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Sustainable Textiles Switzerland 2030: The Swiss textile sector launches a program to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Zurich, June 30, 2022 – Today, the program Sustainable Textiles Switzerland (STS 2030) officially launches its implementation phase. The program aims to make a significant contribution to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the Swiss textile and clothing sector. The actors commit themselves to implementing specific measures and measuring them annually.

With STS 2030, Switzerland is taking on a pioneering role. The program pools the forces of the Swiss textile and clothing sector by uniting actors along the entire value chain. The committed companies, institutions and organizations have set themselves shared targets: (1) a massive reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in the textile sector, (2) the promotion of fair wages and decent work along the entire value chain, (3) the promotion of innovative business models towards a circular economy, and (4) transparency to ensure that sustainable purchasing decisions can be made.

Based on a roadmap, the companies, institutions, and organizations that commit to achieving the targets will implement and track specific measures year by year. One aspect of the program is, that the range of products and services offered by the companies and organizations will be aligned with the sustainability goals. On the other hand, a proactive information policy will promote more sustainable consumption, purchasing and use of textiles.

The STS 2030 program was initiated by the three associations Swiss Textiles, Swiss Fair Trade and amfori. It has the backing of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), which are working hard to promote the program as part of the steering group.

Achieving a leverage effect together

What unites the committed actors is the partnership focused approach of the program and the possibility of achieving a large leverage effect together. The actors are also committed to assuming their social and environmental responsibility and contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Coop, for example, explains their rationale for making a commitment as follows: "It's a partnership driven approach to advancing pressing sustainability issues along textile value chains with collaborative solutions." Transa explains its commitment as follows: "From a self-image, we want to take responsibility and contribute to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). STS 2030 supports us in joining forces with allies on the path towards a more sustainable economy."

The committed actors

So far, the following actors have committed to the program from the retail sector: Transa Backpacking AG, Coop, PKZ Burger-Kehl & Co, Migros, Rrrevolve and glore Schweiz GmbH; from textile production: E. Schellenberg Textildruck AG, Bächli Cord AG, Weseta Textil AG as well as the brands CALIDA, Mammut Sports Group AG, Balsiger Textil AG (with Lavie and Journey Living), the Holy Fashion Group (with JOOP!, Windsor and Strellson), Collectif mon Amour, the Blue Suit, and the textile service provider Testex. With the City of Zurich as a committed actor, a first important pioneer from the public sector, as a buyer of textiles for public procurement, has also committed to achieving the STS 2030 targets.

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STS 2030 in brief: Sustainable Textiles Switzerland 2030 is a program with the mission to make a significant contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Swiss textile and clothing sector along the entire value chain. Actors in the Swiss textile and clothing sector can commit to the STS 2030 goals. The targets and milestones are measured annually through a survey and reporting (progress report).