Carbon Accounting Coordinator

Starting Date: November 2022  
Contract type: Regular, full-time  
Salary: London: £36,400 / Netherlands: EUR 45000 /USA: $70,000 / Sweden: TBC  
Location: London, United Kingdom. Sweden, Netherlands, or the US may also be considered for the right candidate.  
Application closing date: Midnight 7th August 2022

Background

Better Cotton is the world’s largest cotton sustainability programme. Our mission: to help cotton communities survive and thrive, while protecting and restoring the environment. In challenging times, we are meeting the challenge head on. Through our network of field-level partners we have trained over 2.5 million farmers - from the smallest to the largest - in 23 countries in more sustainable farming practices. More than 20% of the world’s cotton is now grown under the Better Cotton Standard. We have united the industry’s stakeholders behind our efforts, from ginners and spinners to brand owners, civil society organisations and governments. Everyone who cares about cotton and its sustainable future can now be part of something better.

About this role

Better Cotton has recently begun a new strategic phase toward 2030, with a deepened commitment to making positive impact for how cotton is produced. Better Cotton is setting 5 impact targets in the areas of climate change mitigation, soil health, pesticide use, smallholder livelihoods, and women’s empowerment. Together with our partners, members, and other engaged stakeholders, we are making a commitment to strengthened resolve for change - and investing in more robust monitoring and reporting. At the end of 2021, Better Cotton announced its GHG emissions reduction target of 50% as part of its holistic Climate Approach. A Climate Change Manager was hired by the global Programmes team in early 2022. We are now seeking a dynamic and skilled Carbon Accounting Coordinator to complement programme work with the measurement and reporting expertise required to ensure Better Cotton effectively monitors and feeds back data and insights to all stakeholders – farmers, Programme Partners, members, funding partners, and the fashion/apparel/textile sector more broadly. The role will:

- Lead the development of our emissions quantification system  
- Coordinate Better Cotton’s monitoring and reporting of emissions  
- Co-develop programme innovations to link up with our new traceability offering  
- Help Better Cotton credibly align with industry and regulatory frameworks

This is an exciting position at the forefront of establishing improvements in the emissions quantification of agriculture (cotton sector) and linking up with the apparel, textile, and fashion industry to help drive emissions reductions in a sector with bold targets and increasingly commitment to action.
The Carbon Accounting Coordinator will sit in Better Cotton’s Data & Traceability Function, reporting to the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Data Analysis Manager. The coordinator will be matrix managed by the Climate Change Manager and work closely with the Programmes team, the MEL data analytics team, and the Membership team.

This challenging role offers excellent opportunities for personal and professional development, together with a competitive benefits package.

Role & Responsibilities

Role:
- Develop the tools, methods, and guidance needed to credibly and reliably quantify the carbon emissions of Better Cotton production globally. Special emphasis is on quantification of agricultural practices plus transport and the post-harvest ginning phase.
- Keep current on evolving legislative and industry requirements and best practices, and support Better Cotton’s alignment with relevant reporting frameworks.

Responsibilities:
- Develop an emissions quantification approach that enables Better Cotton and partners to measure progress against its 2030 target and members to report against their commitments to the Science based target initiative (SBTi) with the Forest, Land and Agriculture (FLAG) Pathway.
  - Use the 2022 guidance developed by the Gold Standard for the ISEAL-funded Value Change Programme for certified commodities, published in 2022.
  - Identify data points to collect and seek cost-effective, efficient methods for collection, including digital approaches as appropriate.
  - Coordinate collection of supporting data and context.
  - Establish a Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification methodology and schedule, including an approach for third party data collection sample and/or verification.
  - Refine Better Cotton’s emissions baseline.

- Follow developments related to various industry environmental impact measurement and reporting frameworks – Science-Based Targets Initiative, GHG Protocol, voluntary carbon markets, European Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) and broader green claims legislation, corporate ESG reporting, among similar initiatives. Identify how Better Cotton can align with relevant reporting frameworks and co-create methods to do so.

- Compile benchmarks in the sector and identify areas where the sector could have a greater impact in reducing its carbon footprint.

- Work with the MEL and IT-Data teams to design GHG emissions dashboards to facilitate reporting to internal and external stakeholders.

- Consolidate existing and planned training on GHG emissions and ensure it is made available to the Better Cotton staff and partners working in this domain.
- Support the Climate Change Manager, fundraising team, and other colleagues on the development of new climate finance related projects and mechanisms where data and insights about emissions are required.
- Follow developments relevant to the cotton production landscape, like the sectorial decarbonization approach for the fertilizer sector.
- Be proactive in the continuous improvement process of our methodologies, tools, and documents.

Profile

The selected candidate will have the following skills, knowledge, and experience:

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<th>Skills, Knowledge and Experience</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Demonstrated interest in climate and/or environmental issues, decarbonization, smallholder farming systems, apparel-textiles-fashion sector.</td>
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<td>• Life-cycle assessment and/or GHG accounting applied to organizations, products, and services, particularly Scope 3 emissions MRV and reporting.</td>
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<td>• Application of LCA methodology and standards to the agriculture sector, including estimating the emissions and removals due to land use change, synthetic and organic fertilizer use, and soil management practices.</td>
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<td>• Knowledge about the global climate taxonomy and standards, namely the Greenhouse Gas Protocols, ISO standards, and the recent developments in the field such as the EU taxonomy for sustainable activities.</td>
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<td>• Knowledge about corporate environmental reporting and pledges like SAC Higg MSI, CDP and Net Zero commitments, and target setting programs such as Science Based Target initiative, SBTi Forest, land and Agriculture (FLAG), and the UNFCCC Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action.</td>
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<td>• Project management experience: Evidence of successful project management and effective facilitation of different perspectives towards a common objective, especially in the field of climate change and carbon accounting.</td>
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<td>• Communication: Engaging communicator both in person and in writing. Ability to adjust style of communication to suit audience (e.g., present technical topics to a non-technical audience)</td>
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<td>• Ability to work independently as well as a team-player</td>
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<td>• Adaptability, communication, and outreach skills</td>
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<td>• Degree in engineering or hard sciences. An environmental or climate specialization would be an asset</td>
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<td>• Data management skills using tools like Excel / Power BI /databases</td>
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<td>• Fluency in English, both written and spoken. Other languages used at Better Cotton an asset (French, Hindi, Urdu, Mandarin, Russian, Turkish, Portuguese)</td>
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Working arrangements

The position is full-time (40 hours per week). Better Cotton offers flexible working, with core hours being 10am – 4pm. Candidates in the Netherlands, USA and Sweden will work remotely, while London candidates will follow a hybrid working policy.

Travel will be required – depending on location, could be 1-2 long-haul trips per year and a few short-haul trips per year.

Applications

Interested applicants with the required attributes are asked to send, in English, a detailed CV (2 pages maximum) and a brief cover letter (1 page maximum) to Better Cotton by applying via this link.

Application deadline: 7th August 2022

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only candidates short-listed for a telephone interview will be contacted. Better Cotton is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to good practice and transparency in the management of natural, human, and financial resources.