# A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF REEL COTTON AND REEL REGENERATIVE TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) & FARMERS TRAINING

## **ESTTON ESNNECT**

The REEL program includes a comprehensive training component designed for both the implementation team and farmers. This training comprises seven modules, spanning from program introduction and management to addressing social considerations, agronomic practices, disease and pest management, and sustainable cotton post-harvest handling.

### Training module development



The seven training modules undergo annual revisions to adapt to changing geographical conditions and the evolving needs of farmers. This process involves extensive consultation with program stakeholders, including farmers, the implementation team, regional cotton experts, and agricultural universities. Feedback from these stakeholders is carefully considered and incorporated into the revision process.

## Training module key topics



#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

This section provides an introduction to the REEL program, including information about its objectives, the Code of Conduct, assurance model, implementation plan, key performance indicators, and reporting procedures.



#### **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

This module encompasses all the elements outlined in Chapter 9 of the REEL Code of Conduct. It addresses social and human rights issues, such as child labour, child education, bonded labour, harassment, the health and safety of labourers and farmers, wage equality, working conditions, and fair wages, among others.



#### **CROP MANAGEMENT**

This module covers all aspects of cotton farming, from land preparation and sowing to harvesting and crop residue management, with a focus on agronomic best practices.



#### **PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL**

This training component emphasises targeted pest and disease management. Farmers gain technical knowledge in this area and are also educated about the advantages of using biopesticides and homemade organic remedies to address pest and disease issues.

REEL COTTON PROGRAMME HANDBOOK



#### SAFE HANDLING OF AGROCHEMICALS

Farmers are trained in the safe handling and disposal of synthetic pesticides and fertilisers. The importance of using personal protective equipment (PPE) is highlighted in this section.



#### SOIL MANAGEMENT

This module delves into critical soil-related topics, including soil testing, integrated nutrient management, fertiliser application, soil erosion prevention, organic manure preparation, and its proper application.



#### WATER MANAGEMENT

Water plays a crucial role in cotton cultivation, and this module focuses on water management practices. It covers water-saving techniques like alternate furrow irrigation and micro-irrigation, water resource management and replenishment, considerations for rainfall patterns, and water quality testing.



#### AGROFORESTRY AND BIODIVERSITY

This section addresses forest management, forest restoration, agroforestry practices, biodiversity management, compensation for biodiversity conservation, and protection of biodiversity-sensitive zones. It also emphasises the preservation of local flora, fauna, and animal habitats.



#### **ANIMAL WELFARE**

The animal welfare component covers the management of feed, health, and shelter for animals. It includes activities such as regular vaccination and health check-up camps to raise awareness and promote preventive measures.



#### SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

This module focuses on improving economic welfare, carbon sequestration, the cost of cultivation, and the role of agrobiodiversity in enhancing livelihoods.



CottonConnect's purpose is to reimagine cotton supply chains in order to help textile producers and farmers enjoy better livelihoods. www.cottonconnect.org • info@cottonconnect.org WeWork, New Kings Beam House, 22 Upper Ground, London SE1 9PD Tel: +44 (0) 203 865 7038 • Published October 2023 © CottonConnect