

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

Cotton By-Products Project Zimbabwe: the Policy Panorama

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.

COTTON BY-PRODUCTS PROJECT ZIMBABWE

THE POLICY PANORAMA



ZIMBABWE IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS



By Washington Mubvekeri

VISION 2030

“Towards a Prosperous & Empowered Upper Middle Income Society by 2030”

The Transitional Stabilisation Programme (TSP)

Oct 2018 to Dec 2020:

Seeks to:

“put in place the necessary legislative and administrative reforms to consolidate and harmonise the various scattered legislative pieces into an omnibus investment Act.”

VALUE ADDITION AND BENEFICIATION IS DRIVEN FROM THE TOP

“In agriculture for instance, Zimbabwe adds value and beneficiates locally only 30 percent of the cotton she produces. The rest goes abroad as raw cotton exports.”

“We now need to isolate each mineral, ***and each agricultural product*** – one by one – in order to map out strands of value chains by which we transform our economy”

(His Excellency President ED Mnangagwa, Sunday Mail, 11 November 2018)

UNCTAD Regional Workshop in S.A (28-29 May 2019)

- Zimbabwean delegation is headed by Dr Mavis Sibanda who is Head of Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC).
- The P.S is the apex of policy making in the Ministry.
- No ministry better placed to develop value addition policies than MIC.

Government Cotton Production Support

Zimbabwe is committed to revive the cotton sector.

Free Cotton Input Support Program.

Growth in production is mainly being slowed by unfavourable biotic and abiotic factors chief among them being short and poor quality growing season.

Plant Pests and Diseases Act, Chapter 19:08

(Misinterpretation of Legislation)

Area	Slashing Date	Destruction Date	Planting Date
S.E Lowveld	01 August	15 Aug	05 October
Remainder of Country	15 August	10 Sept	20 October

There was a misconception that stalk destruction was synonymous with burning.



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India's Good Institutional Structure

Central Institute of Research in Cotton Technology (CIRCOT) focuses on research and development of technologies and machineries for the postharvest processing of cotton.

There is need in initiate and sustain institutional (research) linkages with CIRCOT.

SOME AREAS THAT MAY REQUIRE LOCAL ANALYSIS: Not About Reinventing The Wheel, But Refining It



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- Analysis of substrate for mushroom production, pellets and briquettes for residual pesticides considering that cotton is a high consumer of synthetics.
- Analysis of pellets and briquettes for residual pesticides. The residual pesticides could be released in smoke during burning which could have health implications particularly because stove are used in closed environment.

- Pellet stove adaptation for Zimbabwe's communal area use.
- Briquettes appeared to break up so easily that they would require careful handling. There would be need to work on briquette densification.



There are NO policy barriers against promotion of cotton by-products in Zimbabwe.

THANK YOU

