

Country (Insert country of origin of your company / organization or its headquarters' location)

Netherlands

Submitting Organization/Company

Sourcery Group, LLC

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

< 50

Please indicate the number of employees

11

Title of the action

Support the Sustainable Pledge with practical, equitable and scalable guidance.

Upload your logo or an image



SOURCERY

Relevant Website

www.thesourcery.io

Type of initiative

Private

Description of action

We are committed to transforming trade for good.

We deploy our pioneering trade methodology Direct-to-Grower in cotton (and other fibre) value chains connecting the grower to the consumer.

We believe that engagement, collaboration (financial), and trust are prerequisites to transparency and traceability.

Type of action

Traceability & Transparency

Please select the specific area/s of the action

Norms and standards

Incentives

Awareness and Education

Collaborative Initiatives

Business Management Systems or Instruments

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

Objective (max 200 words): Primary data collection and verification at farm level across social, economic and environmental indicators

Commitments (max 200 words): Full farm to fibre traceability using both digital blockchain and forensic markers through our Partners.

Value Chain Scope: Full, we engage input providers, growers, co-ops, gins, merchants, spinners, fabric mills, confection, assembly/CMT and brand and retailers

Timeframe and/or milestones for the action

Our solution is current active today as we can enable a brand, retailer or manufacturer to nominate fibre, yarn and fabric that meets strict impact and traceability requirements. We are in the early stages of building a digital trade and community platform as our Partners are looking for a scaled solution for Direct-to-Grower.

Reference instruments and sources used

We remain standard agnostic, whereby we are inclusive of 'all farmers, everywhere' and recognised that those enrolled or labeled under various scenes and those that are not should be recognized and rewarded (financially) for your efforts.

We have developed a set of data criteria that is required for registering as a Direct-to-Grower Partners across 9 SOPs and aim to collect 160 data points on all farmers including field/householder information, practices, agronomic indicators so we can score and benchmark performance across a continuous improvement schedule. All participants must demonstrate their commitment to commercial and environmental excellence in a measurable and verifiable way.

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

Improved working conditions for workers along the value chain and, particularly, those who work for “suppliers to suppliers” in parts of the value chain that today are often “hidden”

All of the above, but transformation of trade. Investing in existing solutions is a futile exercise without first address the underlying systemic social, economic, commercial and logistical challenges that exist within traditional commodity value chains.

Stakeholders involved

Business and industry associations

Intergovernmental organizations

Investors/shareholders

Local authorities

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Scientific and technological community

Key performance indicators for the action

- Volumes of fibre transacted under Direct-to-Grower.
- Number of growers and grower communities.
- Additional value directed a rural agricultural community.
- Soil health improvements, water intensity management, chemical intensity management and quality of raw materials being produced.

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

The efforts together critical players in the value chain to come together. Its shortfall, however, is that there is not a critical pathway for success outside of philanthropic support for many of the programmes involved and therefore there will exist challenges to scale the solutions here. We decided to not accept any philanthropic funding for Sourcery (it is a difficult decision), but this is part of our commitment to building resilient, self-reliant and scalable solutions in the value chain as we aim to transform trade for good. We are proud to support this effort at UNECE.

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

