

BESTSELLER

SOURCING REGIONS OF
PARTICULAR HUMAN RIGHTS
FOCUS

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This document describes BESTSELLER's approach in sourcing regions with particular risk of human rights infringements or environmental risks. While some regions are banned from BESTSELLER production, others are subjected to a particular Human Rights Due Diligence focus.

CHINA, THE XINJIANG PROVINCE:

Research has highlighted that the Xinjiang Province experiences potential human rights violations against Uyghurs, and other ethnic minorities, in the form of involuntary employment and discrimination. At the same time, approximately 20 % of global cotton production comes from the Xinjiang Province, with around 3 million farmers and factory workers who secure their livelihood through employment in the cotton and textile industry.

In order to avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts in the Xinjiang Province, while refraining from undermining the livelihoods of local workers who are dependent on the cotton and textile industry, BESTSELLER engages in the Xinjiang Province only under the following conditions:

There is a complete ban on all tier 1 and 2 production in Xinjiang (tier 1 includes cut, stitch, pack, wash and other processes at the garmenting level of production. Tier 2 includes fabric and trim manufacturers. 'Trims' include buttons, zippers, rivets etc.). BESTSELLER does not engage in any tier 1 and 2 production in the Xinjiang Province.

There is an increased focus on due diligence for tier 3-4 production (tier 3 includes fibre processing such as spinning of yarn. Tier 4 includes the extraction of raw materials and agriculture, such as cotton growing). BESTSELLER has an increased focus on due diligence procedures in tier 3 and 4 in the Xinjiang Province. For tier 3, we limit our business to only a few carefully selected key suppliers. In regards to tier 4, BESTSELLER is an active member of BCI (the [Better Cotton Initiative](#)), and fully supports BCI's strategy to promote the development of more sustainable cotton in the region.

MYANMAR:

Myanmar is exposed to risk of human rights infringements against ethnic minorities, especially in relation to activities conducted by the military. BESTSELLER wishes to contribute to the ongoing positive developments related to social, labour, freedom of association, and environmental standards in the fashion and textile industry in Myanmar, while avoiding financially contributing to the military. Consequently, BESTSELLER has imposed a complete ban on suppliers, factories, sub-suppliers, and suppliers of materials owned by or affiliated with the military of Myanmar.

BESTSELLER, as well as our direct and indirect business partners, must pay special attention to not engaging in business with the following companies owned by the military:

- Myanmar Economic Corporation (MEC)
- Myanmar Economic Holdings Public Company Limited (MEH / MEHL), previously known as Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited (UMEHL) and also referred to as 'oo-bine'.
- Daughter companies and affiliates of MEC and MEH / MEHL
- Other companies affiliated with the military

The ban also includes that suppliers, factories, sub-suppliers, suppliers of materials are not permitted to lease the land they occupy from, or pay rent to, companies owned by – or affiliated with – the military.

NORTH KOREA:

North Korea is reputed of human rights violations and since September 2017 textile exports from North Korea has been banned by the United Nations. Consequently, BESTSELLER has imposed a complete ban on all business relations with North Korea. BESTSELLER does not accept business with suppliers, factories, sub-suppliers, and suppliers of materials, located in North Korea. The ban includes any form of direct or indirect business relationship with North Korea.

The ban also includes, that business partners, suppliers, factories, sub-suppliers, suppliers of materials of BESTSELLER, are not allowed to have any direct or indirect business relation with companies operating in North Korea, even if this relation does not involve BESTSELLER products.

UZBEKISTAN AND TURKMENISTAN

Due to increased risk of negative environmental impacts and risk of human rights violations, including forced labour and child labour, BESTSELLER has imposed a complete ban on sourcing of cotton from Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

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