We were present at the European Development Days 2019 in Brussels.

In the discussion panel in which we participated, from Animaná and Hecho x Nosotros we addressed the following topics:

- Sustainable development and growth through inclusion.
- Decent work for all members of the value chain.
- Sustainable Value Chain.



EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS | JUNE 18, 2019 | BRUSSELS Animaná & HechoxNosotros

TRANSPARENCY AND TRACEABILITY OF THE SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAIN IN CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

-Improving Clothing to Improve Working Conditions-

On June 18, Animaná and Hecho x Nosotros participated in the meeting for the Transparency and Traceability of the Sustainable Value Chain in Clothing and Footwear project.

Our ambassador to the United Kingdom, André Johnsen, traveled to Brussels to represent the NGO and actively took part in the discussion on sustainability proposed by UNECE.

CONTENT COVERED

The current global fashion industry has an estimated value of approximately \$3 trillion, produces 80 billion garments worldwide each year, and employs between 60 and 75 million people. The industry now faces the formidable challenge of providing decent work within textile sector labor conditions while responding to the planet's urgent environmental demands, highlighting the need for solutions on a global scale.

During the European Development Days 2019, various organizations such as UNECE, ITC, and EC DG DEVCO held multiple debate sessions to connect all stakeholders in the textile and fashion industry. The goal was to develop new perspectives and advances on ethical working conditions through transparency and traceability in the textile and fashion value chain, the footwear industry, and economic growth based on the value of social inclusion.

In the discussion, debate, and dialogue sessions at EDD 2019, several approaches were proposed as possible solutions for achieving transparency and traceability in the value chain:

- 1. Developing a single, open platform accessible to all value chain participants.
- 2. Promoting responsible consumption and awareness by leveraging global fashion trends as social realities with impact, rather than solely for their market value, which often causes negative environmental and social consequences.
- 3. Facilitating practical solutions to help companies implement good practices for employee well-being and promote fair trade.
- 4. Advancing transparency by revising production standards, certifications, and performance metrics in relation to profitability.
- 5. Building effective partnerships and collaborations based on trust among producers, entrepreneurs, and consumers.

At Hecho x Nosotros and Animaná, we discussed how to drive transparency by transforming challenges into new opportunities, drawing from our own experience working with fibers and communities in Patagonia, and reducing risks through responsible and collaborative participation from all value chain members.

The growth of transparency and traceability in the textile value chain is now recognized as a necessity by many active participants. However, achieving sustainable and lasting progress in this area is a major challenge that requires eliminating informal practices in commercial and labor conditions. With a transparent commitment from all parties, change is possible, which is why this meeting provided a platform for sharing the initiatives of value chain participants, opening dialogue, and continuing to promote the importance of traceability.