A Momentum for a Pro-development and Sustainable Agro-Industry in East Africa

September 17-18, 2018 | Silver Springs Hotel, Kampala, Uganda

This regional meeting will review ongoing and upcoming national and regional policy efforts geared towards making agro-processing more climate-aware, trade-driven and food security enhancing in East Africa. Three years into the PACT EAC2 project, stakeholders in all the five countries are engaging policy makers through advocacy campaigns, at both national and regional levels. Besides sharing some efforts and early success in terms of holistic policy revision and implementation, regional stakeholders will be briefed on the status of current multilateral trade and climate negotiations, and will be invited to undertake a scenario-planning exercise to discuss ins and outs of a 2030 sustainable agro-industry for the region.

BACKGROUND

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.

In this context, the project "Promoting Agriculture, Climate and Trade linkages in the EAC - phase 2" (PACT EAC2) builds capacities of East Africans for climate-aware, trade-driven and food security-enhancing agro-processing in their region. Until 2019, the project will bring together, inform, train and move to advocacy action hundreds of stakeholders from the government, businesses, civil society, media, academia and farming communities. More details are available at http://www.cuts-geneva.org/pacteac2.

WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT?

- Learn about ongoing policy efforts geared towards making agro-processing more climate-aware, trade-driven and food security enhancing in East Africa.
- Know about the next EAC Private Sector Development Strategy review.
- Be briefed on the state of play and opportunities concerning agriculture at the WTO and UNFCCC.
- Sharing good practices with other experts from EAC, regional and international organisations, as well as trade and climate change negotiators.
- Ask what is next for the PACT EAC 2 project?

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