

# Pick your **cotton** carefully!

**A one day conference on the ethics and practicalities of the cotton industry**

**Saturday 25th October 2008**

at Southampton Solent University Conference Centre  
10am–4pm

**Speakers**

**Organic  
cotton  
fair**

**Films &  
displays**

**Discussion**



**Further details and registration forms from  
[cotton-conf@fair-trade-southampton.org.uk](mailto:cotton-conf@fair-trade-southampton.org.uk)**

**Entry: £3**

**[www.fair-trade-southampton.org.uk](http://www.fair-trade-southampton.org.uk)**

Organised by the Southampton Fair Trade Group, supported by:

The **co-operative**  
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 **SSF**



**Cotton** has been used to make textiles for over 5,000 years and it still provides nearly half of all fibre needs worldwide. It fuelled the industrial revolution in this country and “put the USA on the map”. We all wear it, daily, but how much do we know about this plant and its importance to our history and our future? There is growing awareness of the environmental challenges it poses (cotton uses a quarter of the world’s insecticides), and of the cotton garment industry adopting some of the most unethical trade practices on the planet. We may struggle to take a stand, but are bewildered by the profusion of labels making “eco”, “green”, “ethical” and “fair trade” claims for textiles.

The Conference will be held in the **Southampton Solent University Conference Centre**, 157-187 Above Bar St., Southampton, SO14 7NN in the heart of the city, within easy walking distance of the Central Station and Bus Terminus.

#### **Speakers include:**

- ◆ **Damien Sanfilippo**, Cotton Project Coordinator, Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN).
- ◆ **Jenny Ricks**, Corporates Campaigner of ActionAid UK, speaking on ActionAid’s “Who Pays?” supermarkets campaign, with particular focus on cotton garment manufacture.
- ◆ **Monica Philbrick**, of Traidcraft suppliers’ support team.
- ◆ **Christine Gent**, IFAT - the International Fair Trade Association

#### **Cotton Fair includes:**

- ◆ Display and sale of organic fairly-traded garments and ethical Fashion and Fibre displays with the co-operation of regional University Textile and Fashion Departments.
- ◆ Displays illustrating the history of the cotton industry and working displays of spinning and hand-loom weaving.

A number of **short films** will be shown such as Pesticide Action Network’s “Moral Fibre: Organic Cotton”.