



**COTTON**  
MADE IN  
**AFRICA**

# COTTON MADE IN AFRICA

FACTS & FIGURES 2019

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Cotton made in Africa (CmiA) is an Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) initiative. With CmiA and CmiA Organic it offers two internationally recognized standards for sustainable cotton from Africa. The aim of CmiA is to activate market forces to generate license income that is reinvested in Africa, thereby enabling cotton farmers in Africa to improve their living and working conditions and promoting the protection of our environment. The initiative works with an extensive network in the African cotton-growing countries, numerous partners worldwide along the textile supply chain as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations to ensure that these goals are put into practice and that the raw material is processed worldwide. In 2019, just about 900,000 smallholders in 11 African countries – including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia – were growing cotton according to the CmiA standards.<sup>1</sup> They produced nearly 600,000 tons of sustainable cotton for the international market, benefited from business and agricultural trainings, and successfully implemented the Cotton made in Africa standards. With a newly verified partner in Chad, the initiative is expanding its network from 2020. The training and verification activities are financed by income from licensing fees which an international alliance built up by CmiA pays to the foundation to use the CmiA seal. This alliance currently consists of 63 retailers and brands – including among others Aldi Nord and Süd, the Otto Group, Vlisco, Bestseller, Ernting's family, the Rewe Group and Tchibo. In 2019, they have produced around 125 million textiles as CmiA – an increase of about 21% compared to 2018. Last year, CmiA also expanded its network in the textile value chain. The network of registered partners increased by 61% worldwide to 137 spinning mills and textile producers in 22 countries – eight of them in Africa. Read more at [www.cottonmadeinafrica.org](http://www.cottonmadeinafrica.org).

## CmiA Facts 2019<sup>1</sup>

CmiA smallholder farmers	886,000
thereof female farmers	18%
CmiA production countries	11
CmiA acreage overall (in hectare)	1,657,000
Average hectareage per farmer (in hectare)	1.87
CmiA lint cotton production overall (in mt)	593,000
CmiA retail partner and brands	63
CmiA textile companies	137
CmiA labelled textiles (in million)	125

<sup>1</sup> CmiA cotton is grown in different climatic zones in Sub-Saharan Africa. Just as divergent are the cotton harvest periods per country. To facilitate communication and to communicate reliable, up-to-date figures, the data rely on results from the concluded harvest season 2018/2019 CmiA cotton is grown, harvested and ginned in. Figures are rounded.