

What BMZ does

Cotton is an important source of income in many nations involved in German development collaborations. It is often farmed in remote rural areas. Especially in Africa, the cotton industry can help to include rural households in economic cycles. This can contribute to raising the incomes of smallholding families and improving their living conditions.

In an effort to support sustainable cotton production, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has been working closely with private businesses since 2005.

In the partner countries

- ➔ As part of the project “**Competitive African Cotton Initiative (COMPACI)**”, **926,000 smallholding families in 12 nations** of sub-Saharan Africa received training, for example on good production practices and farm organisation. As a result, they were able to increase their household incomes by an average of 65 per cent by 2017.
- ➔ In addition, BMZ financed the sustainability standard “**Cotton made in Africa**” (CmiA), which has since been successfully established on the market.
- ➔ Since 2017, around **160,000** smallholders have been trained on sustainable production practices in the follow-on project “Support of African Smallholders through Sustainable Cotton Cultivation”.
- ➔ Since 2019, BMZ has been promoting sustainable production and local processing of cotton in **Burkina Faso, India, Cameroon and Uzbekistan**. The goal is to increase the incomes of farmers and to promote the creation of job opportunities in the cotton sector and in cotton processing, especially for young people.

In Germany

In order to bring about improvements in the textiles and clothing industry, BMZ initiated the **Partnership for Sustainable Textiles** with representatives of business and civil society in October 2014. The partnership aims to improve the conditions in textile production worldwide – from the production of raw materials all the way to disposal. (www.textilbuendnis.com/en)

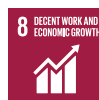
GREEN BUTTON

To help consumers deliberately buy sustainable clothing, the state textile seal Green Button (“Grüner Knopf”) was established in 2019. The Green Button indicates textile items like clothes, bedding or backpacks that were manufactured to particularly demanding social and environmental standards.

For further information please visit:
www.bmz.de/en/issues/textilwirtschaft/gruener_knopf/index.html



The support of sustainable cotton production contributes to achieving these global sustainable development goals:



Published by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Division 121 for international agricultural policy; agriculture; innovation

Contact RL121@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de

As at January 2020

Edited by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Programme Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chains and Standards

Photo credits

© GIZ/Jörg Böthling