

## **Ateval will participate in a platform for business collaboration to face of the health crisis, created by the Department of Economy of Valencian Government.**

Ateval will collaborate in a pilot action of the Regional Ministry of Sustainable Economy with the textile cluster, in which the Textile Research Institute (Aitex) and companies in the sector will collaborate, which are "those who know the real situation of the sector and its possible technical and financial needs".

The Conselleria de Economia Sostenible, through Ivace, has started a round of contacts with the industrial clusters of the Valencian Community to analyze the situation of the different sectors and try to anticipate with measures the situation of the companies after the COVID-19.

"What we pretend with this pilot project is to listen to the maximum representatives of the sector, to know their needs and future perspectives, to test the basic ideas with the different sectors and if they are shared we will start the preparation and implementation of an action plan for the whole industrial network" highlight the councillor for Economy Rafa Climent.

"In this way - he added - we want the greatest possible number of Valencian industrial SMEs, and in the shortest possible time, to prepare and implement restructuring and adaptation plans that will allow them to face the consequences of the crisis in the best possible way".

This pilot action is part of the Regional Observatory for Financing Innovation launched by Ivace in April 2019, with the participation of agents offering financial and investment instruments from the public and private sectors and those who demand such instruments ranging from consolidated companies to 'start-ups'.

Rafa Climent considers that the textile sector, with great weight in the Community, is "innovative and versatile and historically has known how to adapt to the ups and downs of the market and has demonstrated this in recent weeks with its immediate collaboration facing the health crisis with the manufacture of masks".

With regard to the future scenario, Ateval believes that it is "extremely important to promote and maintain production chains at Valencian level in order to avoid dependence, both on raw materials and on finished products from third countries, thus managing to meet demand in the short term and avoid shortages".

Ateval considers that "restructuring will involve the automatization of production processes in order to manufacture a competitive product, with the consequent need for investment in machinery and traceability".

Likewise, they are committed to the transfer of technology and knowledge from universities and research centres to companies, focusing on items with greater added value and developing new value chains.