UNECE

Enhancing Transparency and Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector

Minutes
Virtual conference meeting #1 – Leather Traceability Standard
12/12/2019, WebEx, 15:30 CET

Participants (23): Rafael Andrade (National Wildlife Federation), Mauricio Bauer (National Wildlife Federation), Luca Canevelli (Kering), Maurizia Contu (UNIC), Monique Coty Jeronimus (Tasklab.org), Sabrina Frontini (ICEC), Gustavo Gonzalez-Quijano (COTANCE), Gerhard Heemskerk (EDI Consultant), Enrico Iacovizzi (Fur Europe), Hakan Karaosman (Politecnico di Milano), Sarah Macia (Hecho por Nosotros), Adriana Marina (Hecho por Nosotros and animana), Jan Merckx (GS1 Belgium & Luxembourg), Liz Muller (liz mullers & partners), Alexandra Pelka (Leatherteq Limited), Claudia Proietti (International Fur Federation), Mariana Reina (Hecho por Nosotros), Stephen Sothmann (U.S. Hide, Skin and Leather Association), Daniele Tumietto (European Information Technologies Certification Institute), Georgina Tayler (Hecho por Nosotros), Frans van Diepen (RVO, the Netherlands), Rakesh Vazirani (TUV Rheinland Group), Rolf Wessel (Seeburger).
UNECE Secretariat: Maria Teresa Pisani, Olivia Chassot **Co-leading Expert/s**: Frans van Diepen, Niki Dieckmann

Agenda item	Discussion	Comments / Status	Action/Decision
Introductory remarks *Maria Teresa Pisani*	Opening of the meeting, brief recap on the key project outputs, the core activities to be carried out in the 4 subgroups and the timeframe to develop the leather traceability standard which will follow the development of the textile traceability (2021). The standard shall differentiate animal livestock and exotic animal leathers which have common processes but different sustainability hotspots. *Reference documents: PPT Project Governance and Progress; Group of Experts Composition (CUE Space);*		

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| 1. Overview of group of experts' composition and stakeholders' ecosystem for the Textile Traceability Standard *Maria Teresa Pisani* | Presentation of the draft stakeholder ecosystem mapping aiming at capturing comprehensively all the actors involved in global garment and footwear value chains in 3 phases: 1. Map the macro ecosystem 2: Map countries of most-importance 3. Drill down by combining the first two categories. The colours are not meaningful at this stage.

This exercise also intends to map countries of most importance in the world clothing and textile's market (clothing and textiles exporters: textile importers) using 2019 WTO figures 2019 figures. It could also be relevant to consider emerging countries increasingly engaged in the apparel market (e.g. Ethiopia, Mongolia) or countries which have put forward traceability aims (c.f. national action plans).

Reference document: Draft Stakeholder Ecosystem Mapping V0 (CUE Space) | • Consider widening the geographical scope by involving stakeholders at global level will be a significant challenge and a key successful criterion for this project.
• Consider adding data about raw materials key producing and exporting countries in addition to the data for key clothing/textiles exporting and importing countries (WTO 2019 data report).
• Consider adopting a risk-based approach on the definition of priority countries for traceability for the success of this project. A mapping of high-risk countries and high-risk regions could help identifying key areas for due diligence. A mapping realised at the EU level could lay down core requirements to identify high versus low risks areas. SAC and YESS developed a methodology for cotton which could be relevant for the project.
• Consider enlisting the names of major known industry associations and existing ongoing projects for traceability and supply chain transparency e.g. Leather Working Group, SAC, amfori (risk-based mapping audits-driven).
• Consider the degree of impact for each stakeholder group. This point has been raised in the textile traceability standard group and the idea of using a gap minder matrix to showcase levels of impacts (direct, indirect, potential) is considered.
• The deadline for the stakeholder ecosystem mapping exercise is mid-February, although this will run until the entire duration of the project.
• Consider whether this project will target all leather types, meaning not only bovine but also sheep and goat for all final use destinations (leather goods, automotive sector). This comment further emphasizes the need to scope the value chain and data models differently for animal livestock leather and exotic animal leather.
• Consider the inclusion of fur as an animal-based product within the traceability standard as fur supply chain partially differs but has many similarities with leather supply chain. | Secretariat to circulate a spreadsheet to invite experts to suggest missing actors to be included in the stakeholder ecosystem mapping by **9 January**. |

		• Consider taking a very inclusive approach to involve all actors of the chain even those with lowest impact.	
2. Work plan for the scoping and development of the value chain and data model for the textile traceability standard *Frans van Diepen* Next conference call	Presentation of the work plan for the data model of the standard, encompassing the structure of the value chain, actors, processes, products, information elements exchanged for each transaction and registered under a common repository easily accessible to all parties, and collaboration models. Certificates of compliance with sustainability requirements as a way to complete the information sets for the data model and identify relevant actors to be informed. The technical standard for traceability will build upon relevant existing information standards (e.g. EPCIS, e-CERT, e-Quality, e-Certificate of Origin, eCROP, the TT of animal/plants and products of organic origin, eBIZ and TexSheet messages). Upcoming work will consist in identifying and merging relevant existing information datasets and define data elements used for certification, which currently are not	• The core ingredients of a successful traceability approach are WHO (which actors, e.g. slaughterhouse), WHAT (information entities, business and sustainability data) and WHEN (occurrence of information exchange) from farmer to final consumer (upstream part of the chain). • The raw material stage must be prioritised by focusing on the facilities and parties' product information (e.g. social, environmental - water and energy consumption, waste treatment data) conditional upon animal species. • Combining the existing eBIZ and eCROP messages by adding sustainability data elements would be a relevant approach. • Existing traceability standards will be considered for this work: ITC sustainability map, SAC Higg Index, SAC MSI Higg materials sustainability index and the outcomes from the blockchain cotton pilot to better identify missing elements in the leather value chain. Although, cotton and leather production chains are not interoperable, they have some common sustainability aspects.	*Frans van Diepen and Niki Dieckmann* to set-up the drafting group to develop the data model by **Thursday 9 January**. *Experts* to share with *Frans van Diepen* and *Niki Dieckmann* any information sets which should be included into the leather value chain/data model for the standard by **Thursday 9 of January 2020** on which party/association/brand can contribute, used standards, information exchange (sample message, schema, data model). Ahead of the monthly call, the core team for standardization will share a draft design and request for comments.

	included the UN Core Component Library (UN/CCL). *Reference document: FvDiepen Leather data model conf call presentation, UN/CEFACT BRS Documentation Template (CUE Space)*		
Next conference call (leather subgroup)	**Thursday 23 January 2020 at 15:30** CET (Geneva)		Secretariat to circulate invitation, agenda and background documents by **Thursday 16 January 2020.**