

Turkey Earthquake Response: Questionnaire

This short questionnaire aims to understand in more detail the engagement apparel brands have had with their suppliers in the aftermath of the February 2023 earthquake. It aims to see how brands are meeting this challenging situation, in the context of reports that some buyers have adjusted their purchasing practices in the wake of the disaster.

Please answer all questions and provide YES, NO or numerical answers where requested. We also welcome additional information and context, and any supporting documentation you think it would be useful to provide.

In the period since the February 6, 2023, earthquake that affected a major textile and garment producing region in Turkey, with respect to your suppliers in that region:

1. Have you, as a matter of policy, directed your sourcing team to forgive delivery delays resulting from the earthquake and suspend the imposition of penalties until the region has recovered?

Yes.

2. Has your company imposed any penalty on a supplier in the region as a result of delayed delivery?

No.

3. Have you as a matter of policy directed your sourcing team, in the case of delivery delays resulting from the earthquake, to pay the affected suppliers no later than the date on which they would have been paid had on-time delivery been feasible?

Yes.

4. Have you, as a matter of policy, directed your sourcing team not to seek price concessions from suppliers in the affected region on new orders negotiated subsequent to February 6, 2023?

We didn't seek price concessions from suppliers.

5. Has your sourcing team negotiated prices on any new order from the region that are lower than those paid to the same supplier for like product during the prior season?

Prices on new orders from that region are not lower.

6. To the extent that textile producers in the affected region are among those that your brand directs apparel suppliers to utilise, have you taken steps to ensure that these producers will be paid in full and on schedule regardless of delivery delays?

Yes, we have.

7. Has your company provided any of the following forms of assistance to suppliers in the region in order to help them survive and fulfil their obligations to workers?

a. Accelerated payment on orders recently delivered, in transit, or in production?

No - our standard payment terms are 30 days and this hasn't changed.

b. Improved payment terms on new orders?

No - our standard payment terms are 30 days and this hasn't changed.

c. Providing low-interest or no-interest financing to suppliers?

No

d. Direct financial assistance to suppliers?

No

8. Are you taking concrete steps at supplier factories, aside from standard periodic auditing, to ensure that vulnerable workers (e.g. migrants, refugees, unregistered workers, pregnant workers) are not facing discrimination in terms of wage reduction or layoffs?

Our directly employed on-the-ground have not been able to travel to the affected regions due to ongoing search and rescue operations. We have maintained communication with all of our affected factories in the region and discuss each situation on a one-to-one basis. Where vulnerable workers are employed, we have engaged with those factories to ensure that all relevant aspects of our Code of Practice are being adhered to. We expect our team to reinstate in-person visits in the second half of 2023.

9. Have you taken steps to ensure that all Tier 1 and Tier 2 supplier factories in your supply chain, and within the earthquake affected regions, are structurally safe?

Yes, we have reached out to all suppliers/factories in the region. They have provided documentation from the Turkish Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate which have been shared through the government's online database.

10. Have you provided the families of Tier 1 and Tier 2 workers in your supply chain who were killed during the earthquake with any form of financial assistance?

a. If yes, what form has this assistance taken?

Immediately after the earthquake we sent support in the form of medical supplies, food, living essentials and clothes. We also contributed a significant financial sum to the earthquake disaster relief effort.

Feel free to provide any further comments.