



SARA HARPER

From Sweden to France



Project: **Networking and research building activities with textile businesses and research institutions**

Research topic: **Business**

Swedish Institution: **University of Borås**

French Institution: **ENSAIT, CETI, University of Lorraine**

Dates of mobility: **17/09/2023** to **23/09/2023**

Program: **SFVE-A**



PRESENTATION

[Sara Harper](#) is a Senior Lecturer and Researcher in Textile Management working within the [Textile Value Chain Management Research Group](#) at the [University of Borås](#). Her research has primarily focused on Supply Chain Management-related issues within the textile and clothing sector including localization and manufacturing in high-cost contexts, small-series production models, supply network configuration, and associated paradoxes. Her current research project is focused on the link between local supply chains and supply chain resilience. More information can be accessed at the [project website](#). She earned her PhD, titled *“Supply network configuration for small-series apparel production in high-cost contexts: Opportunities and challenges from selected EU countries”* at the [University of Borås](#), in September 2022.

ACTIVITIES IN FRANCE

Sara Harper’s main objective in France was to build relationships for research & collaboration. Connections made were supporting the development of an interdisciplinary networking application on the European level. These connections were primarily made through visits to several organizations, e.g., to the company [Le Laboureur](#), which is an SME that has maintained “Made in France” production. This company visit also acted as a first step for studying the company as a case in ongoing research on local manufacturing. Visits were also made to [Fashion Green Hub](#), an organization facilitating collaboration and sustainability in textiles, to the [Plateau Fertile](#) facilities in both Paris and Roubaix. In Roubaix, this organization has set up a local production facility/company-[Atelier Agile](#), that she visited, which is demonstrating digitally enabled small volume and on-demand production. She also participated in several meetings to facilitate future interdisciplinary collaborations together with three colleagues from [The Swedish School of Textiles](#) (Technology & Management). These meetings were at [ENSAIT](#), [CETI](#), and [ENIM](#) and [LEM3 lab](#). Each meeting made significant contributions to the mentioned networking project application-which is focused on the development of future collaboration and joint research applications.