

20 September 2020

Dear Shared Value Project,

RE: Letter of support for Business for Development's application to the Shared Value Projects' Collaboration Award.

Base Titanium has been working with Business for Development (B4D) since 2013 on our livelihoods and economic empowerment program. The program focuses on agriculture because majority of our community members are smallholder farmers. While there are many organisations that can improve agronomic practices of farmers, there are not many who can actually link those farmers to strong external markets. Thanks to working with B4D, we have been able to collaborate with Cotton On Group.

This market connection has been key to building farmer confidence. Farmers now know that if they produce quality cotton to the market specifications, they will be paid on time and at a good market rate. As a result, we are enabling the farmer to have better choices, and to achieve better outcomes, that is a win for Base Titanium and the community.

Our long-term business results are dependent on building relationships with the communities in which we operate and establishing a balanced flow of mutual benefits. Commercial areas this program has supported include Social Licence to Operate through an inclusive business environment; providing locals employment opportunities that are non-mine reliant; and developing strong relations with the local government.

Through this collaboration each party has been able to achieve shared value, but the most important stakeholders are the farmers and the positive impact the program has had on their lives. As this program expands across Kenya, more farmers will grow in confidence and more will live better livelihoods thanks to this collaboration.

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Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Colin Forbes

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