

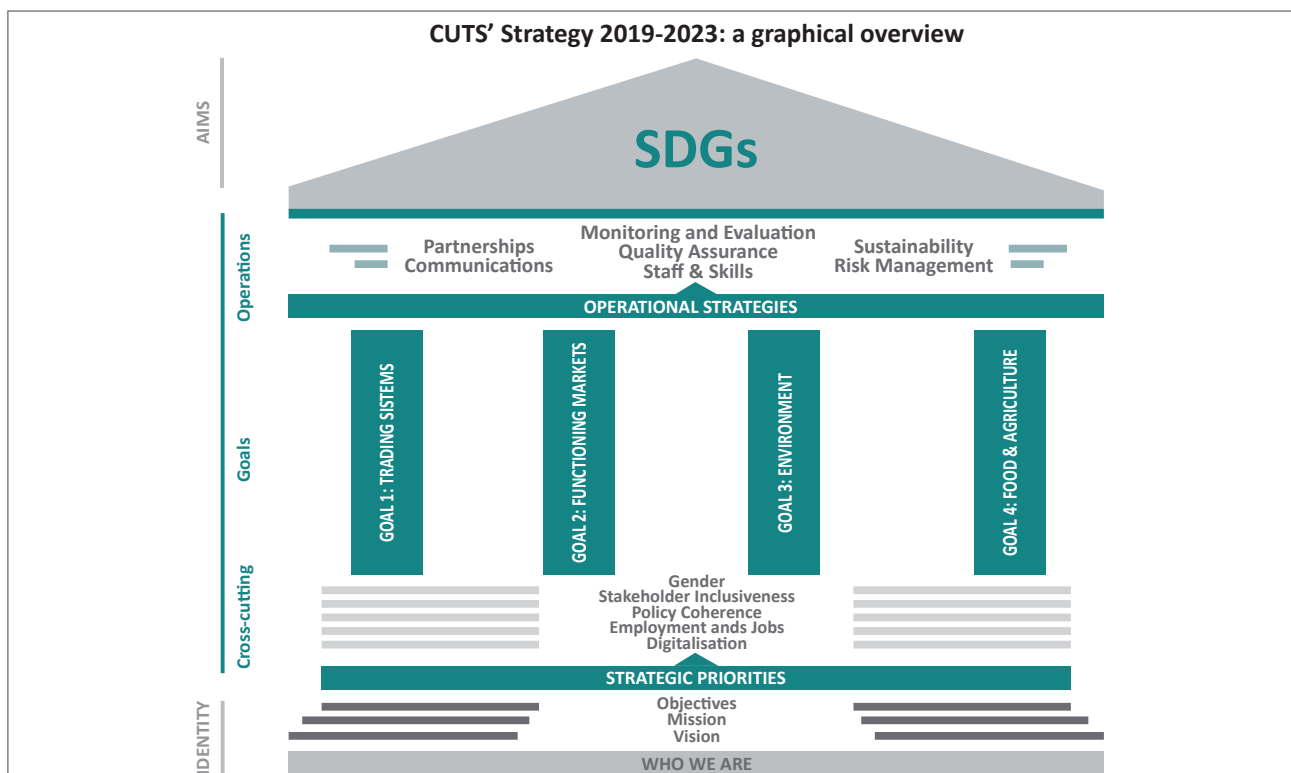


## Trade-Climate-Agriculture linkages: towards more coherence and inclusiveness

### CUTS International, Geneva in a nutshell

CUTS International, Geneva – as part of the Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) family of organisations – works for multi-stakeholder capacity building of developing and least developed countries on the sets of issues related to policies, rules and practices at the national, regional and international levels that are linked to climate change and environment, trade and regional integration, agriculture and food security, and competition and consumer protection, among others.

### CUTS’ priority areas of work: in support of a holistic implementation of NDCs



We live in times of great promise and unprecedented opportunities. These are also times of unparalleled changes and challenges. CUTS Geneva's overall goals are derived from these with a view to contributing – within its competence and capacity – to the march of humanity towards a better world for all.

Progress and development should not come at the cost of environment. We have only one home: earth. Its resources are finite. Humanity and nature have to be in harmony for happy, healthy and prosperous living conditions. Not only for our generation, but also for all the generations to come. The Fourth Industrial Revolution, therefore, should employ our spectacular technological advances to reverse the process of environmental degradation. CUTS Geneva's work aims at contributing to addressing the environmental imperative. ***That includes supporting developing and least developed countries in effectively implementing the Paris Agreement and their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).***

Agriculture remains a key sector for both developed and developing countries due to its contribution to economic, social and environmental objectives: hence it is an important part of the NDCs of many developing and least developed countries, in addition to being formally negotiated at the UNFCCC under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA).

CUTS Geneva's work under this goal is guided by a holistic perspective on agriculture and food that aims at building and maintaining sustainable agricultural systems to ensure food security and climate resilience. With a focus on the needs of developing and least-developed countries at the national, regional and international levels, CUTS' work addresses agricultural trade rules; linkages between agriculture, climate change, food security, and agro-industrialisation; and sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

## KORONIVIA JOINT WORK ON AGRICULTURE

Adopted at the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), decision 4/CP.23 on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to jointly address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

## THE UNIQUE APPROACH OF PACT EAC2

Funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), this four-year long second phase of the project "Promoting Agriculture, Climate and Trade Linkages in the EAC" (PACT EAC2) builds the capacities of East African stakeholders for climate-aware, trade-driven and food security-enhancing agro-processing development 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.



### PACT EAC2

Promoting Agriculture, Climate and Trade Linkages in the East African Community

## CUTS' activities: supporting developing and least developed countries in the area of agriculture-climate linkages

### Negotiators Forum

By using CUTS' analysis, grassroots contacts and regular forums, developing country climate negotiators are better able to advance their interests. For instance, under the PACT EAC2 project, CUTS Geneva has been convening, both online and offline, a forum of East African climate negotiators to facilitate the exchange of experiences and views about global climate talks, including their own participation at the UNFCCC. Negotiators can benefit from country updates offering a snapshot of current realities reported by people on the ground, and are provided with technical papers to support their discussions. While facilitating this forum, CUTS makes sure that participants have the ownership to decide which topics they want to discuss, to identify their needs for further research and analysis, and to outline their own course of action. CUTS also organises annual forums of WTO and UNFCCC negotiators from the EAC region to improve and increase interaction and information exchange between the two fora.

*"I benefit to know the linkage between trade negotiations and climate change negotiations"*



*Renilde Ndayishimiye*

UNFCCC Focal Point and Director-General,  
Geographic Institute of Burundi (IGEBU)

### KJWA Submission Development Workshops

Through the organization of UNFCCC submission development workshops at national or regional level, CUTS is assisting developing country stakeholders to better deal with climate change through informed participation in the UNFCCC negotiations. It also supports developing countries in improving inclusiveness in the formulation and implementation of climate change, environment, agriculture and other related policies in the longer run. In fact, at the request of its EAC partners, CUTS has been supporting the organization of submission development workshops on agriculture to bring in agro-processing, food security and trade related issues under the KJWA. In March 2018, CUTS successfully supported the East African Community Secretariat and Partner States in developing an EAC regional submission to the UNFCCC on elements to be included in the joint work. CUTS facilitated a three-day climate negotiators' workshop during which the submission was discussed, developed and approved in advance of the May 2018 Bonn Climate Change Conference. The EAC regional submission proposes a roadmap for the implementation of the KJWA and identifies negative impacts of climate change on agriculture, while stressing its importance for "enhancing food security, providing raw materials for local agro-processors and exports". This roadmap was used as a strong support document when drafting the text on the KJWA during the 48th session of the subsidiary bodies.

A similar workshop was facilitated in Burundi upon a request from the Government, and culminated in the development of Burundi's submission to the UNFCCC on the KJWA.

Both submissions take into account policy coherence across climate change, trade, food security and agro-processing. They also build on the active participation of East African negotiators in the lead-up to the adoption of the ground-breaking decision on the KJWA.

### Multi-stakeholders Training Workshops

On the specific issues of agriculture and climate change, and upon request from EAC climate negotiators and policy makers, CUTS has also organized capacity-building workshops in the last couple of years. Those training workshops, planned in partnership with the Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (Trapca), a regional organization located in Arusha, Tanzania, focused on climate change, with a particular emphasis on relevant trade and agriculture aspects in UNFCCC negotiations.

The first training workshop, held in Kigali, Rwanda in September 2017, was designed for officials from the Environment, Agriculture and Trade Ministries, as well as farmers and agro-processors. Participants gained a better understanding of, and built their technical capacity on, agriculture issues in climate and trade negotiations thanks to presentations on the current status of negotiations and policies, the provision of guidelines for stakeholder engagement, and the detailed analysis of key concepts throughout the workshop. Contestations and preferred future positions for the EAC were also discussed. A similar training workshop was later requested by Tanzanian climate negotiators and officials from the Environment and Agriculture Ministries. The workshop, which took place in Dar Es Salaam in August 2018, focused on recent developments in agriculture negotiations within the UNFCCC, especially the KJWA.

### Policy Advocacy Campaigns

CUTS is working both online and offline through networking activities, publication of action alerts and briefing papers, etc. to support more inclusive policy-making processes in developing countries to break

*"Missing links with cross-cutting issues of climate change, food security and trade raise the need to review the SIDP"*

*Obadia Nyagilo*

Industrial Development Director, Ministry of  
Industry, Trade and Investment, Tanzania



policy “silos”. The organization inspired several national policies to draw synergies across trade, climate change, food security and agro-processing issues. These include Uganda’s Climate Change Policy, Kenya’s Environment and Trade Policies, Uganda’s Trade Sector Development Plan, and Rwanda’s Trade Policy Forum. Moreover, CUTS enabled more stakeholders to participate in a number of policy-making and implementation processes across Western, Southern and Eastern Africa as well as South and Southeast Asia, where it established national and regional networks.

***CUTS is willing to use its policy advocacy experience and replicate such successes to ensure an inclusive and holistic NDC revision process, as well as a sustainable and coherent implementation of the Paris Agreement at national level in developing countries and LDCs.***

## How can countries access and benefit from CUTS Geneva’s support?

Supporting developing and least-developed country stakeholders’ empowerment, and promoting their engagement in relevant policy-making processes and negotiations to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is a key objective for CUTS. The organization provides room for on-demand activities under all its projects, either in the form of research, training or any other type of activity that is doable and relevant. This flexibility has ensured CUTS’ relevance and effectiveness over the years, despite budgetary constraints. Depending on financial and human resources, CUTS Geneva is willing to partner with relevant funders, governments, training organizations, civil society actors, and regional and international organizations to further its support towards holistic policies and strategies in developing and least developed countries, including for the implementation of their NDCs.

If you are interested to receive support and/or partner with CUTS Geneva, kindly see the contacts below.

### KEY RESOURCES

- ▶ CUTS International Geneva.  
<http://cuts-geneva.org>
- ▶ Promoting Agriculture, Climate and Trade Linkages in the East African Community (PACT EAC2).  
<https://goo.gl/a7jVai>
- ▶ Pre-SBSTA/SBI48 Strategy Meeting on Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture: EAC Climate Change Negotiators’ Workshop.  
<https://goo.gl/yUHShR>
- ▶ Burundi Climate Workshop: Developing a UNFCCC Submission on Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.  
<https://goo.gl/hBV4Vq>
- ▶ Advancing EAC Interests in Climate Change Negotiations: Linkages with Agriculture and Trade.  
<https://goo.gl/1oCM8Y>
- ▶ Tanzania Training Workshop: Climate and Agriculture.  
<https://goo.gl/6sC1fN>

### CONTACTS

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