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KPMG and Textile Exchange Develop an SDG Roadmap for the Apparel, Retail and Textile Sector

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) —a set of 17 universally agreed-upon goals addressing the top current environmental, social and economic issues—offer many business opportunities for companies while addressing critical operational risks, according to a new report produced by audit, tax and advisory firm **KPMG LLP**, in partnership with the non-profit organization, **Textile Exchange**, ***“Threading the Needle: Weaving the Sustainable Development Goals into the Textile, Retail and Apparel Industry.”*** *Threading the Needle* offers SDG guidance to apparel, retail and textile suppliers, brands and retailers on business considerations and opportunities for shared value, an SDG engagement model, best practices and multi-stakeholder initiatives, and considerations for top sourcing countries.

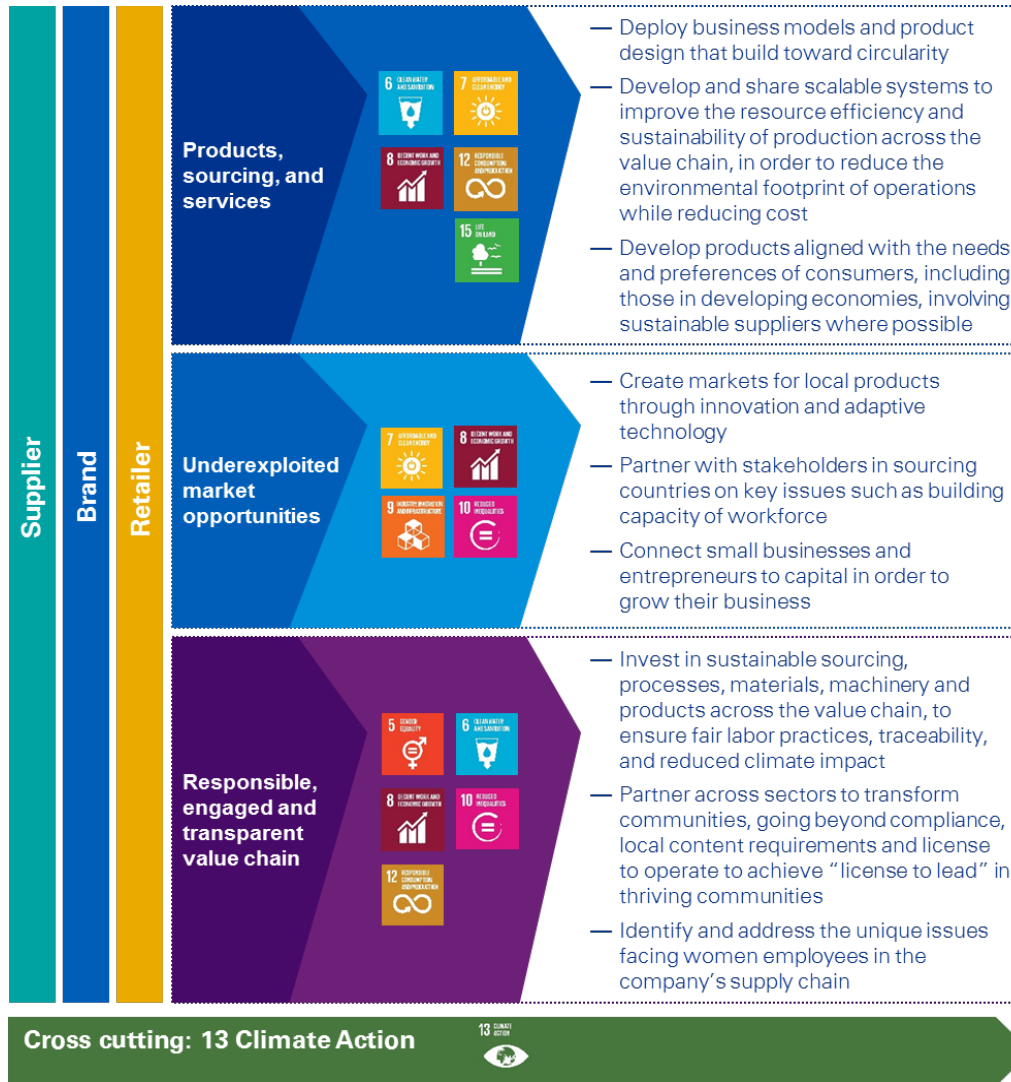
“Threading the Needle is an important first step in understanding how existing industry initiatives can advance the 2030 Agenda, including adoption of more sustainable fibers and materials, responsible production and circular business practices”, said La Rhea Pepper, the Managing Director of Textile Exchange.

“The report provides a roadmap for companies seeking to realize the SDGs in their own sector and value chain”, said Anita Whitehead, principal for KPMG’s Development and Exempt Organizations (DEO) practice in the U.S. “The report aims to provide companies with guidance and information that will help prioritize their SDG focus where it can generate the most impact”.

“Threading the Needle is an amazing information source for the apparel industry to tackle the global challenges of the SDGs. This valued toolkit supports my discussions with the textile supply chain and apparel brands as a starting point to integrate the SDGs into their sustainability platforms and goals. Collaboration is key for impactful change,” noted Tricia Carey, Director of Global Business Development for Lenzing AG.

SDG Engagement Framework

Threading the Needle identifies a **“SDG engagement framework”** which focuses on eight SDGs where the industry can have the most direct impact. The report provides representative case studies in which the SDGs are being implemented by companies. These examples are intended to demonstrate the first steps that companies can take to integrate the SDGs into their core business and value chain.



Download the Report and Additional Resources

Threading the Needle is available for download [here](#) and on the KPMG website and Textile Exchange website. Further insights will be offered at the upcoming Textile Exchange sustainability conference to be held in Milan on October 23-24th. Additional information about the conference is available at TextileExchange.org/2018Conference.

The UN Global Compact and KPMG developed the SDG Industry Matrix, a series of publications that profiled shared value opportunities and aligned these to each SDG target. This report, *Threading the Needle: Weaving the Sustainable Development Goals into the Textile, Retail, and Apparel Industry*, builds on the SDG matrices to focus in on the unique opportunities for companies in the textile, retail, and apparel sectors to scale positive social, environmental, and economic impact through the SDGs.

About KPMG LLP

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About Textile Exchange

Founded in 2002, Textile Exchange is a global nonprofit that works to create leaders in the sustainable fiber and materials industry by providing learning opportunities, tools, insight, standards, data, measurement and benchmarking—and by building a community that can collectively accomplish what no individual or company can do alone. In addition, Textile Exchange manages and promotes a suite of six leading industry standards, including organic, recycled, responsible down and responsible wool content claims. The organization also collects critical industry data and insights, which is published through the annual Preferred Fiber & Materials Benchmark, a platform that enables brands and retailers to measure, manage and track their use of preferred fiber and materials. With more than 260 members that represent leading brands, retailers and suppliers, Textile Exchange has meaningfully accelerated the use of preferred fibers and increased the adoption of standards and certifications across the global textile industry. Textile Exchange has also launched ***TextilesforSDGs.org***, which offers guidance for SDG engagement, and includes a set of articles, videos, guides, mapping guidance and tools.