

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Research program:</b> <b><i>“Lean and Sustainability in the textile sector – Affinities and divergences”</i></b></p>
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**Annex C**

**Department of Management Engineering, information and production**  
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**Research program**

STEP 1 - Systematic literature review and state of the art - The objective of this phase is to identify current gaps through a deep analysis of the scientific and managerial literature on the links between Lean and Sustainability (economic, environmental and social).

STEP 2 – Definition of a research framework – Based on the literature review results and research gaps identified in the previous phase (STEP 1), this phase is dedicated to structure an appropriate research framework. This model underlies the data collection activities, conducted through case studies of companies operating both in the textile sector and in other manufacturing sectors.

PHASE 3/4 – Conduction of case studies. The research model developed in STEP 2 is used to define the "Case Study Protocol" that will guide the data collection and the interviews that will be conducted during the case studies.

STEP 5 - Development of the "Sustainable lean manufacturing" framework - Based on the results obtained from "within-case" and "cross-cases" analysis of the information gathered in the previous phases (STEP 3 and 4), the "Sustainable lean manufacturing" reference framework will be finally developed.