

Promoting cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa

UN Development Account Project 1617K

Implemented by UNCTAD

In partnership with COMESA and UNECA

PROGRAMME

Regional workshop

*Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo
Johannesburg, South Africa*

28-30 May 2019

Hosted by: Cotton South Africa

1. Arrival of participants, Monday, 27 May

- Arrival at O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg
- Hotel shuttle every 30 minutes to Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo
- Check-in at hotel
- Evening free

2. Regional workshop, 28-29 May

Tuesday, 28 May

8:45-10:30 Opening session

Chairperson:	Mr. Thabo Ramashala, Director, Plant Production, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of South Africa
Welcome remarks:	Mr. Hennie Bruwer, CEO, Cotton SA
Opening statement:	Ms. Yanchun Zhang, Head, Commodities Branch, UNCTAD
UNECA remarks:	Mr. Stephen Karingi, Director of Regional Integration and Trade, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
Remarks by delegations:	Mrs. Jolly Sabune, Managing Director, CDO, Uganda Dr. Mavis Sibanda, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Zimbabwe Mr. John Mulongoti, Director, Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade, Zambia Mr. Luis Tomo, Director-General, Mozambique Institute for Cotton

10:30-11:30 Group photo, followed by coffee and networking break

Tuesday, 28 May (cont.)

11:30-12:30 Panel discussion: Cotton by-products and sustainable development

Description: The concept for UNCTAD’s project on cotton by-products sprang from the COMESA’s 2009 Regional Strategy for Cotton-to-Clothing Value Chain,¹ prepared in partnership with ITC and ACTIF. More recently, requests by Member States for technical assistance on cotton by-products have multiplied at the dedicated cotton discussions at the WTO, notably from the “Cotton-4” (C-4) and other cotton-producing countries in Africa. These interventions view cotton by-products as a source of value addition and of new income opportunities that can make cotton more profitable for farmers. In this session, a roundtable of distinguished experts will reflect on the potential for cotton by-products to contribute to sustainable development in African cotton-producing countries, as well identifying what is necessary to realise viable markets and businesses for cotton by-products.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Panellists: Mr. Kai Hughes, Executive Director, International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC)
Mr. Stephen Karingi, Director of Regional Integration and Trade, UNECA
Ms. Belinda Edmonds, Managing Director, Africa Cotton Foundation
Mr. Tom Apina, Regional Director, Cotton Expert House Africa
Mr. Umair Zaveri, Executive Director, Alliance Ginneries
Mr. Matthias Knappe, Senior Programme Manager, International Trade Centre (ITC)
Mr. Fabrizio Meliado, Economic Affairs Officer, World Trade Organization (WTO)

12:30-14:00 Lunch in hotel dining room

14:00-15:30 Session 1: Presentation of project synthesis report

Description: As part of the project plan, UNCTAD commissioned a synthesis report (Activity 1.5) to review lessons from project activities. The report is intended to inform the four countries’ ongoing efforts to develop cotton by-products. In this session, the report author, Mr. Stephen Kabwe of the Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI) in Zambia, will present a summary of the report, after which discussions will provide Mr. Kabwe with feedback for the preparation of the final report and inform the subsequent workshop sessions on lessons, experiences and next steps for the project.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Synthesis report: Mr. Stephen Kabwe, Zambia (author)
Moderated discussion

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

¹ https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/suc2017_Regional_COMESA_Strategy.pdf

Tuesday, 28 May (cont.)

15:45-17:30 Session 2: Exchange of project lessons and experience

Description: In this session, participants will proceed from reactions to the synthesis report, on to statements from the government focal points of three project countries – Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe – on lessons from the project and outlook for the implementation of their National Action Plan to develop cotton by-products.² The objective of this session is not to review the project or its activities, but to share among the countries lessons that can inform each other's continued efforts to develop cotton by-products.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Resource person: Mr. Stephen Kabwe, Zambia (author of synthesis report)
Country statements: Mr. George Wilson Ssekisambu, Director, Uganda Cotton Oil Producers Association
Mr. John Mulongoti, Director, Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade, Zambia
Mr. Washington Mubvekeri, Head of Institute, Cotton Research Institute, Zimbabwe

Moderated discussion

Wednesday, 29 May

8:45-10:30 Session 3: Extending the project's work on developing cotton by-products

Description: UNCTAD's project proposed a three-year programme of capacity-building activities to assist four countries in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) to develop cotton by-products. By design, much work remains to implement each country's National Action Plan, comprising commercial and policy initiatives. Moreover, several other cotton-producing countries in ESA, constrained by many of the same conditions and challenges faced by the project countries, could benefit from similar capacity-building activities. In this session, participants will identify the next phases of technical assistance required in the project countries, as well as other potential countries in which to replicate the first phase of capacity-building activities.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Country presentations: Mr. Bob Alberto Ogen, General Manager, West Acholi Cooperative Union, Uganda
Mr. Dafulin Kaonga, Executive Director, Cotton Board of Zambia
Mr. Washington Mubvekeri, Head of Institute, Cotton Research Institute, Zimbabwe
Mr. Tararama Gutu, Director, Cotton Processing Company, Zimbabwe
Mr. Marco Mtunga, Director-General, Tanzania Cotton Board
Dr. Annette Bennett, Technical Manager, Cotton SA
Mr. Luis Tomo, Director-General, Mozambique Institute for Cotton

Moderated discussion

10:30-10:45 Coffee break

² Agreed by consensus at the national capacity-building workshop (Activity 1.3) in each country. Copies of the validated plans are available on the project site: <https://unctad.org/en/Pages/SUC/Commodities/SUC-Project-1617K.aspx>.

Wednesday, 29 May (cont.)

10:45-12:30 Session 4: Presentation of follow-on project proposals

Description: Early project activities assisted countries in evaluating and selecting priority cotton by-products for development. Based on these selections, the project then provided tailored activities, tools and information to equip the countries to undertake concrete projects and investments to develop their priority by-products. In this session, project countries will present concepts for their priority cotton by-product initiatives.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Introduction: Mr. Kris Terauds, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD
Presenters: Prof. Charles Kwesiga, Executive Director, UIRI: *"Charcoal briquettes: Affordable, clean energy for Uganda"*
Mr. Admire Masenda, Director, Association of Cotton Value Adders of Zimbabwe: *"Biomass briquettes for Zimbabwe"*
Mr. Tararama Gutu, Director, Cotton Processing Company, Zimbabwe: *"Producing surgical cotton, cotton balls and dental swabs in Zimbabwe"*

Moderated discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch in hotel dining room

14:00-15:30 Session 4: Presentation of follow-on project proposals (continued)

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Presenters: Dr. Lastus Serunjogi, Plant Breeder, CDO: *"Trialling short-staple varieties as raw material for absorbent cotton production in Uganda"*
Mr. Carrivorous Simasinti, Director, Premier Cooperative: *"Surgical cotton, made in Zambia"*
Mr. Dafulin Kaonga, Executive Director, Cotton Board of Zambia: *"Biomass pyrolysis and briquetting as alternative energy in urban and peri-urban areas"*

Moderated discussion

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-17:15 Session 5: Next steps

Description: This session will involve structured debate on the proposals raised in earlier sessions, such as for new phases of technical assistance and project countries (sessions 2 and 3) or for the specific proposals presented in session 4. The three international trade organisations – WTO, UNCTAD and ITC – will also introduce their new joint initiative on cotton by-products, as a potential channel for responding to some of the proposals.

Targeted outcomes: Commitments by project countries and development partners on the next steps for extending the project's work to develop cotton by-products in Africa.

Facilitator: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Presenters: *"Joint WTO-UNCTAD-ITC initiative on cotton by-products"*
Mr. Fabrizio Meliado, Economic Affairs Officer, WTO
Mr. Matthias Knappe, Senior Programme Manager, International Trade Centre (ITC)
Mr. Kris Terauds, Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD

Wednesday, 29 May (cont.)

17:15-17:30 Closing session

Chairperson: Mr. Simon Matsvai, Zimbabwe
Closing statements: Ms. Yanchun Zhang, Head of Commodities Branch, UNCTAD
Mr. Hennie Bruwer, CEO, Cotton SA

19:00-21:00 Group dinner at hotel for all delegates

3. Field visit, Thursday, 30 May

Organised by Cotton SA

Purpose: Experience the harvesting process in Marblehall area and visit a world class ginnery
Hosts: Mr. Joseph Kempen, CEO, Loskop Ginnery
Mrs. Tanya Aucamp, Cotton SA and Cotton Cluster.

8:00 Depart by bus from Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo
10:30-11:00 Refreshments at Marblehall Country Lodge
11:00-13:30 Visits to commercial and smallholder cotton farms
13:30-14:15 Lunch at Marblehall Country Lodge
14:15-15:15 Visit Loskop Ginnery
15:15 Depart by bus from Loskop Ginnery
17:45 Arrive at Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo

4. Departure of participants, Friday, 31 May

- Check out of hotel
- Hotel shuttle every 30 minutes to O.R. Tambo International Airport
- Departure

5. Contacts

General information on the project, including the project document, background materials and activity reports, can be found at the project site:

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

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