



# Meeting Agenda

Programme Partner Meeting 2026

21 - 22 January | 11 - 12 February

# Wednesday 11 February 2026

## DAY 3: LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

### 07:00-10:00 GMT | Zoom Events

Objectives:

1. Sharing emerging practices from implementation of P&C v.3.1 decent work criteria.
2. Promote cross-partner exchanges on what is working and what is challenging.
3. Inspire new ideas and approaches on advancing Decent Work outcomes.

Time	Topic	Presenter	Description
07:00 – 07:05	Welcome	<b>Kratika Choubey</b> , Senior Programme Officer, India	Week 1 recap and Housekeeping
07:05- 07:10	Objectives of the Day	<b>Jannis Bellinghausen</b> , Senior Director of Standard Systems Integrity	Agenda overview and Day 3 Objectives.
07:10 – 07:20	Participant Reflections	<b>Kratika Choubey</b>	Interactive Menti polls
07:20 – 08:00	Keynote Presentation: <i>Amplifying worker agency and voice: pathways to Decent Work in cotton communities</i>	<b>Javed Hussain</b> , Executive Director, Sindh Community Foundation	Keynote address followed by a Question & Answer session.
08:00 – 08:10	<i>Event break</i>		
08:10 – 08:20	Celebrating Success	<b>Kratika Choubey</b>	Programme Partner Innovation videos.
08:20 – 08:25	Breakout Session Overview	<b>Amanda Noakes</b> , Senior Decent Work Coordinator	Participants will learn about the different breakout options and join one of four topical sessions.

08:30 – 09:10	Breakout 1	<p><b>Rajeev Singh</b>, Social Impact Manager</p> <p><b>Hemant Kumar Thakre</b>, Senior Director of Farm Programmes, Cotton Connect, South Asia</p> <p><b>Amagana Yacoulye</b>, Better Cotton Initiative Coordinator, CMDT</p> <p><b>Justo Mucopa</b>, Technical Production Supervisor, San-JFS, S.A.</p>	<p>Labour Monitoring Remediation (LMR) System Case Studies</p> <p>English, Portuguese</p>
08:30 – 09:10	Breakout 2	<p><b>Sahar Haq</b>, Social Impact Senior Coordinator</p> <p><b>Narjis Ashfaq</b>, Head of Programmes Sangtani Women Rural Development Organization</p> <p><b>S. Ashalatha</b>, Gender and Livelihoods Consultant, Modern Architects for Rural India (MARI)</p>	<p>Support Structures for Farmworkers – Case Studies on Grievance Mechanisms</p> <p>English, Mandarin Chinese, Turkish, Uzbek</p>
08:30 – 09:10	Breakout 3	<p><b>Amanda Noakes</b></p> <p><b>Lucas Tanleque Manuel</b>, Technical Coordinator, Sustainability Manager, Extension Supervisor, SAM</p>	<p>Effective Approaches to Rights Education</p> <p>English, Hindi, Urdu</p>

08:30 – 09:10	Breakout 4	<p><b>Marie-Prisca Adjoafla</b>, Decent Work Coordinator</p> <p><b>Mme Diarra Sitan Kané</b>, Head of the Women and Development Unit, CMDT</p> <p><b>Anumula Srinivas</b>, Consultant Project Coordinator, WWF – India</p>	<p>The Role of Collectives in Advancing Decent Work</p> <p>English, French</p>
09:15 – 09:45	Plenary and Reflections	<b>Amanda Noakes</b>	Share back and discuss breakout sessions as a group
09:45–09:55	Celebrating Success – Field Staff of the Year nominations	<b>Kratika Choubey</b>	Let’s celebrate the Field Staff of the Year nominations
09:55 – 10:00	Closing remarks	<b>Jannis Bellinghausen</b>	Closing remarks and key takeaways from Day 3 of the Programme Partner Meeting

## Keynote Speaker



**Javed Hussain**  
**Executive Director, Sindh Community Foundation**

Javed Hussain (pen name Javed Soz) is a seasoned development practitioner, civil society leader, and climate justice advocate from Sindh, Pakistan, with over 22 years of experience advancing women’s rights, labour justice, and community-led development. He is the founding Executive Director of Sindh Community Foundation (SCF), a leading grassroots organization working across Sindh to empower marginalized communities, particularly women agricultural workers facing poverty, climate vulnerability, and labour exploitation. Mr. Hussain played a pioneering role in advocating for the labour and climate rights of women cotton pickers in Sindh. He designed and led large-scale awareness, organizing, and advocacy initiatives that strengthened

policy discourse on women agricultural workers' protection. Under his leadership, more than 3,000 women cotton workers were organized into community groups across 30 villages in District Matiari, where they received training on occupational safety and health, climate risks, labour rights, and collective bargaining. In recognition of his groundbreaking, climate action, Mr. Hussain became the first Pakistani recipient of the Gender Just Climate Solutions Award at COP27 (UNFCCC, Egypt, 2022), awarded by WECF and UNCTCN for advancing labour and climate justice for women cotton workers.

He holds a Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Sindh and advanced training in Disaster Risk Reduction. He currently leads innovative initiatives on climate justice for women cotton workers, including mobile health camps and community-based climate resilience programs.

## Speakers



**Narjis Ashfaq**  
**Head of Programmes,**  
**Sangtani Women Rural Development Organization (SWRDO)**

Narjis Ashfaq is a development practitioner with over 18 years of experience in the development and humanitarian sector, specializing in program design, strategic planning and management, gender inclusion, sustainable agriculture, and livelihoods. She currently serves as Head of Programs at Sangtani Women Rural Development Organization (SWRDO). In this role, she leads gender-responsive planning and programming, farmer outreach, stakeholder partnerships, and the implementation of regenerative agriculture initiatives under the Better Cotton Initiative Project in South Punjab. She is committed to strengthening women farmers' participation and enhancing the economic resilience of smallholder farmers through sustainable cotton production.



**Diarra Sitan Kane**  
**Head of the Women and Development Unit,**  
**Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles SA (CMDT)**

Diarra Sitan Kane is an agronomist with a degree in finance and accounting and over 27 years of experience at the Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles (CMDT). A recognized national expert in gender and the economic empowerment of rural women in the cotton sector, she has served as Head of the Women and Development Unit at CMDT since 2024. In this role, she coordinates and supervises nationwide initiatives focused on women's capacity building, including training programs, support to women's groups, the establishment of food banks, and the monitoring of market gardening production, with financial support from the GIF Fund of Better

Cotton Initiative. Her career reflects a strong and sustained commitment to inclusive development and the sustainability of the cotton value chain in Mali.



**S. Ashalatha**  
**Gender and Livelihood Consultant,**  
**Modern Architects for Rural India (MARI)**

S. Ashalatha has been working with Modern Architects for India (MARI) as a Gender and Livelihood Consultant for the past two years in the Better Cotton Initiative project. She is responsible for grounding gender sensitivity and equality at both the staff and community level. With more than 30 years of experience in the development sector, she has worked as a researcher, trainer, and women's rights activist, focusing on gender issues across agriculture, livestock, and forestry. She has developed a wide range of IEC materials, including brochures, posters, booklets, and banners, use in trainings and awareness campaigns. She is a member of Internal committees (POSH) for Indian Railways, Amnesty international and several NGOs.



**Lucas Tanleque Manuel**  
**Technical Coordinator, Sustainability Manager, Extension Supervisor**  
**Sociedade Algodoeira de Mutuali (SAM)**

Lucas Tanleque Manuel is the Technical Coordinator of Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) at Sociedade Algodoeira de Mutuali (SAM) in Mozambique, where he also serves as Sustainability Manager, and Extension Supervisor. He holds a degree in Agricultural Mechanization from the Amílcar Cabral Agricultural Polytechnic Institute in Cuba and has over 25 years of experience in agricultural development, rural extension, and cotton sustainability.

Throughout his career, he has worked with organizations such as Olam Mozambique, World Vision, and Solidariedade Zambeze, with a strong focus on Good Agricultural Practices, Decent Work, the prevention of child labor, the empowerment of women producers, and sustainable production systems.



**Justo Mucopa**  
**Technical Production Supervisor,**  
**SAN-JFS, S.A.**

Justo Mucopa is an agronomist with over 5 years of experience in rural extension, field team management, and strategic agricultural planning, with a strong focus on sustainable livelihoods. He currently works as a Technical Production Supervisor at SAN-JFS, S.A., where he coordinates technical teams, implements sustainable agricultural practices, and supports smallholder cotton farmers.



**Anumula Sriniva**  
**Project Coordinator,**  
**WWF India**

Anumula Srinivas is a development professional with over 23 years of experience in the non-profit sector, working with rural and urban communities, particularly farmers and grassroots institutions. Currently a Consultant Project Coordinator with WWF India, his expertise includes sustainable agriculture, agriculture-based livelihoods, capacity building of farmers and Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and documentation such as case studies and reports. He has contributed to advancing sustainable farming practices, strengthening Bio-Input Resource Centres, and supporting inclusive rural development.

Since 2023, he has worked with the Better Cotton Initiative Project through Prajwal Farmers Producer Company Limited (FPCL), supporting 4 Producer Units across 148 villages and more than 15,653 farmers to improve livelihoods, build climate resilience, and promote environmentally responsible, field-driven farming systems.



**Hemant Kumar Thakre**  
**Senior Director of Farm Programmes,**  
**Cotton Connect South Asia**

Hemant Kumar Thakre is a seasoned M.Sc. Agriculture Extension professional with over 24 years of experience in transforming rural livelihoods. He currently serves as the Senior Director (Farm Programme) at Cotton Connect South Asia, where leads the Better Cotton Initiative across Maharashtra and Gujarat. His extensive career includes leadership roles at TechnoServe, WIPRO, Angelique International, and the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation. Hemant's expertise spans global and local scales—from increasing rice productivity in Mozambique to establishing 18 Agro-producer companies in India. Beyond project management, he has a unique background in agricultural communication, having produced 725 television episodes for ETV. These broadcasts provided vital intelligence on crop cultivation, livestock rearing, and market trends to thousands of farmers daily. He is deeply committed to building sustainable, climate-resilient value chains that foster true community independence.



**Amagana Yacoulte**  
**Coordinator,**  
**Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles SA (CMDT)**

Mr. Amagana Yalcouye is an agricultural engineer with over seven years of experience at the Compagnie Malienne pour le Développement des Textiles SA (CMDT-SA). Since 2023, he has served as the Better Cotton Initiative Coordinator and has also been responsible for overseeing Organic Cotton. In this role, he coordinates and supervises projects and programmes across all CMDT-SA intervention areas, including capacity building, support to regional staff, implementation of GIF, and collaboration with partner projects. He also contributes to developing awareness-raising materials for producers and provides support to trainers (focal points). His field experience as a research assistant in entomology and his integration of new technologies into his work, form a strong foundation for his vision of integrated and sustainable development of the cotton sector in Mali.

## Thursday 12 February 2026

### DAY 4: LEARNING FROM DATA AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES

#### 07:00-10:00 GMT | Zoom Events

Objectives:

1. Provide insights into improving Partner performance through learning from data.
2. Explore ways of re-thinking the training cascade model.

Time	Topic	Presenter	Description
07:00 –07:05	Welcome	<b>Munazza Fatima</b> , Capacity Building Coordinator, Pakistan	Housekeeping and Agenda overview
07:05- 07:10	Introducing the Day	<b>Lena Staafgard</b> , Chief Operating Officer	Introducing the Day
07:10 – 07:20	Participant Reflection	<b>Munazza Fatima</b>	Interactive Menti Polls
07:20 – 07:55	Learning from Data – Guidance for Project Design	<b>John Reynolds</b> , MEL Manager	Presentation with RSPN followed by a Question & Answer session

		<p><b>Ghulam Ishaq</b>, Project Manager, Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)</p> <p><b>Hamda Arif</b>, M&amp;E Officer, Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)</p>	
07:55 – 08:05	<i>Event Break</i>		
08:05 – 08:15	Celebrating Success	<b>Munazza Fatima</b>	Programme Partner Innovation videos
08:15 – 08:30	New Opportunities for Capacity Strengthening	<b>Graham Bruford</b> , Global Knowledge Manager	Presentation outlining current capacity strengthening models and initiatives and breakout questions
08:35 – 09:05	Breakout 1	<b>Akshara Abhimanyu</b> , Senior Programmes Coordinator	India English, Hindi
08:35 – 09:05	Breakout 2	<b>Sahar Haq</b> , Social Impact Senior Coordinator	Pakistan, Tajikistan English, Urdu
08:35 – 09:05	Breakout 3	<b>Aboudou Salifou</b> , Programme Coordinator	Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Mali, Mozambique English, French, Portuguese
08:35 – 09:05	Breakout 4	<b>Dila Okkali</b> , Programme Implementation and Capacity Building Specialist, IPUD	Türkiye, Uzbekistan English, Turkish, Uzbek
08:35 – 09:05	Breakout 5	<b>Haven Teng</b> , Programme Coordinator	China English, Mandarin Chinese

09:10 – 09:30	<b>Plenary and Reflections</b>	<b>Graham Bruford</b>	Share back and discuss breakout sessions as a group.
09:30–09:40	<b>Celebrating Success – Field Staff of the Year nominations</b>	<b>Munazza Fatima</b>	Let’s celebrate the Field Staff of the Year nominations
09:40 –09:50	<b>Commitments to Action</b>	<b>Graham Bruford</b>	Reminder of SMART Commitments and invitation to share Commitments for the coming year
09:50 – 10:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Murali Ramisetty</b> , Executive Director, MARI and BCI Council Member	Closing Remarks

## Speakers



**Hamda Arif**  
**M&E Officer,**  
**Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)**

Hamda Arif is an M&E Officer with the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN), overseeing monitoring, reporting, and learning for Better Cotton Initiative Growth & Innovation Fund project being implemented in Dera Ghazi Khan, Pakistan - with a focus on field monitoring systems, data quality assurance, and results analysis. She has over seven years of experience in international development, with a strong background in agricultural value chains, climate resilience, and gender-responsive programming. Hamda has contributed to several country and regional-level evaluations across Asia, Africa, and the Americas, and has supported donor-funded programmes in agriculture, livelihoods, and social protection.



**Ghulam Ishaq**  
**Project Manager,**  
**Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)**

Ghulam Ishaq has been the Project Manager at RSPN since April 2025 for the BCI-GIF-SFF project being implemented in Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab, Pakistan. He has more than 18 years of experience in the agriculture and livestock sector development in Pakistan as employed in various local and international organizations. The focused areas of the work included food security and livelihood in the agri and livestock value chains, rural development, natural resource management, crop protection, farm management/assurance, processing/value-addition, warehouse receipt systems, and trade facilitation through compliance of international standards. The interventions and efforts related to the adoption of climate smart agriculture practices were highly recognized in the near past. He (along with the entire team) aims to employ his learning to build the capacities of farming communities engaged in the BCI project for a comprehensive compliance to P&C, sustainable incomes and environment, and inclusive growth.



**Murali Ramisetty**  
**Executive Director,**  
**Modern Architects for Rural India (MARI)**  
**BCI Council Member**

Murali is a Professional Social worker and has been a practitioner in the development sector for the past 37 years. He made exemplary contribution in the areas of capacity building and motivating farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural production practices, improving access to education for the children from the socially disadvantaged; watershed based community development; improving livelihoods and local eco systems through restoration of tanks; improving health and quality of life through provision of safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities; empowering the urban poor to claim their rights and entitlements and humanitarian response to refugees and asylum seekers.