

ITMF Survey: Global Textile Sector Faces Uneven Recovery

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Global Textile Outlook Reveals Uneven Recovery, ITMF Survey Finds

The **International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF)** has released the results of its **32nd Global Textile Industry Survey (GTIS)**, conducted between **May 12–22, 2025**, highlighting a mixed global landscape marked by **regional disparities, demand concerns**, and **cautious optimism** for the future.

While the **overall global business sentiment remains subdued at -20 percentage points**, the survey reveals **sharply contrasting performances** across regions. **Africa** leads as a growth outlier with a **+23 pp business situation balance**, followed by **South America at +6 pp**, while **East Asia** reports the most significant downturn at **-48 pp**. However, **future expectations** are notably more optimistic, with a **+24 pp global outlook**, led by **North America (+65 pp)** and **Africa (+54 pp)**. East Asia remains pessimistic with **-18 pp**.

Key Data Highlights:

Global order intake has dropped for **four consecutive months**, falling to **-21 pp** in May. Africa again tops the chart at **+18 pp**, while Europe and East Asia face significant drops.

Capacity utilization reached **72%** globally, with **Asian markets** leading. Upstream operations like **spinning** are performing better than downstream segments.

Average backlog stands at **2.3 months**, indicating modest recovery.

The **top concern for 61%** of respondents is **weak demand**, followed by issues like **operational costs** and **trade barriers**.

Order cancellations have remained stable and minimal across all regions.

Despite the ongoing global challenges, the textile industry continues to search for **resilient growth pathways**, with regional players like **Africa and North America** showing strong potential. The report offers strategic insights into capacity trends, global supply chain dynamics, and future confidence across key markets.