







## Advancing resource efficient and cleaner production in Azerbaijan

# The RECP methodology

**Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP)** is the integrated and continuous application of preventive environmental strategies to **processes, products, and services** to increase efficiency and reduce risks to humans and the environment. RECP is all about producing with fewer resources while minimizing environmental impacts and increasing overall productivity. For **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**, the RECP methodology is an effective means to lower production costs whilst improving the SMEs' competitive advantage and applying environmentally friendly practices. RECP is also an effective tool to introduce and promote Circular Economy principles among SMEs.

### "GILTEX" LLC - TEXTILE AND APPAREL PRODUCTION



Company overview Location: Baku Founding year: 2012 No. of employees: 813

Main markets: Azerbaijan, CIS countries

Key products: bedding set (blanket, pillow), uniforms, fabrics **Certifications**: ISO 9001:2000; ISO 9001:2015 ; ISO 22000:2018, and various certificates of compliance within the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology, and Patent

"Gilan Textile Park" or "Giltex" LLC is the only enterprise in Azerbaijan and the broader South Caucasus region that operates with a fully integrated vertical system, with the company managing every stage of the textile production process. This includes a spinning factory, two weaving facilities, two dyeing units, a garment manufacturing plant, and a medical mask production facility. The primary raw material used is fiber sourced from Azerbaijani cotton. Currently, the company produces a wide array of products (yarn, various types of fabrics, bed linens, cotton textiles, towels, knitted items, blankets, pillows, specialized fireproof and waterproof clothing, uniforms for different purposes, military and medical attire, bathrobes, and medical masks). Motivated to repurpuse its wastewater, the company participated in the RECP Clubs project under EU4Environment (2019-2024). This publication details the company's experience reported after the assessment exercise conducted in 2024.

#### **BENEFITS**













# The project's approach

The RECP assessment examined the production site and identified several RECP options, out of which the following prioritized and successfully implemented by the company staff. The suggested RECP measure requires a short payback period of around two years:

**RECP Option 1. Reusing wastewater**: The textile industry encompasses a range of interconnected sectors, each with its specific purpose and end products. Within the industry, finishing production (FP) involves intensive chemical and thermal processes, which result in a significant consumption of natural resources per unit of final product (such as water and energy), placing FP among the more resource-intensive sectors. The ecological challenges in finishing production are compounded by the extensive use of diverse chemicals and dyes, resulting in complex wastewater compositions that pose challenges when it comes to purification and disposal. To alleviate environmental impact, the RECP team suggested means of reusing the wastewater to promote sustainability through recycling.

### **SAVING ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### **RECP** measure

**OPTION 1** Reusing wastewater

### **Economic key figures**

RECP OPTIONS	INVESTMENT (EUR)	SAVINGS (EUR/YR)	PAYBACK PERIOD (YR)
Option 1:	786,856.35	552,846.65	2

## Resource savings

RECP OPTIONS	MATERIALS (T/YR)	ELECTRICITY (KWH/YR)	WATER (M³/YR)
Option 1:	438	511,000	178,407

The introduction of RECP has been part of the EU-funded EU4Environment Action and executed by UNIDO. In this context, "Giltex" LLC joined the RECP Clubs training and assistance programme to be monitored under EU4Environment. Follow-up visits have also been conducted to check on the implementation of the recommended RECP options. EU4Environment helps the EU's Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts. For more details, visit: www.eu4environment.org

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