

Responsible management of the supply chain in the garment sector, preparation of an EU initiative



European Year for Development in 2015

An opportunity to showcase EU activities and to engage with citizens, with 3 key objectives:

- Inform Union citizens about EU development cooperation achievements
- Promote relevant debate within the EU
- Raise awareness of the benefits for beneficiaries and Union citizens:
 - foster a sense of joint responsibility
 - solidarity and opportunity in an increasingly interdependent world

Why an EU garment initiative ?



Source: rijans - Flickr



Source: rsc.org, Chemistry World



Source: betterfactories.org

- Responsible supply chains in the garment sector, a key issue in developing countries, close to **citizens' concerns** and expectations
- The **added-value** of an EU-wide initiative to increase visibility, cover a broad range of issues, have a critical mass, and step up efforts of all actors

EU garment initiative – proposed objectives (1)

- Encourage better **coordination, collaboration**, dialogue and exchanges between all stakeholders active in this area, aiming at long term improvements
- Improve **communication** on successful initiatives and relevant EU actions + raise **awareness** among European consumers

EU garment initiative – proposed objectives (2)

- Build on EU added value and stimulate all actors to **step up efforts**, including by:
 - encouraging and supporting **developing countries** to sign up to and implement international standards and conventions
 - fostering **responsible management and transparency** of supply chains by companies
 - strengthening **global governance** (with ILO, OECD, UN and others)

Consultation process and next steps

- **January 2015:** Informal consultation meeting in Brussels to share experience and good practices, gather ideas and suggestions
- **June-September 2015:** Further consultation process with stakeholders to feed into the preparation process
- **Before end 2015:** Launching event of the EU garment initiative (multi-stakeholder platform)

For more information

For more information or to take part in the consultation process of the EU garment initiative, please contact:

EuropeAid-GARMENT-FLAGSHIP-INITIATIVE@ec.europa.eu