Animal Welfare as a business strategy in the fashion industry

Prof. dr. Ingrid Molderez & Pascale Maas KU Leuven – CEDON Paris, 26 May 2023



Introduction

Cases

Animal welfare as a business strategy

Values

Content

Activism

In fashion

What or which fashion company comes into your mind when you think about animal welfare?

You don't need to wait for a Fur Sale to buy a fur, Marc Kaufman Furs always maintains the very best pricing.

loomingdale's will not be accepting furs for cold storage this Spring. We are a full service furrier since 1870. We offer all the fure to maintain your precious fur coat.





May 16, 2023

Is fur farming worth the epidemic risk?

With bird flu spreading globally, some argue fur farming should be abolished to impede transmission to humans



Here's why Denmark culled 17 million minks and now plans to dig up their buried bodies. The Covid mink crisis, explained

Denmark culled 17 million minks in November in response to Covid-19 outbreaks at more than 200 mink farms. Now the country plans to dig up the dead animals after they started to rise out of their shallow graves.

Dec. 2, 2020, 2:28 AM CET By Ben Kesslen

COVID-19 Has Caused Over 1 Million Mink to Be Killed Due to Culling at Fur Farms

HEALTH 13 October 2020 By DAVID NIELD

HEALTH

We Have a Mink Problem

Birds aren't humanity's only bird-flu worry.

By Yasmin Tayag



SPONSORED CONTENT FROM EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS

ILN WINTER 2021

Open letter: It's time for an EU-wide ban on fur farming

24 scientists call on the Commission to end fur farming as wild animals cannot be kept in cages.

The clock is ticking for the fur industry Thursday, 16 February 2023

Commission to ban fur farming and the placement of fur products across the European market. In only eight months Fur Free Europe has already collected more than 1.4 million signatures (and counting).

Published: 26 February 2021

Written by Chris Remington

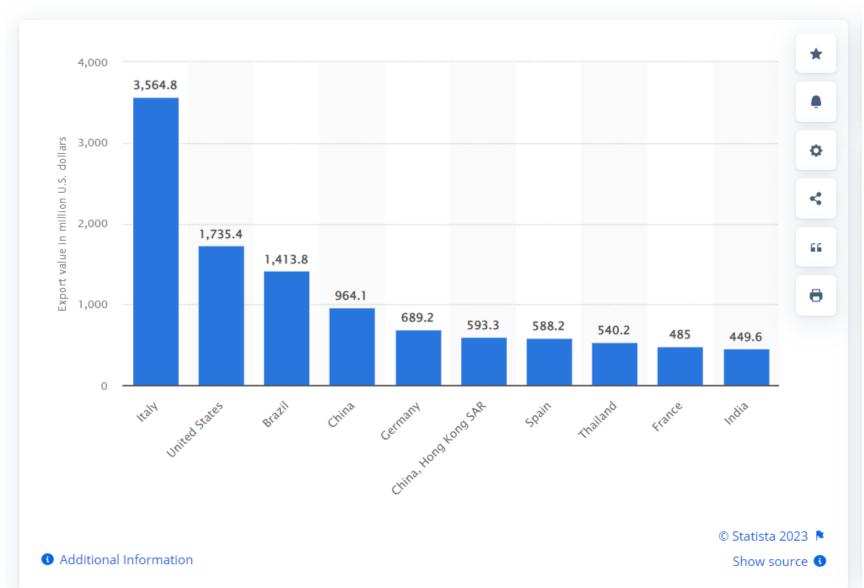
PM Boris Johnson urged to ban animal fur

LONDON – A letter signed by 50 British celebrities has been sent to UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, urging that the sale of real animal fur be banned.

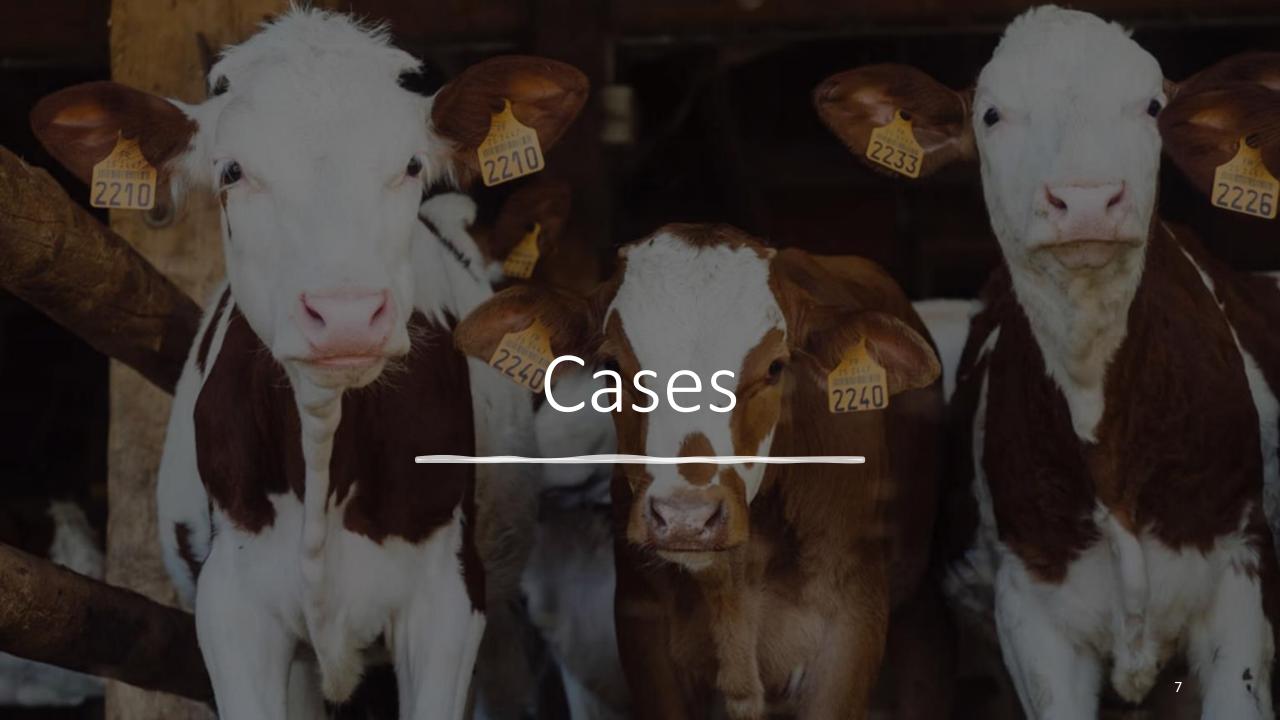
<u>Nertsenfokkerij in Langemark(België) is ware hel voor dieren on Vimeo</u>, 2016, forbidden in Flanders by 2023.

Leading exporters of leather worldwide in 2021, by country

(in million U.S. dollars)



Source: Leading
exporters of leather
worldwide 2021 |
Statista





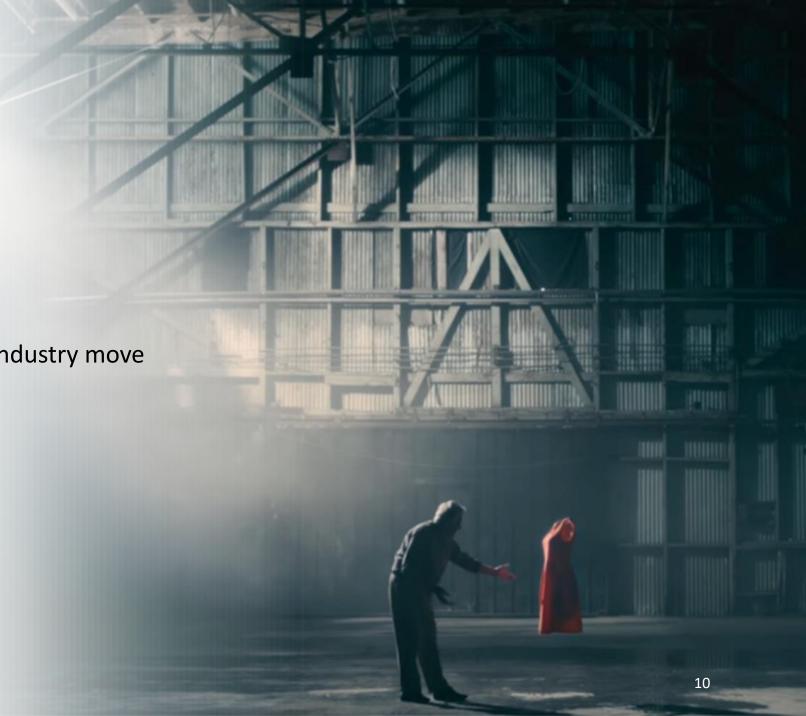
Atlantic Leather: Icelanders are known for reusing everything that others think is trash and we still have our ancestor's spirit of finding the useful in everything. Iceland is a big fishing industry nation, our ancestors used the fish skins for their shoes, so the inspiration was, find a use for 100% of each fish Icelanders catch and Icelanders are on our way to completing that task, Atlantic Leather is a big part of that project.

Atlantic Leather: Fish Leather: A by-product of the food industry | The Sustainable Angle

High fashion from Icelandic fish leather - Iceland Monitor (mbl.is)

Questions for reflection

- What is a by-product?
- What is tradition?
- How does this help the fashion industry move forward towards sustainability?











In 2016, BLOOM, an Algix brand, launched the world's first algae-blended EVA to the footwear industry as a sustainable ingredient in flexible foams for high rebound applications such as shoes, sporting products, and accessories.

Our first footwear launch was the Vivobarefoot Bloom Ultra III water shoe. It featured algae foam as the injection molded upper to showcase the Bloom material in a highly visible way.

Since then <u>we've partnered with countless brands</u> for everything from shoes to surfboards, helping them design eco-conscious products that have an active positive impact on the environment.

We're looking forward to years to come of exciting innovations and partnerships.

Join us on our mission to help the footwear industry Tread Well.

Questions for reflection

- What is a bio-plastic?
- Why would this be a good alternative for leather?
- How does this help the fashion industry move forward towards sustainability?





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Cleaner Production

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jclepro



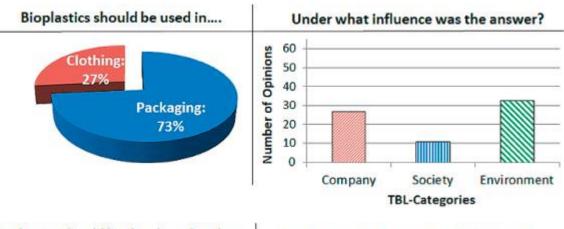
What makes bioplastics innovative for fashion retailers? An in-depth analysis according to the Triple Bottom Line Principle

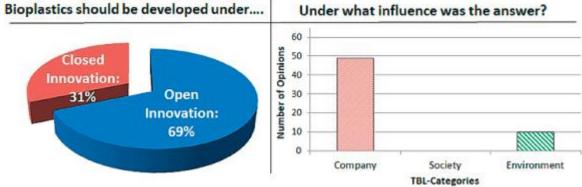
Daniel Friedrich a, b, c, *

^c Compolytics Research, Schwanheimer Straße 69, 74867, Neunkirchen, Germany

(1.2) Textiles represent % of our core business:	23%	
(1.3) % of synthetic plastics are in the textiles offered:	45%	
	Yes	No
(1.4) We design and produce textiles ourselves:	10%	90%
(1.5) Our textiles are usually offered unpackaged:	14%	86%
(1.6) We have already tried bioplastics in textiles:	9%	91%





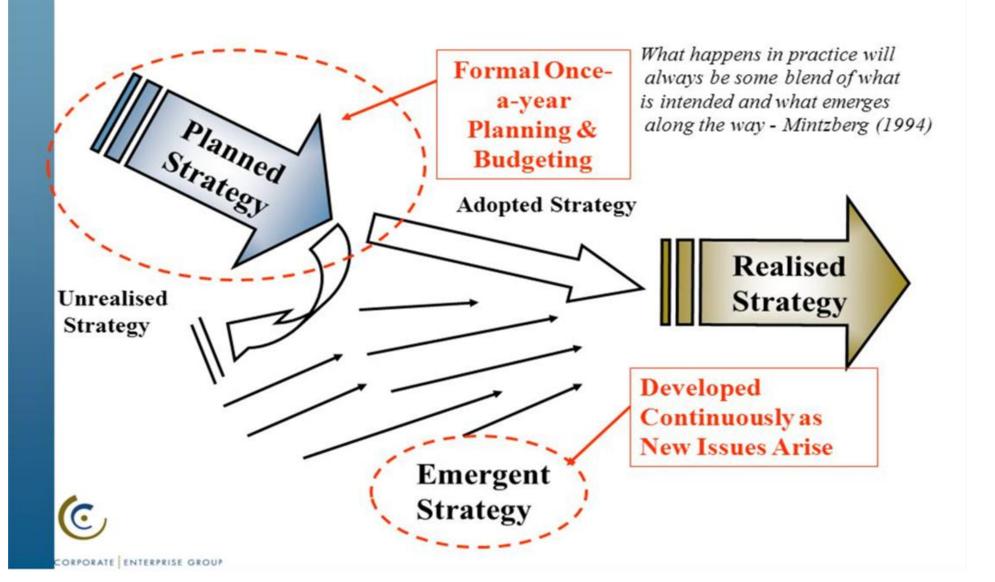


^a Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University Mosbach, Faculty of Business Administration, Arnold-Janssen Straße 9, 74821, Mosbach, Germany

b University of Bayreuth, Faculty for Business Administration - Marketing & Innovation, Universitätsstraße 30, 95447, Bayreuth, Germany

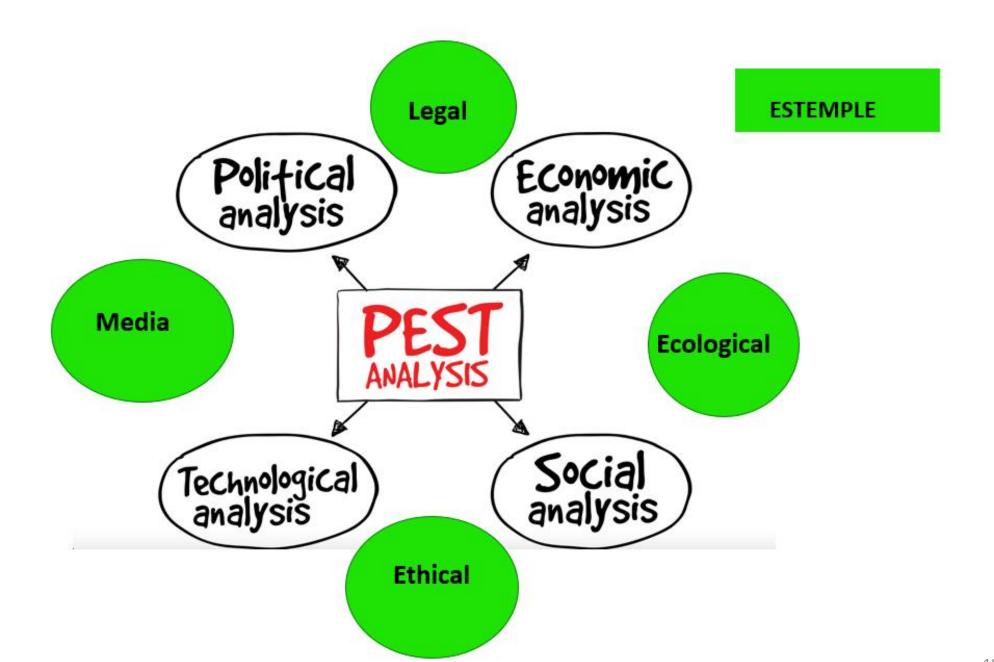
Animal welfare as a business strategy

Planned versus Emergent Strategy



Planned strategies Vision Internal External analysis analysis Strategy Formulation Strategy Implementation Corrective action Strategy **Evaluation**

De Prins, Devooght, Janssens, Molderez, 2009, p. 70



ESTEMPLE: Social and Political

530 BCE, Greece – First Animal Rights philosopher: Pythagoras (Violin, 1990).

1635, Ireland – first known pieces of animal protection legislation: Act Against Plowing by the Tail and Pulling the Wool Off Living Sheep was enacted in the Irish Parliament (Beirne, 2009).

1859, England - Publication of "On the Origin of Speciem of Charles Darwin.

> 1870, Europe - Animal protection advocates begin to focus less on animal cruelty as a harm to property and public morals, and more on animal cruelty as a harm to the animal itself (Lavi, 2007)

ESTEMPLE: Political

1998, EU – Directive 98/58/EC Concerning the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes. EU standards on animal welfare reflect the so-called five freedoms:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress

2021, EU – MEPs called on the Commission to come up with a proposal to ban caged farming in the EU by 2027.

9. Although most animals killed for their fur are raised on fur farms, millions of raccoons, coyotes, bobcats, beavers, and other fur-bearing animals are killed every year by trappers. The steel-jaw trap, which the American Veterinary Medical Association calls inhumane, is the most widely used trap. It's been banned by the European Union and a growing number of U.S. states.

Source: 9 Shocking Fur Facts | PETA

EU - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES): protects over 38 700 endangered species

EU – Action plan against wildlife trafficking

2022

2012

1975

EU - Wildlife Trade Regulations to ensure trade in wildlife products does not lead to species becoming endangered.



ESTEMPLE: media

Kylie Jenner Is Facing Major Backlash For Wearing Fox Fur In An Instagram Post

Her fans are not happy.

DEC 30, 2019 4:45AM BY SUKRITI WAHI

Celebrities

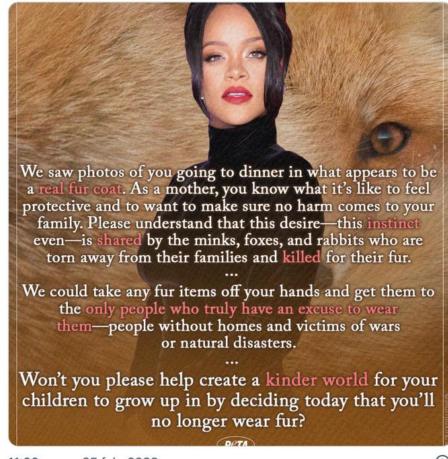
Rihanna is the center of a PETA press release for wearing what seemed to be real fox fur

PETA released a press release criticizing Rihanna





Our message to @rihanna 😿





Sustainability strategies

Weybrecht, 2014, p. 323-359.

- Companies adopting different shades of sustainability
- Sustainability at the heart of how a company does business
- Companies testing out the success of sustainability brands
- Companies who reinvented themselves through sustainability
- Staying ahead of the pack
- Companies expanding their focus

Companies adopting different shades of animal welfare

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Home World U.S. Politics Economy **Business** Tech Markets Opinion Books & Arts

H&M Suspends Production of Items Containing Angora Wool

Footage From Activists Shows Allegedly Inhumane Treatment of Rabbits in China

By Jens Hansegard And Sven Grundberg

Nov. 28, 2013 8:49 am ET

Share





Posted in Animal Welfare Clothing At November 18, 2021 21:13

H&M, Zara & Co. no longer sell angora wool

click fraud protection

To obtain angora wool, the rabbits' hair is torn out while they are still alive. Peta has now published a list with a total of 125 brands that no longer sell textiles made from angora wool.

Sometimes protest does something: When a Peta video went around the world in 2013, in which undercover agents showed the cruel conditions under which angora wool is made in China, consumers became loud and led some of the largest fashion companies to take the wool out of their range. **Peta has now published a list of over 120 labels, chains and manufacturers who do without angora wool.**

H&M, Zara & Co. no longer sell angora wool (feriantano.com)

Animal welfare at the heart of how a company does business

Our Animal Welfare Policy was built using two main documents as its cornerstones:

- The Five Freedoms, developed by the UK's Farm Animal Welfare Council. The Five
 Freedoms are a logical and comprehensive framework for analysis of animal welfare. It
 provides an outline to our position that all farm animals should have a life worth living
 and ensures that their overall needs are met. The pillars of the Five Freedoms are as
 follows:
 - 1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
 - 2. Freedom from discomfort
 - 3. Freedom from pain, injury and disease
 - 4. Freedom to express normal behavior
 - 5. Freedom from fear and distress
- Non-Species-Specific Animal Welfare Requirements. When we are sourcing fibers that
 do not have a Patagonia-recognized animal welfare certification, we have created a list
 of Non-Species-Specific Animal Welfare Requirements that we expect all suppliers to
 meet. These requirements are based on the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code,
 Chapter 7.1. While the Five Freedoms provide the conceptual framework for our
 animal welfare aspirations, the OIE code provides concrete recommendations for each
 step specific to the management of raising animals.

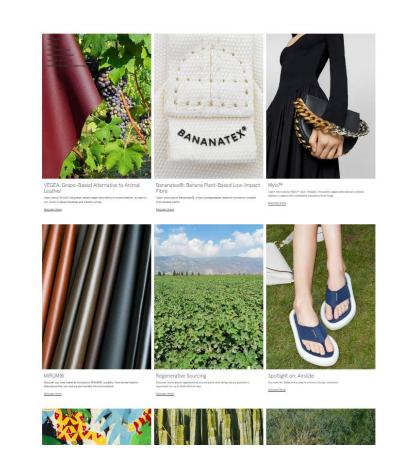


PETA Calls Out Patagonia for Secrecy Around New Wool Source

Published September 13, 2018 by PETA. Last Updated November 30, 2022. 4 min read

UPDATE: After twice suspending wool purchases following PETA exposés of extreme cruelty to sheep— the last of which showed workers at a Patagonia-approved wool producer's shearing operation violating the brand's own publicly touted welfare standards—Patagonia has resumed operations but refuses to divulge its new sources of "responsible" wool, despite repeated appeals for transparency.

Animal welfare at the heart of how a company does business





Sustainability (stellamccartney.com)

"Since 2005, sustainability has always been at the heart of what we do at adidas by Stella McCartney. We're continuously working, questioning, exploring and pushing ourselves to progress so we can unearth new innovative materials and practices within our collections," the designer tells Hypebae. "I know first-hand that sustainability isn't a race that can be won alone. Collaboration is critical. Fashion is one of the most polluting industries, so it's important that we come together to leverage our strengths and help drive change," she adds.

Stella McCartney Talks Sustainable

Design and Collaborating With

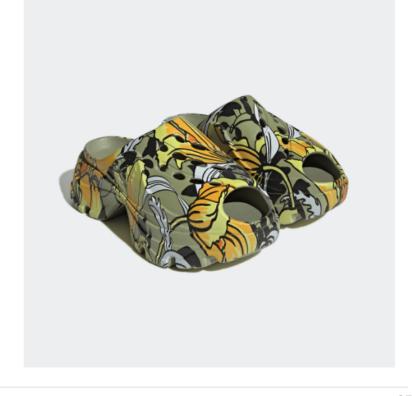
adidas (yahoo.com)

Companies testing out the success of brands that focus on animal welfare

THESE FLORAL-PRINT CLOGS ARE MADE WITH NATURE.

Off the coast of South Korea, there's a community of women who freedive well into their 70s and 80s. The floral print and buoy-orange accents of these adidas by Stella McCartney clogs take inspiration from those divers who collect waste as they traverse the magical underworld. With a lightweight feel and grippy outsole, the slip-ons are just right for a walk on the beach or a stroll through the city.

These clogs are made with natural and renewable materials as part of our journey to design out finite resources and help end plastic waste.



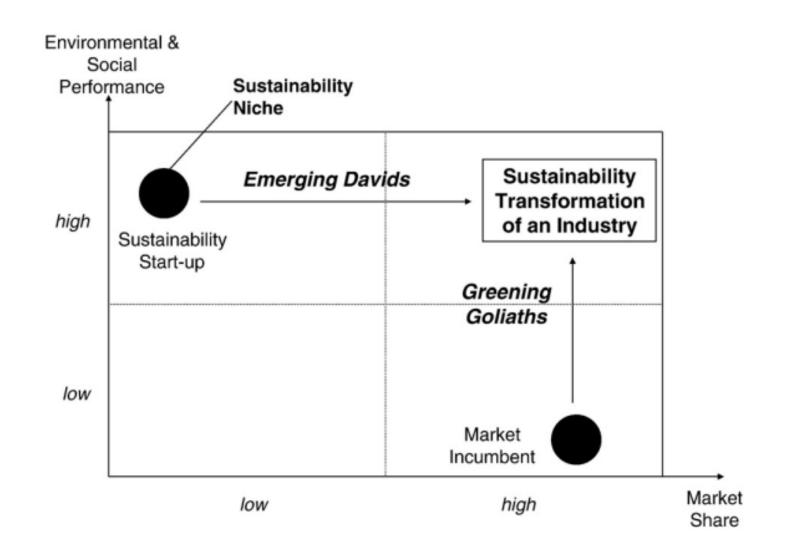
Companies who reinvented themselves through animal welfare

Hermes working together with Californian start-up MycoWorks.





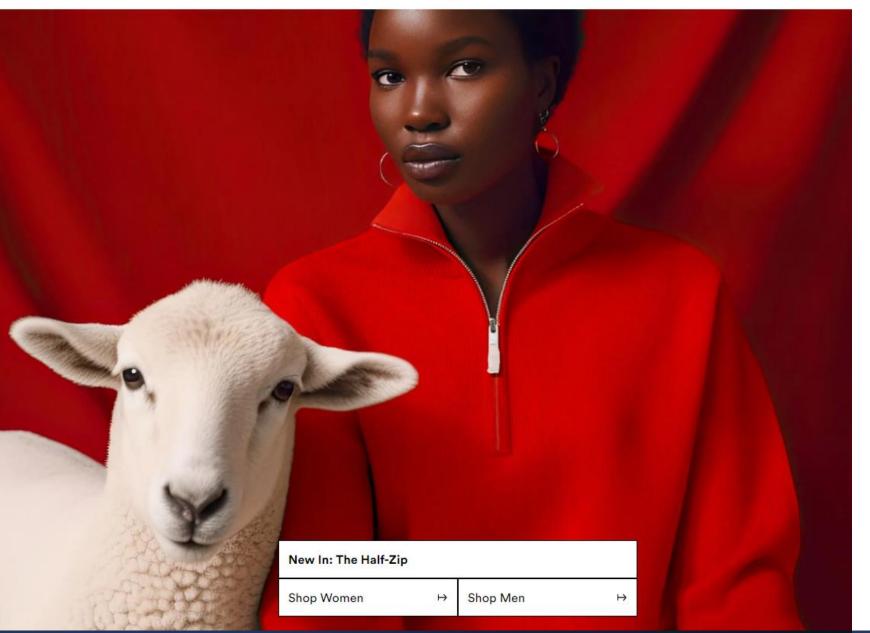
Hockerts and Wüstenhagen (2010, p. 488)



Companies who reinvented themselves through animal welfare



<u>Leather Made from a Cactus is a Eco-Friendly Alternative by</u>
<u>Desserto (mymodernmet.com)</u> Desserto



Staying ahead of the pack

A movement of brands such as Stella McCartney, A New Sweden, Patagonia, Gucci.

Regenerative farming practices:

- Replicate "what happens in the wild".
- Allows grasslands to recover.
- First carbon negative farm in 2019.

<u>Can regenerative wool make</u> <u>fashion more sustainable? - BBC</u> <u>Future</u>

Companies expanding their focus

en Kid

Dea



Your Concerns Are Our Concerns

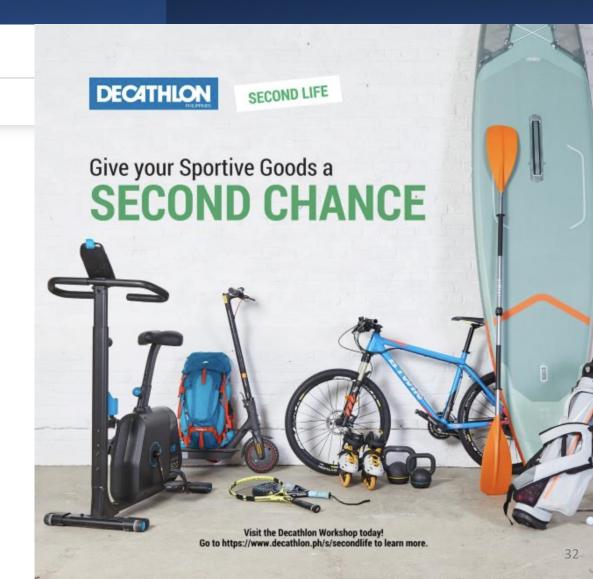
Over the years, we have received more and more questions about the origin of the wool we use: "Are the sheep treated well? "In order to answer these questions honestly, we have launched a traceability project.

We went to South Africa to ensure that the wool used in the manufacturing of Decathlon products is produced in an ethical and responsible manner.

Ethical Wool

Our wool does not come from a particular farm, but from a cooperative of sheepfolds that systematically respects and applies our rules, procedures and work methods. We can therefore confirm that the sheep are treated in the best possible conditions. They are well fed and have enough pasture and space to roam freely. Moreover, the practice of "mulesing*" is strictly forbidden.

*"Mulesing" is a harmful practice that consists of cutting the sheep's skin to prevent files from laying their eggs in the excrement caught in their wool. This method is not in line with Decathlon's values and ethics.





Despite the rapidly growing demand for more animal-friendly fashion, less than a third (32%) of brands source wool or down certified by any animal welfare standard, and just over a half (57%) have an animal welfare policy at all. Above all, translating policy into action remains the biggest challenge.

The most (and least) animal-friendly fashion brands of 2021 - FOUR PAWS International - Animal Welfare Organisation (four-paws.org)

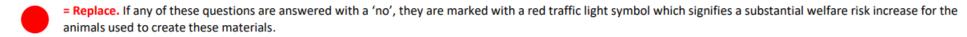


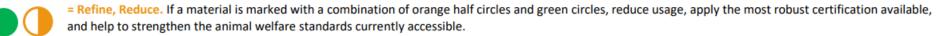
Our work to achieve an animal-friendly fashion future is guided by **FOUR PAWS Key Principles.**

- Companies should aim to achieve a high standard of animal welfare, by working to fulfill the General Welfare Aims of the Five Domains model.
- Traceability and transparency is vital, and brands should utilise the best animal welfare certifications available.
- Wild animals should not be used for textiles.
- Efforts should be made to significantly reduce the use of animal-derived materials.

Put simply.. Refine, Reduce, Replace.







Materials	1. Can the species be farmed commercially in a way that enables them to have a good quality of life?	2. Are there mainstream assurance schemes available for this material type, which can help to address animal welfare issues?	3. Is it clear that this product does not come from sources where animals/eggs are hunted/ harvested from the wild?	Recommendations
Alpaca				The Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) is the only animal welfare certification currently available. Brands continuing to source Alpaca wool should seek out suppliers certified by the RAS. FOUR PAWS urges that further improvements are made to this standard. *See further notes below.
Angora (Angora Rabbits)				FOUR PAWS is against angora wool farming and calls for a worldwide ban on all caged systems for rabbits, and an end to breeding angora rabbits with excessive hair – which compromises their welfare and health. FOUR PAWS calls on brands to ban the use of wool/fur from Angora rabbits as it is an inherently cruel industry.
Cashmere				Brands sourcing cashmere should seek and utilise cashmere from supply chains which have been certified by the Good Cashmere Standard (GCS). While the GCS does acceptably address animal welfare and provides the strongest animal welfare assurance of the cashmere certifications reviewed by FOUR PAWS, further improvements should still be made.
Down feathers				Brands sourcing down should utilise down from supply chains which have been certified by the Responsible Down Standard (RDS). Whilst this is one of the strongest standards available, FOUR PAWS urges that further improvements are made to this standard, for example live-plucking is currently not excluded at parent farm production level. *See further notes below.

FOUR PAWS ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY GUIDELINES FOR FASHION BRANDS AND RETAILERS

Fur		FOUR PAWS is against the use of all forms of fur and calls on brands to ban the use of fur. Brands are also encouraged to join the Fur Free Retailer program.
Exotic leather		FOUR PAWS is against the use of all forms of exotic leather, such as crocodile, snake and kangaroo leather and calls on brands to ban the use of exotic leather from any animal.
Leather from domesticated animals		FOUR PAWS is against the use of leather from intensive farming practices and concerned about general use, as there are no certification initiatives which can significantly mitigate animal welfare risks. Brands sourcing from Leather Impact Accelerator approved suppliers or farms should only use certifications in 'Category D' and carefully ensure supply chain traceability which is particularly challenging for leather. Brands should exclude sales of leather from aborted (sporadic or induced) animals i.e. slink and karakul.
Mohair (Angora Goats)		The Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS) is the only specific mohair animal welfare certification currently available. Brands continuing to source mohair wool should seek out suppliers certified by the RMS. Improvements should be made to this standard. *See further notes below.
Sheep wool		Brands sourcing wool should utilise wool from supply chains which have been certified by the Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), ZQ Merino or NATIVA TM . These standards can help to ensure mulesed wool is excluded from supply chains and provide the strongest animal welfare and traceability assurance of the sheep wool certifications currently available. See here for further guidance on mulesing initiatives. Improvements should be made to the level of animal welfare ensured by all mainstream wool assurance initiatives. *See further notes below.
Other fine wools e.g Vicuna and Yak Wool		In addition to the wool types mentioned above, there are several other types of animal fibre being used today. Some of this fibre comes from wild species and there are no certifications currently available which give any animal welfare assurance at all. We call on brands to avoid these materials.
Animal hair, shells, feathers, bones or teeth		FOUR PAWS is against the use of animal hair, shells, feathers, bones and teeth from wild animals due to the lack of transparency available regarding the origins and species of these materials.
Silk		FOUR PAWS recommends replacing silk with animal-free alternatives due to a lack of any welfare certifications available, and the challenges in sourcing a non-lethal supply of silk.

FACTBOX

Researchers at Middlesex University in Britain report that ducks have regional just as humans do.

Ducklings and goslings are often plucked when they are only 10 weeks old.

Buying down subsidises the cruel foie gras industry, as many farmers make exby selling birds' feathers before they slaughter the animals.

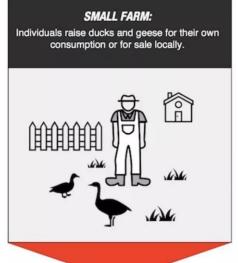
According to a poll commissioned by PETA US, 80 per cent of outdoor-sports e are happy to choose products with synthetic insulation rather than down.

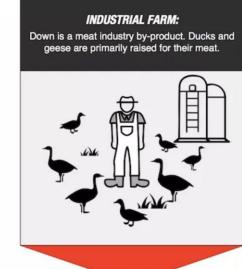


<u>Down Production: Birds Abused for Their</u> <u>Feathers | PETA</u> "OUR HOPE IS THAT THE COLLECTIVE USE OF THE RDS WILL EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE POSITIVE ANIMAL WELFARE CONDITIONS AND TRACEABILITY IN THE DOWN SUPPLY CHAIN AT A MUCH LAGER SCALE THAN WE COULD ACCOMPLISH ALONE. WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT BY DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE ACROSS THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN, THE RDS WILL BENEFIT THE INDUSTRY AT LARGE."

-ADAM MOTT, DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY











Values

39

Table 2
The 19 Values in the Refined Theory, Each Defined in Terms of Its Motivational Goal

Value	Conceptual definitions in terms of motivational goals
Self-direction-thought	Freedom to cultivate one's own ideas and abilities
Self-direction-action	Freedom to determine one's own actions
Stimulation	Excitement, novelty, and change
Hedonism	Pleasure and sensuous gratification
Achievement	Success according to social standards
Power-dominance	Power through exercising control over people
Power-resources	Power through control of material and social resources
Face	Security and power through maintaining one's public image and avoiding humiliation
Security-personal	Safety in one's immediate environment
Security-societal	Safety and stability in the wider society
Tradition	Maintaining and preserving cultural, family, or religious traditions
Conformity-rules	Compliance with rules, laws, and formal obligations
Conformity-interpersonal	Avoidance of upsetting or harming other people
Humility	Recognizing one's insignificance in the larger scheme of things
Benevolence-dependability	Being a reliable and trustworthy member of the ingroup
Benevolence-caring	Devotion to the welfare of ingroup members
Universalism-concern	Commitment to equality, justice, and protection for all people
Universalism-nature	Preservation of the natural environment
Universalism-tolerance	Acceptance and understanding of those who are different from oneself

Schwartz's Values Theory (2012, p. 15-16)

- Individuals differ in the importance they attribute
- Across societies: consensus regarding to its hierarchical order
 - 1st benevolence
 - 2nd universalism
 - 3rd self-direction
 - 4th security
 - 5th conformity
 - 6th hedonism
 - 7th achievement
 - 8th tradition
 - 9th stimulation
 - 10th power
- People often behave in ways that seem to contradict their values.

88% Of Consumers Want You To Help Them Make A Difference

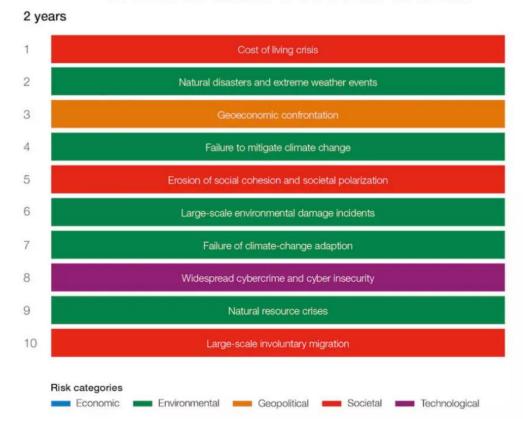
Nov 21, 2018, 11:43am EST

Contradiction with values

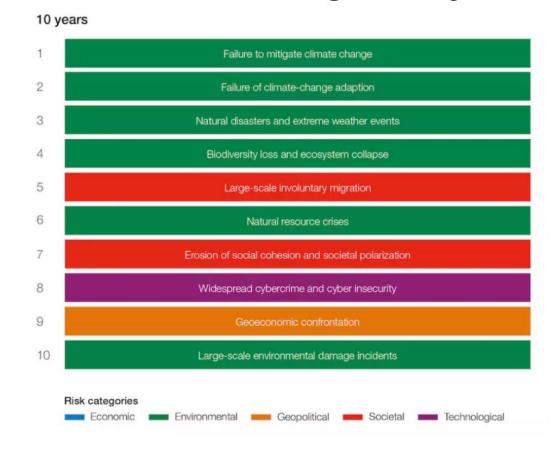
- Behaviour value gap.
- Younger generations are willing to pay up to 10% more for more sustainable products.
- 3 N's of justification: normal, natural and necessary.

Faced with an anomaly?

Grootste risico's voor de wereld



Grootste risico's: langere termijn



Source: Voor komende 10 jaar is klimaatverandering grootste risico (businessinsider.nl)

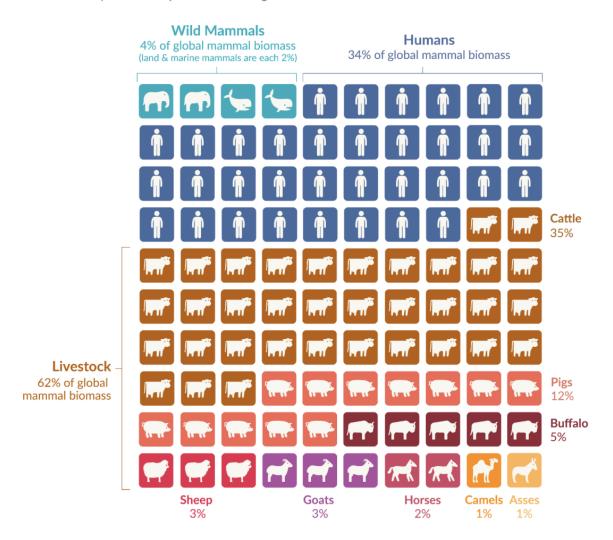


What is our ethical framework?

Distribution of mammals on Earth



Mammal biomass is measured in tonnes of carbon, and is shown for the year 2015. Each square corresponds to 1% of global mammal biomass.



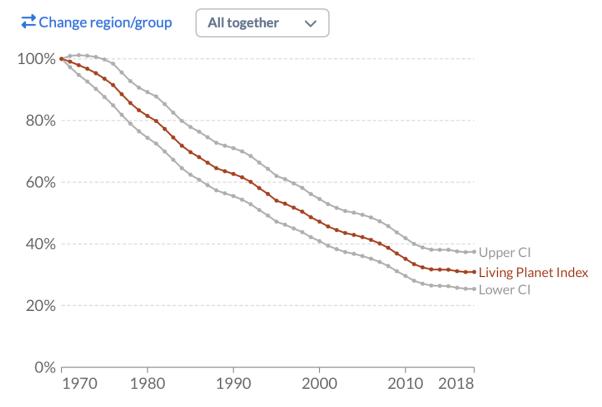
Note: An estimate for pets has been included in the total biomass figures, but is not shown on the visualization because it makes up less than 1% of the total.

Licensed under <u>CC-BY</u> by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Klara Auerbach.

Living Planet Index, World



The Living Planet Index (LPI) measures the average decline in monitored wildlife populations. The index value measures the change in abundance in 31,821 populations across 5,230 species relative to the year 1970 (i.e. 1970 = 100%).



Source: World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Zoological Society of London Note: 95% upper and lower confidence intervals are shown in grey.

OurWorldInData.org/biodiversity • CC BY



Leen Gorissen, 2020, p. 36-45

Mushrooms make rain, arctic foxes green the tundra, whales cool the climate and wolves change rivers



Life on Earth: the distribution of all global biomass

Biomass is measured in tonnes of carbon. The global distribution of Earth's biomass is shown by group of organism (taxa).



Molluscs

0.2 billion tonnes

Animal biomass: 2 billion tonnes of carbon (0.4% of total biomass) Global biomass: 546 billion tonnes of carbon Annelids Bacteria Arthropods
1 billion tonnes carbon **Plants** 0.2 billion tonnes 8% animal biomass 8% animal biomass 450 billion tonnes carbon

42% of animal biomass Fish 0.7 billion tonnes carbon 29% of animal biomass

Humans 0.06 billion tonnes carbon 2.5% of animal biomass 0.01% of total biomass Wild mammals 0.007 billion tonnes carbon 0.3% of animal biomass Wild birds

0.08% of animal biomass

Nematodes 0.02 billion tonnes carbon

0.2 billion tonnes carbon. 0.04% of total biomass Data source: Bar-On, Y. M., Phillips, R., & Milo, R. (2018). The biomass distribution on Earth. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Icons from Noun Project.

OurWorldinData.org - Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems,

82.4% of total biomass

Licensed under CC-BY by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser.

Cnidarians

Livestock

0.1 billion tonnes carbon 4% of animal biomass

0.1 billion tonnes carbon

4% of animal biomass



(10) Trailer film Onder het Maaiveld – YouTube (below ground level)

Ethical framework?

ework?

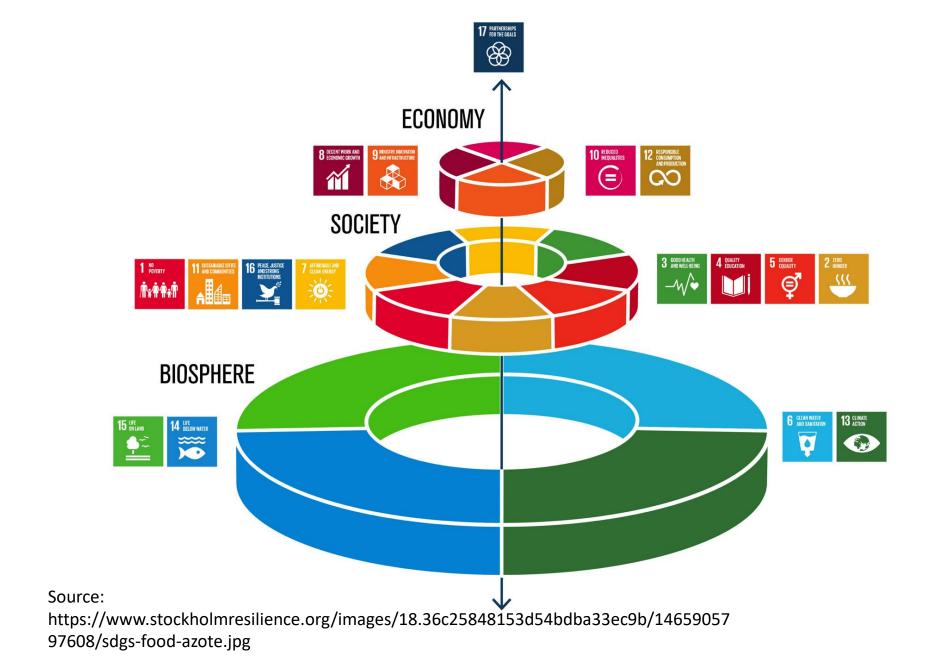
(Linzey and Linzey, 2018)

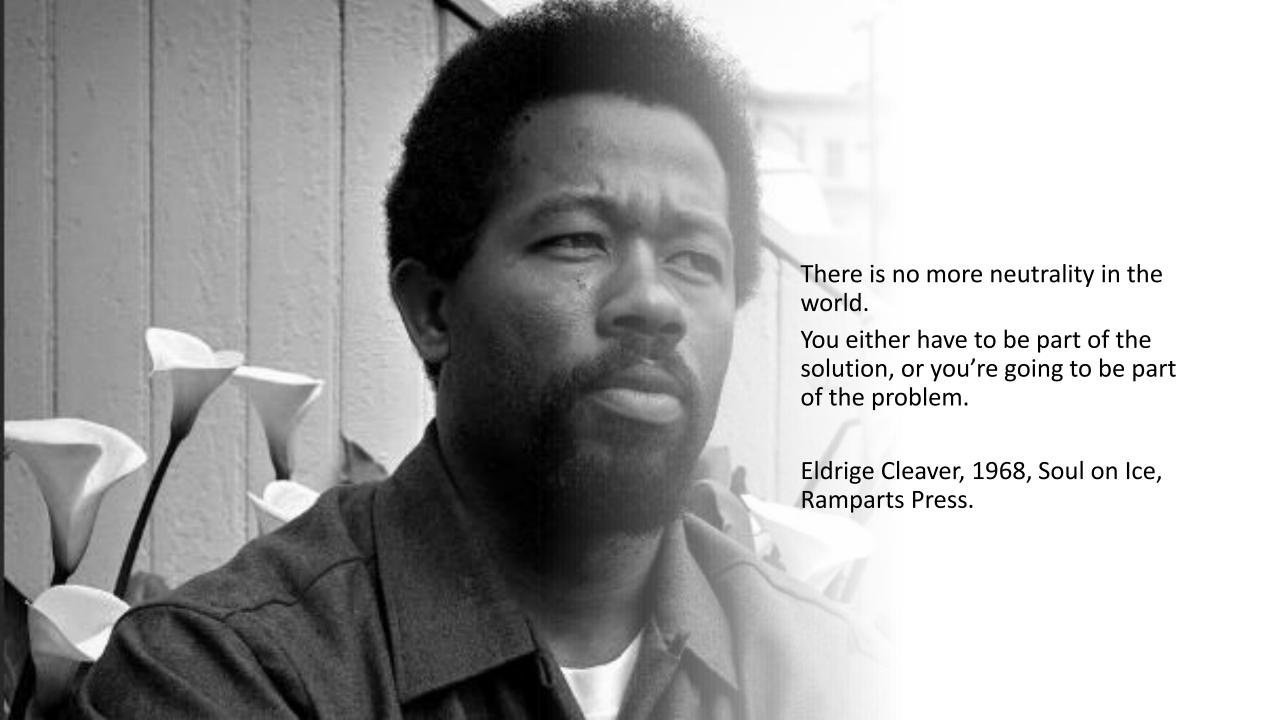
Rejecting Animal Ethics

- Anthropocentrism
- Instrumentalism
- Reductionism

Animal Rights

- Animals have intrinsic values
- Animals are important in and of themselves
- Harming necessitates strong moral justification
- Significant boundaries are imposed on what humans are permitted to do to animals





"The biggest risk with climate change is the idea that someone else is going to solve it.

So everyone in society or in a company who can do something to lead the way or take action has a duty to do so.

It's not just an opportunity, it's a duty."

Madds Nipper, CEO Orsted.

Bron: (4) Onze groene transformatie - YouTube



Future of Fashion?

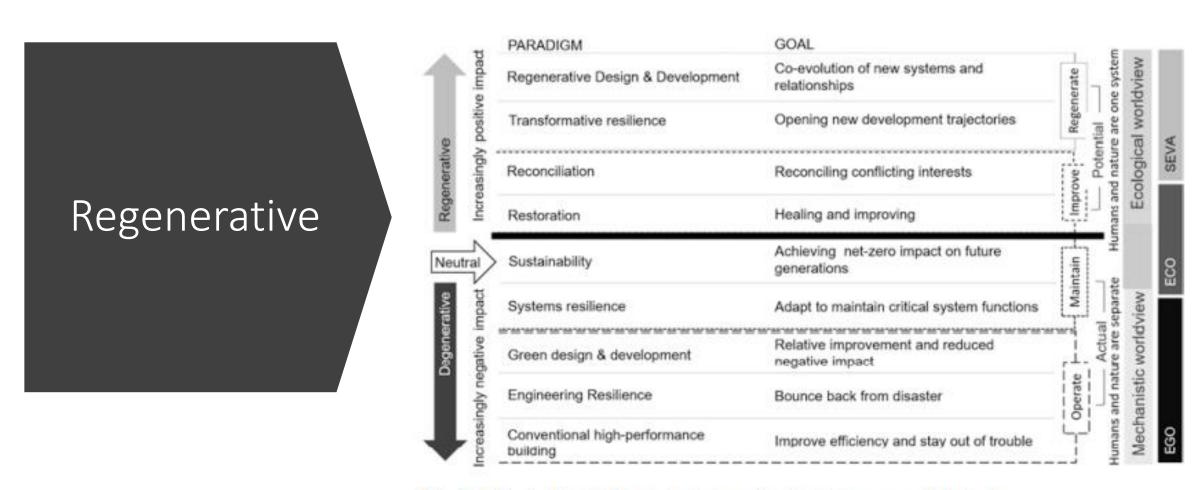


Fig. 2.4 Revised evolutionary trajectory of ecologically responsible design

Bron: Du Plessis, 2022

Going into activism

- Activist Entrepreneurs
- Being externally forced
- Employee activism
- CEO Activism

Bron: Skoglund, A., & Böhm, S. (2022).



Being externally forced

- PETA activism for over 30 years
- Companies going fur-free:
 - 2017: Gucci
 - 2019: Calvin Klein
 - 2020: Prada Group
 - 2021: Ralph Lauren
 - 2022: Tommy Hilfiger







Activist Entrepreneurs

Free Repairs Forever

Every pair of Nudie Jeans comes with a promise of free repairs. No matter when or where you got them. Our jeans are meant to be worn a lot. We use only high-quality fabrics, and the sewing is top class.

Nudiejeans

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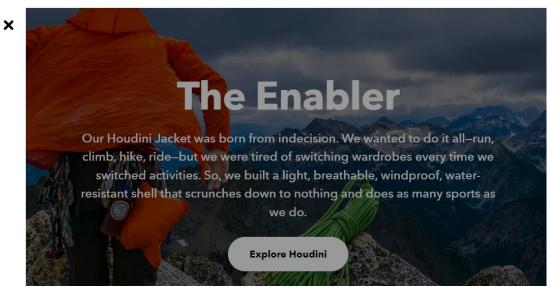


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Yoshitomo Nara × Stella McCartney Kids: A new generation of activists



Thank you for being the change!