



WWF

NEWSLETTER

2012

Funded by:  
EUROPEAN COMMISSION SWITCH ASIA



switchasia  
PROGRAMME

# SPRING NEWS

Semiannual July - Dec 2012 Volume # 1 Issue # 2



## WWF-PAKISTAN CONDUCTED INTEGRATED GAP ANALYSIS regarding Ginning Efficiency, Quality & Productivity

Ginning is an important level in cotton supply chain and plays pivotal role in determining quality of cotton fiber in downstream industry. However, this link in supply chain is often neglected. That's why it needs immediate attention in order to attain a better place in cotton export market.

As a part of ginning efficiency component of SWITCH Asia SPRING (Sustainable Cotton Production in Pakistan's Cotton Ginning SMEs) project, conducted integrated gap analysis in collaboration with CPI (Cleaner Production Institute), a nonprofit and experienced organization conducting research on environmentally efficient technologies in the industrial sector of Pakistan. The Experts from CPI visited the selected ginning SMEs and collected baseline data related to energy, resource and production efficiency, environmental improvement, waste management and better occupational health and safety conditions.

The results acquired through gap analysis, provide help in identification of gaps related to ginning efficiency, quality and productivity based on which Better Ginning Practices (BGPs) will be developed after modification in existing ginning facilities. These BGPs will be tested initially on three demo units in order to assess benefits to the other ginning SMEs.



## Linkages Development Between PRIMARY ACTORS OF COTTON SUPPLY CHAIN

Ginners play an important role in linking farmers to the textile industries. Close linkages with different components of cotton supply chain lead to better level of coordination and major improvements in delivering desired services and products to its associated partners.

Under SWITCH Asia project WWF-Pakistan conducted a number of meetings for developing linkages among farmers, ginners and middle men in Bahawalpur, Rahim Yar Khan and Sukkur. The objective was to provide a platform to share experiences, expectations and develop level of understanding with each other.

In these workshops farmers were briefed about importance of Better Cotton and supply of better quality cotton to the ginners, whereas, ginners were motivated to procure Better Cotton on quality bases, as most of leading cotton retailers and brands are now interested in using Better Cotton for their products.

Moreover, farmers were advised to adopt better practices of clean cotton picking, its management at post harvest level and storage. Both ginners and farmers shared active assistance with each other and appreciated the efforts of SWITCH-Asia SPRING project team for bridging the gap between farmers and ginners.



## WWF-P organized workshop on “Standardized Gauges of Ginning Machinery”

Most of the ginning industries rely on old machinery and outdated methods of ginning. Instead of setting up whole ginning facility from the scratch, there are some practices by which quality can be improved. Under SWITCH Asia project WWF-P aims to improve ginning efficiency through addressing energy efficiency, process efficiency and waste management by enhancing existing infrastructure and recommending sustainable and cost effective practices in the form of BGPs (Better Ginning Practices).

SWITCH Asia SPRING project team organized awareness raising workshop on “Standardized Gauges for Ginning Machinery” in Bahawalpur and Rahim Yar Khan for the technicians. The main objective of the training was to raise knowledge of technician regarding properties & qualities of standardize parts of ginning machinery, use of their respective gauges for identification and fixing operational errors. Normally these machineries and their parts are made locally by the technicians who do not have any formal training or vocational education. Moreover they comply with old methods of repairing and maintaining the machinery. During the workshop technicians were briefed about use of standardize gauges for fixing the operational errors, to make maintenance easier and less frequent. At the end of the workshop participants appreciated WWF-P's efforts and hoped that such informative workshops will be conducted in future as well.



## SWITCH Asia Project Conducts Study in Collaboration with CIWCE



The ginning industry in Pakistan is labor intensive and many workers are exposed to number of work related health hazards like hearing loss and pulmonary diseases, unnecessary injuries such as sprains and strains caused by hazardous manual handling. These diseases and injuries increase the costs significantly for employers, but the human costs for sick and injured workers, their families and other involved, are far greater. Poor working conditions in factories are equally responsible for lower productivity.

As a part of Decent Work component, SWITCH Asia SPRING project conducted Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Risk assessment survey in collaboration with Center for Improvement in Working Condition and Environment (CIWCE), to assess the performance levels of ginning Small Medium & Enterprises (SMEs) in Bahawalpur, Rahim Yar Khan and Sukkur. The aim of survey was to ascertain the gaps pertaining to OHS and working conditions of labors at gin. Dr. Sultan Pasha, Occupational Hygienist, CIWCE and Mr. Muhammad Mujahid, Environmental Hygiene Specialist, CIWCE visited selected Ginning SMEs at Bahawalpur, Rahim Yar Khan and Sukkur. During the survey besides occupational health & safety issues, workplace condition, workplace amenities and facilities were also assessed. Based on the acquired findings BGPs will be developed.



## WWF-Pakistan signed MoA with Lahore Compost

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed by Mrs. Hoor Orakzai, CEO, Lahore Compost Pvt Ltd (Saif Group) and Mr Ali Hassan Habib, DG, WWF-P, to promote use of organic compost by the farmers participating in Sustainable Agriculture Programme projects. The agreement was another milestone in promoting sustainable agriculture in Pakistan.

Lahore Compost, a subsidiary of Saif group, operating in the field of environmental management, utilizes organic contents of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) consisting of kitchen waste, to convert it into compost (organic fertilizers) through a state of the art process. The compost thus produced is organic and used for improving the performance of all types of soil.

Speaking on the occasion Mrs. Hoor Orakzai thanked WWF-P for its support to popularize the use of compost. Mr. Ali Hassan Habib appreciated the work of Saif Group and explained how WWF-Pakistan was working with farmers in capacity building and ecologically sound farming solutions for resource conservation. He urged government agencies to support such initiative.



## WWF-Pakistan Organizes SW!TCH Asia SPRING Stakeholder Meeting

WWF-P organized SW!TCH Asia SPRING stakeholder meeting on 20th November, 2012 at Bahawalpur. The meeting aimed at sharing project's recent achievements, anticipated activities in upcoming months and mutual expectations among stakeholders & WWF-P. The meeting will be held on quarterly bases.

In the meeting each stakeholder presented briefly outcomes of joint activities conducted including integrated gap analysis of ginning efficiency, quality and productivity, safety and risk assessment survey in selected ginning SMEs. Furthermore, possibilities of establishing research centers for ginning sector were also investigated.

Mr. Arif Hamid Makhdam, Director, Sustainable Agriculture Programme called year 2012 a very significant year for the SW!TCH Asia SPRING project for having the opportunity to share previous results and plan future activities for the next quarter with the stakeholders.

The session was chaired by MR. Khalid Abdullah, Cotton Commissioner, MINTEX, and Government of the Punjab. He showed his interest and support to SW!TCH Asia Project mandate. The meeting was attended by stakeholders; PCSI, PCGA, SMEDA, NTU, CIWCE, BCI and Ginners.



### SW!TCH Asia SPRING's STAKEHOLDER PCGA (PAKISTAN COTTON GINNER'S ASSOCIATION) ELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN

Pakistan Cotton Ginner's Association (PCGA) is a representative body, which looks after the interest of the ginners and converse their problems with the Federal and Provincial Government Agencies. Mr. Mahesh Kumar was elected unopposed Chairman of PCGA for year 2012-2013. The new elected Chairman, Mr. Mahesh is one of the active participating ginner in SWITCH-Asia SPRING Project. PCGA being the representative organization of Ginning SMEs, has a significant role in Switch Asia SPRING project and provide input for identification, promotion & endorsement of BGPs (Better Ginning Practices) among member ginning SMEs.

WWF-P congratulates the newly elected Chairman and hope that together WWF-P and PCGA will pave the way for more fruitful collaboration in the future.

## The SWITCH Asia SPRING team organized training on Bale tracking for SWITCH Asia SPRING Ginners

WWF-Pakistan arranged training on bale tracking system for step 1 ginners of the SWITCH Asia SPRING project in collaboration with BCI (Better Cotton Initiative) in December 2012 at Bahawalpur. The objective of the training was to create an awareness regarding the importance and use of the Better Cotton Bale Tracking System, developed by BCI to provide assurance that Better Cotton bales on sale contain Better Cotton. The system is used to record and trace the volume of Better Cotton produced and ginned. This enables the BCI Members to access the system and view ginners' inventories of Better Cotton and search for available Better Cotton.

This training provided an opportunity to the ginners to gain knowledge regarding cotton bale tracking system, code identification, unique bale identification code etc. After the training, the participating ginners appraised the workshop as very useful in enabling them to understand and implement the BCI better cotton bale tracking system.

At the end of the training Mr. Masood Ahmed Khitran, Coordinator, SPRING project, thanked the participants for showing keen interest and active participation in the training.



# SWITCH-Asia Network Meeting, Bangkok

On behalf of the European Union and Europe Aid Development and Cooperation, the SWITCH Asia Network Facility organized annual SWITCH Asia Network Meeting on 13–15 November 2012 in Bangkok. Mr. Asad Imran, Senior Manager, SAP and Mr. Masood Khitran, Coordinator, SPRING participated as representative from WWF-Pakistan in the meeting. WWF-Pakistan is the recipient of one of the great project of SWITCH Asia programme. Mr. Asad Imran presented briefly the project objectives and its foreseen outcomes. In the meeting Projects' Strategies and Lessons Learnt to up-scale SCP (Sustainable Consumption and Production) practices were discussed. This event provided an opportunity to the project beneficiaries to share tools, manuals/guidelines and methodologies. Furthermore it also provided a way to initiate constructive collaboration among participating project beneficiaries. The meeting was attended by 150–160 participants, who were project representatives of the SWITCH-Asia programme, representatives from the European Union and EU Delegations in Asia and representatives of the regional Policy Support Component.



Asad Imran presenting WWF-Pakistan Switch Asia SPRING project

## BCI (Better Cotton Initiative) Organized National Stakeholder Council Meeting

BCI (Better Cotton Initiative) organized the National Stakeholder Council meeting held on 28th November, 2012 in Lahore. The National Stakeholder Council meeting is the national level BCI forum. The objective of the meeting was to share the results of Better Cotton System (BCS), investigating possible ways for the expansion of the system in Pakistan and required partnership to do so. The NSC was formed to gather groups with an interest in more sustainable cotton production in order to exchange information, views and disseminate best practices. On the behalf of WWF-Pakistan, Mr. Arif H. Makhdum, Director SAP and Mr. Asad Imran, Sr. Manager SAP participated in the meeting. The meeting was attended by all the relevant stakeholders such as Agriculture Research and Extension Departments, Government of the Punjab and Sindh, National Textile University (NTU), All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), Pakistan Cotton Ginners' Association (PCGA), Ministry of Textile (MOT), Government of Pakistan, Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute (PCSI), Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC), Karachi Cotton Association (KCA), Save the Children Fund, UNICEF, Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience (CABI) Pakistan, National Agriculture Research Centre (NARC) and brands like Ikea and Levi's. The participating stakeholders assured full support for the promotion of BCS in Pakistan.



# PAKISTAN COTTON STANDARDS INSTITUTE



## Custodian of Cotton in Pakistan

1. Pakistan's cotton is inherently of good quality. But, absence of quality control measures, improper marketing as well as non existence of a pricing system based on premium and discounts leads to depreciation in the value of raw cotton effecting the quality of textile products.
2. Being cognizant of these problems, the Government decided to introduce standardization of cotton and bring it at par with the internationally accepted standards for improving the competitiveness of Pakistan's raw cotton as well as ensuring better returns to cotton growers, ginner, spinners, exporters and the national economy.
3. Government sought assistance from UNDP / FAO for setting up a Cotton Standardization system and Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute (PCSI) project was established in 1987 and now is operating under Pakistan Cotton Standards Institute Ordinance 2002 to meet the following objectives:-
  - i. Establishing and promoting cotton standardization program based upon internationally accepted grading and classification system.
  - ii. Setting up grades and standards of seed cotton and lint.
  - iii. Train new generations of cotton graders, classers, arbitrators and instructors.
4. The newly introduced system, when applied on larger area is expected to ensure supply of cleaner and uniform raw material to the domestic textile industry on the one hand, and sizable addition on foreign exchange earnings through export of better grades of raw cotton and the yarn, on the other hand.
5. Presently PCSI is functioning with its Head Office at Karachi and two Regional offices one each at Sukkur (Sindh) and Multan (Punjab). The offices at Karachi, Sukkur and Multan have the services of cotton classers and are equipped with latest machines like HVIs and also well equipped fiber testing laboratories.

Seed Cotton Super



Seed Cotton Grade 1



Seed Cotton Grade 2



Seed Cotton Grade 3



Seed Cotton Grade 4



Seed Cotton Grade 5



Lint Cotton Super



Lint Cotton Grade 1



Lint Cotton Grade 2



Lint Cotton Grade 3



Lint Cotton Grade 4



Lint Cotton Grade 5



## Achievements of PCSI

Enhanced export trade performance has become more critical to developing countries within the context of liberalized global trading system. In this fierce global competition, the player who can give maximum attention to improvement in productivity, quality and economic value will surely reap the dividend. There is no denial of the fact that there exists immense potential for growth and development of textile industry in Pakistan. Pakistan Cotton Standard Institute, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Textile Industry at present providing the facilities for maintaining standards and ensuring the quality of cotton those are pre-requisite to boost the textile industry.

- i. The standards and grades for seed cotton and lint developed by the project were approved by the Government in November 1990 and declared as official standards for Pakistan cotton.
- ii. The official standards for lint cotton were recognized by the Liverpool Cotton Association in July 1991, for conducting arbitration of Pakistan cotton on the basis of these standards.
- iii. The new system of grades and standards was successfully implemented in number of ginneries in collaboration with CEC.
- iv. Official standards were also sent to Bremen Cotton Exchange, Germany and Cotton Association, Italy. These have also been provided to KCA, CEC, APTMA, PCGA etc.
- v. The project has also succeeded in designing the color chart for Pakistan Cotton. With the designing of this chart Pakistan is now able to instrumentally evaluate its raw cotton on High Volume Instrument (HVI) according to its own officially approved standards.
- vi. 180 Cotton Classers have been trained so far, while 19 female fiber testing technicians have been trained in different concepts and operations of fiber testing instruments. Besides, PCSI has also imparted training to over 1100 cotton selectors belonging to the different segments of cotton trade.
- vii. Cotton Fiber Testing Laboratories equipped with the modern and sophisticated instruments, HVI have been established at Karachi, Multan, Vehari, Bahawalpur, Rahim Yar Khan (Punjab) and Sanghar (Sindh). The Fiber Testing Laboratories also provide the Test-House facilities to the growers, ginners, spinners and the exporters.
- viii. Due to the implementation of the standardization system and segregation of some better cotton types in selected ginneries, the Pakistan Cottons are now also quoted in Cotlook price Index `A` whereas previously these were being quoted only under Cotlook Price Index `B` which has a price difference of five to seven cents per pound between the two indices.
- ix. On the plea of PCSI and forecasting the future prospective, the Karachi Cotton Association switched over from its traditional variety based marketing system to the most scientifically derived marketing system based upon premium / discount on the basis of PCSI Official Grades. This switching over could be termed as a great achievement in the right direction considering the global marketing trend.

## MYSTERY of BITTER MELON

The use of bitter melon solution against sucking pest was thoroughly tried and tested for several years by WWF-P and allied organizations. Bitter melon occurs naturally near the bank of river Sutlaj. In 2010 this solution was prepared by different organizations and was distributed free of cost among the farmers for trial against all sucking pests on cotton. In 2011, this solution was prepared and sold to the farmers but in 2012 the farmers prepared 20,000 liters of bitter melon solution themselves and used it as insect repellent. By applying this botanical spray at the rate of three liters of solution per acre, at regular intervals, population of sucking insects and input cost was reduced. This spray was environment friendly and had no effect on beneficial insects.



## Interesting Facts about Water Footprint of Cotton

- 1000 L of water are required for 250g of cotton to make a t-shirt
- 3500 L of water for one pair of jeans
- Globally, the annual cotton production evaporates 210 billion cubic meters of water and pollutes 50 billion cubic meters. This is 3.5 % of the global water used for crop production.



<http://www.waterfootprint.org/?page=files/productgallery&product=cotton>

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Planning and Review Meeting of Switch Asia SPRING project is going to be held in last week of December, 2012
- Assessment of compliance with decent work standards in selected cotton ginning SMEs with collaboration of CIWCE (Centre for Improvement of Working Conditions & Environment)
- Project Support Unit (PSU) Meeting of SAP (Sustainable Agriculture Programme) is going to be held on 20-21 December, 2012 in Jhang. This meeting will be attended by Director General and all Senior Directors of WWF-P.

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