



COTTON
MADE IN
AFRICA

ORGANIC

Cotton made in Africa Organic

COMPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS TO CMIA VOL. 4

Version 1 (2022)

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REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING A CMI A ORGANIC CERTIFICATE

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Contact

Aid by Trade Foundation
Gurlittstraße 14
20099 Hamburg
Germany

Tel. +49 40 - 25 76 755 0
Email: info@abt-foundation.org

Contact for comments: standards@abt-foundation.org

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1. Introduction

→ If a Managing Entity wants to offer CmiA Organic, it must both meet the requirements of the CmiA standard (Vol. 4) and must provide a certification to the [IFOAM Family of Standards](#) for organic cotton cultivation at the farm level.

IFOAM has its own accreditation system. Standards approved under the IFOAM Family of Standards are officially endorsed as organic and include both private and government regulations, such as the EU Organic Regulation No 834/2007 or the USDA National Organic Program (NOP).

2. Requirements

→ A Managing Entity that wants to be listed as a supplier for CmiA Organic must present its organic certificate every year to AbTF. It needs to be submitted via the self-assessment duly completed in the CmiA Assurance Platform (CAP). The independent third-party verification will check the presence and validity of the organic certificate. The Managing Entity needs to announce whether its entire CmiA Unit is certified organic or only a subset of the CmiA-contracted farmers are. Based on this information and its verification through the third-party assurance provider, the Managing Entity will be listed either as CmiA Organic only or as both CmiA and CmiA Organic.

3. What Verifiers Need to Take Into Account for CmiA Organic

1. Verifiers need to check:
 - a. The presence of an organic certificate acknowledged in the IFOAM Family of Standards
 - b. The validity of the presented organic certificate
 - c. The scope of the organic certificate, i.e. whether the organic certificate is valid for all CmiA-contracted farmers or only a subset of them (cf. CmiA Vol. 4, Indicator 3.5.5)
2. Verifiers have to complete the regular CmiA verification cycle for both the field and ginnery levels. However, with regard to the CmiA standard (Vol. 4), there are a limited number of field-level indicators that are not necessarily applicable under certain conditions. All other indicators do apply and need to be reported through the CmiA Assurance Platform.
3. The list below gives an overview of the **indicators that are not necessarily applicable**, in most cases subject to certain conditions.



PILLAR PLANET



CRITERION 9.1

→ The Managing Entity adopts an Integrated Production and Pest Management (IPPM) plan.

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.1.4	The Managing Entity actively discourages CmiA-contracted farmers from calendar or random spraying.	Not applicable. Calendar or random spraying is against organic principles.
No.	Improvement	Comment/explanation
9.1.8	The Managing Entity regularly changes active ingredients used for pest control to avoid building up resistance. In the event that other bodies are responsible for pesticide procurement and distribution, the Managing Entity advocates for regular changes of active ingredients.	Not applicable. Pest management in organic production relies on methods and products that are not known to cause resistance.



CRITERION 9.2

→ The Managing Entity only uses pesticides that are:

- (1) nationally registered and approved for use in cotton cultivation; and
- (2) labelled according to national standards in at least one of the national languages or applicable official regional language

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.2.1	All pesticides used are registered nationally and approved for use in cotton cultivation.	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely exclusively on organic pesticides produced on the farm, this indicator is not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases commercial pesticides, this indicator applies, and the products must be approved specifically for organic production.



CRITERION 9.3

→ Highly hazardous pesticides are excluded from use in CmiA cotton cultivation.

Substances falling under the following categories are banned under CmiA:

- Stockholm Convention, Annexes A and B
- Rotterdam Convention, Annex III
- Montreal Protocol, Annexes
- Active ingredients listed as WHO Class Ia (extremely hazardous) and Class Ib (highly hazardous) respectively listed in categories 1 and 2 of GHS

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.3.1	<p>The Managing Entity only purchases, distributes, and uses pesticides that are not banned from use for the cultivation of CmiA cotton.</p> <p>Substances falling under the following categories are banned under CmiA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockholm Convention, Annexes A and B • Rotterdam Convention, Annex III • Montreal Protocol, Annexes • Active ingredients categorised as WHO Class Ia (extremely hazardous) or Class Ib (highly hazardous), respectively listed in categories 1 and 2 of GHS <p>For organic production, the regulations relevant for the obtained organic certificate apply.</p>	Not applicable. Organic production prohibits the use of the mentioned pesticides. A valid organic certificate is sufficient to prove compliance with this indicator.

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.3.2	An up-to-date and complete list of (<i>organic</i>) pesticides distributed to CmiA-contracted farmers is available. The list of (<i>organic</i>) pesticides includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brand names, active ingredients, and their concentrations; and • the specific protective equipment and training needed to apply the products. 	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely on organic pesticides produced exclusively on the farm, this indicator is not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases and distributes commercial pesticides approved for organic production, this indicator needs to be checked.



CRITERION 9.4

→ By 2024, the Managing Entity must phase out the use of pesticides with active ingredients that are defined as carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic (CMR) substances according to Categories 1A and 1B of GHS.

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.4.1	The Managing Entity has a plan to phase out by 2024 pesticides with active ingredients defined as carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic (CMR) substances listed in category 1A and 1B of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).	Not applicable. Such active ingredients are not approved for organic cultivation.





CRITERION 9.9

→ The Managing Entity stores pesticides safely.

No.	Core	Comment/explanation
9.9.1	Dedicated (organic) pesticide storage areas of the Managing Entity must fully comply with relevant legislation.	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely on organic pesticides produced exclusively on the farm, these indicators are not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases and distributes commercial pesticides approved for organic production, these indicators need to be checked.
No.	Improvement	Comment/explanation
9.9.2	Central (organic) pesticides storage facilities managed have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sound roof and impermeable floors; • shelves with non-absorbent and fire-resistant material; • a system to retain spillage; • clear, permanent warning signs close to access doors; • visible safety warnings, explanations of pictograms, symptoms of intoxication, and first-aid information for each product stored; • a visible emergency procedure; and • an eye-washing area. 	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely on organic pesticides produced exclusively on the farm, these indicators are not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases and distributes commercial pesticides approved for organic production, these indicators need to be checked.
9.9.3	All facilities belonging to the Managing Entity and used for storing (organic) pesticides must be dry and clean, well ventilated, sufficiently lit, structurally secure, and equipped with non-absorbent material.	



CRITERION 9.11

→ The Managing Entity ensures that CmiA-contracted farmers dispose of empty pesticide containers safely.

No.	Improvement	Comment/explanation
9.11.3	The Managing Entity has a collection, return, and/or disposal system (organized by the Managing Entity, the government, a supplier, or designated service provider) for empty (organic) pesticide containers.	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely on organic pesticides produced exclusively on the farm, this indicator is not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases and distributes commercial pesticides approved for organic production, this indicator needs to be checked.



PILLAR PROSPERITY



CRITERION 10.1

→ Inputs provided to CmiA-contracted farmers by the Managing Entity are of high quality and delivered on time.

No.	Improvement	Comment/explanation
10.1.5	Prior to distribution, the Managing Entity checks that the concentration stated on the pesticide-product label corresponds to the actual concentration of the active ingredient/s contained in the product.	In the event that CmiA-contracted organic farmers rely on organic pesticides produced exclusively on the farm, this indicator is not applicable. In the event that the Managing Entity purchases and distributes commercial pesticides approved for organic production, this indicator needs to be checked.

4. Change History

NAME OF DOCUMENT	DATE OF PUBLICATION	CHANGE
CmiA Organic Criteria Matrix 2013	2013	First publication / supplemental to CmiA Vol. 2
CmiA Organic Criteria Matrix 2015	2015	Update of criteria matrix as outlined in CmiA Vol. 3.1
CmiA Organic: Complementary Requirements to CmiA Vol. 4	2022	Due to major revision of CmiA Vol. 4, a completely new document is created



AID BY TRADE FOUNDATION

The Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) was founded in 2005 by Prof. Dr. Michael Otto, an entrepreneur from Hamburg, Germany. The aim of the foundation, which operates independently of the Otto Group, is to help people to help themselves through trade, thereby preserving vital natural resources and securing the livelihoods of future generations.

With the Cotton made in Africa (CmiA) initiative, AbTF is putting its principles into practice. The trade partners of the CmiA Demand Alliance source African cotton produced according to the CmiA standard and pay the foundation a volume-based license fee that is reinvested in the cultivation areas. Consumers recognise products by the CmiA label and make a valuable contribution to protecting the environment and supporting smallholder farmers and their families in Africa.

Aid by Trade Foundation

Gurlittstraße 14 · 20099 Hamburg

Telefon: +49 40 25 76 75 50

E-Mail: info@abt-foundation.org

www.cottonmadeinafrica.org

