

# RESYNTAX



La pensée du cycle de vie dans le projet Resyntax:  
Réaliser l'économie circulaire dans le secteur des textiles

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# TOO MUCH TEXTILE IS WASTED EVERY YEAR WITHOUT VALORIZATION...



... a perfect  
representation  
of **linear economy**

—————→  
How can we shift  
this linear model  
towards  
more **circularity**?



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY



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**RESYNTEX project**  
INNOVATIVE INDUSTRIAL SYMBIOSIS

# ALL THE SUCCESS FACTORS FOR AN AMBITIOUS PROJECT



**20**  
partners

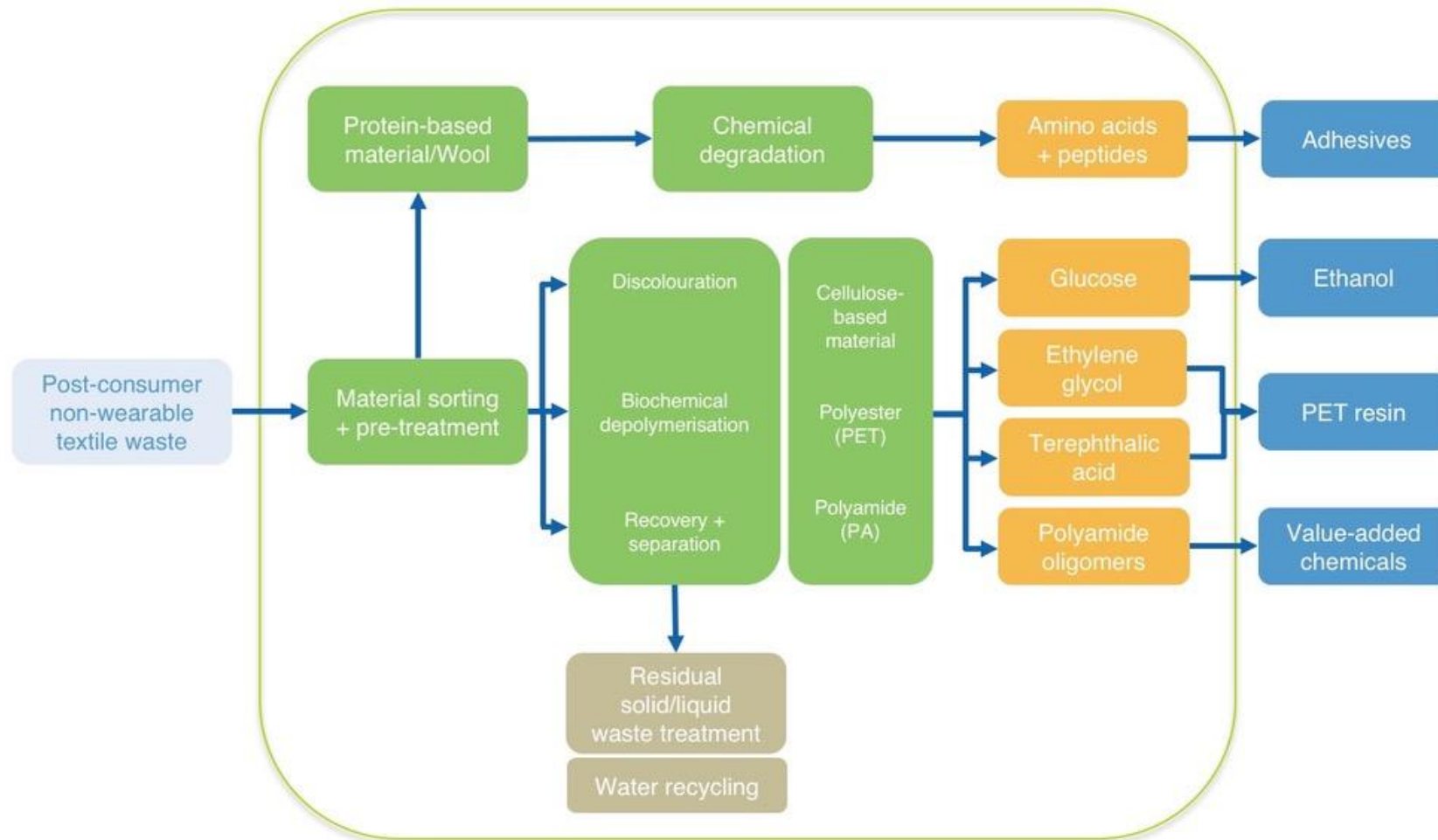
Multi-sectorial  
international  
expertise



**42**  
months

Funding from the  
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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME**  
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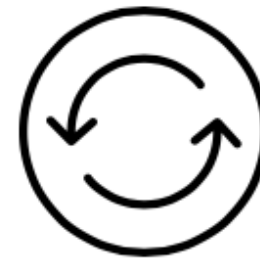





173 young consumers (16 – 25) took part in **Citizen Labs** in Annecy (France), Manchester (UK), Prato (Italy) and Maribor (Slovenia)



Four **regional stakeholder dialogues** to address the obstacles around collection, involving local authorities and businesses & NGOs that collect and sort textile waste



Value chain dialogue with European businesses from the textile, waste management, chemical and recycling machinery industries to:

- ❖ collaboratively assess the viability of industrial symbiosis approaches
- ❖ identify potential markets for the future recycled feedstock obtained through textile fibre reprocessing

KEY OUTCOME (stakeholder feedback):

Resyntex needs to assess a range of **end-products and markets that have not been identified by the project thus far**, for example:

Fibre-to-fibre  
(cellulosic fibres)

Gradual blending  
(polyester –packaging)

Sugar platform  
chemicals

Provision of  
certification services



# TOOLS FOR MEASURING THE RESYNTEX BENEFITS



**LCA**

Life cycle assessment

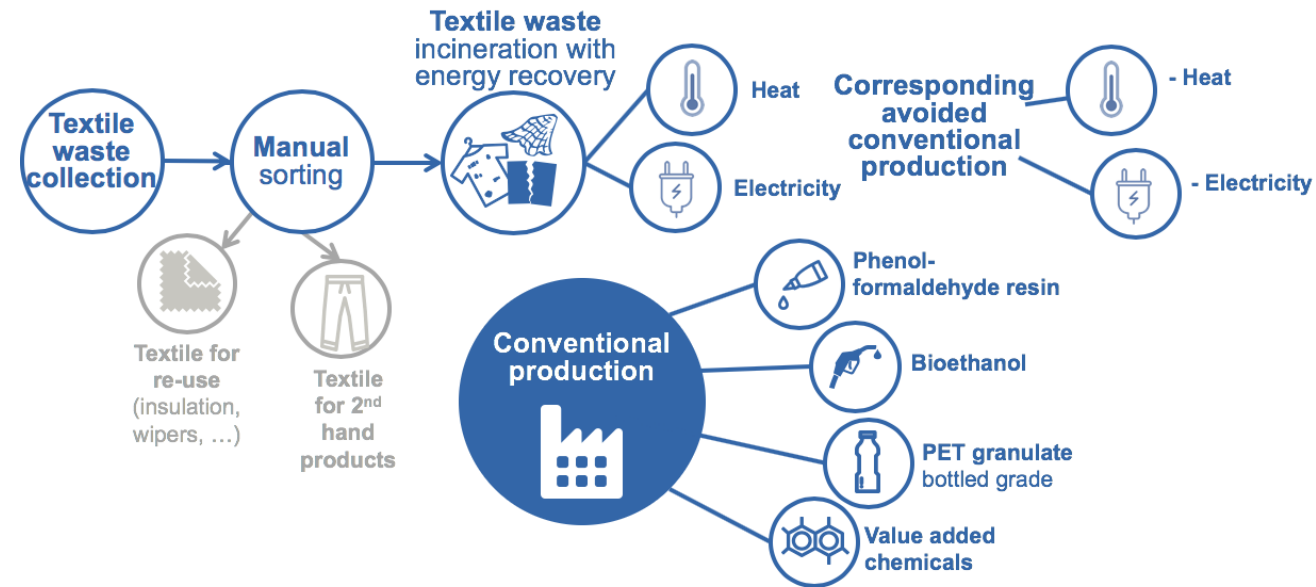


**LCC**

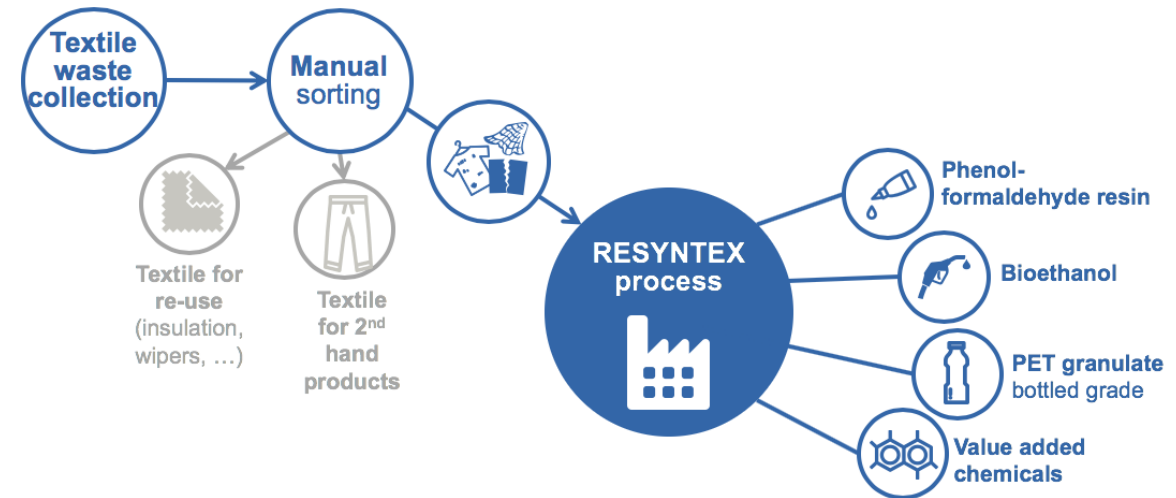
Life cycle costing

**LCA and LCC  
combined results**

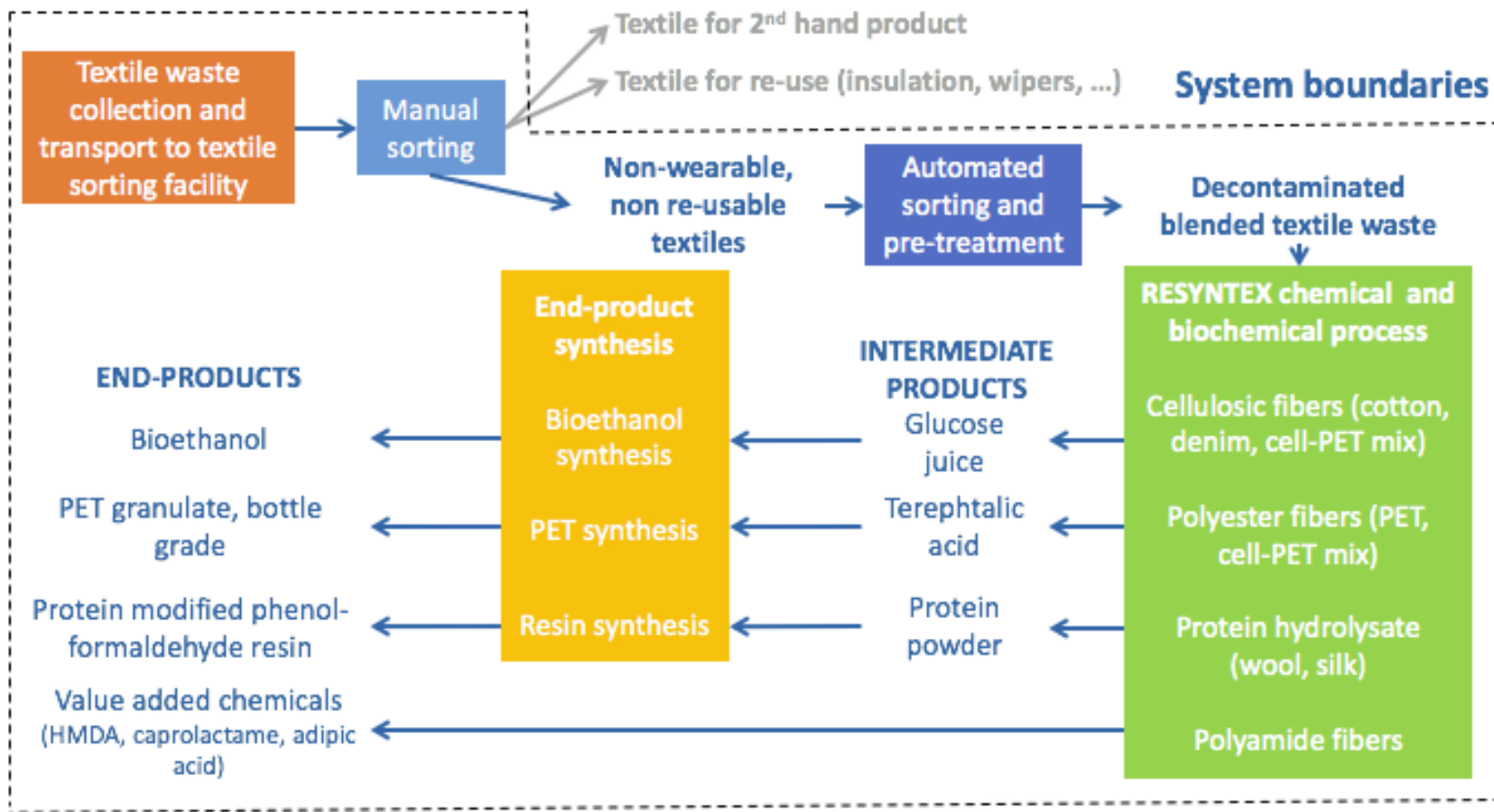
## Reference system



## Resyntex system



Resyntex plant size: 10'000 t textile waste input.  
Energy, water and infrastructures partly optimized.

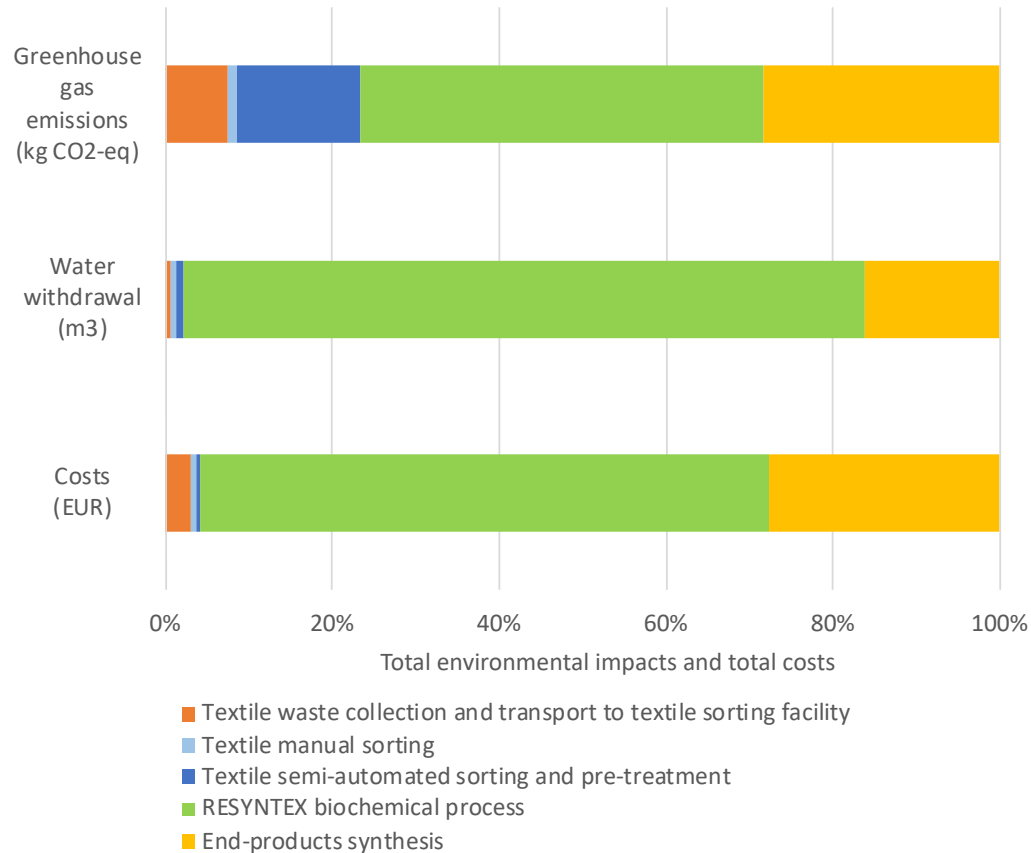


## FUNCTIONAL UNIT

The treatment of 1 tonne of non-wearable non-reusable textile waste and the production of end-products:

- phenol-formaldehyde resin for wood panel,
  - bioethanol,
- value added chemicals and
  - PET granulate, in **Germany**.

Contribution to env. impacts and costs



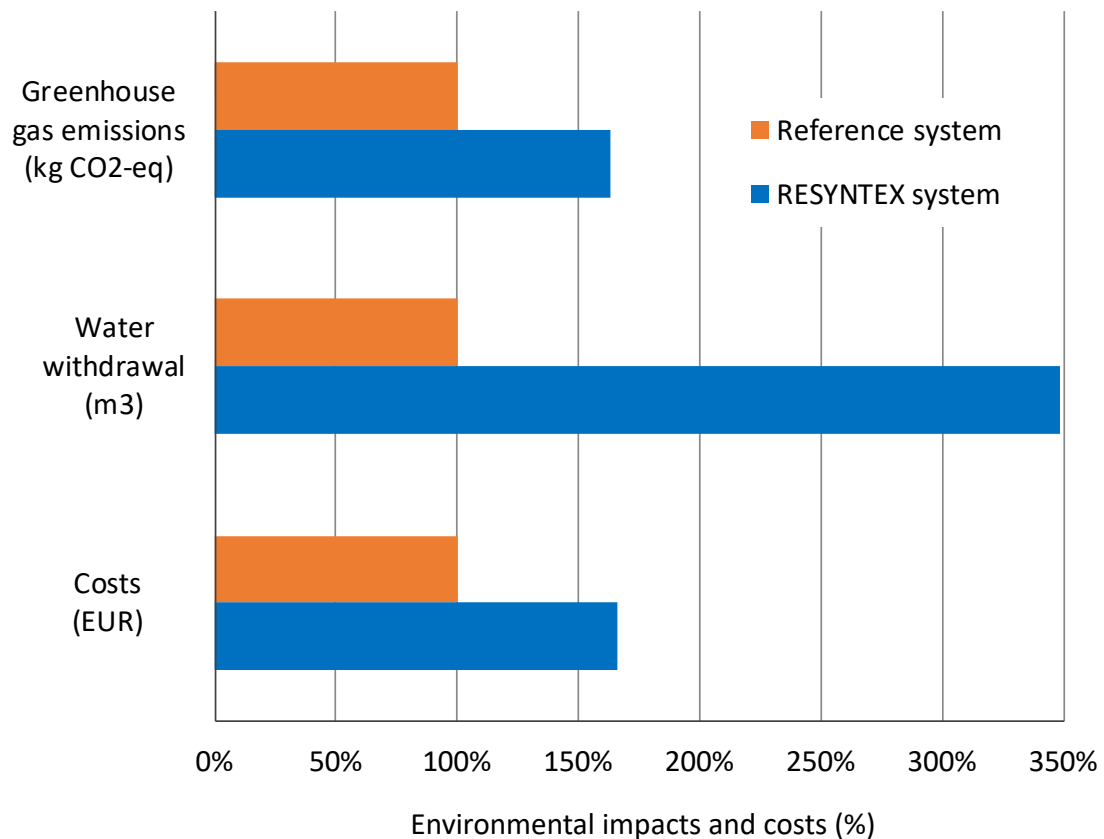
## Main contributors

- (Bio)chemical process: steam and chemicals (e.g., NaOH, Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)
- End-product synthesis: protein modified phenol-formaldehyde resin (with partial replacement of phenol by proteins) and ethylene glycol production for PET synthesis

## Key opportunities for impact reduction

- Further optimization of the energy consumption
- Yields improvement
- Type and amount of chemical used
- Additional pre-treatment enabling a yield increase or easier further processing

# COMPARATIVE RESULTS FOR REFERENCE AND RESYNTEX SYSTEMS



The **reference system has lower impacts** regarding greenhouse gas emissions, water withdrawal and has lower costs

**but**

it is a **mature system, fully optimized** while the **Resyntex system is a young technology that will evolve** and be further optimized.

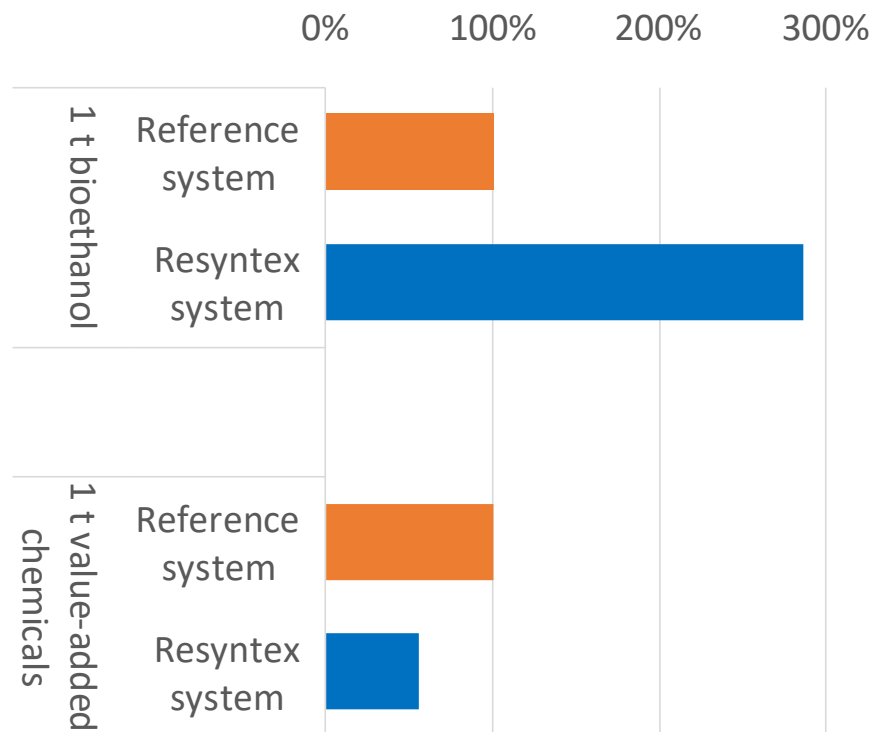
The choice of other end-products could also improve the efficiency of the Resyntex system.

### Some limitations

- The **reference system considers incineration** with energy recovery for the textile waste treatment, **landfilling** could lead to **different conclusions**
- The **end-of-life** of the products is **excluded** (“cradle-to-gate” study), its inclusion would influence the results (e.g., partly biogenic resin VS 100% fossil based)

# PRODUCT BASED APPROACH RESULTS FOR TWO SELECTED END-PRODUCTS

Greenhouse gas emissions



The bioethanol from the Resyntex system emits more GHG than the reference bioethanol per t of product.

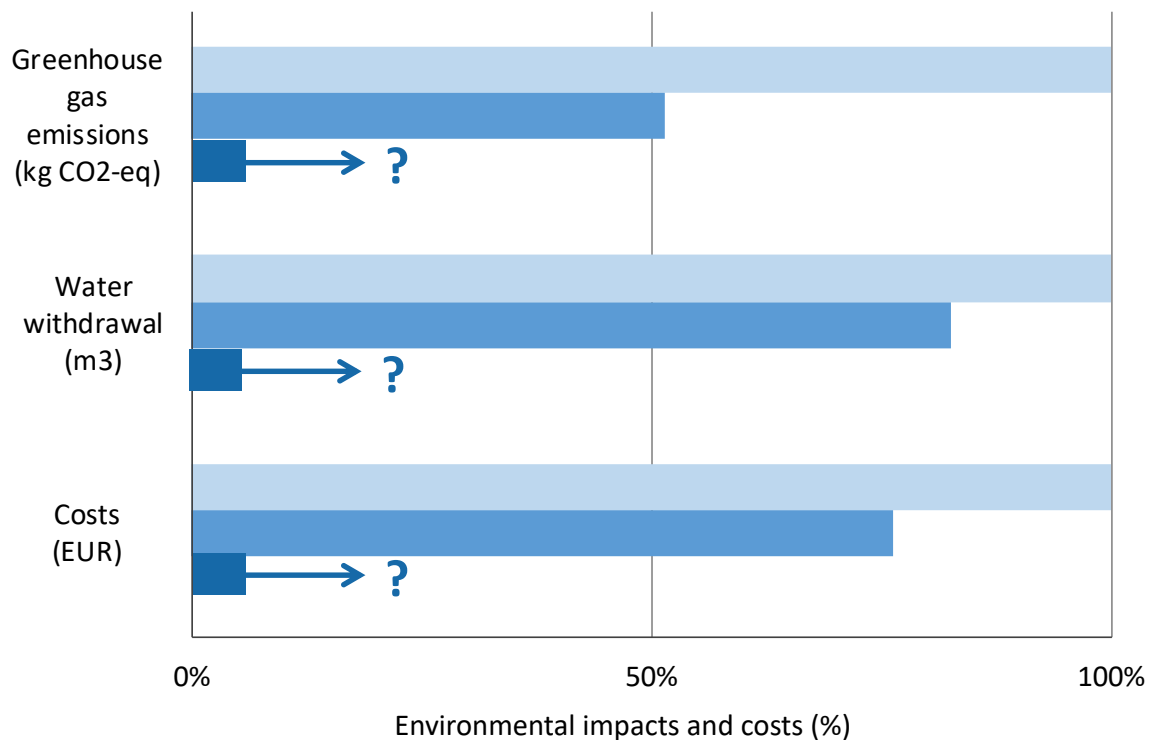
On the contrary, the Resyntex value-added chemicals emit less GHG than in the reference system.

→ **Importance of selecting the right end-products!**

**Potential next-step:**

Discussion with industry to understand their needs and identify the best end-products to produce from Resyntex intermediate products

# RESYNTEX SCORES EVOLUTION FROM UNOPTIMIZED TO FULLY OPTIMIZED



- RESYNTEX industrial scale not optimized
- RESYNTEX industrial scale and partly optimized
- RESYNTEX industrial scale and fully optimized

The first level of optimization (partial energy, water and infrastructure optimization) leads to a good impact reduction.

Further optimization of energy and water, together with chemical optimization will lead to further reduction in the impacts.



- LCA-LCC: results update with data for industrial scale with further optimization
- Pilot plant building and operating



# RESYNTEX



Thank you!

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