Tracking and Tracing Textile Supply Chains

Ethical and Informed Choices for Sustainable Clothing

30th UN/CEFACT Forum 2017

October 3rd, 2017 | Salle Pirelli, Italian Trade Agency, Via Liszt 21, Rome, Italy

Conference begins at 10:30am

Please visit: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=46404
Clothing is one of the largest industries in the world economy, generating annual revenues of around US$ 3 trillion, producing 80 billion garments, and employing 60 to 75 million people. The industry is a global one, with its supply chains spreading across all countries, driven mostly by big retailers and traders that determine where to produce, what to produce, and at which prices to sell. As drivers of one of the biggest economic sectors in the global economy and key influencers of consumption habits, retailers and traders have a responsibility to respect and protect social and human rights, as well as the environment.

As a follow up to the 2017 European Development Days, this UN/CEFACT conference will include keynote speeches and round table discussions to involve the community in discussions towards new business models and circularity for sustainability, the latest traceability solutions and technologies, as well as where there is the possibility for multi-stakeholder collaboration to facilitate transparency in textile supply chains.

More specifically, this conference aims to (1) Discuss the key findings of the UNECE draft background research paper on transparency in textile value chains in relation to the environmental, social, and human health impacts of parts, components, and production processes; (2) Receive input from experts in trade facilitation and textile supply chains on a project for a UN track and trace standard for the textiles business chain; (3) Receive specific recommendations to launch a project on an international framework initiative on traceability for sustainable clothing; (4) Define ways to move forward.

Expected outcomes of this conference are to identify basic principles, suggest possible solutions, and provide specific recommendations for an international framework initiative on transparency and traceability for sustainability patterns in the clothing sector, in support of Sustainable Development Goal 12 on responsible production and consumption.