



# Keeping Pace with Trade Developments

**The project aims to enable LDC and Smaller Developing Country WTO delegates to better take advantage of international trade for their development. Specifically, it helps them take advantage of regular work at the WTO for their participation in trade, be better informed participants in WTO negotiations including new issues, and keep pace with developments at the plurilateral level.**

## Why this project?

While the WTO negotiating function is hobbled, technological, geopolitical and other changes push major trading nations to re-think trade policy and pursue new rule-making through other avenues. As a case in point, many members now launched exploratory plurilateral initiatives on issues such as e-commerce, investment facilitation, trade and gender, and MSMEs. Yet, many LDCs and smaller developing countries still grapple with the implications of new trade debates, and need assistance to keep pace with them. Even more importantly, better participating in WTO regular committees could help them leverage the multilateral trading system to advance their trade interests. Similarly, they must remain engaged in the on-going negotiations, e.g. on fisheries subsidies etc.

## How we support

Through this project, CUTS offers support to Geneva-based delegates in the form of on-demand analysis, studies and papers, as well as seminars on issues relevant to WTO regular work, negotiations including discussion on new issues, as well as ongoing plurilateral initiatives. It also facilitates regular forums for delegates from the same region, who are provided with updates from their countries in addition to CUTS' technical analysis.

## Objective

LDC and Smaller Developing WTO Members take better advantage of international trade for their development.

## Key Features

### Beneficiaries

Least and Smaller Developing WTO Members

### Topics

WTO Regular Work • WTO negotiations • Plurilaterals etc.

### Activities

On-demand Analysis • Studies • Papers • Seminars • Negotiators' Forums • Country Updates

### Timeframe

January – December 2018

## Funding Support



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden