

Submitting Country, Organization, Company

ICMQ Certification India - Get It Fair - ICMQ spa

If Organization or Company, please indicate the approximate number of employees

60

Title of the action

"Get It Fair ethical label for responsible supply chains"

Upload an image

Relevant Website
www.getit-fair.com
Partners

Public Bodies (Unioncamere), Associations (Assocamerestero - Association of Italian Chambers of Commerce Abroad, ABI - Associazione Blockchain Italia, AICE - Italian Association International Trades, Federazione Moda Italia, APQI - Associazione Premio Qualità Italia, Slow+Fashion+Design), Academies (Accademia Costume Moda, Milano Fashion Institute), NGO (AFLIN, Dressthechange), conformity assessment body (ICMQ spa), Consulting companies (PWC, Avanzi srl)

Type of initiative

Foundation / association initiative

Description of action

Get It Fair Fair validation programme is aligned with the UN SDG 12 "Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns" by providing manufacturers and consumers with an Ethical Label implementing the recommendation of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for responsible supply chains in the garment and footwear sector.

The overall purpose of the programme is to grant the "GIF Responsible Organization" validated ethical claim and the GIF Ethical Label to undertakings positively completing the GIF third party Due Diligence focused on all social responsibility aspects (Governance, Social, Safety, Environment and business ethics).

GIF Ethical Label allows:

- Consumers to support responsible purchasing practices by providing verified information available at the point of sale (retail shop, B2C portals, etc.) about those manufacturers and suppliers in the supply chain concurring to the realization of a specific finished good (e.g. T-shirt, shoe, etc) completing

the GIF Due Diligence;

- Manufacturers and brands to communicate the organization's achievement with respect to all social responsibility aspects according to internationally recognized guidance (e.g. OECD) and standards (ISO). This can be accomplished through various means, such as advertising, explanatory panels at the retail level, free telephone numbers, QR codes and education programmes among others. GIF Ethical Label is internationally recognized because of the issuance within the Get It Fair programme, first scheme worldwide positively evaluated by a national Accreditation Body (ACCREDIA) as "suitable for accreditation" according to international (ISO/TS 17033, ISO 17029) and national (UNI/Pdr 102:2021) standards.

"GIF Responsible Organization" claim validation is provided by third party bodies duly accredited according to ISO/TS 17033, ISO 17029 and UNI/Pdr 102:2021.

GIF Ethical Label for responsible supply chains refers to UNECE recommendation No. 46: Enhancing Traceability and Transparency of Sustainable Value Chains in Garment and Footwear and related standards and is based on UN-UNECE standard for traceability and transparency of garments and footwear.

This action will also include:

- Awareness and training programs on Ethical Label and UN-UNECE standard and, more generally, on social responsibility for sustainable development)
- Third party certification of the traceability system according to the UN-UNECE standard

Type of action

Traceability

Transparency

Please select the specific area/s of the action

Business management systems or instruments

Ethical Label (based on ESG Rating scheme)

Scope of the action, including a description of the value chain processes that are covered

Objective

The overall purpose of the “GIF Ethical Label for responsible supply chains” is to enhance trust among manufacturers, brands and consumers by the mean of credible, reliable, and verified information regarding the ethical characteristics of organizations in the same supply chain made available to customers and consumers at the point of sale. In particular, this action aims to boost the demand for products realized by organizations achieving robust performances referring to all non-financial aspects and ESG risks addressed by OECD Due Diligence guidance for responsible business conduct and several European Regulations and Directives towards sustainable development.

Commitments

ISO/TS 17033 defines the ethical claim as a declaration of a result achieved by an organization with respect to social, economic justice and sustainability issues with regard to the claim itself or to its field of application. ISO/TS 17033 requires ethical claims to demonstrate traceability (Clause 10) and annex A provides a list of items appropriate to traceability system. According to ISO/TS 17033 “Supporting data for the ethical claim shall include a traceability system to ensure that all aspects of the product, service, process or organization that are included in the scope of the ethical claim are documented throughout the portion of the supply chain that is included in the scope”. The traceability system underpins the transparency and reliability of the ethical claim and provides Stakeholders with assurance that the identity of the product, process or service is maintained throughout the supply chain. This inter-organizations traceability based on the link between “product lot – organization” within the organization and this is a preliminary condition to enable the development of an ethical label of responsibility for sustainable development extended to the supply chain as recommended by the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for responsible supply chains in the garment and footwear sector. Considering that the Get It Fair programme applies to organization irrespective of size, sector, location and maturity level the UN-UNECE standard implementation in other sectors will become of paramount importance. Therefore, according to the requirements contained in UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029, UNI ISO/TS 17033, UNI/PdR 102:2021 and the specific programme (ref. point 8 and Appendix A of UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17029) the “GIF ESG Rating scheme” Programme has mentioned the reference to the UN-UNECE standard for traceability and transparency in the GIF Framework area “Traceability and transparency” and adopts this standard to issue the GIF Ethical Claim extended to the supply chain. ICMQ spa is committed to achieve the accreditation as “Validation Body” according to the “GIF ESG Rating scheme” and therefore to verify the implementation of the UN-UNECE standard.

Value chain scope

“Get It Fair ESG Rating scheme” is a multi-stakeholder initiative developed to meet the increasing demand for credible and reliable information on the ethical

characteristics of organizations and the emerging need of responsible consumption. "Get It Fair ESG Rating scheme" grants the "GIF Responsible Organization" validated claim upon positive completion of a Due Diligence process aiming determine a score which represents a reasonable and quantitative evaluation of the exposure level to actual or potential events that can result into future adverse impacts on the organization and its Stakeholders related to all social responsibility aspects:

- Governance and Social responsibility Management system
- Social (Human rights and labour practices)
- Health and Safety
- Environment (Pollution, Resource Consumption, GHG emissions, protection of the environment)
- Business Ethics (Fair operating practices, consumer issues).

The main features of the Get It Fair programme are:

- 1) Multi-stakeholder initiative. The Programme has been developed by involving a variety of Stakeholders including, among others, public bodies (Unioncamere), Associations (Assocamerestero, AICE, Associazione Blockchain Italia, Associazione Premio Qualità Italia), Academies (Accademia Costume Moda, Milano Fashion Institute) NGO (AFLIN, Dressthechange), Consulting (PWC, Avanzi srl).
- 2) Reference to international documents. The GIF Framework refers to:
 - OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct
 - OECD Due Diligence Guidance for responsible supply chain in the garment and footwear sector
 - ISO 26000 Guideline on Social Responsibility
- 3) Holistic view. The GIF Framework includes all relevant criteria of social responsibility: Governance & Management system, Social, Safety, Environment and Business Ethics and takes into account the product life cycle.
- 4) Focus on forward looking evaluation. The evaluation focus is on actual or potential risks of events that can result into future adverse impacts on the organization and its stakeholders.
- 5) Scoring oriented metric. The evaluation approach is quantitative and scoring oriented to represent the exposure level to non-financial or ESG risks.
- 6) Integrated Due Diligence process. The Due Diligence process complies with international (ISO 17033, ISO 17029) and national (UNI/Pdr 102:2021) standards and include, in one single assessment, all the relevant social responsibility criteria.
- 7) Multiple output: organization positively completing the Due Diligence may receive multiple and integrated outputs:
 - Attestation of validation
 - "GIF Responsible Organization" mark (in compliance with ISO/TS 17033)
 - GIF Ethical Label (in compliance with ISO 17033)
 - GIF Non-financial report with "reasonable assurance" (according to European directives requirements).
 - publication in the Programme Operator website and the worldwide promotion

The "GIF Responsible Organization" validated claim allows every organization to:

- a) enhance the brand image and reputation
- b) provide stakeholders with third party evidence of the exposure level to ESG risks
- c) assure the compliance of the corporate sustainability reporting according to European regulation and directive as regards Corporate Sustainability Reporting.

Get It Fair is internationally promoted abroad by the Italian Chambers of Commerce and, at national level, by Unioncamere (National Association of Chambers of Commerce in Italy). One of the most important output of the GIF ESG Rating Program is the issuance of an ethical label 4 in compliance with ISO 17033. The GIF Ethical Label, based on the implementation of the UN-UNECE standard allows to

create the condition required to enable consumers to adopt responsible consumption. The double link “lot to lot” and “lot to organization” created by adopting the UN-UNECE standard on traceability and transparency (supported, if possible, by technological solution such as blockchain architecture) enables customers to select and choose products according to social responsibility criteria and ESG risk evaluation. Consumers will be in a position to compare and select products at the point of sale on the basis of the number of product stages (from raw material to components, from parts to finished good) and manufacturers covered by “GIF Responsible Organization” mark: the higher the number of product life cycle covered the higher the attractiveness for customers. The GIF ethical label shall also allow customers and consumers to make conscious choices by controlling the product label at the point of sale (by means of a QR/RFID Code) and taking a purchasing decision based on the following verified information: a) origin of the product (as well as origin of its parts and components) b) number of product life cycle phases covered by the GIF Due Diligence c) List of manufacturers concurring to the realization of a specific product lot , completing the GIF Due Diligence d) information regarding the ESG rating of each organization in the supply chain For any further information www.getit-fair.com.

Timeframe and/or milestones for the action

2018 Concept development of Get It Fair Framework
Multi-stakeholder committee inception

2019 Due Diligence testing and presentation

2020 GIF Framework validation
Participation to the UN-UNECE committee of experts

2021 Programme review according to ISO 17029 and UNI/Pdr 102:2021
Positive programme evaluation as “suitable for accreditation purposes” carried out by Accredia (National Accreditation Body)
“Get It Fair” Programme operator incorporation

On-going activities

2021
Incorporation of a not-for profit organization playing the role of Programme Operator.
Launch of the GIF AP Credentialing system, certification scheme for qualifying Assessors and Technical experts for the GIF ESG Rating scheme.
Accreditation of ICMQ spa according to ISO 17029, UNI/Pdr 102:2021 and the GIF Programme (first body authorized to validate the GIF Responsible Organization claim)

Reference instruments and sources used

ISO/IEC 17029 – “Conformity assessment – General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies”
ISO/TS 17033 - “Ethical claims and supporting information – Principles and requirements”
UNI/PdR 102:2021 “Ethical claims of responsibility for sustainable development”
Get It Fair “GIF ESG Rating scheme” Regulation and Framework

Expected benefits and impact for the stakeholders involved

Enhanced traceability of the social/environmental/ethical attributes of product(s)/materials along the value chain; for example, for origin, quality, sustainability performance, and compliance with health and safety requirements for consumers and workers

A measurable impact on sustainability in value chains over time, eventually verified through life-cycle assessments and/or sustainability certifications

Enhanced environmental and socially responsible consumption and production, and circularity of the value chain, that may be relevant to and inspire other countries and industry actors/partners

Management of reputational risk for manufacturers, brands and retailers who are selling the products concerned

“GIF Responsible organization” and “GIF Ethical label” benefits for the stakeholders involved are:

- International recognition: the “GIF ESG Rating Scheme” has been positively evaluated for accreditation purposes by ACCREDIA (Italian Accreditation Body) according to international and national standards (UNI/Pdr 102:2021).
- Accuracy and verifiability: the “GIF Responsible Organization” claim and label are based on substantiated evidence so that interested parties can be sure that their actions, based on that ethical claim contributes to a common goal. Furthermore the Due Diligence process takes into consideration the “double materiality”.
- Transparency: Information concerning the procedure, methodology and any criteria and assumption used to support the GIF Responsible Organization validated claim is timely publicly available and readily accessible (at the point of sale) to enable interested parties to substantiate the ethical claim and make an informed decision.
- Relevance: GIF Ethical label considers all the relevant social responsibility aspects and reflects internationally recognized guidance (OECD) and standards (ISO 26000). This also enables interested parties to have confidence in the continued relevance of the ethical claim.
- Involvement of interested parties: the “GIF ESG Rating scheme” is based on criteria developed with the involvement of interested parties to increase acceptance and credibility among all interested parties.
- Equity: GIF Responsible Organization is developed after informed and objectives taking into consideration of the distribution of impacts across generations, regions and social groups, and between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability. The information supporting the GIF Responsible Organization ethical claim and label is based on a life cycle perspective and balanced behaviour to ensure that while enhancing one aspect of good performance the potential for negative or unintended consequences is addressed. The adoption of the UN-UNECE standard for traceability and transparency provides the GIF Ethical Label (in compliance with ISO 17033) with

additional value: the possibility of issuing a “Responsible supply chain” ethical label based on the link among batch and organizations concurring to a specific product realization and supported by effective enabling technologies (e.g. blockchains). In addition to the above benefits undertakings positively completing the GIF Due Diligence process may receive a third party certification of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting according to the requirements of the European Regulations and Directives (e.g. Directive 2014/05/EU)

Stakeholders involved

Business and industry associations

Intergovernmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Academies, Validation Bodies

Key performance indicators for the action

- Number of bodies accredited by recognized accreditation bodies (e.g. ACCREDIA) for “GIF Responsible Organization” validation activities according to ISO 17029 and the GIF Programme
- Number of organizations completing the GIF Due Diligence (per year)
- Number of organizations positively assessed for using the UN-UNECE standard (per year)
- Number of Ethical Labels issued to responsible supply chains (per year) based on the UN-UNECE standard

Good practices

Get It Fair ESG Rating Scheme (www.getit-fair.com) is the first validation programme of ethical claims of responsibility for sustainable development positively assessed by Accredia for accreditation purpose according to the following reference standards:

- ISO/IEC 17029 – “Conformity assessment – General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies”
- ISO/TS 17033 - “Ethical claims and supporting information – Principles and requirements”
- UNI/PdR 102:2021 “Ethical claims of responsibility for sustainable development”

This means that, according to international accreditation standards, the programme is open to conformity assessment bodies (e.g ICMQ spa) interested to perform validation activities under the accreditation for:

- ISO 17029
- UNI/Pdr 102:2021 and
- Get It Fair programme

and the subsequent approval from the Programme Operator.

Therefore the “GIF Responsible Organization” validated claim is internationally recognized due to:

- a) the reference to internationally recognized guidelines and standards
- b) the Due Diligence process according to international standard for validation activity (ISO 17029)
- c) the accreditation of the validation body according to ISO 17029 and the Programme rules

The “Prassi di Riferimento” UNI/PdR 102:2021, published by UNI (Italian Standardisation Body), is a remarkable best practice. It is the first national standard providing application guidelines in terms of responsibility and sustainability of the requirements of ISO/TS 17033, identifying the elements that an organization shall take into consideration in declaring an ethical claim of responsibility for sustainable development (https://www.eticanews.it/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/UNI_PdR-Asserzioni-etiche-di-responsabilita-per-lo-sviluppo-sostenibile-Indirizzi-applicativi-alla-UNI-ISO_TS-17033.pdf)

The UNI/PdR 102:2021 specifies how organizations should clarify the scope of the claim in order to not

to be misleading for the consumer/user, to avoid the creation of negative and distorting effects on the market or generate unfair competition or misleading advertising. In addition, it identifies the indications to set up a correct materiality assessment of the sustainability factors to be included in the scope and the supporting data including a traceability system to ensure that the scope and the aspects included in the ethical claim of responsibility for development sustainable are documented.

As far as concern traceability and transparency the UNI/PdR 102:2021 clearly refers to UN-UNECE standard.

Accredia, national accreditation body:

- a) has already completed the evaluation process of the GIF ESG Rating scheme as "suitable for accreditation purposes" according to ISO/TS 17033, ISO/IEC 17029 and UNI/PdR 102:2021
- b) is ready for accreditation of verification/validation bodies according to ISO 17029 and positively evaluated programmes.

ICMQ spa is the first validation body under accreditation process according to ISO 17029 and the Programme "GIF ESG Rating scheme".

How has this UNECE-UN/CEFACT Call to Action contributed to strategic engagement and/or public awareness in support of your commitment?

The UNECE and UN/CEFACT project for an international framework initiative to enhance transparency and traceability for sustainable value chains in the garment and footwear industry is of paramount importance to support the development of an ethical label supporting responsible supply chains. In particular, the specification for traceability and transparency in the textile and leather sector is a key standard to support supply chains worldwide and the issuance of the GIF The "Prassi di Riferimento" UNI/PdR 102:2021 specifically address this traceability standards. "GIF ESG Rating scheme" specifically addresses the UN-UNECE standard in the GIF Framework and adopts it to support the issuance of an ethical label.

Link to relevant goal(s) and specific target(s) of the United Nations

