



# Sustainable Leather Foundation

## Audit Standard and Tools



# Audit Certification Program

## Principle Vision

The Sustainable Leather Foundation’s approach allows consumers to recognise and understand material Product Life-cycle Management for better informed purchasing decisions when buying leather products. This is possible by assessing and certifying leather manufacturers and associated leather value chain organisations for their performance and compliance against the Sustainable Leather Foundation Audit Standard.

Working with a joined-up approach the Audit Standard is accompanied by a robust set of Standards and Benchmarks, and Explanatory Notes and Templates, that support facilities in understanding what information is required and how it should be presented, monitored and evaluated. In addition, external resources of useful information are also referenced where value can be added.

The guiding principle of our certification program is A.I.M.:

<b>A</b> ccessible	<b>I</b> nclusive	<b>M</b> odular
<p>Unlike most certification programs in the leather industry, you don’t need to pass an audit before you can become a Partner of SLF. We encourage all stakeholders to become partners in order that we can then support the improvement with our tools to create a Sustainability Roadmap that is tailored to the needs of the individual facility.</p> <p>By providing access to the SLF tools, facilities will increase their potential for change.</p>	<p>Our program works whether you are a small organisation with 10 or less employees, or whether you are multi-national organisation with thousands of employees.</p> <p>SLF’s system is inclusive and recognises certification that is already in place from other credible 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations. This avoids duplication of effort and allows for freedom of choice when working with brands, suppliers and certification companies.</p>	<p>The SLF Transparency Dashboard™ is designed to be modular. Once a facility becomes a partner of SLF, their existing certification is mapped onto the three ESG modules. SLF’s Audit Standard can then be used to complete any outstanding sections if required. A tannery with no certification can start with just one module or with single sections in each module and build up their certification over a time frame that is designed around their ability/need.</p>

Our Audit Standard covers the three pillars of sustainability: Environmental, Social and Governance. For a sustainable business of the future, these three elements must be considered holistically and be ingrained as part of the everyday strategic thinking of the senior management team and right down to the workers in production. The modules can be worked on individually or together and the accompanying Standards & Benchmarks give detailed understanding of what is required at audit.

<b>Environmental</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>Governance</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licenses and Permits</li> <li>• EMS</li> <li>• Environmental Health &amp; Safety</li> <li>• Environmental Footprint</li> <li>• Land Use</li> <li>• Energy Consumption</li> <li>• Water Use</li> <li>• Raw Materials &amp; Chemicals</li> <li>• Machinery &amp; Equipment</li> <li>• Air Emissions</li> <li>• Effluent Treatment</li> <li>• Soil Contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permits &amp; Licenses</li> <li>• Age of Workers</li> <li>• Compulsory Labour</li> <li>• Discrimination</li> <li>• Corporate Social Responsibility</li> <li>• Staff Development &amp; Representation</li> <li>• Wages &amp; Benefits</li> <li>• Worker Health &amp; Safety</li> <li>• Working Hours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permits &amp; Licenses</li> <li>• Ethical Business Practice</li> <li>• Animal Welfare Practice</li> <li>• Traceability</li> <li>• Housekeeping</li> <li>• Best Available Techniques</li> <li>• Process Control &amp; Quality</li> <li>• Chemical Control</li> <li>• Restricted Substances</li> <li>• Occupational Health &amp; Safety</li> <li>• PR &amp; Communications</li> </ul>

- Only Pay for the Auditing that is Required
- No duplication of effort
- Equivalency for existing certification