Why PACT EAC2?

THE SITUATION

The still infant agro-processing industry in East Africa has been earmarked as having huge potential for poverty reduction, growth and regional integration. The region’s success in realising this potential will partly depend on its ability to factor in the ever-increasing challenges posed by climate change, and work in synergy with its own trade agenda.

In an ideal scenario, trade policies should ensure the availability of inputs despite climate change, markets for the processed products and access to cleaner technologies; while climate change policies support this effort through targeted adaptation and mitigation initiatives. The role of international trade and climate negotiations in framing the policy space for such policies should not be overlooked.

WHAT WE AIM FOR

The PACT EAC2 project, led by CUTS International Geneva in collaboration with CUTS ARC Nairobi, aims to build the capacity of individuals, networks and institutions to identify and promote appropriate policies for climate-aware, trade-oriented, food security-enhancing agro-value-addition in the EAC region. In this context, it more specifically aims to improve:

- Stakeholders’ knowledge and capacity to identify better policy options, make recommendations, and advocate for holistic policies on agro-value-addition vis-à-vis climate change, food security and trade realities
- Negotiators’ capacities for coherent participation in the WTO and UNFCCC on issues related to agro-value-addition
- Stakeholders’ communication and coordination across national, regional and multilateral levels for holistic approaches to agro-value-addition development.
**Research and Analysis**

Research studies by teams of national experts will analyse the interplay of agro-processing with climate change, trade and food security in each EAC country. Shorter briefing papers will help raise awareness about the key lessons and policy recommendations, which will later inform targeted trainings and advocacy.

**Events and Networking**

Five national multi-stakeholder networks (NRGs) will be the drivers and primary beneficiaries of country-level activities, thereby anchoring the project to the ground realities. Through regular collaboration and meetings, members drawn from the government, private sector, local communities, civil society, academia, and media will tie stronger relationships not only among themselves but also with their trade and climate negotiators whom they will meet regularly; including by visiting Geneva once a year.

**Advocacy and Awareness**

National campaigns will move key stakeholders into advocacy action, towards implementing the project’s key policy recommendations and persuade about the need for coherent policies. Key messages will make their way to the wider public through the media.

**Trainings**

Training workshops, tailored and delivered to specific key players, will build their technical capacity to develop lasting policy solutions for climate-aware, trade-driven, food security-enhancing agro-processing development. Their training needs will be assessed before tailored training materials are developed by experts.

**EAC Geneva Forum**

In Geneva, bi-monthly forums of East African trade negotiators will support their informed and concerted participation on issues of their interest in World Trade Organization (WTO) debates. Besides Cuts’ technical analysis and on-demand papers, negotiators will benefit from country updates providing a snapshot of the current ground realities of the issue, as reported by the end users.

**EAC Climate Change Forum**

A similar forum facility will be established for regular online meetings of East African climate change negotiators. Each meeting will be serviced by a technical paper and country updates. CUTS remaining available for on-demand papers. Once a year, climate negotiators will meet with trade delegates of the EAC Geneva Forum for a Trade and Climate Change Coordination Forum.

**STAY UPDATED!**

Subscribe to the link below to receive the project's studies, papers, activity updates etc.

[www.cuts-geneva.org/subscribe](http://www.cuts-geneva.org/subscribe)

**JOIN THE DEBATE!**

Make a difference towards climate-aware, trade-driven, food security-enhancing agro-processing development in East Africa. Network, share, discuss and take action with like-minded people and organisations on our online platform at:

[www.cuts-geneva.org/pacteac2](http://www.cuts-geneva.org/pacteac2)

**CARBON ZERO PROJECT**

The PACT EAC2 Project compensates its carbon emissions. By doing so, it also funds projects that contribute to improving poor families' access to cheap, energy efficient cook stoves in East Africa. For instance, the “Aberdares Improved Cook Stoves Project” seeks to reduce carbon emissions and improve the lives of households in Aberdare Range, Kenya.

**ABOUT CUTS INTERNATIONAL, GENEVA**

CUTS International, Geneva is a pro-trade, pro-equity southern NGO voice active in the policy making circles on trade, development and other related issues in Geneva. It aims to contribute to the achievement of development and poverty reduction through trade in its economic, environmental, social and political dimensions.