Submitting Country, Organization, Company	IFF
If Organization or Company, please indicate the approximate number of employees	20
Title of the action	Furmark® SafeFur Standard
Upload an image	

FURMARK
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL FUR

Relevant Website	https://www.furmark.com/certification-programs/dressers-and-dyers
Partners	International Fur Dressers and Dyers Association, FILK Freiberg
Type of initiative	Private initiative

Description of action

• The International Fur Dressers and Dyers Association (IFDDA) was established in 2011.

• The IFDDA was brought together to share ideas and best practice, this led to its first Sustainability Report in 2015.

• The IFDDA subsequently worked with independent testing institute FILK-Freiberg to develop a chemical standard. The SafeFur standard was implemented in summer 2019 and from this point members of the IFDDA have been required to submit samples for testing.
• The certification process involves declarations, samples, and on-site visits (during the pandemic sample submissions are accepted but are also supplemented by virtual monitoring visits) and is therefore evidenced.

• As of September 2021, 16 dressing and dyer companies from across the world have achieved certification status.

• FILK's approach also ensures that if samples do not meet required limits they will work actively with the company to identify the potential issues and re-test as appropriate.

Type of action	Transparency
Please select the specific area/s of the action	Norms and standards Incentives Research and Development of Innovative Solutions Collaborative initiatives

Scope of the action, including a description of the value chain processes that are covered

Objective
Deliver a chemical standard that IFFDA members must meet in order to be certified and therefore be able to be part of the Furmark certified supply chain.

Commitments
Emphasis on bi-annual assessments, and to review the standard as new evidence emerges. To incorporate broader environmental requirements that would complement the SafeFur standard.

Value chain scope
Dressing and dyeing stage (equivalent to the tannery in the leather sector).

Timeframe and/or milestones for the action
• Implemented from June 2019
• Certification lasts for 2 years although some adjustments have been made to allow for the impact of COVID-19 on business operations
• To ensure that there is ample global capacity to dress and dye the volumes of certified Furmark® furs that flow from the auction process downstream to the dresser and dyer before going on to the manufacturing stage

Reference instruments and sources used
For further information on the SafeFur standard please contact information@furmark.com

Expected benefits and impact for the stakeholders involved

Enhanced visibility of compliance with sustainability requirements by industry actors/partners along the

entire value chain

Enhanced traceability of the social/environmental/ethical attributes of product(s)/materials along the value chain; for example, for origin, quality, sustainability performance, and compliance with health and safety requirements for consumers and workers

A measurable impact on sustainability in value chains over time, eventually verified through life-cycle assessments and/or sustainability certifications

Enhanced environmental and socially responsible consumption and production, and circularity of the value chain, that may be relevant to and inspire other countries and industry actors/partners

Management of reputational risk for manufacturers, brands and retailers who are selling the products concerned

Stakeholders involved

Business and industry associations

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Scientific and technological community

Key performance indicators for the action

• All IFDDA members going through the SafeFur standard process
• IFDDA promoting to and welcoming in new global members in order that they can also be part of the SafeFur standard process
• To deliver a virtual monitoring assessment of all certified members
• During the initial pilot phase (July-December 2019), it was expected that more than 75% of existing IFDDA members would participate in the Safe Fur standard process
• The IFDDA is a global membership organisation and therefore part of the process was to drive awareness of the Safe Fur standard amongst nonmembers, which would, in turn, drive new membership and participation in the Safe Fur standard. The IFDDA was also able to significantly increase its membership during 2019, in line with expectations
• As of October 2021, 17 companies (covering Asia, Europe and North America) have been certified by FILK. A certified list is published online. This is below expectations as several companies were not certified or chose not to go through the certification process due to the pandemic
• The focus in Q4 2021 and 2022 is to continue to increase the number of certified companies providing they can meet the strict criteria
• Physical monitoring visits have not taken place due to COVID and it was agreed that these would move to online monitoring visits. These were expected to commence in Q3 2021 but has been moved back to Q1 2022

Good practices

https://www.furmark.com/certification-programs/dressers-and-dyers#What_is_Furmark

How has this UNECE-UN/CEFACT Call to Action contributed to strategic engagement and/or public awareness in support of your commitment?

IFF perceives the UNECE/CEFACT Call to Action and the project on Traceability, Transparency, Sustainability and

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Circularity of Value Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector as a best practice in seeking transnational and shared solutions in the transition towards a greener and circular economy. We expect the Call to Action to resonate strongly with policymakers and thus strengthen the credibility of IFF's commitment to create a traceable, transparent and accountable supply chain. At the same time, through the Call to Action, IFF will act as an ambassador of the project, aiming to raise awareness around it.

Link to relevant goal(s) and specific target(s) of the United Nations

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION   **9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**   **12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**