



### REDUCING THE WATER FOOTPRINT OF THE GLOBAL COTTON-TEXTILE INDUSTRY TOWARDS UN-SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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### **MID-TERM AT UAF IN FAISALABAD IN JANUARY 2019**





#### Invitation to Mid-Term Conference

Water Footprints of the Cotton-Textile Value Chain: Environmental Repercussions from Field to Hanger

January 29 to February 02, 2019

VENUE New Senate Hall University of Agriculture Faisalabad

Jointly Organized by Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE FAISALABAD & BMBF-InoCottonGROW Project Partners

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# InoCotton States and a little **FINDINGS AND POLICY OPTIONS COTTON IRRIGATION** SPONSORED BY THE Federal Ministry of Education and Research 8



### **KEY FINDINGS**

- 1. LCC is an **undersupplied system.**
- Groundwater is storage:
  Canal lining is not the ultimate solution. Quality aspects first.
- **3.** Minimize unproductive losses (i.e. evaporation): Irrigation technology and scheduling is key.
- 4. Increasingly variable environment expected in future: **Flexibility** within Warabandi start at farm-level.
- 5. Low cotton yield only partly due to water stress.
- 6. Climate Change impacts: Heat stress will dominate.
- 7. Good water governance is key: Also groundwater needs governance.





### COTTON IRRIGATION AND IRRIGATION SCHEDULING KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

- farmer education is cornerstone
- **small ponds** at the **farm level** can increase flexibility, should be implemented bottom-up
- high-quality, resistant seed are important
- crop shifting is an easy option to adapt to expected water supply and soil conditions
- flood plains help with diverting flood waters and recharging groundwater
- Rain water harvesting for rechraging groundwater be promoted
- pricing of surface and groundwater is an important instrument for management, but increases crop cost



### **STORAGE FOR EARLY KHARIF NEEDED (PROF. BAKHSH)**

- Storage at farm level is a prerequisite for efficient irrigation because it is light and frequent, which requires adequate availability of irrigation water.
- Similarly storage at outlet level or Upstream or in water Reservoirs need to be promoted
- Canals may be kept flowing during flood season, which of course may require sediment entrap strategies to minimize sediment loading in canal system.
- Flood water can be stored either at farm level or may be stored in the aquifer



### HOW TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE (PROF. BAKHSH)

- Climate change usually causes frequent occurrence of extreme events in the form of very high temperature peaks in summer, very low temperature in winter, very high intensity / amount rainfall.
- Therefore management practices such availability of adequate soil moisture in the root zone using drip irrigation or bed –furrow can help crop survive during peak weather conditions.
- As learnt from farmer during field visit, early sowing of cotton can help sustain climate change because of getting more time to mature prior to peak temperature days.

### FINDINGS AND POLICY OPTIONS TEXTILE PRODUCTION AND WASTEWATER

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### **KEY FINDINGS**

- **1. Installation of functioning effluent treatment** is key for reducing grey water footprint in Punjab.
- 2. Low-hanging fruits do exist: positive amortization of investments in process- and product-integrated measures
- 3. Process-integrated measures often go along with **energy savings**, but little effect on water footprint.
- 4. Maintenance and training for operation personnel is key.

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### FISHBOWL: WHICH POLICY OPTIONS ARE FEASIBLE

- 1. Capacity building for the operational personnel on operation and maintenance in regional centres across the country.
- 2. Common effluent treatment plants to be built and operated at textile clusters by the Government, wherever possible.
- **3. Support textile industry** for national standard and ZDHC compliance (chemical management & effluent treatment).



### **TEXTILE WASTEWATER TREATMENT** KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

- treatment plants first, training accordingly
- trainings need to be short, practical and frequent
- cleaner production can reduce treatment need
- pricing companies according to pollution
- waste is a challenge and opportunity, infrastructure needed
- platform for exchange on existing best practices between industry and academia
- regulations are in place, implementation is lacking
- improvement needs time, start early
- Doable, cheap watewater treatment may be promoted

### FINDINGS AND POLICY OPTIONS RESPONSIBILITY ALONG THE COTTON-TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN

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### WATER FOOTPRINT AS STEERING INSTRUMENT

### **Policy and planning:**

• Guide sectoral policies

### **Producers:**

- Support sustainable production
- Broaden corporate environmental strategies
- Reduce water risks in supply-chain

### **Consumers:**

 Raise awareness and promote consumption of sustainably produced textiles





### **MY CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK**

- **1.** New opportunities for science-based water policy:
  - Multiple actors, Time to act is now.
  - Water Footprint promotes Integrated Water Resource Management: Integrate technical, financial, and management options across different sectors (agriculture, textile, water, trade) into coherent policy.
- 2. InoCottonGROW results freely available:
  - Final report under way, all models will be available on website.
  - Dissemination of knowledge, policy implementation.
- GIZ has launched new project FABRICS to support Punjabi textile industry. WWF has taken the initiative in ILES (International Labour and Environmental Standards Application in Pakistan's SMEs) with ILO.
- **4.** Far more ambitious approaches needed to set the global framework for sustainable cotton-textile production.



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