

Sustainable Upcycling of Pre Production Cotton Waste for Functional Shoe Insole Development



COMPANY NAME: GREEN INSOLE
ECO FRIENDLY INSOLES FOR EVERY STEP

Md. Shazzad Hossain Nabil, Mejbaul Haque Utsho, Shakil Ahmed Shakib Khan,
Mahabubur Rahman



Introduction

Bangladesh produces a huge amount of textile waste, especially cotton "jhut" from the cutting section of garment factories. Sadly, most of this waste is thrown away or burned, which harms the environment and wastes valuable resources. To solve this problem, our project focuses on **upcycling pre-production cotton waste into functional and eco-friendly shoe insoles**. These insoles not only reduce waste but also offer a sustainable alternative in the footwear industry. Through this project, we aim to support a cleaner environment and promote green innovation in Bangladesh's textile and footwear sectors.

Problem Statement

KEY STATISTICS

Pre Consumer Textile Waste

Up to **100 BILLION**
new garments are made each year



Bangladesh produces
577,000 Metric Tons
Of "Jhut" fabric every year

Without a local recycling industry, Bangladesh loses **\$1.2 billion** in revenue and **\$700 million** in yearly import savings.

Textile Production Causes
42 MILLION TONS
of plastic waste per year and contributes
9%
of annual microplastic pollution added to our oceans.

87%
Of materials used to make clothing
END UP IN LANDFILL
That's one truckload
EVERY SECOND

25%
Of these jhut scraps are
Recycled into yarns
in Bangladesh

Problems With Synthetic Shoe Insoles

Low Breathability

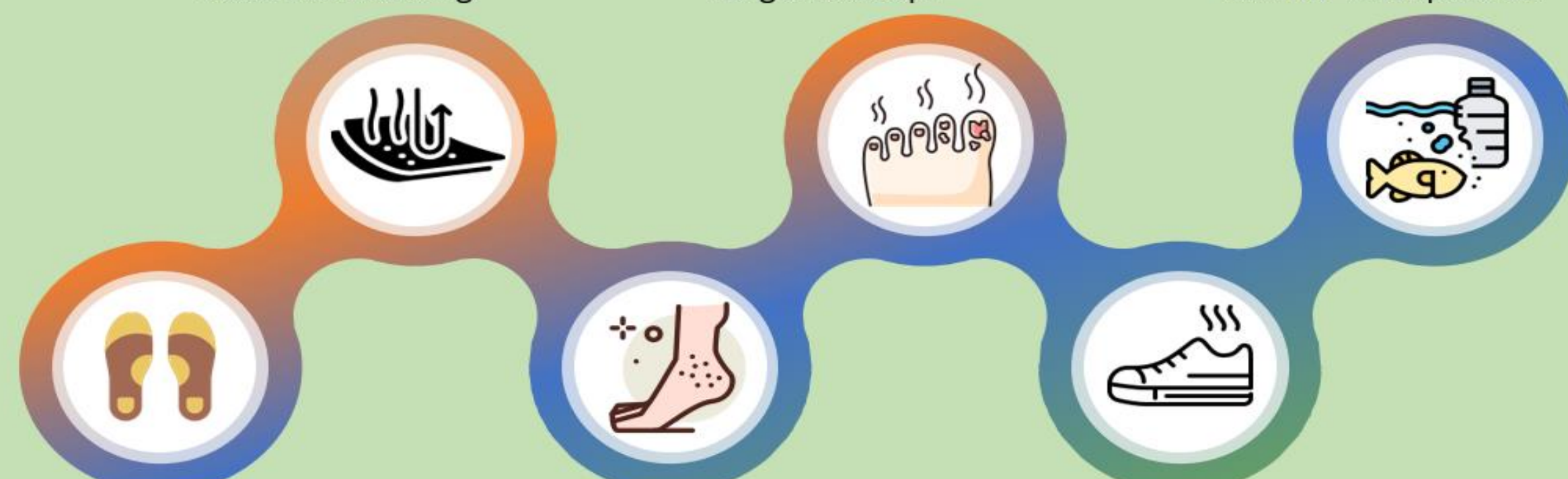
These trap heat and cause excessive sweating.

Fungal Growth

Moist conditions support fungus buildup.

Microplastic Pollution

Discarded insoles release harmful microplastics.



Synthetic Material

Long-term use may lead to irritation or rashes.

Skin Issues

Long-term use may lead to irritation or rashes.

Bad Odor

Sweat and bacteria create unpleasant smells.

Aim of the project

Environmental



Reducing Textile waste by upcycling cotton and replacing non biodegradable materials

Social



Creating awareness and opportunities in sustainable product development

Economic

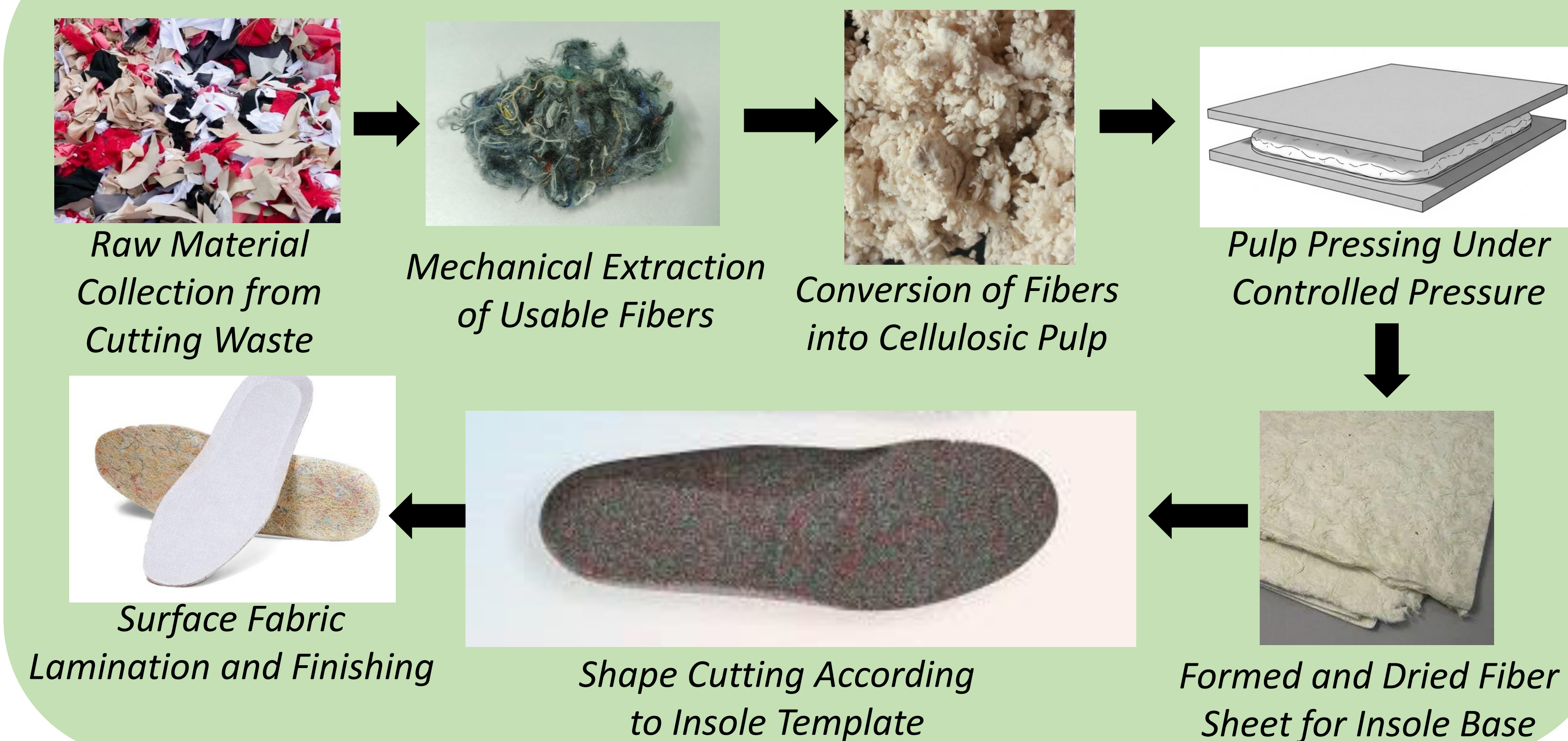


Adding value to waste, supporting green business and reduce synthetic material dependency

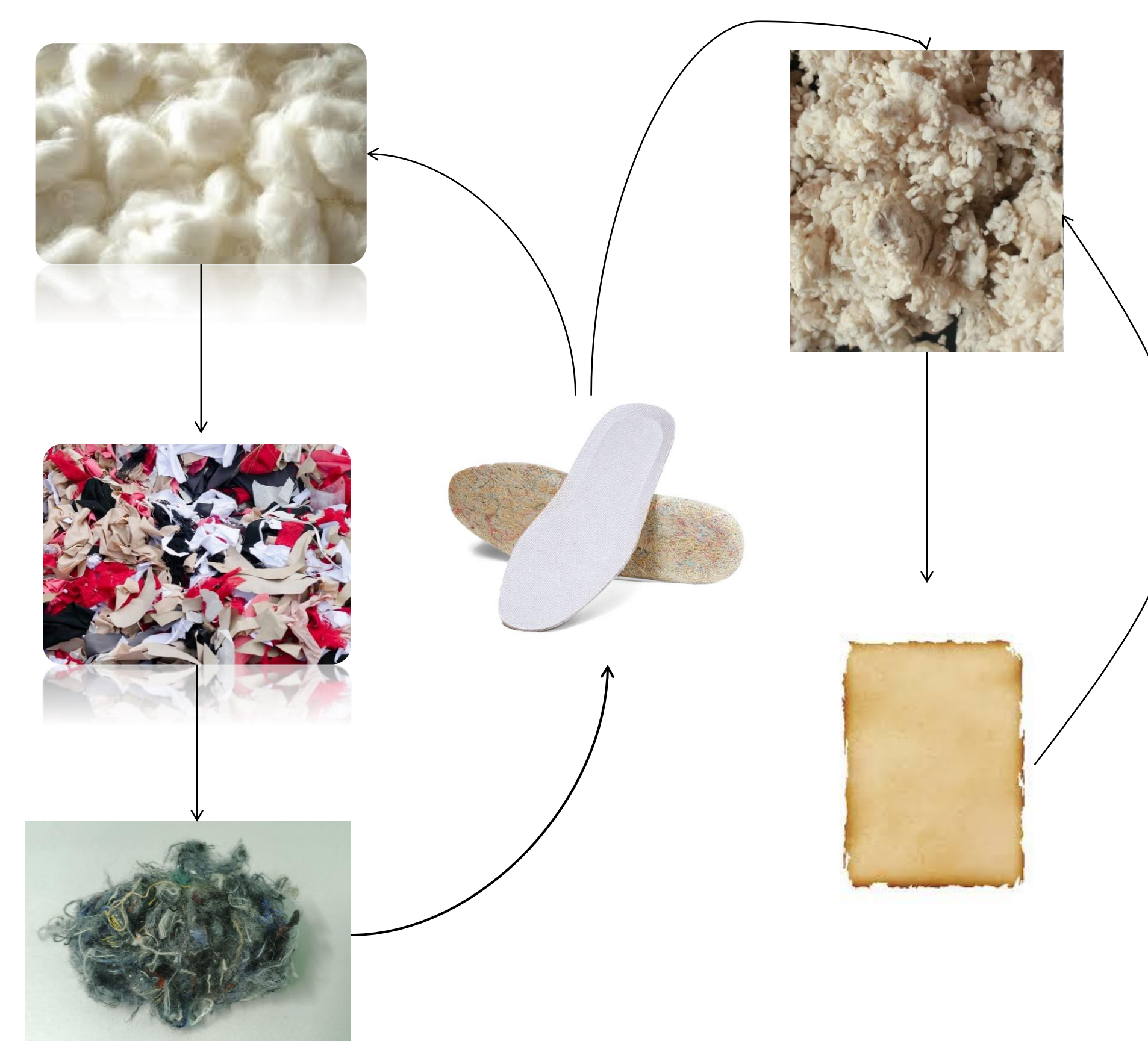
Acknowledgement

We express our heartfelt gratitude to all our coaches, and to Titus and Jackie for their inspiring workshop and support. Special thanks to Textile Hack for the seed funding, and to the Embassy of the Netherlands, University of Groningen, Bangladesh Apparel Exchange, and BUFT for creating a valuable platform like Textile Hack.

Preparation Method (Simplified)



Circular Model (R8 Cycle)

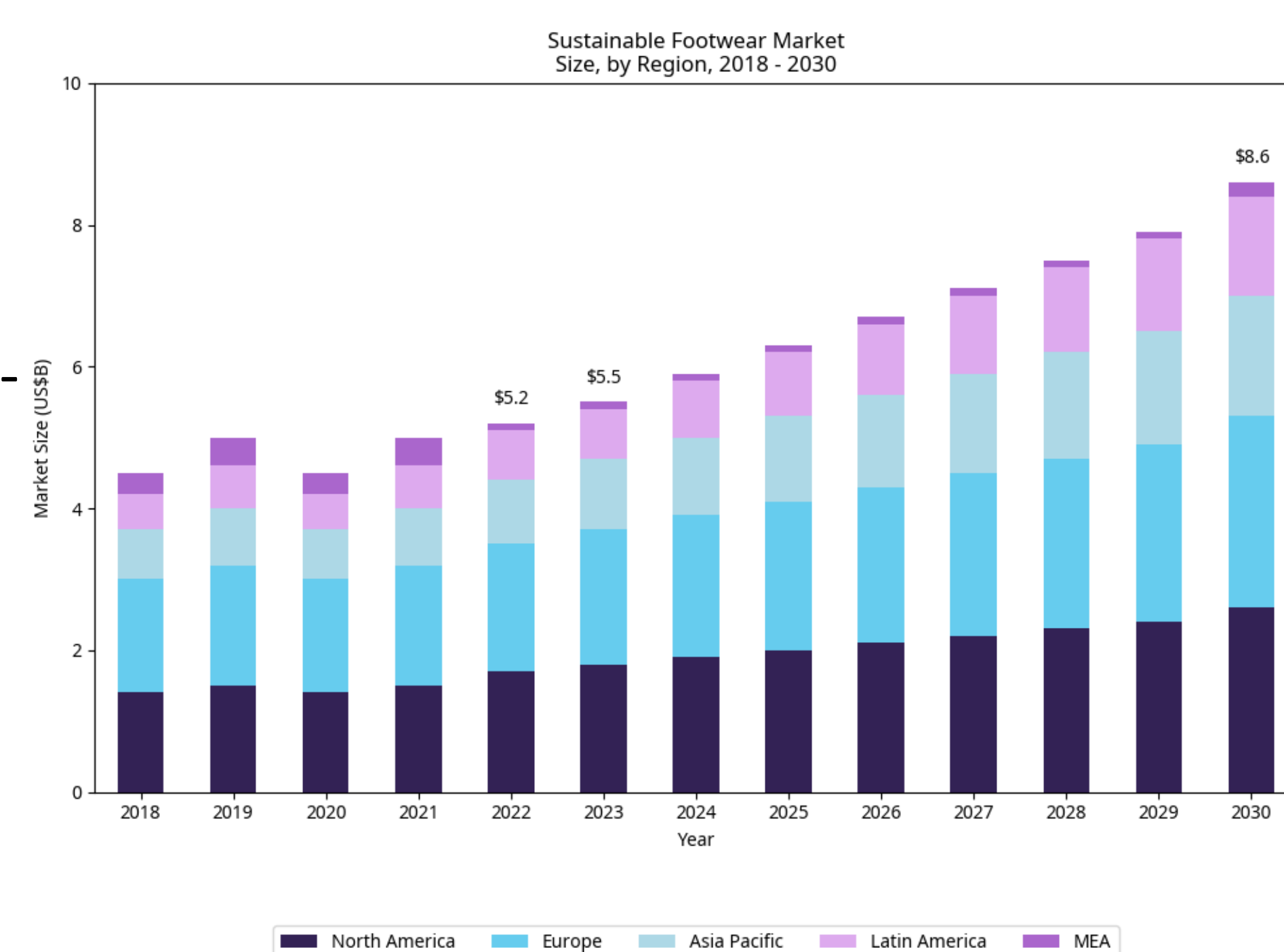


Key Features of green insole

- Eco Friendly material
- Breathable & comfortable
- Skin friendly
- Odor control
- Biodegradable
- Cost effective
- Sustainable production process

Business Study & Model

- Product: Eco-friendly insoles from cotton jhoot waste.
- Target Customers: Shoe brands, eco-conscious users.
- Value: Breathable, biodegradable, low-cost alternative to synthetic insoles.
- Cost: ~18–20 BDT per pair
- Selling Price: 35–40 BDT (wholesale)
- Key Needs: Waste collection, small workspace, 3–4 workers
- Promotion: Social media, samples to shoe brands
- Funding: Own investment, competitions



Conclusion

Our project offers a sustainable, low-cost, and eco-friendly solution to textile waste by turning cotton jhoot into biodegradable shoe insoles.

Recommendation

We recommend further testing for durability and exploring partnerships with local shoe brands to scale up production and impact.

Alignment with SDG goals

