**Request for Proposals - Consultancy**

**Improving farm to gin link traceability**

**Applications deadline: 18th September 2020**

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**RFP n#:** 2020-08-MSC-TRACE  
**Location:** Remote working, with potential travel to India and China  
**Start date:** 05 October 2020  
**End date:** 5 March 2021  
**BCI key contact:** Joyce Lam  
Membership & Supply Chain  
tender@bettercotton.org

All applications must be sent by email, to BCI’s key contact, with the subject header:  
“Application RFP Improving farm to gin link traceability – RFP n# 2020-08-MSC-TRACE.”  
Questions, requests and applications sent after the deadline (18th September 2020) will not be considered.

**Description**

The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) — the largest cotton sustainability programme in the world — aims to reach 5 million farmers worldwide with more sustainable agricultural practices, and account for 30% of global cotton production by 2020. In less than 10 years, the Better Cotton Initiative and its Partners have supported over 2.3 million farmers in 23 countries in adopting more sustainable agricultural practices. Thanks to these efforts, Better Cotton accounts for around 22% of global cotton production. We are truly a joint effort, encompassing stakeholders all the way from farms to fashion brands and civil society organisations, driving the cotton sector toward sustainability. BCI aims to transform cotton production worldwide by developing Better Cotton as a sustainable mainstream commodity.

BCI is seeking proposals from skilled individuals or organisations interested in carrying out a research project to improve the farm and gin traceability, using India and China as case studies. The budget for this piece of work ranges from EUR 25,000 to a maximum of EUR 30,000.

In addition to skills, competencies and expertise, BCI will consider value for money and demonstrable commitment to the sustainability field to evaluate applications.

**High-level Timeline**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>18 September 2020</td>
<td>All applications must be submitted by email, headed “Application RFP Improving farm to gin link traceability – RFP n# 2020-08-MSC-TRACE” addressed to Joyce Lam at <a href="mailto:tender@bettercotton.org">tender@bettercotton.org</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 – 30 September 2020</td>
<td>Applications review &amp; shortlisting</td>
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| By 2 October 2020     | The successful applicant will be notified  
Unsuccessful shortlisted applicants will also be notified |
| 5-10 October 2020     | **Start of the consultancy**                                                       |
| By 11 January 2021    | First draft report                                                                 |
| By 12 February 2021   | Updated report                                                                     |
| By 26 March 2021      | Final report                                                                        |
| By 5 March            | Summary version of the final report                                                |

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

BCI is committed to good practice and transparency in the management of natural, human and financial resources. All applications will be reviewed under the principles and subject to BCI’s policies on equal opportunity, non-discrimination, anti-bribery & corruption and conflict of interest.