

81ST PLENARY MEETING

MUMBAI, INDIA

2-5 December 2023

**Cotton Value Chain:
"Local Innovations for Global Prosperity"**



Mr Mahesh Ramakrishnan

Mahesh Ramakrishnan has 25 years of experience in sustainable cotton sourcing for textile value chains. He has been involved in the design and implementation of sustainable cotton farming standards (Organic/Fairtrade/Better Cotton/CmiA/ Regenagri/Atsource plus) and collaborating with small holder farmers in different cotton growing regions of Southeast Asia and Africa, with a focus on climate resilient farming practices, soil health, improving livelihood through improved yields, and reducing the cost of production for cotton farmers.

Since September 2020, Mahesh has been working with Olam Agri in West Africa as Vice President of Sustainability for Cotton BU, based out of Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. He has specialised in organic cotton and has a deep knowledge of the sector. He also has co-authored the book, 'Organic Cotton Crop Guide – A Manual for Practitioners in the Tropics'. He represented Arvind Limited in the first governing council of BCI, and served as a board member of the Textile Exchange – Europe.