



OMNES

Sustainability Report
2022



INTRODUCTION

FROM OUR FOUNDER – JORDAN RAZAVI

“In the face of the climate emergency we face, we will continue to challenge the status quo in the fashion sector and strive for positive change in the year ahead”

In our 2021 Sustainability Report we outlined our key objectives for embedding socially and environmentally responsible practices into our business, holding ourselves accountable and ensuring that every decision we made had the best possible impact on people and the planet.

If you are just discovering the OMNES brand you will see that we are considerate and thoughtful in everything we do. From sourcing materials and suppliers, to ensuring our pieces will last for as long as possible, we consider the full product lifecycle, including what will happen at the end of its life - hopefully many years down the line. And not only that, we’ve also thought about our packaging and our labels, we’ve built partnerships that give back to environmental and social causes, and have taken steps to reduce our impact through our operations at our Head Office.

We are acutely aware of the worsening environmental crisis and the ever-changing sustainability landscape. From the very beginning at OMNES we have been determined to improve and expand our sustainability practices, to continually learn and evolve, and to do better.

At the end of 2022, we are proud of how far we have come; in the year ahead we will strive to do even better and expand the ways in which we can have a positive impact on the fashion industry. We hope to inspire you to join us on our journey towards a better future.

Jordan Razavi
CEO & Founder, OMNES

OUR MISSION

To create fashion that doesn't cost the earth.

While fashion remains central to how we present ourselves as individuals, the world has woken up to the enormous negative impact the fashion industry has on our environment, our climate, the world's biodiversity, and global communities. At OMNES we strive to reduce this impact and act as responsible global citizens, treating the Earth and its inhabitants with respect, and aiming to contribute to its protection and repair.

Through transparent practices, accountable behaviours, and innovative design, materials and processes, we are striving to build an accessible and responsible brand that respects both people and the planet, and that leaves a lasting positive impact in its wake.

Our sustainability strategy is focused on three main areas:

- 01 - Planet
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THE UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (‘SDGs’) are a global call for action to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. The 17 SDGs address the biggest issues affecting people and the planet today, including poverty, inequality and climate change. You will see SDG icons at the top of the pages in this report, to symbolise which Goals align with our objectives.

THE UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





Planet

01 - PLANET

With as much as 80% of a garment's environmental impact determined at the design stage, we strive to make the best possible choices for our collections from the outset

As one of the world's most prolific polluters, the fashion industry's impact on the environment is vast. If we can improve the way it operates, this could make a truly significant difference to the future of our planet.

OMNES exists to create clothing that is thoughtfully made, so you can have great style, without damaging the planet or your wallet.

This year we've made progress across the following areas, firmly with the planet and its inhabitants in mind:

Climate Positive (Earthly)

B Corp Certification

Circularity



CLIMATE POSITIVE CERTIFIED

Excess carbon dioxide in our atmosphere is responsible for rising global temperatures, disruptive weather patterns and changes to our climate, which in turn are impacting the wellbeing of global communities and ecosystems. Every business has a carbon footprint, but in order to truly consider ourselves a responsible brand, it was important to us to become a Climate Positive certified business.

We partnered with a third-party company – climate organisation Earthly - to help us understand the impact of our business, and to provide recommendations on how to reduce and maintain a reduction in carbon emissions.

For instance, we know that transportation of our products from suppliers to our warehouse and then to our customers all contribute to our carbon footprint. We continue to prioritise lower-carbon transport methods with our freight and deliveries, and choose to transport products by road and sea instead of air, as much as possible.

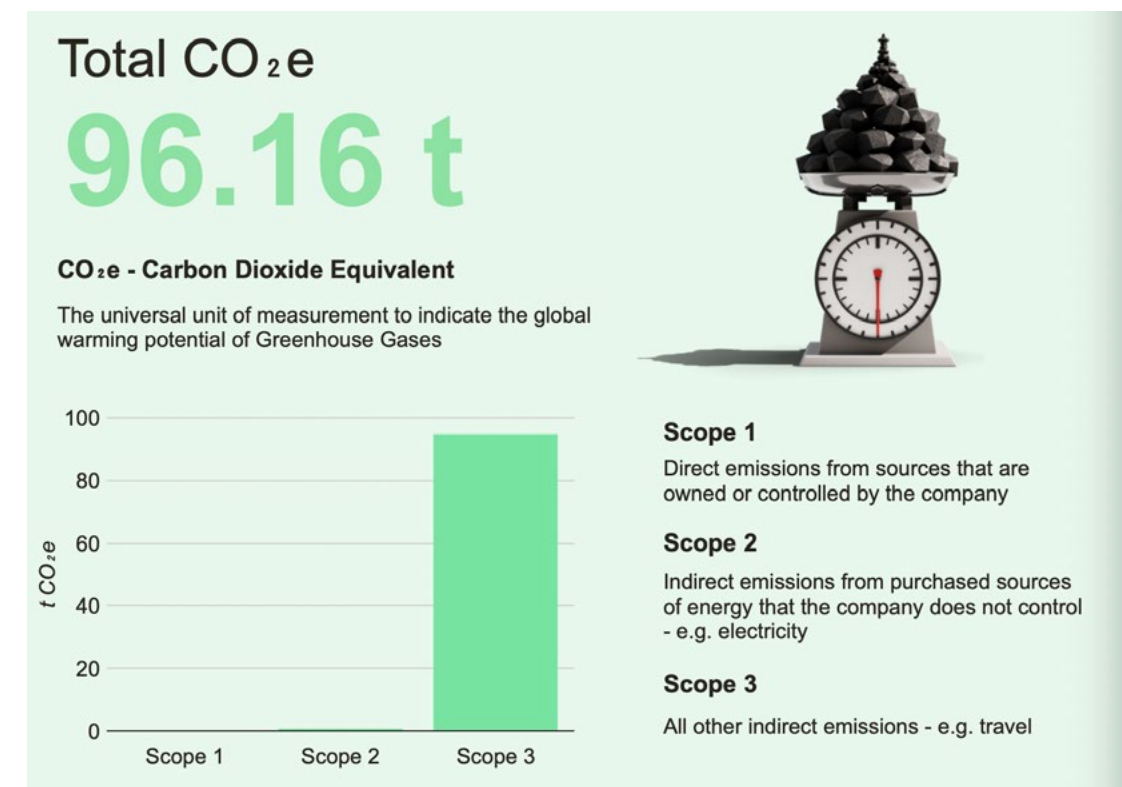
With Earthly's help, we are then offsetting any emissions that could not be cut, through funding science-backed nature-based solutions. Earthly has helped us to measure the carbon footprint of our operations, as well as emissions per employee.

Here are our results from 2022*:

In 2022 OMNES' operational impact came to 96.16 t CO₂e. We then balanced 110% of this footprint (111 t CO₂e) through VCS verified nature-based solutions to become a climate positive business. Our emissions per employee were 7.40 t CO₂e. Simply put, in order for us to be a certified Climate Positive business, we need to offset more carbon than we produce.

Earthly asks that we contribute at least 110% of your footprint to go beyond just carbon neutral. For 2022, we have committed to offsetting 125% of our carbon emissions (e.g. an additional 15%), ensuring that we are truly climate positive.

**Calculations for our carbon footprint are based on the previous year's data, which is why this report contains our results from 2021.*



01 - PLANET

WE HAVE REMOVED

111 t
CO₂e

TO BECOME CLIMATE POSITIVE

01 - PLANET

It's important to us that our carbon footprint continues to be managed as we scale and grow, to ensure we achieve our commitment to climate positivity on an ongoing basis.

While we know that carbon offsetting isn't the whole answer, it is an important part of our holistic sustainability strategy, as we continue to find ways to reduce our business wide impacts.

To uphold our carbon off-setting goals we have made a new commitment to financing projects supporting forest restoration.

To date, we have supported the following projects:

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve project is protecting one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world. Without this project, the carbon-rich, peatland forest of Rimba Raya would have been turned into palm oil estates, emitting over 100 million tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere.

Carbon emissions from peatland degradation currently contributes to a whopping 5% of global anthropogenic emissions.

Rimba Raya protects over 640 square kilometres of High Conservation Value tropical peat forest, with over 350 million tonnes of carbon stored in their peat domes. As the largest natural store of carbon on land, it is essential that we protect peatlands like Rimba Raya and preserve the surrounding wildlife, as well as support sustainable development to ensure people and nature can survive and thrive into the future.

We have chosen to support forest restoration projects because it directly relates to our fabric sourcing practices, specifically with regards to our fabrics that are FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified such as LENZING™ ECOVERO™ viscose.



Image Source
Earthly
Peatland Protection, Rimba Raya



B CORP CERTIFICATION

“B Corporations are a new kind of business, balancing profit with people and the planet”

One of OMNES’ goals this year is to further ourselves as a truly responsible brand, striving to meet the highest standards of social and environmental performance, transparency and accountability we can. With that in mind, it was a no brainer for us to work to become a Certified B Corporation. We’re currently on the path to obtaining this certification, but what exactly does B Corp certification mean?

Certified B Corporations are a new kind of business, balancing profit with people and the planet. It’s a designation showing that we meet the strict social and environmental standards set out in the B Impact Assessment, a requirement to obtain this certification.

The B Impact Assessment measures and verifies our performance and impact across 5 areas, covering different policies and practices on Governance, Workers, Environment, Community, and Customers. As a purpose-led business and sustainability focused brand, we care deeply about the wellbeing of both people and our planet, from climate change to social good. We can’t wait for our values to be recognised by obtaining this certification.

For us to achieve B Corp certification, we made a public commitment to consider our impact on our stakeholders, by building it into our legal structure. We’ve updated our Articles of Association to include mission-aligned legal language. This legally commits us to use our business as a force for good by:

- Creating a material positive impact on society and the environment through our business and operations;
- Considering “stakeholder interest” which include shareholders, employees, suppliers, society and the environment.

This all means that we are a little closer to being officially recognised for the values and actions we uphold. From our choice of raw materials and production methods, our systems to ensure our suppliers uphold fair working conditions, to trying to reduce our environmental footprint and engagement in the community, B-Corp reflects our values by being stringent, independent validation of what we stand for.





CIRCULARITY

Circular design aims to limit waste and pollution, and save precious resources by keeping products and materials in use rather than simply disposing of them.

Moving towards a circular economy is therefore of the utmost importance. We are taking steps to do this by tackling potential waste, and planning for recyclability - from the first stages of design, through to the end of the garment's lifecycle - we make sure we close the loop as much as possible.

We do this in a number of ways: by considering every stage of the product lifecycle in our design process, incorporating deadstock and recycled fabrics back into our collections, supporting our customers to close the loop through our recycling program, collaborating with charity partners to help to keep clothes in circulation for longer.



We are constantly striving to achieve a circular design system and always consider the following at the initial stages of production

Longevity:

We understand the excitement of experimenting with the latest fashion trends, but we also know that the longer you love and care for your clothes, the better it is for the planet. While we nod to trends, OMNES pieces are designed with everlasting style in mind, so you can wear them year after year.

Versatility:

Our team of expert designers also consider the different ways an item can be worn, to help customers hopefully buy fewer pieces and keep them in their wardrobes for longer.

Using deadstock:

This year, we launched our first ever deadstock collection. We sought out the best quality unused fabrics that are at least two years old to create high quality, limited edition capsule items, produced in low quantities to help use up surplus fabric.



RECYCLING PROGRAMME

The amount of waste created by the fashion industry has grown significantly over the last 20 years, with hundreds of millions of tonnes of used (and even new) textiles ending up in global landfills every year. But less than 1% of waste textiles are currently believed to be turned into new ones.

As a result, making sure our clothes will stand the test of time and not end up in landfill is incredibly important to us. We want our designs to outlive trends, and our garments to be durable enough that they can be worn over and over again, maybe even adapted, and then passed on.

But we know there is always an ending, so we're also doing everything we can to ensure our clothes will be as easy as possible to recycle when technology finally catches up. Therefore, wherever possible, we have chosen to use fabrics that are 100% mono fibre (such as 100% recycled polyester), and minimised our use of trims (for example, using fabric ties

instead of zips as much as possible), to aid the ease of recycling. In the meantime, we set up our recycling programme to help our customers responsibly deal with clothes you no longer want. Through this programme, customers can send us up to five items, and our programme partners will help us to give them a new life, to ensure they don't end up in landfill.

We'll pay customers' postage costs and as a way of saying thanks, we'll send them a special 10% discount code too.

We want to ensure that we make a positive impact through our recycling programme, so all items received are sorted in our Head Office then donated to our charity partners including Octavia, Oxfam and Sense, providing the clothes with a second life while raising money to support causes including: Poverty relief, Homelessness, and Animal Welfare.

Partners to support the second life of products

We have developed affiliations with charity Smart Works, to help support the second life of products. Smart Works aims to empower women to achieve economic independence and thrive in work by providing them with skills and professional workplace attire. We ensure any excess garments that we hold stay out of landfill and are put to good use by donating clothes to this charity. Not only do we love creating beautiful clothes, we love supporting charities that share our values.





PACKAGING AND LABELS

AT OMNES we operate a ZERO waste approach

Our packaging is made from recycled materials and is 100% recyclable. It is even printed with vegetable-based inks.

Our recyclable card boxes are made from an FSC recycled certified mixture of waste paper and wood pulp, sourced from responsibly managed forests.

Our labels are made from 100% recycled plastic that has been removed from the ocean, which is cleaned, crushed, recycled and woven into certified recycled polyester.

We introduced seeded paper swing tickets on our garments, embedded with wildflower seeds which can be planted at home to promote biodiversity.



We designed our packaging to have as little impact as possible, guided by the principles of sustainable sourcing, circularity, and the absolute minimisation of waste, all without compromising on our design standards.

That's why the packaging that your OMNES purchases arrive in is made from recyclable card, made from a mixture of waste paper and wood pulp, sourced from a man-made regenerated forest. Our boxes are FSC mix and FSC recycled certified.

Our sewn-in garment labels have been made from plastic bottles that have been removed from the ocean. Our labels are woven from yarn that began its life as plastic bottles. After the PET plastic bottles are collected, they are cleaned, crushed and turned into a new certified recycled polyester.

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HEAD OFFICE AND DISTRIBUTION

We are committed to maximum waste reduction at our Head Office and in our warehouse operations:

We recycle everything we can.

Single-use plastics are banned.

We reuse all incoming post packaging.

We've partnered with GXO for our warehouse operations.

Waste Reduction

We have a policy in place for the safe disposal of e-waste and other hazardous materials.





02 - PEOPLE

OMNES means 'all' – and was chosen because we are all in this together.

OMNES means 'all', it speaks to how we are all in this together. It includes our customers as much as it includes the people behind our clothes - the textile producers, suppliers and garment workers - who we work with to ensure safe, fair and ethical working conditions across our supply chain.

We are dedicated to ensuring our work does not negatively impact the environment or the people we work with, and have achieved the following over the past year.



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PARTNERSHIP POLICY

It's our responsibility as a fashion brand to ensure that the workers throughout our supply chain are compensated fairly, treated well, and provided with safe working conditions.

We believe that there needs to be a huge shift in attitudes towards suppliers, factories and garment workers within the fashion industry. At OMNES we view our suppliers as equal partners, this approach is consolidated through our Partnership Policy.

We work in close partnership with our mills, suppliers and factories, and have built positive working relationships with all those producing garments for us – currently based in the UK, Greece, Romania, India and Turkey.

There are many amazing people behind our clothes, and we know we have a responsibility to ensure access to safe, healthy and equitable working conditions for every single one of them.

100% of our suppliers have signed our Supplier Code of Conduct within our Partnership Policy - a document outlining our key environmental and social values.

All of our suppliers also hold a third-party audit certification, such as SEDEX. However, we always carry out due diligence of our factories to ensure they meet our high health and safety, environmental, business ethics and labour standards.

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LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER

We are a Living Wage employer, meaning we pay all staff the living wage rate for their region. We are proud of this commitment, and we encourage all our suppliers and contractors to implement the Living Wage in their respective region.

Although not all companies pay this, at OMNES we ensure all our producers outside the UK are audited by independent third parties so even those that are indirectly employed by OMNES are also earning a fair, liveable wage for the country they live in.



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DIVERSITY, EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

We have a zero-tolerance policy towards racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism or discrimination of any kind. We are committed to inclusivity across all areas of our business, irrespective of gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin or religion.

As a responsible fashion brand, we cannot stand behind this mission if we do not stand up for the basic equal rights of all the people who make up our diverse supply chain.

Plan of action:

We will use our platform to learn and educate alongside customers and will ensure that all company decisions are made with inclusivity at the forefront of our minds.

We will ensure that our marketing is as inclusive as possible, representing our diverse customers.

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CHARITY PARTNERSHIPS

Giving back to community is at the heart of our People pillar at OMNES, which is why we've increased our charity affiliation by 250% this year.

We wanted to continue to strengthen our commitment to the community by furthering our philanthropic efforts: donating and partnering with more charities than we ever have before. Drawing on our DNA of sustainability and through our creative spirit, **we are committed to continually having a positive impact on individuals and communities.**

This year saw some particular partnership highlights...

Greener Earth Project

To celebrate World Earth Day this year, we released our first limited edition charity t-shirt, in support of The Greener Earth Project: a UK-based charity committed to offsetting carbon, by helping reforestation projects around the world. 50% of profits have been donated to The Greener Earth Project, where every £1 plants one tree.

The t-shirt was made from cotton sourced from a BCI partner, produced at a specialist Greek factory where the cotton was seeded, grown and farmed locally, allowing for full traceability and transparency across the supply chain.

Smart Works

We believe that clothing has the power to help bolster people's confidence, which is why we've also donated clothing to Smart Works to support their mission of helping women succeed in the workforce.

Smart Works is a UK charity that exists to give women the confidence they need to reach their full potential, secure employment and change the trajectory of their lives.

We share the same belief that clothing has the power to transform a woman's confidence, which is why we will continue to donate items of clothing to aid in Smart Works' mission of helping women succeed in the workforce.



100% of proceeds will go directly to Smart Works, supporting unemployed women with clothing and coaching to help them succeed at interview and transform their lives





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OUR PRODUCERS

Creating OMNES clothes happens in a partnership with our suppliers and factories. We are dedicated to ensuring our work does not impact the environment or the people we work with in a negative way. This is why everyone we work with is independently audited and is required to sign our Partnership Policy, which outlines our stringent standards that must be met under the categories of people, planet and product.





OUR MATERIALS

We only use quality fabrics that are grown, sourced and manufactured responsibly, prioritising natural, recycled, and deadstock materials.

As well as the raw materials our products are made from, we also think about what happens to garments when they have eventually lived their useful life, and so wherever possible, we choose to use fabrics that are 100% natural to enable them to biodegrade, or 100% mono fibres over blends, to aid recyclability - once technology catches up. We also avoid trims as much as possible, for the same reason; which has the bonus of helping to keep our products at an accessible price point

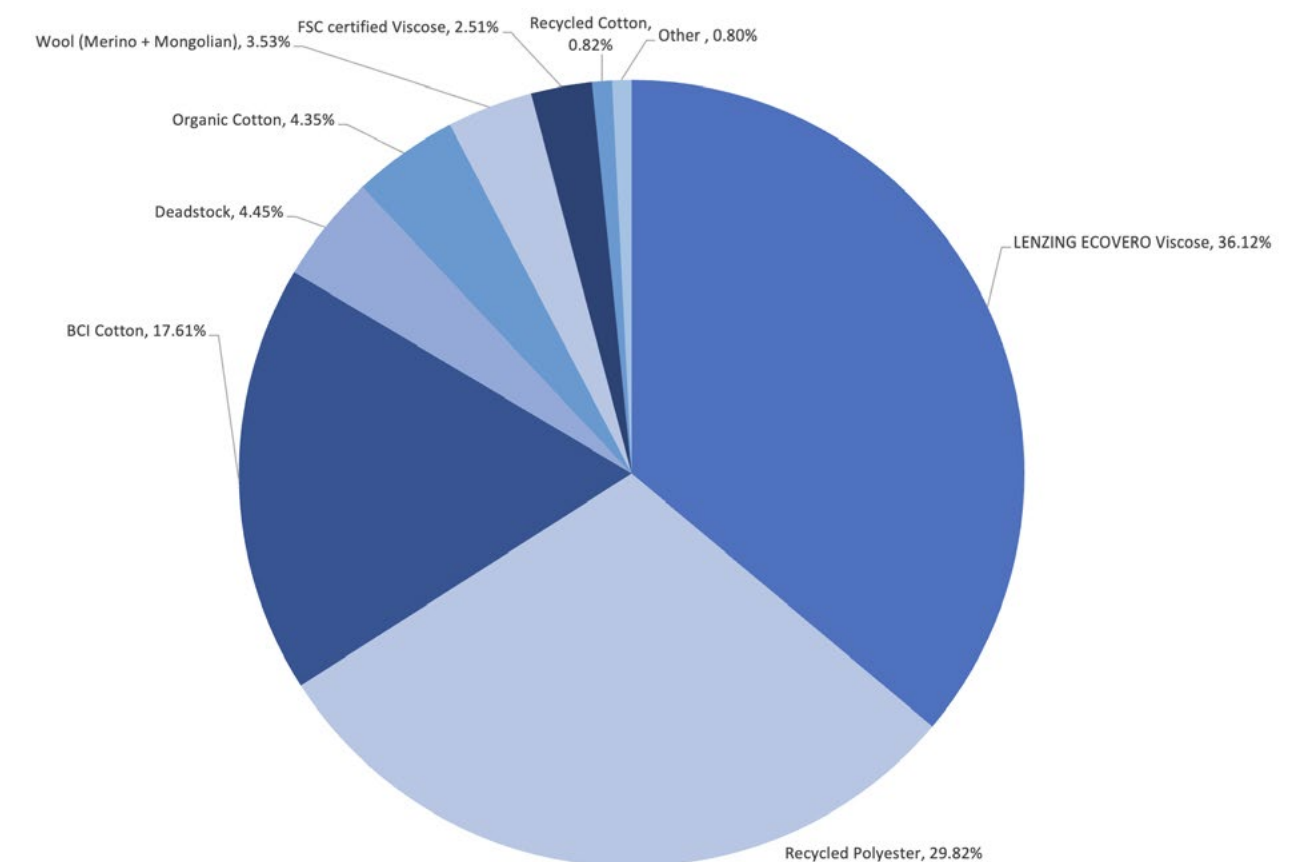
Our aim is to always use the lowest impact fabrics possible, whilst continually exploring new sustainability solutions and innovations.

We try to keep our supply chains as short as possible, and work exclusively with partners who share our values of paying living wages, treating workers with respect, and providing safe, comfortable working conditions. In fact, we require all of our suppliers to read, sign and agree to our Partnership Policy before carrying out any production for us. We also prefer to use fabric from mills that are audited and advised annually on their energy, waste, water

and emission management as part of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, through which members commit to measuring and improving their social and environmental impacts. With regards to our eye-catching prints, we seek to work with printers with OEKOTEX® 100 certification for their digital printing. Thus saving water and energy, and ensuring no toxic chemical substances are used in our printing process.

In 2022, we used the following breakdown of material

We know there is an inherent environmental impact involved in producing new textiles. More often than not it requires the farming, harvesting and mining of raw materials, use of resources including water and energy usage, and the usage of potentially hazardous chemicals and dyes. But by making responsible textile choices, considering not only the quality, feel and functionality, but also the environmental and social impacts of a fabric – for example where the raw materials were grown and in what conditions, if pre-existing resources could be utilised, and what globally recognised certifications have been granted to the supply chain – we can bring to life designs that truly consider the wellbeing of people and our planet.





LENZING™ ECOVERO™

A lightweight and drapey fabric, LENZING™ ECOVERO™ viscose is derived from sustainable wood and pulp from certified and controlled sources. LENZING™ ECOVERO™ fibres are biodegradable in soil, freshwater and marine environments, as well as compostable in industrial facilities.

LENZING™ ECOVERO™ was also awarded the EU Ecolabel, achieving environmental excellence throughout its life cycle from raw materials to the disposal of its fibres.

The conventional supply chain of this popular cellulosic fibre is riddled with issues, from the deforestation of ancient and endangered woodlands at the raw material level to excessive chemical use in its processing. Sourcing wood pulp to produce viscose and logging trees to be turned into cellulosic fibre have been identified as major drivers in global deforestation. Estimates vary, but for example, over 150 million trees are logged every year in order to be turned into cellulosic fabric.

The non-profit environmental protection organization Canopy has ranked Lenzing among the top viscose producers worldwide for its sustainable wood and pulp sourcing practices.

We've worked hard to understand and trace our viscose supply chain down to the raw material level, to ensure that it does not contribute to these issues.

Organic Cotton

Organic cotton is grown without synthetic pesticides, insecticides and fertilisers, and from seeds that have not been genetically modified. Eliminating toxic chemicals protects the health of workers and local communities as air and groundwater supplies do not become contaminated, and soil health and biodiversity are protected. We always choose organic cotton when possible.

Cotton sourced from BCI members

The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) supports licensed farmers by providing training on issues including water efficiency, caring for soil health and natural habitats, reducing the use of harmful chemicals and implementing decent work principles. Whilst BCI requirements differ from those of organic cotton standards, we will always choose cotton sourced from BCI members over conventional if organic is not possible.

Recycled Cotton

Recycled cotton gives new life to waste from the production process, reducing the need for new resources to be used.



Recycled Polyester

Satin-like and silky smooth, our certified Recycled Polyester fabric is made from postconsumer plastic bottles. REPREVE® polyester is the world's leading brand of recycled performance fibre.

Fully traceable, these materials give waste plastic bottles a new life as textiles can keep them in use for longer and out of oceans and landfills.

Linen

Linen is a versatile, breathable, and biodegradable fibre that can be grown with minimal water and without the need for toxic chemicals.

Wool

Biodegradable, recyclable, natural, long-lasting, easily repairable - the list of wool's eco-credentials goes on and on. We use super soft wool that is responsibly sourced, always prioritising animal welfare standards and good management of the land sheep graze on.



Materials we choose not to use

Sequins

Sequins are a disaster for the environment. Most are made from petroleum plastics that are damaging to our natural ecosystems, and their shimmer is obtained through chemical or metallic coatings. These are not biodegradable and are also drawn from raw material sources that are limited. We will not use sequins in our designs until a satisfactory alternative is available.

Materials that end the lives of animals

We do not use animal skins, silk, fur, or horn buttons in our collection. Animal welfare is a key concern when sourcing animal-based materials such as leather and wool, and the traceability issues linked to the industry can make it difficult to identify animal welfare breaches in supply chains. We therefore have established an animal welfare policy that you can read [here](#).



PRINTING

Wherever possible, we choose to digitally print our textiles.

Digital Printing

Insofar as possible we use print mills with OEKO-TEX® certification for digital printing. Digital printing uses less water and energy compared to the traditional rotary screen-printing method, and ensures that no harmful, chemical substances are used in our printing process. It also gives us the flexibility to print only what we need.





DEADSTOCK FABRIC

At OMNES, transparency across our supply chain is key to our operations and mission as a responsible fashion brand. One of the goals set out in 2021 under our 'Planet' pillar is to reduce textile waste sent to landfill, by incorporating deadstock fabric into our collection. This year, we've done just that. In June 2022, we launched our first ever limited-edition deadstock collection, and have more on the way.

But at present there are no legal requirements for mills to provide full disclosure on deadstock fabrics – which contributes to the growing concerns that mills are intentionally overproducing, as they know the excess will be purchased regardless.

This perpetuates the cycle of overproduction and is something we're wary of when making purchases. This is why we created our deadstock guidelines, to ensure we are only sourcing and purchasing deadstock materials from traceable and transparent sources.

Our requirements when sourcing deadstock fabrics are listed below:

- OMNES requires deadstock fabrics to be out of use and circulation for at least two years. A certificate verifying the original date of production of the specific fabric roll from the fabric mill or receipt into warehouse is required.
- OMNES requires that the source and origin of the fabric is provided.
- OMNES strongly prefers that the deadstock is composed of a mono fibre.

All suppliers that we source deadstock fabrics from must sign our deadstock agreement and comply with the requirements set out in our official deadstock guidelines.

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ANIMAL WELFARE

We are committed to never using materials that induce the suffering or killing of animals.

We believe in treating animals with respect and compassion, and do not use animal skins, silk, fur, or horn buttons in our collections.

We seek to educate our community on the realities of the treatment of animals in fashion supply chains, we support the practice of forging farm-level relationships and enabling domesticated animals to live their full natural lifespans in comfort.

Animal welfare is a key concern when sourcing animal-based materials, such as wool, and traceability issues linked to the industry can make it difficult to identify animal welfare breaches in supply chains. Although there have been some strong industry-wide efforts to fight for animal welfare in fashion, the industry still has some way to go in addressing this important area: in 2020

it was reported that as few as 38% of fashion brands consider animal welfare risks to some degree in their supply chains and purchasing practices, and just 25% have formal animal welfare policies in place to help safeguard animals from these risks.



