



***INTERNATIONAL COTTON AND TEXTILE CONFERENCE***

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***SECOND EDITION***

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***Koudougou (Burkina Faso), January 30 & 31, 2020***

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**CONCEPT NOTE**

July 2019

## **I. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION**

Cotton is the largest textile fiber consumed in the world with an estimated world production of 25.2 million tons in 2018, with an upward trend in 2019. African production accounts for almost 10% of world production, which is still dominated by China, with 5.98 million tons (ICAC, 2018).

Despite the improvement in cotton production on the continent, African cotton sectors are today faced with many challenges such as:

- competitive positioning of African cotton in the global market,
- competition with synthetic fibers,
- challenges of biotech crops,
- higher costs of production factors,
- aspects related to the quality of the fiber,
- the diversification of productions,
- climate changes,
- industrial processing of cotton fiber and co-products,
- the modernization of textile crafts,
- the marketing of textile products and by-products, etc.

Also, the major problem of the African cotton and textile sector remains the low level of local processing of the fiber and the valorization of the by-products. In fact, for an estimated African production of 1.521 million tons of fiber in 2016/2017, only 383 000 tons (around 25%) are consumed locally. As for Francophone Africa, for an estimated 1.103 million tons of fiber, around 19,000 tons (less than 2%) are processed/consumed locally (ICAC, January 2019).

African cotton is thus sold in its raw state to be processed in more industrialized countries and often sold back ten times more to the countries producing the raw material.

Long time leader in cotton production on the African continent, with an annual average of 250,000 tons of fiber, Burkina Faso has chosen to base its economic and social development on the production and marketing of this cash crop. Cotton is the leading agricultural export product and the second most exported product after gold in value. Despite the will of the various actors, less than 2% of the cotton produced is transformed locally and the country imports annually about 70 billion FCFA of finished textile products.

Therefore, it seems necessary for Africa to revitalize production, but also and above all to truly launch the industrial transformation of cotton.

In order to face many problems of production and, above all, industrial transformation of the "*white Gold*" and under the leadership of His Excellency the President of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso has initiated the **International Cotton and Textile Conference (SICOT)**, whose first edition was held from 27 to 29 September 2018 in Koudougou.

Considering also the importance and the stakes of this event for Africa and therefore, for Burkina Faso, it was established the biennial organization of this Conference, whose second edition is planned to be held on January 30 and 31, 2020.

## **II. OBJECTIVE OF SICOT**

The main objective of the Conference is to highlight the African cotton sector and make Burkina Faso, the African crossroads where the main concerns of the actors of the entire value chain of cotton and textile will be periodically discussed.

More specifically, the SICOT aims to be an international platform for exchange and reflection, a platform for promoting African cotton through the presentation of modern production and conservation tools, the promotion of industrial processing, financing and marketing.

## **III. BRIEF REVIEW OF THE FIRST EDITION OF SICOT**

Placed under the very high patronage of His Excellency the President of Burkina Faso, the first edition of the International Cotton and Textile Conference (SICOT) was held from 27 to 29 September 2018 in Koudougou, under the theme: "*Integrated transformation of cotton: A factor for creating jobs and wealth*".

The Federal Republic of Germany, in view of its contribution to the strengthening of the cotton sector and the mobilization of private investors in Burkina Faso, was the *Guest country of honor*.

It was placed under the official *sponsorship* of Mr. Abdallah BOUREIMA, President of the Commission of the West African Monetary and Economic Union (WAEMU).

Some results of the first edition of SICOT include:

- ↪ the participation of nearly 1,000 participants from 31 countries in Africa, America, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and regional and international integration organizations;
- ↪ the animation of 10 panels and 3 round tables;
- ↪ the mobilization of 82 national and international panelists;
- ↪ the participation of 53 professional exhibitors (machinists, equipment manufacturers, industrialists, input manufacturers, crushers, traders, financial and government institutions, insurance companies) and 80 exhibitors of various articles;

- ↪ 45 national, international and local media (radio, TV, print media, online press) covered the event, with a presence of 120 journalists;
- ↪ 3 nights of cultural and artistic activities, with more than 30 artists, at the Place de la Nation of Koudougou (*Nuits du SICOT*);
- ↪ the mobilization of a global budget of 423 million CFA francs for the organization of the event;
- ↪ 100% of the interviewed participants were in favor of the continuation of the event.

#### **IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE SECOND EDITION OF THE SICOT**

The second edition of the International Cotton and Textile Conference (SICOT) will be held on **30 and 31, January 2020 in Koudougou (Burkina Faso)**, around the central theme : *"Production and processing of cotton : engines of industrialization and economic growth for African States"*.

It is placed under the very high patronage of His Excellency Mr. Roch Marc Christian KABORE, President of Faso, and the *sponsorship* of Mr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group (ADB).

The *guest country of honor* of this 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of SICOT is the Republic of Turkey.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, like the first one, aims to be a platform for exchanges and reflection, bringing together professionals from the entire cotton value chain around the concerns and development opportunities of the cotton and textile sector.

It will also be a forum for the promotion and development of cotton, through the presentation of modern tools for conservation, production, promotion of processing (spinning, , weaving, dyeing, garment making, etc.), financing and marketing.

##### **4.1. Main activities of SICOT**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of SICOT will be furnished by the following activities:

- an opening ceremony, under the very high patronage of His Excellency the President of Burkina Faso;
- an inaugural conference around the central theme;
- panels around various themes;
- round tables;
- B to B / B to G business meetings;
- professional exhibition;
- a market space for national and international players in the cotton and textile value chain;

- a professional Fashion Show at a Gala Dinner;
- Nuits du SICOT (cultural/musical events, fashion shows);
- visits to businesses and tourist sites;
- a closing ceremony.

## 4.2. Expected participants

Around 1,500 participants, including textile industry investors, textile cotton professionals and experts, textile machinery and equipment manufacturers, input manufacturers, principals, and well-known brands, international textile traders, cotton producers, representatives of agricultural professional organizations, policy makers, academics and researchers, technical and financial partners, representatives of regional and international integration organizations, civil society organizations.

## 4.3. Conditions of participation in SICOT

### 4.3.1. Registration

Participants in SICOT are invited to register according to the forms "*Participant*", "*Exhibitor*" or "*Press*", downloadable on the website: [www.sicot-bf.com](http://www.sicot-bf.com).

Registration can also be made by contacting the organizers indicated in point VI below (useful contacts).

An access badge to the site of the event is delivered to the registered participants.

### 4.3.2. Transport, Accommodation and Catering

In order to allow the participants to have a good stay in SICOT, it is proposed a **500 Euros accommodation Pack** (covering the period from January 29 to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020) and composed of:

- ✓ Reception and transportation (arrival and departure): Ouagadougou International Airport - Hotel - Ouagadougou Airport;
- ✓ Transport under a security escort: Ouagadougou - Koudougou - Ouagadougou;
- ✓ Accommodation: one (01) night in Ouagadougou and two (02) nights in Koudougou;
- ✓ Catering: breakfast on three (03) days and lunch on two (02) days.
- ✓ Participation in the Gala Dinner

However, participants can book hotel rooms in Ouagadougou and Koudougou, by consulting the list of hotels accredited by the General Commissariat of SICOT and available on the website: [www.sicot-bf.com](http://www.sicot-bf.com).

In addition, arrangements will be made to facilitate entry visas to Burkina Faso for foreign participants whose visas are required. Foreign exhibitors will also benefit from customs facilities for the entry of their products into Burkina Faso.

Foreign participants are highly recommended to update their international vaccination card and subscribe for travel insurance.

A health team will be available for participants during the SICOT.

#### **4.3.3. Participation in the activities**

Participation in the different activities of SICOT (inaugural conference, panels, B2B / B2G, round tables, Nuits du SICOT) is free of charge.

Concerning the B2B // B2G meetings, the contacts will be made through requests and interests of the participants addressed to the General Commissariat of SICOT. A platform for managing contacts will also be accessible through the SICOT website:

**[www.sicot-bf.com](http://www.sicot-bf.com)**.

Participants will also be proposed visits to businesses and tourist sites.

#### **4.3.4. Exhibitions**

Professional exhibition booths will be set up whose rates are as follows:

<b>BOOTH CATEGORY</b>	<b>CONVENIENCES</b>	<b>UNIT COST</b>
PREMIUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9 m<sup>2</sup>, air conditioned, TV, table, 4 chairs,</li> <li>- Exhibitor + 2 persons with badge,</li> <li>- Access to works, Lunch, Gala Dinner</li> </ul>	525 000 F CFA (800 €)
STANDARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9 m<sup>2</sup>, air conditioned, table, 2 chairs,</li> <li>- Exhibitor + 1 person with badge,</li> <li>- Access to works, Lunch, Gala Dinner</li> </ul>	300 000 F CFA (460 €)
Exhibition of diverse items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 9 m<sup>2</sup>,</li> <li>- 2 badges for exhibitor</li> </ul>	27 500 FCFA (42 €)

Settlement of the professional booths will start from January 29 up to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Booths for exhibition of miscellaneous items will be occupied from 27 January to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

## V. SPONSORING OF SICOT

In order to give more visibility to the partners, a sponsorship sheet, with various advantages, is available on the SICOT website ([www.sicot-bf.com](http://www.sicot-bf.com)) and can also be requested from the General Commissariat of SICOT.

## VI. USEFUL CONTACTS

### ❖ General Commissariat of SICOT :

- ✉ M. GUINKO Jean-Pierre (General Commissioner of SICOT)  
Tel : (00226) 25 40 77 55 / 70 20 01 79 ; Email : [jp\\_guinkoo@yahoo.fr](mailto:jp_guinkoo@yahoo.fr)
- ✉ Mme BAMA Huguette (Deputy General Commissioner of SICOT)  
Tel : (00226) 70 26 26 20 ; Email : [Huguette.bama@investburkina.com](mailto:Huguette.bama@investburkina.com)

### ❖ Technical Secretariat of SICOT

- ✉ KINDA Mahamady , Tel : (+226) 76 08 92 22 ; Email : [madykm3@yahoo.fr](mailto:madykm3@yahoo.fr)
- ✉ OUATTARA Soma, Tél : (+226) 70 04 84 43 ; E-mail : [souatt2@gmail.com](mailto:souatt2@gmail.com)
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