

Kerenzerberg Charter for Sustainable Textiles

11 Principles for a socially and environmentally responsible textile industry

Our principles

1

Shed Light

We do research, take responsibility, and are transparent in our actions.

We inquire about social and environmental issues, communicate findings, and continuously seek to improve the sustainability of our textile value chain. We are committed to fair production conditions in all respects and at all levels.

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Close the Loop

We seek to close the loop in our production-consumption models, moving toward a circular economy.

We recognize that our planet's resources must be managed responsibly. Consequently, we strive to design, innovate, produce, sell, and manage according to international standards for sustainable production and consumption according to circular economy principles. With its expertise in high-quality craftsmanship, service, efficiency, and the promotion of small-scale businesses, comparative advantages are created for Switzerland as a business location.

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Walk the talk

We demand sustainable textiles and raise awareness for them.

Whether in the private, or public sector, through our purchasing behaviour, at every stage of the value chain, we select and promote raw materials, semi-finished products and finished products according to the principles of this charter.

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Safety first

We ensure fair and safe working conditions.

Health and safety at work are universal human rights. We are committed to creating value while respecting the rights of employees, and respecting gender equality, diversity, and the dignity and interests of disadvantaged people.

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Work it out

We support individual empowerment and fair wages.

We aim to support the highest labour standards throughout the supply chain, empowering workers, providing them with fair wages and investing in their development. This will enable workers and their families to have a fulfilling life.

With a living income and qualified, independent workers, the textile industry becomes socially sustainable and resilient.

Our responsibility to the planet

A clean start

We rely on sustainable raw materials and fibre diversity.

Whether related to synthetic or natural fibres, we strive to source sustainable raw materials. We support and invest in sustainable innovations around fibre production. Insofar as we can, we ensure that our environmental footprint is minimized.

Make every Drop count

We minimize water pollution and consumption.

Water should be protected as a precious commodity. In production we use as little water as possible. Through closed water circuits we minimize the pollution of waterways, including waste water and ground water.

Clear the Air

We fight air pollution and climate change.

Through systematic changes and innovative technologies, we seek to minimize emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases, working toward a carbon neutral textile industry.

Zero Out

We banish toxic chemicals.

Throughout our value chain, we seek to avoid the use of chemicals that may have a harmful effect on plant, animal, or human life. We seek to use natural, environmentally-friendly alternatives.

Animal welfare is our concern

We inquire about and consider animal welfare.

Wherever animal fibres are used, we demand insights and certificates, if possible, into treatment and care, seeking to maximise respect for animals and their habitats.

Our economic responsibility

Right on the Money

We have an understanding of economic responsibility and act upon it.

We develop competitive and innovative business models, making ourselves attractive for different financing models. We take into account social and environmental costs because they influence financial sustainability, and we invest in knowledge acquisition to understand real costs and set pricing structures.

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