

# World Apparel & Footwear Database (WALDB) – Status of project work

*Prepared for: BAFU*

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Quantis is a leading life cycle assessment (LCA) consulting firm specialized in supporting companies to measure, understand and manage the environmental impacts of their products, services and operations. Quantis is a global company with offices in the United States, Canada, Switzerland and France and employs close to 70 people, amongst which several are internationally renowned experts in the LCA field.

Quantis offers cutting-edge services in environmental footprinting (multiple indicators including carbon and water), eco design, sustainable supply chains and environmental communication. Quantis also provides innovative LCA software, Quantis SUITE 2.0, which enables organizations to evaluate, analyze and manage their environmental footprint with ease. Fuelled by its close ties with the scientific community and its strategic research collaborations, Quantis has a strong track record in applying its knowledge and expertise to accompany clients in transforming LCA results into decisions and action plans. More information can be found at [www.quantis-intl.com](http://www.quantis-intl.com).

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| PROJECT INFORMATION             |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Project title</b>            | World Apparel & Footwear Database (WALDB)   |
| <b>Contracting organization</b> |   |
| <b>Liability statement</b>      | Information contained in this report has been compiled from and/or computed from sources believed to be credible. Application of the data is strictly at the discretion and the responsibility of the reader. Quantis is not liable for any loss or damage arising from the use of the information in this document.  |
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| <b>Associated files</b>         | -   |

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| CO <sub>2</sub> | Carbon Dioxide                                 |
| eq              | equivalents                                    |
| GHG             | Greenhouse gas                                 |
| GWP             | Global Warming Potential                       |
| IPCC            | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change      |
| ISO             | International Organization for Standardization |
| kg              | Kilogram = 1,000 grams (g) = 2.2 pounds (lbs)  |
| km              | Kilometer = 1000 meters (m)                    |
| kWh             | Kilowatt-hour = 3,600,000 joules (j)           |
| LCA             | Life Cycle Assessment                          |
| LCI             | Life Cycle Inventory                           |
| LCIA            | Life Cycle Impact Assessment                   |
| m <sup>2</sup>  | Square meter                                   |
| m <sup>3</sup>  | Cubic meter                                    |
| MJ              | Megajoule = 1,000,000 joules, (948 Btu)        |

# Notice on the project status WALDB

## 1 Introduction

Apparel and footwear is a highly visible and major segment of overall global consumption. The production of apparel and footwear is related to a wide range of environmental impacts ranging from water consumption caused by cotton cultivation, or impacts related to dyeing and tanning, to greenhouse gas emissions derived from manufacturing and distribution, for example.

Currently, tangible data on the environmental impacts of the processes along the apparel and footwear supply chain is rare or non-existent. However, driven by the development of new public policies, like the Green Economy and the EU's Single Market for Green Products, interest in calculating life cycle assessments of the apparel and footwear industry is rapidly increasing.

The project "World Apparel & Footwear Life Cycle Assessment Database (WALDB)" will deliver quantified data for environmental impact assessment and footprinting in the fashion industry. The database will hold data for the most relevant environmental indicators on cultivation, processing and finishing that are based on primary data from the WALDB partners in addition to existing datasets found in scientific studies. The data can be used in all common LCA tools and fulfils the quality guidelines of ecoinvent and of European Life Cycle Database (ELCD).

At launch, the database consists of 60 data sets that cover wool, cotton, and leather supply chains. WALDB will be continuously expanded during the three years of the project according to the needs of the partners and published in annual releases.

## 2 Status of the work

Main achievements of this first period of the project were following:

- Preparation and holding of the one-day kick-off event
- Start of building of the advisory board
- Preparation of the guidelines

### 2.1 Kick-off event

The one-day kick-off event was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November in Zürich, at the Quantis premises. It brought the key partners of the WALDB together, which include HUGO BOSS, Legero/Think! Shoes, the OEKO-TEX® Association, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), and BSD Consulting. The Italian tanning industry association UNIC was also attending as an observer.

Main objectives of the kick-off meeting were:

- Refinement of the project's goals
- Definition of the consortium agreement

- Definition of the strategy for the database management
- Definition of a draft work plan for year 1
- Finalization of the press release

A more detailed summary of the meeting can be found in the minutes of the meeting, in the annex of this document.

## 2.2 Advisory board

Based on the discussion at the kick-off meeting, various bodies are being contacted to build the advisory board. Following persons/organisations are being contacted:

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Manuele Margni  | CIRAIG    |
| Monika Messmer  | FiBL      |
| Anne PERWUELZ   | ENSAIT    |
| Mauro Cordella  | JRC       |
| Tereza Levova   | ecoinvent |
| Mary Ann Curran | BAMAC LTd |
| Jens Soth       | Helvetas  |
| Tom Brooks      | IUCN      |
| tbd             | UNIDO     |

## 2.3 Preparation of the guidelines

The guidelines will be drafted in December '15 and January '16. They will be based strongly on the methodological guidelines of the World Food Database

### 3 Annex: minutes of the kick-off meeting

#### 3.1 General information

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Date:                | 02.11.2015 |
| Venue(s):            | Zürich     |
| Type of meeting:     | Kick-off   |
| Duration of meeting: | 9h45-17h   |

#### 3.2 Attendees

| Name                    | Company        |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Saskia Sanders          | BAFU           |
| Ruth Freiermuth         | BAFU           |
| Primiano                | UNIC           |
| David Pircher           | Oeko-Tex       |
| Michael Möller          | Hohenstein     |
| Mark Starmanns          | BSD Consulting |
| Michela Gioacchini (MG) | Hugo Boss      |
| Heinz Zeller (HZ)       | Hugo Boss      |
| Mireille Faist (MF)     | Quantis        |
| Rainer Zah (RZ)         | Quantis        |
| Gregory Simmonin (GS)   | Quantis        |
| Stefanie Lin (excused)  | Legero         |

#### 3.3 Objectives

- ✓ Present the project team
- ✓ Validate the objectives, proposed approach, time schedule and deliverables
- ✓ Define next steps



### 3.4 Minutes

I/T/D: Information/Task /Decision

| Topic             | I/T/D | Description  | Who |
|-------------------|-------|--|-----|
|                   |       |  |     |
| <b>Status Quo</b> |       | <p>Hansmann HB → contact<br/>Decathlon (BAFU)<br/>Contact with Frank Henne (Adidas) from HB<br/>Call (Ademe) for textile DB (question from BAFU)<br/>Becoming a standard: are we enough partners?<br/>Would SAC be useful to be a standard?<br/>RZ: Bayer / BASF are more useful on the side of data.<br/>Discussion with Galatola is important. Key point is the quality and usefulness of the database.<br/>DP: implementation is missing at SAC. So WALDB could come from the base to set a standard.<br/>Problem: SAC is everywhere but lacks of implementation. Often relevant SAC members are disappointed about work of SAC.<br/>HZ: SAC in WALDB only under very strong conditions because collaboration can be rather a step back as forward.</p> |     |

|                             |  |   |  |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Access rights</b></p> |  | <p>Access rights?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heinz: Goal is to get more partners in the consortium; access during the project exclusively for partners</li> <li>• Problem with ecoinvent is to get funding for maintenance</li> <li>• FOEN: has of course interest in public data</li> </ul> <p>New members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be open for new key partners that bring in some know-how (bring in money and data), but not too many to keep it manageable</li> <li>• If you want to consume data you should be associated partner</li> <li>• Acceptance by board (100% consensus);</li> </ul> <p>Update and maintenance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business model to be developed by Quantis soon</li> </ul> <p>Access rights for advisory board members?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heinz: non-commercial access rights if they do some real quality control work.</li> <li>• FOEN supports non-commercial use, OEKO-TEX as well</li> <li>• </li> </ul> |  |
| <p><b>Tools</b></p>         |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality checks: two levels: quality check of background data within WALDB; different checks depending on the chosen footprint method (e.g. according to ISO 14'044)</li> </ul>   |  |

|                                  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Advisory Group</b>            |  | <p>Heinz: WWF is not anymore a serious partner</p> <p>Ruth: UNEP not a suitable helpful partner</p> <p>WRAP (Mark gives the contact info)</p> <p>Textile Exchange</p> <p>Mr. Pircher will propose 1-2 US universities active in the textile sector</p> <p>Add UNIDO</p>  |  |
| <b>Communication</b>             |  | Roundtable: once a year  |  |
| <b>Consortium agreement</b>      |  | <p>Hugo Boss: one little comment</p> <p>Legero: needs a Austrian place of court; which is a problem for the other partners</p> <p>BAFU: include synthetics; revise section 8.2</p>   |  |
|                                  |  | <p>Clause for termination for FOEN</p> <p>Quantis sends a clean version for the legal departments</p>  |  |
| <b>Work Plan Year 1</b>          |  | <p>General agreement on work plan for year 1</p> <p>Would be great to have an outdoor company (→ Mammut): access to synthetic fibres</p> <p>Gore as a further possible</p> <p>Speak to Textile Exchange</p>  |  |
| <b>Natural Capital Valuation</b> |  | <p>Gregory presents the Natural Capital Valuation concept and project.</p> <p>HugoBoss explains that the motivation of participating in NCC is to understand how hotspots might shift when compared with an LCA analysis and being able to talk to the high management in a language they understand.</p> <p>Integrating NCC data in WALDB could be a good selling argument.</p> |  |
| <b>Press release</b>             |  | <p>The press release is agreed upon with a few editorial corrections.</p> <p>BAFU communication section gives feedback before the release.</p>   |  |
|                                  |  | Quantis sends the slides and the updated press release.  |  |
|                                  |  |  |  |
|                                  |  |  |  |

### 3.5 Next Steps

(orange background for Quantis and green background for [xx])

| Topic   |  | Description  | Who                      |
|---|--|--|--------------------------|
| New key partners                              |  | Focus should be put on key partners which can bring data, if possible with competence in the outdoor / synthetic value chain (Mammut? Gore?)   | Quantis / BSD / Oeko-Tex |
| Access rights / Business plan for maintenance |  | Quantis prepares different models for a business plan for maintenance to be decided upon at the next steering board meeting  | Quantis                  |
| Consortium agreement                          |  | Quantis prepares a clean version of the consortium agreement based on the discussion and comments sent. The partners forward it to their legal department for corrections.<br>Having different court places is unusual and is a problem for the other partners → go back to .Legero. | Quantis / all            |
| Advisory board                                |  | Quantis contacts possible interested bodies as discussed in the meeting.<br>DP provides name of US universities.<br>WWF & UNEP will not be asked.  | Quantis                  |
| Methodological guidelines                     |  | Will be drafted and circulated early 2016 latest   | Quantis                  |
| Communication                                 |  | Roundtable takes place once a year   | All                      |
| Work plan year 1                              |  | Agreed as presented  | All                      |
| Press release                                 |  | Agreed upon after corrections. Feedback from the BAFU communication section  |                          |
|   |  |  |                          |
|   |  |  |                          |