



GoodWeave International Generic Standard Frequently Asked Questions

Who does the Standard apply to?

The Standard applies to exporter licensees, and their supply chains, who apply for certification of woven home textiles from May 1, 2019. Those exporter licensees who participated in the pilot prior to May 1, 2019 will have one year to transition to the new Standard. Exporter licensees who have current certification for carpets and wish to have certified woven home textiles will have their full woven home textiles supply chain audited under the new Standard even if a producer is also making carpets.

When does the Standard go into effect?

May 1, 2019 for all new woven home textile producers.

How is the new Standard different from the Generic Standard for Rug Producers?

The GoodWeave International Generic Standard is a two-part Standard including *Component 1: Principles and Requirements*, and *Component 2: Sector-specific Scope, Claims, and Labeling*. The Standard has the following additional changes, as compared to the GoodWeave Generic International Standard for Rug Producers:

- Reinforces the differentiated responsibilities for supply chain actors (exporter; subcontractor; home-based worker)
- Requires exporters and subcontractors be responsible for the compliance of their subcontractors and home-based workers with the Standard
- Requires employers to execute written employment agreements, referencing specific terms and conditions, with all employees
- Increases the focus on preventing the performance of hazardous work by young workers
- Incorporates a clear prohibition on harsh, inhumane, or inappropriate treatment and requires the creation of an anonymous grievance mechanism
- Increased protections for wages earned and restrictions on the execution of loans
- Defines expectations on the responsible use of labor brokers in worker recruitment

Why does the new Standard have two parts? Do I have to use both?

The Standard is comprised of *Component 1: Principles and Requirements*, and *Component 2: Sector-specific Scope, Claims, and Labeling*. The two-part Standard establishes the principles and requirements that are universal to all GoodWeave certified product categories. It is tailored to specific products through the scope, claim, and labeling document which defines the specific details that are unique to a product category. The Standard is only complete when both components are applied.

Will GoodWeave add other Standards in the future?

Component 1: Principles and Requirements will remain constant. Additional Sector-specific Scope, Claims, and Labeling components will be added for each sector where GoodWeave certifies.

What happens to the Generic Standard for Rug Producers?

GoodWeave continues to certify rug licensees under the existing Generic International Standard for Rug Producers. In time, GoodWeave will publish *Scope, Claims, and Labeling for Rugs*, and at that time, the current rug Standard will be phased out. There is currently no change and rug licensees will receive communication and guidance well in advance of any future transition.

I produce non-carpet-like woven home textiles. Can those products be certified under the Standard?

At this time, the GoodWeave International Generic Standard has *Scope, Claims, and Labeling for Woven Home Textiles*. The scope limits the Standard to carpet-like products that are made using facilities and processes that resemble carpet production facilities and processes. GoodWeave is developing the *Scope, Claims, and Labeling* for non-carpet-like home textiles that will encompass home textiles that are made from machine woven cloth, such as those made in cut-make-trim facilities and that may have embellishment.

Who was consulted when the Standard was developed?

Starting in 2016, GoodWeave began the Standard development process in accordance with the practices defined by the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labeling Alliance. During that time, GoodWeave conducted three rounds of public consultation that solicited diverse stakeholder feedback including from the public through open web solicitation. GoodWeave received input from 46 individuals representing producers, government, non-governmental organizations, and consumers. The Standard is reviewed regularly and any further comments or input will be considered in a next round of review.

Who do contact if I have questions or comments?

Direct any questions or comments to standards@goodweave.org.