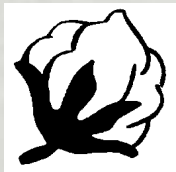


# ICAC

Serving the World Cotton Community



ICAC Research  
Associate  
Program

Washington, USA

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José Sette



## ROLE OF ICAC

### ICAC is:

Intergovernmental knowledge-based organization to help create an enabling environment for the sustainability of the world cotton sector

### ICAC is not:

- market regulator
- standard-setting body (→ ISO)
- forum for international trade negotiations (→ WTO)

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Serving as a **forum** for the development of policies and solutions to strengthen the global cotton sector
2. Enhancing **transparency**
3. Encouraging the **development and dissemination of knowledge**
4. Promoting the **sustainability** of the world cotton sector

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- Plenary
- Standing Committee
- Working groups
  - Private Sector Advisory Panel (PSAP)
  - Expert Panel on the Social, Environmental, and Economic Performance of Cotton (SEEP)
  - Task Force on Commercial Standardization of Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC)
  - Task Force on Cotton Identity Programs (TFCIP)
  - Task Force on the Challenges from Competing Fibers
  - Expert Panel on Biotechnology in Cotton

## **FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

- Regular meetings of ICAC bodies
- 73<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting: Thessaloniki, Greece, 2-7 November 2014
  - Theme: From Land to Brand: Strengthening the cotton value chain
- Publications on Policies
  - Production and Trade Policies Affecting the Cotton Industry

## **TRANSPARENCY**

- World Cotton Database



- Cotton Price Forecasting Model

## **TRANSPARENCY**

- Regular publications on Cotton
  - Cotton This Week (weekly)
  - Cotton This Month (monthly)
  - Extra-fine Cotton Update (every 2 months)
  - Review of the World Situation (quarterly)
  - Outlook for Cotton Supply (annual)
  - World Cotton Trade (annual)
  - World Cotton Market: Projections

## **TRANSPARENCY**

- Publications on Textiles
  - World Textile Demand (annual)
  - World Apparel Fiber Consumption Survey (with FAO)

## COTTON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### ➤ ICAC roles:

- Establish areas of priority for project activities
- Analyse and advise on the preparation of projects
- Approve projects for subsequent submission to donor or financing organizations, as appropriate
- Supervise project execution
- Disseminate results

## COTTON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### ➤ 24 projects in CFC portfolio (submitted by ICAC):

- Total value: \$63 million
- 22 concluded
- 4 ongoing

### ➤ Sources of funding:

- CFC: \$29.4m (\$23.7m grants + \$5.7m loans)
- EU grant: \$7.6m
- Co-financing: \$1.9m
- Counterpart contributions: \$24m

## COTTON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### ➤ Commercial Standardisation of Instrument Testing of Cotton for the Cotton Producing Developing Countries in Africa (CFC/ICAC 33):

- Established of two regional technical centres in Africa, assisting African producing countries to develop the tools for instrument testing of cotton
- Facilitated work of the ICAC Task Force on CSITC, enhancing competitiveness of cotton sector as a whole

## RESEARCH

- World Cotton Research Conference
  - 6<sup>th</sup> edition: Goiânia, Brazil, June 2016
- Research Associate Program
- ICAC Researcher of the Year Award
- International Cotton Researchers Association (ICRA)
- Technical publications:
  - ICAC Recorder (quarterly)
  - Cost of production of raw cotton (every 3 yrs)
  - Cotton production practices (every 3 yrs)
  - Current research projects in cotton (every 3 yrs)

## SUSTAINABILITY

- **Expert Panel on Social, Environmental & Economic Performance of Cotton (SEEP)**
- **Sustainability Metrics:**
  - Technically focused
  - Empirically driven set of recommendations
  - Minimum standards for sustainable cotton production

## KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

### Environmental

#### Pest and pesticide management

- Integrated pest management
- Pesticide use
- Human exposure
- Environmental contamination
- Pesticide waste management

#### Water management

- Water depletion
- Crop water management
- Soil salinization
- Water quality

#### Soil management

- Soil fertility
- Soil erosion
- Land Use
- Land conservation
- Land productivity
- Biodiversity

#### Climate change

- Decomposition and mineralisation
- Energy use
- Carbon stock changes

### Economic

- Economic viability
- Poverty reduction
- Food security
- Risk management

### Social

- Labor rights and standards
  - Child labour
  - Employment conditions
  - Freedom of association
  - Social protection

- Occupational health and safety
- Equity and gender
- Farmer organisation

## ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- **Reducing Trade Friction:**
  - Instrument testing
  - Contract sanctity
  - Bale size/density/numbering
  - Phytosanitary certificates

## CHALLENGES 1: INSTITUTIONAL

- **Membership:**
  - Negotiate terms of membership of EU
  - Expand membership
- **Project finance:**
  - CFC shift to loan-based projects
  - Search for new sources of project finance

## CHALLENGES 2: SECTORAL

- Strengthen research: biodiversity conservation, development of new varieties, carbon sequestration
- Strengthen support services / capacity-building
- Implement adaptation and mitigation strategies to offset climate change and other adverse effects of weather
- Increase yields

## CHALLENGES 3: SECTORAL

- Improve access to financial services (credit & risk management)
- Social sustainability: empower women & attract youth
- Value addition
- Promote demand
  - Support for International Forum for Cotton Promotion (IFCP)

*Thank you*

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