

POLICY STATEMENT

Melawear is a sustainable fashion brand who questions the status quo of the textile industry. Our aim is to become world's most sustainable fashion brand through a holistic sustainability approach. State of the art, scientific and industry research results as well as our own innovative company culture are guiding us to reach our target.

Our holistic approach towards sustainability implies, that we do not act one-dimensionally but follow the three-pillar model of sustainability: social, environmental and economical. All three pillars stand in a balanced triad and are represented in all our actions in equal measures. This is not only important within our own company practices or the relationship to our suppliers but also during the design process and the production phase of all our products.

As an internationally working company with a supply chain mainly in India, Melawear is aware of the possible risks that can occur in its supply chain. This is why we are committed to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by the United Nations from 2011, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. Risk assessments are conducted by us on a regular basis.

To eliminate risks within our supply chain and comply with our high sustainability ambitions all our products, our suppliers and ourselves are at least certified by the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and by the Fairtrade Cotton Standard at the same time. Through the compliance with the GOTS we ensure highest environmental and social criteria along the entire supply chain. The certification process is done by GOTS approved, independent certification bodies at least once a year. The Fairtrade Cotton Standard helps Melawear to ensure that a fixed purchase price plus a premium is paid for the cotton to the farmers. Additionally, the standard ensures high social and environmental standards up to the final product, e.g. the ILO-criteria for all workers in our supply chain. Independent audits are conducted by FLO-CERT on a regular basis.

Our commitment towards sustainable business practices is not limited to our design, sourcing, and producing practices, but is also part of all our other activities, for example: our financial transactions are handled by a sustainable bank, our logistics are managed by a sheltered workshop and our employees receive wages far above the national minimum wage.

Henning Siedentopp
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