



Regional Workshop

“Cotton By-Products in Eastern and Southern Africa”

! SAVE THE DATE:

28-30 May 2019, Johannesburg, South Africa

In partnership with Cotton SA, the cotton industry association in South Africa, UNCTAD is pleased to propose a regional workshop on cotton by-products at the Premier O.R. Tambo Hotel in Johannesburg on 28-30 May 2019. The workshop is part of UNCTAD's project on “Promoting cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa”

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The regional workshop will assemble participants from the project countries, including policy makers and stakeholders who participated in project activities. Cotton SA will also invite stakeholders from the South African cotton sector.

The programme will comprise a workshop component on 28-29 May, with the following objectives:

- Share lessons and experiences among project countries;
- Identify follow-on activities necessary to sustain the work of the project;
- Present commercial and policy initiatives developed during the project; and
- Identify opportunities to extend and replicate the project's work in other cotton-producing countries in Africa.

On Thursday, 30 May, Cotton SA will organize a field trip by bus to farms and a ginnery in the cotton-growing area around Groblersdal, about 200 km northeast of Johannesburg. These visits will give participants the opportunity to observe cotton production in South Africa, including elements that differ from their home countries



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

Project: 1617K - Funded by the
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Cotton South Africa (Cotton SA)

Cotton SA represents all role-players in the cotton industry. It operates as a non-profit company performing various essential functions. Cotton South Africa is a non-profit organisation that brings together both private and public sector organisations involved in the entire cotton industry value chain, including producers, organised labour, consumer organisations and service providers, to stabilise employment and improve overall competitiveness in the cotton industry, promoting a Southern African regional value chain which will result in capacity that is more resilient and more robust. For more information: <https://cottonsa.org.za/>

Preliminary Programme

Venue: Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg, South Africa

Monday 27 May

Arrival of participants

Tuesday 28 May

Opening session

Roundtable: 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, 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.

(12:30-14:00 Lunch)

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.

(15:30-15:45 Coffee break)

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. 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.

Country statements: Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe



Wednesday 29 May

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.

Country presentations: Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

(10:30-10:45 Coffee break)

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.

(12:30-14:00 Lunch)

Session 4: Presentation of follow-on project proposals (continued)

(15:30-15:45 Coffee break)

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 (session 2) or for the specific proposals presented in session 3. 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 Eastern and Southern Africa.

Presentation: "Joint WTO-UNCTAD-ITC Initiative on Cotton By-Products"

Closing session

Thursday 30 May

Field visit organised by Cotton SA

Friday, 31 May

Departure of participants



Local Transportation and Hotel

a. Arrival in Johannesburg and transportation

UNCTAD and COTTON SA will arrange airport pick-up for all travellers on arrival. On departure, a free airport shuttle can be arranged from the hotel.

b. Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo, Airport, Johannesburg

UNCTAD has reserved single occupancy rooms for participants at the Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg, including breakfast, from arrival on 27 May, until check-out on 31 May. The hotel room and breakfast are paid by UNCTAD.

Premier Hotel O.R. Tambo, 73 Gladiator Street, Rhodesfield, Johannesburg, Gauteng. Postnet Suite #4, Private Bag X27 Kempton Park, 1620. Tel: +27 (0)11 393 8000. <https://www.premierhotels.co.za/hotels/gauteng/johannesburg/or-tambo-airport/>



c. Field visit transportation on 30 May

COTTON SA will arrange buses for the field visit.

d. Coffee breaks, refreshments and lunches

Coffee breaks, refreshments and lunches will be provided during the three days of the workshop programme.

Climate and Tourist Information about Johannesburg, South Africa

The average temperature in May is 14°C, with daytime highs averaging 20°C and the nights dropping down to 8°C. Nighttime temperatures rarely reach freezing. May is one of the driest months in Johannesburg, with only 10mm in average. For more information about Johannesburg, please consult the website: <https://visit.joburg/>

Security, Health and Transport Insurances

Top-quality public and private healthcare is available throughout the country. Malaria precautions are necessary in some areas. All travellers are responsible for contracting their own medical and transport insurance for the travel and site visit, including the flight. For security and other information related to traveling to South Africa please consult: <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/tourism>

Telephone and Internet

World-class infrastructure with internet access widely available. The five mobile (cellular) networks are Vodacom, MTN, Cell C, Telkom Mobile and Virgin Mobile. The hotel will provide free WiFi connection to its guests. Outside the hotel, participants are responsible for the Internet connection and mobile phone call costs. SIM cards are available at the hotel at a cost.

South Africa Rand (ZAR)

Travelers carrying a credit/visa/master card can withdraw cash from ATM machines in the airport or at the hotel. Travelers without credit cards can change USD at the hotel for ZAR. The average rate USD/ZAR is about 1 USD = 14.3234 ZAR (24 April 2019).

Emergency Numbers

Nationwide Emergency Response: **10111**

Contacts

UNCTAD

Division on International Trade and Commodities Commodities Branch

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COTTON SA

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