RECOMMENDATION LETTER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE FOR FAIRER TRADE (IRFT) {28 FEBRUARY 2014}

To Whom It May Concern:

IRFT enjoys a long and successful relationship with the Better Cotton Initiative since 2010. IRFT partnered with the Fair Labour Association in conducting a Train-the-Trainers program for BCI’s Implementing Partners in India and Pakistan, and the Verifiers Training Program for three consecutive years. With its unique approach of ‘learning by doing’ and interactive fun learning sessions, IRFT has received continuous appreciation from the participants of these training workshops. Moreover, IRFT has also been a part of BCI verification since the beginning of the project in India and has conducted many third party verifications by a qualified Verifier IRFT Team.

After a competitive tender process, the IRFT have now become (since October 2013) the Global Training Partner for the BCI.

A key objective of this partnership is to increase the capacity and credibility of BCI’s Partners to maximise effective change at farm level. To fulfill this goal, IRFT has developed a quality training program that can be implemented consistently across countries. IRFT will implement this program in English speaking countries, and has committed to building local training capacity in 5 non-English speaking countries by selecting National Trainers and preparing them to replicate the program in conjunction with BCI Country Managers. This approach will ensure that cascade training conducted by Partners and facilitators delivers a common and accurate message to farmers.

Since the start of the collaboration, IRFT has demonstrated an outstanding performance in terms of training development and delivery. They have excellent participatory training expertise, outstanding communication skills and a passion and commitment that I have rarely seen before.

I think very highly of IRFT and would recommend their team without any reservation as they would certainly be a valuable asset to any organisation lucky enough to have them on board.

Yours sincerely,

Nicolas Petit
Director of Standards and Assurance
Better Cotton Initiative