

H&M FDM Programme 2026

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1. Getting Started

If I have an active Worldly subscription do I need to purchase FDM separately?

FDM is included in all three Worldly subscription plans. Suppliers with an active subscription should already have access.

What is the cost of FDM?

FDM is currently included in each of Worldly's three annual subscription plans; Light at USD 299, Standard where it is bundled with a choice of FEM or FSLM at USD 899 or Complete where it is bundled with both FEM and FSLM at USD 1,499.

How to open a new FDM assessment module after posting one month's data entry?

A new open submission will auto-populate to your FDM Modules page upon completion and posting.

Can my FDM assessment modules be shared with other brands?

Yes, suppliers can share their modules with as many brands as they wish.

Is the FDM scored?

No, the FDM is not scored.

Whom can we contact if we have questions on FDM?

Reach out to support@worldly.io or submit a support ticket from your Worldly home page any time.

Where can we find guidance and supporting resources including recording and slides of the training webinars?

All supporting resources and webinar training recordings are on the [H&M FDM Programme Landing Page](#)

2. Data Import & Submission

Are H&M suppliers required to submit data to both FDM and STEP in 2026?

Water and social data will continue to be entered to STEP while energy and production volume data is now entered to FDM.

Does data need to be submitted every month or can it be entered quarterly?

FDM is designed to capture monthly data. Suppliers can enter this data in intervals that best suit them but it is highly recommended to consult with brand partners on their frequency of needs.

H&M requests monthly data entry at least through the first quarter of 2026 as suppliers transition to FDM.

Now that suppliers will submit monthly data on FDM does H&M still require suppliers to complete the annual FEM?

Yes, H&M requires suppliers to complete both the monthly FDM data submission through 2026 and the annual FEM at the end of the year.

How can I transfer my FDM data to FEM at the end of the year?

The clip at this link will illustrate: [FDM-to-FEM-Import-Demonstration-video](#)

Is the data import from FDM to FEM automatic after a full year of monthly entries?

No, the facility must initiate the import. View the video at the following link to see how:

[Import-FDM-data-into-Higg-FEM-2024](#)

Can I edit my data after it has been submitted?

Sure, FDM data can be edited after it has been submitted and posted up until validation begins. During the validation process the supplier cannot make any changes to the data. Visit the multimedia archive on the [H&M FDM Programme Guidelines Landing Page](#) for an interactive demonstration on how.

How can multiple files be attached on FDM?

If uploading multiple files for the same field, we recommend putting the files into a folder, creating a zip file of that folder, and uploading the zip file. Alternatively, you may create a single word document or PDF with all of the data within that file.

As a supplier submitting FDM data how can I manage different brands' requirements?

Suppliers are advised to communicate and discuss requirements with their brand partners. Consider entering data at a scope and frequency that satisfies the strictest requirements and explain this to all other brands.

What should I do if my utility invoices are not received by the 25th of the month?

Please inform your contact on H&M's sustainability team and BluWIn in advance of any delays

If 2026 does not appear for selection as reporting year, what should I do?

Please submit a request to support@worldly.io with your Worldly account details.

I already completed water pd data on STEP. Is this needed also on FDM?

For suppliers participating in the H&M FDM Programme, only the Site Information, Production Volume and Energy sections are within required FDM scope. Water data can continue to be entered to STEP this year.

After submitting January's data, where can I find the module to submit February's data? And where can I find the roll forward page?

Please revisit the training materials, found at [<hm-fdm-uat-facility-guidelines-page>](#) for a recap of the process.

Specifically reference the recorded guidance on "how to open a new assessment" and "how to roll forward your monthly assessment"

How to target set in FDM? Should FDM targets be combined with FEM?

While not an H&M requirement on FDM this year, more information can be found at the support article link: [Setting Targets in FEM and FDM](#)

3. Site Information

What should I select if none of my facility processes appear among the process options on FDM?

Suppliers will have the option to select "none" if none of the facility process options that appear on the FDM apply to their operations.

Is the FDM mandatory for a Tier 2 embroidery facility?

FDM submissions are required by all H&M suppliers this year. Although the embroidery process is not listed among facility process options on the assessment, suppliers can select "None of the above" in response to this question.

Is it mandatory to split energy reporting between domestic and production?

No, it is not mandatory. Splitting resource consumption tracking and reporting between domestic and production purposes is encouraged but not required. Combined totals can be reported if they are not currently tracked separately.

If energy data is entered separately, split across domestic & production use on Higg FEM, can the combined total energy consumption be submitted on FDM?

We recommend submitting the data in the same structure as your FEM so that your monthly data can be imported into the FEM at the end of the year. If domestic and production data are submitted separately in FEM, you should answer the FDM the same way.

Does the site information need to be filled out every month?

No, following your first month of data entry for the year, use the roll forward feature to reduce monthly data entry needs to this section.

At a site with only a finished product processing facility, would the manufacturing volume and final product processed be same?

On FDM H&M suppliers are required to submit both “manufactured” product volume and product volume shipped and sold. Suppliers must distinguish which of these is a more accurate match to the final product processed.

4. Production Volume

Does production volume need to be allocated for all brands that I share my FDM assessment modules with?

Yes, facilities are required to allocate production volume for each brand they share FDM submissions with. Zero can be entered for any brands they did not produce for in a given month or may be unable to determine specific production for.

In STEP, production volume was entered as the quantity of products produced in the reporting month. What should be entered as production volume in FDM?

In FDM, suppliers will continue to enter production volume as units produced in the reporting month and allocate based on the same to facility type(s), process(es) and brand partner(s).

Additionally, suppliers will also enter production units shipped and sold in order to align with the import of data to the annual Higg FEM. Question references are clearly distinguished.

If both manufactured and shipped and sold volumes are submitted on FDM, which data will be transferred into yearly Higg FEM?

Shipped and sold volumes, as aligned with standard reporting requirements on the Higg FEM, are transferred into the annual assessment.

When we allocate production volume to brands, should we input shipment data or production data?

As guided on the submission form, for the brand allocation suppliers are required to enter both, production units shipped and units produced,.

How should an integrated facility report production volume?

All relevant facility types to the operation should be selected, for example; Finished Goods Assembly, Finished Goods Processing and Material Production. The units of production at each facility type in the reporting month should then be input. Refer to training materials and recording for illustration.

Can production quantity be entered in “pieces” as a unit of measure for any of the facility processes?

No, production output from all of the processes can be reported by either weight (kg) or length (metres). Reporting in pieces or pairs is only available for finished good assembler and processing facility types.

Is the new question added for material production (not shipped) data applicable to finished product?

Yes, this question is applicable to all selected facility types. If finished product assembler has been selected among the supplier's facility types, both the manufactured units produced and manufactures units shipped) would need to be entered to the corresponding questions.

Do “temporary employees” refer to employees under a certain (temporary contract) or freelancers hired by the facility?

FDM survey guidance clarifies that temporary workers are those hired for a specific period or to complete a specific task of limited duration.

5. Energy

Is it acceptable to separate domestic and production energy using calculation and estimations? How will the quantities be validated when we separate the energy sources received on a single invoice?

It is recommended that suppliers document calculation and estimation methods when completing the self-assessment as these will also be reviewed for accuracy during the validation process.

Can the use of RECs be reported to FDM if the REC has not yet been issued?

Suppliers should answer “Yes” to the EAC/REC question only if they have purchased and retired the EACs in the reporting year, and are then asked to upload the certificate as supporting documentation.

RECs that have not yet had a certificate issued should not be reported as purchased EACs in FDM for that reporting year.

How do we report on RECs in FDM monthly if the REC certificate is issued every 6 months or if we purchase RECs for the entire year?

FDM users are required to enter REC consumed/retired in the current year up to the reporting month. If 1,000 MWh of RECs are consumed/retired in January 2026, this amount must be reported in the January 2026 assessment, then every month forward unless more RECs are purchased and used later in the year.

If an additional 1,000 MWh is purchased in May, then consumed/retired later in the year - for example, in July 2026 - the supplier will continue to report 1,000MWh every month until June, updating reported value to 2,000MWh in July.

Where can I find the standard emissions factors applicable to energy sources on the FDM, including both certified and non-certified biomass?

FDM follows the same methodology and factors as FEM. Standard emission factors used in FDM/FEM can be found here: [Energy-FEM-FDM-Emission-Factors-File](#)

Additionally, [FEM-2024-Energy-and-Global-Warming-Calculations](#) shows the default kg CO₂e/MJ factors for each energy source (diesel, natural gas, district heating, chilled water, etc.) and explains how they are applied in calculations.

In STEP, we follow emission intensity guidelines and maintain our emissions accordingly. Does FDM include any such guidelines?

FDM supports emissions intensity tracking and normalized (intensity-based) target-setting. It does not provide prescriptive guidelines on what intensity levels suppliers should aim for.

Can you recommend any certification body that provides sustainable certification for biomass in India?

We are unable to recommend country or region-specific certification bodies for sustainable biomass, however suppliers can search for and reach out to any certification body that certifies biomass based on below certifications; Note that 'country-specific certification' and "other" are also response options, and suppliers are welcome to report on sustainable biomass certifications beyond this list.

- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) ;
- ISCC Biomass Certification
- Sustainable Biomass Program (SBP) Certification
- Better Biomass Certification
- Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials Association Certification (RSB)
- Country Specific Certification
- Other

What kind of biomass would a facility select if agriculture waste is used to generate electricity?

If the supplier is using agricultural waste (for example rice husk, straw, stover, cane trash, bagasse, or similar residues) to generate electricity, it should select “Biomass – Sustainably sourced with certification” or “Biomass – Without sustainably sourced biomass certification”, depending on whether the biomass has an accepted sustainability certification.

As the biomass source, “Residues from agricultural processes (Rice husk, straw, stover, cane trash, bagasse, trimmings/branches from plantations e.g., parawood/cashew)” should be selected.

How can we report biomass from cow dung when there is no specific option available on the FDM? We are currently selecting ‘agricultural waste,’ but animal waste is a different biomass source.

At present, residues from agricultural processes would be the closest option among available listed.

This feedback is well received and has been escalated internally for consideration in expanding existing options on future versions of the submission form..

Are declarations from biomass suppliers acceptable or are certifications mandatory?

Actual certificates are required to report biomass as “sustainably sourced with certification”. Biomass counted as “sustainably sourced with certification” must have supporting certification documentation from a recognized sustainably sourced biomass program (e.g., FSC, PEFC, ISCC, SBP, Better Biomass, RSB, or country-specific schemes). Supplier declarations alone are insufficient evidence for this category

If no renewable/biomass certificate is available, the biomass should be reported as “Biomass – Without sustainably sourced biomass certification” (i.e., uncertified).

Would LPG used for welding and cutting processes be classified as production or domestic use?

Production energy is defined as energy directly or indirectly consumed in production activities or areas (e.g., production equipment operations, onsite energy generation, production area HVAC, industrial wastewater treatment). Welding is listed as a production process using chemicals/energy, not an operational or domestic activity.

As part of the production process, LPG used for welding and cutting should be classified as production energy use.

Can you please provide a conversion factor for reporting CNG tracking in MJ instead of m3?

The energy density of CNG is referenced on FEM 2024 as:

- 0.0383 MJ per liter
- 52.2257 MJ per kg

To track in MJ on Worldly, suppliers should first convert CNG volumes to either liters (multiply by 1000) or kilograms, then multiply by the applicable density factor

What is the definition of wind onsite?

“Wind (onsite)” is a renewable energy source and refers to electricity or energy generated from wind turbines located within the facility boundary and owned/operated by the facility as an onsite renewable source, as opposed to renewable electricity purchased from outside (which is reported as “Purchased Renewables”).

Can the electricity generated by photovoltaic power installed on the floor of a rented factory building be used for our electricity consumption?

This depends on whether the facility owns or controls the solar PV system.

- If the solar PV system is owned by the factory (even in a rented building), the electricity it generates and uses onsite can be reported under "Solar Photovoltaic (electricity) (onsite)".
- If the building owner or a third party owns the solar PV system and your factory purchases the electricity from them, it should be reported as "Purchased Renewables", not as onsite solar.

Energy consumed by facilities or tenants on-site that are not owned or controlled by your facility should be excluded from your energy reporting on the Higg FEM/FDM.

6. Validation

What is the cost of validation?

Validation costs are negotiated between the validating body, the brand and the supplier. The validation feature is available as part of the Worldly FDM subscription but the cost of the validation itself is paid directly to the validating body.

Is the validation fee charged once per year or every time an audit is conducted?

Validation fees and payment schedules are coordinated and negotiated directly between supplier and auditing body.

Who pays the validation fee?

Just as the case with STEP, the FDM validation fee is paid by the supplier.

What is the required frequency of FDM validation?

Quarterly validation is recommended of FDM module submissions. As FDM data is submitted monthly, this would mean including three assessments in scope for each validation event per quarter.

If FDM data is audited at monthly or quarterly intervals and the FEM is audited again annually, would there be a reduction on validation fees?

Validation costs are highly dependent on existing agreements, which validation provider is selected and the validation programme you or your brand partner wish to implement.

If a supplier is already doing the FEM, does their FDM data also need to be validated? Does the validation body need to be the same?

Suppliers doing both FEM and FDM will need to verify both assessments. While it is not mandatory, suppliers can choose to work with the same validation body for both and coordinate simultaneous validation/verification.

Does data entered to both STEP and FDM now need to be validated?

Just as in prior years all data submitted to H&M must be validated. Both energy data entered to FDM and water data entered to STEP will need to be validated. Suppliers should contact BluWIn directly to negotiate validation scheduling and cost..

Is FDM validation expected to be conducted onsite quarterly or is remote validation also acceptable?

Both onsite and remote validation are viable options for FDM. Onsite validation is recommended at least once per year and may be scheduled at the same time as the facility's Higg FEM verification to reduce cost. Remote validation can be leveraged as a complement to onsite validation over remaining quarters.

What are H&M's FDM data validation requirements?

H&M requires all suppliers to validate their monthly FDM submissions of energy, production volume and site information data.

Are any specific documents required during validation?

Any attachments included on your FDM assessment will be checked during the validation process. Should additional documentation be required, the auditor will advise or request accordingly.

How many days does the validation process usually take?

The number of validation days is influenced by a number of factors including facility size and process complexity and validation type, among others. The standard number of days will therefore also vary based on these factors.

Can H&M suppliers select the validation body of their choice?

H&M has nominated BluWIN for 2026 FDM validation. Suppliers are required to select "BluWIn 2nd party" to audit your FDM data submissions.

Does the validating body need to be selected every quarter or only once?

Suppliers can assign the validating body once at the start of their first FDM assessment for the year or on each monthly module submission. Bulk assignment to multiple modules is also possible. View the multimedia archive for an interactive demonstration on how to assign validator by module or in bulk.

How can a supplier select Bluwin as the validating body for FDM?

Revisit the training materials for a recap of the process:

- Access your modules via the modules tab on your FDM dashboard. This step can be performed whether your module is still in progress or already complete.
- On the actions menu to the left of your module overview page you will find an option to select validation body. This will open a list of options from which you should select “BluWin - 2nd party”
- Confirming your selection then takes you back to the module’s overview page.
- You will now see “BluWin - 2nd party” pending as your validation body until they also accept and assign an auditor to assess your module

Following data submission, when does the actual validation process begin?

Once suppliers submit assessment data, the module status will change from “ASI” (self-assessment in progress) to “ASC” (self-assessment complete). If a validating body has been assigned, the updated status will signal to them that the module is ready for validation and the process can begin at any time, from that point onward.

As H&M suggests a quarterly validation cycle, targeting validation of Q1 assessments by May 15th, validation of January, February and March modules in their programme could begin as soon as March data is submitted, earliest likely being the end of April.

How can a supplier manage different validation timelines and requirements across multiple brands?

Suppliers are advised to communicate and discuss requirements with their various brand partners. Consider the validation cycle that satisfies the strictest brand requirement and negotiate on this basis with the remaining brands.

If multiple brands have different requirements in terms of assessment scope (sections to be completed) and verifying body nominations, we recommend that suppliers communicate and align with brand partners on an approach that will satisfy all needs. Ideally the supplier would follow the broadest scope requirements and work with a single VB to validate each monthly assessment while each brand would focus only on the validated data relevant to their desired scope.

If an assessment needs to be validated by multiple validating bodies (VBs), please contact support@worldly.io to have a duplicate submission created which can then be validated by an additional VB.