

Roadmap 2018

Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) has set a total of 10 targets for the year 2018.

Mandatory targets

Goal for 2018

Dealing with Child- and Forced Labour

Support for measures and procedures to deal with cases of child and forced labour

Child labour and forced labour are prohibited in the BC system. Awareness raising and training are conducted by BCI's Implementing Partners to all farmers and new training modules on the revised principles are shared with all IPs and field facilitators. In 2018, 650,000 farmers in India are targeted

Raising awareness

Implementation of measures to raise awareness about sustainable textile production in the following topics:

- Freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Discrimination
- Health and safety
- Wages and social benefits
- Working hours
- Child labour
- Forced labour
- Use of safe chemicals
 - Crop protection and pesticide management
- Good housekeeping
- Water and wastewater management
- Resource efficiency
- Biodiversity and soils
- Management of protected areas

Raising awareness and training on sustainable cotton farming practices is done each year with current and new cotton farmers in 22 countries. For 2017–2018 season BCI aims to reach at least 650,000 farmers in India and 250,000 in Pakistan with these topics

Instruments for implementation

Provision of instruments to implement Partnership goals by the Partnership members

BCI is currently establishing the Better Cotton Academy which includes the development of an online training platform with 24/7 training and technical resources that will be available to BCI's 70 implementing partners and 40,000 field facilitators.

Political dialogue

Influencing policy-makers to improve conditions in the textile industry

BCI is a multi-stakeholder initiative and a key part of BCI's vision is to engage with local government, local trade associations and local producer groups, enabling these parties to adopt BCI's practices as their own. BCI aims to national embed in 4 countries by 2018 and 9 countries by 2020.

Continuous improvement of verification

Implementation of capacity building measures to provide further training for auditors

BCI is reinforcing its robust third party verification system with access to an online training platform. In 2018 BCI will convene the first annual face to face workshop for verifiers to ensure there are competent and qualified verifiers to conduct verification on sustainable farming practices.

Provision of information

Provision of information materials on Partnership topics

In addition to communication through website, social media, webinars and conferences, the BCI training academy's online training modules reflect the revised principles and criteria. These modules include water stewardship, landuse and biodiversity, safe chemical use. They will be developed in 2018

Voluntary targets

Goal for 2018

Commitment to Partnership Goals

Adoption of a policy on the topics:

Freedom of association and collective bargaining
Discrimination
Health and safety
Working hours
Child labour
Forced labour
Use of safe chemicals
 Crop protection and pesticide management
Environmental management system
Water and wastewater management
Resource efficiency
Biodiversity and soils

These topics are addressed under the revised Standard which is being rolled out in 2018 with new training modules to be developed addressing these new aspects in the revised standards.

Commitment to Partnership Goals

Expansion of the policy to include the following topics:

Freedom of association and collective bargaining
Discrimination
Health and safety
Wages and social benefits
Working hours
Child labour
Forced labour
Use of safe chemicals
 Crop protection and pesticide management
Environmental management system
Water and wastewater management
Biodiversity and soils

These topics are addressed under the revised Standard which is being rolled out in 2018 with new training modules to be developed addressing these new aspects in the revised standards.

Instruments for implementation

Promoting/developing the exchange of experience and peer learning

BCI is available to share experiences and expertise in the area of cotton production at the farm level with regards to small holder farmers. This is aimed to take place at the Global Cotton Conference where experiences will be shared and at the symposium in December 2018.

Continued targets

Goal for 2018

Communication within the Partnership Internal capacity development

BCI is available to share its expertise and experiences in cotton with members of the Textile Partnership. For example, a member of the Natural Fibres group contacted BCI to learn more about its work in USA. A member of the BCI staff has also recently joined the Natural Fibres working group.