

# COTTON MADE IN AFRICA (CmiA)

## Registration Guidelines for Garment Producers/ Suppliers

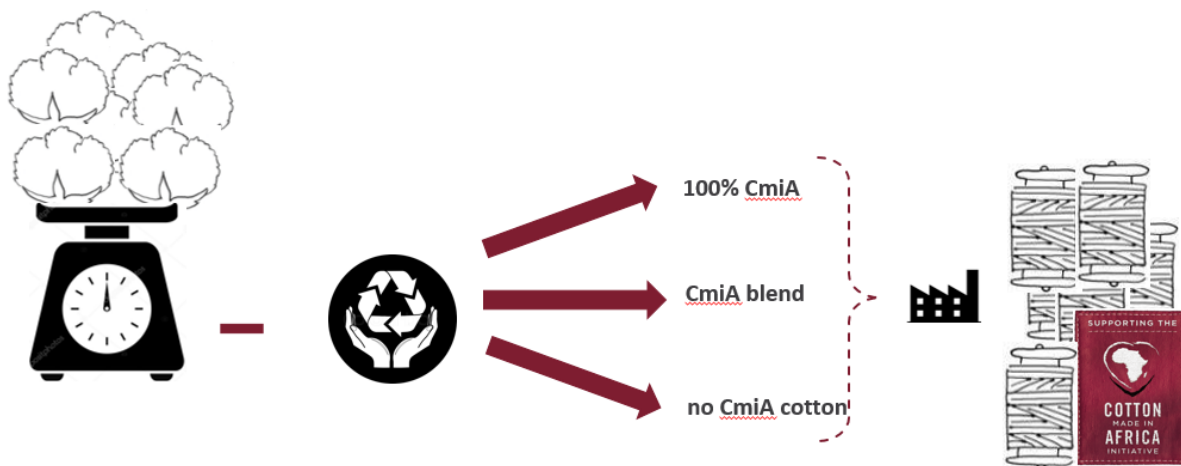
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The Registration Guidelines provided by the CmiA office are the framework document for garment producers<sup>1</sup> which want to implement the sustainable cotton standard Cotton made in Africa into their existing production lines.

### I. CmiA Implementation systems

The Cotton made in Africa standard can be implemented on spinning mill level with two systems – CmiA Mass Balance System (MB) or CmiA Hard Identity Preserved System (HIP)<sup>2</sup>.

Most of the CmiA retail partners are producing according to the **CmiA Mass Balance (MB) system**. That means the CmiA cotton may be used in the normal production line of the spinning mill and does not have to be treated separately. CmiA MB yarns can be produced using any cotton available; the CmiA cotton does not have to be physically included in the yarn.



As CmiA is NOT an ingredient standard, CmiA MB yarns can be produced by:

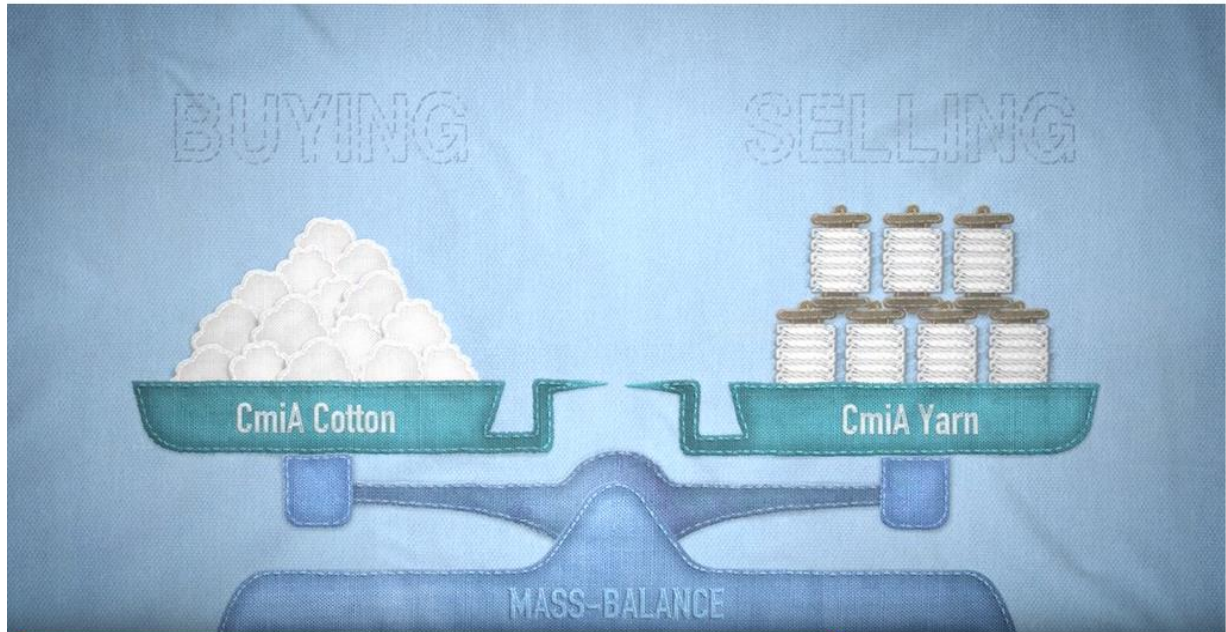
- using 100% CmiA cotton OR
- blending CmiA cotton with any other conventional cotton OR
- using 100% any other conventional cotton

Meanwhile the spinning mill is only allowed to produce as much CmiA MB yarns as they have purchased CmiA cotton before (minus an average wastage which occurs during production from lint to yarn). The cotton yarn amount declared as CmiA MB yarn will be deducted from the quantity of CmiA cotton the spinning mill have purchased before.

<sup>1</sup> If the applying company got a vertical set-up please refer to registration guidelines for Fabric Producers or Spinning Mills.

<sup>2</sup> Additional information is outlined in the CmiA Chain of Custody Guideline.

The CmiA cotton balance is controlled virtually only, not in the product.



A short explanation how CmiA is working you can find here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UF3vop5dxbA&t>

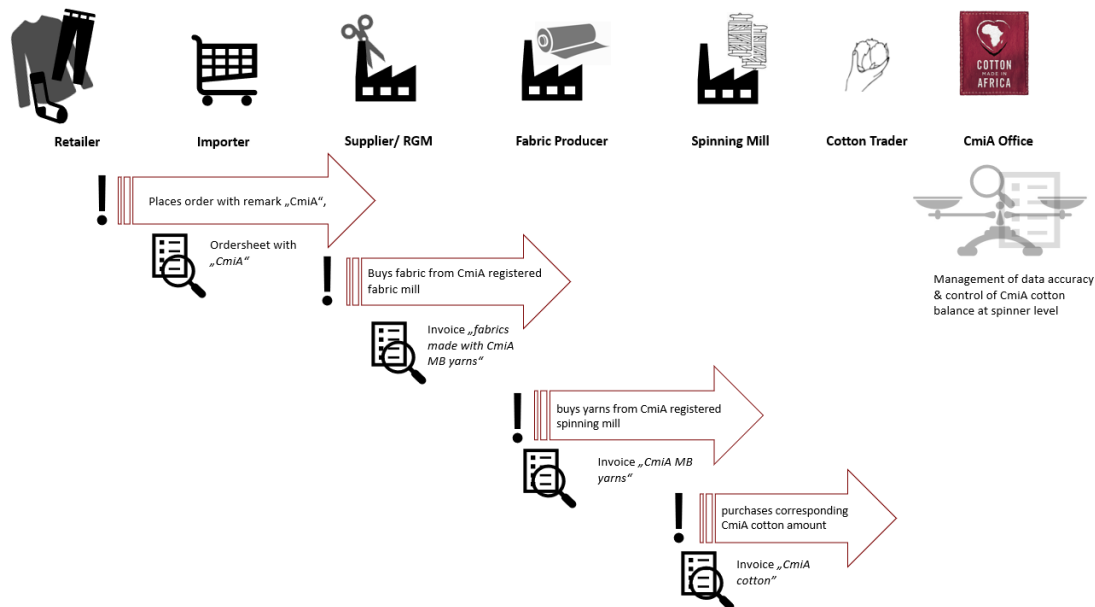
Therefore, the CmiA Mass Balance System makes it quite easy for spinning mills to implement CmiA in their production and fulfil sustainable requirements by retailer's suppliers. Also, on further productions levels the implementation and the offer of CmiA products (yarns, fabrics, garments) is easy to realize.

If one customer should request the production according to the **Hard Identity Preserved (HIP) system**, the spinning mills and later production units must follow the Chain of Custody Guideline and fulfill different requirements. For more information please contact the CmiA office.

## II. Implementation requirements

To ensure a smooth and easy implementation of CmiA and transparency throughout the entire supply chain **all direct production partners should be informed that it is a CmiA order** and for which final client (Retailer/ brand) the production will be used.

A remark on “CmiA” (e.g. “CmiA yarns/fabrics”, “produced according to CmiA MB system” etc.) should be placed on all documents (order, contracts, invoices...).



MB = according to CmiA Mass Balance System

**Retailers/ brands are only allowed to sell CmiA labelled products when having a license contract with CmiA.**

## III. How to get registered with CmiA

If your client, the retailer/brand and CmiA license partner, is asking for CmiA products the following steps are necessary:

**1. When everything about CmiA and the Mass Balance System is clear, register your company online with CmiA:** <https://scot.cottonmadeinafrica.org/users/register> (**Registration Code: 72GR8hbP**)

- provide some company details
- designate a CmiA responsible person within your company
- confirm understanding and agreement of CmiA Code of Conduct and Chain of Custody Guideline
- provide billing address for registration invoice

**2. Pay the annual registration fee** of EUR 500

Once the payment is received the company receives a **CmiA membership number valid for one year** and will be listed as a CmiA supplier on our website.

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**3. Buy CmiA yarns or fabrics** from one of our CmiA registered partners.

Updated list can be always find here or in our CmiA App: <https://cottonmadeinafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/Spinning-Mills-Fabric-Producers-CmiA.xlsx>

If your current fabric or yarn producer is not registered with CmiA yet, please ask them to contact the CmiA head office at [supplychain@abt-foundation.org](mailto:supplychain@abt-foundation.org) for a CmiA registration.

At purchase please inform the spinner or fabric producer that it is a CmiA production. Therefore, there should be remarks of “*CmiA yarns/fabrics*” or “*produced according to CmiA Mass Balance system*” on contract/ invoice.

**Please check regularly online if the spinner/ fabric producer still got a valid certificate!**

**Spinners and fabric producers are requested to NOT ask for any upcharges on CmiA products!**

**4.** Provide regularly information about CmiA yarn/fabric purchases and fulfilled CmiA retailer orders in SCOT.

- All levels must inform about their CmiA purchases (cotton, yarns, fabrics) and CmiA sales (cotton, yarns, fabrics, garments).
- CmiA license partners (e.g. Otto Group, Lidl, Aldi, Tchibo etc.) are uploading their CmiA order data to SCOT. The CmiA supplier then got to inform in **SCOT how much CmiA yarns/ fabric they used to produce these placed CmiA orders.**
- Log in credentials and User Manual will be provided after successful registration with CmiA.

**5. Additional requirements**

CmiA is firstly implemented at spinning mill level but also all other production units are important partners in our CmiA network.

- The quality of the yarns used is not influenced by CmiA. The quality requirements are requested by the customers. CmiA is NOT a quality, any cotton can be used to produce CmiA Mass Balance yarns, so no quality limit for the production takes place.
- As the African CmiA cotton can be totally integrated to the normal production lines there should be **no upcharges** on CmiA yarns or fabrics.

**IV. Reporting requirements & SCOT Tracking System**

- For each CmiA order an according amount of CmiA yarns or fabrics needs to be purchased.
- As a vertical producer the inhouse yarn/fabric usage should be reported.
- **All CmiA transactions must be reported** regularly into the SCOT system, **latest 30 days after contract date.**
- Please report correct transaction information to SCOT to avoid correcting any information later. Once entered to the system, we will count them as valid.

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## V. Sanctions

CmiA will be able to remove a valid certificate in case of:

- Transactions in SCOT are not done on a regular and valid base
- Yarns/fabrics are not purchased from CmiA registered spinning mills.

Companies without a valid certificate will be deleted from the supplier list and relevant retailers will be informed.

## VI. Re-Registration

The certificate expires regularly after one year; the expiry date can be found on each registration certificate. To receive a new certificate the company must contact the CmiA office in due time.

To receive a new certificate following requirements must be fulfilled:

- CmiA transactions are updated regularly in SCOT
- Annual registration fee is paid

## VII. Labeling of CmiA products

If your client ask you to label the final products with a CmiA label they should provide the design and information about the correct CmiA label.

CmiA products which are produced according to the CmiA Mass Balance System are only allowed to be labelled with the “Supporting the Cotton made in Africa initiative” – logo.



For further information please contact the CmiA Marketing Department at:

[marketing@abt-foundation.org](mailto:marketing@abt-foundation.org) .

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

[supplychain@abt-foundation.org](mailto:supplychain@abt-foundation.org)

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**Related documents:**

- **Chain of Custody Guideline** (updated in January 2021)
- **Code of Conduct**
- **SCOT User Manual** (will be provided during SCOT registration)

**GET THE COTTON MADE IN AFRICA APP** | STAY INFORMED ABOUT CMIA IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

