

The Better Cotton Initiative is looking for an intern to assist the Supply Chain Manager with traceability of Better Cotton and supply chain related tasks.



Background

Cotton is one of the most important and widely grown crops in the world, and with more than 90% of cotton farmers living in developing countries, cotton production is fundamental to the livelihoods of millions of farmers and workers. Current cotton growing methods need to change, however, as they are placing unsustainable levels of stress on the environment and the people who produce it. Change means using fewer pesticides, managing water more efficiently, improving soil health and bio-diversity, enhancing fibre quality, and improving the welfare of farm workers.

BCI exists to make global cotton production better for the people who produce it, better for the environment it grows in, and better for the sector's future.

BCI works with a diverse range of stakeholders to promote measurable and continuing improvements for the environment, farming communities and the economies of cotton producing areas.

BCI aims to transform cotton production worldwide by developing Better Cotton as a sustainable mainstream commodity.

BCI's specific aims are to:

1. Reduce the environmental impact of cotton production
2. Improve livelihoods and economic development in cotton producing areas
3. Improve commitment to and flow of Better Cotton throughout the supply chain

Ensure the credibility and sustainability of the Better Cotton Initiative

Building on the success to date where Better Cotton creates positive changes for farming communities, and is being bought by BCI retailer and brand members, BCI has set ambitious targets for the future, increasing Better Cotton volume production 8-fold by 2015 and 26-fold by 2020.

Our experience has taught us that the cotton market cannot be left to itself to make the changes happen. Our model for market transformation is based on focused, manageable activities by BCI itself and clear roles for other supply chain actors, partners, and governments. Working with our members and partners, BCI will focus on the key drivers at both ends of the supply chain – supply creation/push and demand generation/pull.

Our Strategic Principles

- BCI is focused on effecting change
- BCI is firmly based on the traceability of Better Cotton
- Credibility and the multi-stakeholder nature are crucial to BCI
- Demand for Better Cotton is key to funding and influence
- BCI enables evidence-based communication within a clear framework
- BCI does not set a premium and pricing is a function of the market

2015 Global Targets

Specific Aim	Global Indicator	2015 Target
Reduce the environmental impact of cotton production	Better Cotton hectares under cultivation	2 million
Improve livelihoods & economic development in cotton producing areas	Number of Better Cotton farmers	1 million
Increase commitment to and flow of BC throughout the supply chain	Volume of Better Cotton bought by spinners	1.5 million
Ensure organisational credibility and sustainability of BCI	Earned income as % of global costs	75%

Focus of the Internship

Under the management of the Supply Chain Manager based in Geneva, the intern will focus on maintaining and working with BCI's online traceability system named Better Cotton Tracer and other supply chain related duties and responsibilities. The scope of the internship involves opening new accounts for cotton merchants, yarn spinners, fabric mills, and retailers and brands and maintaining existing member accounts in the traceability system; helping organise overseas supply chain events; interacting with current members on traceability and supply chain events related issues; organising online webinars for members on various Better Cotton supply chain topics; various data entry tasks; interacting and coordinating efforts with BCI's overseas employees on supply chain and traceability related tasks.

Learning and development

The intern will benefit from the following:

- Gaining experience in sustainability of cotton production
- Learning about textile industry and textile supply chain in general
- Mastering traceability issues for sustainably grown cotton
- Working in an international multi-stakeholder organisation
- Experience in event organisation
- Working with a globally dispersed and culturally diverse team

Profile

To be successful, the intern will have the following attributes:

- Interest in sustainability and supply chain
- Strong IT skills, in particular with Excel and preferably with databases
- Pays attention to details, solves problems independently, and is persistent in accurately performing repetitive tasks
- At least 1 year work experience; preferably in shipping, trading, and/or customer service
- Fluency in English, written and spoken; Portuguese, Hindi, Urdu, Mandarin, and/or Turkish is a plus

Working arrangements

The intern will report to the Supply Chain Manager for her/his work programme and outputs.

The internship starts 12 May 2014 for duration of 6 months.

The intern will work from the BCI Secretariat office in Geneva. Candidates must have the existing right to work in Switzerland.

The internship will carry a remuneration of 1,500 CHF per month (100%).

Applications

Interested applicants with the required attributes are asked to send, in English, a detailed CV and a brief motivation letter (maximum one page) to BCI by email at: kerem.saral@bettercotton.org

Application deadline: 14 April 2014

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only candidates short-listed for a telephone interview will be contacted.

The BCI is an equal opportunity employer committed to good practice and transparency in the management of natural, human, and financial resources.