Textile Partnership members put their cards on the table

Important milestone: The first 60 roadmaps are now published

- 116 members submitted their roadmaps outlining concrete steps for increasing sustainability in textile supply chains.
- Everyone is involved: not only companies, but also non-governmental organisations, trade unions, standards organisations, associations and the German Federal Government are publishing their roadmaps.
- Half of the roadmaps have been reviewed by external experts. They fulfil the requirements of the Textile Partnership and can now be found online. The other half of the roadmaps shall be published until September.
- Members set themselves 1,300 specific targets to pursue in 2018 and will report on their accomplishments the following year.
- The roadmaps are an important step for making the textile supply chain more sustainable. Such a broad impact could hardly be achieved by a single actor on its own.

(13 August 2018, Berlin) For the first time members of the Textile Partnership have revealed their concrete action plans to ensure humane working conditions, greater environmental protection and fair wages in their own companies and in their suppliers’ production facilities. This can be considered a major step forward, as it means that many members agree on revealing even sensible information for the first time.

116 members have submitted their roadmaps for 2018, half of which have been reviewed by external experts regarding their target setting and concrete action steps. From today on these roadmaps are publicly available.

The Textile Partnership aims at substantial improvements along the global textile supply chain. Therefore the actions of the members focus on uniform, specified targets. For example, all members have to take action to fight child labour. Furthermore, many members also set themselves additional, individual targets. The planned action steps – around 1,300 in total – are related to issues such as the risk management and the handling of complaints, the avoidance of health-threatening chemicals, the sustainable use of water resources or the implementation of living wages. In the field of hazardous chemicals this approach led to a gradual exclusion of 160 substances from the production line. Also, the members jointly aim to increase their use of sustainable and organic cotton to 35% by 2020. All members using cotton have to contribute to this aim.
The members will document target achievement levels in progress reports, which the Textile Partnership shall publish from 2019 onwards. The roadmaps and progress reports have been examined by independent external experts. All examined action plans comply with the current requirements of the Textile Partnership and are published here.

When formulating targets, members follow the principle of corporate due diligence, which also underpins the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. Also, it makes their actions more transparent for society and politics.

‘The mandatory processes and higher levels of transparency are cornerstones for building the credibility of the Partnership. Along with constructive, fair and open dealings with one another, they lay a solid foundation for making supply chains fundamentally more sustainable. We build on ambitious progress, on cooperation and on the exchange of knowledge and experience – in the future, we will also liaise more and more with our strategic partners in Europe and across the world,’ says Jürgen Janssen, Head of the Partnership Secretariat.

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The Partnership for Sustainable Textiles is a multi-stakeholder partnership made up of companies, associations, non-governmental organisations, trade unions, standards organisations and the Federal German Government. The stakeholders formed the Partnership in 2014 with the aim of making improvements along the entire textile supply chain, and set ambitious social and environmental targets. The stakeholders pursue these targets through individual measures implemented by the members, and joint Partnership Initiatives in the production countries. Currently the Partnership has 128 members, including 7 advisory members and 5 new members, who are not required to submit reports until next year.