



UNECE

The UNECE policy recommendations, implementation guidelines and standard provide traceability and transparency solutions for tracking any garment or item of footwear from raw components to point of purchase. Information is stored in a blockchain, providing an immutable and verifiable production record or product fingerprint.



THE SUSTAINABILITY PLEDGE

TRACK IT, TRACE IT, WEAR IT!

With reliable data about how our clothes and shoes are made, we can positively contribute to building sustainable consumption and production patterns and a more circular economy that minimises resource inputs, cuts waste and guards against pollution and carbon emissions. Component parts of any product can be clearly identified for easier reuse, repurposing and recycling. Non-sustainable practices can be regulated against and adherence verified.

WHO IS IT FOR?



POLICY MAKERS

Regulating complex, global and sometimes opaque sectors such as the garment and footwear industry comes with major challenges. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) has led an initiative to develop an opensource framework to track and trace the sustainability performance of products through the entire garment and footwear supply chain - from field to factory to shop floor. Use the UNECE Recommendation 46 and implementation Guidelines to develop policy to track and trace standards in the garment and footwear sector. Then, let citizens know by joining The Sustainability Pledge.



COMPANIES

We understand how difficult it can be to provide detailed and verifiable information on the sustainability of your products. The UNECE offers a solution: a free opensource framework for tracking and tracing products and their sustainability performance, through the entire garment and footwear supply chain. Use the UNECE tools to track and trace your good, formulate robust sustainability claims then pledge your commitment to implement them by joining The Sustainability Pledge.

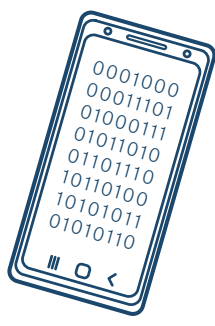


CITIZENS

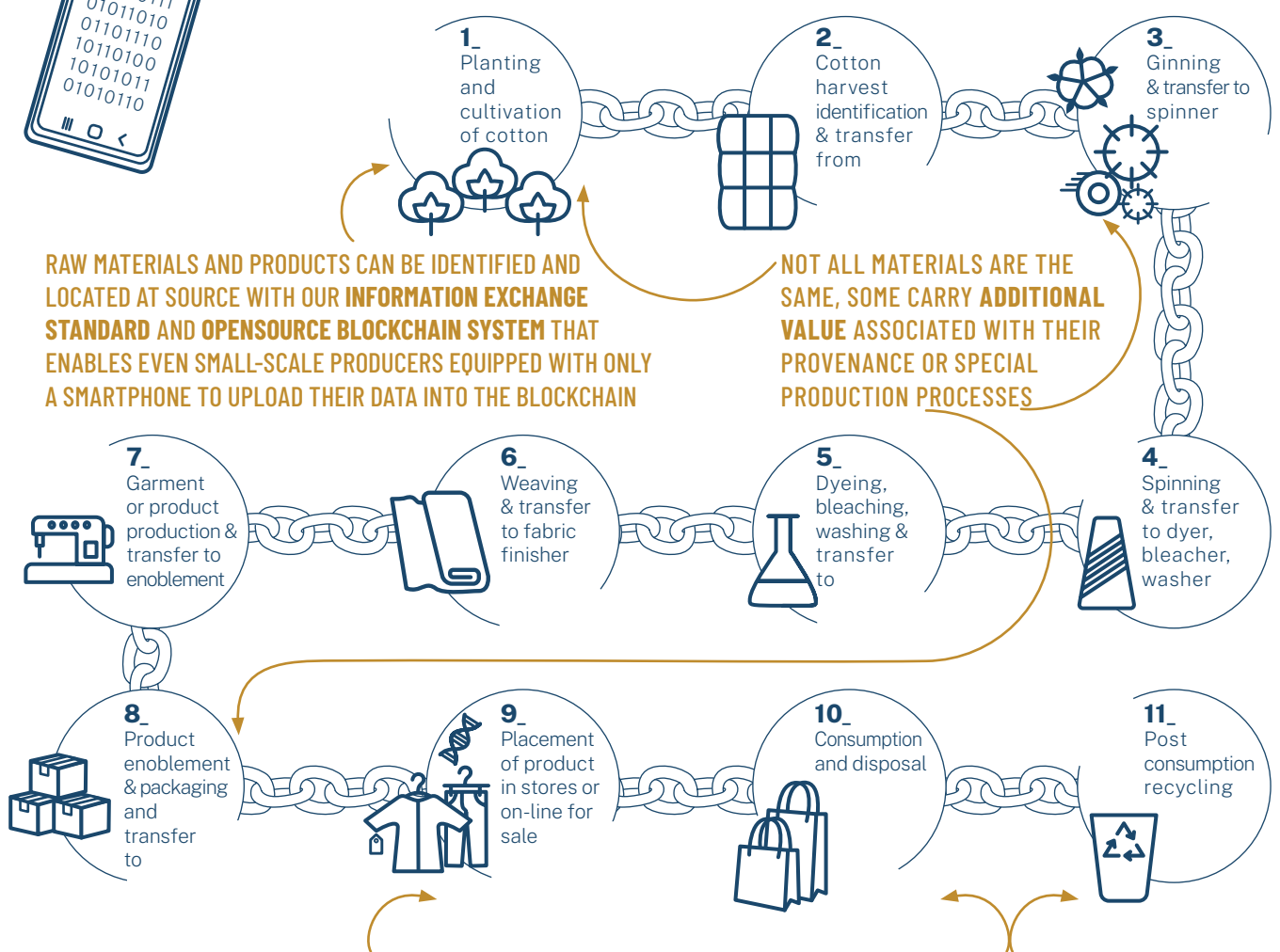
More and more of us want to shop sustainably and fairly - but to do that we need reliable information about where and how our clothes and shoes are made. The UNECE has worked with hundreds of industry insiders and stakeholders to develop solutions to gather verifiable and immutable information about how and where our clothes and shoes are made. See who in the industry is signing up to The Sustainability Pledge and what actions they are committing to deliver. Then, make your choice.

www.thesustainabilitypledge.org
#TheSustainabilityPledge

HOW DOES IT WORK?



AT EACH KEY STEP ALONG THE PRODUCTION PROCESS, INFORMATION IS STORED IN THE BLOCKCHAIN CREATING AN IMMUTABLE RECORD FOR VERIFIABLE TRACKING AND TRACING INFORMATION



RAW MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS CAN BE IDENTIFIED AND LOCATED AT SOURCE WITH OUR INFORMATION EXCHANGE STANDARD AND OPENSOURCE BLOCKCHAIN SYSTEM THAT ENABLES EVEN SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS EQUIPPED WITH ONLY A SMARTPHONE TO UPLOAD THEIR DATA INTO THE BLOCKCHAIN

NOT ALL MATERIALS ARE THE SAME, SOME CARRY ADDITIONAL VALUE ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR PROVENANCE OR SPECIAL PRODUCTION PROCESSES

DNA MARKERS. AT SORTING, COLLECTION OR TRANSFER POINTS, DNA MARKERS CAN BE ADDED TO MATERIALS TO ENSURE THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE PRODUCT IS NOT COMPROMISED

WITH CLEAR AND COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE RAW MATERIALS AND COMPONENTS OF USED GARMENTS AND FOOTWEAR THEY CAN MORE EASILY BE RECYCLED OR REPURPOSED, CONTRIBUTING TO A CIRCULAR APPROACH TO PRODUCTION

THE CONTEXT FOR ACTION

The garment and footwear industry is a major contributor to environmental degradation and global warming. The industry is also harmful to people's health and has been linked to human rights and welfare violations. For many of the people, especially women, young workers, home-based workers and migrant workers, that work in the sector, employment conditions fall well below international standards. What's more, year-on-year, demand for clothing and footwear keeps on rising.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) with its Centre for Trade Facilitation and e-Business (UN/CEFACT) in collaboration with International Trade Centre (ITC) and with funding from the European Union are taking action.

Our joint project "Enhancing Traceability and Transparency for Sustainable and Circular Value Chains in Garment and Footwear", has brought together industry insiders, regulators and NGOs to enhance transparency and traceability throughout the garment and footwear sector value chain. Using our partners' vast experience and expertise, we have developed recommendations, standards and tools that enable companies, governments and consumers to track and trace clothing and footwear from raw material production to point of purchase and beyond. These systems have been put to the test as part of our pilots, exploring the supporting role of innovation and advanced technologies like blockchain and DNA tracking can play.

Contributing to the achievement of the globally agreed 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, especially SDGs 8 and 13, as well as 5, 15 and 17

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