

Submitting Country, Organization, Company

Everledger

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

70

Title of the action

Sustainable Apparel Supply Chain Tracking, Actioning, and Reporting

Upload an image



Relevant Website

<https://www.everledger.io/>

Partners

World Economic Forum (WEF), OECD Blockchain Policy Centre, UNECE, FISITA, HyperLedger, Global Blockchain Business Council (GBBC), Australian Wool Innovation (AWI), The Woolmark Company (TWC)

Type of initiative

Foundation / association initiative

Description of action

- We are currently working with the Australian Wool Innovation & The Woolmark Company (AWI/TWC) in conjunction with other brands and wool supply chain partners to develop a system of record to capture the available origin, chain of custody, compliance, and impact data across the supply chain. Our system is built to capture evidence and metrics associated with sustainability targets such as greenhouse gas emissions, water use, animal rights practices, labor conditions, and many other practices and impacts in the supply chain.
- This evidence and the associated metrics are typically gathered through a costly and time consuming, manual process of repetitive engagement and often clumsy ingestion of layered data and various documentation. Our processes can eliminate many of these barriers and human error points, and be highly efficient. For example, we can show that one 8-hour day of our parallel processes can be equivalent to 120 8-hour human days of the same sort of work. By eliminating the reporting barriers and enabling more accurate and real-time data, we can help all actors across the supply chain know their progress and focus their energy, time, and financial resources towards meeting and exceeding sustainability targets.
- We look to incorporate this into the broader ecosystem to further develop incentives for improvements across the chain and positively impact the communities, environment and animals in the chain. This includes future interoperability with other textile and apparel blockchains and data management sustainability and circular economy initiatives. We also look to support the evolution of verification of this data by working with auditors and certification bodies to make their processes more effective and efficient.

Type of action

Traceability

Transparency

Please select the specific area/s of the action

Norms and standards

Collaborative initiatives

Business management systems or instruments

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

Objective

To ease the cost of compliance and speed the time of gathering data across the supply chain, reporting on this information to buyers, government, and consumers. Ultimately, we want to increase the benefits of meeting compliance and sustainability goals and help those implementing these practices feel the financial and social benefits readily.

Commitments

Demonstrate clear claims across the supply chain. Demonstrate the value of the technology application (what time it took to run the system vs a manual version of the per product claims). Clearly cost a larger application and interoperability with larger compliance groups and other blockchain projects.

Value chain scope

Wool industry from farm through spinning.

Timeframe and/or milestones for the action

- Figma and basic clickable demo launched summer 2021
- Full scale program launched January 2022

Reference instruments and sources used

- We will be incorporating relevant chain of custody documentation requirements into our system intake processes and referencing how the relevant data aligns with those standards. We will stay agnostic to any specific chain of custody standard and instead reference where data sufficiently meets or likely meets those requirements.
- Regarding environmental, social and governance impact and risk areas, we will enable a process for reading and identifying evidence including audit and certification data and how those sources align or do not align with other standards. We refer to this as "equivalency" or cross recognition of standards and requirements across these issue areas.

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 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

Stakeholders involved

Business and industry associations

Consumers and consumer associations

Key performance indicators for the action

- # of assets
- # of transactions
- # of documents triangulated
- # of data points triangulated
- claim types and sub issue categories supported
- standards incorporated in equivalency table

Good practices

This will become available in January 2022.

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

This Call to Action enables our stakeholders to share their good work and learnings with a broader audience. Sharing with a broader audience is necessary because the ecosystem expansion is necessary for the overall success and scaling of this work.

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

