

# 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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United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

14-16 March 2018  
Kampala, Uganda

## UNCTAD services

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

# UNCTAD TC services on commodities and development

## Breaking the Chains of Commodity Dependence

1. Developing value added activities in its commodity sector;
2. Establishing development linkages between the commodity sector and the wider economy;
3. Diversifying to non-commodity activities; and
4. Integrating CDDCs into global and regional value chains.

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## TC project approaches

**Integrated  
approach**

**Inclusive  
participation**

**Inter-agency  
collaboration**

**South-South  
cooperation**

## 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) – Commodities Branch
- **Partners:** United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)  
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

# 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 Tanzania
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 activities A1.1 and A1.2, organize a two-day national seminar	Q3/4 2017 and Q1 2018
1.4	Organize a study tour for cotton value chain stakeholders from the four beneficiary countries	Q4 2018 / Q1 2019
1.2	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 Tanzania
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



# 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

## Last mission (April 2017)

### Overall objective:

Solicit stakeholder input on project's scope, objectives and activities.

### Specific objectives:

- Collect stakeholder input on project deliverables (e.g. survey and investment profile) and implementation methodology;
- Identify qualified institutions or individuals to conduct a survey on cotton by-products;
- Discuss with the Investment Authority on the potential for attracting investment to develop cotton by-product value chains;
- To raise awareness of the project among key stakeholders.

## Three-day national capacity-building workshop

- The project commissioned a survey on cotton by-products in the country (Activity 1.1).
- The workshop will comprise
  - a two-day programme on 14-15 March for stakeholders to identify opportunities in cotton by-products and devise strategies to realise them (A 1.3),
  - followed by a one-day workshop on 16 March for policy-makers to identify policies to support these strategies (A 2.1).

# Expected outcomes of three-day national capacity-building workshop

- **14-15 March:**
  - A draft national action plan to develop value added activities on cotton by-products;
  - A multi-stakeholder committee proposed to oversee the implementation of these initiatives and other related activities;
- **16 March:**
  - Draft policy recommendations in support of the draft national action plan, agreed by participants at the policy-making component of the workshop.

# Workshop outcomes in Zimbabwe (validated)

- **A draft national action plan :**
  - Establish a stabilisation fund for cotton prices;
  - Develop a new value chain for cotton stalks; and
  - Extend the market for cottonseed to the non-ruminants feed segment by implementing de-gossypol technology.
- **Policy recommendations in support of the draft national action plan:**
  - Enable the use of cotton stalks in value added activities;
  - Favour the acquisition and adoption of appropriate technologies to add value to cotton by-products;
  - Establish a consensus pricing model for seed cotton producer prices;
  - Favour self-sufficiency in oilseeds and edible oils; and
  - Establish a unified, public-private funding model for increased productivity and production of seed cotton.

## For more information

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### Project site:

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

**Thank you**