This document summarizes the results of the FeelGoodFashion Report 2014, which provides an analysis of the transparency and corporate social responsibility of over 350 fashion brands in the German and Dutch markets.

It provides an overview of the key sustainability issues that brands in the fashion sector face, and names best practices for each of the analyzed sections: climate policy, ecology and labor conditions policy.

The Table of Content on the next page highlights the sections contained in this summary in white. The full report describes the core sustainability issues within the fashion sector and related subsectors in more detail and demonstrates the gaps between leaders and laggards.

Rank a Brand strives for a sustainable society and wants to make sustainability a buying factor. Our rankings on sustainability are published on our website. We want to stimulate brands to become more sustainable and be open in their performance.

For more information and to order the full report please send an email to kontakt@rankabrand.de

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**IMPRINT**

Published by: Rank a Brand e.V.

Authors: Jan Konietzko, Ype van Woersem, James Simpson

Head of Research: Mario Dziamski


Design and Layout: Jan Konietzko

Cover Photo: Daniela Reske

**Mail: kontakt@rankabrand.de**

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As sustainability challenges become bigger and more tangible, brands in the fashion industry are starting to consider sustainability as material to their business. This is caused by a number of interrelated factors, such as a growing consumer awareness triggered by mainstream media coverage on human rights controversies, and increasingly, the notion that climate change and a collapsing ecosystem constitute concrete business risks.

This study finds that the way brands are adapting to this growing trend is through sustainability communication. Of all 368 brands that have been investigated for this report, 63 % communicate in some way about sustainability on their websites. However, the information provided by a significant number of brands is not considered substantial, and lacks detail and focus on relevant issues. As a consequence, more than 30 % of brands that report in some way on sustainability have been put on the Rank a Brand ‘Greenwashing Alert’. This Alert lists brands that receive the lowest score when ranked against our climate, ecology and labor conditions criteria, which means that the provided information is either of marginal or no relevance and is not explicit about sustainability performance.

This result is concerning when considering the major environmental and social impact the fashion industry has around the globe. For example, according to the Environmental Justice Foundation, more than 70% of global cotton is produced using irrigation and 15-35% of all irrigation withdrawals are estimated to be unsustainable. Crop yields are being reduced by drought and the increasing scarcity of water for irrigation, and changing world climatic and population trends may increase the severity of the problem. Besides an increasing water scarcity, the people of these regions who work in the factories face harsh working conditions, which often lack health and safety programs.

Another example is leather production, which involves a variety of issues. On the one hand it contributes to the deforestation of Amazonia as a driver of demand for cattle farming, while at the same time it promotes leather tanning in countries like India and Bangladesh, which uses hazardous chemicals that can cause disease outbreak and reduce fertility of farmlands. Furthermore, cruelty to animals is a serious problem and the workers in the tanneries have a much higher chance of contracting various cancers because of exposure to the chemicals.

In light of these issues, we hope that this report, which is our third report on fashion brands, can contribute to an increased awareness about the responsibility that brands have when deciding on how to produce their products, and how to communicate this to consumers.

Jan Konietzko (Author) and Mario Dziamski (Head of Research)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

General Results

Talking about Sustainability:
The overall results reveal that brands have reached a stage at which it becomes normal to talk about sustainability: we found that 63% of all brands we researched report in some way about sustainability on their websites.

This is an increase of 10% compared to 2011.

Publication of a Sustainability Report:
20% of all brands in the fashion sector go as far as publishing a sustainability report.

The Rank a Brand Greenwashing Alert:
More than 30% of brands who report in some way about sustainability provide information that is either of marginal or no relevance and is not explicit about sustainability performance. These brands have therefore been listed on the Greenwashing Alert, a list of brands that report in some way on sustainability but still receive an E-Label, and therefore achieve a very low score in terms of the Rank a Brand sustainability criteria.

In the shoes, and underwear / lingerie subsectors, the Greenwashing Alert applies most often, for 52% and 50% respectively. We also found that the alert applies to relatively few cases in the Jeans & Denim (13%), and Fashion Retailer subsectors (10%).

Among the brands on the Greenwashing Alert are prestigious names such as Bugatti Shoes, Uhlsport, Louis Vuitton, New Yorker, Hugo Boss, Hollister and Carhartt.

The Performance Index
The Performance Index shows, for all researched fashion brands and for each subsector, how frequently good performance was recorded when compared to the Rank a Brand sustainability criteria.

It shows that performance is quite well developed (ca. 30%) in the Fashion Retailer and Sport & Outdoor Clothing subsectors. However it is not well developed (ca. 10%) in the Luxury and Baby & Children's clothing subsectors.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Climate, Ecology and Labor Conditions

Climate

50% of all fashion brands report a policy to minimize, reduce or compensate carbon emissions. This is an increase from 39% in 2011.

In general however, the commitment to results and target oriented climate policies remains weak. Only 4% of all fashion brands show significant emission reductions over the last five years. 3% formulate the target to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next five years, and only 7% apply their climate policies to their supply chains, an area where by far the most greenhouse gas emissions are emitted.

Best Practice Climate: Timberland.

Ecology

Related to the high environmental and health impacts of the fashion industry, most progress was being made in the introduction of environmental policies for the wet processes and the elimination of hazardous chemicals (16%) in the production of garments or materials.

Over the last three years Greenpeace’s Detox campaign has obtained commitment from global brands such as H&M, Puma, Adidas, Zara or Nike to eliminate the most hazardous chemicals from the whole lifecycle and all production procedures that are associated with the making and using of brand products, by 2020. In 2013, Greenpeace published its Detox Catwalk, with an update on current performance regarding this commitment. The identified leaders and laggards have also been regarded as such in our rankings.

Looking at overall performance, brands in the subsector Sport&Outdoor Clothing received the highest average score. This is due to an above-average transparency about the use of environmentally preferred materials, such as organic cotton or recycled polyester.

Best Practices Ecology: 100% Organic Cotton, armedangels, Bleed, Freitag, Greenality, Pants to Poverty, recolution, Saint Basics, Veja

Labor Conditions

More than half (53%) of the brands researched publish a supply chain code of conduct which prohibits slave labor, child labor, discrimination of any kind and demands a safe and hygienic work place. One third of brands (33%) are members of a collective initiative which aims to protect and improve labor conditions.

However, actual performance and transparency in the fashion industry is much weaker on efforts to implement supplier codes of conduct further down the supply chain of leather-intensive subsectors (7% of brands), publishing lists of direct suppliers (7%), and reporting on code of conduct compliance (9%).

Best Practices Labor Conditions: Ethletic and Nudie Jeans
Rank a Brand maintains a database of almost 400 fashion brands. The selection of these brands is made based on popularity: as publicised in the media and in advertising and at the request of our website visitors. Brand profiles on our website that have relatively low visitor rates are cleared from our system after several months.

We learn from our surveys that a portion of our visitors actively pursue a green lifestyle and make conscientious purchasing choices. Consequently, the selection of requested and then ranked brands in our database reflects the mainstream consumer brands, flavored with some niche ‘green’ brands.

Due to different numbers in brands used for the comparison of transparency between 2011 (publication of the last report: FeelGoodFashion 2011) and the last data dump (end of 2013), the figure on the transparency and performance increases might be subject to a related sample bias. Another source of potential bias is the constant evolution of criteria, as we are always working on improving them and making them more sub-sector specific. This is why we did not include a lot of comparisons to past performance in this report. However, as the brands in the sample have been gathered according to the same rationale (see above), we decided to still include the increases in transparency and performance in order to show the trend we are experiencing in our daily operations: that brands are reporting more and more on sustainability.

For the 2014 analysis we used the last datadump (effective by November / December 2013) and selected the brands available on the German and Dutch markets (n=368). Please note that many brands sold in Germany and The Netherlands are international brands that are also sold outside of these countries. The current database of brands is therefore equally relevant for comparable markets.

The evaluation criteria for brands was developed based upon research on specific sustainability issues, expert views, and the better and best practices in that particular sector. This does not imply that a company manifesting better and best practices is necessarily ‘good’; better and best practices reflect the status of what is proven possible in a sector at a certain moment in time. Companies must continually adapt their policies to stay up-to-date with current progressive trends.

Our standard evaluation themes are carbon emissions, environment and human rights/ labor conditions. For all references and background information related to our individual criteria, please see the following pages. For feedback on our criteria, feel free to contact us.

Data from the fashion brands is collected from the brand or brand owner websites and regularly updated. The research is performed by trained volunteers, mostly young academics with a University MSc degree. The research is checked on a peer to peer basis and supervised by our research manager.
RESULTS
A-Label Brands

Best Practice Climate

Best Practices Ecology

Best Practices Labor Conditions

Among more than 350 fashion brands that we have ranked until March 2014, these brands show the best actions when it comes to making clothing that is more environmentally friendly and socially responsible.

www.rankabrand.org
This table contains all 368 researched brands. The majority of brands receives an E-Label, which means that these brands score on less than 15% of our criteria. Brands who receive an A-Label score on more than 75% of our criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRAND</th>
<th>LABEL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>armedangels, bleed, Freitag, Greenality, hessnatur, Mud Jeans, Nudie Jeans, Pants to Poverty, recolution, Saint Basics</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100% Organic Cotton, Alchemist, Cheap Monday, Continental Clothing, Cora Kemperman, COS, Ethis, G-Star, H&amp;M, Jack Wolfskin, Knowledge Cotton Apparel, Kuyichi, Monkee, Monki, Nakedshirt, Nike, Patagonia, People Tree, Puma, Stella McCartney, Timberland, Trigema, Vaude, Veja</td>
<td>B</td>
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This table provides an overview of levels of sustainability communication in different subsectors.

**Brands have reached a stage at which it becomes normal to talk about sustainability:** we found that 63 % of all brands we researched report in some way about sustainability.

This is an increase of 10 % compared to 2011. However, only 20 % of all of brands in the fashion sector go as far as publishing a sustainability report.
This alert lists brands that report in some way on sustainability but still receive an E-Label. They achieve a very low score in terms of the Rank a Brand sustainability criteria. This means that overall, the information brands provide is either of marginal or no relevance and is not explicit about sustainability performance. We provide this alert because we believe that the consumer will not be able to easily assess the quality of the stated information and therefore could be misled by assuming that reporting on sustainability performance is the same as providing evidence of good performance. We also include this alert to show that the brands listed below are at risk of being accused of greenwashing in the future.

Our analysis indicates that the greenwashing alert is valid for a considerable amount of brands (>30% of brands who report about sustainability on their websites). In the shoes, and underwear/lingerie subsectors, the greenwashing alert applies most often, for 52% and 50% of brands respectively. We also found that the alert applies to relatively few brands in the jeans & denim (13%), and Fashion Retailer subsectors (10%).

Total Percentage of brands on the Greenwashing Alert: 33 %
(Sample size: all brands that report about sustainability on their websites, n=245)
# The Fashion Sector Greenwashing Alert - List of Brands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brands on the Greenwashing Alert</th>
<th>Subsector</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Columbia, Cruyff Sports, engelbert strauss, Hanwag, Hi-Tec, Lotto Sport, Perry Sport, Salomon, Uhlsport</td>
<td>Sport and Outdoor Shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe, DKNY, Fendi, Givenchy, Hermes, Kenzo, Louis Vuitton, Marc Jacobs, Valentino</td>
<td>Luxury Brands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexx, New Yorker, Wilfra</td>
<td>Fashion Retailers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugo Boss, Marc Cain, Michael Kors, Vera Mont</td>
<td>Premium Brands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollister, Mustang</td>
<td>Denim &amp; Jeans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derhy, Noppies, Le Big</td>
<td>Baby &amp; Children Clothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icebreaker, Lafuma, Millet</td>
<td>Sport &amp; Outdoor Clothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxbow, Rip Curl, Roxy</td>
<td>Surf, Beach &amp; Outdoor Clothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Eden, Chantelle, Freya, Horn, Jockey, Sloggi, Triumph</td>
<td>Lingerie &amp; Underwear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didi, Street One, Betty Barday, Fossil, America Today, King Louie, French Connection, mister*, lady, Carhartt</td>
<td>Casual Clothing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Performance Index shows, for all fashion brands and for each subsector, how frequently good performance was recorded when compared to the Rank a Brand sustainability criteria.

This percentage is based on the total number of criteria answered with a ‘Yes’ in all subsectors in 2013 (1211) as a proportion of the total number of criteria of all subsectors (6710).

This shows that Performance is quite well developed (ca. 30 %) in the Fashion Retailer and Sport & Outdoor Clothing subsectors. However it is not well developed (ca. 10 %) in the Luxury and Baby & Children’s clothing subsectors.

**AVERAGE PERFORMANCE PER AREA:**

- **Climate:** 16 %
- **Ecology:** 8 %
- **Labor Conditions:** 25 %

Relatively, the highest performance in the fashion sector is on Labor Conditions.
50 % of all fashion brands report a policy to minimize, reduce or compensate carbon emissions.

This is an increase from 39 % in 2011.

We found that for the criteria relating to climate change, the currently strongest subsectors are Fashion Retailers (25 %) and Sport and Outdoor Clothing & Shoes (22 %). 50 % of all fashion brands report a general policy to minimize, reduce or compensate carbon emissions.

In general however, the commitment to results and target oriented climate policies remains weak. Only 4 % of all fashion brands show significant emission reductions over the last five years. 3 % formulate the target to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next five years, and only 7 % report on climate policies with respect to supply chains, an area where by far the most greenhouse gas emissions are emitted.
Timberland is the pioneer among fashion brands when it comes to climate policy measures, achievements, goal setting and reporting. It is the only brand that scores on all four of our climate policy questions. It provides a detailed and easy to understand overview of its carbon footprint and has reduced its carbon footprint from 18,042 metric tons of CO2 in 2010 to 15,681 metric tons of CO2 in 2012. This represents a reduction of around 15% in only two years. Moreover, Timberland has formulated a target for 2015 to further reduce CO2 emissions for its owned and operated facilities, as well as for employee air travel, by 50%, taking 2006 as the baseline for emissions. On average, therefore, Timberland aims to reduce its footprint by 5% per year. Furthermore, Timberland is addressing carbon emissions in its supply chain (Scope 3) by implementing carbon efficiency measures according to the Global Social Compliance Program (GSCP) carbon module at its supplying factories, and also reports on its results.

Detailed carbon footprint

15% emission reductions in the last two years and Best Practice in visual presentation of achievements.

Goal to reduce its carbon footprint by 50% by 2015, taking 2006 as the baseline.

Tackling emissions in the supply chain.
ECOLOGY
58 out of 368 brands (16 %) report tangible policy measures relating to the wet processes and the avoidance of hazardous chemicals within the production cycle, like bleaching and dying of fabrics.

We found that for the criteria relating to ecology and the environment, brands in the subsector Sport & Outdoor Clothing received the highest average score. This is due to an above-average transparency about processing environmentally preferred materials, such as organic cotton or recycled polyester. Only niche "green" brands mostly from the Casual subsector perform even better here. In addition, many Sport & Outdoor Clothing brands are comparably clear in their reporting on measures related to wet processes and the avoidance of hazardous chemicals.

Over the last three years Greenpeace's Detox campaign has obtained commitment from global brands such as H&M, Puma, Adidas, Zara or Nike to eliminate the most hazardous chemicals from the whole lifecycle and all production procedures that are associated with the making and using of brand products, by 2020. In 2013, Greenpeace published its Detox Catwalk, with an update on current performance regarding this commitment. The identified leaders and laggards have also been regarded as such in our rankings.

In general, most progress was being made by brands that make intensive use of leather and synthetic rubber and are starting to substitute those materials with more environmentally friendly alternatives such as cotton canvas or recycled and / or natural rubber (22 % of brands).

However, in 2013, relatively small quantities of substitutes for leather and synthetic rubber were being used in clothing and footwear manufacturing. For example, only 2 % of brands that make intensive use of these materials have managed to substitute them by more than 25 % of total volume. The production of leather, from livestock farming to the tanning process, continues to cause concern because of the small number (4 %) of brands taking action to avoid leather originating from deforested Amazonia or to avoid toxic pollution from the tanning process (7 %).
100% Organic Cotton, armedangels, Bleed, Freitag, Greenality, Pants to Poverty, recolution, Saint Basics, Veja

These 9 out of 368 brands (3%) score on all of our ecology questions. This means that these brands all make use of more environmentally friendly materials for 100% of their total production volumes. The main material used is organic cotton (mostly certified by GOTS and / or Fairtrade). But also other environmentally friendly materials are used, such as natural rubber, recycled polyester and / or organic hemp. Freitag stands out here, as it only uses recycled truck canvas covers and seatbelts as main materials. In addition, all brands show a progressive policy related to pollution from the wet processes and the use of hazardous chemicals within the production cycle, like bleaching and dying of fabrics.

Use of more environmentally friendly materials for 100% of total production volumes.

Policies in place related to pollution from the use of hazardous chemicals within the production cycle.
LABOR CONDITIONS
53 % of all fashion brands show a supplier Code of Conduct which prohibits forced labor, child labor and discrimination of any kind and demands a safe and hygienic workplace.

Some good progress is being made in the protection of labor conditions in the Fashion Sector’s supply chains, with Fashion Retailers leading the pack with an average score of 44 % on our criteria for labor conditions. The lagging sector is Baby & Children Clothing with an average score of only 12 % of our criteria.

In general, more than half (53 %) of the brands researched report on a supply chain code of conduct which prohibits forced labour and demands a safe and hygienic work place, and a third of brands (33 %) are members of a collective initiative which aims to protect / improve labour conditions.

However, actual performance and transparency in the fashion industry is much weaker on efforts to implement supplier codes of conduct further down the supply chain (7 % of brands), publishing lists of direct suppliers (7 %), and reporting on code of conduct compliance (9 %).
Ethletic and Nudie Jeans

Nudie Jeans and Ethletic are leaders in improving labour conditions and the only brands - next to Freitag and Trigema who solely produce in Switzerland and Germany - among a group of 368 for which all questions on labour conditions policy could be answered positively:

Nudie Jeans includes all required worker’s rights in its code of conduct and publishes a list of all direct suppliers. Nudie Jeans is a member of Fair Wear Foundation (FWF) and therefore a member of a collective initiative that aims to improve labour conditions. Membership of FWF also means that associations and / or business-independent NGO’s have a formal and co-decisive voice within the initiative and are co-responsible for its integrity and credibility and also involve stakeholders in the production countries. The brand reports on labour conditions by providing a publicly available annual social report on its website and follows best practice in visually presenting the list of suppliers. 91 % of Nudie Jeans’ purchasing volume is produced in low risk countries (Portugal and Italy), and can therefore also be considered as monitored. Furthermore, Nudie Jeans openly communicates about their decision on banning sandblasting.

For Ethletic all supplier factories and workplaces have to meet the SA8000 and / or Max Havelaar (Dutch Fair Labor Organization, FLO) requirements. In the Code of Conduct (COC) for SA8000 and FLO, the following standards are required: No forced or slave labour, no child labour, no discrimination of any kind and the provision of a safe and hygienic workplace. Furthermore, in the SA8000 standard and FLO Code of Conduct, provision for the following workers’ rights are required: Legally-binding employment relationships, a maximum workweek of 48 hours and overtime (max 12 hours) as generally voluntary and the commitment to implement payment of living wages. Ethletic also requires that workers have the right to form and join trade unions and bargain collectively; and in those situations where these rights are restricted under law, the right to facilitate parallel means of independent and free association and bargaining. Also, Ethletic does not use leather in its products and only uses natural rubber that is certified by FSC, which also covers social criteria. For additional transparency and credibility, Ethletic lists the specific company names and regions of its footwear producers.

Complete **Code of Conduct**

**Certifications and Memberships** to improve labor conditions

Published list of **direct Suppliers**

**Strong Monitoring and Compliance**
LRABOR CONDITIONS

CODE OF CONDUCT

Questions: *

1. Does the brand (company) have a supplier Code of Conduct (CoC) which includes the following standards: No forced or slave labor, no child labor, no discrimination of any kind and a safe and hygienic workplace?

2. Does this CoC include at least two of the following workers rights: 1. to have a formally registered employment relationship. 2. to have a maximum working week of 48 hours with voluntary and paid overtime of 12 hours maximum. 3. to have a sufficient living wage.

3. Does this Code of Conduct include the right for workers to form and join trade unions and bargain collectively; and in those situations where these rights are restricted under law, the right to facilitate parallel means of independent and free association and bargaining?

* These questions ask for a set of standards for suppliers. Manufacturing labor conditions in low-wage countries are under heavy pressure through cost-cutting, which can lead to exploitation of the workforce. These questions are basically applicable to any manufacturing industry based on human labor, such as textiles, electronics, food processing, and even service-based sectors such as the tourism industry. The mentioned standards are based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions.

195 out of 368 brands (53%) report a supplier Code of Conduct (CoC) which prohibits forced labor, child labor and discrimination of any kind and requires the provision of a safe and hygienic workplace.

76 out of 368 brands (21%) report a supplier CoC which requires that at least two of the following workers rights are respected: to have a formally registered employment relationship, to have a maximum working week of 48 hours with voluntary and paid overtime of 12 hours maximum, or/and to have a sufficient living wage.

116 out of 368 brands (32%) report a supplier CoC which demands the right for workers to form and join trade unions and bargain collectively; and in those situations where these rights are restricted under law, the right to facilitate parallel means of independent and free association and bargaining.
LABOR CONDITIONS

MEMBERSHIPS AND USE OF CERTIFICATIONS TO IMPROVE LABOR CONDITIONS

Question: *

Is the brand (company) a member of a collective initiative that aims to improve labor conditions, or does the brand (company) purchase its supplies from accredited factories with improved labor conditions?

123 out of 368 brands (33%)

are members of a collective initiative that aims to improve labor conditions, purchase at least 30 % their supplies from accredited factories, or produce clothing in ‘low risk’ countries only.


* This question relates to aspect AF2 in the Reporting Guidelines & Apparel and Footwear Sector Supplement of the Global Reporting Initiative (‘parties engaged in Code of Conduct implementation’). ‘Collective initiatives’ are for example BSCI, EIT and FLA and FWR, where Apparel & Footwear companies (as members) share the Code of Conduct and supplier database for Code of Conduct implementation.

** Note: this score includes the respective policies of brand owners. This might also include brands who only produce in "low-risk" countries as defined by MADE-BY.
The Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI) is the most prominent choice brands make when it comes to joining initiatives or gaining certifications that seek to improve labor conditions in supplier factories in the fashion sector.

This is followed by Fair Wear Foundation (FWF), Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) and the Fair Labor Association (FLA).

Fashion Retailers make by far the most use of the membership option for BSCI. Usage of other certifications varies according to subsector. For example, while the Fair Wear Foundation (FWF) is widely opted for as a partner within the subsector ‘Sport & Outdoor Clothing’, the subsector ‘Sport & Outdoor Clothing & Shoes’ opts mostly for the Fair Labor Association (FLA).

The high usage of BSCI might be explained by the fact that it is a pure business initiative without significant influence by independent civil society organizations.
Labor Conditions

Compliance and Monitoring

Question: *

Has the brand’s labor conditions policy resulted in a ‘compliance level’ of at least 30% of the purchase volume, or a ‘monitored level’ of at least 80%?

30 out of 368 brands (9 %)

show compliance with at least 30 % of the volume purchased from suppliers, or a ‘monitored’ level of at least 80 %.

100% Organic Cotton, Adidas, Alchemist, armedangels, Birkenstock, bleed, Calvin Klein, Champion, Continental Clothing, Converse, Cora Kemperman, Ethletic, Freitag, Fruit of the Loom, Grenadil, Gucci, hessnatur, Imps&Elfs, Mammut, Marimekko, Mud jeans, Nakedshirt, Nike, Nomad, Nudie Jeans, Pams to Poverty, Patagonia, Puma, recolution, Reebok, Saint Basics, Tommy Hilfiger, Trigema **

* Terms like ‘Compliant’ and ‘Monitored’ make sense when there is verification from a Multi-Stakeholder Initiative or certification scheme, such as GOTS, FWF, ETI and FLA, SABS00, WRC and WRAP. So for this question, we only consider brands that work with one or more of these organizations or certifications.

** Note: this score includes the respective policies of brand owners. This might also include brands who only produce in “low-risk” countries as defined by MADE-BY.
GLOSSARY
**Better Cotton Initiative (BCI):**
The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to make global cotton production better for the people who produce it, better for the environment it grows in and better for the sector’s future. BCI works with a diverse range of stakeholders to promote measurable and continuing improvements for the environment, farming communities and the economies of cotton-producing areas. BCI aims to transform cotton production worldwide by developing Better Cotton as a sustainable mainstream commodity.
http://bettercotton.org/

**Bluesign Standard:**
The Bluesign® system is an emerging standard for environmental health and safety in the manufacturing of textiles. Bluesign® ranks its audit findings in order of concern, and suggests ways to reduce consumption while recommending alternatives to harmful chemicals or processes where applicable. Textile mills that commit to verifiably adopting Bluesign’s recommendations can become certified “System Partners”. The Bluesign® standard eliminates harmful substances right from the beginning of the manufacturing process and sets and controls standards for an environmentally friendly and safe production. This not only ensures that the final textile product meets consumer safety requirements worldwide but also provides confidence to the consumer to acquire a sustainable product.
http://www.bluesign.com/

**BSCI:**
The BSCI Code of Conduct (BSCI) is based on the most important international labour standards protecting the workers’ rights such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions and other important Declarations of the United Nations, the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN Global Compact. The participants are requested to disseminate the BSCI Code of Conduct both internally and in their supply chain to inform employees and producers about the company’s dedication to social compliance and the BSCI development approach. This step ensures that all parties in the company and its supply chain are informed about their responsibility in the process. In doing so BSCI participants express their wish to do business with producers who take social responsibility seriously.
http://www.bsci-intl.org

**Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP):**
The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) is an international, not-for-profit organization providing a global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information. By leveraging market forces including shareholders, customers and governments, CDP has incentivized companies and cities across the world’s to measure and disclose their environmental information. CDP holds the largest collection globally of self-reported climate change, water and forest-risk data.
https://www.cdp.net/

**Carbon Neutrality:**
Carbon neutral, or having a net zero carbon footprint, refers to achieving net zero carbon emissions by balancing a measured amount of carbon released with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset, or buying enough carbon credits to make up the difference. It is used in the context of carbon dioxide releasing processes associated with transportation, energy production, and industrial processes such as production of carbon neutral fuel.
Code of Conduct (CoC):

A Code of Conduct (CoC) is a guide of principles outlining the responsibilities of, or proper practices for, an individual, party or organization designed to conduct business honestly and with integrity. A CoC may include principles, values, standards, or rules of behaviour that guide the decisions, procedures and systems of an organization in a way that contributes to the welfare of its key stakeholders, and respects the rights of all constituents affected by its operations.

Danish Ethical Trading Initiative (DIEH):

The Danish Ethical Trading Initiative (DIEH) is the first Danish multi-stakeholder initiative that brings together trade unions, business associations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and companies to promote ethical trade and responsible supply chain management among Danish companies and public institutions. The overall aim is to promote international trade and responsible supply chain management that support the 10 principles of UN Global Compact. The focus is on implementing corporate codes of practice covering human rights and working conditions in the global supply chain, which contribute to sustainable development in developing countries and the new economies.

http://www.dieh.dk/in-english

Detox Catwalk:

The Detox Catwalk is an interactive online platform launched by Greenpeace assessing the progress made by major clothing companies towards a toxic-free future. The Detox Catwalk assesses how committed companies have performed against key criteria. Greenpeace International’s Detox campaign demands fashion brands commit to zero discharge of all hazardous chemicals by 2020 and that require their suppliers disclose all releases of toxic chemicals from their facilities to communities at the site of the water pollution.

http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/campaigns/toxics/water/detox/Detox-Catwalk/

Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI):

The Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) is an alliance of companies, trade unions and voluntary organizations that promotes respect for workers’ rights around the globe. ETI’s vision is a world where all workers are free from exploitation and discrimination, and work in conditions of freedom, security and equity.

Companies with a commitment to ethical trade adopt a code of labor practice that they expect all their suppliers to work towards.

http://www.ethicaltrade.org/

EU Ecolabel:

The EU Ecolabel is a voluntary scheme, which means that producers, importers and retailers can choose to apply for the label for their products. The EU Ecolabel is awarded according to environmental criteria agreed on by experts, industry, consumer organisations and environmental NGOs at European level.

When developing EU Ecolabel criteria for products, the focus is on the stages where the product has the highest environmental impact, and this differs from product to product.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/label/the-ecolabel-scheme.html

Fair Labor Association (FLA):

The Fair Labour Association (FLA) is a collaborative effort of business, civil society organizations, and colleges and universities to promote and protect workers’ rights and to improve working conditions globally through adherence to international standards. FLA creates lasting solutions to abusive labour practices by offering tools and resources to companies, delivering training to factory workers and management, conducting due diligence through independent assessments, and advocating for greater accountability and transparency from companies, manufacturers, factories and others involved in global supply chains.

http://www.fairlabor.org/
**Fair Wear Foundation (FWF):**

Fair Wear Foundation (FWF) is an independent, non-profit organization that works with companies and factories to improve labour conditions for garment workers. FWF keeps track of the improvements made by the companies it works with. And through sharing expertise, social dialogue and strengthening industrial relations, FWF increases the effectiveness of the efforts made by companies. Eight labour standards form the core of the Code of Labour Practices. Members of FWF must comply with this Code of Labour Practices.

http://www.fairwear.org

**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC):**

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a global, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of responsible forest management worldwide in a way that is environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable. FSC is an international membership association, governed by its members.

https://fsc.org

**GOTS:**

The Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) is the worldwide leading textile processing standard for organic fibers, including ecological and social criteria, backed up by independent certification of the entire textile supply chain. GOTS was developed through collaboration by leading standard setters with the aim of defining requirements that are recognized world-wide and that ensure the organic status of textiles from harvesting of the raw materials through environmentally and socially responsible manufacturing all the way to labelling in order to provide credible assurance to the consumer.

http://www.global-standard.org/

**ISO 14001:**

ISO 14001 sets out the criteria for an environmental management system. It does not state requirements for environmental performance, but maps out a framework that a company or organization can follow to set up an effective environmental management system. Using ISO 14001 can provide assurance to company management and employees as well as external stakeholders that environmental impact is being measured and improved. ISO 14001 can also be integrated with other management functions and assists companies in meeting their environmental and economic goals. ISO 14001 is voluntary, with its main aim to assist companies in continually improving their environmental performance, whilst complying with any applicable legislation. Organizations are responsible for setting their own targets and performance measures, with the standard serving to assist them in meeting objectives and goals and the subsequent monitoring and measurement of these.

http://www.iso.org

**MADE-BY:**

MADE-BY is a European not-for-profit organization with a mission to make sustainable fashion common practice and improve environmental and social conditions in the fashion industry. To achieve this MADE-BY works with fashion brands of varying sizes and scope, and supports them in developing sustainable strategies to improve conditions across their entire supply chain. MADE-BY has also developed a range of tools and processes which enable brands to be transparent to their stakeholders about their sustainability progress.

http://www.made-by.org/
Max Havelaar / FLO-Cert:
The Max Havelaar foundation / FLO-Cert are independent non-profit organizations that license the use of the Fairtrade Certification Mark on products in the Netherlands and Germany in accordance with internationally agreed Fairtrade standards. Fairtrade is an alternative approach to conventional trade based on a partnership between producers and traders, businesses and consumers.
www.flo-cert.net
http://www.maxhavelaar.nl/64/english

SA8000:
The SA8000 standard is the central social standards document of Social Accountability International (SAI). It is one of the world’s first auditable social certification standards for decent workplaces, across all industrial sectors. It is based on conventions of the ILO, UN and national law, and spans industry and corporate codes to create a common language to measure social compliance. It takes a management systems approach by setting out the structures and procedures that companies must adopt in order to ensure that compliance with the standard is continuously reviewed. Those seeking to comply with SA8000 have adopted policies and procedures that protect the basic human rights of workers.

Social Accountability International (SAI):
Social Accountability International (SAI) is a non-governmental, multi-stakeholder organization whose mission is to advance the human rights of workers around the world. It partners to advance the human rights of workers and to eliminate sweatshops by promoting ethical working conditions, labour rights, corporate social responsibility and social dialogue. SAI established one of the world’s preeminent social standards—the SA8000® standard for decent work, a tool for implementing international labour standards.
http://www.sa-intl.org

Sustainable Apparel Coalition:
The Sustainable Apparel Coalition is a trade organization comprised of brands, retailers, manufacturers, government, and non-governmental organizations and academic experts. The Coalition is working to reduce the environmental and social impacts of apparel and footwear products around the world. The focus of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition is The Higg Index – a suite of assessment tools that standardizes the measurement of the environmental and social impacts of apparel and footwear products across the product lifecycle and throughout the value chain.
http://www.apparelcoalition.org/

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC):
Volatile organic compounds (VOC) are emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short- and long-term adverse health and environmental effects. Concentrations of many VOCs are consistently higher indoors (up to ten times higher) than outdoors. VOCs are emitted by a wide array of products numbering in the thousands.
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www.rankabrand.de
www.rankabrand.nl

Mail: kontakt@rankabrand.de