



Sustainable Fashion Policy

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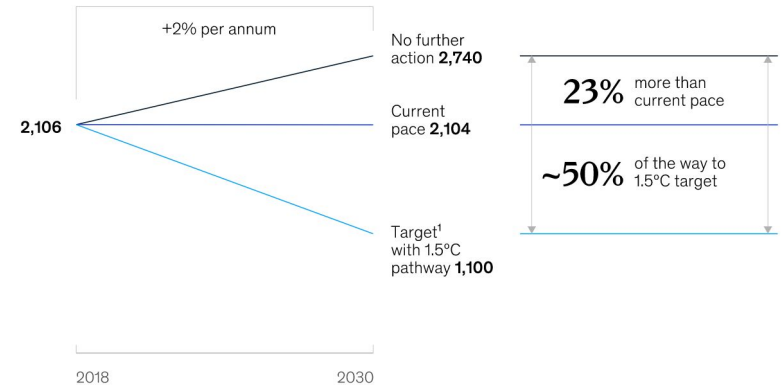
Current — Problems —

Carbon Emissions

- A typical T-shirt is expected to produce 6.75kg (or nearly 15 pounds) of carbon during its production and sale
 - Imagine how many T-shirts are produced worldwide!
- The fashion industry accounts for between 4-10% of global carbon emissions.
- The industry is not currently on track to meet 1.5° C temperature goals.

Under the current trajectory, the fashion industry misses the 1.5°C pathway by 50 percent and abates only emissions from incremental growth.

Emissions abatement assuming the industry decarbonization continues at current pace, million tons of CO₂ equivalent



¹Calculation: half of available 1.5°C pathways indicate 25 billion to 30 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent a year by 2030 (IPCC). 4% of 27.5 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent equals 1.1 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent.
Source: Consolidated model as of June 19, 2020

Water Pollution

- In 2016, Bangladesh harbored approximately 217 million liters³ of wastewater containing a wide variety of pollutants.
- During textile dyeing, about 10-15% of the dyes are released into wastewater.
- Dyes expelled into the water have permanently modified the structural DNA of calta calta fish exposed to certain azo dyes.
 - Azo dyes represent 65-75% of dyes used in the textile industry and when they are utilized 15-50% of the dye will not bind to fabric and be dumped into wastewater.



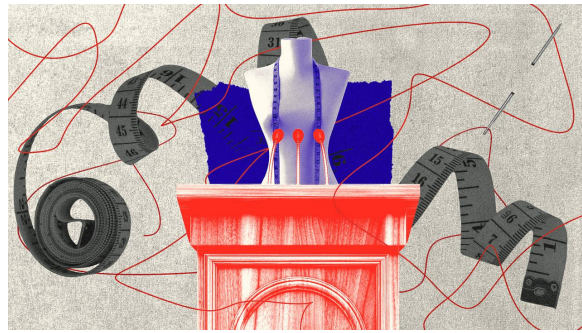
Human Rights

- In countries around the world, factory owners and managers often:
 - Fire pregnant workers or deny maternity leave
 - Retaliate against workers who join or form unions
 - Force workers to do overtime work or risk losing their job
 - Turn a blind eye when male managers or workers sexually harass female workers
- In Dhaka, Bangladesh, the Rana Plaza building, which housed five garment factories, collapsed, killing at least 1,132 people and injuring more than 2,500.



**So, What Can
— Be Done? —**

Fashion Czar



- The injustices of the fashion industry remain underrepresented. A Fashion Czar would aid in the United States upholding the Paris Agreement, as well as deconstructing current stigmas surrounding the industry's significance regarding climate mitigation.
 - The Czar would be a spokesperson for the Biden Administration and keep the President up to date on the most crucial challenges within the industry.
 - The Fashion Czar would aid in education and work in conjunction with policymakers and various federal departments to create long-lasting and impactful change.

Passage of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2021

- This law puts a fee on carbon pollution and the money collected goes to Americans in the form of a monthly 'carbon cash back' payment.
 - This will aid in American citizen's ability to afford the green transition.
 - The tax starts at \$15 per metric ton of CO₂ and increases by \$10 annually.
- Includes a border carbon adjustment.
 - This will apply to carbon-intensive trade-exposed imports from nations that fail to price carbon.
- Industries, like the fashion industry, will alter their fossil-dependent operations to become less energy intensive or utilize clean energy options.

Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence

- Examples:
 - The United Nations *“Legally Binding Instrument to Regulate, in International Human Rights Law, the Activities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises”*
 - Would be the first binding global instrument to ensure the recognition and follow through of internationally recognized human rights (ex. SDGs).
 - European Commission’s Proposal for a Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence
 - Companies must take initiative to identify potential human rights and environmental violations arising from their own operations or their subsidiaries.
 - Imposes non-compliance sanctions and, in relation to a company’s HREDD program, outlines director responsibility and accountability.

Questions to Consider

- Did you know how high the carbon footprint of fashion was?
 - Why do you think this is an underrepresented issue?
 - Do you think fashion is an important discussion in environmental sustainability efforts?
- Should governments, brands, or consumers be responsible for making fashion more sustainable?
 - Do efforts need to be made from all of these entities?
 - Can we trust that brands and governments are being honest in their sustainability efforts?
- Do you think about the environment while shopping?
 - If not, will you now?
 - What is stopping you from shopping more sustainably?