



25 November 2020

## **BIG W welcomes Oxfam Australia's report *Shopping for a Bargain***

BIG W welcomes Oxfam's Australia's Shopping for a Bargain report released today.

The report highlights important elements of a robust responsible sourcing program namely responsible purchasing practices and the critical role of multi-stakeholder partnerships in strengthening worker rights in global supply chains. As two priority areas for BIG W, we commit to ongoing work in this area and to report annually on our progress.

Our commitment to improve purchasing practices is reflected in our membership of Action, Collaboration, Transformation (ACT), a coalition of brands, retailers and unions working together to address living wages in Bangladesh. As an ACT brand member we have committed to ACT's five Global Purchasing Practices and the associated 20 implementation measures:

1. purchasing prices include wages as itemised costs
2. fair terms of payments
3. better planning and forecasting
4. training on responsible sourcing and buying
5. to practice responsible exit strategies<sup>1</sup>

In meeting our commitments under ACT, we are confident we will continue to demonstrate improvements in the key areas identified in the Oxfam report, including supplier awareness on our commitments to living wage. Together with ACT, member brands are finalising a monitoring framework that suppliers and broader civil society can use to hold us to account.

While we have made progress over the past 12 months, and [supported our suppliers](#) through COVID-19, we acknowledge there is more work to do to safeguard the rights of garment workers in our global supply chains.

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<sup>1</sup> See the full list of ACT Global Purchasing Practices Commitments and implementation measures here: <https://actonlivingwages.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/ACT-GLOBAL-PURCHASING-PRACTICES-COMMITMENTS-1.pdf>