

VIKTORIA & WOODS

IMPACT REPORT 2023



ACKNOWLEDGMENT *of* COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and gather, at our Head Office in Naarm and our boutiques across this Nation, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We celebrate the rich and diverse stories, cultures and traditions of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who live and work on this land.



REFLECTIONS *of* 2023

IMPACT REPORT **2023**

MESSAGE *from* MARGIE WOODS

FOUNDER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

2023 was a year of reflection and growth for the brand, in the lead up to our 20 year celebrations in 2024. We revisited where we have come from and who we are today. Working in harmony with the planet has always been at the heart of our brand.

In 2023 we invested a great deal of time and consideration into what this means for us as we continue to grow and how we can nurture this harmony.

Whilst we had some exciting achievements, it is this mindful recentering and strategic planning for our future endeavours in our Responsible Business Strategy which I believe was one of our greatest accomplishments in 2023.

Our vision, creating beautiful moments in harmony with the planet, continues to inspire and guide us in all areas of the brand.





A WORD *from* OUR SUSTAINABILITY LEAD

COURTNEY KNIGHT

There is an inherent contradiction between fashion and concepts of sustainability, it is an extremely complex relationship, and often in conflict. We are constantly uncovering more layers and interconnections between everything we do and environmental or social impacts. Defining what sustainability and responsible business means to us, and where we can have authentic impact helps work through these challenges and provides stepping stones forward.

*Sustainability is not a destination, it is a journey.
One in which we continue to evolve and learn.*

Along our journey, 2023 was indeed a year of many accomplishments. We established a partnership with fabric recycler Upparel to divert fabric scraps from landfill, we redefined and closely tracked our Preferred Fibres to become more selective than ever before; and we formalised our Responsible Business Strategy to provide accountability and transparency in an often confusing space.

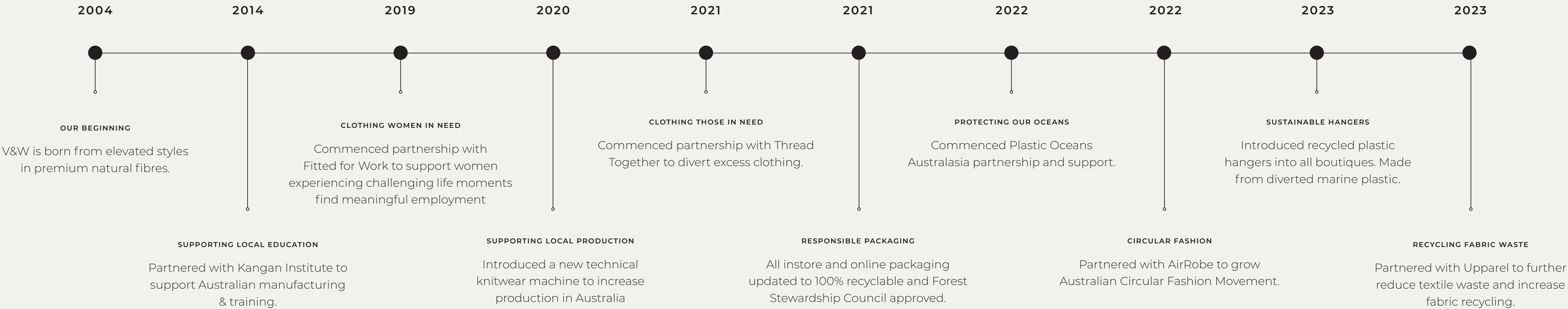
In our inaugural Impact Report, we reflect on 2023 through the lens of our four responsible business pillars: Conscious Design Ethos, Transparency, People & Partnerships and Our Future. These pillars underpin the journey and our evolution in Responsible Business so far and will help inform our future.



OUR VISION

*Creating beautiful moments in
harmony with our planet*

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR



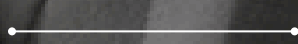


OUR PILLARS

CONSCIOUS DESIGN ETHOS



TRANSPARENCY



PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS



OUR FUTURE

CONSCIOUS DESIGN *ethos*

IMPACT REPORT 2023



OUR FOCUS

All Viktoria & Woods garments are carefully designed in timeless silhouettes with premium fabrications, ensuring they are loved for years to come or handed down with care.

We are committed to using premium fibres of the highest quality, made in harmony with our planet.

We have a legacy of using premium natural fibres, providing versatility in wear as well as lower environmental impacts than virgin synthetics.

In 2023 we introduced our preferred fibres appendix, preferencing fibres with internationally recognised certification to ensure a responsible approach throughout the design and production process. Through this we have increased our use of certified natural fibres, responsible fabric production and use of recycled or circular components.



2027 GOAL

60%

of every collection to be made up of our responsible preferred fibres*

2023 UPDATE

58%

of 2023 styles were from our preferred fibres

82%

of our 2023 core range were from our preferred fibres

64%

of styles from Winter 23 and Resort 24 were made from our preferred fibres. Our strongest season yet.

**calculated by style rangeboards per season*

FIBRES *in* FOCUS

We are committed to using premium fibres of the highest quality, made in harmony with our planet. Whilst we have always worked with natural fibres for their connection to the planet and ability to return to the earth, we are now more selective than ever before.

We preference fibres with internationally recognised certification to ensure a responsible approach throughout the design and production process

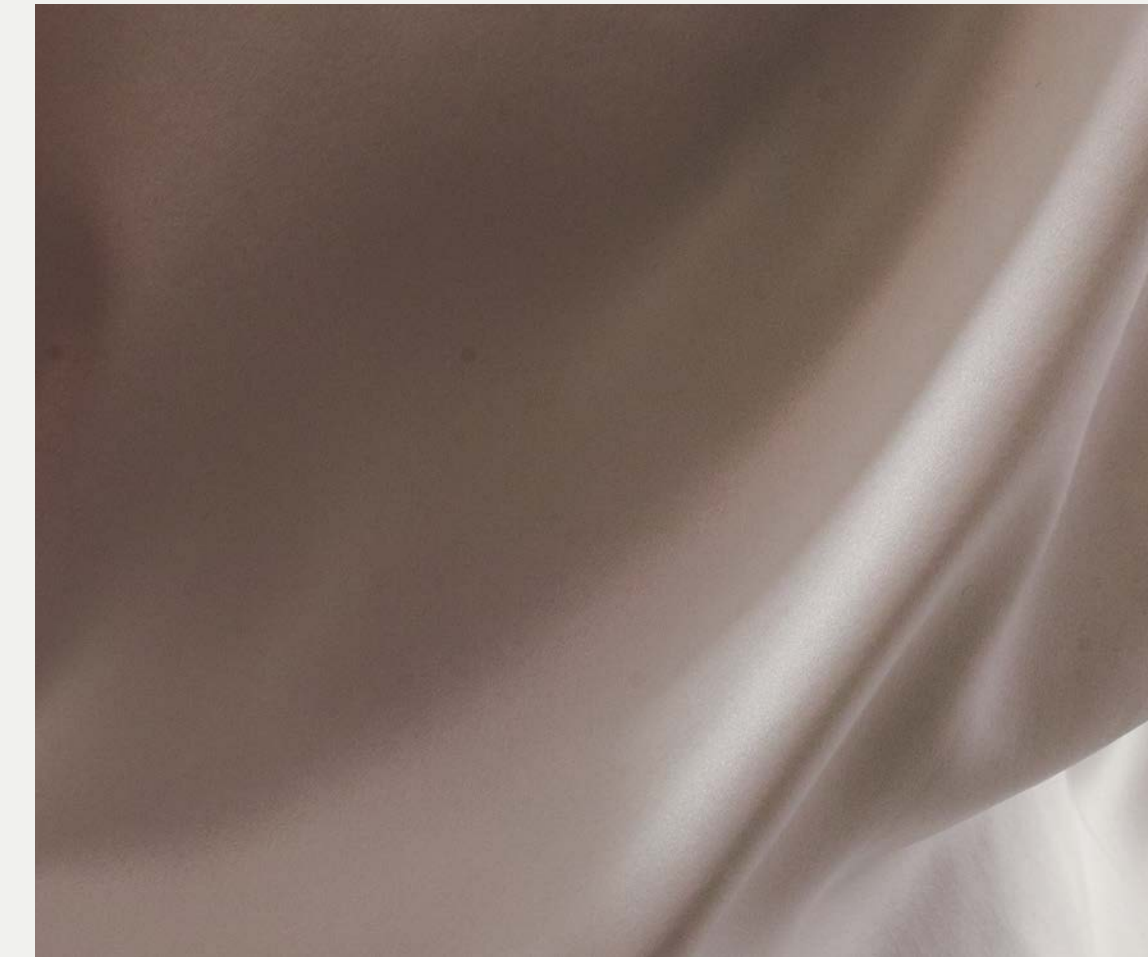


MERINO WOOL

It started as a single spark of pure inspiration. An elevated boutique basic, the first-of-its-kind merino wool cardigan knitted in Australia. Over the brand's evolution, the connection to merino wool has remained.

Wool is one of the most sustainable natural fibres. It is renewable, naturally biodegradable, and possesses self-cleaning and moisture wicking properties allowing it to breathe even in the warmer months

Our iconic extra fine merino comes in both 19.5 microns for our relaxed fully fashioned knits, and a superfine 17.5 micron for our lightweight layering knits. With Oeko-tex Standard 100 certification, internationally recognised textile certification to ensure ethical practice standards and no use of harsh or harmful chemicals.



CUPRO

Spun from tiny cotton fibres, cupro is often referred to as vegan silk and a bi-product of the cotton industry.

Made in Japan and a bi-product of the cotton industry, our cupro is manufactured to strict environmental standards with Global Recycled Standards (GRS) certification. To increase durability and longevity, our heavy weight cupro is blended with Triacetate, a sustainable fibre from regenerated wood pulp, with FSC certification to ensure sustainable forest management practices.

Cupro has become synonymous with V&W and beautifully articulates the considered approach to responsible preferred fibre selection balanced in harmony with longevity.

2026 GOAL

80%

of core buttons to be made from recycled or natural component by 2026

2023 UPDATE

27%

of core buttons now made with 47% of post consumer recycled material

55%

of core buttons are now made with recycled or natural component, including rivershell, ultra resin and recycled material



GOAL ACHIEVED

100%

of material waste to be remade, recycled or donated

In November 2023 we achieved our goal of zero fabric waste to landfill. This means all fabric, including scraps, faulty items or deadstock is remade, recycled or donated.

While remaking and donation has been easy to achieve, small scraps or items not in a wearable condition for donation have previously been harder to responsibly dispose of. Through our partnership with Upparel, any items too small for repurposing or not suitable for wear can now be recycled into new products.

THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH UPPAREL:

we have diverted

244.5_{kg}

of textile waste to landfill

and prevented

855.75_{kg}

of greenhouse gases.
(all data provided by Upparel)



TRANSPARENCY

IMPACT REPORT 2023



OUR FOCUS

We are continually learning and redefining our best practice. We strive to build trust through sharing this journey with our customers

MANUFACTURING IN 2023

BY UNIT

LOCALLY MADE 76.7%

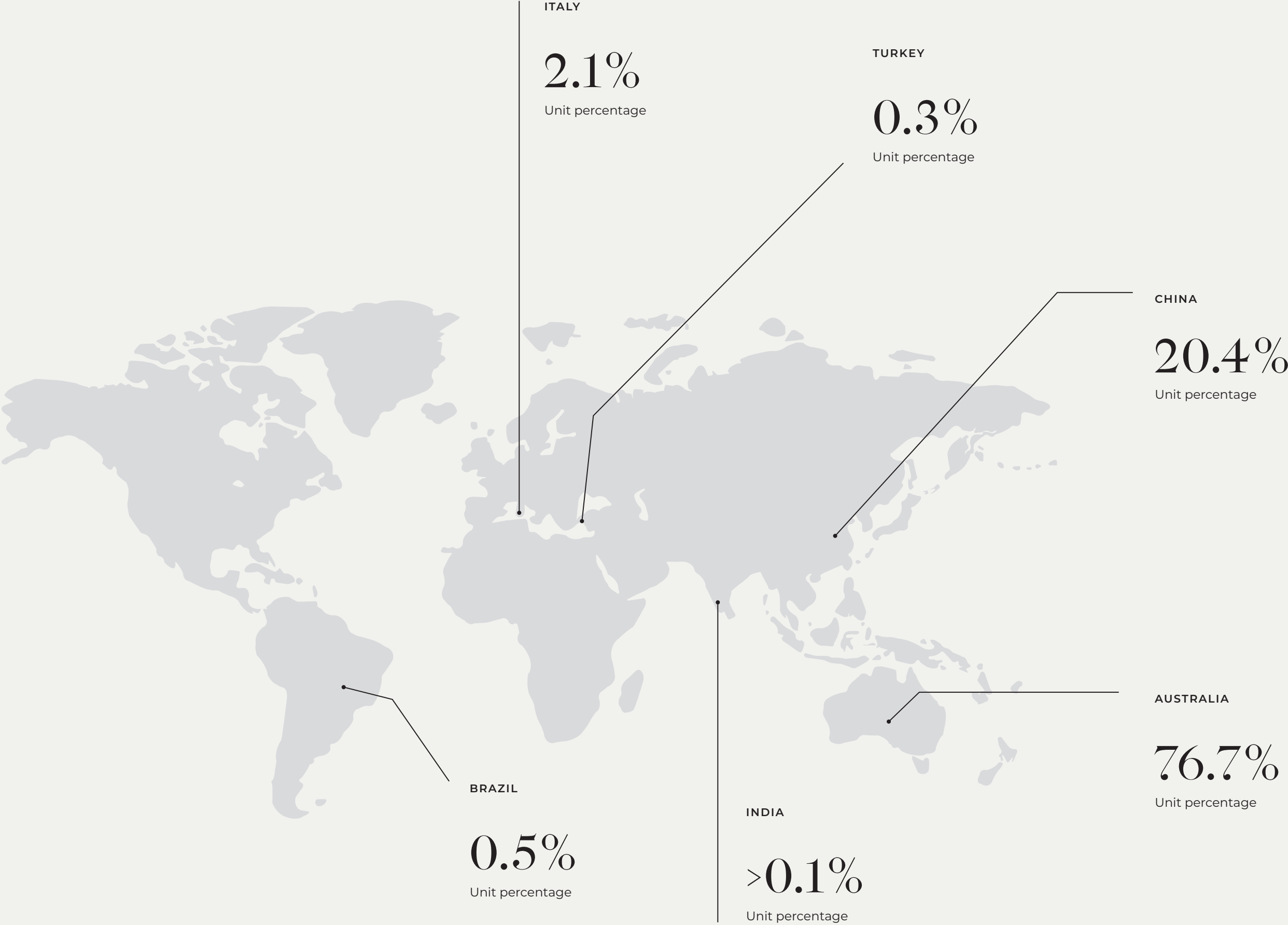
OFFSHORE 23.3%

BY STYLE

LOCALLY MADE 67.5%

OFFSHORE 32.5%

The decline in local manufacturing, limited by machinery and production techniques available, means we need to explore options from artisans around the world to achieve the highest quality product and finish for our customers. In making this decision, we will ensure the chosen manufacturers are centred around producing the highest quality garments possible



GOAL *achieved*

UPDATE OUR SUPPLIER CODE OF CONDUCT

We work closely with our local and offshore suppliers to ensure strict environmental and social standards of practice are continued to be met. In 2023 we revised our Supplier Code of Conduct to further define expectations in line with the best international standards of practice as identified by the International Labour Organisation. This includes an updated Modern Slavery Statement, Environmental Management Statement and Animal Welfare Statement.

Employment is freely chosen	Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected	Working conditions are safe and hygienic
Child labour shall not be used	Living wages are paid	Working hours are not excessive
No discrimination is practiced	Regular employment is provided	No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed



PACKAGING*snapshot*

All our online and retail packaging is 100% recyclable and made with FSC certified paper. The considered design includes cotton handles which naturally break down over time and are printed with water-based inks, providing a premium experience while leaving a lighter impact on the environment.



ATELIER*highlight*

We are committed to an in-house design business model where we can explore new opportunities for improvement in each part of the design process. In the last year, this considered approach has allowed us to achieve:

- Our target of zero fabric waste to landfill including recycling all fabric scraps through our Upparel partnership.
- 100% digital pattern design, eliminating paper and cardboard use required in manual pattern making. This also provides us with easy access to digital copies of our core and archive styles without the need for additional physical storage spaces.
- Invested in premium in-studio fit mannequins for on the body draping and fit during prototype development, significantly reducing the need for multiple samples and further reducing waste.

PEOPLE *and* PARTNERSHIPS

IMPACT REPORT 2023



OUR FOCUS

We aim to be a force for good by extending our relationships to charitable organisations who help respect and restore our planet. Working with trusted partners who make a big impact will help us on our mission to support artisans, increase social advocacy, divert fabric waste from landfill and provide clothing to people in need.

“In Australia, more than 3.5 million people do not have access to essential clothing. This equates to one in eight adults and one in six children.”

THREAD TOGETHER

At Viktoria & Woods we opt to produce smaller runs of new collections, returning key silhouettes with data driven sales prediction to help minimise our waste impact. Where we do have excess or archival stock we have established partnerships with meaningful charities to help disperse our quality pieces to those in need. Items deemed not suitable for donation are recycled through our Upparel partnership.



DONATION: FITTED FOR WORK & THREAD TOGETHER

IN 2023 WE DONATED OVER



Fitted for Work helps women experiencing disadvantage become job-ready, find meaningful employment, and thrive in their working lives.

200

PIECES OF CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES TO FITTED FOR WORK



Thread Together helps drive social and environmental change by providing new clothing to those in need and helping to manage fashion excess stock.

500

PIECES OF CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES TO THREAD TOGETHER

PARTNERSHIP: AIRROBE

We design all V&W pieces with longevity in mind, so each item can reach its full potential and be shared for generations.

Through our partnership with AirRobe, we were able to track over 1,350 V&W pieces added to circular wardrobes in 2023.



*all data provided by AirRobe

The increase of circularity in fashion is an exciting emerging space and one we are eager to grow more through our brand impacts.



“Each year millions of tonnes of clothes are produced, worn, and thrown away. Every second, the equivalent of a rubbish truck load of clothes is burnt or buried in landfill.”

ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION





DONATION & PARTNERSHIP: WORLD OCEANS DAY

We have always drawn inspiration from our unique Australian landscape and the oceans which surround it. Since inception we have worked to honour this through regular donations to ocean focused charities.

In 2023, we again partnered with Plastic Oceans Australasia, an impact organisation creating a ‘wave of change’ to reduce plastic pollution in our precious Oceans.

EVERY YEAR **12 MILLION *tonnes***
OF PLASTIC WASTE ESCAPES INTO OUR OCEANS

EVERY DAY **126 *and* 142**
THE AVERAGE ADULT CONSUMES BETWEEN
TINY PARTICLES OF PLASTIC

EVERY MINUTE **1 MILLION**
PLASTIC BOTTLES ARE PURCHASED AROUND THE WORLD

**provided by Plastic Oceans Australasia*

PLASTIC OCEANS AUSTRALASIA

For the month of June 2023, we donated 100% of profits from the sale of our limited edition World Oceans Day t-shirt to Plastic Oceans Australasia, raising \$6,000.

our FUTURE

IMPACT REPORT 2023



OUR FOCUS

We are on a journey to do better. We seek to empower ourselves through information, collaboration, compassion and courage. We strive for progress not perfection to make decisions with a measurable impact to benefit people and the planet.

EXPANDING RESPONSIBILITY

In 2023 we opened our 15th Australian boutique, Indooroopilly and relocated our Armadale boutique to a new double-storey residence on the iconic High Street.

We also moved into our new Head Office, located on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people.



V&W ARMADALE

Collaborating once again with Australian Interior Designer and friend of the brand Annabel Kerr, this multi-level boutique boasts our love of natural textiles and design elements made in Australia by local artisans.



V&W INDOORROOPILLY

The peaceful boutique is housed within Indooroopilly Shopping Centre, offering the hallmarks of a Viktoria & Woods experience. Immersed with warm lighting and adorned with custom furnishings complimentary of considered natural finishes, a theme reflected in each V&W destination.

Pieces in the space paying tribute to local artists including a standout artwork titled Mirrors by Emma Itzstein from Otomys, a contemporary art gallery in Melbourne. The mixed media piece offers soft colour in a neutral space.



HEAD OFFICE

Our vision to create beautiful moments in harmony with our planet influenced the design of our new head office.

A strong focus on clean, minimal finishes and the connection between interior and exterior was greatly considered, ensuring a coherent workplace, adding skylights to flood the space with natural light. A celebration of organic shapes, natural materials & calming, warm tones create a cohesive office environment reflective of a timeless, classic brand with a hint of modernity- the essence of Viktoria & Woods.

Steadfast in our commitment to the planet, Viktoria & Woods head office incorporates environmentally responsible design features into its aesthetic. Lighting has been upgraded to LED, using significantly less energy than traditional lighting. Sensor lighting has been included in the carpark and warehouse space to ensure no energy is wasted.

As with our boutiques, the interiors of head office have been consciously selected for their quality and beauty, with over 90% of items being sourced locally. We have also introduced an avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle waste hierarchy into all office practices.

Pleasant State cleaning products are used throughout our head office and boutiques. This Australian brand offers reusable, plant-based cleaning solutions helping us reflect our values in all areas of the business.

VIKTORIA & WOODS

IMPACT REPORT 2023

