

SUSTAINABLE FIBRE ALLIANCE

Q3 Newsletter 2022



Hi everyone,

A big thank you to those who attended Natural Fibre Connect last month! The SFA was proud to co-host the first NFC virtual event alongside our in-person conference in Mongolia which took place in early September. You can find highlights of both conferences below along with other updates from the SFA and our standard. The final public consultation for the SFA's new standard development will be starting soon, so if you want to contribute make sure to read how in the Standards section of this newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at our next Members' Meeting in December. Until then, stay warm and take care!

The SFA Team

GROWTH

MONGOLIA

5,692 - Certified Herder Households

53 - Certified Herder Organisations

940,511 - Goats Managed by Certified Herders

746.5 ton - Expected Certified Fibre



CHINA

9,358 - Certified Farms

3,711,161 - Goats Managed by Certified Farms

3,000 ton - Expected Certified Fibre



NEW MEMBERS

We are excited to welcome 5 new members to the Sustainable Fibre Alliance; Derong Cashmere,

Cariaggi, Shanghai Xintianmao International Trading Ltd., Chinti and Parker, and Hebei Ding Jia Jia.



CHINTI & PARKER



STANDARD DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The final Public Consultation will be launching soon. [Watch this space](#) for further updates.

Why is the standard being reviewed? The SFA first published its codes of practice for rangeland stewardship, animal husbandry, and clean fibre processing with a focus on continuous improvement. Certification could be achieved at three award levels to reflect compliance.

In 2022, the SFA has begun the process of consolidating these three existing codes of practice into a new performance-based, impact-oriented global cashmere standard. The aim is to avoid a proliferation of similar, but slightly differing, SFA codes of practice that were historically produced for specific countries or regions.



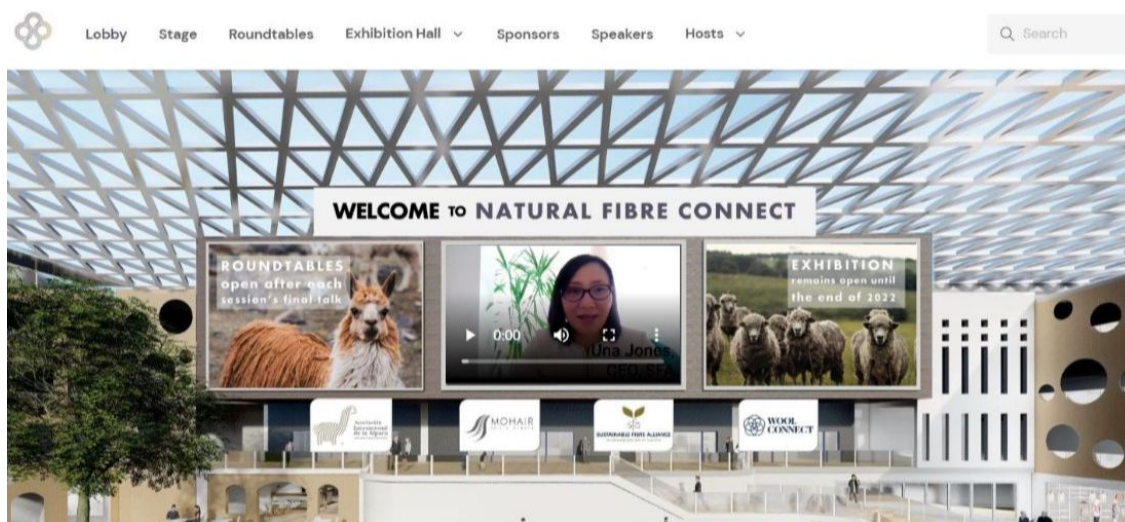
We invite you to provide your feedback on the content and structure of the SFA Cashmere Standard, helping ensure that the standard is developed using a multi-stakeholder approach with input from varying ethnicities, perspectives, industry sectors and locations. We are particularly interested to hear from underrepresented stakeholders that will be impacted by the standard.

We are actively looking for experts and practitioners in the following subject areas:

- Humane slaughter and injurious procedures
- Decent work/Human resources
- Environment and natural resources (water, waste, soil health).

You can provide feedback or comments relating to the content or structure of the SFA Cashmere Standard by emailing standards@sustainablefibre.org.

EVENTS & MEETINGS



NATURAL FIBRE CONNECT VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

This year, the SFA co-hosted the first Natural Fibre Connect conference alongside partners in the wool, alpaca and mohair industries. The event was part of a new collaboration within the natural fibres' sector to highlight the herders' perspective and explore solutions to the industry's most pressing challenges. The event welcomed 1,000 attendees from 43 different countries for 3 days of live talks. Read more about Natural Fibre Connect and the main takeaways of the event [here](#).

A reminder that the NFC virtual platform and exhibition hall will remain open through the end of the year so that guests can continue to network and view the recorded talks. You can login, or purchase a ticket, by visiting [this link](#).



NATURAL FIBRE CONNECT MONGOLIA CONFERENCE

Last month, the SFA successfully organised the Natural Fibre Connect in-person conference in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The event welcomed 120 in-person guests from 17 provinces, and an additional 11 thousand guests who attended via live-stream on the SFA's Mongolia Facebook page. Talks and breakout sessions were held throughout the day with herders and other industry stakeholders to discuss the main challenges facing herding communities and how they can protect their livelihoods while meeting market and sustainability demands.

As part of the conference, the SFA also hosted the 2022 Herder Sustainability Awards to recognise exceptional herding communities and individuals who are making strides towards community development and sustainability. A big thank you to this year's award sponsors; J.Crew, John Lewis, Alex Begg and Johnstons of Elgin. If you would like to learn more about the in-person conference click [here](#).



MEMBERS' MEETINGS

A reminder that the SFA will not be holding a Q3 meeting this year and we instead invite you to attend our next Members' Meeting on 14 December.

OTHER UPDATES



MONGOLIA'S ACADEMY OF SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP

This fall, Mongolia's Academy of Science and the Sustainable Fibre Alliance (SFA) signed a memorandum of cooperation. The goal of the collaboration is to assess and certify sustainable wool and cashmere production operations in order to reduce the negative impact of cashmere production on the environment, provide a better environment for the well-being of herd animals, and increase the ability of herders to recover their livelihoods.

Some of the objectives the partnership will focus on are:

- Jointly developing the methodology of the MLE of SFA according to the International



Social and Environmental Probability
Credentialing and Labeling Standards.

- Developing a three-year data collection strategy, work plan, and budget for the implementation of the MLE methodology in Mongolia.
- Identifying potential data sources at national, regional and local levels to facilitate basic data collection.
- Establishing an interdisciplinary working group consisting of experienced researchers in the 5 main areas of sustainable cashmere production identified by the SFA: animal welfare, biodiversity and land use, herdsman's working conditions, cashmere quality, and management.

THE SFA IS HIRING

Administrator Job Description

The role of the Administrator will be essential to the smooth running of the SFA's operations. You will provide administrative support to the UK team and, when required, to the SFA Mongolia team. If you are interested and feel you fit the role description, please email jobs@sustainablefibre.org.

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