

# Promoting cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA)

UN Development Account Project 1617K

Implemented by UNCTAD, in partnership with COMESA and  
UNECA

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Lusaka, Zambia

## UNCTAD's services

1. Analytical reports and statistics on trade, investment and development topics, including commodities
2. Policy advice to national governments
3. Training and capacity building activities at country and regional levels
4. Multi-stakeholder consensus-building activities, assembling: governments, private sector, civil society, academia and others

## Introduction to the project

- Name: **Promoting cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) – Project 1617K**
- Beneficiary countries: **Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia**
- Start date: **March 2016**                      End date: **December 2019**
- Funding source: **UN Development Account, 10<sup>th</sup> tranche**
- Implementing agency: **UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) – Special Unit on Commodities**
- Partners: **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)  
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)**

# UN Development Account projects

## 1. Key conditions

- a capacity development programme of the United Nations Secretariat;
- adopting a **medium to long-term approach** helping countries to better integrate social, economic and environmental strategies to achieve the SDGs;
- supporting **pilot projects** that test new ideas and eventually scale them up through supplementary funding;
- emphasizing on **integration** of national expertise in the projects to ensure **national ownership and sustainability** of project outcomes.

## 2. Operational constraints

- Project managed in Geneva, with oversight from New York
- No transfer of funds to country based focal points
- All activities subject to standard UN rules and regulations and not to country practices

# Objectives

## **Overall objective:**

Strengthen the capacity of beneficiary countries in the COMESA region to assess the economic viability of the development of cotton by-products and formulate evidence-based policies that promote value addition activities.

## **Expected accomplishment 1:**

Improved capacity of cotton value chain stakeholders (government officials, the private sector and farmers) to assess the potential value, market situation and prospects for cotton by-products.

## **Expected accomplishment 2:**

Improved capacity of policymakers to (a) formulate evidence-based policies that improve the value added of cotton by-products; and (b) devise investment profiles to attract potential investors.

# Overview of activities

## Expected accomplishment 1:

Improved capacity of cotton value chain stakeholders (government officials, the private sector and farmers) to assess the potential value, market situation and prospects for cotton by-products.

| Activity # | Description  | Estimated implementation in Zambia |
|------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1.1        | Conduct surveys in each country and prepare country case studies based on survey results   | Q3/4 2017                          |
| 1.3        | Based on the outcome of activity A1.1, organize a two-day national seminar   | Q4 2017                            |
| 1.4        | Organize a study tour for cotton value chain stakeholders from the four beneficiary countries  | Q4 2018 / Q1 2019                  |
| 1.5        | Prepare a synthesis report of the surveys, workshops and other activities in the project countries, to present at the regional workshop (A2.4) | 2019                               |

## Overview of activities (cont.)

### Expected accomplishment 2:

Improved capacity of policymakers to (a) formulate evidence-based policies that improve the value added of cotton by-products; and (b) devise investment profiles to attract potential investors.

| Activity # | Description  | Estimated implementation in Zambia |
|------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 2.1        | Organize a special session (1 day) for policymakers back to back with the national seminar organized under activity A1.3                       | Q4 2017                            |
| 2.2        | Provide assistance through advisory missions (UNCTAD) and consultancy (consultants) to support countries in developing evidence-based policies | 2018-2019                          |
| 2.3        | Work with the investment promotion institutions in the four target countries to develop cotton by-product investment profiles                  | 2018-2019                          |
| 2.4        | Organize a regional workshop for project countries to share lessons and best practices.  | 2019                               |

## Project approaches

Integrated  
approach

Inclusive  
participation

Inter-agency  
collaboration

South-South  
cooperation

## Three-day national capacity-building workshop

- The project commissioned a survey on cotton by-products in the country (Activity 1.1).
- The survey findings and final report will inform the project's subsequent activities, including a national capacity-building workshop.
- The workshop will comprise:
  - a two-day programme on 6-7 December for stakeholders to identify opportunities in cotton by-products and devise strategies to realise them (A 1.3); and
  - followed by a one-day workshop on 8 December for policy-makers to identify policies to support these strategies (A 2.1).

## Expected deliverables

### Stakeholder workshop (6-7 December):

| Sessions                                       | Deliverable  |
|--|--|
| 1: Presentation of survey results              | Feedback on survey, to be incorporated into final version of the analytical survey report.   |
| 2: Increasing seed cotton production in Zambia | Agreed recommendations on initiatives or policies to increase seed cotton production in Zambia.  |
| 5-8  | National action plan, comprising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commercial initiatives to develop cotton by-products in Zambia; and</li> <li>2. An oversight committee.</li> </ol> |

### Policy workshop (8 December):

| Sessions            | Deliverable  |
|---------------------|--|
| 3: Policy proposals | Policy proposals to support the national action plan |

***The two deliverables – the national action plan and supporting policy recommendations – to be submitted in January 2018 to the PS of Industry, MCTI, for validation.***

## For more information

### UNCTAD's work on commodities:

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/SUC/Commodities-Special-Unit.aspx>

### Project site:

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/SUC/Commodities/SUC-Project-1617K.aspx>

### Email:

[commodities@unctad.org](mailto:commodities@unctad.org)

**Thank you**