

Yarn and fabric production decreased in Q1/18

Global yarn production decreased by -9% between Q4/17 and Q1/18. Output reductions in Africa (-13%), Asia (-11%), and Europe (-1.5%) have cancelled out the increase in Brazil (+12%) and the relatively small improvement in the U.S.A (+3%). Most responding countries from Africa, Asia, and North America are optimistic about the evolution in Q2/18 while Europe and Brazil expect a decline in production. **Global yarn stocks** decreased in all regions in Q1/18 except in Brazil (+1.5%). The strongest reduction occurred in Asia (-6%), followed by Europe (-3%), and Egypt (-1.5%). Altogether, yarn stocks reach 89% of their previous year level for the same quarter. **Global yarn orders** decreased in all countries by -5% on average, except in Japan where it increased by +2%.

Global fabric production decreased from Q4/17 to Q1/18 by -10% at world level. It fell by -12% in Asia, -5% in Africa and -2% in Europe. It increased by +1% in Brazil. The world output level now reaches 96% of its Q1/17 level. South Africa, Pakistan, and Turkey expect a further increase in fabric production in Q2/18. All other countries foresee stability or decrease. In Q1/18, the **global fabric stock** level grew by +1%. It was driven by Brazil's stocks improvement of +5%, which was sufficient to bring fabrics stocks 13% over their Q1/17 level. Fabric stocks remain stable in Asia, Europe, and the U.S.A. They continue to steadily drop in Egypt and South Africa and constantly increase in Brazil. The **global fabric orders** have reduced between Q4/17 and Q1/18 by 6%. Europe's small improvement (+2%) was balanced out by reductions in Brazil and Africa (-10% and -18%, respectively), which brought the global index to 88% of its previous year level.

World Production of Yarn and Fabric

