United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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

28-30 May 2019, Johannesburg, South Africa

Hosted by Cotton SA

Cotton By-Products in Zambia

By

Dafulin Kaonga, Executive Director, Cotton Board of Zambia

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.
COTTON BY-PRODUCTS IN ZAMBIA

COTTON BOARD OF ZAMBIA
DAFULIN KAONGA
BACKGROUND

• Cotton remains an important cash crop in Zambia, with 250,000 – 450,000 farmers
• Source of income for rural households, employment opportunities for people, source of export revenue for government
• Current production of cotton lint in Zambia is approximately 40,000 tons versus a potential production of 200,000 tons of lint
• Cotton grown mainly for lint but there are by-products that can be derived from cotton: including cake, edible oil, particle boards, Briquettes pellets for energy, and absorbent cotton
CURRENT COTTON VALUE CHAIN IN ZAMBIA
OBJECTIVES OF UNCTAD

• Zambia to assess the economic viability of development of cotton by-product

• Improve capacity of cotton value chain stakeholders to access the potential value, market situation and prospects

• Improved capacity of policymakers to formulate evidence based policies and devise investment profiles
Choose two cotton by-product that would be commercially viable in Zambia

1. **Briquette, and pellets manufacture from cotton stalks**

2. **Production of absorbent cotton wool for medical and sanitary usage**

**MEETING HELD FROM 6TH TO 8TH DECEMBER, 2017**
Focus of UNCTAD Project
Promoting cotton by-product in Eastern and Southern Africa

Examples of some cotton by-products

- Cotton Seed
- Weight 55-65% of seed cotton

- Cotton Stalk
- Weight 55-65% of seed cotton

- Lint
- 35-41% weight of seed cotton
WHY BRIQUETTES, AND PELLETS

• A great opportunity to move away from use of wood fuel and ecological destruction of forests for domestic and industrial use.
• Opportunity for increase income for farmers
• Re enforcement of Pest control
• Biomass fuel of briquettes/pellets business opportunities remain unexploited in, Zambia
WHY NOT YET DEVELOPMENT BRIQUETTES AND PELLETS

• lack of knowledge among farmers and other value chain actors;
• lack of necessary value addition technologies;
WHAT IS BEEN DONE

• Understand how briquette and pellet use is being exploited from other raw materials
• Informing farming communities about the potential for use of cotton stalks for energy use
• Encouraging potential entrepreneurs about the business opportunity
• Understanding Government Policy under ministry of Energy
ABSORBENT COTTON

• For medical purposes
• Can also be used for sanitary pads, baby diapers, cotton sliver, cotton dental rolls
WHAT IS OBTAINING

• We have two producers of absorbent cotton supplying through private enterprises in Zambia, Zimbabwe and at times Congo
• The capacity levels of the two suppliers is unable to meet government demand
• Need for more investment in the processing and product range
POLICY PROPOSALS

- Trade policy – import substitution, placing local content as priority (buy Zambia)
  - Fiscal incentives

- Government to have a central body dealing the whole cotton value chain

- Coherent treatment of the cotton value chain by
  - Reviewing the Cotton Act
  - Strengthening the cotton value addition committee of ZAM

- Advocacy and awareness

- Creating centers of excellence for the cotton value chain
WAY FORWARD

BRIQUETTES AND PELLETS

• Address low production and productivity
• Formation of cooperatives
• a stalk value addition study which assesses the economic viability and location issues needs to be conducted;

ABSORBERNT COTTON

• Address low production and productivity
• Formation of cooperatives
• need a national policy for agro-processing clusters
THANK YOU

Dafulin Kaonga
+260 976 047 682
dafulink@cottonboardzambia.com
www.cbz.org.zm