

Responsible Cashmere Round Table (RCRT) meeting #6

28th November, 2019

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/tpdNTTIsxa0>

Meeting PPT Slides: <https://textileexchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/2019.11.28-RCRT-Meeting-Slides.pdf>

Attendees

Textile Exchange: Anne Gillespie, Stefanie Pokorski, Nicole Lambert, Larysa Valachko

Animal Welfare external expert: Anna Heaton

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Vancouver RCRT Summit
3. International Buyers' Group
4. Green Gold Presentation
5. What's next

News and Updates

Next RCRT call: **January 16, 2020 | 9:00-10:30am EST**

Please register before the call at

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwuf-2hpzgs3ifcWV0R9ZOagCenQSVU3g>

Call Notes

Welcome

Textile Exchange convenes the textile community and values diversity of views, expertise, opinions, backgrounds, and experiences. It is expected that members of this community will collaborate by sharing ideas, information, and resources of publicly available information only and avoid discussions on price, strategic plans or other private and sensitive information.

RCRT Summit at the Vancouver 2019 TE Sustainability Conference

Textile Exchange announced its new 2030 Strategy: Climate+

Under the Climate+ strategic direction, Textile Exchange will be the driving force for urgent climate action with a goal of 35-45% reduced CO2 emissions from textile fiber and material production by 2030.

Vancouver 2019 Textile Exchange Sustainability Conference (October 15-19)

Driving Impact through Integrity and Preferred Fiber & Materials



Over 900
Registered
Attendees



Representing
450+ Companies



Across 46
Countries

The 2019 Textile Sustainability Conference was our greatest turnout to date with more than 900 industry leaders registered including over 200 speakers from 46 countries representing 450+ companies! #TextileExchange19 was the largest conference on the topic of sustainable textiles ever held in North America and, for the first time in its history, it was recognized as being [climate neutral](#) through a partnership with **South Pole**.

RCRT Summit (October 15, 2019)

80 participants, 38 brands, 19 Services, 15 NGOs

The RCRT, as a neutral platform for cashmere buyers to learn about and understand the issues, opportunities, and solutions, brings the industry together to create a common understanding of the needs of all stakeholders, look for alignment on what solutions are needed, and work with the industry players to drive action.

Topics discussed:

- Responsible Cashmere Round Table Overview (Anne Gillespie, Stefanie Pokorski-Textile Exchange)
- The Cashmere Experience (Ukhnaa Sarangoo – AVSF)
- Mongolian Cashmere: working with the UNDP (Simon Cooper, Satoko Okatamo – UNDP)
- Farmed Cashmere: working on Standards (Anna Heaton – AbTF, Ayoshi Ayongxi – ICCAW)
- Open Discussion (Stuart Antsee - South Gobi)

RCRT discussion outcomes:

The core elements of “sustainable” that need to be addressed:

- Animal welfare
- Land management/environment (water, land use, GHG/climate change) – overgrazing in Mongolia
- Social/economic sustainability
- Traceability
- Multiple definitions of “sustainable”
- A common standard/certification

International Buyers' Group (IBG)

The IBG is a small group of committed individuals representing companies that buy cashmere from Mongolia and that are committed to supporting the objectives of the Mongolia Sustainable Cashmere Platform (MSCP).



Which issues will the IBG give input on or act?

Act on:

- Get Statement of Support from a large number of cashmere buyers

Provide input on:

- Definition and concept of 'Sustainable Cashmere'
- Terms of reference for the work to be done on:
- benchmarking current programs in Mongolia;
- determining the key outcome-based indicators to collect across Mongolia
- New incentives and financing mechanisms to support herders
- The work of the Steering Committee and Technical Working Groups, specifically: consensus on sustainability, market access, incentives and financing, technology solutions
- Claims language

Textile Exchange, as a neutral organization with strong credibility and broad reach in the textile industry, will coordinate and *lead the IBG calls*.

Expectations of the IBG members:

- Commitment to Mongolia Sustainable Cashmere Platform values:
 - ✓ Action and results oriented
 - ✓ Transparency
 - ✓ Share learning
 - ✓ Mutual respect
 - ✓ Honest commitments
 - ✓ Collaborative leadership
 - ✓ Adaptive planning
- Observe Chatham House and Anti-Trust rules.
- Support the Platform objectives and work towards the best interests of Mongolian cashmere
- Commitment to attend and engage in at least 75% of IBG web-based meetings.
- Commitment to read materials sent and provide feedback when requested
- IBG members will be invited to attend the in-person plenary meetings in Mongolia, but participation is not required.

Green Gold Presentation

During the call, we shared a recording about "Green Gold's Responsible Nomads program".

Presenter: Enkh-Amgalan Tseelei

Terms list:

Aimags: Largest administrative unit in Mongolia. There are 21 aimags in the country and are similar to a

province in other countries. Each aimag is divided into soums.

Soum: On average, there are 18 soums within each aimag. A soum is a village with a surrounding area. Each soum is divided into baghs.

Bagh: On average, there are 4-5 baghs within each soum. A bagh is the smallest administrative unit within the government.

Pasture User Group (PUG): PUGs are community organizations that are made of herder families that share the same seasonal rangelands. Herders move between four seasonal rangelands and may move several times within each rangeland. Herders will move from 4-12 times per year in total.

For the recording of the presentation, please go to <https://youtu.be/IQ3qngUxPH0>

What's next

2020 RCRT Meeting Schedule: invitations will be sent to your email soon

	Date	Meeting	Time
Q1	Thurs. Jan 16	RCRT Meeting #7	9:00-10:30 AM EST
	Thurs. Mar 19	RCRT Meeting #8	9:00-10:30 AM EST
Q2	Thurs. May 21	RCRT Meeting #9	9:00-10:30 AM EST
Q3	Thurs. July 16	RCRT Meeting #10	9:00-10:30 AM EST
Q4	Nov TBD	RCRT Summit Meeting - Dublin	TBD
	Thurs. Dec 10	RCRT Meeting #11 – Dublin follow-up	9:00-10:30 AM EST

Contacts:

General inquiries or comments may be sent to ResponsibleCashmere@TextileExchange.org