

Tammam Ethical Policy

Tammam maintains the highest ethical standards for human and animal rights, sustainability, environment and in relationships with suppliers. We offer an honest and transparent account of how we operate. We operate a coherent policy "from fibre to finishing" - we strive to be as ethical, sustainable and environmentally conscious as possible through all steps in the journey of production.

Certifications

Global Certifications, such as WFOT / FLO / GOTS help us and our customers ensure that we are providing garments made to the highest ethical standards, copies of certificates are available on request. However we will not exclude smaller independent producers who are unable to afford certifications. Every producer we work with has been visited and audited by a Tammam employee.

Fair Trade

Tammam ensures that the following standards are met for all production:

- Gender equality;
- Responsible and sustainable production methods;
- Ensure all producers, suppliers and workers are paid a fair wage;
- Environmental practices are good and sustainable;
- No forced or involuntary labour;
- Freedom of association and collective bargaining;
- Adherence to UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- Clear and transparent working relationships and buying procedures;
- Environment for working is safe and regulated.

Tammam Guarantees

- Advance payments to suppliers when needed;
- Sustained relationships with suppliers.;
- Provision of training and financial support to partners and their communities.

Environmental policy

- Wherever possible use of natural dyes and closed loop processes;
- Use of heavy metal free and AZO-free (less toxic) colouring methods and low-impact fibre-reactive dyes (using less water than conventional processes) along with biodegradable chemicals;
- Wild and low maintenance crops used to produce fibres;
- Organic and Fair Trade Certified cotton is used whenever and wherever it can be sourced;
- Hand looms are used by most of Tammam's weavers using man power over fuel/machine power;
- Oeko-Tex standard certified, recycled or vintage finishings and fastenings;
- Recycling of all scraps and waste;
- Tammam plants a tree for every dress made thereby offsetting carbon emissions.

Animal rights

Tammam products are 100% vegetarian and cruelty free.

The use of animal products is kept to a minimum - No wool, leather or skin is used for any designs in the Tammam collections, Peace silk is sourced for any silk items - all suppliers of silks are required to provide signed documentation to ensure that worms and moths have not been killed or mistreated in the process and will not be killed when use for fibre is over. We do not use mass produced silk fibres and constantly strive to improve the quality and transparency of the silk fibre supplies used.

We aim to use *wild peace silk* where the cocoons are collected from the wild after the moth has emerged, or semi cultivated silks where the moth is allowed to fly away after it emerges from the cocoon.

We use wool alternatives such as hemp and banana blend yarn / bamboo / banana fibre.

We also offer sustainable vegan alternatives to silk and wool materials and interlinings.

Materials

Silks

(Hand loom) - Organic certified, eri silk (open ended cocoons where the moth emerges before processing) Spun at a factory in Assam working towards very high trading and workers' rights standards. Silks are hand loomed by villagers who are guaranteed fair trade employment.

(Power loom) - We use ahimsa certified ensuring that the moth is allowed to emerge before processing. These silk yarns currently come from Korea and we are further engaging with suppliers from India. Ahimsa Silk is power loomed at a family-run factory in Bangalore, who offer fair wages and good conditions to their employees.

Cottons

For all collections we use Organic Fair Trade cotton- certified by Gots and FLO. The cotton is power loomed / knitted at a fair trade factory in Kolkata.

Our hand loomed cotton is organic, certified by Gots and hand loomed in a small South Indian Village where weavers are given fair wages and flexible working hours to accommodate other agricultural work.

Laces and nets

We use lace, tulle and net fabrics made in the UK or France. We are working on creating a tulle using eco fibres so this fabric can be "fibre to finishing" too. We have some limited supply UK produced end of roll stock and reclaimed couture French and vintage laces available.

Our hand made lace uses UK produced tulle base and "peace silk" or organic cotton yarn.

Banana yarn

We use hand spun fair trade banana yarn produced by a small initiative in Nepal using fibre extracted from waste, post fruited banana trees.

Interlinings

Our hand loomed interlinings use natural fibres such as jute, nettle, hemp, bamboo, cotton and linen. All are 100% vegan.

Prints and dyes

We use hand made wooden blocks and natural dyes that use water recycling and eco methods. Any chemical dyes we use are heavy metal and AZO free.

Boning

When we bone corsets, we use a recycled plastic boning, a synthetic (non animal) whale bone or metal spiral wire or steel boning depending on the support that is needed.

Zips

We use the best quality YKK zips certified ISO 9001 and Oeko-Tex

Buttons, Beads and Crystals

We are able to source high quality vintage pieces to compliment the garments we create. When we can not find something suitable we will work with artisans in Nepal or India create buttons and beads in pure silver, glass or other materials.

If we are unable to find or create a totally suitable sustainable, eco friendly, fair trade material to realise a design we will source the best quality and least harmful product we can.

Research and Development

A significant amount of time and budget is spent on development of new materials ensuring highest ethical and ecological standards are incorporated into all production.