



HECHO X
NOSOTROS
MODA ÉTICA EN ACCIÓN

COMMUNICATION
ON ENGAGEMENT
(COE)
Hecho por Nosotros

Period covered by this Communication
on Engagement
June 2016 - July 2018



Fabric of Change

Statement of Continued Support

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Hecho por Nosotros reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

Hecho por Nosotros is a signatory of the UN Global Compact and remains committed to the initiative and its principles.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adriana Marina', with a stylized, cursive script.

Adriana Marina
Founder of Hecho por Nosotros

Buenos Aires, July 2018

Hecho por Nosotros is a non-profit NGO transforming the textile and fashion industry into force for good and well-being for all. We are educating, researching to understand the industry and its problems better, and to find comprehensive solutions for creating the new paradigm of sustainable fashion industry, and committed to influence decision makers at national, regional and at highest international level – to bring the controversies of the fashion industry into the spotlight, and to eventually work together for a sustainable future. Our work is strongly linked to natural fibers, sustainable development, local development - initiatives that have a positive impact on the environment, local development, economy and social well-being.



The three areas of our work are: local development especially in the Andean rural communities; development of camelids fibre value chains and markets; and advancing sustainable textile industry.

We have been working towards these goals for a decade now, and are proud to have collaborated with over 80 organisations up to date. Our advocacy program includes ECOSOC consultative status as well as consulting and collaborating with various international organisations such as UNIDO, CEPAL, ITC as well as various organisations working in the sphere of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, and local governments, business partners and other stakeholders. Hecho por Nosotros

has an important role to promote and protect sustainability not only in textile industry, but in all global value chains and beyond.

Our work is endorsed by ASHOKA, GlobalizerX, and Fabric of Change, all programs advancing and uniting sustainability actions, and we are consulting for sustainable fashion industry and sustainable development at the local, regional and international level (local governments, UN bodies such as CEPAL, UNIDO, UNCTAD, ECOSOC-DESA



Hecho por Nosotros values and principles

Promote respect for human beings, culture and environment.

Valuing what the other has to offer and empower them together.

Building community where working together is a daily action.

Promoting dialogue and equity for an exchange of knowledge and opportunities.

Generating socio-economic inclusion.

Recognising our roots, our history, our past, our culture through our love to it.



Fashion is a multi-billion dollar, truly global industry
with supply chains spreading across all countries,



EMPLOYING 60-75 MILLION PEOPLE WITH DIRECT JOBS WORLDWIDE, of which two-thirds are women, making this sector an important economic and employment driving force in many countries.

THE FASHION INDUSTRY RANKS HIGH ALSO IN DISCRIMINATORY WORKING CONDITIONS AND POLLUTING PRACTICES.

Due to inadequate laws and lack of ethics, human rights violations are prevailing. This is especially true in least developed countries where the most vulnerable communities suffer the consequences of a global fashion industry. There are countless reports of factories producing clothing with modern day slavery, child labor, unsafe working conditions, and salaries so low that workers can barely survive on them. The **ecological impact of the fashion industry** is also staggering: it is known as one of the most contaminating industries of today. The fashion industry has been known to exploit and treat animals inhumanely. TO COMPOUND THE PROBLEM FURTHER, THE INDUSTRY IS NOT SHOWING INTEREST TOWARDS

EVOLVING TO A POSITIVE CHANGE. THE EVER PACING RHYTHM OF INTRODUCING NEW COLLECTIONS BY ALMOST WEEKLY BASIS HAS FURTHER EXACERBATED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES. THERE IS A DIRE NEED TO TRANSFORM THIS INDUSTRY.

Hecho por Nosotros' Support of UN Global Compact Principles

To further the UN Global Compact Principles, Hecho por Nosotros has not only put SDGs into the core of all our activities, making them visible in our day-to-day operations - but also has been making Agenda 2030 in private and public sector more visible, and by conducting this work in Spanish, reached regional attention and actions for SDGs, making us a regional example when it comes to sustainability and Agenda 2030. Hecho por Nosotros has also constructed a network of over 80 organisations improving the current state of the industry in areas such as sustainable production and consumption.



Building dialogue to advance sustainability

We are engaged in various international platforms such as the UN, WTO and G20, to foster collaboration and participate in workstreams to advance sustainability in global value chains. Some of the specific workstreams include education, employment, local-global collaboration, infrastructure, financing, business and human rights.

Participating in global dialogues offers a unique opportunity to organise events at the highest political forums to further advance sustainable textile industry and SDG nexus. In the last two years we have organised 5 events at the UN, with panelists and participants from international organisations to academia and private sector to discuss the steps needed for a truly sustainable textile industry. These events include #GlobalGoals for a Sustainable Fashion Industry, organised during the 56th Commission for Social Development in January 2018, and Sustainable Fashion and SDGs - Different Contexts, Same Mission event series, organised during the High Level Political Forum in July 2018.

On a regional and local level, we organise webinars and workshops on sustainability. We provide artisan-designer mutual learning experience at local Arts and Crafts Centers, to further advance and innovate for sustainable design. This work includes recovering ancestral techniques, learning about natural fibres and natural dyes, and ethical fashion principles. We participate in Green Drinks events, a local network of private and public sector discussing sustainable development issues in Argentina. These activities aim to coordinate and foster collaboration to support local initiatives and best practices on sustainability.



Special initiatives and workstreams

We are fully committed to the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles, as well as the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), being part of the strategy, culture, and daily actions of our NGO. More, we are promoting knowledge on sustainable business practises, UN Global Compact, and SDGs by participating actively local, regional and global policy forums, and organising webinars and creating publications to portray how comprehensive value chain model can contribute to the SDGs.

TRANSPARENT AND SUSTAINABLE CAMELID VALUE CHAIN

We are developing an inclusive, transparent and sustainable value chain of Andean Camelid Fibres by improving local livelihoods and sustainability. This is reached by on one level (i) promoting camelids fibre for textile industry, and simultaneously at regional/ local level (ii) implementing sustainable business practices in the sourcing of these fibres and strengthening community-based natural resource management including upgrading quality and processing skills.

Camelids sector, as well as the whole textile industry and its global value chains, have a manifested need for increased traceability

and sustainability of sourcing and processing practices, and for sustainable materials and fibre. Furthermore, the Andean camelids sector has a strong demand for technical assistance support to link producers directly to markets in order to improve MSMEs capacity to trade semi-finished and finished products internationally, including improving skills and processing standards to comply with international quality and processing standards.

The programme is contributing to exports and market shares in Argentina, Bolivia and Peru, which drive income and employment generation, improving in particular the livelihoods of local communities engaged in the sourcing and processing of Camelid fibres, and will contribute to the overall



socio-economic development of the countries, in line with the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, especially linking SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities), SDG 12 (Responsible production and consumption) and SDG 15 (Life on land).

MAPPING OF SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Working on a daily basis in advancing sustainable development and Agenda 2030 through fashion and textile industry, we decided to put words into action by mapping the industry research. This project aims to provide information both for consumers and business as well as examples for policy-public dialogue. Project realised with the help of our global network, the map is providing industry and

consumer data, as well as and country-by-country insights and applied policies on initiatives and ways to make fashion industry sustainable.

PUBLICATIONS

Inspired by the experiences at international forums and participating UN meetings, we have developed various research projects on the topic of interrelations between textile industry and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) place sustainability at the heart of the international development agenda, as per title of the set of goals. The goals are inheritably related, yet important links that exist among sustainable development areas through the social and economic systems are missing. In a similar vein, there is a lack of science-based interaction results, as well as general knowledge on SDGs. The research aims to operationalise the SDGs and linking different aspects of sustainable development through textile industry. Drawing from previous literature, various data sources, and case studies of social initiatives, we have investigated 12 SDGs and their applications through textile industry, setting three outcomes for this study: revealing the potential of this industry to advance sustainable development as a multi-billion, cross-sectional and truly global industry; addressing the issue of lack



of information about the SDGs outside the UN sphere, and; participating in a science-policy dialogue on translating integrated science for the achievement of the SDGs.

SCHOOL OF SYSTEMS CHANGE

In the face of complex challenges, there are not enough people operating with the capacity to shift systems. In this global emerging area of practice, people need to learn from one another's experience so they aren't starting from scratch. Building a global community of change agents is our best chance to accelerate a transition to a sustainable future. That's why our objective is to organise a school of systems change webinars, to equip people with the capabilities to lead system

change initiatives addressing complex sustainability challenges. Participating in the program advances a forming of a global community of change agents tackling complex challenges and accelerate a transition to a sustainable future. Big issues and big changes need big actions. The methodology is based on learning-by-doing experience, encouraging active, empirical learning to draw innovative ways of thinking and best practices to rethink problems and solutions. The best way for students to learn is by being active: when students are thinking critically and deeply, when they are relating new information to their existing world, and when they are actively sharing and contributing to their learning community.



Partnership projects on corporate sustainability and beyond

Our work also includes providing commentary to companies on COP to regional and global brands such as animaná, social enterprise transforming the industry into a force for good. animaná fosters conscious consumption, sustainable production processes and timeless and durable design, uniting all actors on fair and sustainable practices. animaná work with producers of natural fibers, cooperatives, SMEs and artesan from vulnerable communities to preserve their artisan heritage - irreplaceable source of life and inspiration - and to improve their quality of life.





PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL COMPACT EVENTS

In April 2018 Argentina hosted the two day Global Compact Business Forum, gathering hundreds of participants from 147 countries. During the event we had the pleasure to participate to various workshops and thematic sessions on sustainability practises in business and beyond. This year's edition also included events from textile industry, where a lively discussion on possibilities for this industry were once again confirmed.

THE WAY FORWARD

Hecho por Nosotros will continue to engage with the UN Global Compact principles by seeking opportunities to improve business understanding and practice on a range of equality and human rights related issues and continuing to share expertise and learning with the UN Global Compact and its members.

