



Measuring sustainability in cotton farming systems

Towards a guidance framework

A report to the 73rd ICAC Plenary
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On behalf of the Expert Panel on the Social, Economic and Environmental Performance of Cotton

Overview

Recap

- The development of the report
- Outcomes from Cartagena

An example of testing the framework

Further developments in sustainability assessment and reporting

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Key Sustainability Themes

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest and pesticide management • Water management • Soil management • Land Use • Biodiversity • Climate change | <p>Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic viability • Poverty reduction • Food security • Economic risk management <p>Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor rights and standards • Occupational health and safety • Equity and gender • Farmer organisation |
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Programmes Reviewed

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| <p>Cotton Specific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better Cotton Initiative • Cotton made in Africa • Fairtrade cotton • Organic cotton • myBMP (Australian Best Management Practices programme) | <p>Generic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee on Sustainability Assessment Initiative (COSA) • Field to Market (The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture) • The Response Inducing Sustainability Evaluation (RISE) • The FAO Sustainability Assessment of Food and Agriculture Systems (SAFA) Guidelines |
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Cartagena Discussions

World Café recommendations:

1. That consideration of the recommended indicators should take place at a national level, and that committees should be formed in each country to develop metrics and keep them updated
2. That consideration be given by appropriate national organizations to pilot testing the framework

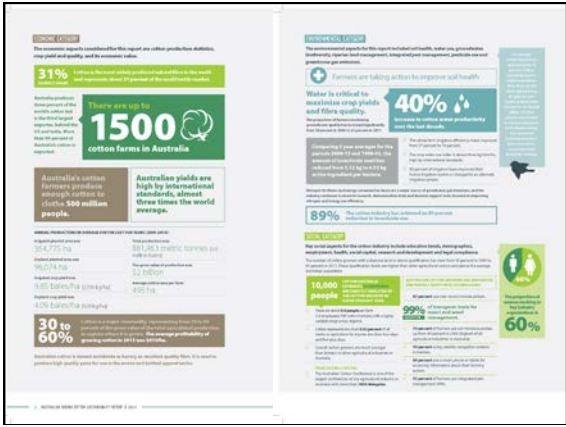
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Testing the framework

- Used to develop an initial list
- 30 of the final 45 indicators equivalent to those on the SEEP list

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31% Cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

1500 cotton farms in Australia

30 to 60% of cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

40% of cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

89% of cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

10,000 people are employed in the cotton industry in Australia.

22% of cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

60% of cotton production in Australia is certified to international standards.

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Sustainability Assessment Tools

- Sustainable Apparel Coalition (USA)
- Sustainable Clothing Action Plan (UK)
- Made-By (Netherlands)
- Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules - PEFCR (EU)
- Partnership for Sustainable Textiles (Germany)

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- FAO
- ICAC
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