

Transparency, sustainability and trade for SMEs and vulnerable groups

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The development challenge we address

Positive shift towards sustainability and green growth

Market demand:	Rise in consumer expectations and company requirements for transparency and due diligence in supply chains
Policy frameworks:	Greater environmental and social issues coverage in Free Trade Agreements and government policy proposals for supply chain laws
MSME impact:	Compliance with standards and regulations have a decisive impact on MSME competitiveness , moving from niche to the mainstream

However, this presents a challenges to MSMEs

- **Standards and sustainable production practices can be complex and compliance is costly**, especially for MSMEs in agricultural and textiles/apparel value chains

To respond, MSMEs need:

- Data that is accessible and comprehensive
- Sustainability requirements information
- Support for compliance to ensure relevance and market access – “Capacity Building”





The Sustainability Gateway integrated solution

Sustainability Gateway

- Identify standards by product, sector, area
- Assess your business for compliance online
- Explore and compare standards

- E-learning Courses
- International Executive Masterclass
- Publications



- Connect to sustainable enterprises and increase business opportunities
- Access validated data from trustworthy partners

- Customized standards assessment and traceability tools, leveraging brand partnerships for MSME gain



Transparency across private & public standards: Standards Map

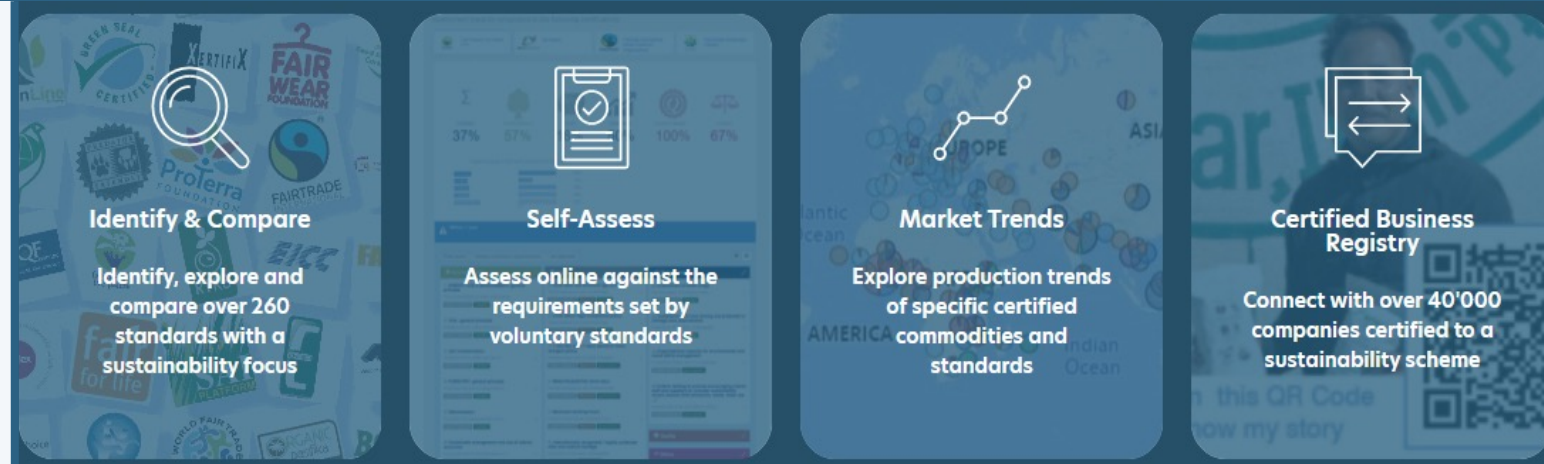
Standards Map: a global public tool focusing on sustainability standards (incl. environment & climate criteria)

Over 300 standards in Standards Map

- Approx. 130 cover climate issues such as resilience and mitigation
- Global repository of private and public sector standards
- Customized methodologies, comparisons & benchmarking of standards across countries, sectors and sustainability topic
- Leverage tool for «smart-mix» human rights and environmental compliance
- Drive convergence/harmonization among standards

Quick Statistics

- Users from over 192 countries
- User growth **more than tripled** since 2015
 - 2011 – 2015: **119,000**
 - 2016 – 2020: **373,000**



Sustainability Focus ▾ Our Users ▾ Collaborations ▾ T4SD Hubs ▾ Resources ▾

Standards Map

Comprehensive, verified and transparent information on standards for environmental protection, worker and labour rights, economic development, quality and food safety, as well as business ethics

[GO TO STANDARDS MAP](#)





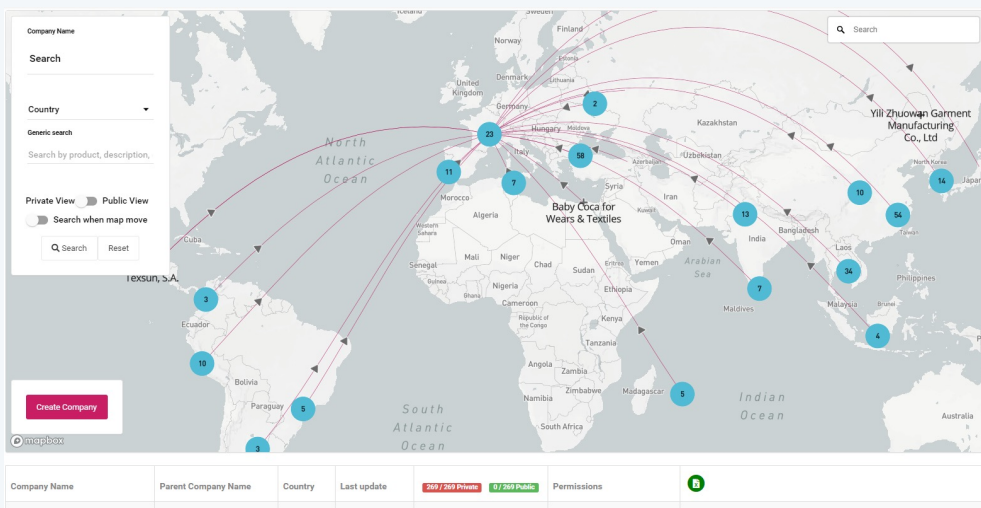
Transparency across global value chains: Sustainability Map

Enhancing transparency and sustainability across global value chains

Fostering change in global value chains through increased transparency and greater sustainability of all actors

Solution:

Visualize brands' suppliers location, factory profiles, social and environmental audit results.



ITC partners:



“One-stop shop” - acting as a global public repository of neutral and trusted information about businesses' sustainability credentials

Business Potential – businesses complying with sustainability schemes are missing business opportunities or preferential financing conditions

Integrity – suppliers face difficulties when providing evidence about their sustainability claims to buyers and retailers

Visibility – need for brands to provide information about their supply chain and sustainability practices commitments

Unique Identifier – Reduce duplication of efforts and audit fatigue by understanding which suppliers are certified by multiple standards or codes of conduct

A game-changer scalable across multiple sectors

- ✓ **Development impact** to support thousands of SMEs in improving their environmental and working conditions, impacting millions of employees



Clarifying complex supply chains

- ✓ **Transparency and traceability tools** for businesses to substantiate claims in a cost-effective way



Supporting policy objectives

Enabling the practical implementation of environmental and social sustainability objectives through global value chains

- ✓ Enabling **positive change**
 - ✓ Drive adoption by suppliers and brands globally



Helping consumers trust the claims made for the products they buy

- ✓ **Competitive advantage** to brands that invest in sustainable production

Demand driven and inclusive

- ✓ **Active involvement** of business organizations and companies to drive change
- ✓ **Open and inclusive** - businesses & business organisations, NGOs, academics, technological providers, data intermediaries, international organisations, etc.

Effective and innovative solutions

- ✓ Support thousands of brands and small manufacturers to help themselves implement better practices
- ✓ Supporting **technologically innovative solutions** (ITC global public goods and open data platforms)