

COP 28 Demands for Major Fashion Brands & Policymakers

FASHION
REVOLUTION

Our Core Demand Themes:

Tell us how and where your clothes were made, how many were produced and their environmental impacts

Set targets, disclose how you established them and report on progress

Tell us how you plan to meet them

Asks for major fashion brands:

Tell us how and where your clothes were made, how many were produced and their environmental impacts.

Disclose your annual production volumes.

- Any meaningful target on decarbonisation must address excessive volume outputs and overconsumption.

Disclose the prices you pay to suppliers for each item and how many workers are paid a living wage.

- There is no sustainable fashion without fair pay.
- Fair pay is the number one demand of garment workers worldwide – bar none.
- Fashion brands have a responsibility to pay suppliers prices that enable living wages for workers.
- Major fashion brands should disclose the lowest paid worker's wage per facility.
- By paying workers a living wage, clothing companies would be forced to assume the real cost of labour.

Disclose the fibre mix of your clothes and if you plan a phase out of synthetic fibres made from fossil fuels.

- As the use of synthetic fibres made from fossil fuel is skyrocketing, brands should disclose how they plan to cut ties with fossil fuels in their fibres.
- Brands continue to make bold claims about their use of recycled synthetic fibres – this

cannot be used as a silver bullet without an overall reduction in production.

- Brands should disclose their fibre mix and explain why these fibres are more 'sustainable' so they can be held accountable for how they define sustainability.

Disclose supplier lists Tier 1 through Tier 2 and make the list publicly available as a csv, json or Excel spreadsheet (aligning with the Open Data Standard for the Apparel Sector) in order to make this information easy to use for trade unions and NGOs.

- Transparency on where our clothes are made gives visibility of human rights and environmental issues. When it comes to decarbonisation, increased transparency enables brands to know which supplier facilities are shared, unlocking the possibility of collaboration (e.g. shared costs) and accelerating clean energy procurement.
- Robust decarbonisation plans involve brands having trustworthy, established relationships with their suppliers. Opaque supply chains impede progress as it obscures which facilities may need support the most, undermining the decarbonisation targets of the whole industry.

Disclose your fuel mix across your supply chains by country.

- Transparency on fuel mix allows for deeper understanding on major fashion brands' reliance on fossil fuels and where action is needed most.

Set targets, publish how you established them and report on progress.

Publish climate targets for the supply chain backed up by a credible decarbonisation strategy, and disclose how suppliers were consulted in the establishment of those targets.

- The fashion industry's top-down approach to solutions has created pressure down the supply chain, placing the responsibility of fixing fashion on suppliers.
- There is a disconnect between the fashion industry's pursuit of Science Based Targets, feasibility, equity and financing that must be addressed in order to realise decarbonisation targets, else they ring hollow.
- Commit to climate targets in line with the UN Net Zero Integrity recommendations, which stipulate a 55% reduction in supply chain emissions by 2030.
- Emissions reduction targets should be absolute, not intensity-based.

Publish evidence of climate action in the supply chain and details of how decarbonisation efforts are delivering and/or supporting a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and an increase in real renewable energy capacity.

- The climate crisis is growing in intensity and urgency and it is critical that brands are transparent about how their commitments are leading to tangible outcomes when it comes to delivering real renewable energy capacity.
- We need to see evidence of progress (or lack thereof) towards targets.

Tell us how you plan to meet them.

Publish the methods and solutions you are adopting to reduce energy consumption and the rationale behind it.

- Processes across fashion supply chains can be extremely water, chemical and energy intensive.
- Brands should disclose how they are investing in solutions to make manufacturing processes less energy intensive such as waterless dyeing and energy efficiency improvements.

Publish how you are supporting your suppliers for a just transition.

- The fashion industry's profits are soaring but brands' unfair purchasing practices (like unfair prices, short-term relationships and unstable supply bases) continue to prohibit suppliers from investing in the transition to renewable energy whilst their emissions continue to rise.
- Suppliers are under pressure to invest in decarbonisation without financial support from brands.
- Major fashion brands must invest in upskilling of the workforce.
- Major fashion brands should provide equitable access to financing for their suppliers to invest in the green transition.
- Major fashion brands must share financial risk with their suppliers and help them access finance to cover the costs of a green energy transition.

Publish a detailed breakdown of renewable energy procurement type (e.g. self-generation, PPAs, contract with supplier, unbundled EACs, passive claims) in their own operations and supply chain.

- Globally, we need to triple RE capacity (largely wind and solar) by 2030 (double down triple up campaign) and corporate procurement needs to support this genuine additionality.
- In countries where high-quality renewable energy procurement is a challenge, brands should advocate for policy changes that enable, for example, corporate Power Purchasing Agreements (PPAs), to lessen the inequitable or unreliable access to renewable energy in sourcing countries.
- Fashion brands have the potential to lead the clean energy transition based on their powerful economic influence in their sourcing countries and must leverage this to deliver real renewable energy capacity. Therefore, brands should disclose their policy advocacy strategy and provide evidence of their policy advocacy efforts.
- Major brands should disclose which fuel sources they are investing in across their supply chain and why.

- Major brands should be supporting suppliers to invest in generating their own renewable electricity, or invest in electric boilers (where these are feasible) or committing to higher prices when these investments increase a factory's operating expenses
- Publish an assessment on past and current renewable energy advocacy in your supply chains.
- Advocate to end investments in coal power plants or fossil fuel infrastructure attached to the supply chain.
- Many garment producing countries face barriers to produce and access renewable energy so major fashion brands should support national or sub-national renewable energy or GHG reduction targets and policies aiming to expand access to renewable electricity procurement options in key supply chain markets.

Demands for policymakers:

Implement binding regulations, laws and government policies that require transparency and corporate accountability on environmental and human rights issues in the global fashion industry.

- This should include responsible purchasing practices so that the price paid by brands to suppliers reflects the cost of sustainable production.

Implement policy which finances the green transition in garment producing countries.

- Many garment producing countries face a debt crisis in addition to being more vulnerable to the climate crisis.
- Financial support should prioritise actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across global supply chains while helping garment producing countries to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of the climate crisis.

Support suppliers to directly access financial resources to help them become more resilient to climate change.

- This will enable a just transition for suppliers in garment producing countries and should include flexible repayment terms, lower interest rates, and simplified loan application processes.

Implement equitable decision-making models for a green and just transition across fashion supply chains.

- Decision-making models must be informed by affected stakeholders who hold important context which must be included in the design, prioritisation, implementation and monitoring of climate action and reflect regional needs.

