# Better Cotton Derogation Request Form

## Version February 2024

*For HHP exceptional use, the Better Cotton Highly Hazardous Pesticides Exceptional Use Process v.1.0 should be used, instead. This is available upon request.*

This form is to accompany the Better Cotton Derogation Policy (available on the [Assurance](https://bettercotton.org/what-we-do/demonstrating-compliance-assurance-programme/) area of the Better Cotton website) in the case where a Producer or group of Producers requests a derogation to an indicator in the Better Cotton Principles & Criteria (P&C).

* The form is to be completed by the Programme Partner (IP) on behalf of a Producer Unit (PU) or a group of PUs or directly by the Large Farm manager. In the US Group Assurance Model, the Group Manager may complete the form on behalf of the farmer or farmer group. In all cases the request must be made by liaising with local Better Cotton Country Team.
* In cases of national or regional derogation, the form may be completed by Better Cotton Country Teams on behalf of PPs.

The form must be submitted together with supporting evidence to [*assurance@bettercotton.org*](mailto:assurance@bettercotton.org)*.* Before completing the form, please read the Derogations Policy in full to confirm the request is valid.

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| **Name of the person submitting the request (i.e. PP Coordinator)** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Producers affected (i.e. specific PUs or LFs, region, etc)** |  |
| **Date of submission:** |  |

1. **Indicator(s) for which a derogation requested**

| # | Indicator # | Indicator text | Reason for derogation request |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 |  |  | □ Local Relevance  □ Structural or exceptional circumstances |
| 2 |  |  | □ Local Relevance  □ Structural or exceptional circumstances |

1. Supporting Rationale

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| # | Indicator # | Indicator text |
| 1 |  |  |

Provide a clear, well-evidenced supporting rationale explaining why the derogation is required – this must cite one of the valid reasons for derogation requests (local relevance or exceptional circumstance[[1]](#footnote-1)) as per the Better Cotton Derogations Policy.

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1. **Proposed alternate, locally adapted indicators and/or plan for compliance**

If the derogation request is being submitted on the basis of local applicability, outline how the indicator could be adapted in order to be locally relevant. The proposed alternative should fulfil the intent of the original indicator.

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If the derogation request is being submitted on the basis of exceptional circumstances, explain the proposed plan for reaching compliance with the indicator, including timelines.

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<http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/p/?LinkId=255141>

1. Consultation

Especially in the case of derogation requests due to local relevance, Better Cotton requires stakeholder consultation to be carried out as part of the derogation request and any proposal for locally adapted indicators. Please describe below the nature of that consultation, who was involved, and key findings.

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1. **Supporting Evidence**

Indicate the title and exact file names of all documents submitted in support of the derogation request.

| **Producer Code(s)** | **Document Title** | **File Name** | **Brief Explanation of Evidence** |
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*Add rows if required*

**NOTE***: If a derogation request is being submitted for more than one indicator, copy/paste sections B-D below for each additional indicator*

1. These include a.) natural or manmade disasters, or b.) unforeseen events outside the Producer’s control such as unanticipated legislation changes, pest outbreaks, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)