

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 Zimbabwe
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	Q4 2017
1.4	Organize a study tour for cotton value chain stakeholders from the four beneficiary countries	2018
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 Zimbabwe
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



Last mission (November 2016)

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 survey findings and final report will inform the project's subsequent activities, including a.
- The workshop will comprise
 - a two-day programme on 27-28 September 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 29 September for policy-makers to identify policies to support these strategies (A 2.1).

Stakeholder workshop (27-28 September)

Expected project achievements	Indicators	Expected outcomes from the stakeholder workshop (A 1.3)
<p>EA1</p> <p>Improved capacity of cotton value chain stakeholders to assess the potential value, market situation and prospects for cotton by-products.</p>	<p>IA 1.1 Zimbabwe has collected and analysed statistics on the cotton by-products value chain, including the availability of raw material, processing and market conditions of these by-products (i.e., cotton seed and/or stalk).</p> <p>IA 1.2 Zimbabwe has developed and adopted a national action plan, aiming to increase the value added of cotton by-products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Disseminate the survey findings (A1.1); (ii) Build capacity of cotton value chain stakeholders to evaluate investment opportunities and the market potential for value addition to cotton by-products; (iii) Agree on the key elements of a national action plan to add more value to cotton by-products, including the evidence-based policies and investment profiles planned for this project; and (iv) Discuss and establish a multi-stakeholder committee to monitor the implementation of the action plan.

Policy workshop (29 September)

Expected project achievements	Indicators	Expected outcomes from the policy workshop (A 2.1)
<p>EA2</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>IA 2.1 Zimbabwe has drafted concrete policies to enhance the value added of cotton by-products.</p> <p>IA 2.2 Cotton by-product investment profiles developed in Zimbabwe.</p>	<p>(i) Assess the current policy framework for cotton by-products value addition in Zimbabwe, based on the findings of the survey (A1.1);</p> <p>(ii) Review policy best practices with respect to cotton by-products; and</p> <p>(iii) Identify policy gaps and their remedies to develop cotton by-products in Zimbabwe.</p>

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