

IKEA Response re. Forced labour in factories in Xinjiang, China  
28 July 2019

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre invited IKEA to respond to the following item:

“Cotton On and Target investigate suppliers after forced labour of Uyghurs exposed in China's Xinjiang”, ABC News, 17 July 2019: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/201907-15/uyghur-forced-labour-xinjiang-china/11298750>

IKEA sent us the following response:

We take these allegations very seriously. We are not aware of any forced labour among our sub suppliers in China and under no circumstance do we accept any form of forced labour in the IKEA value chain.

At IKEA we work continuously with safety and co-worker rights through the code of conduct for IKEA suppliers, IWAY. IWAY includes the IKEA minimum requirements relating to the environment and social and working conditions for sub suppliers.

Today, we don't have any direct IKEA suppliers in Xinjiang but we do have a few sub suppliers in that region and about 15% of our total need for cotton fibre originates from China, Xinjiang region.

The cotton is sourced according to [BCI](#), Better Cotton Initiative, which exists to make global cotton production better for the people who produce it and better for the environment it grows in. The Better Cotton Standard promotes Decent Work principles as outlined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) that prohibit all forms of forced labour and discrimination.