



MALAWI GOVERNMENT

INTEGRATED COTTON DEVELOPMENT

All lakeshore and lower Shire districts are well suited to growing cotton. The cotton industry has produced steady returns in Malawi since colonial days. More importantly, the industry has an upward growth trajectory both in Malawi and globally. Cotton processing and textiles in general are labour intensive and therefore costs have always been reasonable for factories that are set up in Malawi due to its competitive labour rates. Cotton also has potential for backward and forward linkages in the production seed oil; animal feed and many other sectors.

You could consider large-scale commercial cotton farming as your entry point. To realise decent profits however, you definitely must invest in setting up ginning, yarn and textile factories. We also recommend setting up facilities to support cotton growing including seed production, chemical and fumigants, sprays, and many more. We strongly recommend the linkages with other industries including cotton seed oil; animal feed etc. Your textile products will be exported to the USA under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Due to the definite access to the US market and the low production costs in Malawi, you should seriously consider investing the cotton industry if you have expertise in the sector or can manage to put together a team of experts to tap into the industry.

