United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Regional Workshop on Promoting Cotton By-Products in Eastern and Southern Africa

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Hosted by Cotton SA

The Zimbabwe Experience

By

Washington Mubvekeri, Head of Institute, Cotton Research Institute, Zimbabwe

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.
COTTON BY-PRODUCTS PROJECT
The Zimbabwe Experience
From India
ZIMBABWE’S INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE
Biomass Briquettes
1. MEETING I: REPORT BACK

a. Project reports

i. Briquettes and Pellets
ii. De-gosypolization of Cotton Seed Cake
iii. Surgical cotton manufacturing
iv. Culture medium for mushroom
b. Productive sectors that would utilize cotton by-products were identified.

The tobacco industry came top for briquettes.

“In 2017 alone, farmers are estimated to have destroyed a total of 60 000 hectares gathering wood to cure tobacco,” (Emmanuel Kafe, Sunday Mail, 17 February 2019) in his article “Tobacco Killing Forests”
c. Had issues with the potential of the cotton growers to generate sufficient cotton stalks.

• Zimbabwe has an 18 year average cotton production area of 300000 hectares.
• The average cotton stalk productivity is 2 tonnes per hectare.
• Zimbabwe could produce 600000 tonnes per year.
Meeting 1 resolution:

Concept brief on each of the following.

a. Briquettes and pellets

b. Degosympolizing Cotton Seed Meal

c. Surgical cotton manufacturing
MEETING II:

ESTABLISHING STAKEHOLDER CONSENSUS:
(Stakeholders Consultation)

Meetings of Stakeholders from different sectors and backgrounds was seen as a fertile approach to get the most practical productive outcomes.

It was important to explain the concepts and to obtain the buy-in from all relevant stakeholders.

Critical to come up with a mutually agreeable statement of purpose and plan of action.
Meeting 2:

Sought to identify appropriate organisations that would host the pilot projects

Careful selection of host for the pilot project was critical to ensure swift project role-out.

Ability by the host to make available some internal (human and technical) support.
MEETING 2 ESTABLISHED THAT,

• Zimbabwe’s feed manufacturer sector was facing a cotton seed meal deficit for ruminants feeds.

• Proposal for briquette and pellet and surgical cotton projects were accepted.
THANK YOU