk indicators are based on general data at sector and country level. No data is taken into account from demonstrator specific production facilities.



### 3.2.4 Use and EOL phase

<b>Washing frequency</b>	Jeans are typically worn more than once before laundering	  
	Pro-biotic spray provided to reduce washing	  
<b>Washing temperature</b>	Mild wash recommended	
<b>Washing load</b>	Entire machine load can be used for cotton	  
<b>Drying</b>	Tumble drying allowed based on care instructions, but HNST recommends to line dry	
<b>Ironing</b>	Requires ironing or other ways for wrinkle removal	
<b>Microplastics release</b>	Assumed to be limited, only from PE stitching yarn <sup>8</sup>	
<b>PRODUCT USE SPAN</b>		
<b>Quality<sup>9</sup></b>	Cotton has a moderate tensile strength	
	Main fabric has a yarn size of Nm 17 (warp) and Nm 13 (weft)	
	Main fabric weight of 380 g/m2 (11 oz)	
<b>Size and fit</b>	No elastane used	
<b>Repairability</b>	Repair services offered	
<b>Trend sensitivity</b>	Timeless fit	
<b>Care instructions</b>	Provided	
<b>REUSE POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Take back guarantee, customer gets rewarded with a discount on next item	
<b>RECYCLING POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Take back guarantee, customer gets rewarded with a discount on next item	
<b>Composition</b>	Blending of different material types avoided (no use of elastane)	
<b>Stitching and trims</b>	Non-renewable/non-recyclable components are avoided/easily removable (buttons on men jeans, embroidered rivets, printing of care instructions)	
	Use of PE stitching yarn	
	Zipper on women jeans	

 Electricity use   
  Water use   
  Chemical use   
  Microplastics release

Positive influence   
  Negative influence

<sup>8</sup> Open to further research

<sup>9</sup> "Experts consider the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre, shape of the fibre, etc. as important parameters that influence the quality." (OVAM, 2021)





### 3.3 Bel&Bo - Dress

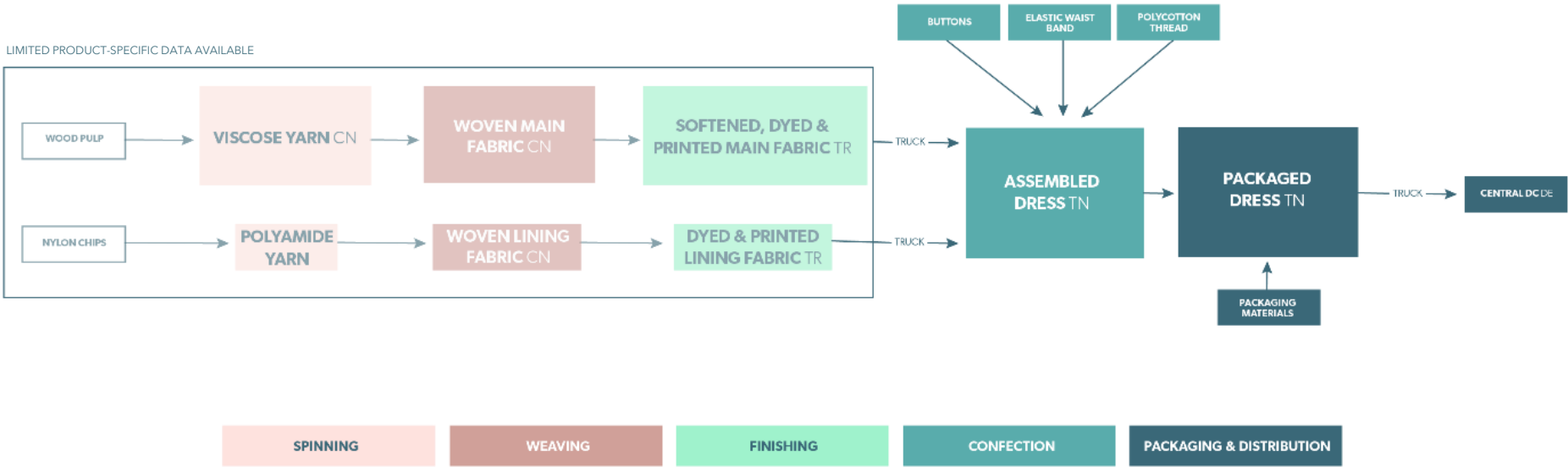


#### 3.3.5 Product profile

Product	Dress
Weight	274 g
Material composition	100% viscose (main fabric) 100% PA (interlining)
Fabric type	Woven
Production volume	18000 pcs
Representativeness	+/- 1% of revenue
Sales model	Own stores (95) and online
Main market	Belgium
Customer	Women between 30-55 years that are caring, rather conservative, locally focused, value convenience and have a family first mindset. To date, practically no questions from customers with regard to sustainability.

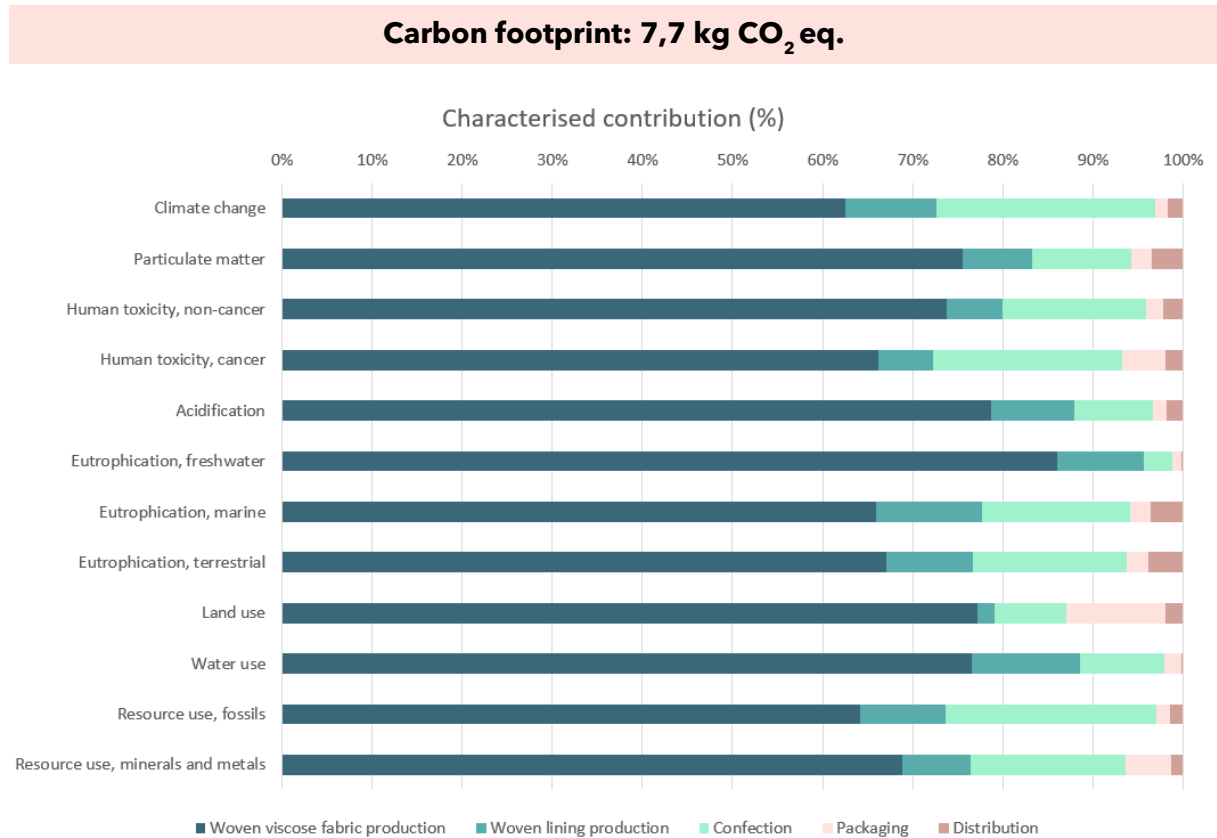


3.3.6 Cradle-to-gate value chain



### 3.3.7 Footprints

#### Environmental



Environmental profile of 1 packaged dress, delivered to the central distribution centre

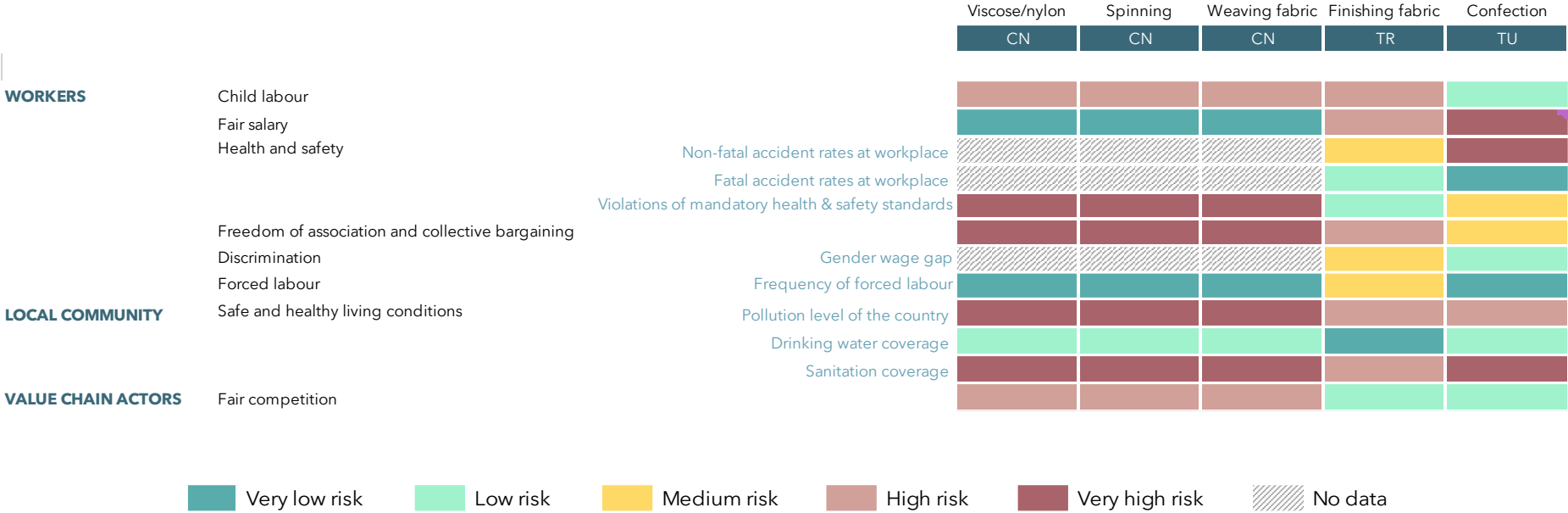
Overall, the **major contributor** to all impact categories is **woven viscose fabric**. This process is a lumped process modelled using background information since no foreground data was available on the production steps to make woven viscose fabric, i.e. fibre sourcing, viscose yarn spinning, viscose fabric weaving and dyeing/finishing. The fabric impact can mainly be attributed to dyeing processes and production of fibres. Woven lining was modelled analogously to woven viscose fabric. The contribution of **woven viscose fabric** is larger than that of **woven lining**, but this is entirely due to the ratio viscose fabric/lining in the assembled dress. **Confection** has the second largest contribution to most impact categories, which is mainly due to the buttons' impact (made from polymers) on the one hand and due to electricity consumption on the other hand, depending on the impact category.

The **calculated carbon footprint is small**, typically due to limited availability of foreground data.

























Social

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## 3.3.8 Use and EOL phase

<b>Washing frequency</b>	Product worn next to skin is often laundered after one use	  
<b>Washing temperature</b>	Mild wash suffices	
<b>Washing load</b>	Lower-than-full machine load is recommended for viscose	  
<b>Drying</b>	Tumble drying is not recommended for viscose	
<b>Ironing</b>	Requires ironing (medium heat setting) or other ways for wrinkle removal	
<b>Microplastics release</b>	Assumed to be limited, only from PE stitching yarn and potentially dyes. Although not synthetic, man-made cellulosic materials are believed to also shed microfibres. <sup>10</sup>	
<b>PRODUCT USE SPAN</b>		
<b>Quality<sup>11</sup></b>	In general viscose has a rather low tensile strength, but a lot depends on the manufacturing process Yarn size of Nm 51 for both warp and weft Fabric weight of 115 g/m2	
<b>Repairability</b>	Repair services offered but not pro-actively communicated	
<b>Trend sensitivity</b>	Seasonal patterns and colours	
<b>Care instructions</b>	Provided	
<b>REUSE POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Take back system via partner (Wereld Missie Hulp / Wolkat)	
	Bi-annually take back campaigns planned	
<b>RECYCLING POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Composition</b>	Fabric needs to be disassembled from lining	
<b>Stitching and trims</b>	Elastic waist band, Polycotton (polyester and cotton) stitching yarn, PE buttons sewed with PE tread	

 Electricity use    
  Water use    
  Chemical use    
  Microplastics release

Positive influence    
  Negative influence

<sup>10</sup> Open to further research

<sup>11</sup> "Experts consider the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre, shape of the fibre, etc. as important parameters that influence the quality." (OVAM, 2021)



## 3.4 Xandres - Pants

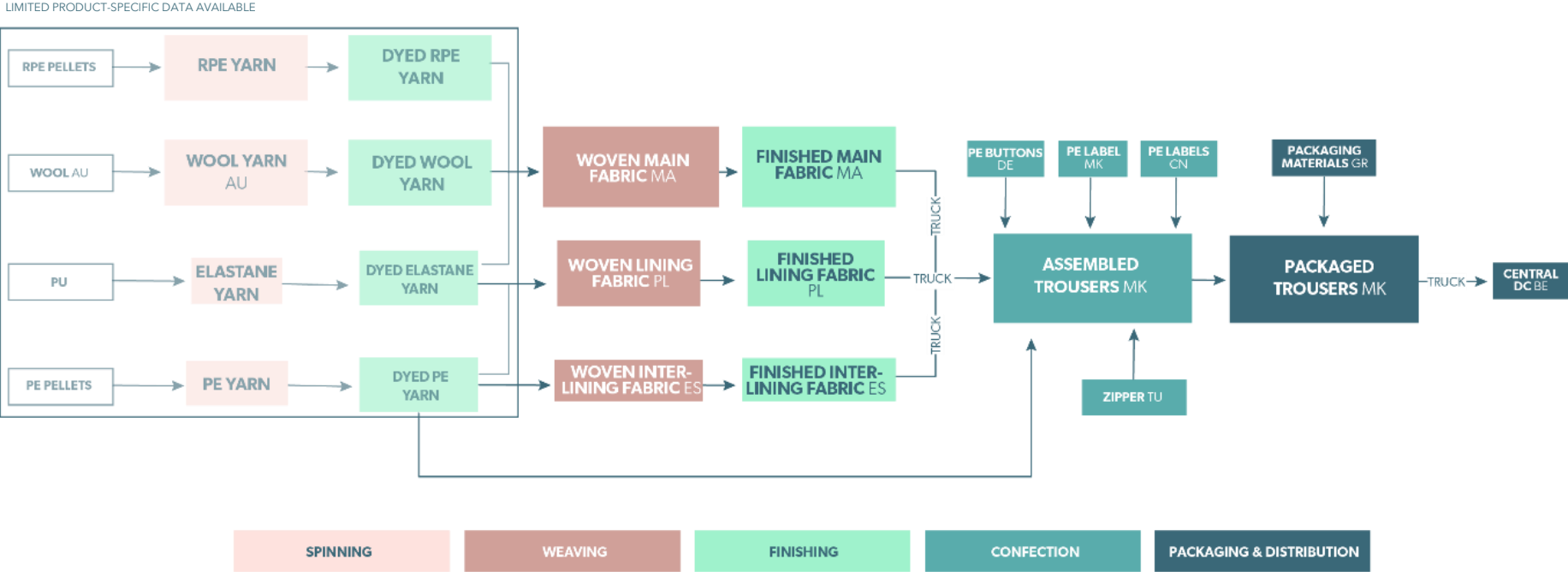
### 3.4.1 Product profile



Product	Pants
Weight	505 g
Material composition	53% PE, 44% wool, 3% elastane (main fabric) 94% PE, 6% elastane (lining fabric) 100% PE with PA dots as adhesive (interlining)
Fabric type	Woven
Production volume	3000 pcs per year (B2C) - 3 models in total 50000 pcs per year (B2B) - including blazers with same material composition
Representativeness	+/- 10% of revenue
Sales model	Own stores, wholesale and online
Main market	Belgium (80%), Netherlands (20%), soon also Germany
Customer	Women between 50-70 years To date, very few questions from customers with regard to sustainability.

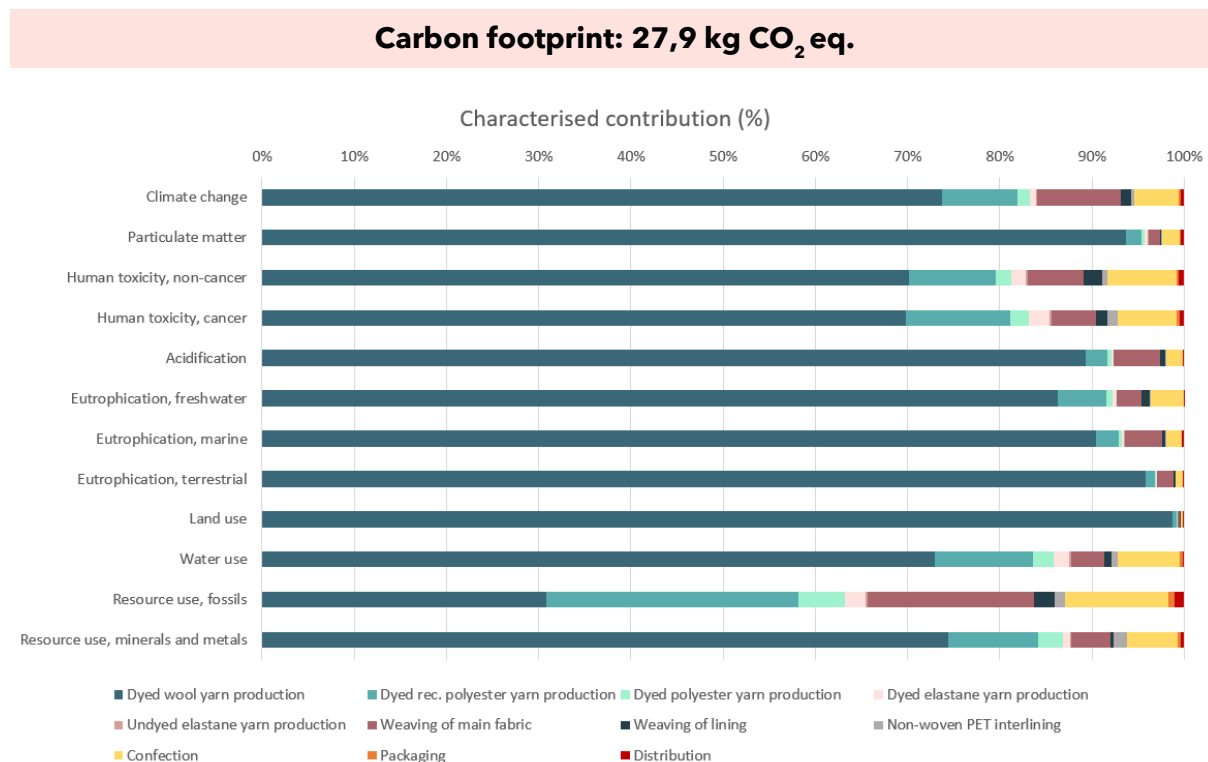


3.4.2 Cradle-to-gate value chain



### 3.4.3 Footprints

#### Environmental



Environmental profile of 1 packaged pair of pants, delivered to the central distribution centre

Dyed wool yarn production is the **major contributor** to every impact category as a result of sheep farming. Its impact on climate change, for instance, accounts for almost 75% of the total carbon footprint of the garment and is caused mainly by methane emission (greenhouse gas that is over 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide) by the ruminating sheep. Also land transformation and ammonia deposition caused by sheep farming explain the impacts of the wool yarn on all impact categories. Due to lack of foreground data on the dyed yarns, these processes are lumped process entailing fibre sourcing, spinning into yarn and yarn dyeing. It may look surprising that the impact of **recycled polyester yarn** in the garment is higher than that of (**virgin**) **polyester yarn** for all impact categories, however this is due to the weight ratio of recycled polyester yarn to virgin polyester yarn in the assembled garment. The same holds true when comparing the contributions of recycled polyester yarn to **elastane yarn**. **Confection** contributes mainly to human toxicity, water use and fossil resource use, which is largely due to electricity consumption.

The impact of **weaving of the main fabric** is larger than the impact of weaving the (**inter**)lining, due to the wool transport from Australia to Morocco which is accounted for in this process.

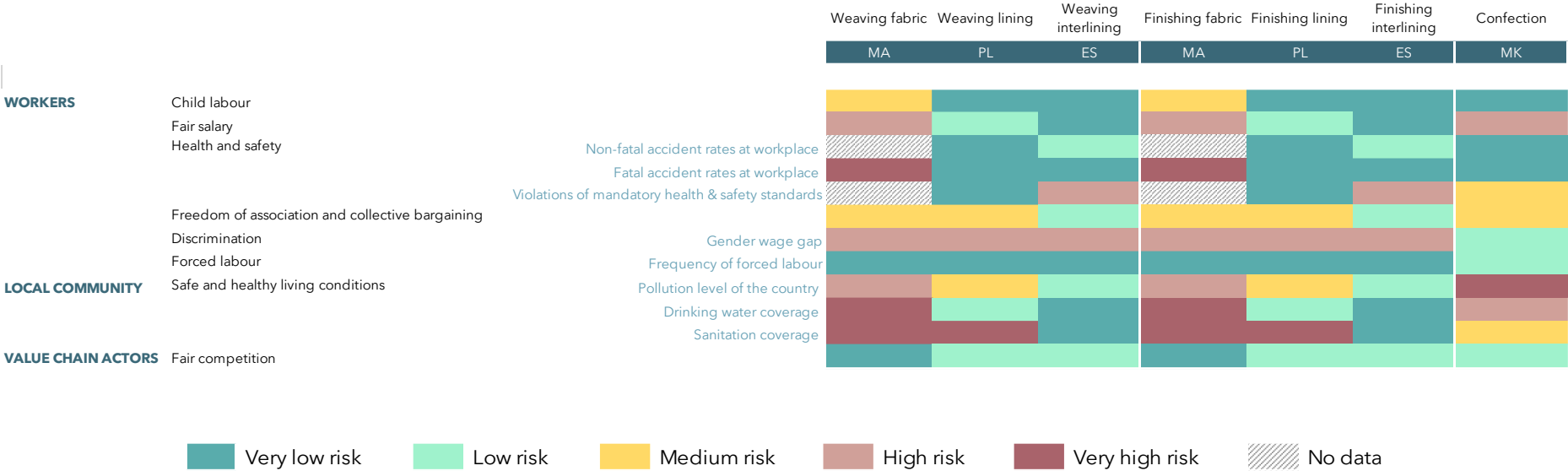
The contributions to the impact of **packaging** and **distribution** are **negligible** for all categories.



































Social

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### 3.4.4 Use and EOL phase

<b>Washing frequency</b>	Trousers are typically worn more than once before laundering	  
	Wool resists staining and develops little odor	  
<b>Washing temperature</b>	Low temperatures are required for wool	
<b>Washing load</b>	Lower-than-full machine loads is recommended for mixed materials	  
<b>Drying</b>	Tumble drying is not recommended for both wool and elastane	
<b>Ironing</b>	The formal character of the product requires ironing or other ways for wrinkle removal	
<b>Microplastics release</b>	Yes	
<b>PRODUCT USE SPAN</b>		
<b>Quality<sup>12</sup></b>	Too little information available	
<b>Size and fit</b>	Fit is maintained thanks to elastane, although it loses elasticity over time	
	Retouches offered through local players to save transport	
<b>Repairability</b>	Repair services offered	
<b>Trend sensibility</b>	Timeless design	
<b>Care instructions</b>	Provided	
<b>REUSE POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Take back system for B2B customers	
<b>RECYCLING POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Take back system for B2B customers	
<b>Composition</b>	Multimaterial blend, including elastane	
	Main fabric glued to (inter)lining	
<b>Stitching and trims</b>	PA zipper, PE buttons and labels	

 Electricity use    
  Water use    
  Chemical use    
  Microplastics release  
 Positive influence    
  Negative influence

<sup>12</sup> “Experts consider the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre, shape of the fibre, etc. as important parameters that influence the quality.” (OVAM, 2021)



## 3.5 Decathlon - Swimsuit

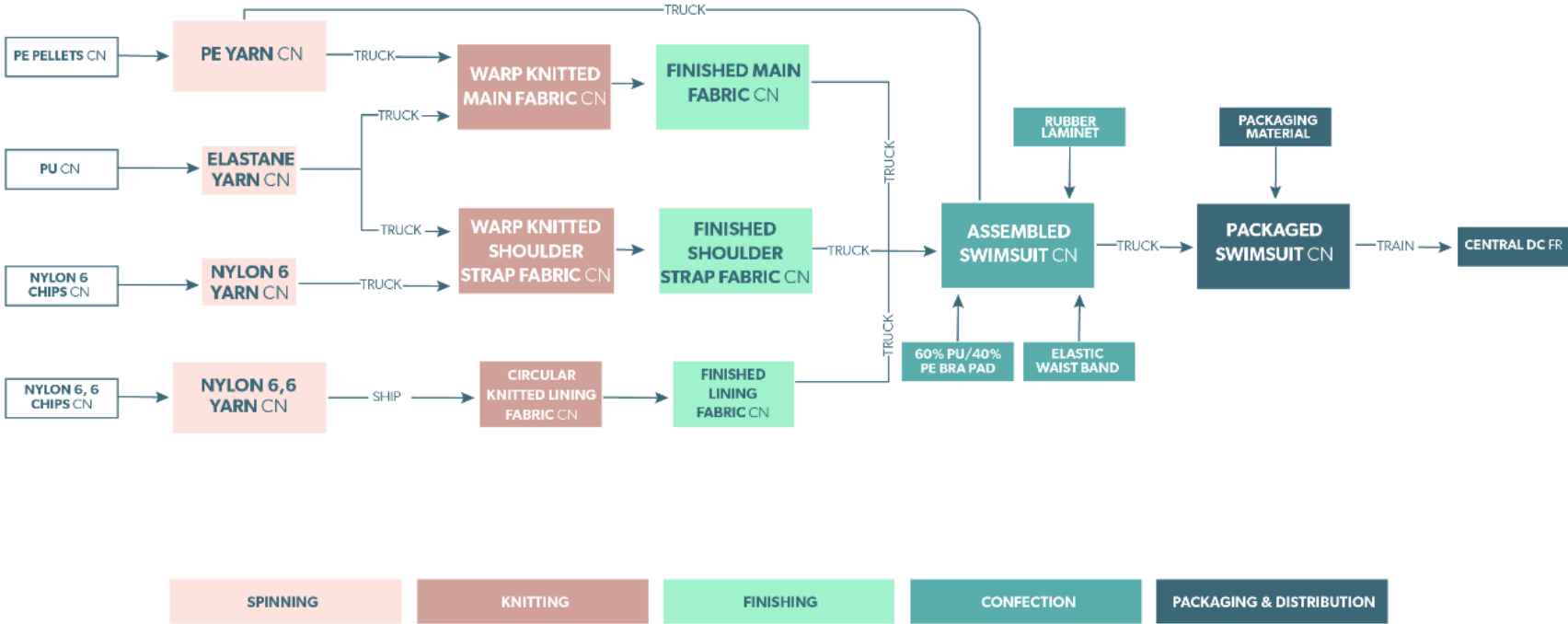


### 3.5.1 Product profile

Product	Swimsuit
Weight	140 g
Material composition	82% PET, 18% elastane (main fabric) 80% PA (nylon 6), 20% elastane (shoulder strap) 100% PA (nylon 6,6) (lining)
Fabric type	Knitted
Production volume	To be determined by MOQ
Representativeness	
Sales model	Own stores and online
Main market	France, EU
Customer	To date, very few questions from customers with regard to sustainability.

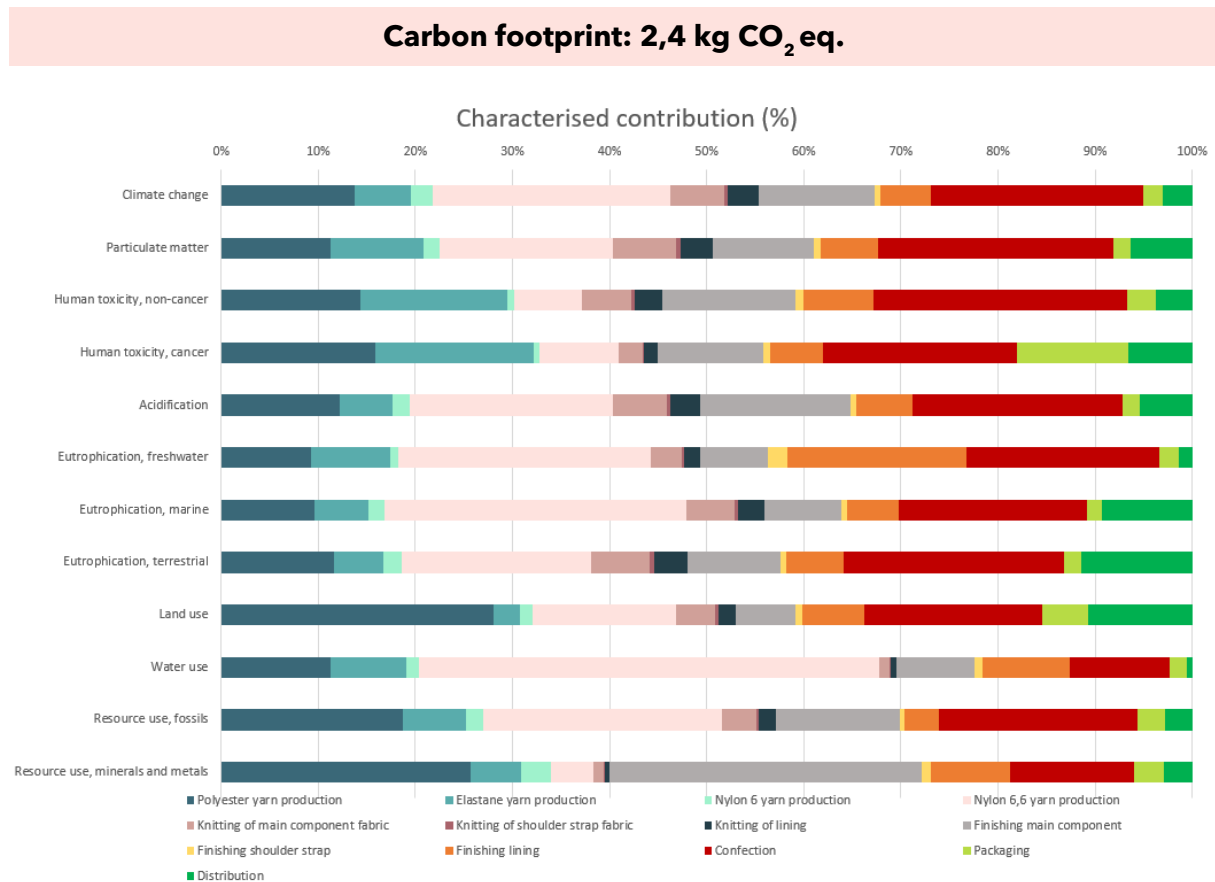


3.5.2 Cradle-to-gate value chain



### 3.5.3 Footprints

#### Environmental



Environmental profile of 1 packaged swimsuit, delivered to the central distribution centre

A **large contributor** to the overall impact is **nylon 6,6 yarn production**, which is a result of the production of nylon 6,6 polymer. Its impact is higher than **polyester yarn production** for most impact categories, although more polyester than nylon 6,6 ends up in the assembled garment. The overall impact of **nylon 6** is a lot lower than that of nylon 6,6 only because of the weight ratio in the swimsuit. **Confection** also takes a significant piece of the pie; for most impact categories it is the main (or second largest) contributor to the impact. This is a result of electricity consumption during confection.

The impact of **finishing the main component** is, for most impact categories, higher than for **finishing the shoulder straps** and **lining**. This is mostly due to the weight ratio of the different components in the final product, but is also related to the fact that background data was used for chemicals for finishing the shoulder straps and lining. The use of background data generally results in a lower impact as less data are captured in such average data sets.

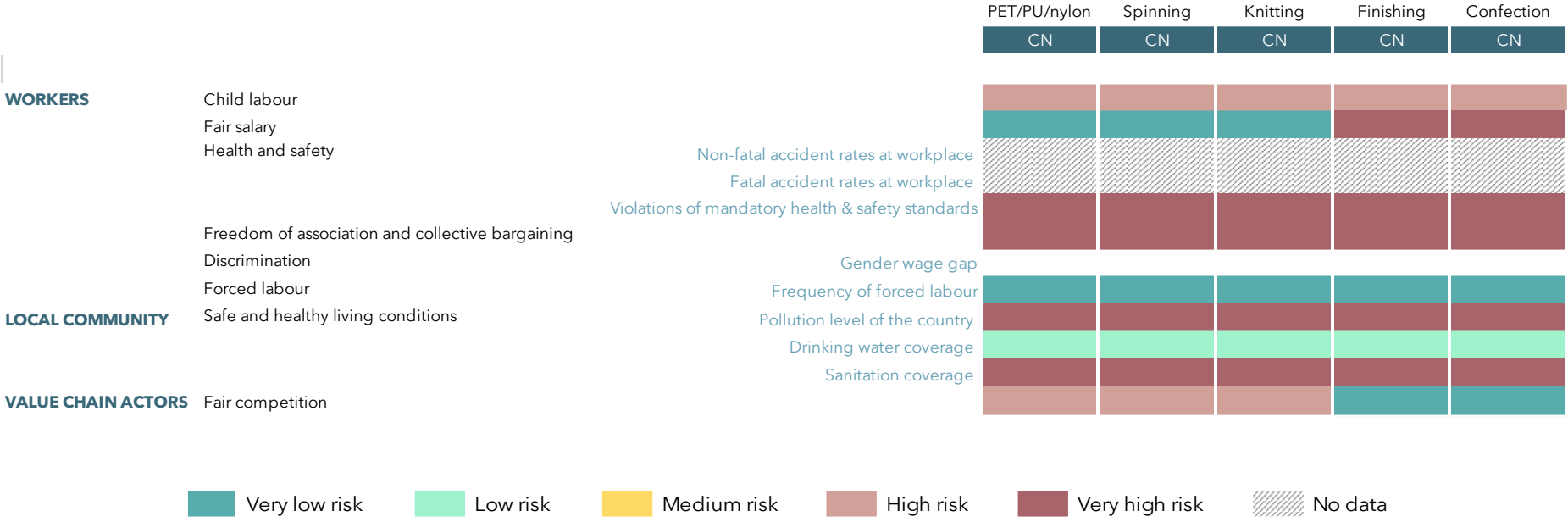
Due to the long transport distance from China to France, the overall contribution of the **distribution** step to the impact of a swimsuit is considerable.

Chiefly, the overall impact of the combined yarn production is shown to be higher than that of the combined finishing processes, which is higher than the impact of confection, followed by the combined knitting processes and lastly packaging and distribution.


































Social

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### 3.5.4 Use and EOL phase

<b>Washing frequency</b>	Swimwear is typically laundered after one use	  
<b>Washing temperature</b>	Mild wash suffices	
<b>Washing load</b>	Lower-than-full machine load is recommended for synthetics	  
<b>Drying</b>	Tumble drying is not recommended due to elastane	
<b>Ironing</b>	Not required	
<b>Microplastics release</b>	Yes, although continuous fibres are used who tend to shed less than staple fibres	
<b>PRODUCT USE SPAN</b>		
<b>Quality<sup>13</sup></b>	PE and PA have a high tensile strength	
	Chlorine exposure affects colour and elasticity. Decathlon does perform a lot of tests on chlorine resistance and uses 'long life' elastane.	
	Use of continuous PE fibres	
	Yarn size of Nm 200 - 225	
	Fabric weight of 190g/m2 (main fabric and shoulder strap) and 100g/m2 (lining fabric)	
<b>Size and fit</b>	Elasticity loss over time due to exposure to chlorine	
<b>Repairability</b>	No actions undertaken	
<b>Trend sensitivity</b>	Seasonal fits, colours and patterns	
<b>Care instructions</b>	Provided	
<b>REUSE POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Resales</b>	Resales for reuse purposes is not considered for hygiene reasons	
<b>RECYCLING POTENTIAL</b>		
<b>Take back</b>	Occasional experiments with take back campaigns	
<b>Sorting</b>	Black dope dyed products difficult to sort with NIR	
<b>Composition</b>	Multiple materials blend, including elastane	
	Multiple components to assemble product	
<b>Stitching and trims</b>	PU padding, elastic waist band, shoulder straps, (natural) rubber bond in stitching	
<b>Additives and coatings</b>	Yes, to achieve chlorine resistance and water-repellence	

 Electricity use   
  Water use   
  Chemical use   
  Microplastics release  
 Positive influence   
  Negative influence

<sup>13</sup> "Experts consider the used material, construction of the yarns and fabrics, length of the fibre, shape of the fibre, etc. as important parameters that influence the quality." (OVAM, 2021)



## 4 Conclusion

For each of the demonstrator products the Fibre Footprint provides a preliminary overview of the sustainability performance throughout the product life cycle, either in a quantitative or qualitative way. Due to limitations in data availability - both for foreground data and (social) background data - the resulting carbon footprints and social risk indicators remain indicative. They should be interpreted with caution and merely serve as a building block for the more deep diving environmental and social impact assessments planned in Task 4.2 on the True Cost Model. In case methodological adjustments are implemented or additional/more detailed/more accurate data becomes available that might improve the results, an update of the Fibre Footprint will be provided.





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