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About Responsible Leather

Responsible Leather is a Textile Exchange initiative aimed at addressing the many issues found within the global leather supply chain.
Textile Exchange (TE) is a global nonprofit organization that works closely with our members along the entire textile supply chain to minimize the adverse environmental and social effects that the $1.7 trillion textile industry creates.

**VISION**

We envision a global textile industry that protects and restores the environment and enhances lives.

**MISSION**

Textile Exchange inspires and equips people to accelerate sustainable practices in the textile value chain. We focus on minimizing the harmful impacts of the global textile industry and maximizing its positive effects.
Meeting Agenda

1. News, Information, & Updates
2. Intro to TE Leather Team!
3. Task Group Updates
   1. Social Issues
   2. Species Inclusion
   3. Deforestation
   4. Supply Chain Mapping
4. Progress
5. Introduction to ICHSLTA/USHSLA
Now, a few formalities...
Go To Webinar Control Panel

- Hide/show control panel
- Full screen mode
- Raise hand

- You can use the Raise hand button to signal that you have a question, want to make a comment, or require assistance.

- Alternatively, if you have a question, type it in the question pane and click Send. We will do our best to answer as timely as possible.
Meeting Notes & Recording

- GoToWebinar will automatically send a recording to all registrants.
- We will email you with meeting notes and the recording within 2-3 days.
- Recording and meeting notes will be uploaded to responsibleleather.org, also within 2-3 days.
Chatham House Rule

“When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.”
Anti-Trust Declaration

Textile Exchange is committed to adhering strictly to the letter and spirit of the antitrust laws. Any and all meetings, communications, conference calls, shared resources and collaborative workspaces are designed solely to provide a forum or means for the expression of various points of view. Under no circumstances shall Textile Exchange activities be used as a means for competing companies to reach any understanding, expressed or implied, which tends to restrict competition, or in any way, to impair the ability of members to exercise independent business judgment regarding matters affecting competition.
OK, let's continue!
News & Information

- Peta Video
- AWI chair and MLA boss come to blows over mulesing
- Australian superfine wool growers asked to support ‘cease mulesing’ policy
- HSBC’s noble stand on palm oil
  - https://innovation-forum.co.uk/analysis.php?s=hsbcs-noble-stand-on-palm-oil
- 400 tanneries units are operating in Kanpur region
  - Out of these 400 tanneries, 386 were inspected in the Kanpur region during January-May, 2017 and 77 Gross Polluting Industries (GPIs) were issued closure directions under Section 5 of Environmental (Protection) Act

Workers at one of Kanpur’s four hundred tanneries
Credit: Daniel Bachhuber - Flickr
Updates from you!

If you have any updates to share, please make a note in the chat box or raise your hand to be unmuted.
Who’s **REALLY** behind all of this?
Stuart Adams
Agriculture Standards Advisor
Stefanie Pokorski
Integrity & Standards Coordinator
Alexandre Boursier
Forestry & Land Management
Advisor
Crispin Argento

Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Advisor
1.) Should we include Social?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No consistency in the industry now</td>
<td>Increased time and cost to develop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is demand to have the issues addressed</td>
<td>Increased time and cost to implement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The term responsible may mean social as well</td>
<td>Social is addressed in GRSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May overlap with existing supply chain actions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.) What issues do we address?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Desired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Tier 3 and 4 (1 and 2 are already being addressed)</td>
<td>• Forced labour/migratory labour</td>
<td>• ILO convention on human rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Child labour</td>
<td>• Land rights violations; how to verify?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Leather Initiative Task Group – Social Issues

#### 3.) What stages would it apply to?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Farm – T3</th>
<th>Slaughter</th>
<th>Tanneries – T2</th>
<th>Manufacturing – T1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Need guidelines to reference – look at other farm labour standards – ILO – Fair Labour – look at country level: industry support program – need to have a collective approach to have an impact – connect with GRSB</td>
<td>- Conduct research into issues of highest risk and any existing solutions – map out the standards being used by the big players</td>
<td>- Need policy - and some kind of 1st, 2nd or 3rd verification? Can use existing stds</td>
<td>- Need policy - and some kind of 1st, 2nd or 3rd verification?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.1 Leather Initiative Task Group – Social Issues

Actions / Research

- Map out existing initiatives (farm and supply chain)
- Look at 1st, 2nd and 3rd party verification options
- Research areas of highest risk by supply chain stage
3.2 Leather Initiative Task Group – Species Inclusion

Summary

Broad agreement that ultimately the initiative/standard should address multiple species, in the initial phase it should focus on bovine as the biggest sector to start with. Whilst this would make the process easier and faster the aim to add other species should be considered from the start / in the design of the approach. The option of creating additional modules addressing slaughter and transport to enable the RWS to act as an input standard can also be explored alongside this.

Actions / Research

- Defining scope boundaries
- Traceability
- Existing standards
- Farming systems and issues research
Leather Initiative Task Group – Deforestation

Summary

Task Group discussion resulted in identification of critical questions: Definition of conversion, adoption of a cut off date/baseline, regional issues/differences, traceability, feed, allowing restoration where conversion happened, smallholders, conflicts with legislation. The Task Group highlighted the fact that this initiative should not attempt to define/resolve these questions, but align itself with others.

Actions / Research

- Research what other initiatives do on these issues
- Consider compatibility if we recognize a variety of standards (SAN, RSBs, etc.)
- Identify the common ground if it exists
3.4 NEXT Task Group – Supply Chain Mapping

- The supply chain is complicated!
- Cattle > Skins > Leather > Manufacturing > Brands
- Map out the links between the slaughterhouse to the brands and retailers
- Identify key players
- Identify the key regions involved
Task Groups – what are they again?

- Meet outside of the regularly scheduled stakeholder meetings
- Focus on a single issue at a time
- Identify issues and activities related to the topic
- Discuss options and presents them to the full International Working Group (IWG)
- Do not make decisions
- Are time-limited
- Supported by Textile Exchange
- Can be led by TE or someone else
The stakeholders for the leather initiative include the full supply chain, as well as external organizations, including:

**Professional Groups (Across the Supply Chain):**
- Standards Bodies
- Consultancies
- Industry Associations

**Special Interest Groups & Civil Society:**
- Animal Welfare groups
- Environmental groups
- Social/Human Rights groups

= livestock transport point

Collaboration for Forests and Agriculture (CFA)

Overlapping Stakeholders

Restaurants | Retail & Supermarkets
---|---
Meat Processing | Leather Tanning
Slaughterhouses | Farms
Raising Farms | Birthing Farms

Manufacturing

Furnishings | Apparel | Footwear | Automotive & Transport | Equestrian
Principles and Criteria for Defining Global Sustainable Beef

Canada – US – Brazil – Europe
Our goal is to recognize and support existing initiatives whenever possible, while providing brands a single framework to reference. To this end, we will look at developing a system to accept existing programs that meet the same goals as the Code of Practice.
Responsible Leather

- Industry Support & Development Program
- Government Support Program

BRANDS
- Code of Practice for "Responsible Leather"
- Financial support, influence, consumer engagement
- Stories, metrics and KPIs, impacts

Government Support Program

"Safe" supply

Best Practices

Demand
2017 Work

- Seed Funding
- Initial Working Group
- Identify Existing Initiatives
- Invite Additional Stakeholders
- Review Issues
- Determine Decision-Making Strategy
- Choose Scopes
- Identify Solution Frameworks
Introduction to the ICHSLTA & USHSLA

Stephen Sothmann J.D., M.B.A., President of USHSLA & ICHSLTA
The U.S. Hide, Skin and Leather Association (USHSLA) is a full service industry organization devoted to the U.S. hides, skins and wet blue leather products industry. Founded in 1979, the association provides its members with government, public relations, and international trade assistance and support. The USHSLA is a cooperator under the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s foreign market development programs, assisting U.S. firms develop new markets for U.S. agricultural exports. USHSLA is at the forefront of the industry’s needs, providing members with service, information, and opportunities to compete in today’s global marketplace.
ICHSLTA is the International Council of Hides, Skins and Leather Traders Association. It represents the interests of the hide, skins and leather trades of more than 30 countries. It is the only international body of its kind. Founded in 1929 as a non-political organisation, its principal objective is the promotion, development and protection of the international trade in raw hides, skins and leathers.
Call for Stakeholders

- Invite your colleagues and professional acquaintances to join our stakeholder group.
- Looking for design, CR and materials experts in auto, food, home furnishings, footwear and apparel as well as supply chain contacts (farms, slaughter, tannery, etc.).
- Email template/invite is available providing Responsible Leather Initiative overview.
- Questions and Inquires can be directed to crispin@wearefuturemade.com.
Thank you!

Questions?

responsibleleather@textileexchange.org