



The European Development Days

18 June 2019

Experts meeting – 11:00 to 12:30 am – Room L3

Project Lab - 1:30 to 14:45 pm – Room S3

Tour&Taxi, Brussels, Belgium

Registration: <https://eudevdays.eu/>

Project Lab

Better Clothes for Better Work

Enhancing ethical and informed choices

eudevdays.eu



STEP 1

SESSION INFORMATION

Title:
Better Clothes for Better Work

Subtitle:
Enhancing ethical and informed choices

- Related Topics:**
- 1) Sustainable Development and Inclusive Growth
 - 2) Decent Work for All
 - 3) Sustainable Value Chains

Leading Organization:
The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Partner Organizations:
International Trade Centre (ITC)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
European Commission DG DEVCO: Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development



STEP 2

CONTENT APPROACH

Today's global clothing industry is worth approximately \$3 trillion, produces 80 billion garments worldwide every year, and employs about 60 to 75 million people. Clothes now pose a formidable challenge to decent working conditions in the sector and to planetary boundaries, and solutions are needed at a global level.

At the European Development Days 2019, UNECE, jointly with ITC, ILO and the European Commission DG DEVCO, organises a project lab session to engage with industry stakeholders to develop new approaches to advance decent working conditions through transparency and traceability of value chains in the garment and footwear industry, for inclusive growth.

More specifically, the session aims to (1) provide a unique platform to discuss a new multi-year programme funded by the EU DEVCO, and innovative best practices vis-à-vis the promotion of decent work, transparency and traceability in the garment sector; (2) Raise awareness as regards production and consumption trends for the clothing and textile, and its environmental and social impacts and long-term consequences; (3) Discuss practical approaches for encouraging companies in the industry to embrace better working conditions in their business practices; (4) Gather inputs for the development of trusted, harmonized industry standards, related labels, and certification schemes for traceability and measuring performance; (5) Initiating an effective global partnerships on transparency and traceability in the clothing and textile sector.

This session will debate how increased transparency and traceability can turn challenges into new opportunities to to move towards a more responsible industry, and learn from the experience of industry players like Patagonia about possible approaches and solutions to reducing risks and scaling-up stakeholders' efforts.





STEP 3

CONTENT APPROACH

Increased traceability and transparency of value chains are now recognised by many stakeholders as an essential step for companies in performing due diligence throughout their global supply chains. However, achieving progress in this area is a major challenge, due to the fragmented production and the prevalent practice of illegitimate subcontracting and undeclared informal work in this sector. This session will debate if and how increased transparency and traceability can turn challenges into new opportunities to developing a reliable garment industry. The session will draw learnings from the experience of stakeholders in the sector and of different initiatives and debate the challenges and opportunities to reducing risks and supporting stakeholders' efforts in this area.

Publications:

UNECE: [Transparency in textile value chains in relation to the environmental, social and human health impacts of parts, components and production processes](#)

ILO: [International Framework Agreements in the food retail, garment and chemicals sectors: Lessons Learned](#)

ITC: [KENYA: Textile and Clothing Value Chain Roadmap](#)

European Commission: [A Background Analysis on Transparency and Traceability in the Garment ValueChain Final Report:](#)



International
Labour
Organization



STEP 4

SPEAKERS AND MODERATOR

Opening remarks:

Olga Algayerova, UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary General of the UN

Moderator:

Francesca Romana Rinaldi (PhD), Bocconi University

About the moderator:

With over 10 years of experience, Francesca Romana Rinaldi (PhD) is Director of the Master in Brand & Business Management and New Sustainable Fashion at Milano Fashion Institute and faculty member of Bocconi University. She is co-author of several books such as 'The Responsible Fashion Company'. She is often interviewed in TV and invited as speaker to discuss about Sustainable Fashion

Speakers:

Heinz Zeller, Head of Sustainability & Logistics, Hugo Boss

Alex Busquets Gonzalez, Head of External Stakeholders Engagement, C&A Global

Ben Vanpeperstraete, Lobby and Advocacy Coordinator

Discussants:

Chloe Allio, Head of Private Sector and Trade Unit, DG DEVCO European Commission

Joseph Wozniak, Head of Trade for Sustainable Development – T4SD, ITC

Maria Teresa Pisani, Acting Head of Sustainable and Outreach Unit, UNECE

Ivo Spauwen, Technical Specialist for Operations and Policy, Better Work, ILO

