Commercial Standardization of Instrument Testing of Cotton with particular consideration of Africa; CFC/ICAC/33

General objective
• Use of objective instrument test results for cotton trading
• Ensure the reliability of High Volume Instrument test results

Specific objective for Africa
• Support to African laboratories to fulfil the international requirements for reliable instrument testing

Global project focus
• Introduction of instrument testing of cotton as a basis for trading and processing
• Implementation of a CSITC specific round trial
• Global harmonization and validation of the reliability of cotton testing / of cotton testing laboratories

Africa specific project focus
• Establishment of two regional technical centres (RTCs) in Africa:
  • RTC West: Co-operation between CERFTEX in Mali and SOFITEX in Burkina Faso for the RTC in Ségou, Mali
  • RTC East: Co-operation between the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and the Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) for the RTC in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
• International training of the RTCs for the regional tasks
• Integration of RTCs and laboratories into the international testing system

Field of activity of the RTCs
• Reference activities:
  • Re-tests
  • Regional round trials
• Provision of the required information:
  • Training
  • Experience and expertise
  • Technical information
  • Regional co-operation
• Routine testing of the cotton from the region

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