



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

FASHION

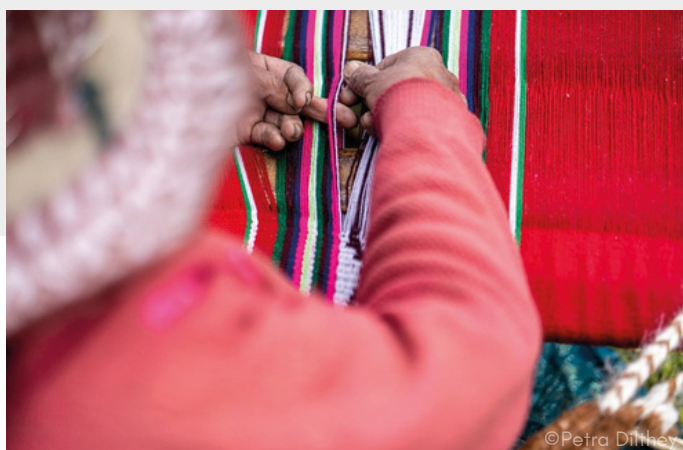
FOR FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS



ABOUT

Linking cultural heritage to the global fashion market

Fashion for Fragile Ecosystems aims to improve the livelihoods of mountain and island communities around the world, while ensuring the protection of their environments by linking cultural heritage and traditional design with ethical, contemporary fashion.





Mountains and islands experience similar challenges of being very fragile ecosystems with very vulnerable populations, highly impacted by climate change, natural disasters, economic shocks and marginalization.

Small communities of artisans in the remotest mountain areas and the smallest islands around the world are often custodians of naturally circular economies with the highest quality and the lowest environmental impact.

However, often their legacy risks to be lost as their isolation and the long value chains with many intermediaries do not favour fair compensation to the primary producers.





HOW IT WORKS

Fashion for Fragile Ecosystems

brings together artists and artisans from the remotest regions of the world with international fashion brands to create positive, long-lasting change through equal exchange of skills, traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. An international fashion designer works hand in hand with a group of local artists and artisans and co-designs a contemporary collection inspired by their local traditions, knowledge and culture.

Technical training and financial support is provided to local producers to improve their value chains and innovate their products, and the results are showcased through dedicated events and communication campaigns.

Each collection is presented to the international market and produced by the fashion brand involved. The intellectual property rights are then granted free of charge to the artisans, to enable them to keep producing and selling the garments through their own channels.

COLLECTIONS

Fall/Winter 2021 – Kyrgyzstan

- Milan Fashion Week, February 2021.
- Capsule collection designed by Italian-Haitian fashion designer and Mountain Partnership Goodwill Ambassador Stella Jean in collaboration with Topchu, a collective of women artisans from Kyrgyzstan.

The collection features the traditional Shyrdak design, typically used for carpets, transformed into a pattern for contemporary clothing. The felt designs made with sheep's wool from Issyk-Kul, a remote mountain region, added onto cotton to create everyday wear.



Fall/Winter 2022 – Peru

- Rome, FAO, December 2022.
- Capsule collection designed by Stella Jean in collaboration with Illariy Threads4dreams, a women's association of alpaqueras from the Peruvian Andes.

The collection features a series of hand-knitted collars made with multicolour alpaca fleece from a remote mountain village at 4800 metres above sea level in the Puna ecosystem, bridging knowledge of Italian design with the cultural legacy of mountain women.

Fall/Winter 2023: to be announced

Spring/Summer 2024: to be announced



OUTREACH

PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS



Video in Peru (2022) available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

Video in Kyrgyzstan (2021) available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

PHOTOS

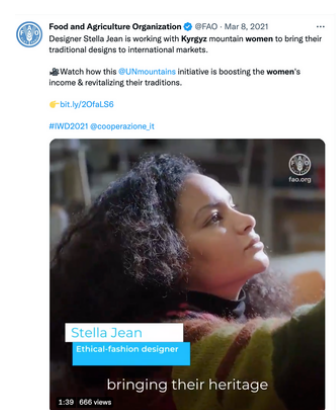


[View the 2021 photo album here](#)

[View the 2022 photo album here](#)

[View the fashion show photo album here](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA



OUTREACH

PRESS

Vogue (2021)

Vogue (2022)

Women's Wear Daily

La Repubblica

El País

FAO



VOGUE

ITALIA ▾ ABBONAMENTI ≡

MODA BELLEZZA ATTUALITÀ LIFESTYLE SFILATE PHOTOVOGUE VOGUE SHOP VIDEO



NEWS

Stella Jean collabora con la FAO per sostenere l'artigianato delle donne del Perù



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JOIN THE **FASHION FOR FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS** MOVEMENT

CONTACT

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Rome, Italy



Italian Development
Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation



Coalition of Fragile Ecosystems



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