

TITLE OF PRESENTATION

“Empowering Women Cotton Farmers through participation in the cotton value chain”

BIO DATA

Mr. Joseph Nkole was appointed National Coordinator of the Cotton Association of Zambia in July, 2005. With over 41 years experience in the agricultural sector in Zambia, he has spent the last 35 years working with governments and international organisations in the promotion of Smallholder cotton production and marketing in Zambia and the MoZaZiMa (Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi) region.

He has been involved in training farmers in good agricultural practices including integrated production and pest management in cotton in the continuing efforts to help farmers increase their production and productivity. He is also working in the mobilization and formation of women groups to participate in several value addition activities including handloom cotton fibre transformation and entrepreneurial skills development as well as formation savings and loan association savings and co-operatives by women groups as a way of empowering them along the Cotton Value Chain.

Additionally, Mr. Nkole is the Vice Chairman of the African Cotton and Textile Industries Federation (ACTIF) and is the Permanent Secretary of MoZaZiMa.