

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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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, 10th 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"> 1. Commercial initiatives to develop cotton by-products in Zambia; and 2. An oversight committee.

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>

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Thank you