Bt Cotton | Socio-economic & Trade Opportunities Along the Value Chain

Bt cotton is genetically improved with a self-protecting ability against the African bollworm that causes up to 90% yield loss. Conventional control of this pest with pesticides is costintensive. Cultivating Bt cotton is a viable intervention for boosting the cotton industry, textile, and apparel sector. In Africa, seven countries including South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Eswatini have approved the commercial cultivation of Bt cotton.

In addition to reducing farm production cost, Bt cotton presents numerous socio-economic and business opportunities along the value chain.



Product Stewardship & Dedicated Farm-input Supply |

Farmers trained on Bt cotton stewardship and linked with vetted farm-input suppliers (e.g. Agrovets).



Boosting Manufacturing in the Cotton Industry |

Adequate supply of raw materials for cotton processors. Over 50,000 jobs to be created along Kenya's cotton value chain.

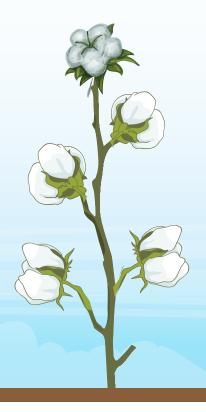


Farmers-led Seed Production & Multiplication | Established local seed production programs. 4000+ farmers to be recruited in Kenya by 2025.



Local Competency & Capacity Building |

In 2020-21, 400+ Nigerian farmers were trained on Bt cotton cultivation and good agronomic practices.





Profits from Value-added Bt Cotton By-products |

Additional returns from Bt cottonseed oil for human consumption and cake for animal feed. For instance, India produces 1.5 million tons of Bt cottonseed oil per annum.



