



Ayca Yilmaz

Senior Manager, Sustainable Products and Materials

📍 Munich, Germany

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Languages

French (Basic)

English (Fluent)

Turkish (Native)

About

Sustainable materials and products specialist with experience in environmental impact analysis, fashion industry standards and certification processes, and responsible sourcing.

BRANDS WORKED WITH

Gaia Sourcing UK LLP

Green Story Inc

LTB Jeans

Westwing

Experience



● Senior Sustainability Manager

Westwing | Jan 2022 - Jul 2023

Led efforts to integrate corporate sustainability objectives into the product development process, resulting in a significant increase in certified product intake of wood (to 60% from 8%) and cotton (to 31% from 7%) within 2022

Coordinated 3 successful audits for GOTS, GRS, and RWS brand certifications and ensure compliance with the standards throughout multiple internal teams' processes

Developed and optimized tools and processes to make sure 100% traceability and compliance of sustainability claims across 10+ standards

Evaluated certificate and material options to upgrade sustainability criteria aligning with corporate sustainability strategy, totalling 6 additional certificates and 4 new fibres in the benchmark

Researched and analyzed innovative materials and supplier partners to create capsule collections collaborating with design, buying and quality teams

Provided guidance and training on material and product sustainability processes for the internal and external partners

● Team Lead – Analysis

Green Story Inc | Jun 2021 - Dec 2021

Supervised a team of six analysts, overseeing small to medium-sized life cycle assessment (LCA) projects for fashion and footwear products

Reviewed supply chain data from fibre to finished products, LCA models, and final environmental impact reports, ensuring accuracy and quality

Provided training to the analysis team on textile processes and products, enhancing their understanding of practices and methodologies in the fashion industry

● Environmental Impact Analyst

Green Story Inc | May 2020 - Jun 2021

Conducted environmental Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) to identify opportunities for improvement in energy consumption, GHG emissions, and water use

Researched and evaluated literature and industry reports for potential LCA projects involving innovative materials

Led primary data collection from fashion supply chains for detailed analyses of production processes, products, or systems

● Sustainability Specialist

Gaia Sourcing UK LLP | Sep 2018 - Aug 2019

Guided and trained intercompany departments on sustainable materials, processes, industry standards and certifications, fostering a sustainable mindset within the organization

Established a sustainable material library from innovative fibres to packaging solutions

Initiated partnerships and developed sustainable materials with fibre, yarn, and fabric manufacturers globally

Represented the company in fashion and material/fabric fairs, showcasing sustainable practices and building industry connections

● **Fabric and Product Developer**

Gaia Sourcing UK LLP | Apr 2011 - Sep 2018

Led product development for +5 product categories, collaborating closely with design, quality and buying teams

Researched and developed new fabrics, staying updated on industry trends through fabric fairs, showrooms, and competitor analysis

Improved product quality and performance by upgrading the wear and washing testing policy and process, eliminating cancellations due to quality issues



● **Assistant Garment Technologist**

LTB Jeans | Jul 2010 - Mar 2011

Created technical packs and solved pattern and workmanship-related issues by collaborating with design, buying, and pattern-making departments

Education & Training

2019 - 2020

● **George Brown College**

Postgraduate Certificate, Sustainable Fashion Production

2004 - 2011

● **Ege University**

Bachelor's degree, Textile Engineering