

wecare!



WECARE PRODUCTS

STANDARDS

SEPTEMBER 2025

I. WE CARE PRODUCTS STANDARDS

1. WE CARE PROGRAM

The ETAM Group has fully committed itself to bringing practical solutions to the environmental, social and societal issues in the fashion and textile industry. We have to take our responsibility not only as an organization but should also use our role as a buyer and creator to reinforce this dynamic throughout our industry.

We are careful about our impact and wish to stand by our customers in their transition towards a more responsible way of consuming and meet their concerns. In order to enable our consumers to visually identify those ETAM products that have an improved social or environmental impact, we have developed a WeCare label for selected products.

It is important to underline that when we require a certain quality of raw material, we refer systematically and without exception, to established French or International standards. For example, the ETAM Group does not define what constitutes organic cotton or recycled polyamide but defines the standards or labels to which the suppliers must respond. These commitments must be certified by an independent certification system.

Our objective is to significantly increase the proportion of responsible products in our collections, with greater traceability and transparency. For 2024 season, 61% of the ETAM Group's products¹ meet the programme's criteria.

2. CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

The WeCare programme includes 4 product categories:

- **[CATEGORY 1]** The product contains more responsible alternatives of textile fibres or upcycled material
- **[CATEGORY 2]** The product benefits from a technological innovation or process that significantly reduces its environmental or social impact

¹ In terms of number of produced pieces

- **[CATEGORY 3]** The product has been designed with a circular approach
- **[CATEGORY 4]** The product is more lasting over time

Each category has different mandatory criteria. The relative pieces of evidence are also detailed by category. A product is part of the WeCare programme when it meets the criteria of at least one of the 4 categories presented.

- **[CATEGORY N° 1] MORE RESPONSIBLE FIBRES**

The products in this category contain either more responsible fibres such as GOTS or OCS organic cotton or GRS or RCS recycled polyester, or materials resulting from an upcycling process.

1.1 DEFINITION

1.1.1. MORE RESPONSIBLE FIBRES

A more responsible fibre has a reduced environmental impact compared to its conventional version. The list of more responsible fibres authorised by the WeCare programme is given in Annex 1, and in the "Material Library", available on the intranet.

Products in this category are included in the standard if they contain more responsible fibres (a certain percentage) calculated out of the total weight of the product. There are 2 thresholds depending on the product category:

- The product contains 30% of more responsible fibres for the categories: bra, body, top of swimwear and one-piece swimwear if it has a shell
- The product contains 50% of more responsible fibres for the other categories

In order to integrate the standard and reach the required rates, the focus is on the development of more responsible main materials but also on the development of more responsible accessories such as elastics, pads, linings, etc.

1.1.2 UPCYCLED MATERIALS

- **The re-employment** is the operation by which a product or a material is given / sold by its initial owner to a third party, who will give it a second life. The product/material has not undergone any transformation from its initial version, **it does not become waste at any time.**

It is not classified as WeCare.

- The **reutilization** is the operation by which the owner of a used good gets rid of it without giving it directly to a structure whose object is the reuse. He will deposit his used good in a voluntary drop-off center, for example, or in the waste collection centers (outside the reuse zone). The used good then **takes on the status of waste.** It then undergoes a waste treatment operation allowing it **to regain its product status. This is what differentiates reutilization from re-employment.** It has not undergone any transformation compared to its initial version. It can benefit a holder who will extend its life.

It is not classified as WeCare.

- **Upcycling** consists in recovering materials or products that are no longer used, in order to create objects or products of **superior quality / with added value.** Making new out of old, on the other hand, the material does not undergo a mechanical or chemical recycling process. Most of the time the use of the original product will be diverted but it is not systematic. **Adding value to the product compared to its original version is what differentiates upcycling from reuse.**

This is classified as WeCare.

-> Example: An unsold product that would be transformed into another product of higher value is considered as upcycling and will be WeCare.

- According to group standards, **deadstock** is a stock that is not used during the season ordered.

-> If the deadstock is from a fabric scrap during cutting, or is an end of roll, it is considered waste, and its use to create a product is categorized as **upcycling or overcycling.**

It is classified as WeCare.

-> If deadstock is unused material that is not scrap or end-of-roll, it does not go through a waste status, its use to create a product is categorized as **re-employment**.

It is not classified as WeCare.

Deadstocks due to order cancellations are listed in the fabric library:
[Deadstocks - Airtable](#)

These are not considered upcycling and are not WeCare.

It is possible to use deadstocks from other brands, this helps to combat waste, and to tide us over when the material we want doesn't reach MOQs (example: yoke, or capsule). If this material contains cotton, you must follow the cotton process to secure the supply.

For a product to be classified as WeCare, the upcycled material must be the main material of the product.

Products in this category are included in the standard if they contain more responsible fibres in the total weight of the product. There are 2 thresholds depending on the product category:

- The product contains 30% more responsible fibres for the categories: bra, bodysuit, top of swimsuits and one-piece swimsuits with pads
- The product contains 50% more responsible fibres for the other categories.

In order to integrate the standard and reach the required rates, the effort is focused on the development of more responsible main materials but also on the development of more responsible accessories such as elastics, pads, linings, etc. It is possible to add the % of more responsible fibres and upcycled fibres to reach the benchmark.

1.1. PROOFS AND CERTIFICATION

All Category 1 products must refer to a certification as described in the list below. A Transaction Certificate and a Scope Certificate must be collected for each order. These certificates are essential to ensure the traceability of the fibre. See process in Annex 2.

More responsible natural fiber labels

	Organic / In conversion	Recycled	Regenerative
Coton	 GOTS  OCS 100  OCS blended	 GRS  RCS 100  RCS blended	

	<u>Fibre-specific</u>
Lin	 European Flax. Premium linen fiber 

	<u>Fibre-specific</u>
<u>Chanvre</u>	 European Flax. Premium linen fiber 

More responsible animal fibre labels

Wool	Fibre-specific	Recycled			
	 RWS	 GRS	 RCS 100	 RCS blended	
Cashmere	Fibre-specific	Recycled			
	 Sustainable Fiber Alliance	 The good cashmere standard	 GRS	 RCS 100	 RCS blended

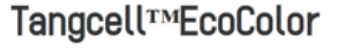
More responsible animal fiber labels

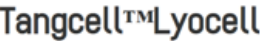
Mohair	Fiber-specific
	 RMS
Down	Fiber-specific
	 RDS
Alpaca	Fiber-specific
	 RAS

MAJ : 24/09/2025

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More responsible artificial fiber labels

Viscose / rayon	Fiber-specific				
	 Lenzing's EcoVero Viscose	 Birla's Livaeco Viscose	 Sanyou's EcoTang TangCell Viscose	 Sanyou's ReVisco TangCell (recycled viscose)	 Sanyou's EcoColor TangCell (viscose dope dye)

Lyocell	Fiber-specific		
	 Lenzing's Lyocell Tencel	 Birla's Lyocell Excel	 Sanyou's Lyocell TangCell

Modal	Fiber-specific	
	 Lenzing's Modal Tencel	 Sanyou's Modal TangCell

Cupro	Fiber-specific
	 Asahi Kasei's Cupro Bemberg

More responsible synthetic fiber labels

Polyester	Recycled		
	 GRS	 RCS 100	 RCS blended
Polyamide	Recycled		
	 GRS	 RCS 100	 RCS blended
Acrylic	Recycled		
	 GRS	 RCS 100	 RCS blended

- **[CATEGORY N°2] MORE RESPONSIBLE AND INNOVATIVE PROCESSES**

2.1 DEFINITION

The manufacturing process of the product involves an innovative and breakthrough technology which considerably reduces the environmental impact of the product. For example, a technology which reduces the water consumption in the finishing process of denims, vegetable tanning, etc.

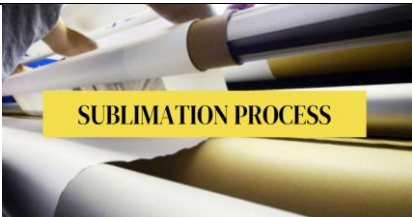
2.2 PROOF AND CERTIFICATES

Teams wishing to submit a product or service in this category are encouraged to work with the CSR/responsible sourcing teams from the early stages of the project.

The list of responsible processes already validated by WeCare is listed below. It is also available on the intranet: [Airtable - Digital WeCare Material Lab](#).

When you find an innovation that does not exist in the Material Library, please contact the responsible Sourcing team to have the supplier validated (Chloé GUINEL and Quentin DELASALLE).

Process	Concept	Supplier	Link to the Matériauthèque
	Vegetable dye	• IndiDye® • AMA HERBAL • ARCHROMA • Montega SRL	Link to vegetable dye

	Dyeing of fibres before yarn production	SunHing	Link to Dope Dye
	Vegetable tanning	Belt Fashion	Link to vegetable tanning
	No Dye	No nominated suppliers today, to be seen on a case by case basis	Link to no dye
	Process for dyeing fabric without water and by transfer	- MC Fabrication - FAROUK	Link to sublimation process
	Waterless textile printing and dyeing	Debscorp	Link to AirDye process AirDye
	Ecological and ethical process for jeans		Lien vers Link to Jeanologia

- **[CATEGORY N° 3] CIRCULAR PRODUCTION**

3.1 DEFINITION

These are products designed to be **fully recyclable or reusable**.

In our case, it is therefore a product **made exclusively of natural fibres, and made with vegetable dyes or without dyes, without accessories** (or easily detachable accessories).

3.2 PROOF AND CERTIFICATES

In order to prove that the product is eligible for this category, purchasers must be able to prove:

- That the composition is 100% natural
- That the vegetable dye comes from a nominated vegetable dye supplier.
- The product can be **Cradle to Cradle** certified.

Cradle to Cradle Certification:

To be certified, products are assessed for their environmental and social performance in five crucial sustainability categories: material health, materials reuse, renewable energy and carbon management, water management and social equity.

- Consumer goods, designed to nourish the ecosystem after use = 100% natural products, which can be destroyed in landfills and used as fertiliser
- Service products designed to become 100% reusable technical nutrients for the production of new generations of products and services = 100% recyclable products, therefore mono-material with an existing channel in France. The C2C standard considers as recyclable a material that "can be recycled at least once after its initial use, somewhere in the world, at least on a pilot scale, according to a scenario assumed by the applicant, regardless of its feasibility or actual implementation."



- **[CATEGORY N°4 DURABILITY]**

4.1 DEFINITION

This category contains any product whose lifespan has been considerably extended compared to the market standard.

The criteria are established on a case by case basis and differ according to the categories (RTW / swimwear / lingerie/ pyjama) and the types of products. The criteria are based on appearance tests after several maintenance cycles (according to the product maintenance instructions), supplemented by physical tests showing results far superior to our usual standard criteria.

Teams wishing to propose a product in this category are invited to work from the upstream phase of the project with the Quality teams to determine the criteria to be retained for the product, before validation with the CSR teams.

4.2 PROOF AND CERTIFICATES

Products in this category must provide a test report by an independent laboratory, according to the rules defined for the product by the Quality and CSR teams.

The ETAM Group has set up a framework of policies for suppliers. This document is not intended to reiterate the rules available and updated on the ETAM suppliers' Portal, but we wish to provide a general reminder.

- Focus on supplier's rules

Respect of working conditions

The ETAM Group is committed to working only with factories that have been socially audited by trusted third parties through initiatives such as Amfori

BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiative), SMETA, SA8000 or ICS in order to guarantee the working conditions of our suppliers' factories.

Environmental management

The ETAM Group requires its suppliers to have a proactive environmental management of their production sites. The CSR Direction and Sourcing team are preparing an environmental policy in order to formalize these commitments.

Utilisation des substances chimiques toxiques

The Group has set up a specification book listing all the chemical substances banned in the manufacturing process. Random screenings are carried out upon request of ETAM by independent laboratories. The non-compliance of these tests could entail a refusal of goods in accordance with the contract clauses. The CSR Direction is studying the possibility to increase those tests for WeCare products.

Quality and functionality of the product

WeCare products must, in no case derogate from the Quality requirements of the Group. The switch from a conventional material to an eco-friendly material must be done with the same quality, durability and functionality. Particular vigilance must be applied to recycled materials such as, for example, pilling caused by wear where we have to stay on the grade required by each brand.

Animal Welfare Policy

The ETAM Group has made commitments on the use of animal materials. These commitments concern all the Group's products.

3. ELEMENTS OF PROOF

The WeCare programme is evidence-based relying on verifiable proof, whether for more responsible fibres or for reduced impacts mentioned.

For Textile Exchange certifications (GOTS, OCS, GRS, RCS, RDS, RWS and RMS) we require the collection of two types of certificates: the "Scope Certificate" and the "Transaction Certificate".

A. SCOPE CERTIFICATE

This document certifies that a factory respects the environmental and social requirements imposed by the standard or the label in question. This is a kind of "license to operate".

The factory is the object of the certificate.

B. TRANSACTION CERTIFICATE

This document follows each transfer of material/product. It works mostly like the “visa number” we can find on the passport of a production lot.

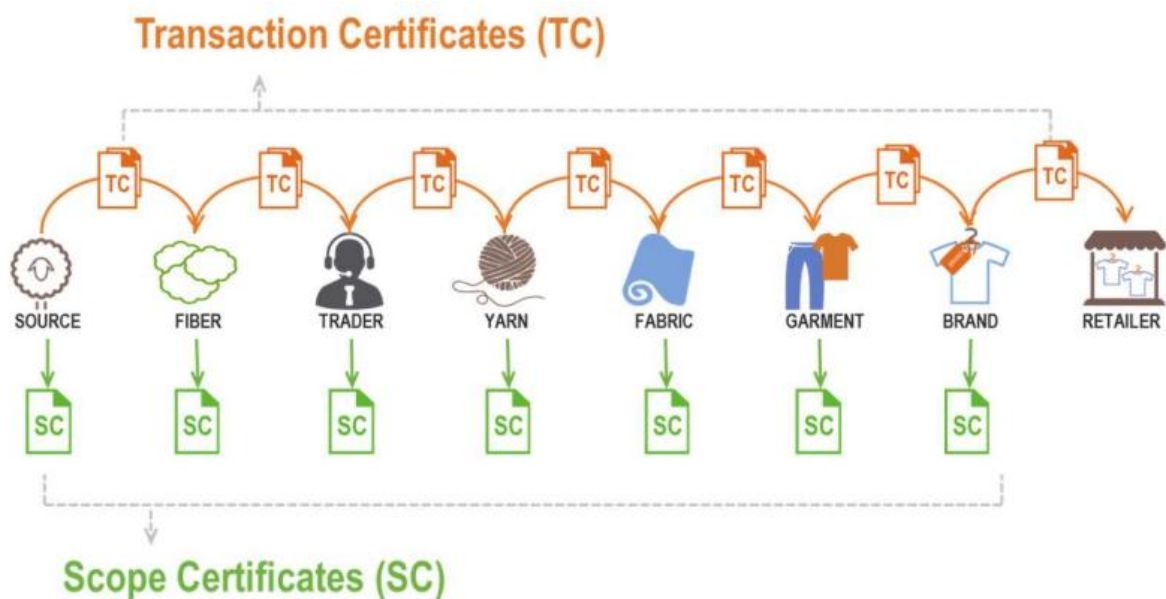
The **material or the product** is the object of the certificate.

Depending on the evidence required by each criterion, the supplier must provide the garment maker's Scope Certificate and the garment maker's Transaction Certificate to the Etam Group brand.

A document addressed to the suppliers indicates the requested evidence for each label.

The collection of the Transaction Certificate between the supplier selling the finished products to us and the Group brand purchasing the products is mandatory in order to label a Wecare product.

The certification process is in Appendix 4.



4. WE CARE LABELLING PROCESS

The Design, Buyers, Sourcing and Quality teams are the guarantors of the labelling process and document the valid elements of proof. The process is as follows:

	Technical sending	File	Order placement	After Shipment
Action	1. Creation of the product: choice of eco-friendly material 2. I inform the supplier of the standard I want to follow		3. I request the SCOPE CERTIFICATE of the label 4. I store it in the "Certificates of Traceability" sharepoint	5. I request the TRANSACTION CERTIFICATE and verify it. 6. I store it in the "Certificates of Traceability" sharepoint
Who?	Product manager/ Buyer		Product Manager/Buyer for direct link with the supplier, merchandisers for EIS. See process in annex	Product Manager/Buyer for direct link with the supplier, merchandisers for EIS. See process in annex

A. TAGGING

A WeCare! tag is visible on the product via a label (hangtag) in recycled cardboard. It describes the more responsible fibre used to make this product and the advantages of this responsible alternative over the conventional version.

If the product contains several more responsible fibres, the fibre with the highest share (%) of the total weight of the product should be mentioned. However, if the proportions are equal for two more responsible fibres, the purchasing teams choose the fibre they wish to communicate.

The labelling encourages the customer to scan a QR code in order to obtain more details about the composition of the product, the manufacturing plants, the AGECE information, etc.

Making environmental and commercial claims about a product is strictly regulated by law and can be a source of confusion if the choice of words and visuals are not well-controlled. In order to avoid any risk of greenwashing, the visuals as well as the texts have been realised and validated by the CSR Direction, Marketing and Legal Department.

	Labelling materials We Care
Organic Cotton	The product contains organically grown cotton. It is cultivated without synthetic products (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers) and without GMO and allows to reduce water consumption.
Recycled Cotton	The product contains recycled cotton, which reduces water and energy consumption (and therefore the CO2 impact) and reuses waste.
In-conversion Cotton	The product contains organically grown cotton that meets organic standards, thus reducing water consumption.
Regenerative Cotton	The product contains regenerative cotton, which allows to preserve biodiversity in soils, consume less water and energy from fossil fuels.
Responsible Flax	The product contains responsible flax, a process that allows the plant to be used and valued entirely. This flax is cultivated without synthetic products (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers) and without GMO and allows to reduce water consumption.
Recycled Wool	The product contains recycled wool, which reduces its environmental footprint through the reuse of textile waste and contributes to the preservation of biodiversity.
Responsible Wool	The product contains responsible wool, guaranteeing animal welfare and the preservation of biodiversity through responsible management of the farmland.
Recycled Cashmere	The product contains recycled cashmere, which allows textile waste to be recycled while helping to maintain biodiversity.
Responsible Cachmere	The product contains responsible cashmere, guaranteeing animal welfare and the preservation of biodiversity.
Recycled Polyamide	The product contains recycled polyamide from production off-cuts and plastic waste, thus reducing energy consumption and the use of non-renewable resources.
Recycled Polyester	The product contains recycled polyester from plastic bottles, which reduces energy

	consumption and CO2 emissions and reduces the use of non-renewable resources.
Recycled Acrylic	The product contains recycled acrylic from production off-cuts or waste, which reduces energy consumption and CO2 emissions and reduces the use of non-renewable resources.
Responsible Modal	The product contains responsible modal, made from wood pulp from sustainably managed forests, which reduces water and energy consumption as well as CO2 impact.
Responsible Lyocell	The product contains responsible Lyocell, made from wood pulp sourced from sustainably managed forests, which reduces water and energy consumption as well as the CO2 impact.
Responsible Viscose	The product contains responsible viscose, made from wood pulp from sustainably managed forests, which reduces water and energy consumption as well as the CO2 impact.
Upcycled Materials	The product is made of upcycled fabrics, which enables textile waste to be recycled by giving it a second life.
Plant Dye	This product has been coloured using a vegetable dyeing process with natural pigments from plants, thus reducing the use of non-renewable resources.
Vegetable Tanning	The leather of this product has been coloured using a vegetable tanning process with natural pigments from plants, thus reducing the use of non-renewable resources.
Dope Dyed	Dope Dye is a low-water consumption dyeing process in which color pigments are added to the fiber before the yarn is woven. This saves 91% water, 51% electricity and 68% CO2. * *LCA realized in 2019
Eco-Wash	This product has been washed using an eco-wash process, which reduces water and energy consumption as well as the CO2 impact.

Any other type of tagging directly attached to the product, and making any claim on environmental or social impacts is to be avoided.

As a reminder, the “care label” or “the composition label” is subject to strict regulation that all ETAM Group suppliers must respect, most importantly the denomination of each material which is defined by an exhaustive list. *It is not possible to include "more responsible" descriptions on the care label, which must only contain the names of the materials. For example, "organic cotton" or "recycled polyamide" are not allowed.*

B. REPORTING

Each brand oversees the results and the performance of its WeCare collections.

The brands will provide a half-yearly reporting to the CSR Direction in order to enable a consolidation at Group level. It should be completed in the format requested by the management.

II- ANNEXES

I. LIST OF MORE RESPONSIBLE MATERIALS

A. COTTON

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT	
• Cotton crops are a source of pollution through the use of pesticides and fertilizers that have harmful repercussions on human health and on the environment. • The natural housing change for the cotton culture may involve a biodiversity loss. • Cotton crops are very water intensive.	
ETHICS	
• The topic of the prohibition of forced labour and child labour in cottonfarming is a major issue of the cotton supply chain.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
In order to help reduce the overexploitation of natural resources as well as water consumption in irrigation, the WeCare programme incorporates recycled cotton and organic cotton which has social and environmental requirements on the entire supply chain. Furthermore, we ask our suppliers to ensure that the cotton does not come from «high-risk countries » that violate human rights according to the Cotton Pledge Against Forced Labor.	
EVIDENCE	
	Recycled Cotton certified Global Recycled Standard (GRS)² .

² Post-consumer recycled fibres are preferred to recycled pre-consumer fibres.

	Recycled Cotton certified Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)
	Organic Cotton certified Global Textile Organic Standard (GOTS).
	Organic Cotton certified Organic Content Standard (OCS).
	Regenerative Cotton certified Regenagri.

B. WOOL

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT • The transformation of natural spaces into sheep breeding pastures may involve a loss of natural habitat and may negatively affect biodiversity. • Overgrazing also may involve degradation of the ecosystem and land on which sheep are raised. • Sheep breeding is also sometimes a source of pollution, either because of chemical treatments against parasites directly applied on sheep or because of pesticides and fertilizers applied to pastures.	
ETHICS • The practice of mulesing (removal of a part of the perianal skin of sheep) is considered as painful and affects animal welfare.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
The WeCare programme includes two types of wool: recycled wool and responsible wool produced while respecting strict requirements on animal welfare and the preservation of lands and pastures.	
EVIDENCE	
	Recycled certified wool Global Recycled Standard (GRS)³.
	Recycled certified wool Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)
	Recycled certified wool GRS produced by Manteco supplier.

³Post-consumer recycled fibres are preferred to pre-consumer recycled fibres.



Wool certified **Responsible Wool Standard (RWS)**.

C. CASHMERE

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT	
- The transformation of natural spaces into goat breeding pasture may involve loss of natural habitat and may negatively biodiversity. - Overgrazing has generated soil erosion involving sandstorms which has a strongly negative impact on air quality.	
ETHICS	
Defenders of animal welfare have denounced mistreatment of goats by producers who pull their hairs with sharpened metal combs.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
The WeCare programme includes two types of cashmere: recycled cashmere and responsible cashmere produced while respecting strict requirements concerning animal welfare and the preservation of pastures.	
EVIDENCE	
	Recycled Cashmere certified Global Recycled Standard (GRS).
	Recycled Cashmere certified Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)
	New Cashmere certified Sustainable Fibre Alliance(SFA).

	Cashmere certified Good Cashmere Standard (GCS).
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D. FLAX AND HEMP

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT	
The technique of water retting, which is carried out during the fibre transformation process, must be checked as it is a polluting phase in the linen treatment. This technique is used mostly in Asia and in Egypt.	
ETHICS	
The production of linen and hemp can be a problem when it is carried out in countries where agricultural workers' rights are not respected.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
The WeCare programme includes recycled linen and hems, as well as responsible linen and hemp coming from production integrating processes to reduce the environmental impact of production in the European Union and especially in France.	
PIECES OF EVIDENCE	
	Recycled Linen or Hemp certified Global Recycled Standard (GRS) .
	Recycled Linen or Hemp certified Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) .
	Linen certified Master of Linen .
	Linen certified European Flax®

E. CELLULOSIC FIBRES

Considered fibres: Modal, Viscose, Rayon, Lyocell, Cupro

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT - As cellulosic fibres are produced from raw materials derived from cellulose through the transformation of wood into pulp, the major environmental issue is the unsustainable management of primary forests and illegal deforestation. - The transformation process from wood pulp to cellulosic fibres requires using chemicals that are released into the environment (water pollution).	
ETHICS The chemicals used during the transformation process of wood pulp are harmful for workers health.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
In order to minimize the pollution created by transforming wood pulp, the WeCare programme includes new cellulosic fibres coming from sustainable forest and with reduced environmental impact during the production process.	
EVIDENCE	
Viscose	
	Ecovero Viscose fibres from Lenzing
	Livaeco Viscose fibres from Birla
	Viscose Eco Tang TangCell fibres from Sanyou

Tangcell™ReVisco™	ReVisco TangCell fibres from Sanyou
Tangcell™EcoColor	EcoColor TangCell fibres from Sanyou
Lyocell	
 Tencel™	Lyocell Tencel fibres from Lenzing
	Lyocell Excel fibres from Birla
Tangcell™Lyocell	Lyocell Ecotang Tangcell fibres from Sanyou
Modal	
 Tencel™	Modal Tencel fibres from Lenzing
Tangcell™Modal	Modal TangCell fibres from Sanyou
Autres	
AsahiKASEI	Cupro fibres from Asahi Kasei

	Acetate fibres from Eastman Chemical
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a. SYNTHETIC FIBRES

Considered fibres: Polyamide, acrylic, polyester, elastane

ENJEUX	
ENVIRONMENT - Synthetic fibres are made from fossil resources like oil - The production process of synthetic fibres requires big quantities of water and energy. Also, a lot of chemicals are involved in production, increasing pollution during the process. - During washing, synthetic fibres can be released into the ocean as microplastics which are another source of pollution, most notably in oceans.	
ETHICS The production process of synthetic fibres requires the use of chemicals that can be harmful to the workers handling them.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
In order to be less dependent on non-renewable fossil resources, the WeCare programme includes recycled synthetic fibres .	
PIECES OF EVIDENCE	
	Global Recycled Standard (GRS) certified recycled synthetic fibres.
	Recycled Claim Standard (RCS) certified recycled synthetic fibres;

H. LEATHER

ISSUES	
ENVIRONMENT	
• Sheep and cattle breeding have a big impact on the environment. Converting natural area into pastures results in habitat loss for local species and therefore biodiversity loss. Enteric fermentation results in climate change as well. • Leather tanning can be extremely harmful for the environment because of the use of harmful substances (ex: chrome). If these substances are not treated properly, they end up in wastewater and can pollute rivers and oceans.	
ETHICS	
• Animal abuse in the leather industry as well as the inherent cruelty of this industry have been pointed out by animal welfare organizations.	
WeCare REQUIREMENTS	
The WeCare programme is focusing on supply chain traceability and responsible breeding practices.	
EVIDENCE	
<i>Certificates based on supply chain traceability</i>	
	Leather Working Group (LWG)
	Textile Exchange Sustainable Leather (under development)

2. MAIN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL LABELS

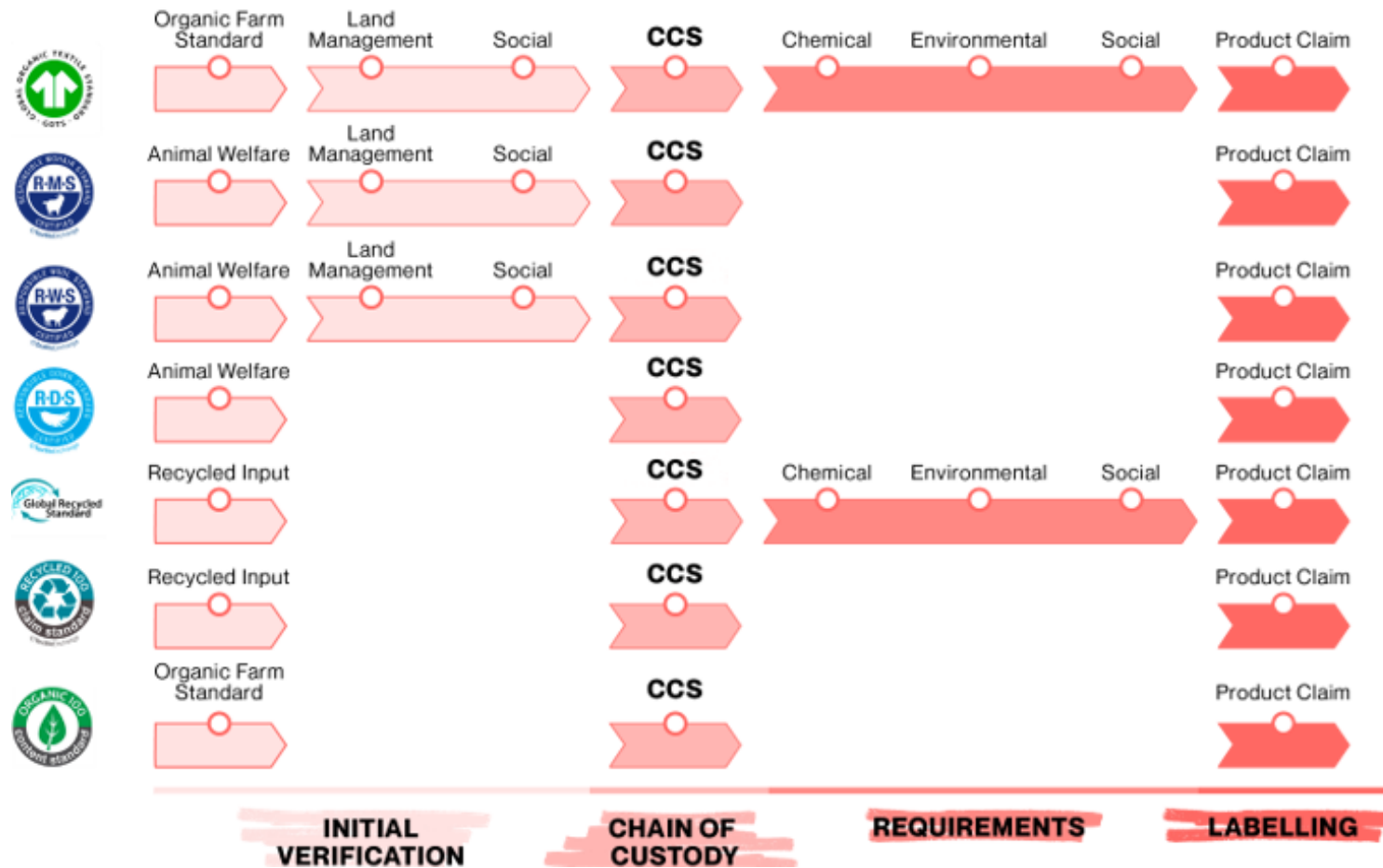
A label is a certification by a third party of a process set up by an institution (company or other) on a particular topic, following a specification book and being evaluated in a recurring basis. The label is identified by a particular sign (logo) and can be used if the related specification book is respected. This is a way to inform customers about the specifications of a product.

Regarding the multiple environmental and social challenges that textile industry is facing, a lot of different labels have been developed. Among these labels, some are focusing on only one criterion (organic farming, durable breeding practices, animal welfare, restriction of harmful substances, reduction of water and energy consumption for factories, working conditions, etc) and some have a more global approach and take into consideration all these stakes.

Another element can make a difference between labels is the coverage of the value chain of the scope: some labels are focusing on one step of the value chain when some are proposing a specification book including the requirement for every step (production of raw material, transformation process, usage, etc).

This document is describing the main characteristics of each main label of the textile industry. This list is not exhaustive.

TRACEABILITY BUT NOT ONLY



EU ECOLABEL The ecological label of EU is a label of environmental excellence delivered to products or services following high environmental standards along their life cycle: from extraction of raw material to production, distribution and disposal. The ecological label of EU helps to develop circular economy by encouraging producers to produce less waste and CO₂ during the production process. EU label ecological criteria encourage companies to develop durable products, easy to repair and to recycle as well. Source : https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/	
EUROPEAN FLAX® EuropeanFLax is a label focusing on linen. It guarantees that linen production is done in a respectful way regarding the environment through agriculture without irrigation, GMO and waste and fibres are mechanically made. This European certification ensures that working conditions are following ILO requirement. It also guarantees the traceability of the fibre through annual and confidential audit performed by Bureau Veritas.	
FAIR TRADE MAX HAVELAAR The Fairtrade/Max Havellar guarantee that a product is coming for Fair Trade. It can be applied to different product following different specification book related to industries and countries, but products are all following the same below basis: 1. Minimum price guaranteed, covering production cost and allowing them to provide their family needs.	

2. Development bonus, transferred on top of cotton buying price, to fund collective project for the benefit of the whole community. 3. Environmental protection measures → GMO and harmful substances are prohibited → Producers commit to preserve natural resources by optimizing water use. → A bonus for organic agriculture producers 4. Decent working conditions → Fundamental employment rights from ILO (No discrimination, freedom of Association and Trade Union for workers, no child labor, etc.) are respected. → Strict standards established to ensure health and security. → Social practices set up: working hours, maternity leave, etc. 5. Autonomy and democratic management of producer's cooperative. Among the textile fibres from agricultural origins, only the cotton is covered by this certification. Source : https://maxhavelaarfrance.org/	
FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED™ Fair Trade Certified is an American label for fair trade with south hemisphere. We can find it on food products, textile, flowers or cosmetics. On social aspect, this label requests a series of criteria based on ILO regulations as prohibition of forced labor, Trade Union freedom, minimum salary guaranteed and right of collective negotiation, week of maximum 48 working hours, and prohibition of child labor and discrimination. On environmental aspect, the label is focusing on low and safe use of chemicals, waste management, soil erosion control, fertility maintenance and responsible water management. GMO and the most	

harmful pesticides are prohibited to use. However, the label allows to use fertilizer. Deforestation is forbidden. Fair Trade Certified applies these criteria in a progressive way. Farmers have to comply with the most important criteria at the very beginning but have 6 years maximum to comply with the rest of the criteria. The label has 3 versions: Fair Trade Certified, Fair Trade Certified Sewing/Factory and Fair-Trade Certified Cotton. The label is managed by Fair Trade Certified. Inspection is done by independent third party. Source : https://www.fairtradecertified.org/	
GLOBAL ORGANIC TEXTILE STANDARD This label guarantee that garments are respecting the environment along their life cycle, from raw material harvest to labelling including every transformation step. It covers garments made from natural fibres: cotton, wool, linen, silk and hemp. This label guarantees: 1. At least 70% of the natural fibres that are used for garment making are natural and respect Organic Farming criteria. 2. No fibres from GMO. 3. Limitation or prohibition of some chemicals known to be harmful for human health or the environment during garments production. 4. No garment finishing process harmful for workers health (ex: sandblasting for denim). This certification covers only following fibres: cotton Source : https://www.ademe.fr/labels-environnementaux	
GLOBAL RECYCLED STANDARD	

GRS has been elaborate to answer the needs of textile industry, but it can be applied to products from any industry. It suits any product made from recycled fibres, including natural fibres (as recycled cotton or wool), synthetic fibres (polyester, polyamide or other recycled polymer) and others like paper, glass, etc. This standard covers the whole supply chain and define five key criteria: traceability, environmental aspects, social requirements, chemical inputs and labelling. This standard is applicable to product that contains at least 20% of recycled material. Source : http://gcl-intl.com/certification/global-recycle-standard-grs/	
MASTERS OF LINEN MASTERS OF LINEN® is a trademark and an outstanding achievement for linen 100% made in Europe, from fields to fabric. This certification is delivered to spinners, weavers and knitters who respect the following conditions: → Linen made in Europe from fields to yarn and to fabric. → Environmentally friendly production: no irrigation, no GMO, zero waste, retting practice in the fields and flax scutching of the yarn, carbon sequestration. → Integration of a socially ethical dimension for the production. Source : http://news.europeanflax.com/celc/27-club-masters-of-linen/	
RECYCLED CLAIM STANDARD RCS (Recycled Claim Standard) is used as a control chain to track recycled raw material from the beginning to the end of supply chain. RCS Standard is following CCS (Content Claim Standard) control chain requirement.	

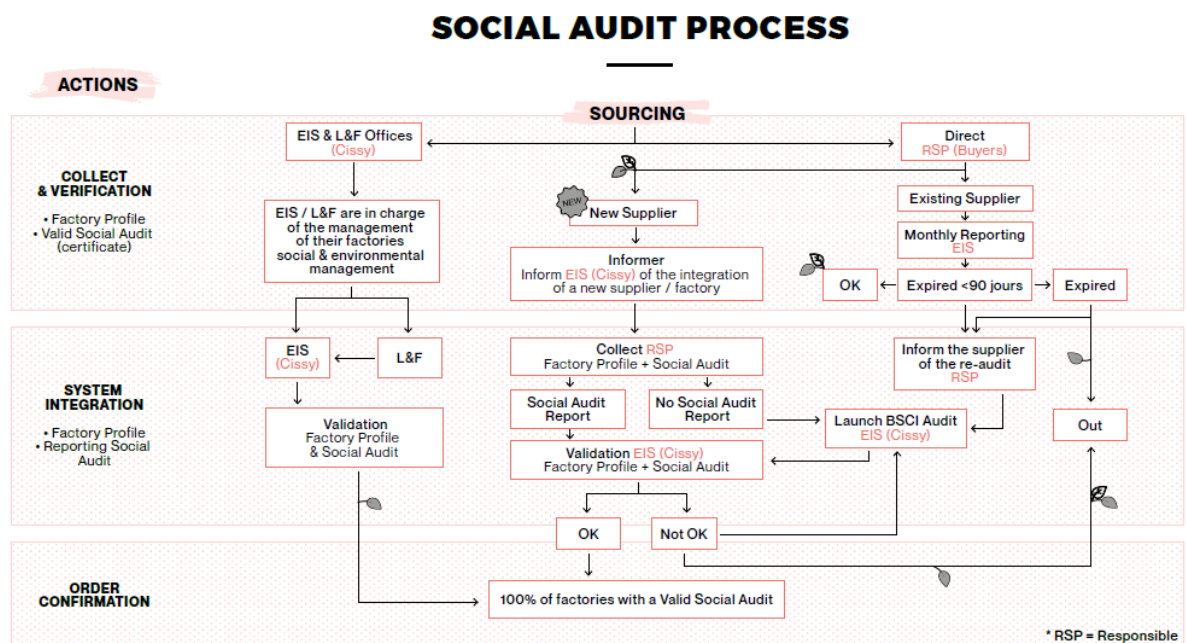
RCS Standard verifies the presence and the content of recycled material in a product. The inputs and traceability chain must be verified by a third party in order to evaluate and verify in a transparent, consistent, complete and independent way claims related to recycled content of a product. On the other hand, RCS guarantee an accurate and honest communication with the consumers. It is applicable to active company in ginning, spinning, weaving, knitting, dyeing, printing and stitching.	
RESPONSIBLE WOOL STANDARD	
The Responsible Wool Standard is an independent and voluntary standard that offers the 3 following guarantees: 1. Animal welfare: Sheep are bred in a respectful way according to their 5 needs: freedom from Hunger and Thirst, freedom from Discomfort, freedom from Pain, Injuries or Disease, freedom of Expressing a normal behavior and freedom from Fear and Distress. 2. Preserve soils quality: Farmers are following the best practices in terms of soils protection 3. Traceability: RWS labelled wool identity is always maintained; from farms to final product. Source: https://responsiblewool.org/	
SUSTAINABLE FIBER ALLIANCE	
The Sustainable Fibre Alliance (SFA) is a nonprofit international organization working on the extended cashmere supply chain, from farmers to retailers. The SFA has 3 clear targets: - Environmental resilience of the region producing cashmere - Long term plan improvement for farmers community that depends on cashmere markets. - Animal well-being guarantee in cashmere production	

Source : <https://www.sustainablefibre.org/>

4. PROCESS OF CERTIFICATION

4.1. SOCIAL AUDITS

The social audit certification process concerns all factories



4.2. CERTIFICATES (GRS, GOTS, OCS, ETC.)

The following certification process should be applied to all products incorporating responsible organic (GOTS & OCS), recycled (GRS & RCS) or responsible animal materials (RMS & RWS).

Certificates collection

