

Looking for European manufacturers of finished consumer products open to eco-responsible materials for the Made for Change e-commerce platform

Summary

Profile type	Company's country	POD reference
Technology request	Switzerland	TRCH20260528002
Profile status	Type of partnership	Targeted countries
PUBLISHED	Research and development cooperation agreement Commercial agreement with technical assistance	• All countries
Contact Person	Term of validity	Last update
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General Information

Short summary

A Swiss organisation is looking for European manufacturers, artisans and factories of finished consumer products (fashion, leather goods, jewellery, accessories, stationery, office and lifestyle goods) willing to replace non-sustainable inputs with eco-responsible materials. Partners may access visibility, transition support, design financing, pre-sales and sales through the Made for Change e-commerce platform. Commercial agreements with technical assistance or R&D cooperation are sought.

Full description

A Swiss NGO aims to enlarge the offering of ethical, sustainable and climate-conscious finished consumer products. It has created Made for Change, an e-commerce platform designed to connect eco-responsible material suppliers, manufacturers and final customers, while supporting the transition of product ranges towards more sustainable alternatives.

It seeks manufacturers, artisans and factories in Europe or in neighbouring countries, also in order to reduce the environmental impact of goods transport, producing finished products across a wide range of sectors, including:

- Fashion & textile products: clothing, wearable accessories, textile-based goods and small fashion items.
- Leather goods & leather-alternative goods: handbags, wallets, belts, cardholders, small accessories and luxury goods.
- Jewellery & jewellery subcomponents: rings, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, chains, clasps, fastenings, piercings, ear chains, nose chains and related components.

- Watches & personal accessories: watch straps, cases and accessories made with eco-responsible materials.
- Travel accessories: luggage tags, passport holders, travel organisers and related goods.
- Stationery & paper-based products: notebooks, planners, pen cases, folders and premium paper goods.
- Office & professional accessories: desk organisers, document holders, laptop sleeves, tablet cases and business accessories.
- Home decor & lifestyle products: decorative trays, picture frames, storage boxes and other finished consumer products.

These products should be made from eco-responsible materials, ensuring high standards of social responsibility, traceability and climate neutrality, using for example:

- vegan and bio-based leather alternatives, such as plant-based, mushroom, apple, grape or other next-generation materials
- recycled or responsibly sourced textiles and fibres
- precious metals sourced from Europe or recycled through circular-economy processes
- crystals, glass, mineral components or decorative elements of European origin or responsible sourcing
- recycled paper, cardboard, wood, cork or other low-impact materials
- other sustainable materials verified by the NGO or compatible with the NGO's platform requirements

A list of verified or to-be-verified suppliers can be made available through the Made for Change ecosystem. The goal is to make these eco-materials accessible to European manufacturers as alternatives they can integrate into existing product lines or into new products. Collaboration with material suppliers may be organised when necessary to meet technical, quality or production requirements.

The manufacturers, artisans and factories should:

- work with eco-responsible, recycled, bio-based or EU-origin materials while ensuring high quality, safety and durability
- have experience in adapting existing designs or collaborating on new designs that meet environmental and social responsibility criteria
- be open to technical exchanges with material suppliers and the NGO in order to validate feasibility, costs, quality and scalability
- have the capacity to scale production according to the demand generated by an expanding e-commerce platform
- have knowledge of sustainable production practices and compliance with relevant environmental, ethical and product-safety standards

These products will then be offered on the online store, providing customers with ethical, eco-responsible and short-circuit alternatives, in line with standards and regulations regarding sustainability, ethics and eco-responsibility, including the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation aiming to make sustainable products in the EU the norm: https://commission.europa.eu/energy-climate-change-environment/standards-tools-and-labels/products-labelling-rules-and-requirements/ecodesign-sustainable-products-regulation_en

Support for development projects in order to meet specific environmental and social responsibility criteria as well as production requirements can be discussed

Advantages and innovations

The platform can provide partners with several advantages: visibility towards customers seeking ethical and eco-responsible products; support in the transition of materials and production choices; support for new designs and product development; possible financing or co-financing of design and prototyping when relevant; pre-sales to test market demand before scaling production; and direct sales through an expanding e-commerce channel.

- A single platform linking eco-responsible material sourcing, product transition, manufacturing capacity and customer demand
- Increased visibility for manufacturers through Made for Change, an e-commerce platform dedicated to ethical and eco-responsible finished products

- Access to verified or to-be-verified sustainable material suppliers, reducing the effort required to identify credible alternatives
- Support for manufacturers wishing to transition existing product lines or create new products using lower-impact materials
- Possibility to organise design support, prototyping support, pre-sales and, where relevant, financing or co-financing of new product conceptions
- Pre-sales can help validate market demand before launching larger production batches, reducing commercial risk for manufacturers
- European and neighbouring-country manufacturing helps reduce transport-related emissions and supports local economies
- The approach can apply to many sectors: fashion, leather goods, jewellery, accessories, stationery, office goods, lifestyle products and other finished consumer goods
- Commercial agreements can be combined with technical assistance or R&D cooperation where material adaptation, testing or new designs are required

Technical specification or expertise sought

- Expertise in the manufacturing of finished consumer products, including fashion items, leather goods or leather-alternative goods, jewellery and jewellery subcomponents, watches, accessories, stationery, office products, lifestyle products, home decor or related sectors.
- Ability to work with eco-responsible materials such as vegan and bio-based leather alternatives, recycled or responsibly sourced textiles, recycled or European-origin precious metals, crystals, glass or mineral components, recycled paper, cardboard, wood, cork or other low-impact materials.
- Ability to ensure high quality, durability, safety, finishing standards and customer-ready production for finished products.
- Experience in adapting existing designs or collaborating on new designs that meet specific environmental and social responsibility criteria.
- Capacity to prototype, test, document and, when relevant, certify the suitability of new materials or product designs.
- Capacity to scale production to meet the demand of an expanding e-commerce platform, possibly starting with small batches, pilot series or pre-sales before larger volumes.
- Knowledge of sustainable production practices and compliance with relevant environmental, ethical, social responsibility and product-safety standards.
- Openness to commercial agreements with technical assistance and/or R&D cooperation agreements with the NGO, material suppliers and other partners.

Stage of development

Already on the market

IPR Status

IPR Notes

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**
- **Goal 13: Climate Action**

IPR Notes

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

Manufacturers, artisans and factories capable of producing eco-responsible finished consumer products in sectors such as fashion, leather goods and leather alternatives, jewellery, watches, accessories, stationery, office products, lifestyle products, home decor and related categories. Organisations should be able to work with specified sustainable materials, either by offering existing eco-responsible products, adapting existing product ranges or developing new designs aligned with Made for Change's sustainability goals.

Specific Area of Activity of the Partner

- Finished product manufacturing across consumer goods sectors
- Fashion, textile goods and accessories manufacturing
- Leather goods and leather-alternative products manufacturing
- Jewellery production and jewellery subcomponents manufacturing
- Watch and personal accessories manufacturing
- Stationery, office supplies and professional accessories manufacturing
- Home decor, lifestyle and gift product manufacturing
- Sustainable materials processing, adaptation and integration
- Product design, prototyping and small-batch or scalable production

The tasks to be performed by the partner sought regarding commercial partnerships:

- Produce finished products using eco-responsible, recycled, bio-based or European-origin materials provided by listed or approved suppliers.
- Offer existing eco-responsible designs, adapt existing product lines or collaborate on new product designs.
- Work with the NGO and, where relevant, material suppliers to ensure materials meet technical, quality, social responsibility and environmental requirements.
- Ensure that materials used are sourced from Europe, recycled, responsibly sourced or otherwise validated according to the sustainability goals of the platform.
- Provide technical input on feasibility, costs, minimum order quantities, lead times, quality control, packaging and scalability.
- Participate, where relevant, in pre-sales or pilot batches to test market demand before scaling production.
- Scale production to meet demand generated by the Made for Change e-commerce platform.

Support for development projects in order to meet specific environmental and social responsibility criteria as well as production requirements can be discussed with the NGO. Depending on the project, Made for Change may also support partner visibility, transition support, design and prototyping processes, pre-sales and sales.

Type of partnership

Research and development cooperation agreement
Commercial agreement with technical assistance

Type and size of the partner

- **SME <=10**
- **Big company**
- **SME 11-49**
- **SME 50 - 249**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **10003004 - Recycling, Recovery**
- **11009 - Creative products**
- **02007010 - Metals and Alloys**
- **02007018 - Advanced Textile Materials**

Targeted countries

- **All countries**

Market keywords

- **07004003 - Home furnishing and housewares**
- **07004005 - Furnishing and Furniture**
- **07004008 - Other consumer products**
- **07004001 - Clothing, shoes and accessories (including jewellery)**
- **09004002 - Office furniture and other professional furnishings**

Sector groups involved

- **Energy-Intensive Industries - Materials**