

YESS: Yarn Ethically & Sustainably Sourced

Q2 Update Webinar

15 June 2021

<http://www.sourcingnetwork.org/yess>



Today's Agenda

2

1. High-level overview of YESS
2. Pilot Update
3. YESS Portal
4. IWG Update
5. Additional Update: STREAMS Project
6. Q & A

High-level Overview of YESS



Patricia Jurewicz
Founder and CEO
Responsible Sourcing
Network

YESS Mission

4

To create an industry-wide due diligence program for yarn spinning mills and textile mills to identify and address cotton produced with forced labor in their supply chains.



YESS Due Diligence and Management Systems

5

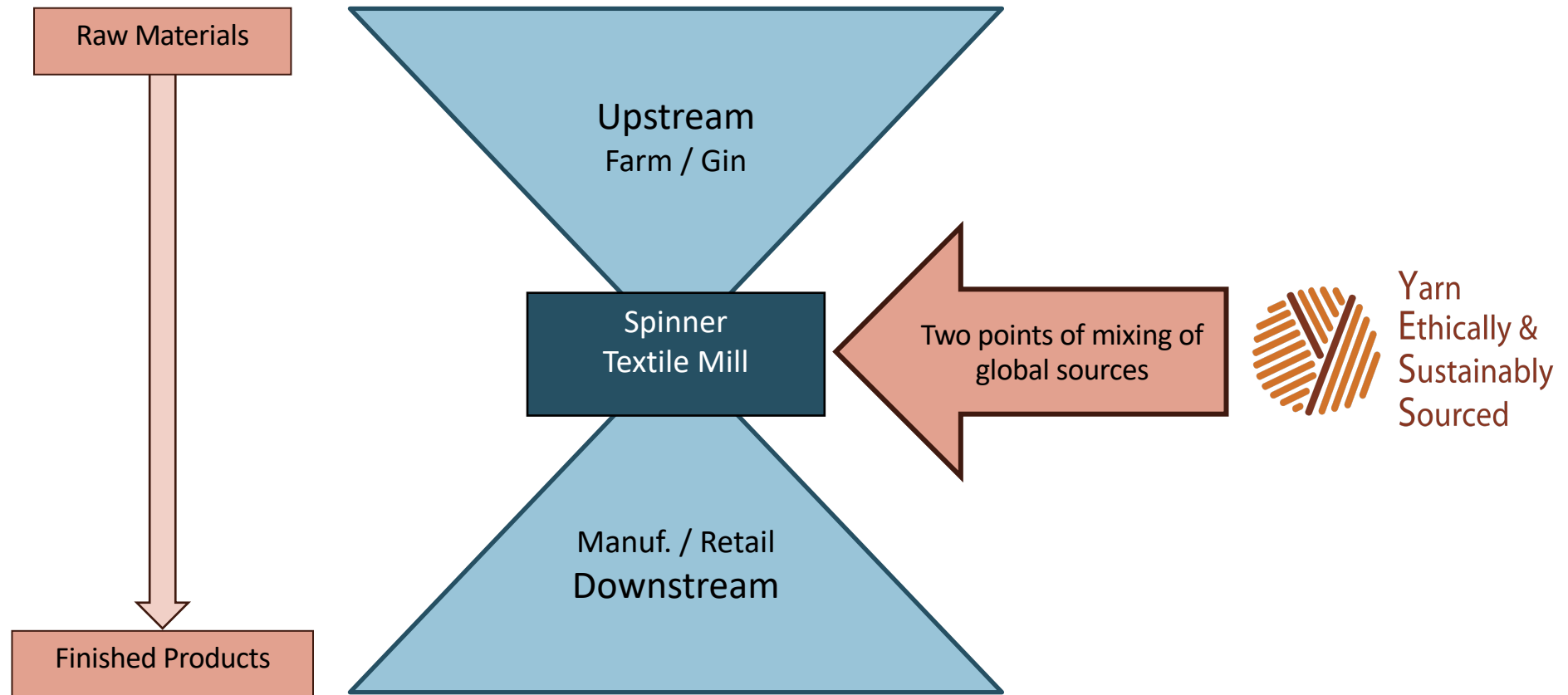
OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector

Embed responsible business conduct in policy and management system	Identify potential and actual harm in supply chains	Cease, prevent, or mitigate harm in supply chains	Track performance	Communicate activities and progress	Provide for or cooperate in remediation when appropriate
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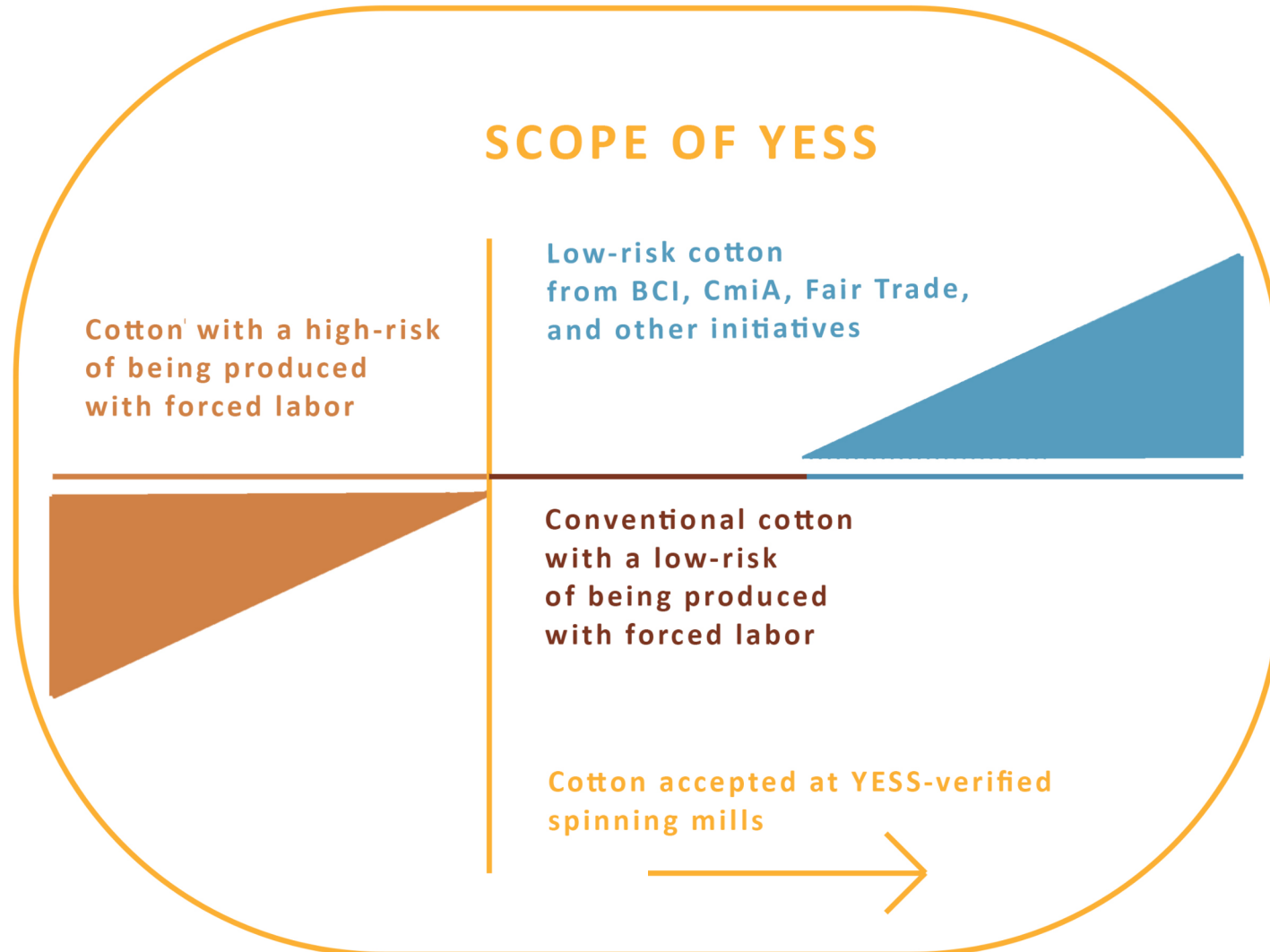


YESS Focuses on Supply Chain Control Points

6



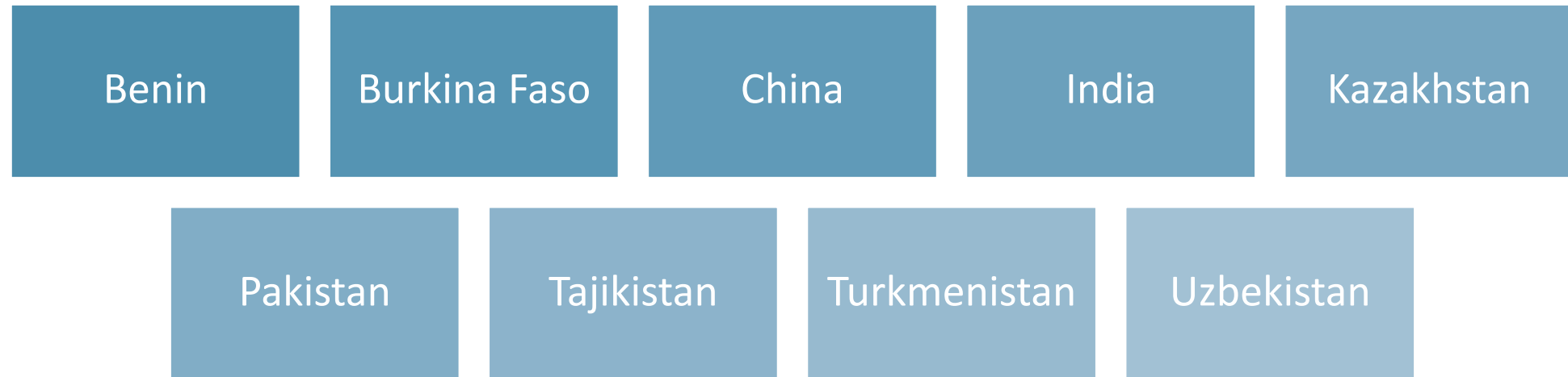
YESS As A Gatekeeper



RSN Identified High-Risk Countries

8

High-risk countries have significant evidence of forced labor in their cotton production*



It is the mill's responsibility to identify high-risk origins. YESS's indicative and non-exhaustive list should be considered.

* Sources: Cotton Campaign, Environmental Justice Foundation, ILO Country Reports/Observations/Application of Standards, International Organization for Migration, International Research on Working Children, U.S. DOL List of Goods, Uzbek German Forum, Verité Country Atlas, World Action Vision, and various media companies.

sourcingnetwork.org/yess-methodology

YESS Scope

9

What YESS Does

- Provide capacity building and support to implement a risk-based due diligence approach
- Focus on management systems and material control systems
- Apply a production loss calculation of all cotton inputs within the facility
- Annually assess if spinners and mills are conformant with the YESS Standard

What YESS Does Not Do

- Look at all human rights issues in cotton fields
- Identify and address labor conditions inside a cotton processing facility (ginning, spinning, weaving, or knitting)
- Create a check-the-box audit or a code of conduct
- Certify product or facility

YESS 2021 Q2 Participation

10

Participant Statistics

5 Pilot
Sponsors

9 Pilot
Facilities

2 Audit
Firms in
Training

16
Ambassador
Sponsors

100+
Training
Attendees

YESS Pilot Project Update



Liz Muller
Principal
liz muller & partners
Due Diligence Consultant

Pilot Update: Live Webinar Trainings

12

- ❑ 10 webinars – 5 for spinners, 5 for textile mills – will be completed by June 24th
 - ❑ Average of 96 attendees per module
- ❑ Webinar recording, slides, and link to knowledge quizzes posted in the [YESS Portal](#)
- ❑ Resources (checklists, templates, etc.) only being shared with the Pilot Team at this point
 - ❑ ~25 resources per facility type to develop a step-by-step approach

Pilot Update: Pilot Facilities

13

9 facilities in 4 countries

2 facilities located in a determined “high-risk” country of origin

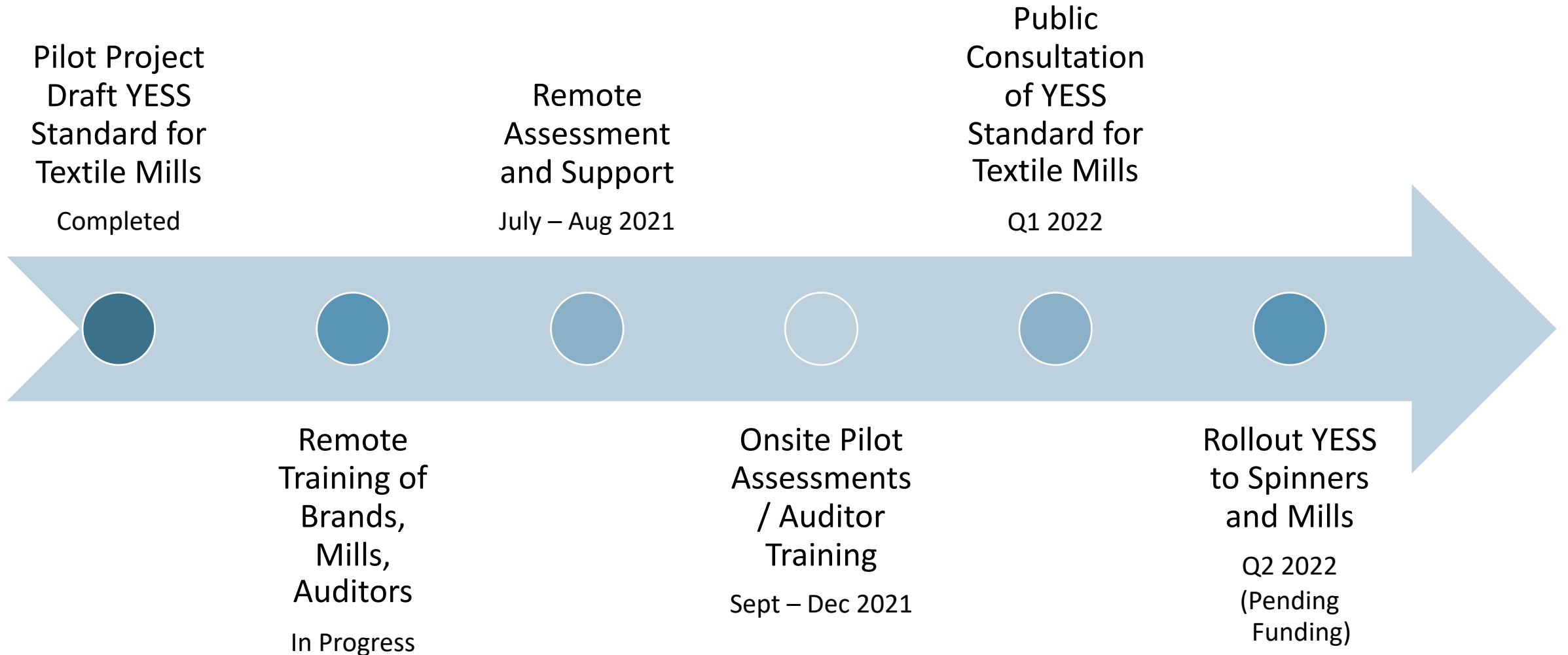
2 facilities located in countries that import cotton

One home textile facility, others are apparel manufacturers

3 spinners, 6 textile mills, 8 part of vertical facilities, 2 process recycled inputs

Pilot Update: Timeline

14



YESS Portal



Jamie Fortin
Senior Program Associate
Responsible Sourcing
Network

YESS Portal

16

- ❑ Available to YESS Sponsors, their Suppliers, Facility Pilot Participants, and Auditors-in-training
- ❑ Ambassador sponsorship is still available, email info@sourcingnetwork.org
- ❑ YESS Portal:
<https://www.sourcingnetwork.org/yess-portal>
- ❑ YESS Portal Registration Link:
<https://www.sourcingnetwork.org/yess-portal-register>



YESS Participation Portal

All materials accessed through the YESS portal are available to registered YESS supporters only. By accessing this site, you have agreed to not distribute any YESS material beyond your own company.

Welcome to the YESS Portal! Here you will find the pilot webinar recordings and slide decks to support spinners and textile mills during the YESS Pilot Project. Content will be posted as trainings occur.

Changes will be made to the YESS Standards, tools, resources, and webinars as we go through the remote and onsite pilots. Since all of the Resources that have been developed for the YESS Pilot Project are in draft form, they are not available to non-pilot stakeholders. Any of the materials on the YESS Portal can be shared within your own organization, but please do not share them with outside parties.

Also located in the YESS Portal is information to support the YESS Implementation Working Group, which will be posted as it is developed.

SPINNERS

TEXTILE MILLS

RESOURCES

IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUP

YESS Portal: Register

17



YESS Portal Registration

All materials accessed through the YESS portal are available to registered YESS supporters only. By registering for this site, you agree to not distribute any YESS material beyond your own company.

The YESS Portal is only accessible to retailers, brands, textile mills, spinners, and auditors that are sponsoring or participating in the YESS Pilot Project. If your company is currently sponsoring or participating in YESS, create an account and we will review and approve your registration as soon as possible. If your company is interested in sponsoring YESS, please contact info@sourcingnetwork.org.



Important: Please ensure that facilities fill in the name of the brand that shared the link in the “Referred by” box. Only facilities referred by a YESS Sponsor will be approved for access.

A screenshot of the registration form. It includes a checkbox for "Other", a "Location (Country)" dropdown menu, a "Referred by:" field with a red border and a placeholder "Name of company that referred you.", a "Continue →" button, a "Log in" link, and a "Powered by MemberSpace" logo.

YESS Portal Registration Link: <https://www.sourcingnetwork.org/yess-portal-register>

YESS Implementation Working Group



Patricia Jurewicz
Founder and CEO
Responsible Sourcing
Network

Implementation Working Group (IWG): Goals

19

Design an industry-wide program to empower and ensure spinners and mills eliminate cotton produced with forced labor from their value chains.

Build support from stakeholders to achieve a harmonized approach to spinner engagement, assessment, and verification.

Create a due diligence system that is sustainable, scalable, and efficient.

IWG: Subgroups

20

Low-risk Forced Labor Determination / Farm-level Initiatives

- “Low-risk” determination in a “high-risk” country
- Development of methodology for “low-risk” cotton production rating

Scaling Facility Assessments / Approved Auditors

- Management and expansion of approved auditors
- Driving consistent and high-quality assessments

Continuous Improvement Expectations and Continuum

- Training (remote and in-person), risk-readiness screen, on-boarding, tools and resources, technical advice, on-site assessments

Governance / MSI Collaboration / Financial Sustainability

- Leadership, coordination, efficiencies, transparency
- Revenue structure, foundational support, scaling

Technology / Data / Infrastructure

- Data back-end, data access, e-learning, coordination with tech tools / production management

Space is limited. Please email info@sourcingnetwork.org if a representative from your sponsoring brand would like to join.

YESS IWG: Facilitator

21



David Uricoli
Principal
Uricoli Consulting

Timeline of the YESS Implementation Working Group (IWG)

22

June - July
15, 2021

- Project Plan Distribution
- IWG participants confirmed
- 1st meeting planned

July 15 -
August 31,
2021

- Sub-groups begin
- Program feedback
- First Survey starts

September –
October 31,
2021

- First Survey results
- 1st program recommendations
- Progress Report
- Second Survey starts

November
2021

- Final Sub-group meetings
- Work Product Review
- Second survey results

December 7,
2021

- Final IWG Group Call
- Final Program Recommendations

Additional Update: STREAMS Project

23



Led by Verité
Focus: India



Over next 4 years



Funded by DOL/ILAB
Cooperative agreement
IL-35805-20-75-K



Other Participants:

- BCI
- Phylagen
- Sourcemap
- RCS Global

Questions?

24

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