Times Have Changed: The Benefits of Transparency Outweigh the Risks

MARCH 2024

OPEN SUPPLY HUB

We were able to visualize our supply chain for the first time.

We were able to ensure one generic, agreed-upon name for each of our suppliers.

We have reached new levels of clarity around how we categorize processes occurring at supplier facilities. As we map more tiers of our supply chain, we have been energized to standardize the data we are collecting and sharing across those tiers.

We have been able to engage with numerous organizations globally and enhanced our understanding of salient risks.

In times of crisis, we have been able to collaborate with other organizations connected to our suppliers in the affected region and work together to address concerns. This includes both collective monitoring and the implementation of solutions.

We are working on lowering our supply chain GHG emissions, which means working closely with our suppliers and other brands to improve energy efficiency and switch to renewable energy supplies. We have been able to collaborate more effectively with our suppliers and other brands producing at the same facilities.

What did we hear?

Getting rid of data headaches

Easier data sharing & communication

Finding collaborators

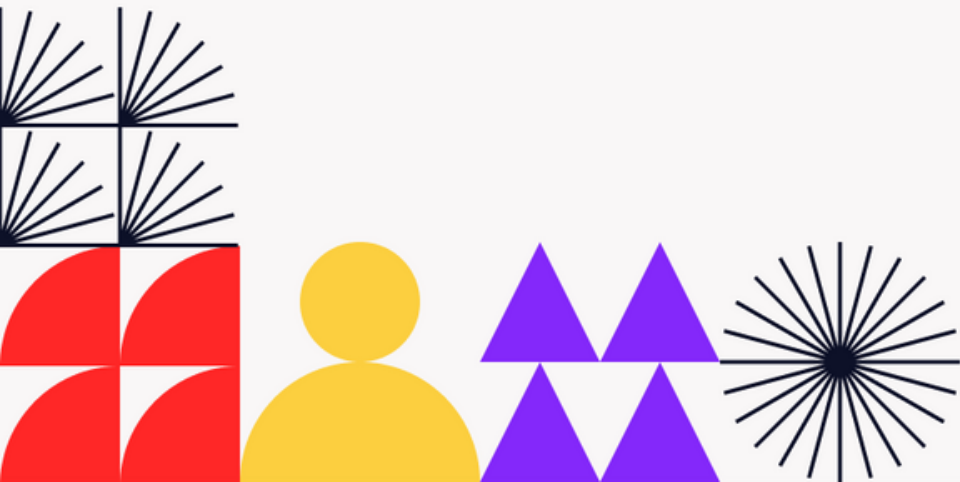**Understanding & mitigating risk**

Transparency wasn't the end goal, but a means to other outcomes.

Why isn't this the norm?

Too often, transparency and the processes around it are separate and disconnected from other key goals, resources, initiatives.

How does that happen?

Someone told me to / it's a box checking exercise to meet a specific requirement
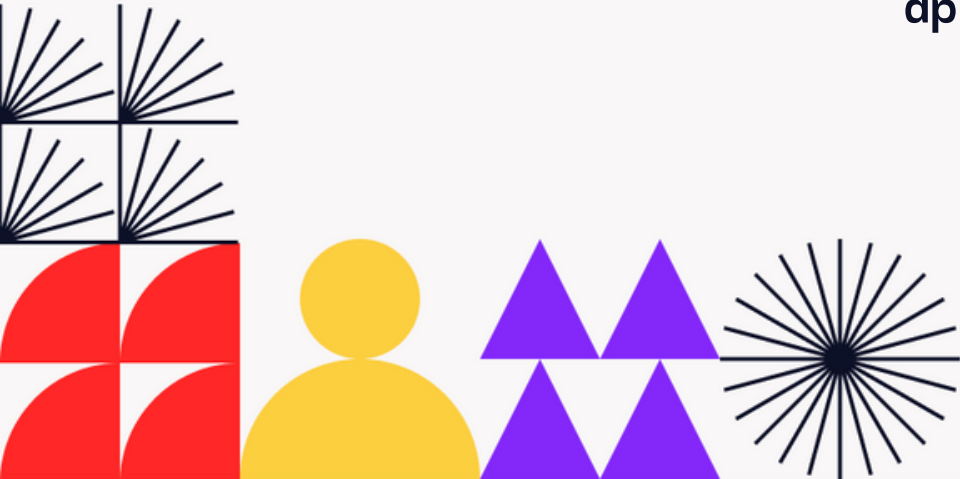
Resource limitations internally which mean only posting PDFs or spreadsheets can get approved

Myths surrounding transparency make it hard to make it a priority internally

No benefit is received so it just keeps getting deprioritized, meaning data could be out of date, making it even less likely to bring value.

Let's reframe
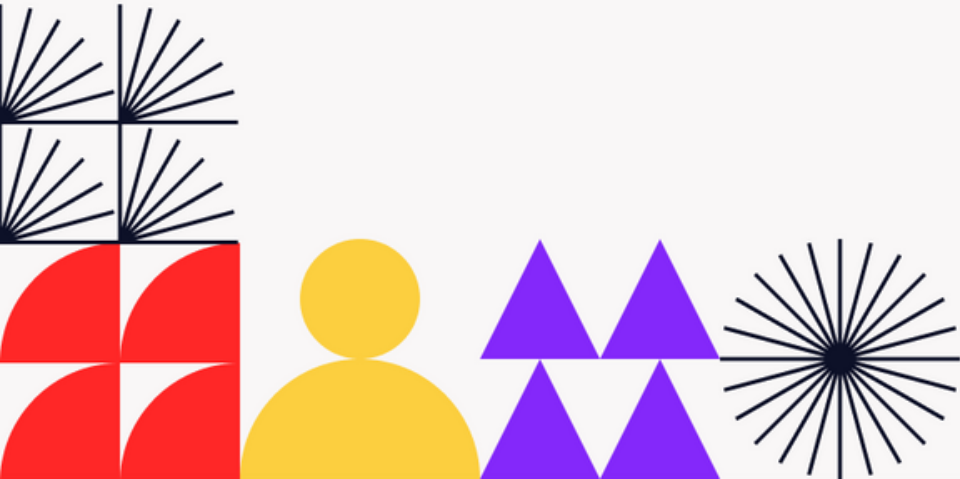
FROM

TO

Transparency for Transparency's Sake

Transparency That Solves Problems

Definitions

Supplier Transparency: Publicly sharing the production locations in your supply chain; as many tiers as you have mapped

When is it effective? When it's:

Easy to find
In an open, accessible place

Easy to work with
In a machine-readable format

Easy to take action
Shared in a context that allows you to do something with it
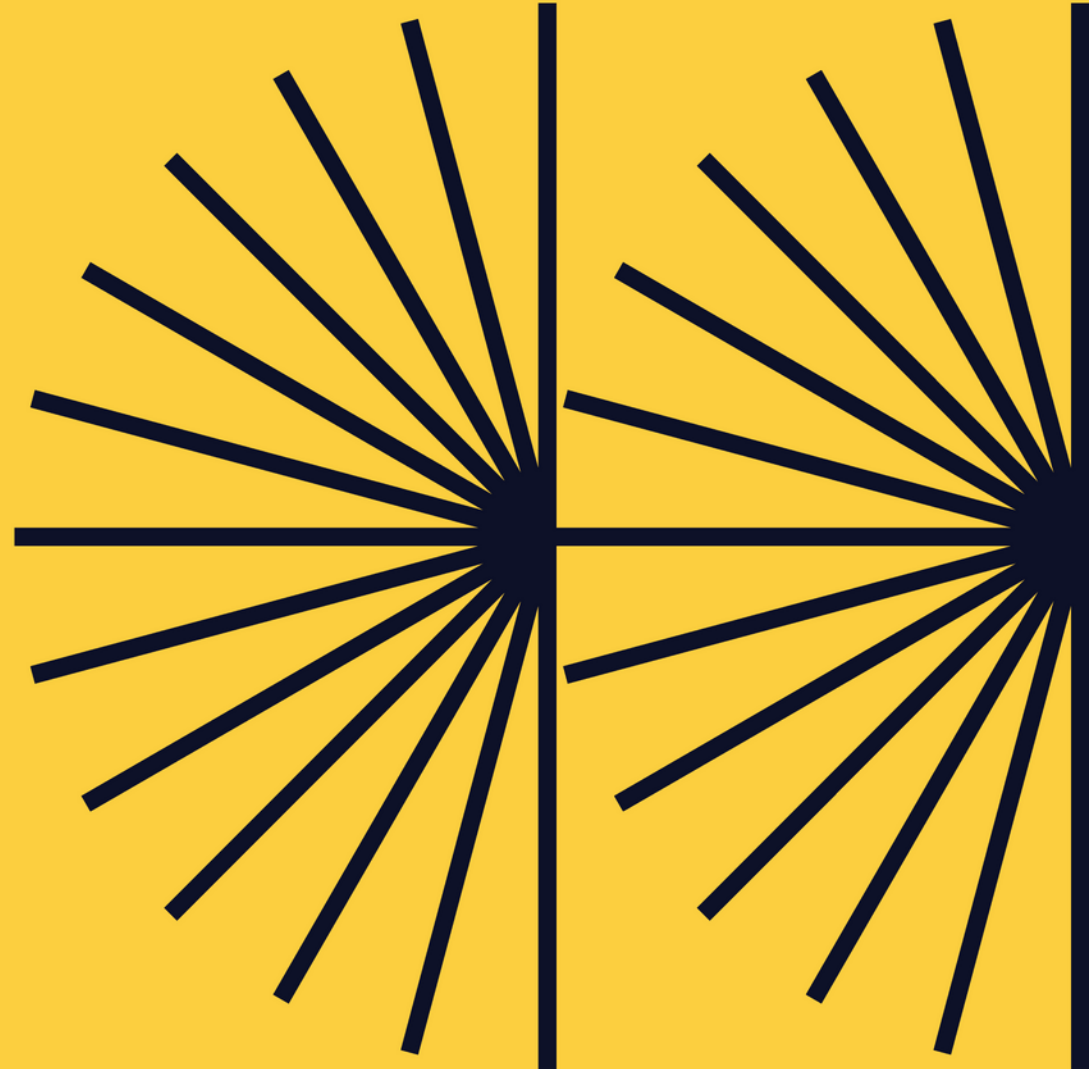
For those who like acronyms...

- **F**indable
- **A**ccessible
- **I**nteroperable
- **R**eusable

Are we talking about transparency or traceability?

Think of transparency like a map: these are the locations and who is connected to them. Traceability draws lines through the map, showing how a product or component moves through it.

Let's bust some myths!

If we open up our data, won't civil society organizations come after us for issues in our supply chain?

Opening up your data means that:

- Civil society organizations are able to reach out to you directly to resolve issues, rather than turning to the press or more public tactics. This is often the preferred solution for both parties.

- Civil society organizations can also proactively reach out to share information and prevent issues. If your goal is to conduct effective due diligence and make improvements, opening up data allows you to get more information, make more informed decisions, and demonstrate that you've made changes based on what you have learned. Keeping your data closed hinders that process and can generate more risk in the long-run.
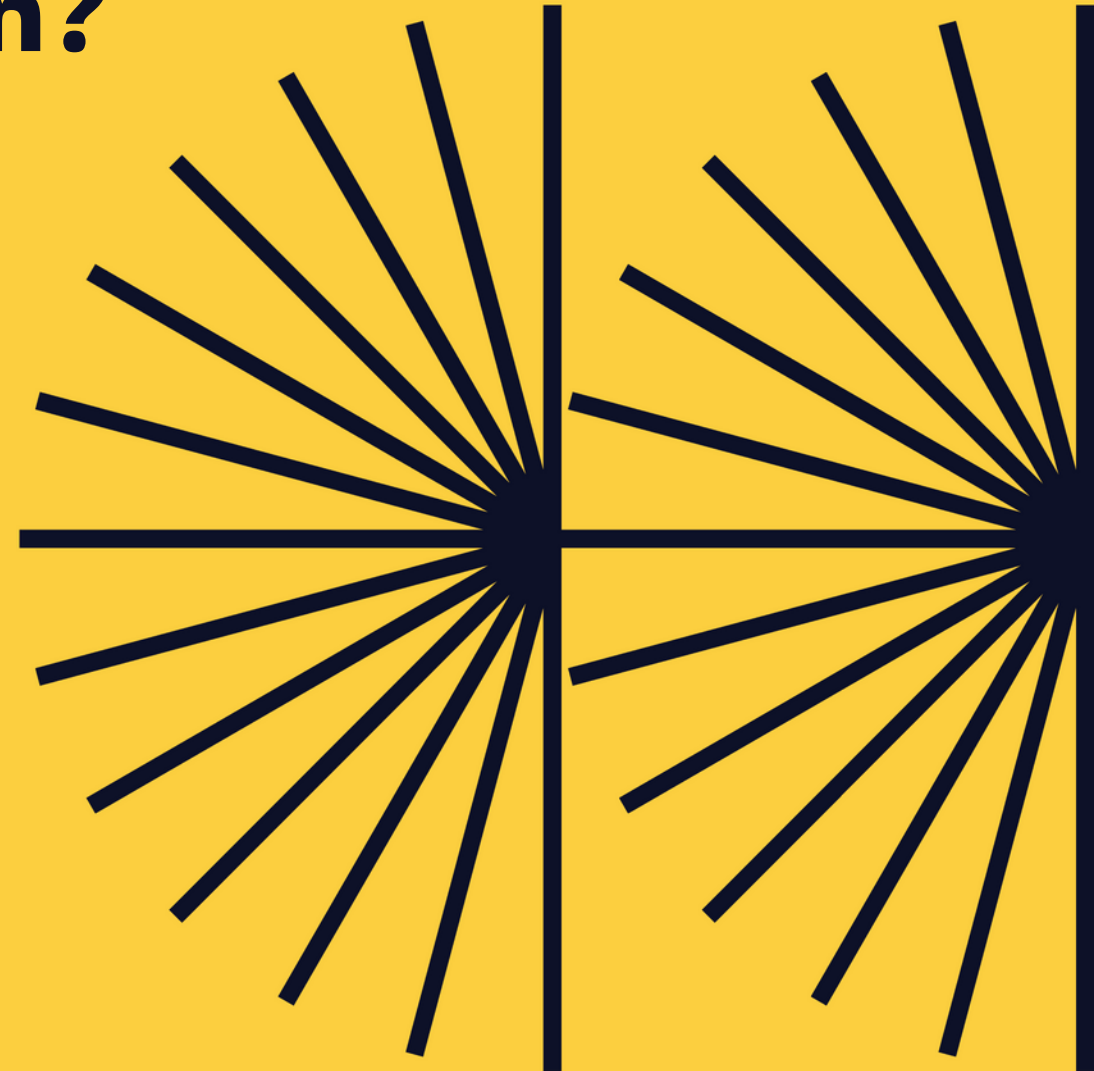
Will we lose our competitive advantage by sharing where our production happens?

- In this age of information-sharing, production locations are rarely a secret - whether you disclose them yourselves or not. This is more about being in control of how and where that information is shared.

- More and more brands are saying that their competitive advantage comes from the quality and type of relationship with their suppliers, not simply whether or not they source from them.

- To solve the biggest issues of our day, this is a mindset that simply has to change. Closed data has led us to the messy, opaque world we're in today.

Are there privacy concerns with publishing my supplier data?

- You don't have to publish data that would violate privacy concerns to receive great benefit. You can keep it to *phone book data* which isn't considered proprietary and doesn't require extra layers of protection or privacy.

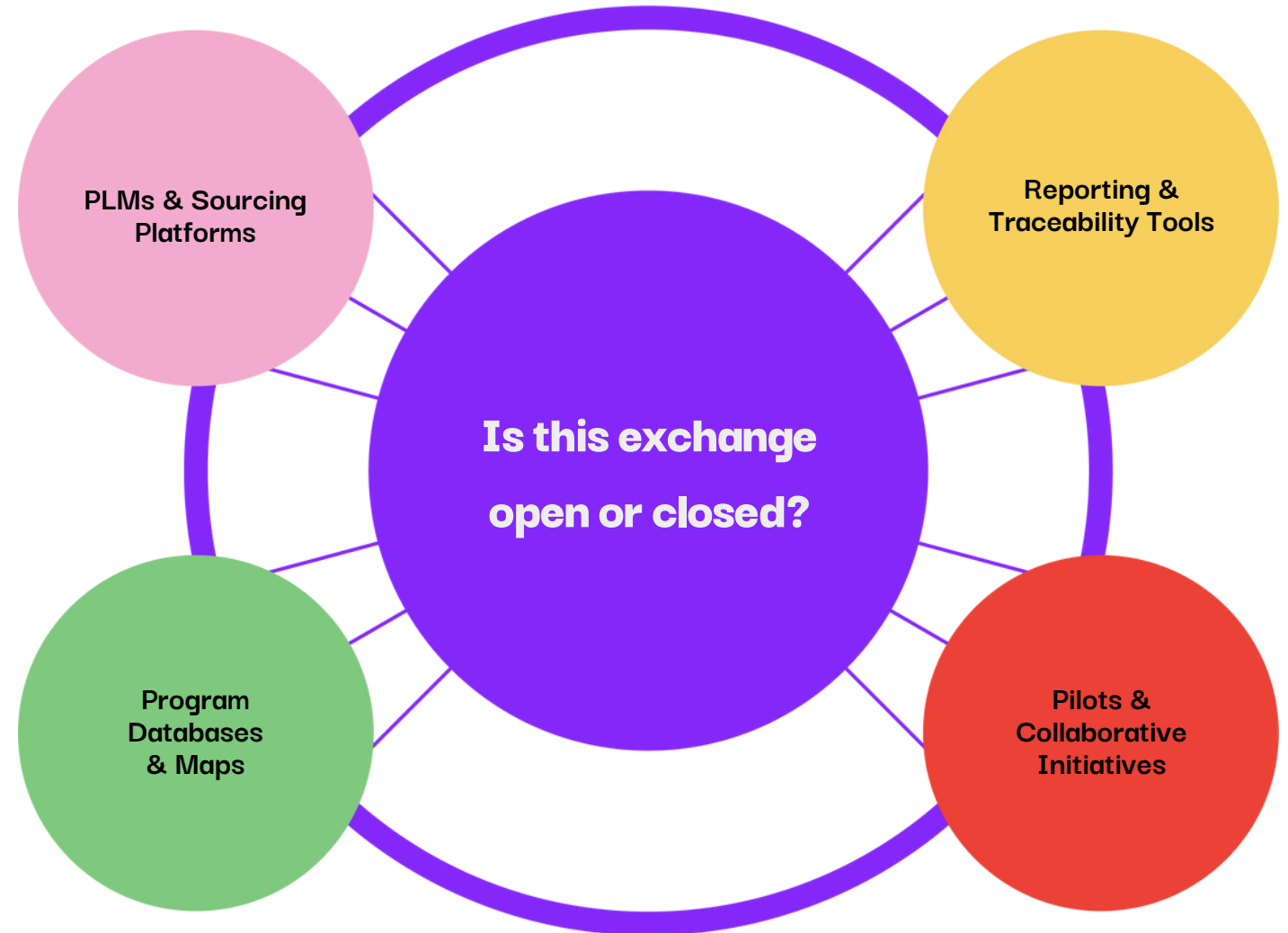# Transparency leads to better data for you - and all your stakeholders

CONTRIBUTE TO A SUPPLY CHAIN DATA COMMONS

When we build a collective dataset, we all can:

- **Surface discrepancies and fill in the gaps** (e.g. different factory aliases or incomplete addresses)
- **Reduce audit fatigue** by all accessing and updating the same base dataset
- **Eliminating duplicative data cleaning and matching** with private exchanges between platforms

PLMs & Sourcing Platforms

Reporting & Traceability Tools

Is this exchange open or closed?

Program Databases & Maps

Pilots & Collaborative Initiatives

Legislation, legislation, legislation...

Legislation & ESG Reporting

The volume of sustainability & due diligence legislation continues to grow. The cost of anticipating these requirements is always lower than being on the back foot and responding to mandates.

Organizations need to start by understanding where their production sites are located in order to then efficiently measure or report on social or environmental conditions.

Transparency is Critical

Know & show your supply chain
A core step to enable you to conduct due diligence is knowing and sharing your supply chain. Openly displaying your data puts you in a strong position to implement effective due diligence.

### Make your data interoperable
To effectively respond to legislative demands, you will need to work with others: service providers, reporting tools, remediation partners and more. If your data isn't interoperable, this will be a hugely time-intensive - if not impossible - feat.

Find collaborators
Whether you're working on risk identification, remediation, grievance mechanisms, or something else: ensure you are collaborating with other organizations connected to your suppliers or in the same geographic area, to share the burden and maximize effectiveness.
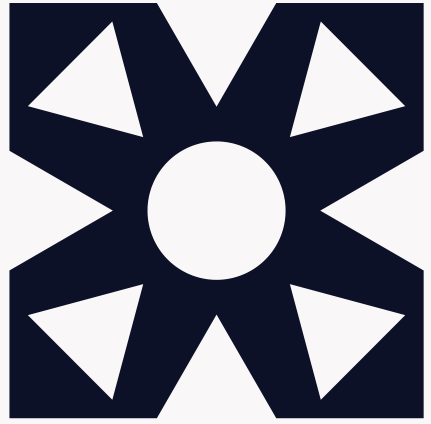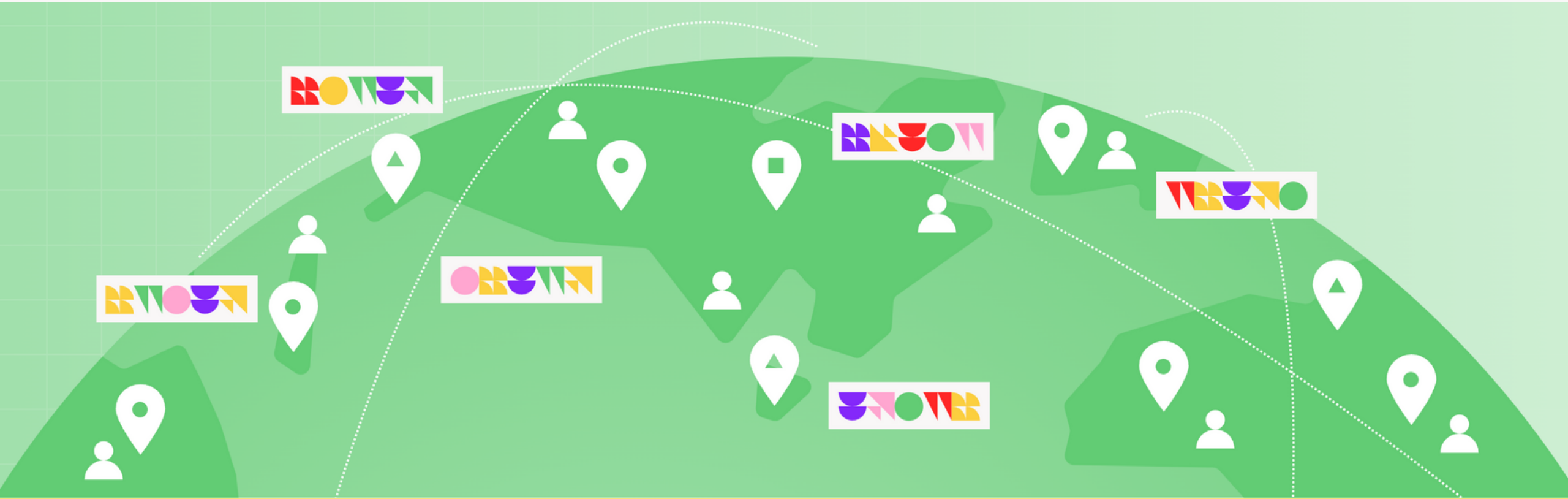
OPEN SUPPLY HUB

Building a world where supply chain data is **open**, **trusted** & **harnessed to benefit people and planet**

Open Supply Hub is a supply chain data platform that anyone can search and contribute to. It shows production locations across the world and who is connected to them, making that data easy for anyone to work with.
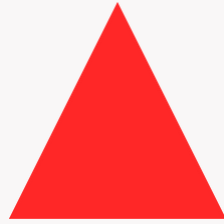
OPEN SUPPLY HUB

We provide:

A Reliable, Interoperable Dataset...

All data contributed to the platform is cleaned and processed by a matching algorithm and then assigned an industry-standard ID that is free and accessible to all.

Living in a Public Good...

Governed under an open data model, anyone wishing to share, search, and/or integrate supply chain data can do so in a single place - quickly becoming one of the largest open supply chain datasets available.

That Enables Global Collaboration

The user-generated dataset gives visibility into which organizations are connected to which facilities, with search enabled for overlaps between organizations, accelerating collaboration.

OPEN SUPPLY HUB

A Pre-Competitive Tool

Open Supply Hub is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, registered in the USA.

To ensure our organization, model and data continue to serve the many types of stakeholders needed to improve supply chains, we are governed by a global multi-stakeholder Board of Directors representing a diverse range of industry actors, from unions and human rights representatives, to multi-national corporations and open data experts.
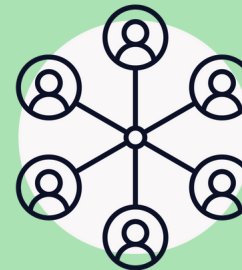
Brands & Retailers

Civil Society

Facilities

Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives

Researchers

Service Providers

FEATURES: A PUBLIC GOOD

Use **www.opensupplyhub.org** to:

Find overlaps between supply chains/datasets

Share the production sites you are connected to

Have data cleaned and processed through a matching algorithm

Access OS IDs for production sites

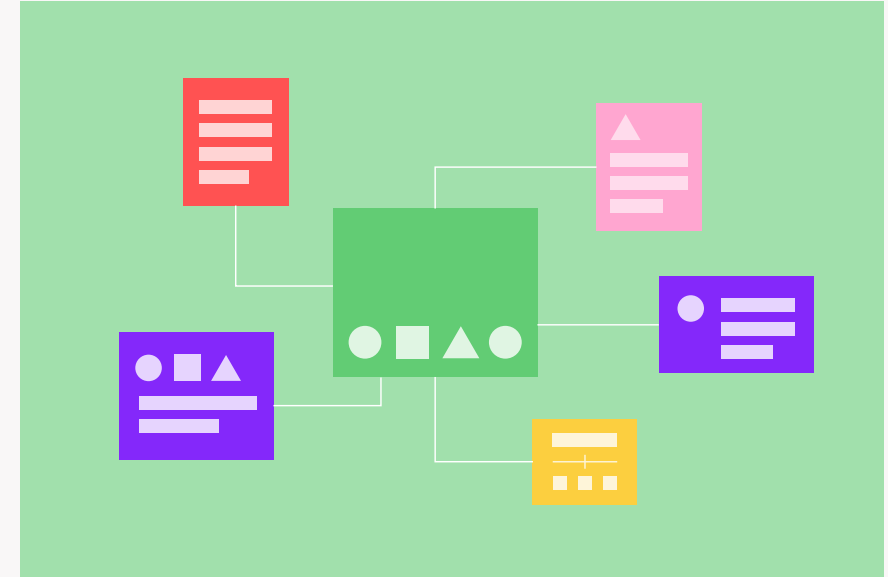Search & download cross-sector supply chain data

Embedded Map

Automatically display your data on your own website as a customized map

[View Live Examples](#)

API

Automatically push and/or pull data + OS IDs between your system and OS Hub
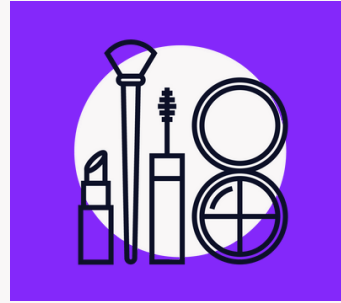
Which sectors can you find in OS Hub?

Apparel & Accessories

Automotive

Beauty

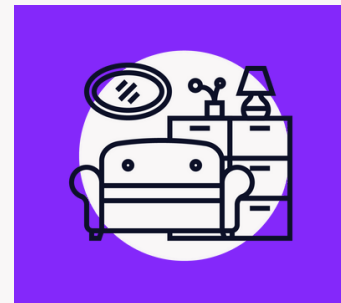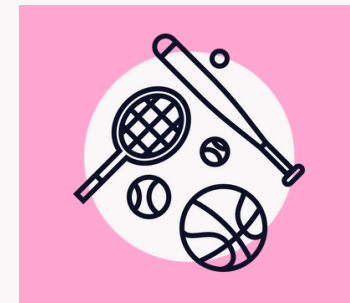

Consumer Goods

Electronics

Energy & Utilities

Food & Beverage

Furniture

Sporting Goods

Hundreds of organizations share data with and use OS Hub

BRANDS & RETAILERS	INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS	CIVIL SOCIETY	MANUFACTURING GROUPS

Amazon, H&M, HEMA, John Lewis Partnership, Target, The Walt Disney Company

amfori, Fair Trade Certified, Oeko-Tex, Textile Exchange, Wordly

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, Fashion Revolution, Solidarity Center, Worker Rights Consortium, WWF

Arvind Limited, Delta Galil, Elevate Textiles, Hirdaramani, Pou Chen Group

- Reliable Base for ESG Reporting
- Unique IDs for Supplier Facilities
- Collaboration Opportunities

- Unique IDs Enable Interoperability
- Automatic Syncing via API
- Facilitate Remediation and Collaboration

- Speed up Remediation Processes
- Combine Data Sets for Further Insights
- Identify Potential Partners

- Visibility on Global Platform
- Eliminate Confusion for Customers
- Search for Partner Faciliities

Brands & Retailers Sharing Data in OS Hub

Search Supply Chain Data from Sector Leaders Including:

- adidas
- ALDI (Nord & Sud)
- Amazon
- Armani Group
- Asda
- Boohoo Group
- Brooks Sports
- Burton Snowboards
- Columbia Sportswear
- Coop Genossenschaft
- Dick's Sporting Goods

- de Bijenkorf
- Gap Inc.
- Hema B.V.
- H&M Group
- Kmart & Target Australia
- Lojas Renner
- JC Penney
- John Lewis Partnership
- KMD Brands

- MANGO
- Mammut
- MEC
- Neiman Marcus Group
- Nordstrom
- Patagonia
- PVH
- River Island
- Sainsbury's Argos

- Stella McCartney
- Sunrock
- Tesco
- The Very Group
- VF Corporation
- Target Corporation
- Walt Disney Company
- Zalando
- ZEEMAN

OPEN SUPPLY HUB

"We know that Open Supply Hub and its standardized supply chain data will be a key piece in identifying areas where we can collectively focus our attention, with the goal that products and services are being provided in a way that respects human rights and the environment."
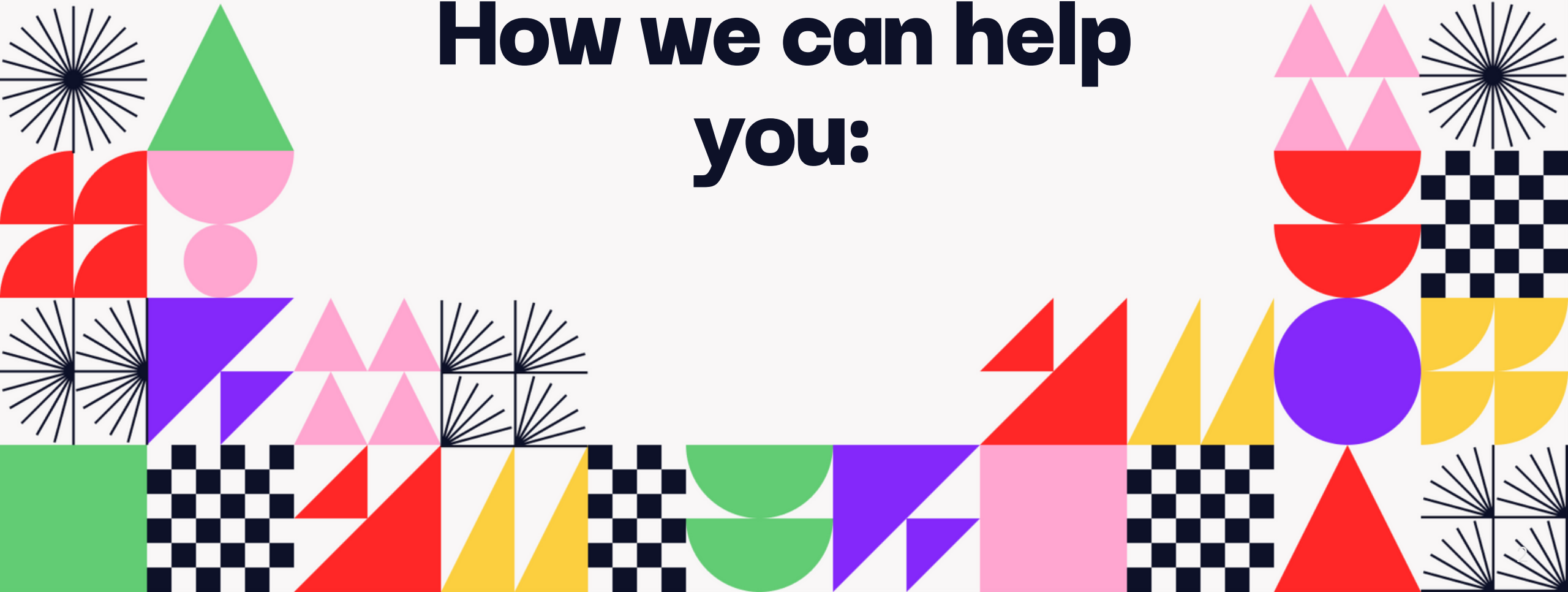
LEIGH ANNE DEWINE
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, AMAZON

How we can help you:

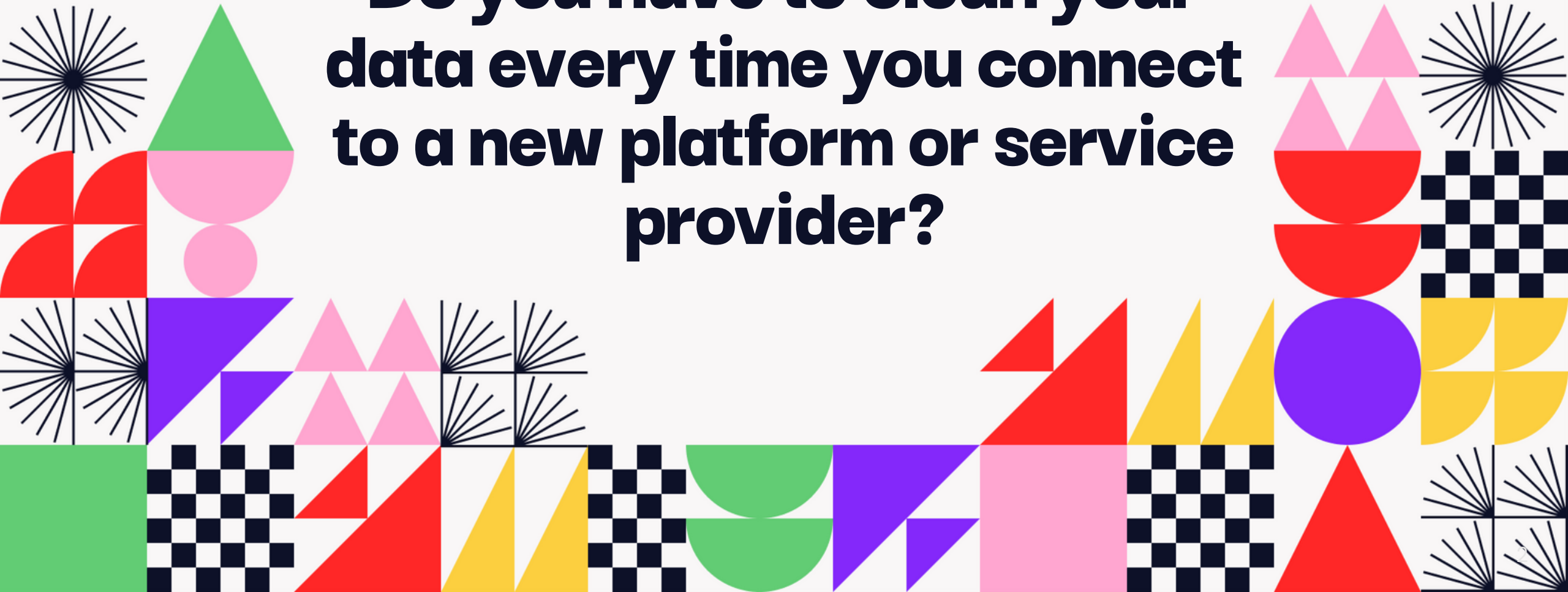# Do you struggle with the quality of the location information you receive about your suppliers?

Do you have to clean your data every time you connect to a new platform or service provider?

Harnessing OS IDs to match facilities across platforms

Mammut is a member of numerous multi-stakeholder initiatives (MSIs), tackling both social and environmental issues in the supply chain. Each of these MSIs work with their own ID systems, which makes matching facilities across different platforms difficult.

The unique OS IDs allocated to each facility in the database help Mammut overcome precisely this challenge.

Using OS IDs that have been allocated to its facilities, Mammut plans to begin working on analysis and visualizations, matching facilities across multiple systems, resulting in an even clearer picture of its supply chain.

With origins dating back to 1862, Mammut is an outdoor apparel and equipment company with headquarters in Switzerland.
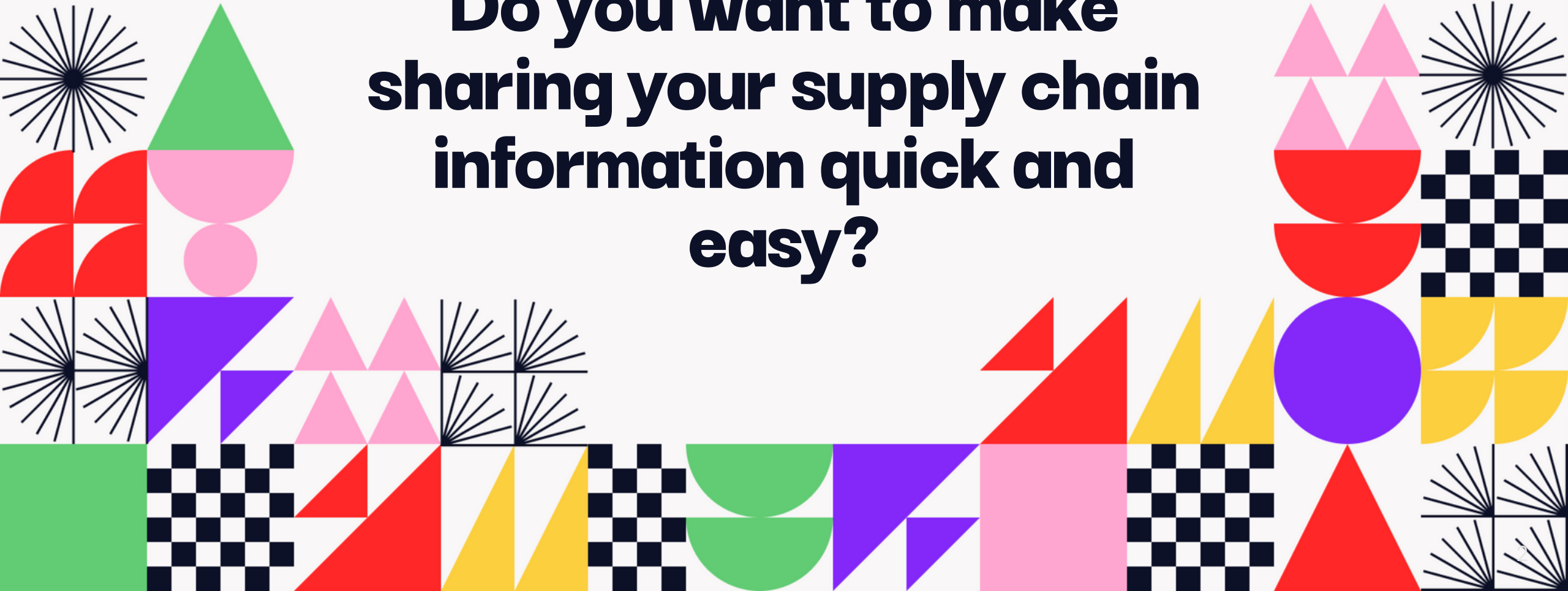
FIND OUT MORE

Are you struggling to convincingly tell the story of your work?

Do you want to make sharing your supply chain information quick and easy?

Do you wish you could instantly find collaborators to implement your due diligence programs?

Getting Started

It isn't all or nothing. What is the right starting place for you? Is there a tier, region, product line, issue area, etc. where you can test out publicly sharing supplier data?

Prep Your Data via OS Hub templates or API libraries

Upload/Connect to OS Hub for Review

Finalize, Publish & Link on Your Website/Embed Your Map

Making the Most of OS Hub

Sharing your suppliers on OS Hub is a great first step in opening up your data - but there's so much more to be gained from working with our platform. Here's some inspiration for going beyond transparency for transparency's sake:

Integrate OS IDs into your PLM/sourcing platform

(If they haven't already) Encourage MSIs and Service Providers to Adopt OS IDs so you can create one connected supply chain data ecosystem

Use your link to your supply chain data on OS Hub to easily share your supply chain data internally & externally in a visual, searchable format.

Encourage your suppliers to claim their facilities or share their suppliers, bringing even greater levels of transparency
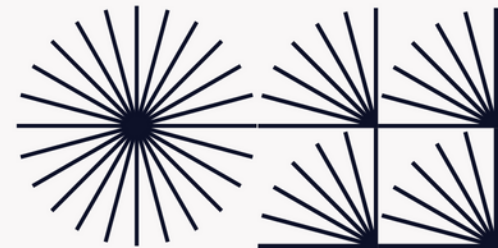
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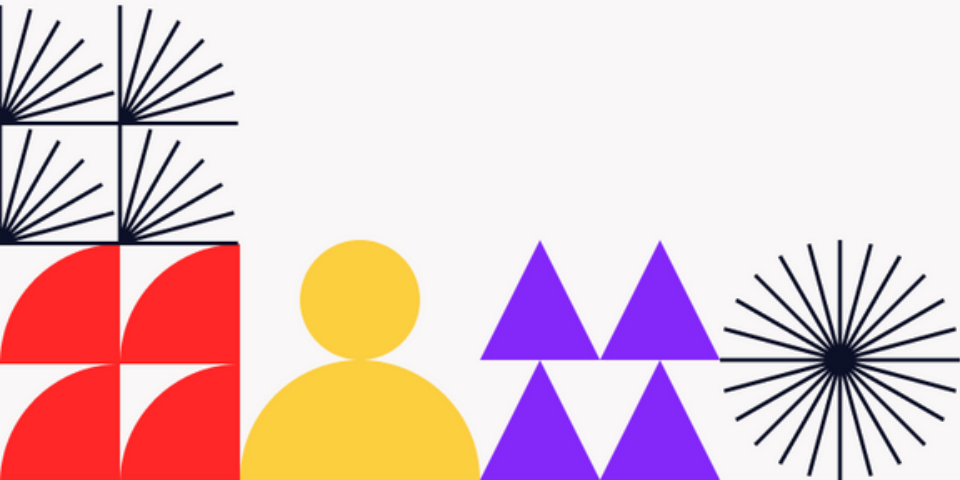
Collective action support:
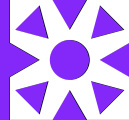Find overlap with other orgs to advance capacity building, collaborative grievance mechanisms, & more.

Share OS Hub with other internal teams:
procurement, supplier engagement, CSR, marketing - see how they could use it!

Tips for Advocating for OS Hub Internally

We know it can be a feat to advocate for use of a new system internally.

Here are some tips we've learned from other brands & retailers who have successfully brought OS Hub and OS IDs into their company (and we're happy to put you in touch with them, if you'd like!).

Loop in the right teams from the start

Each company is different, but this often involves CSR/ethical trade, IT and marketing/comms. The OS Hub team is happy to set up a demo and Q&A session so you can get a strong kick-off meeting in place.

Look at your agreements with suppliers

Have you built in any NDAs or language about data sharing with third parties? If that language isn't necessary (more and more companies are finding it isn't, and is just legacy language), begin the process of amending it.

Build in deadlines

It's hard to push through decisions without a deadline or timeline you're working toward. Build those internally, and then hold decision-makers to them.

Thank you!

Q&A

Which supply chain tiers does OS Hub work in?

All tiers, including commodity/raw material level. Because there isn't a universal definition for tier, we use facility &/or processing type to display and filter this data point.

Data contributors can share which tiers they are disclosing in their list name/description and even separate their data into different lists by their definition of tier, if desired.

FULL FAQS
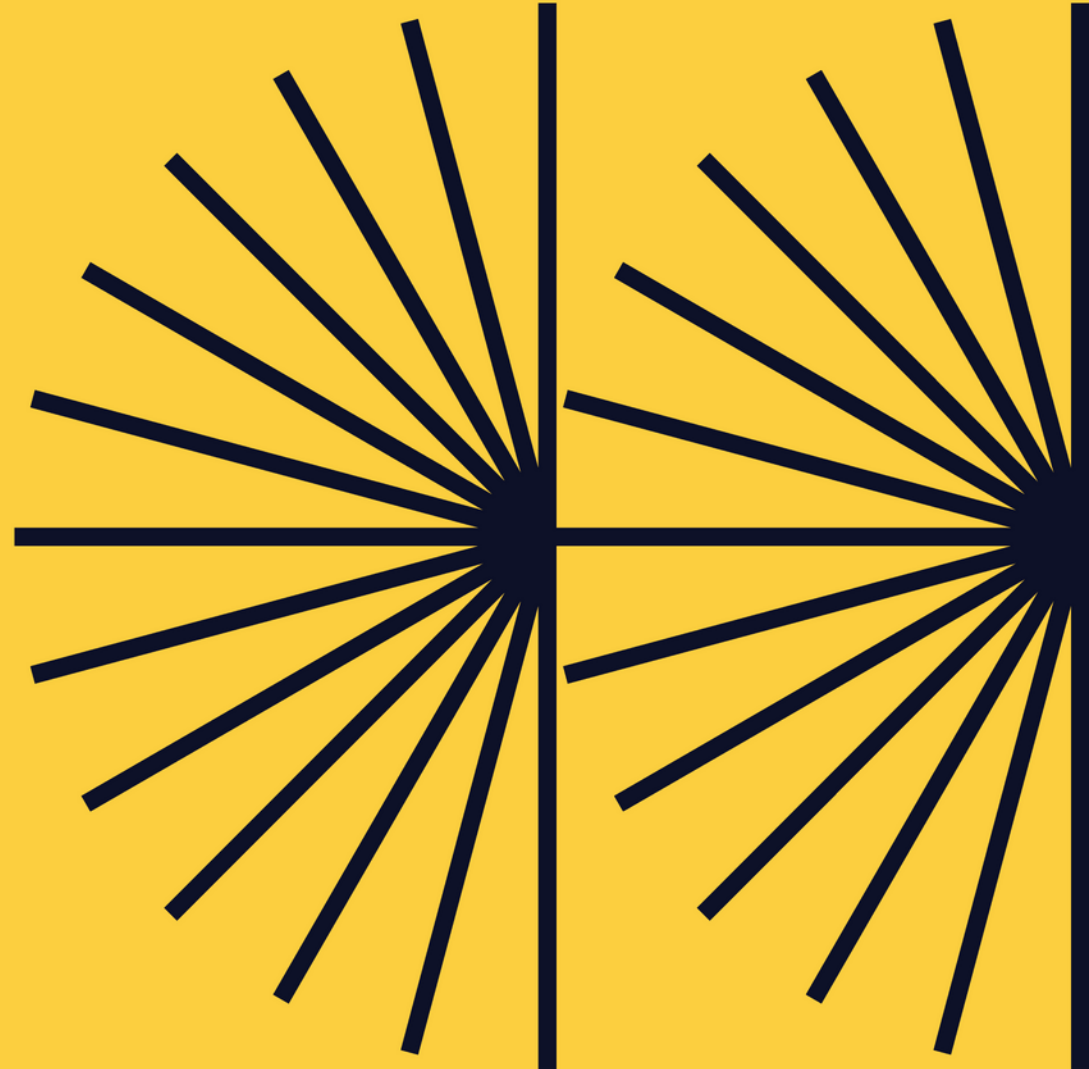
How do you verify the data in OS Hub?

We don't. Rather than thinking of us as a verifier, think of us as a "steward" for those who are collecting and potentially verifying data themselves.

As an open data platform, we openly share the data submitted and who shared it, so users can make their own decisions about the level of trust they have in the contributor and the data they shared. Think about number of workers, for example: if 20 contributors share the same figure for a site and one contributor has a vastly different number, depending on who that contributor is, might that be helpful information for you?

FULL FAQS

Does OS Hub hold/display any historical data?

This is up to the owner of that data. When a data contributor updates their data in OS Hub, they have the option to make their previous contribution inactive, breaking their connection to any production sites they are no longer connected to.

If you are a researcher and are interested in looking at historical data in aggregate, please do reach out to our team. We're always happy to discuss how OS Hub data could aid in research efforts about global supply chains.

FULL FAQS