

Editorial

As the global pandemic of COVID-19 rages on, the progress made in the last several years on the socio-economic fronts in various countries has been reversed. Several industries are still suffering from the setback brought in by the pandemic including the textiles sector, more particularly the Cotton sector. The present issue of *Development Cooperation Review (DCR)* presents a special coverage on Cotton-4 countries, which include Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, and also tries to capture the impact of the pandemic on the global cotton industry.

In the paper titled "The trajectory of Brazilian South-South Cooperation on cotton in Africa", the authors *Daniel Martins Silva and Álvaro Moreira* analyse the trajectory of Brazil's cotton projects in Africa. The authors discuss how the implementation of the first cotton project established the basis for subsequent ones. Brazil's cotton projects showcase its emergence as an agricultural economic power.

In the next paper, "The Linkage between International Trade and International Cooperation for Development in the Foreign Policy context: The Cotton-4 project (2009-2013)", the author *Adriana Mesquita Corrêa Bueno* discusses Brazil's performance in the WTO's cotton dispute from 2002 to 2014. It also analyses the Brazilian ICD for strengthening of the Cotton sector in the Cotton-4 countries and examines its possibilities and impacts.

The Report on the ICAC Special Issue, "Potential Impacts of COVID-19 on the Cotton Sector" by *Aditi Gupta* captures the impact of COVID-19 on both the global cotton sector and the domestic sectors of various countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It discusses the impact on domestic and international demand for cotton textiles, its consumption, international cotton prices and supply chain. It also enumerates the steps taken by national governments to safeguard their cotton industry.

The review of the book titled "Organic Cotton: Is it a Sustainable Solution?" by *Akshay Singh* discusses different aspects of organic cotton relative to white cotton. It also discusses the environmental impacts of white cotton as well as organic cotton farming. The review highlights the need for making organic cotton farming economically sustainable for both producers and consumers. The second book review of "The Cotton Industry and Trade" by *Shriya Singh* presents an analysis of the Cotton Industry's evolution in Europe, particularly in Spain, Egypt, Britain, Germany, France and Russia. The book discusses the problems arising

out of industrialization and commercialization, the initial industrial and technical advancements in the industry and the impact of trade in cotton on the global market.

In the Spotlight section, the article titled “India-Senegal: People-to-People Connections through the Ages” by *Renu Modi* throws light on the common traditions and culture shared by India and Senegal. The author discusses various common political values between the two democracies and several academic exchanges between them that have taken place over the years. The section on SSC in Statistics by *Sushil Kumar* analyses the cotton production in Cotton-4 countries, the export of cotton by C4 countries and the estimated assistance provided by governments to the cotton sector.

The present issue of DCR, in its new format, touches upon many of these prime concerns. Your contributions in the form of full-length research articles, commentaries, comments and reports from the ground would enrich the forthcoming issues in a meaningful way.