



Size Does Not Matter – Sourcing Raw Materials Sustainably

Overview

As interest in sustainable sourcing grows, it's become increasingly important to start at the beginning by sourcing sustainable raw materials.

Accessing raw materials can seem overwhelmingly complicated, time consuming or expensive, particularly for SMEs. However, in order to drive supply & demand, it is key that all businesses understand the access routes to sustainable commodities.

This session provides a practical workshop to show attendees how all businesses, including SMEs, can include sustainable raw materials in their products.

Speakers

Moderator: **Anouschka Jansen**, Senior Manager of Environmental Programmes – Foreign Trade Association (FTA)

- **Félix Romero Cañizares**, Key Account Manager - Market Development at FSC International
- **Kerem Saral**, Senior Supply Chain Manager - Better Cotton Initiative
- **Norma Tregurtha**, Policy and Outreach Director - ISEAL Alliance
- **Ajoy K. Misra**, Managing Director & CEO - Tata Global Beverages Limited

Session Highlights

- Tata presented their role in working with the sourcing SMEs: 35 – 40% of tea in the world comes from small tea growers (> 0.8 Ha). Tata has certified 100% of Tetley tea in Rainforest Alliance (aim to certify all their tea by 2020), they work on bio pesticides and bio-control agents.
- Sustainability today still is a competence advantage but this will cease in the long term. SMEs therefore need to get involved into sustainability now. At the moment, only 312/2000 of FSC certifications on forest management are for SMEs.
- BCI presented the segmented state of the cotton supply chain: countries specialise in either production or manufacturing of cotton and CSR teams are detached from business teams. SMEs can have access to sustainable raw materials if every stakeholder plays its part.
- SDGs put forward the sustainability commitments, industry platforms help to implement the SDGs, so do national due-diligence legislation. The finance sector is also looking into sustainability issues before investing. ISEAL showed how standards help you operationalise your sourcing agenda

- Advice for SME: Know where your products come from, know what are the main sustainable issues in your sector and geography, know what external standards are available, and evaluate if the standard creates added value.

Quotes

- **Félix Romero Cañizares:** “Huge companies have responsibility to change the whole supply chain that has consequences on small companies”
- **Norma Tregurtha** “If you want to source sustainably, no need to reinvent the wheel, hundreds of standards and tools already exist”
- **Norma Tregurtha** „Strengthen business case for everybody in the supply chain: everybody should know what are the costs and benefits“