

FWF Policy for Resource Allocation to Production Countries

Introduction

FWF is an international organisation that works with garment and textile companies based in Europe. Their production locations, however, span the entire globe.

Stakeholder engagement is an important source of information for FWF's multi-level verification methodology. FWF's stakeholder network in production countries is crucial to keep country information up-to-date, for investigating complaints and to provide guidance to FWF auditors and companies. Stakeholders also have an important role to play in determining and executing the appropriate remediation when problems are found.

For FWF to be effective in any production country, it needs to be able to:

- actively maintain contact with stakeholders (mapping stakeholders, 1-3 FWF visits a year, in priority countries at least one round table per year)
- train, manage/provide guidance to and supervise (including ongoing training) at least one full team of local service providers for audits, trainings and complaints handling
 - documents inspector
 - worker interviewer
 - OHS inspector
 - WEP trainer
 - helpline officer/complaints handler
 - and for priority countries a Country Representative
- allocate headquarter staff capacity to coordinate local teams and actively maintain the stakeholder network. (0,3 – 0,5 fte)

Numbers underlying focus of resources

In order to best manage limited resources, FWF periodically reviews the production locations of its affiliates across countries, in terms of:

- the number of factories and affiliates active in each country, and specific risks or opportunities related to each country
- FOB volume per country
- number of FWF affiliates with production in each country

These numbers are weighted¹, resulting in a ranking of FWF's member companies' production countries.

¹ For the final ranking the list with the number of factories is weighed double, as most relevant for the number of audits to be expected and number of workers involved.



FWF policy for resource allocation to production countries 2015

Priority countries in 2015

In 2015, FWF has capacity and resources to be active in nine countries. Weighing FWF member company supplier data results in the following list²:

- 1.China
- 2.Bangladesh
- 3.India
- 4.Turkey
- 5.Vietnam
- 6.Romania
- 7.Tunisia
- 8.Bulgaria
- 9.Macedonia

Countries no longer in the list

No longer included are:

- Burma
- Italy
- Laos
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Portugal
- Thailand
- Ukraine.

² Countries falling under FWF's Low-Risk policy are not included in this list; as per the low-risk policy, FWF does not have audit teams or complaints handlers in those countries and can therefore not claim to be 'active' there.