

NATURAL AND SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE FIBRE MADE FROM PINEAPPLE LEAF IN PHILIPPINES

The [Ananas Anam Company](#), created in 2013 by the Spanish textile expert, social entrepreneur and designer [Carmen Hijosa](#), continues expanding its activities based on processing pineapple leaf fibre for the production of natural and sustainable textiles. [In the 2023 impact Report, the Ananas Anam company](#) illustrates the evolution of its activities and the notable results achieved.

Ananas Anam is an innovative company that specialises in processing pineapple leaf fibre into low-impact textile solutions. Their goal is to reduce the environmental impact generated by the textile industry, addressing this by valorising agricultural waste from pineapple farming to offer their products as a solution to meet the industry's sustainability goals. Built on the three pillars of sustainability, Ananas Anam works to bring positive environmental, social, and economic impact to the world, considering the impact of their decisions on workers, customers, suppliers, community, and the environment.

Ananas Anam specialises in the processing of waste pineapple leaf fibre into the textile-grade fibre Anam PALF®. Following years of collaboration with farming communities in the Philippines and, more recently, in Bangladesh, during 2023 the company expanded its pineapple leaf fibre procurement to Ivory Coast. Farmers are responsible for scraping the fibres from the pineapple leaves at the plantation, whilst the transformation process and the Anam PALF® production take place in other headquarters of the company, based in the Philippines and in Spain. The innovation was created in the Philippines by the Ananas Anam company rescuing traditional knowledge of the population that in the past produced clothes using fibres from the leaves of the pineapple plant.

Anam PALF® is a premium plant-based fibre, offering a versatile and traceable textile solution with a low environmental impact. Pineapple leaf fibre is extracted from the leaves of the pineapple plant which are discarded after the pineapple fruit harvest; an industry that produces 27 million tons of leaf waste each year.

By creating textiles from agricultural waste, the company re-purpose existing natural resources and reduce reliance on virgin plant fibres. Repurposing pineapple leaf waste into textiles creates positive social impact by introducing new jobs in rural communities, while providing a second and diversified income stream for pineapple farmers.

As a waste product of the pineapple fruit crops, pineapple leaf fibre does not use any additional land, water or pesticides to grow. Using waste not only makes pineapple leaf fibre a low-impact textile fibre to produce, but also helps to reduce CO 2 emissions released into the atmosphere by preventing the burning of the pineapple leaf waste.

[The company's report presents the impact results](#) achieved during 2023:

- 3,013 Tons of Pineapple leaves saved from waste. 27 million tonnes



of pineapple leaves go to waste each year as a result of pineapple farming. Ananas Anam prevents these leaves from becoming waste by converting them into sustainable low-impact textile solutions.

- 4,418 Tons of CO2 Emissions prevented. More than three quarters of the 27 million tons of pineapple leaf waste each year is burned. Repurposing the leaf waste into textiles prevents the leaves from being burned, saving CO 2 emissions from being released.
- 76% less water used in their process. Through the optimization of their processes, in 2023 they reduced water consumption by 76%, including saving 599.82 litres of water from their Spanish fibre processing centre.
- During 2023, Ananas Anam supported the creation of over 650 indirect jobs in rural farming communities across the Philippines, Bangladesh and Ivory Coast.

Anam PALF® is the signature pineapple leaf fibre, made using fibres extracted from waste pineapple leaves. Anam PALF® is a textile-grade staple fibre with a low environmental impact and positive social impact created through its traceable production.

Anam PALF® is made from agricultural waste, serving as a 100% plant-based and low-impact alternative to cotton, linen, and polyester. Anam PALF® is a traceable fibre with a Certificate of Origin from partner farms, creating positive social impact in rural communities by providing new jobs and additional income streams for pineapple farmers and their cooperatives. The main characteristics of Anam PALF are as follows:

- Traceable fibre made from waste
- 13.33 Kg of CO2 saved per Kg of Anam PALF
- Zero pulping bleaching or harmful chemicals
- Helps mitigate microfibre pollution
- Recyclable, compostable and biodegradable
- No food competition

How Anam PALF ® is made as follows: Pineapples are grown for food; Leaf waste is collected after the pineapple harvest; Fibres are extracted from the waste pineapple leaves; Fibres are purified using an enzymatic purification process, free from any harmful chemicals; Anam PALF® is made in hank form, suitable for wet spinning and other textile applications; Fibre is mechanically processed into cut and carded textile-grade Anam PALF; Anam PALF® is made in cut and carded form; suitable for dry spinning and other textile applications;

Using the Anam PALF® pineapple leaf fibre, two lines of products are created by the Company Ananas Anam:

Piñatex™

Piñatex™, a branded natural and sustainable material which can be used as an alternative to existing leathers. This innovative leather is a strong, versatile, breathable, soft, light, flexible textile that can be used for the production of shoes, bags, clothes and hats. It can also be used in interiors, furnishings for cars and aeronautic industries. Piñatex™ Piñatex was the first innovative product developed by the company since its foundation in 2013. Made from waste leaves, this innovative leather is vegan and cruelty free, prevents CO2 release, is water and energy efficient, contains zero harmful chemicals. Piñatex® offers a sustainable alternative for brands such as Nike, Hugo Boss, Zara, and Carolina Herrera and in 2023, the company has selected new brands that work with Piñatex ® to create plant-based products. Piñatex® is pioneering the way for plant-based Vegan textiles in 2016 and holding PETA Approved Vegan status ever since.



[Piñayarn®](#)

Piñayarn® is a 100% biobased and traceable yarn, made from a blend of Anam PALF® pineapple leaf fibre with other plant-based fibres to create a recyclable, compostable, and biodegradable yarn in collaboration with spinning partners. The company ensures that Piñayarn® is created sustainably in a closed-loop production, using a dry spinning technology that ensures zero waste and requires zero harmful chemicals. Piñayarn® offers a 100% plant-based, recyclable, and biodegradable textile solution, presenting a much-needed alternative in a world dominated by petroleum-based textiles and resource-intensive virgin fibres. Following the commercial launch of Piñayarn® in 2023, the first collaborations with brands and designers began to emerge, marking a significant milestone for sustainable fashion.

[The pledges for 2024 of the company, detailed in the 2023 Report](#), show how it is committed to improving its performance in line with its founding goals of creating a sustainable path for the fashion world. Each year, they set out a series of pledges as part of their commitment to positive change and accountability. For example, they pledge that by 2025, all of their products will contain a minimum of 70% renewable resources. In 2024 they will install a new low impact water treatment system to enhance the water recirculation and reduce water waste by a further 30%. They will continue their commitment to sharing knowledge and supporting artisans, fostering collaboration and empowerment as they expand the community.

Created in 2013, the Ananas Anam Ltd Company has been recognised within the fashion industry as a pioneer in the development of innovative and sustainable textiles. The Company has been recognized with the Award for Material Innovation from the Arts Foundation UK (2016); the Innovation Award (2015) of PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) and was amongst the world finalists of the Cartier Women's Initiative Awards (2015). In 2023 the company and the Anam PALF fibre has been awarded the Preferred Material Prize at [crQlr Awards 2023](#). By the years, many magazines specialized in the world of sustainable fashion have valorised this innovative company and its products with articles available in the [press release published in the company's website](#).

To know more

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