

Submitting Country, Organization, Company

Open Apparel Registry

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

5

Title of the action

Open Apparel Registry: Creating an open source map and database of global apparel facilities, their affiliations and unique OAR IDs assigned to each facility.

Relevant Website

<https://openapparel.org/>

Partners

Azavea (technical partner) Laudes Foundation (lead funder) Humanity United (project funder) GIZ (project funder)

Type of initiative

Civil society initiative

Description of action

The Open Apparel Registry (OAR) exists to:

- Create one common registry of apparel facility names and addresses and an industry standard facility ID
- Eliminate issues with matching across multiple, inconsistent databases
- Enable in-facility collaboration between organisations

With over 57,000 facilities (as of May 2021) and growing, the OAR is the world's largest open database of apparel facilities, contributed to and used by stakeholders across the apparel industry. As brands and other organisations continue to publish their supplier data, the OAR team will work to increase adoption of the OAR as a publishing tool (either by the brand / organisation uploading themselves, the OAR team uploading public lists on behalf of organisations, or through direct API integrations with brands/organisations hosting supplier databases). By publishing directly to the OAR, apparel facility data will be accessible and usable, which is not always the case when individual organizations publish locked PDFs, images, or spreadsheets on their own websites. The unique OAR IDs allocated to each facility in the database not only eliminate confusion, but enable interoperability between siloed datasets, with further data exchange facilitated by the OAR's API.

Type of action

Transparency

Please select the specific area/s of the action

Research and Development of Innovative Solutions

Collaborative initiatives

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

Objective

Map the world's apparel facilities on an open, accessible map & database and allocate a unique ID to each.

Commitments

The Open Apparel Registry is currently funded to continue to grow and operate through 2025, with the goal of mapping 200,000 facilities (a raw estimate of the number of apparel facilities worldwide), with 85-90% of the world's apparel facilities having an OAR ID by the year 2023.

Value chain scope

All tiers of apparel facilities, excluding the raw material level.

Timeframe and/or milestones for the action

Launch: March 2019

50,000 Facilities Mapped: December 2020

200,000 Facilities Mapped: 2023

Reference instruments and sources used

<https://github.com/open-apparel-registry/open-apparel-registry>

Expected benefits and impact for the stakeholders involved

Enhanced visibility of compliance with sustainability requirements by industry actors/partners along the entire value chain

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

Key performance indicators for the action

Number of facilities in the OAR

What is the average number of affiliations (or connections) for each facility?

Good practices

ZDHC integrates with the OAR

Higg integrates with the OAR

OAR Case Studies

SBS Dateline Episode: How COVID19 disrupted fast fashion's supply chain (OAR appears at 14 minute mark)

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

Visibility to increase adoption of the OAR and OAR ID. OAR ID listed as a Recommended Identifier.

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

