UNECE TRACEABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY PILOT PROJECT

28th April 2020
Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto invited Vivienne Westwood to collaborate in a pilot project launched by UNECE - The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe with the aim of testing a methodology that would enhance traceability and transparency in fashion supply chains.

The major goal is the one of helping United Nation setting a common standardised method to trace and map products from field to shelf, that would enable consumers’ informed and responsible choices. VW’s pilot is an operational tool to dive into supply chains, going back to the different tiers. Also, it will provide firstly all UNECE initiative members - and then all parties within fashion value chain - with feedbacks and lessons learned from this process, thanks to the involvement of all relevant actors.

VW identified with their product developers and fabric department the styles of AW20 collection to concentrate on, which potentially would match the suggested sustainability criteria, both at a fabric and production level. The sustainability hotspots to be assessed take into account social/ethical, environmental and quality/consumers protection aspects.
HOW?

CULTURE
Musée du Louvre

INDUSTRY
National Chamber of Fashion

INSTITUTIONS
United Nations Geneve

ADVOCACY
HOW?

ADVOCACY
INDUSTRIES
EDUCATION
ACCELERATION

MEETING WITH MANUFACTURERS

MEETING WITH BRANDS

MEETING WITH MEDIA PARTNERS
AGENDA

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES
2. OUR APPROACH
3. CHALLENGES
4. NEXT STEPS
OUR APPROACH

TIER 1: MANUFACTURER/ASSEMBLER
- Classic Tapered Jeans
- Harris Jeans

TIER 2: FABRIC MANUFACTURER

TIER 3: RAW MATERIAL PROCESSESER

TIER 4: RAW MATERIAL FARMING AND EXTRACTION

RECYCLE DENIM
OUR APPROACH

TIER 1:
MANUFACTURER/ASSEMBLER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCTION STEP</th>
<th>COVERED ROLE</th>
<th>IDENTIFIED COMPANY/ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>SUSTAINABILITY HOTSPOTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL</td>
<td>Environmental: Manufacturing and finishing waste (cuts and sowings, samples), dyeing waste, water use (gamma finishing), water pollution &amp; lack of wastewater treatment, energy efficiency of equipment/machinery, hazardous chemicals and toxics (for prints)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SOCIAL/ETHICAL</td>
<td>Social/Ethical: Low-wage, non-compliance to minimum wage legislation, health &amp; safety in the workplace, gender equality, discrimination, disciplinary practice, right of association and collective bargaining, working hours</td>
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</tbody>
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- **STANDARD / CERTIFICATE / SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES**
  
  (initiatives, approaches, methodologies)

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<tr>
<th>PRODUCT DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>TIER 1 PRODUCT MANUFACTURING AND ASSEMBLING</th>
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UNECE
Vivienne Westwood
Condazione Pistoletto
Biblia
Our Approach

**Tier 2:**
Fabric Manufacturer
- Direct warping
- Continuous yarn dyeing
- Weaving
- Finishing
- Quality control

**Tier 3:**
Raw Material Processor
- Fiber processing
- Spinning

**Tier 4:**
Raw Material Farming and Extraction
- Farming/
- Extraction

**Production Steps Covered**

**Insights on Production Steps, Management of Sustainability Hotspots**

The cotton yarn used to make this fabric, comes from the production waste of the supplier. After the indigo dyeing process, there is always unavoidable waste. This waste is re-generated and transformed into a new yarn. Thanks to this re-generated cotton yarn, we use 65% less water. During the indigo dyeing process we use a natural and totally biodegradable sizing film.

The indigo we use is PREREDUCED, it is more sustainable than others because it uses less water and less chemicals during production.

The fabric is finished with a new process that saves 85% water and 32% grams of CO2 emissions per meter of fabric.

The production of this recycled denim is 100% sustainable. This denim fabric is GRS certified. 65% recycled CO 35% CO
CHALLENGES

• First of all, trust has to be considered the most valuable asset. Working with suppliers, who are open to collaborate and share data, it has been the crucial step. Without further technological support, this process is time-consuming and involves a lot of effort both parties. Only thanks to the willingness of our most virtuous suppliers we were able to test the framework so far.

• Tracing back from TIER 3 to TIER 4 after more or less one year from production it has been challenging and still it is not an information available in some cases. This insight may be helpful to underline that the methodology set by UNECE must consider the variable of time and ex post information collection.

• Moreover, a cotton batch, if sourced from different supplier and mixed in the initial phase, creates a greater complexity to manage.

• In order to have a straightforward access to traceability data, an agreement between TIER 2 and 3 should happen at the beginning of the purchase order.
NEXT STEPS

• Diving deeper in the bottom tiers that are missing, in order to state a fully traceable garment according to the UNECE criteria.
• Parallelly, we are working with other supply chains as trims and packaging to roll-out the same process we attempt for the fabric and clothing value chain, with the hope of collecting valuable insights.
• To update and improve the framework use, which is still evolving with the Pilot Project related to cotton value-chain.