

# **Clipson & Sons Ltd**

Disclosure Report Date Submitted: August 17th, 2023

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## **Disclosure Materials**

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company



# **Disclosure Questionnaire**

### **Industries and Products**

#### Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services** $\boxed{}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** $\square$ Chemicals $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Alcohol** $\square$ **Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels $\square$ Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human $\square$ **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** $\square$ **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High **Interest Lending Water Intensive Industries** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Tax Advisory Services

### **Outcomes & Penalties**

	Yes	No	
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.			
Anti-Competitive Behavior		$\checkmark$	
Breaches of Confidential Information		V	
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption			
Company has filed for bankruptcy		V	
Consumer Protection		V	
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		N	
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		N	
Labor Issues			
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		K	
Litigation or Arbitration			
On-Site Fatality		V	
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		N	
Political Contributions or International Affairs		K	
Recalls			
Significant Layoffs		V	
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		N	
Other		$\checkmark$	



### **Practices**

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		K
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		V
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		$\searrow$
Company workers are prisoners		$\searrow$
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		$\checkmark$
Confirmation of Right to Work		V
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		$\searrow$
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		K
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		N
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		\
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		V
No signed employment contracts for all workers		V
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		N
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		$\supset$
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		$\supset$
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		$\supset$
Workers paid below minimum wage		N
Workers Under Bond		V
Other		$\checkmark$

## Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones	N	
Child or Forced Labor		$\checkmark$
Negative Environmental Impact		$\vee$
Negative Social Impact		$\checkmark$
Other		$\checkmark$



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

**Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Alcohol** 

**Climpson & Sons Ltd** is involved in the production or sale of alcohol, which has risks of potential negative impact on the health and well-being of individuals and their communities. Based on the size of the company, these impacts may be limited. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent their involvement in such industries.

Any party aware of specific company practices related to their marketing or other topics that could contribute to the negative impacts of alcohol, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

## **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Suppliers in Conflict Zones**

Topic	The company sources coffee from Ethiopia and Myanmar
Summary of Issue	Clipson & Sons uses coffee trader partners to source coffee from Ethiopia and Myanmar, which are listed as Conflict Zones in the List of Fragile and Conflict-affected Situations (World Bank, 2023). The company does not deal directly in the physical sourcing and shipping of the coffee.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the last fiscal year, the company reported that 13% of its purchases were from coffee trader partners buying coffee from conflict zones, 12% was sourced from Ethiopia and 1% came from Myanmar.
Impact on Stakeholders	As per the OECD, conflict zones are often characterized by widespread human rights abuses and violations of national or international law.
	The security of company workers who work in such areas could also be at risk.
Implemented Management Practices	Climpson & Sons have implemented the following practices in the conflict zones from which they source:  • It assesses each of its suppliers on a case-by-case basis (this may or may not include on-site visits, background checks, and interviews with stakeholders),  • As for its employees' safety, the company shared that each origin trip is carefully considered and risk-assessed by the management team prior to any travel being undertaken.
	In Ethiopia, the company partners with a coffee trader in Ethiopia that requires coffee farmers to comply with their Code of Conduct, which is based on ETI base code founded on the conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). It is a business with a focus on certified coffee. To help to adhere to this commitment, the coffee trade follows the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct.
	In Myanmar, the company's coffee suppliers are supported by the following development initiative:



	<ul> <li>Value Chain for Rural Development Project (US Agency for International Development): "a five-year initiative focused on improving the prosperity of Myanmar's smallholder farmers in five agricultural commodities (ginger, soybeans, coffee, melons, and sesame.) The project's strategy focused on building inclusive market systems to deliver competitive products for sale to higher-value markets, resulting in higher incomes for farmers. The project supported inclusive agricultural growth and systemic transformation of Myanmar's agriculture sector through two closely integrated objectives: (1) Improved smallholder productivity and profitability; and (2) Increased market access and trade",</li> <li>The company's partner (coffee trader) is focused on ensuring farmers – mainly smallholders in Ywangan – are fully involved and actually part of this trade. The partner makes a commitment to purchase coffee of an agreed quality at agreed volumes and prices via MCG, farmers and their families are as a result secure in the knowledge that they will receive remuneration and furthermore are resilient to endure and thrive during this period of conflict.</li> </ul>
Report	<u>Value Chains for Rural Development</u> (University of Virginia, 2019)