



ANNUAL REPORT

2021–2022

THEY HAVE BEEN TRUSTING US: OUR DONORS



THEY HAVE BEEN TRUSTING US: OUR BENEFICIARIES

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

"The trade negotiators' fora were enriching as they gave us an opportunity to share our experiences on the respective topics and discuss some of the challenges we face." Mr. Dennis Muhambe, Mission of Kenya in Geneva

"I am better able to consider development-enhancing negotiating options on the subjects covered by the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce" Mr. Mobio Marc Loba, Mission Permanente de Côte d'Ivoire à Genève.

"It was a pleasure working with you all and I look forward to collaborating with you again in the near future." Ms. Zainab Chaumum, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mauritius

"The findings of this research study will provide us a clearer picture of the implications of the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce for Senegal" Mr. Boubacar Mbodj, Director of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade and Small and Medium Enterprises, Senegal

"The course is extremely useful for negotiators involved in e-commerce discussions at the WTO as well as for policymakers and advisors." Mr. Edouard Bizumuremyi, Commercial Councillor, Permanent Mission of Rwanda

ASIA

"These studies have beneficial impacts for Lao PDR, especially for evaluating its available regulations and which should be reformed and developed" Mr. Kiengkhammanh Khottavong, Deputy Director-General, Department of Foreign Trade Policy, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR

"Comprehensive and customized to the need of individual developing countries, such as Viet Nam" Mr. Van Phuong Hoang, Mission of Viet Nam in Geneva

"Very informative and precise" Majid Mohsin Panhwar, Permanent mission of Pakistan to WTO

"This is really supportive and we are happy to see the continuous supports." Nyi Nyi Aung, Director, Department of Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar

"Thank you for conducting this study on the very important and relevant issue of e-commerce. We look forward to working with you in the future." Mr. Amrit Lamsal, Under Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Nepal

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (MENA)

"We highly appreciate the support we receive from CUTS as it helps in better understanding a lot of negotiation issues at WTO" Mr. Mohamed Abouyoussef, Mission of Egypt in Geneva

"Useful and realistic: provides the current status and direct recommendations on the particular subjects." Mohammad Ghanem, Permanent Mission of Jordan to the UN and other IGOs in Geneva

"The CUTS team is doing a great job, and demonstrates a high level of availability to meet the needs of members." Mohamed Taous, Permanent mission of Tunisia to the UNOG

AMERICAS

"Excellent and fundamental for the participation in WTO negotiations." Ms. Alicia Goujon, Mission of Mexico in Geneva

"I highly recommend that other diplomats and technocrats working in the field of international relations and diplomacy consider participating in the course on digital commerce." Mr. Rashaun Watson, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Jamaica

OUR FAMILY

CUTS INTERNATIONAL

Established in 1983-84 as a rural development communications initiative, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) is now at the cutting edge of the consumer movement in India as well as across the globe, and has expanded into trade and development, competition, investment and economic regulation, and human development.

Today, CUTS, with a staff strength of over 100, operates out of three programme centres in Jaipur (CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment, CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research and Training, and CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation) and one in Chittorgarh (CUTS Centre for Human Development).

CUTS also operates an advocacy centre in New Delhi, and a Centre in Calcutta (focusing on Consumer Safety and Grassroots Economic Development), India.

Overseas, six centres are based in Lusaka, Zambia; Nairobi, Kenya; Hanoi, Vietnam; Geneva, Switzerland; Accra, Ghana and Washington DC, USA.



The organization elects its Board/Executive Committee every fourth year, while the Secretary General heads the Secretariat. The organization is accredited by Credibility Alliance and affiliated with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and several other inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations.

CUTS International's vision is "Consumer Sovereignty" and mission is "Consumer Sovereignty in the Framework of Social Justice and Equality, within and Across Borders". In all its work, it follows

the method of research-based advocacy and connects the grassroots with international policy making processes.

CUTS International, Geneva was established with initial inputs and support from CUTS, in 2008 under the name CUTS Geneva Resource Centre and has since been renamed CUTS International to better reflect the spread of the activities of the Centre beyond Geneva and their international character.

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DELIVERING IMPACT IN TRYING TIMES



PRADEEP S. MEHTA

Secretary-General, Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) and President CUTS International General Assembly

The world is witnessing disruptions of a magnitude rarely seen before. While we are still grappling with the consequences of a global pandemic, the outbreak of conflict in the Black Sea region is now adding significant pressure to already high inflation in food, energy and other economic sectors worldwide. The war in Ukraine is threatening to become the spark that started the fire of an already looming global food crisis.

In this context, governments must start taking a forward-looking approach to policy making and trade rules, better preparing for future systemic shocks (which are likely to happen again, think about climate change).

Now more than ever, developing countries need the

kind of tailored capacity building and technical assistance that CUTS is trusted for by governments, development partners and vulnerable communities alike. Thanks to its unique approach of bringing together, informing, training and moving to action stakeholders from all backgrounds, CUTS for four decades has been making a difference to people's lives, ensuring that policy remains in tune with society.

During the period from April 2021 to March 2022, and despite these trying times, CUTS International Geneva not only held its own but delivered notable impacts for beneficiary developing partners across its four thematic areas. The below highlights are further explored in the rest of this annual report.

Trading System: In Geneva, CUTS continued to promote balanced and fair trade rules for all, notably through our demand-driven, and real-time technical assistance to developing countries and LDCs, including to groups of smaller developing countries (e.g. Eastern Africa, Western Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and South and South-East Asia). Our Notes, small group informal meetings and seminars on issues such as agriculture, services, e-commerce, investment facilitation, fisheries subsidies among others helped beneficiary developing countries and LDCs in understanding the technical issues and increase their informed and constructive participation in the deliberations in line with their national interests.

Economic Policy: We continued to support inclusive and sustainable structural transformation, notably in

the face of Covid-19 by exploring options towards mutually supportive world trade and health governance systems. We also assessed the policy readiness of select countries vis-à-vis possible new global rules in areas such as investment and digital policy. On the latter, our joint just-in-time online course on digital trade has now built capacities of over 130 practitioners from 72 countries.

Environment and Climate Change: Towards promoting environmentally-sustainable and climate-resilient economies, CUTS Geneva this year kept beneficiaries updated on and during the COP26 Glasgow Climate Conference, through our newly-launched "The Talk" reporting services. We also joined as an external stakeholder the WTO Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD).

Food and Agriculture: In these times of disrupted agriculture markets, we explored in a dialogue how trade, resilience and inclusivity can support food for all in a post-pandemic world. After the onset of the Ukraine crisis, we are now paying close attention to how the situation may impact net food-importing countries and LDCs.

The above impacts were made possible by the untiring efforts of the team in Geneva and the wider CUTS family in Jaipur, Nairobi, Lusaka, Hanoi, Accra and Washington; as well as our development partners. I therefore extend my appreciation to all that have contributed to accomplishments of this important work. .

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT US

CUTS INTERNATIONAL, GENEVA IS A NON-PROFIT NGO THAT CATALYSES AND PROMOTES PRO-EQUITY, PRO-DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH IN GENEVA AND BEYOND.



WHO WE ARE

CUTS International, Geneva works for multi-stakeholder capacity building of developing and least developed countries on the sets of issues related to the trading system, functioning markets, climate and environment, and food and agriculture.

Through our work, we have made a name for linking people and issues in the world of multilateral trade with their counterparts in related policy areas. These include regional integration, agriculture and food security, environment and climate change, competition, investment, and consumer protection among others.

Since our establishment in 2008, our research-based advocacy projects in the Global South - where we have our roots and partners - on these issues have made us a prime interlocutor of developing countries and international organisations in Geneva.

In Geneva, we collaborate closely with developing country trade negotiators, backing them with technical knowledge and updates on the situation on the ground. We have also become a trusted technical cooperation and knowledge partner of international organizations such as the WTO and UNCTAD where we have observer status, as well as ITC.

We and our sister CUTS organizations in India, Kenya, Zambia, Vietnam, Ghana and Washington DC have made our footprints in the realm of economic governance across the developing world. Our activities stretch from Asia to Africa, South America and beyond.

OUR VISION

To pursue economic equity and social justice within and across borders by persuading governments and empowering people.

OUR MISSION

To establish and promote a pro-trade pro-equity credible Southern NGO voice as well as the means to achieve this in the policy-making circles working on trade and development and other related issues in Geneva.

We have made a name for linking people and issues in the world of multilateral trade with their counterparts in related policy areas such as agriculture and food security, environment including climate change, competition, investment etc.

OUR GOVERNANCE

The main organs of CUTS International Geneva are the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, the Stakeholder Forum and the Secretariat.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly currently consists of 8 members, including its President, Secretary and Treasurer. The General Assembly meets at least once a year. Under circumstances requiring urgent action, decisions by circular letter, telephone or email conference are admissible. The General Assembly takes its decisions by consensus. If there is no consensus then decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of those present.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of CUTS International, Geneva is composed of five persons and is headed by the President of the General Assembly. The Executive Director is ex-officio member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee meets twice a year. For decisions to be valid, at least half of the Executive Committee members must be present.

By mutual agreement, decisions by circular letter, telephone or email conference are admissible. Decisions of the Executive Committee are taken by consensus. If there is no consensus then decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of those present.

SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is managed by the Executive Director of CUTS International Geneva. The duties of the Executive Director include the preparation of annual programme of work for approval by the Executive Committee, the management of CUTS International Geneva in accordance with the administrative and financial rules, the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee, resource mobilisation, and providing strategic leadership.

STAKEHOLDER FORUM

The Stakeholder Forum monitors the activities of CUTS International Geneva and offers advice to the Executive Committee and General Assembly. Current membership of this forum includes 14 representatives of inter-governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, developing and developed country missions in Geneva, relevant government agencies in capitals, academics, and the media.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are committed to maintaining the highest standards of transparency and accountability to both our beneficiaries and donors. This is why we have adopted policies and rules on procurement, finance and accounting, fraud prevention, donor-recipient relationship, safeguarding, harassment, and service rules.

Our financial management systems are robust and have handled multi-million US Dollar projects. Our accounts are audited annually by an independent auditor affiliated to the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), and special project audits are also undertaken when required.

CUTS International, Geneva receives funding from a range of donors, including government agencies, multilateral institutions and foundations. Funding may be unrestricted or directed to specific projects or programmes.

OUR METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

We undertake policy-oriented research studies and analysis, including on-demand, which fill gaps in current knowledge and provide policy recommendations. Shorter briefing papers and notes for negotiators and policy makers help raise awareness about the key lessons and policy recommendations, which will later inform targeted trainings and advocacy, including negotiations' briefings.

ADVOCACY

Pursuing concrete policy improvements, our advocacy campaigns take a collaborative approach with policy makers. Building on research findings, trainings, networking events and stakeholder involvement, we have championed policy changes at the local, national, regional and international levels. We also sensitise stakeholders through the media and short Action Alerts.

NETWORKING

Building and expanding on the networks of the CUTS centres in Asia and Africa, we maintain multi-stakeholder networks from the international to the local level. Through regular events and online discussions, we bring together stakeholders from beneficiary

countries, intergovernmental organisations, civil society, experts and the Geneva trade and development as well as environment and climate change communities to share information, knowledge and expertise.

TRAINING

Training and capacity building of relevant stakeholders in Geneva and beneficiary countries helps them build their expertise in selected areas. Mainly demand-driven, our training activities include workshops, seminars and online courses, based on training needs assessments and building on our research and partnerships for quality delivery.

DELIVERY SYNERGIES

The main elements of our methodology, namely, Research, Advocacy, Networking and Training (RAN-T), build on one another in a synergetic and mutually reinforcing manner. This holistic approach has been a key ingredient to our recipe for success.

OUR APPROACH

ENGAGING MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS

We adopt an inclusive approach to bring the diversity of stakeholders to the same table and find creative policy solutions. These include governments, civil society, businesses, communities, gender groups etc. It is our close involvement with stakeholders in the Global South that makes us a credible Southern NGO voice in Geneva.

BREAKING SILOS

The above serves to “break silos” across policy areas, and devise synergies that bring about better policy coherence and efficiency. This has allowed us to champion a number of policy synergies and improvements in the developing world, particularly in East Africa.

LINKING GENEVA AND CAPITALS

We link people and issues not only at home but across geographical levels. We bring national, regional and international policy debates and negotiations closer together.

BUILDING BRIDGES AND TRUST

We build bridges across developing, least developed and developed countries by providing neutral and informal settings for open and constructive exchange of views and perspective, thus leading to better understanding and trust among them.



ENSURING IMPACT

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Trained on Results-based Management (RBM), CUTS Geneva staff applies a robust M&E system across programmes and interventions. Through the routine collection, analysis and structured recording of information, we efficiently track progress, inform decisions, and adapt strategies. This coupled with robust financial management has allowed us to successfully handle multimillion US\$ projects with demonstrated track record of impact.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk management forms part of CUTS' governance framework, and is integrated across the strategic planning process and monitored on a regular basis. Our risk management approach is inspired by the principles, framework and processes provided by the ISO 31000 Standard.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Before it goes public, our research undergoes a quality assurance process through mechanisms such as peer reviews, Project Advisory Committees, validation in multi-stakeholder meetings etc.

PARTNERSHIPS

As a vibrant advocate of South-South Cooperation, CUTS has been forming and maintaining strategic alliances with like-minded organisations and experts at the national, regional and international levels. At the national level, we have tried and tested partners (NGOs, think tanks, private sector, etc) in over 50 countries particularly in the developing world. We also have MoUs and working relationships with a number of regional organisations (e.g. the EAC Secretariat, the Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa, etc.).

At the international level, we have observer status to the WTO, UNCTAD and UNFCCC, and excellent working relationships with ITC, FAO, UNEP, ITU etc. Finally, we closely collaborate with a number of international NGOs and Foundations (e.g. IISD, Diplo Foundation, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung) and academic institutions. CUTS is also a member of UNCTAD eTrade for All initiative, FAO Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use, Gender Champions-ITC supported Trade Impact Group (TIG), and WTO Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) Informal Working Groups.

OBSERVER STATUS:



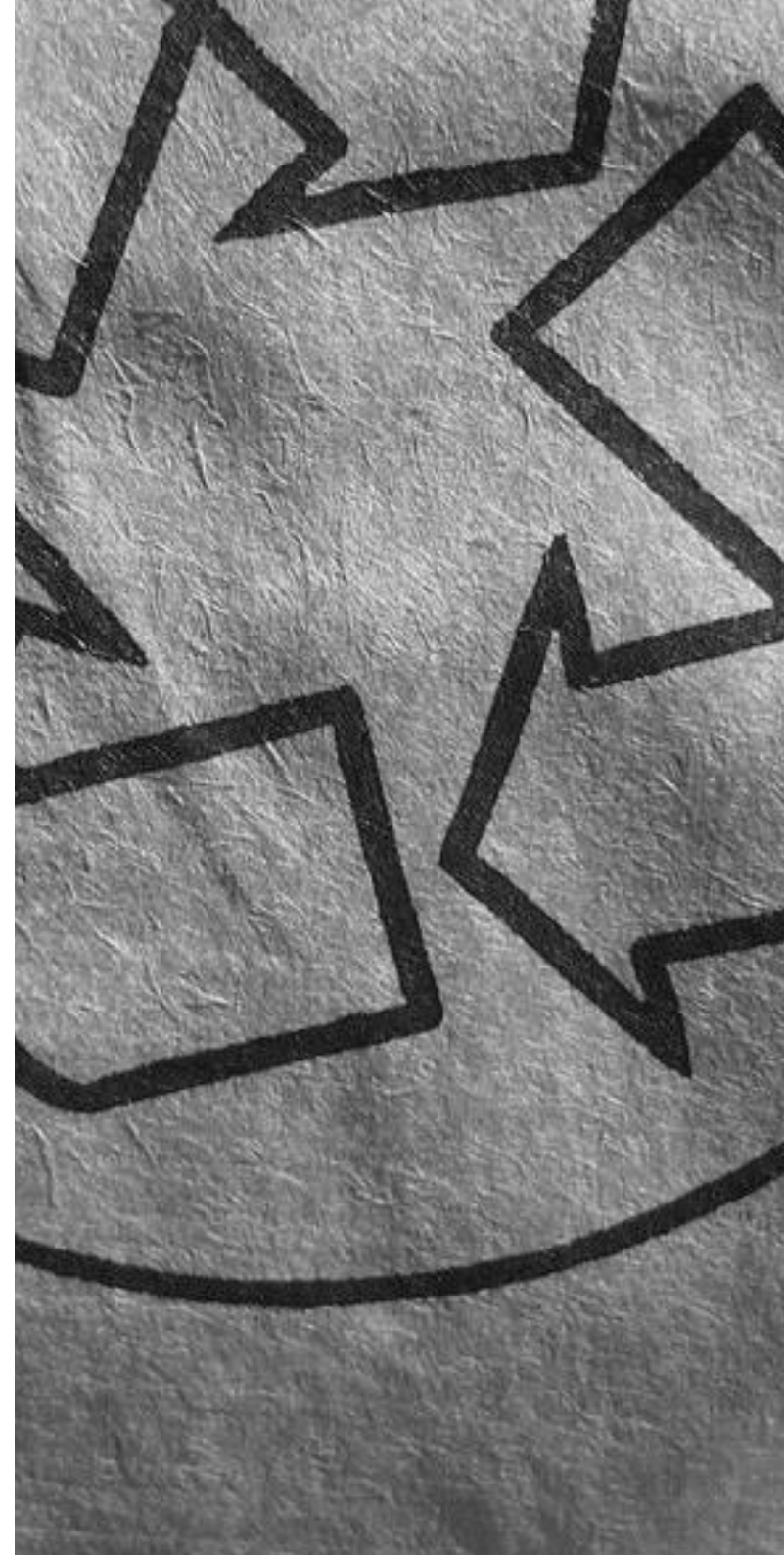
United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

SUSTAINABILITY

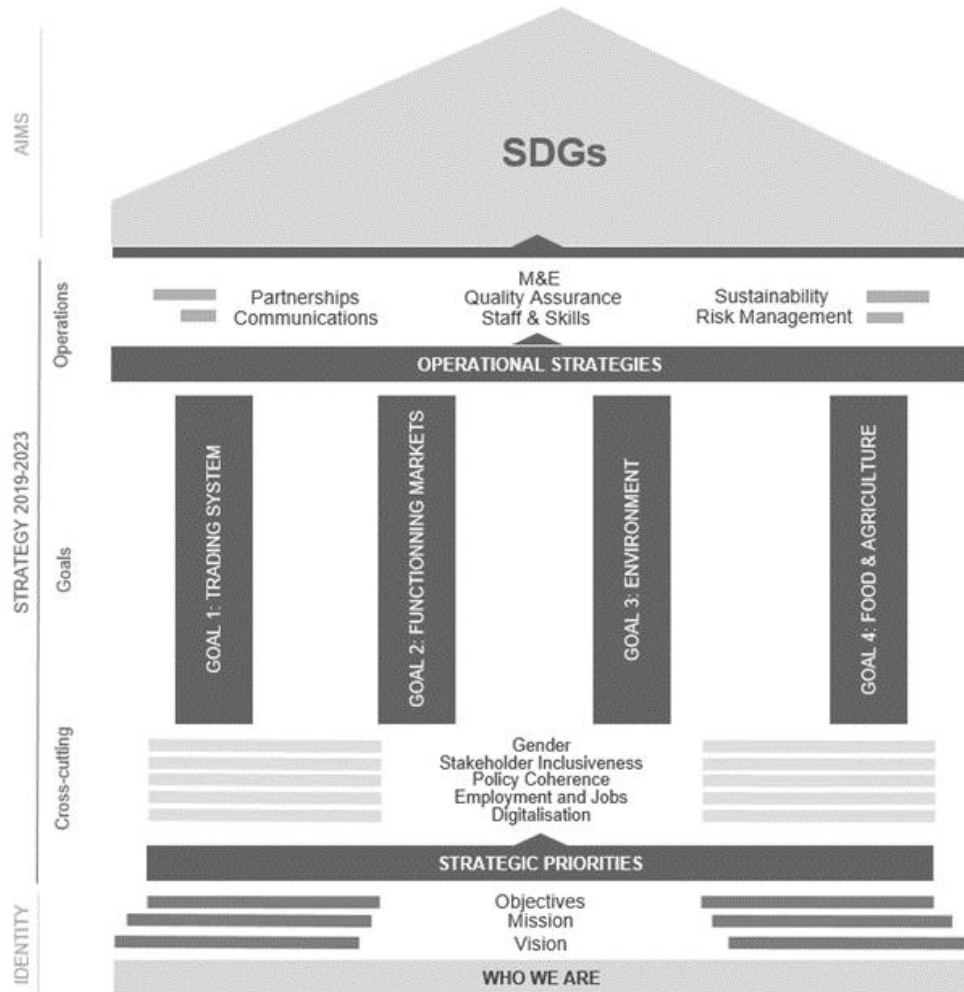
As a non-governmental, non-profit organisation committed to sustainable development, we embed sustainability in all aspects of our management and work. For instance, our programmes are aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our initiatives adopt key practices in environmental (e.g. carbon offsetting), social (e.g. gender sensitivity) and economic sustainability. We have also actively promoted women participation in our work, and made gender aspects a standard feature of our research.

Right from the design phase, our projects include strong frameworks for results, risk, stakeholder and sustainability management inspired by established international standards such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting Standards.



OUR STRATEGY



OUR PROGRAMMES



TRADING SYSTEM

Balanced and fair rules for all



FUNCTIONING MARKETS

Inclusive and progressive structural transformation



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Sustainable and climate-resilient



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Food security and sustainable

THIS YEAR'S PROJECTS



NEW ISSUES

TAF2+ WTO UMBRELLA GRANT - PHASE 2

The Umbrella Grant offers a timely, highly-tailored but flexible support programme geared towards helping developing countries and LDCs better understand the issues at stake in the Joint Statement Initiatives (JSIs) on Electronic Commerce, Investment Facilitation for Development, and MSMEs. This project of the Trade and Investment Advocacy Fund (TAF2+) is produced with funding support by UK Aid from the UK Government, and implemented by the CUTS International, Geneva and the International Institute for Sustainable Development.



cuts-geneva.org/Project?id=2021-TAF2_WTOUmbrella



WTO NEGOTIATIONS

KEEPING PACE WITH TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

Developing countries, particularly the smaller ones, face challenges in their effective participation in the WTO due to limited human, technical and financial capacities. They needed assistance to effectively negotiate towards the next WTO ministerial, participate in regular WTO work, and monitor developments at the plurilateral level. The project with funding support by MFA Sweden provided this much-needed assistance through a number of studies, papers, notes, seminars and meetings, often targeting developing and least developed countries in Eastern Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Western Africa, and MENA.



cuts-geneva.org/Project?id=2021-KeepingPace



WTO NEGOTIATIONS

GENEVA-MSME CONNECTION

This informal forum for WTO delegates from selected South and Southeast Asian developing countries supports them to be better equipped in their day-to-day work at the WTO, as well as in their preparation for MC12. The project, supported by the Permanent Mission of Australia to the WTO, also aims to link them with their national private sectors, particularly the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) so that their participation in the relevant WTO negotiations and MC12 preparatory meetings is more fully aligned with on-the-ground conditions. It would be a contribution towards building a more inclusive trading system and support a sustainable recovery post-COVID-19.



cuts-geneva.org/Project?id=2021-KeepingPace

OUR OUTREACH

As a vibrant advocate of South-South Cooperation, CUTS has been forming and maintaining strategic alliances with like-minded organisations and experts in over 50 countries, particularly in the developing world.

It is our close involvement with stakeholders in the Global South that makes us a credible Southern NGO voice in Geneva. We have observer status to the WTO, UNCTAD and UNFCCC, and excellent working relationships with ITC, FAO, UNEP etc.

Over 6000 stakeholders around the world, mainly from developing countries, receive our "THE TALK" reporting services and other regular research and advocacy communications. We also publish "In Action", our quarterly activity report, as well as daily e-bulletins on important international events.



www.cuts-geneva.org



40+ PUBLICATIONS



1000+ PARTICIPANTS

REGISTERED TO OUR 30+ EVENTS



OUR BENEFICIARIES

STAKEHOLDERS

Our beneficiaries and partners across the developing world include governments (policy-makers, negotiators, regulators), civil society, businesses, academia, media, farmer organisations, gender equality awareness groups and intergovernmental organisations. We adopt an inclusive approach to bring all this diverse range of stakeholders to the same table and find creative solutions. More than half of our



IMPACT THIS YEAR



THEME

COVID-19

**RESILIENCE DURING AND
AFTER THE CRISIS, LEAVING
NO ONE BEHIND**

WHAT WE DO

With cases recorded in more than 200 countries, the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to public health on a global scale. As governments are in marching order to safeguard their people's health, the contagion has fast extended to the economic sphere.

To us, it is especially important that governments are able to take timely and informed decisions suited to their circumstances, leaving no one behind and addressing the potential negative affects on developing and least-developed countries. All should strive to allow international supply chains and trade to continue as best as possible, with special measures in favour of the poor and marginalised, both in developed and developing countries. The multilateral trading system should be supported to contribute to this effort.

With this in mind, we produced a number of publications and organised seminars exploring the interplay of Covid-19 with different trade-related issues. Previously, we had launched the "Covid-19 Trade Monitor", a webpage which monitors relevant publications and resources by trusted institutions on the trade impacts of and responses to the pandemic.

FEATURED WORK

COVID-19 | RESEARCH STUDY
MULTILATERALISM AT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
CROSSROAD
<https://bit.ly/3CwCOMP>

SERVICES | RESEARCH STUDY
TRADE AND HEALTH: TOWARDS MUTUALLY
SUPPORTIVE WORLD TRADE AND HEALTH
GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS
<https://bit.ly/3wMfvRh>

COVID-19 | RESEARCH STUDY
ENSURING MARKET SUPPLY TRANSPARENCY FOR
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENTS:
PREPARING FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS
<https://bit.ly/301WLkp>

AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS | EVENT
THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON AGRICULTURAL
TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT
<https://bit.ly/3yuakW4>

COVID-19 | EVENT
SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM: COVID-19
IMPACTS ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
<https://bit.ly/3iKMeBx>

PROGRAMME

TRADING SYSTEM

BALANCED AND FAIR RULES FOR ALL

WE STRIVE TO PRESERVE A STRONG AND FUNCTIONING MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM INCLUDING THROUGH SUPPORT FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION OF SMALLER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND LDCS, AND TO PROMOTE BALANCED AND FAIR RULES FOR ALL TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS.

WHAT WE DO

The international trading system is a valuable public good. It has contributed to poverty reduction and must be harnessed for inclusive growth and sustainable development. It should be for the benefit of all by setting rules and conditions that are fair, balanced, mutually supportive and equitable.

The WTO rules-based multilateral trading system is facing formidable challenges and is under serious threat of becoming weaker. Concurrently, plurilateral and regional trade agreements have been increasingly setting the pace of global trade rule-making, including in new areas. The challenge of our times is to preserve a strong and equitable trading system.

At CUTS, we strive to promote balanced and fair trade rules for all. As an observer to the WTO and UNCTAD, we organise and participate in a variety of public meetings with a view to bring our lessons from the ground into multilateral debates. We also collaborate regularly with international organizations in trade-related capacity building initiatives such as Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- The WTO is effectively leveraged in setting, monitoring and implementing equitable global trade rules supportive of sustainable development
- Plurilateral and regional trade frameworks contribute to a more equitable trading system globally, supportive of sustainable development

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





THEME

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)

The WTO rules-based multilateral trading system is facing formidable challenges and is under serious threat of becoming weaker. At a time when plurilateral relations are shaping rules in new trade areas, preserving a strong and equitable trading system is of paramount importance to developing countries. At CUTS, we strive to promote balanced and fair trade rules for all.

WTO LEADERSHIP AND REFORM

With the increase of popular anti-trade rhetoric, plurilateral approaches and trade wars, WTO leadership is being increasingly challenged. Rather than shrink or wither away, the WTO needs to evolve and reform but in an inclusive and gradual manner. Our work helps WTO members converge on creative solutions to restore WTO's leadership for setting global trade rules, sensitive to small developing countries' special needs.

WTO NEGOTIATIONS

While the WTO Negotiations track may have slowed down, several negotiating areas remain critical for small developing countries and should not be abandoned. Our work helps developing country groups to identify, defend and advance their interests in WTO negotiations on a level-playing field, backed by evidence and private sector feedback.

Our support this year covered, *inter alia*, negotiations on agriculture and fisheries subsidies, as well as preparations towards the 12th WTO ministerial conference. We notably explored possible ministerial outcomes on agriculture domestic subsidies, and brought our contribution to the debate around how to define artisanal and small-scale fisheries.

WTO REGULAR WORK

Many small developing countries have tended to overlook the potential of WTO regular work to advance their trade interests and find solutions, particularly at a time when negotiations are moving slowly. We help them efficiently leverage WTO regular work to learn from others, redress trade concerns, and fulfil their own obligations.

JOINT STATEMENT INITIATIVES

Work under different Joint Statement initiatives is expected to gain momentum towards the next WTO ministerial and beyond. These cover MSMEs, E-Commerce, Women and Trade, Investment Facilitation, Services domestic regulation, Environment etc. Our work helps developing countries keep pace with these discussions, to position themselves knowing the implications for them and the trading system.

This year, we notably maintained an ad-hoc support facility for trade negotiators from select developing countries, providing on-request assistance for their participation in Joint Statement talks on Electronic Commerce as well as Investment Facilitation. As momentum grew on addressing environmental issues, CUTS was also invited to join and participate in the WTO Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) Informal Working Group.

FEATURED WORK

PUBLICATIONS

INVESTMENT | PAPER

THE STATE OF PLAY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE JOINT STATEMENT INITIATIVE ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION
<https://bit.ly/3ideqva>

ENVIRONMENT | NOTE

ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WTO AND THEIR POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS
<https://bit.ly/35v5APQ>

INVESTMENT | COUNTRY UPDATE

INVESTMENT FACILITATION: SNAPSHOT OF JORDAN'S READINESS IN KEY AREAS
<https://bit.ly/30TLkMb>

FISHERIES | NOTE

THE EQUITY ASPECT OF FISHERIES SUBSIDIES
<https://bit.ly/2XZvz5a>

AGRICULTURE | RESEARCH STUDY

DOMESTIC SUPPORT IN THE WTO AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS: OUTCOMES FOR MC12
<https://bit.ly/3jxR7gY>

ENVIRONMENT | PAPER

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM: PAST, PRESENT AND POSSIBLE FUTURE
<https://bit.ly/3yOVwkF>

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | PAPER

NEGOTIATING SERVICES MARKET ACCESS UNDER THE E-COMMERCE JSI: A DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE
<https://bit.ly/3BmPuKi>

FISHERIES | NOTE

WTO NEGOTIATIONS ON FISHERIES SUBSIDIES: AN OVERVIEW OF ARTISANAL AND SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES ISSUES
<https://bit.ly/3tGsnFl>

SEMINARS AND EVENTS

INVESTMENT | EVENT

JOINT STATEMENT INITIATIVE ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT
<https://bit.ly/3ieP7ZT>

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | EVENT

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS AND CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT IN THE E-COMMERCE JOINT STATEMENT INITIATIVE
<https://bit.ly/3pbAgTY>

WTO NEGOTIATIONS | EVENT

EAST AFRICA TRADE FORUM: EMERGING PRIORITY ISSUES TOWARDS MC12
<https://bit.ly/3ipi9XG>

TRADE POLICY | EVENT

BUILDING BETTER TOGETHER: TOWARDS RESILIENT TRADE POLICY AND MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM
<https://bit.ly/3Ac1xbz>

ENVIRONMENT | EVENT

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM: PLASTICS MANAGEMENT
<https://bit.ly/339VCpc>

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

WTO NEW ISSUES | EVENT

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (MSMES): ASIA
<https://bit.ly/3ujScMC>

INVESTMENT | EVENT

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT: AFRICA
<https://bit.ly/2POT4Kc>

INVESTMENT | EVENT

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INVESTMENT FACILITATION FOR DEVELOPMENT: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
<https://bit.ly/3uwd5mZ>



THEME

PLURILATERAL AND REGIONAL AGREEMENTS

Amidst slowing advances at the WTO, plurilateral and regional agreements have been increasingly shaping global trade rules. We strive to ensure that these new trade regimes contribute to a more equitable trading system globally, supportive of sustainable development.

PLURILATERALS

Plurilateral agreements have been increasingly setting the pace of global trade rule-making. Although most developing countries are not part of major standard-setting plurilateral negotiations, these will have significant trade implications even for non-parties. Through our work, we strive to ensure that plurilaterally-negotiated new trade regimes preserve inclusivity, fairness and cohesion of the trading system globally.

REGIONAL AGREEMENTS

Regional agreements have become a major driving force of global trade integration, creating new opportunities for people provided agreed regimes are fair and sound. This is why our work seeks to ensure that regional and preferential trade agreements negotiated by and among developing countries leverage trade integration in pursuit of inclusive and sustainable development for people.

This year, we focused on the way forward for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). In particular, our “The Talk” reporting services kept our beneficiaries informed of recent debates regarding possible approaches to digital trade provisions therein, and how regional integration can support resilience after the pandemic.

FEATURED WORK

AFCFTA | REPORTING

EXPLORING THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA AND THE RESILIENT ECONOMIC RECOVERY

<https://bit.ly/31Hg1od>

PLURILATERALS | REPORTING

MAKING PLURILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

<https://bit.ly/3uxGC1d>

AFCFTA | REPORTING

DESIGNING DIGITAL TRADE PROVISIONS IN THE AFCFTA: LESSONS FROM EXISTING TRADE AGREEMENTS

<https://bit.ly/39SpCt5>

AFCFTA | REPORTING

BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH STRENGTHENED REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND AFCFTA IMPLEMENTATION

<https://bit.ly/39Q14Ri>

OUR IMPACT

LAO PDR BECAME AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN INVESTMENT FACILITATION TALKS, SUBMITTING FIVE COMMUNICATIONS

Through 2021, our beneficiary Lao PDR submitted five communications for consideration into the Joint Statement negotiations on Investment Facilitation. In particular, Lao PDR tabled proposals calling for adequate provision of special and differential treatment, technical assistance and capacity building for LDCs. Lao PDR also participated in a joint proposal with other members on these issues.

TRADE4MSMES.ORG: WE MADE WTO NEGOTIATORS' VISION A REALITY

With support from the TAF2+ WTO Umbrella Grant, the WTO's Informal Working Group on Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) was able to develop and launch Trade4MSMEs.org. This web platform helps small businesses as well as policy makers find trade-related information to improve their ability to trade internationally.



www.trade4msmes.org

ESTABLISHMENT OF "SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS" SUB-GROUP IN INVESTMENT FACILITATION TALKS

After beneficiaries of our TAF2+ WTO Umbrella Grant took stock of our analysis on key issues in Investment Facilitation talks, a "Small Group" on Scope and Definitions was established within the negotiating process. The Group is facilitated by Colombia, a beneficiary country under our Grant.

OUR AD-HOC SUPPORT ON ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SOUGHT-AFTER BY DEVELOPING WTO MEMBERS

As WTO JSI talks on Electronic Commerce gained momentum in 2021, our WTO Umbrella Grant's ad-hoc support facility on the subject attracted trade negotiators' interest beyond its initially intended audience. Indeed, beyond delegates from the 11 targeted beneficiary countries, other developing country negotiators sought to benefit from our support.

“THE TALK”

TRADING SYSTEM

“THE TALK” IS A REPORTING SERVICE BY CUTS WHICH HIGHLIGHTS LESSONS FROM RECENT DIALOGUES IN THE FIELDS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, ECONOMIC POLICY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE.



ENVIRONMENT @WTO | REPORTING
BRIEFING: WTO INITIATIVES ON
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR BIODIVERSITY
<https://bit.ly/3Dl76Ym>

MSMES @WTO | REPORTING
UPDATE ON THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP ON
MSMES: FEBRUARY 2022
<https://bit.ly/3sVxTqt>

E-COMMERCE @WTO | REPORTING
UPDATE ON THE JOINT STATEMENT ON
ELECTRONIC COMMERCE: FEBRUARY 2022
<https://bit.ly/3sSZaKe>

INVESTMENT | REPORTING
UPDATE ON THE JOINT STATEMENT ON
INVESTMENT FACILITATION: FEBRUARY 2022
<https://bit.ly/3MBojkj>

FISHERIES SUBSIDIES | REPORTING
A WTO FISHERIES SUBSIDIES DEAL: FROM
CONCLUSION TO IMPLEMENTATION
<https://bit.ly/32FUFsd>

ENVIRONMENT @WTO | REPORTING
PLASTIC POLLUTION AND TRADE: WTO,
BASEL CONVENTION, AND A GLOBAL TREATY
ON PLASTIC POLLUTION
<https://bit.ly/3qKcoqs>

REGIONAL INTEGRATION | REPORTING
EXPLORING THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE
TRADE AREA AND THE RESILIENT ECONOMIC
RECOVERY
<https://bit.ly/31Hglod>

WTO REFORM | REPORTING
TIME TO AGREE, NOT DISAGREE:
IMPERATIVE OF REFORMING THE WTO'S
APPELLATE BODY
<https://bit.ly/3l0x0Os>

WTO | REPORTING
LOOKING AT WTO AGREEMENTS AND BEYOND
TO SUPPORT BUSINESS RECOVERY. CAN THE
WTO HELP TO TACKLE ILLICIT TRADE?
<https://bit.ly/3upAd8r>

WTO | REPORTING
RETHINKING, REPACKAGING, AND RESCUING
WORLD TRADE LAW IN THE POST-PANDEMIC
ERA
<https://bit.ly/2Wt1sCe>

AGRICULTURE @WTO | REPORTING
AGRICULTURE & WTO IN THE TIME OF A
PANDEMIC: LOOKING TOWARDS MC12
<https://bit.ly/39NTerA>

WTO MINISTERIALS | REPORTING
MC12: WHAT OUTCOMES WOULD STRENGTHEN
MULTILATERALISM?
<https://bit.ly/39PpavC>

PROGRAMME

ECONOMIC POLICY

INCLUSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

MARKETS CAN SUPPORT INCLUSIVE STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, WHEN STRATEGICALLY REGULATED WITH SYNERGIES ACROSS POLICY AREAS. TACKLING ISSUES CUTTING ACROSS ECONOMIC REGULATION, WE STRIVE FOR WELL-FUNCTIONING MARKETS THAT SUPPORT INCLUSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION.

WHAT WE DO

Well-functioning markets are key for efficient allocation of resources across economic activities and sectors. Not only can they improve production and reduce waste, they can also reduce poverty, help protect the environment and promote inclusive development.

This however requires actions and policies across a number of areas. Such policies and tools include those related to competition, investment, consumer protection, services, technology and innovation, e-commerce, standards, value-added industrialisation, facilitation, and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) among others.

These are often a function of domestic conditions and capacities, as well as international rules and cooperation.

At CUTS, we promote well-functioning markets strategically regulated with synergies across policy areas, towards supporting inclusive structural transformation and sustainable development.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Coherent trade policy implementation effectively leverages agreed rules and preferences to improve the contribution of trade to development
- Sound economic regulation achieves fairer competition, investment and access to finance, energy and other key services for developing country MSMEs, consumers and vulnerable communities
- Faster, inclusive and business-driven sustainable industrial development creates better livelihood opportunities for vulnerable communities in developing countries
- Enhanced technology mainstreaming and innovation capacity at firm, farm, industry and national levels boost developing countries' competitiveness, industrialisation and decent job creation in the digital era

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





THEME

REGULATION AND SERVICES

ENABLING AND STABLE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENTS, FOR FUNCTIONING MARKETS

Regulatory issues are increasingly important to deal with to ensure sustained and sustainable growth and development. Balanced, transparent and well-crafted regulations in all spheres of economic activity can provide an enabling environment for overall growth and development. They can also accommodate social and environmental concerns and other public policy objectives. However, crafting the regulations is not enough: there should also be institutional, technical and human capacity for their effective implementation.

COMPETITION POLICY

Competition Policy and Law aims to ensure a level playing field among firms competing on the market, be they domestic or foreign. It tackles unfair business practices which can unduly affect competing firms, and consumer welfare through reduced choice, quality, innovation and higher prices. We help developing countries enact and implement effective competition regimes that improve the level-playing field for their firms and welfare for their consumers.

INVESTMENT

Investment is key to mobilise resources for upscaling infrastructure and industries, connecting value chains and financing sustainable development. Channeling FDI to people's benefit requires sound and stable investment regimes and climate, balancing the rights of investors and those of host states and their people. CUTS promotes sound investment regimes that foster increased and sustainable FDI inflows, supportive of structural transformation for people and MSMEs in developing countries.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Consumers in developing countries, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged ones, should have fair, safe and informed access to basic goods and services guaranteed by effective consumer protection and redress systems. Towards this end, we empower them and advise governments.

SERVICES

Filling people's basic needs or supporting industries and value chains, services like energy, tourism and telecom are key enablers of sustainable development. We support the effective design and implementation of balanced, transparent regulations foster better access to key services for businesses and consumers towards sustainable development, job creation and structural transformation.

FEATURED WORK

COMPETITION POLICY | RESEARCH STUDY
COMPETITION IN WTO TRADE POLICY
REVIEWS: HOW HAS IT BEEN ADDRESSED?
<https://bit.ly/3yrWjbv>

SERVICES | EVENT
SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM: THE
SERVICES SECTOR, COVID-19, AND
DIGITALIZATION
<https://bit.ly/33KStQv>

INVESTMENT | COUNTRY UPDATE
INVESTMENT FACILITATION: SNAPSHOT OF
JORDAN'S READINESS IN KEY AREAS
<https://bit.ly/30TLkMb>

HEALTH | RESEARCH STUDY
TRADE AND HEALTH: TOWARDS MUTUALLY
SUPPORTIVE WORLD TRADE AND HEALTH
GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS
<https://bit.ly/3wMfvRh>



THEME

INDUSTRIAL AND MSME DEVELOPMENT

REWARDING JOBS AND DYNAMIC MSMES,
THRIVING IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

Sustainable industrial growth can boost development and help lift vulnerable communities out of poverty through value addition, job creation and new livelihood opportunities. In developing countries, Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) are the cornerstone of this structural transformation through their ability to harness domestic and international value chains. However, they require a fair, predictable and enabling environment to unleash their full potential.

MSMES AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in developing countries require a fair and enabling environment for their existence, growth and meaningful participation in trade. We support governments in crafting policy environments conducive to private sector development, for MSMEs to prosper while creating jobs and value.

INDUSTRIES, VALUE CHAINS AND ADDITION

Taking advantage of domestic and international production networks, the private sector can boost sustainable industrial development in developing countries. We promote value addition by MSMEs and vulnerable communities, including agro-processing, and support their greater participation in regional and global value chains..

JOBS

Spurred by trade and value chains, industrial and private sector development can generate significant employment opportunities in developing countries. We strive for policy choices that create more and better jobs for people—including vulnerable communities -, ensuring these offer decent, safe and equitable conditions for workers regardless of gender.

FEATURED WORK

MSMES | RESEARCH STUDY
PROMOTING MSMES AND REGULATORY
DEVELOPMENT: INTERESTS AND PARTICIPATION
<https://bit.ly/37huI0B>

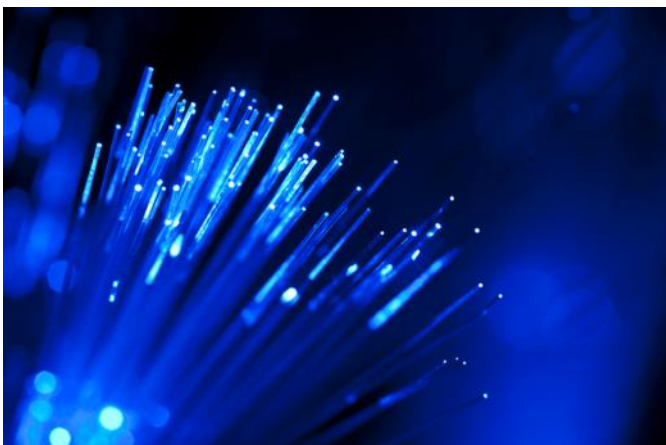
MSMES | REPORTING
UPDATE ON THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP ON
MSMES: FEBRUARY 2022
<https://bit.ly/3sVxTqt>

MSMES | REPORTING
CATALYSING YOUNG AFRICAN AGRI-
ENTREPRENEURS' INVESTMENTS
<https://bit.ly/3gw5xfq>

MSMES | REPORTING
UPDATE ON THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP ON
MSMES: NOVEMBER 2021
<https://bit.ly/3uDi2xR>

VALUE CHAINS | REPORTING
DEVELOP A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND
TRANSPARENT APPAREL SUPPLY CHAIN IN THE
POST-COVID WORLD
<https://bit.ly/3omlyd2>

VALUE CHAINS | REPORTING
RETHINKING TRADE AND VALUE CHAINS
SUSTAINABLY TO BENEFIT BOTH FARMERS AND
CONSUMERS, WHILE BRINGING THEM CLOSER
<https://bit.ly/3F7inM8>



THEME

TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL ECONOMY

HARNESSING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DIGITAL ERA

Technology is reshaping lives, economies and production systems around the world. After witnessing unprecedented digitisation of goods, services and tasks, the world is entering a 4th Industrial Revolution driven by the fusion of multiple technologies such as AI, robotics and biotechnology. But while opportunities abound for who is in the game, those left behind may suffer increased marginalisation. More than 4 billion people still lack access to the Internet, and 90 percent are from the developing world. Entering the arena with the right mix of policies and regulations is a must for developing countries' sustainable growth.

TECHNOLOGY

The world is entering an Industry 4.0 era, driven by a new generation of technologies that are blurring lines between industries such as AI, blockchain, Internet of Things, 3D printing etc. These offer unprecedented opportunities, including to empower the poorest. But they also pose difficult domestic and cross-border governance challenges. We promote technology transfer, and fair governance frameworks towards shared benefits of technology for all.

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY

The digital economy has become a major driver of economic growth, fuelled by the rapid emergence of digital innovations. Harnessing its potential in developing countries, will require both ICT and policy readiness. We support sound digital policy, to enable developing countries harness the potential of e-commerce for their sustainable development, firms and vulnerable communities.

INNOVATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

From improved seeds and connected sensors to greener technology solutions, innovation is creating new deals in key sectors for sustainable development. As Intellectual Property Rights driving such innovation are taking growing importance, we support developing country policy-makers in effectively harnessing innovation and intellectual property systems for their development.

FEATURED WORK

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | EVENT
IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS AND
CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT IN THE E-
COMMERCE JOINT STATEMENT INITIATIVE
<https://bit.ly/3pbAgTY>

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | NOTE
THE SERVICES SECTOR, COVID-19, AND
DIGITALIZATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR SELECT
SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/34QVDm4>

E-COMMERCE | RESEARCH STUDY
ADDRESSING THE GENDER DIMENSION OF E-
COMMERCE: TOWARDS A HOLISTIC ANALYTICAL
AND POLICY FRAMEWORK
<https://bit.ly/3lxTf9z>

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | PAPER
NEGOTIATING SERVICES MARKET ACCESS
UNDER THE E-COMMERCE JSI: A DEVELOPMENT
PERSPECTIVE
<https://bit.ly/3BmPuKi>

E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY | NOTE
THE RISE OF DIGITAL SERVICES IN COVID-
19: RECENT TRENDS AND THE INTERESTS OF
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/3vJJjfl>

IMPACT STORY

TRAININGS ON DIGITAL COMMERCE BUILT CAPACITIES OF OVER 130 PRACTITIONERS, FROM 72 COUNTRIES

Over the years, the course has helped trade negotiators and policy-makers navigate an ever more complex digital commerce agenda. It provided them a common space to explore the connection between trade and the digital economy, and allowed them to explore the development implications of this interplay. The course has been delivered by DiploFoundation, the International Trade Centre (ITC), CUTS International, Geneva and Geneva Internet Platform (GIP).



<https://bit.ly/3lruJ2ww>

OUR IMPACT

TRAININGS ON DIGITAL COMMERCE

Since 2017, our training course on Digital Commerce has been pursuing a very concrete goal: to assist trade professionals to better understand what digitalisation and the internet mean for trade negotiators, and help them ensure their countries reap the benefits of the digital economy. Our trainings have equipped them with up-to-date, neutral and objective knowledge, in a user-friendly and informative format

In 2021, the course was carefully designed to answer the pressing needs of digital commerce practitioners by exploring in-depth the issues covered by the Joint Statement Initiative on Electronic Commerce, such as cross-border data flows and data localisation, network neutrality, online consumer protection and privacy, spam, open government data etc.

Throughout the years, we received over 300 applications from 98 countries, and delivered trainings to 138 individuals from 72 countries. According to the results of a survey, 93% of the course alumni would recommend this course to colleagues working in their organisations. Also, 100% of the alumni were of the opinion that it is important to continue offering is course in years to come on a regular basis.

ECONOMIC POLICY / REPORTING

“THE TALK”

ECONOMIC POLICY

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TECHNOLOGY | REPORTING

THE ROLE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES IN CROSS-BORDER TRADE: A CUSTOMS PERSPECTIVE

<https://bit.ly/3j3Tbfl>

DIGITAL ECONOMY | REPORTING

DIGITAL TRADE GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT: IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

<https://bit.ly/3ileZyS>

TECHNOLOGY | REPORTING

TECHNOLOGY AND DATA ARE KEY TO SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

<https://bit.ly/3n0YqzF>

DIGITAL ECONOMY | REPORTING

DIGITISING EASTERN AFRICA TRADE FOR RESILIENCE

<https://bit.ly/3AXTCjc>

VALUE CHAINS | REPORTING

DEVELOP A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND TRANSPARENT APPAREL SUPPLY CHAIN IN THE POST-COVID WORLD

<https://bit.ly/3omlyd2>

VALUE CHAINS | REPORTING

SUPPLY CHAINS: FROM ASSESSING VULNERABILITIES TO BUILDING RESILIENCY

<https://bit.ly/3zRIxP7>

TRANSPORT | REPORTING

FACILITATING TRANSIT AND TRANSPORT OPERATION IN CRISIS SITUATION: LESSONS LEARNED FROM COVID-19

<https://bit.ly/3F1RGs9>

VALUE CHAINS | REPORTING

RETHINKING TRADE AND VALUE CHAINS SUSTAINABLY TO BENEFIT BOTH FARMERS AND CONSUMERS

<https://bit.ly/3F7inM8>

ENERGY | REPORTING

ACCELERATING ELECTRIC MOBILITY WITH GREEN JOBS AND GENDER PARITY

<https://bit.ly/3mZzAjM>

COMPETITION POLICY | REPORTING

COMPETITION LAW, POLICY AND REGULATION IN THE DIGITAL ERA

<https://bit.ly/3hQKZyo>

CONSUMER PROTECTION | REPORTING

CONSUMER LAW, POLICY AND REGULATORY ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO AND IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE COVID19 PANDEMIC

<https://bit.ly/3hD3AOj>

CONSUMER PROTECTION | REPORTING

VOLUNTARY PEER REVIEW ON CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW AND POLICY OF CHILE

<https://bit.ly/3At10mP>

PROGRAMME

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE- RESILIENT ECONOMIES

CLIMATE CHANGE IS THREATENING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY IN COUNTRIES WITH LOW CAPACITY FOR RESILIENCE AND POLICY ADAPTATION. WE STRIVE FOR CLIMATE-RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES AND LIVELIHOODS, THROUGH SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND POLICIES AND STRATEGIC USE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE TALKS.

WHAT WE DO

Climate change creates environmental, economic and social constraints in all countries. Developing countries are particularly vulnerable to environmental shocks, and a single storm can wipe out a significant proportion of an island economy, setting back years of growth.

While they have little responsibility in today's environmental degradation, they face its devastating consequences. Yet, solutions exist. The conclusion of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement to deal with climate change, and progress on implementing the Montreal Protocol to protect the ozone layer, are two positive developments.

But the road is long to environmental sustainability, both on land and below water. Governments in developing countries will need to implement impactful policy solutions, working together with developed partners, to tackle the effects of climate change on their people and economies.

We strive for climate-resilient, sustainable economies and livelihoods, through support for environmentally-sound policies and strategic use of global climate talks.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- The UNFCCC is effectively leveraged in setting, monitoring and implementing equitable global climate strategies supportive of sustainable development
- Multilateral, plurilateral and regional trade and environmental frameworks and agreements contribute to a more sustainable trading system and livelihoods globally, supportive of SDGs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





THEME

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The economies of developing countries typically rely on sectors that are highly dependent on environmental resources, such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Long before the Paris Agreement, developing countries have embraced environment-related issues in their policy agendas, although their implementation capacity often remains limited. For more effective solutions and greater impact, CUTS helps them leverage cross-issue synergies and partnerships for environmental sustainability, both on land and below water.

ENVIRONMENT AND TRADE

On the frontline of climate change, developing countries have long embraced environment-related issues in their policy agendas. Yet, truly effective solutions require cross-issue synergies and coherence that are often lacking. We sensitise governments about key linkages of environment with trade, the rise of global value chains and the upcoming digital revolution.

LIFE ON LAND

Land-based natural resources, such as forests, fields and pastures, underpin many livelihoods in the developing world. These are however at risk, as 60% of the world's ecosystems are degraded. We promote their sustainable management, highlighting the potential roles of trade therein.

FISHERIES AND LIFE BELOW WATER

About 3 billion people depend on ocean and other water resources for their food and income. Yet, these are under threat from unsustainable environmental and trade practices. At a time when one third of global fish stocks are already overfished, we support WTO negotiators in ongoing efforts towards disciplining fisheries subsidies.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Times are no longer at taking from the environment to produce something, just to discard it back into it while polluting in the process. Recycling, and relocating waste back into the supply chain, offer more efficient ways to create value. We help developing countries harness the circular economy for their sustainable development, promoting innovative strategies for optimising resources, waste and material reuse.

FEATURED WORK

[ENVIRONMENT AND TRADE](#) | NOTE
ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WTO
<https://bit.ly/35V5APQ>

[LIFE BELOW WATER AND FISHERIES](#) | NOTE
THE EQUITY ASPECT OF FISHERIES SUBSIDIES
<https://bit.ly/2XZvz5a>

[CIRCULAR ECONOMY](#) | COUNTRY UPDATE
THE STATUS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN GAMBIA
<https://bit.ly/3xvt3ix>

[ENVIRONMENT AND TRADE](#) | PAPER
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN THE MULTILATERAL
TRADING SYSTEM
<https://bit.ly/3yOVwkF>

[CIRCULAR ECONOMY](#) | NOTE
TRADE AND PLASTICS MANAGEMENT: THE ROLE
OF WTO TOWARDS MORE CIRCULARITY
<https://bit.ly/2Rtny4O>



THEME

CLIMATE ACTION

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been the main place where all countries negotiate on tackling climate change. Since the historic Paris Agreement, countries are striving to limit global warming under 2°C, and adapt their economic, agricultural and social systems to what might be the greatest challenges of our time. Through our support, we help developing countries to participate in climate talks on a level-playing field.

CLIMATE TALKS

While UNFCCC Negotiations are complex, many areas remain critical for developing countries. Our work helps developing country groups to identify, defend and advance their interests in UNFCCC negotiations, backed by evidence and private sector feedback.

This year, we notably kept our beneficiaries updated on and during the COP26 Glasgow Climate Conference, through our “The Talk” reporting services. We highlighted what was at stake as the conference started, released a half-way update, and unpacked the final decision for our audience.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Sectors that are typically central to poor countries’ development are often highly climate-sensitive. These include agriculture, tourism and energy. Through research and advice, we help them devise adaptation strategies for more resilient economies.

CLIMATE MITIGATION

While developing countries have little responsibility in global warming, they face its devastating consequences and strive to mitigate it to the best of their capacity. Our work helps them craft mitigation solutions in areas of their interest, e.g. agriculture.

FEATURED WORK

[CLIMATE ADAPTATION](#) | RESEARCH STUDY
TRADE ASPECTS OF NATIONALLY DETERMINED
CONTRIBUTIONS (NDCS) IN SOUTH AND
SOUTHEAST ASIA
<https://bit.ly/3q1ng41>

[CLIMATE TALKS](#) | BRIEFING PAPER
THE NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS
IN THE LEAD-UP TO COP26 AND BEYOND:
STAKES FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/3pMzfmo>

[CLIMATE TALKS](#) | RESEARCH STUDY
THE NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS
IN THE LEAD-UP TO COP26 AND BEYOND:
STAKES FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/2Yq3ofH>

[CLIMATE CHANGE](#) | COUNTRY UPDATE
TRADE-RELATED MEASURES IN EGYPT'S
CLIMATE CHANGE NDC PLAN AND
IMPLEMENTATION
<https://bit.ly/3jfGgbx>

FEATURED EVENT

ASIAN NEGOTIATORS DISCUSS TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

Under our project “Trade and MSME Connection”, trade negotiators from South and Southeast Asia gathered at a forum meeting to exchange views on the latest developments under three ongoing trade and environment initiatives at the WTO: the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), the Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP), and Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR).

FEATURED EVENT

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM: TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

Under our project “Trade and MSME Connection”, trade negotiators from South and Southeast Asia gathered at a forum meeting to exchange views on the latest developments under three ongoing trade and environment initiatives at the WTO.

The WTO offers an important supporting framework for sustainable development and environment, and contributes to environmental conservation and preservation through specialised bodies, committees and agreements.

Delegates discussed the Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), the Informal Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP), and Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform (FFSR). It was emphasised that the 3 initiatives should take into account needs of developing countries, consider technical assistance and capacity building, and support collaboration and harmonisation on trade and environment issues through the sharing of experiences and best practices.

<https://bit.ly/3CirQzr>

“THE TALK”

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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CLIMATE TALKS | REPORTING

THE FUTURE OF THE UNFCCC: HOW CAN THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE PROCESS BE MORE EFFECTIVE?

<https://bit.ly/3ILsTts>

CLIMATE TALKS | REPORTING

IN GLASGOW, COP26 TALKS CONCLUDE FALLING SHORT OF EXPECTATIONS

<https://bit.ly/3notM3y>

CLIMATE TALKS | REPORTING

COP26: HALF-WAY UPDATE

<https://bit.ly/307pZ1f>

CLIMATE TALKS | REPORTING

COP 26: NOW OR NEVER TO PUT PARIS GOALS ON TRACK FOR EFFECTIVE CLIMATE ACTION AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

<https://bit.ly/3ohqYUV>

AGRICULTURE @UNFCCC | REPORTING

KORONIVIA JOINT WORK ON AGRICULTURE: PLENARY DISCUSSION ON TOPICS WITH POTENTIAL FOR SCALING-UP

<https://bit.ly/3pIVn0S>

AGRICULTURE @UNFCCC | REPORTING

KORONIVIA JOINT WORK ON AGRICULTURE: PARTY PRESENTATIONS

<https://bit.ly/3Et9NGB>

CLIMATE CHANGE | REPORTING

TRADE AND CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

<https://bit.ly/2YelgaX>

CLIMATE CHANGE | REPORTING

BUILDING BRIDGES: BORDER CARBON ADJUSTMENT AND THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM

<https://bit.ly/3ocWQvt>

CLIMATE FINANCE | REPORTING

THE CLIMATE DECADE : REACHING POSITIVE TIPPING POINTS TO REACH THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND HOW TO FINANCE THEM

<https://bit.ly/2XibUNr>

CLIMATE FINANCE | REPORTING

MAKING NET-ZERO FINANCE A REALITY

<https://bit.ly/2YNGjnn>

CLIMATE CHANGE | REPORTING

ACHIEVING A JUST TRANSITION: INVESTMENTS IN ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE IN EMERGING & DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

<https://bit.ly/2XcjUzG>

CLIMATE TALKS | REPORTING

LOOKING TO COP26 - TRANSFORMING CHANGE INTO OPPORTUNITY

<https://bit.ly/2YKTYv1>

PROGRAMME

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

DESPITE ITS HUGE POTENTIAL IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR OFTEN FALLS SHORT OF ENSURING FOOD SECURITY AND FACES MULTI-PRONGED CHALLENGES. TACKLING THESE FROM DOMESTIC REALITIES TO GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE RULES, WE PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS THAT SECURE FOOD FOR ALL.

WHAT WE DO

Agriculture is the backbone of most developing economies, where people rely on the sector both for their income and food consumption. Yet, 815 million people are hungry today, and two billion more will join them by 2050. Securing food for all will require profound changes in domestic and global agriculture systems, to produce enough food and ensure people have access to it.

Commercial farming is rare in developing countries. The majority are subsistence farmers, often women, who are ill-equipped to tap into markets and suffer losses from climate shocks. Most remain net food importers, while their exports lack value addition and are faced with a complex global agricultural trade regime, including rules governing subsidisation and the growing use of SPS measures for food safety.

Yet, the potential of agriculture is huge, and solutions exist. For instance, technology and digitalisation can help transform agricultural systems, making them more sustainable and attracting youth into new jobs.

We strive to support sustainable agricultural systems that secure food for all in developing countries, particularly marginalised communities. Among other dimensions, our work covers agricultural trade rules, climate-resilient agriculture, food security, agro-industrialisation, SPS measures etc.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Agricultural trade rules and food commodity markets function properly, allowing developing countries to leverage trade for better food production, value addition and security.
- Unleashed and sustainable agricultural systems in developing countries secure stable access to affordable, safe and nutritious food for their people, particularly in marginalised communities.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





THEME

AGRICULTURAL MARKETS

The value of food trade has tripled over the last 20 years, and will continue to grow as climate change casts increasing uncertainty in the sector. But most developing countries remain net food importers, while their exports are faced with a complex global agricultural trade regime, including rules governing subsidisation and the growing use of SPS measures for food safety. Our work promotes properly functioning agricultural trade rules and food commodity markets, which should allow developing countries to leverage trade to improve their food production, value addition and food security.

AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS

Agricultural markets are fast globalising, with large firms weaving value chains across continents. These can offer better wage, job and market opportunities for producers in developing countries, when partaking on fair terms. We support their fair participation in global agricultural value chains, taking advantage of domestic and international production networks.

AGRICULTURE SUBSIDIES

Subsidised farming, in countries who can afford it, may threaten producers elsewhere when unable to compete with artificially cheap imports. While the 2015 Nairobi package abolished export subsidies, global trade rules remain unbalanced as reform of domestic subsidies drag on. We help developing countries keep an eye on potentially trade-distorting subsidies that may affect them, and pursue rebalanced trade rules.

SPS MEASURES AND STANDARDS

Agricultural exporters in developing countries must comply with often complex requirements in import markets, such as Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures for food safety. We help them getting through, untangling the rules they need to align with.

FEATURED WORK

AGRICULTURE SUBSIDIES | NOTE

AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS AND WTO MC12: A COMMON PATH FORWARD FOR SELECT SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/2X7H3TK>

AGRICULTURE SUBSIDIES | RESEARCH STUDY
DOMESTIC SUPPORT IN THE WTO AGRICULTURE NEGOTIATIONS: OUTCOMES FOR MC12
<https://bit.ly/3jxR7gY>

AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS | EVENT
THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT
<https://bit.ly/3yuakW4>

AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAINS | NOTE
THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT OF SELECTED SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES
<https://bit.ly/3lwGTiC>



THEME

FOOD SECURITY

Today, 815 million people are hungry. By 2050, they will be two more billion. Unleashing the food and agriculture sector can help reverse this trend, if sound solutions are implemented to tackle current challenges related to trade, climate change, technology and finance among others. By raising awareness about this nexus, we strive to ensure that more people, particularly in marginalised communities, have stable access to affordable, safe and nutritious food in developing countries.

RURAL LIVELIHOODS

The majority of smallholder farmers in developing countries, mainly women, have the potential to grow food for all and generate income for themselves. We help them unleash their production potential by tackling challenges in technology, finance, energy, investment, land law and access to inputs etc.

CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

Mostly rain-fed, food production in developing countries is highly vulnerable to climate shocks. Erratic floods and drought have led to lower productivity and post-harvest losses, putting food security at risk. To secure food for all, we advise on the adoption of climate-resilient policy solutions.

FOOD PROCESSING

Increasing the shelf life of food produced can help feed more people. Indeed, raw foods often suffer climate-induced post-harvest losses, or rot before they can reach consumers on markets. To promote more stable food access and higher incomes, we support holistic policies for agro-processing.

PUBLIC FOOD STOCKHOLDING

To ensure food security, governments may buy local food stocks and sell them cheaper to poor families. As revised WTO rules governing such programmes are being sought, our forums for trade negotiators advise them in this endeavour.

FEATURED WORK

RURAL LIVELIHOODS | EVENT

AGRICULTURE IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD: HOW CAN TRADE, RESILIENCE AND INCLUSIVITY SUPPORT FOOD FOR ALL?

<https://bit.ly/3GN8sfv>

FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING

FAIRTRADE FARMERS: OUR FOOD AND THE FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

<https://bit.ly/3q2wSMc>

FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING

FROM HALF-RIPE TO FULLY DIGITAL – HOW TO SUPPORT RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS THROUGH DIGITAL TRADE PROCESSES

<https://bit.ly/3kX7vbB>

CLIMATE-RESILIENT FARMING | REPORTING

DEEP DIVES INTO NEXUS OF FOOD SYSTEMS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND NUTRITION

<https://bit.ly/3BOD4u0>

RURAL LIVELIHOODS | REPORTING

ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS GOOD FOOD FOR ALL: EXPLORING A NEW CONSENSUS FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

<https://bit.ly/3A9Xgpg>

FEATURED EVENT

How can Trade, Resilience and Inclusivity Support Food for All?

Partnering with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) on the occasion of its first-ever Trade + Sustainability Hub conference, CUTS Geneva co-organised a virtual session which explored how trade, resilience and inclusivity can support food for all in a post-pandemic world.

Featured Event

AGRICULTURE IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD: HOW CAN TRADE, RESILIENCE AND INCLUSIVITY SUPPORT FOOD FOR ALL?

This virtual discussion explored how governments can revisit trade policy frameworks to improve resilience of the global food system to future shocks, particularly for LDCs and other developing countries.

It reflected on what are the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change on global markets for food and agriculture; and what governments could do to ensure that trade policy contributes to achieving the SDGs in the current market and policy environment.

Lastly, the session created a space for policy-makers and other participants to explore what progress can be achieved in the near future, including through synergies with other policy areas key in achieving food for all, notably climate action and digital transformation.

The event was co-organised by CUTS, IISD and FAO as part of the Trade and Sustainability Hub 2021, which convened over 50 partners, 150 speakers, and 1800 registered participants from civil society, government, business, and international organizations to discuss how to ensure trade policies contribute to sustainable development. CUTS was a core partner of IISD in organising the conference.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE / REPORTING

“THE TALK”

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

“THE TALK” IS A REPORTING SERVICE BY CUTS WHICH HIGHLIGHTS LESSONS FROM RECENT DIALOGUES IN THE FIELDS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, ECONOMIC POLICY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE.



FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING
HELPING EVERYONE EAT BETTER:
DEMYSTIFYING THE ENVIRONMENTAL
CHALLENGES WE FACE AND SHARING SIMPLE
STEPS WE CAN ALL TAKE TO MAKE A BIG
DIFFERENCE

<https://bit.ly/3D1DMFa>

RURAL LIVELIHOODS | REPORTING
FAIRTRADE FARMERS: OUR FOOD AND THE
FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

<https://bit.ly/3q2wSMe>

CLIMATE-RESILIENT FARMING | REPORTING
DEEP DIVES INTO NEXUS OF FOOD SYSTEMS,
CLIMATE CHANGE AND NUTRITION

<https://bit.ly/3BOD4uO>

AGRICULTURAL TRADE | REPORTING
TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL TRADE

<https://bit.ly/3FcImC6>

AGRICULTURAL TRADE | REPORTING
ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE ACROSS THE
AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

<https://bit.ly/3FakKhs>

FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING
ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS GOOD
FOOD FOR ALL: EXPLORING A NEW
CONSENSUS FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

<https://bit.ly/3A9Xgpg>

FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING
UN FSS PRE-SUMMIT: FOOD SYSTEMS IN
COUNTRY NDCS

<https://bit.ly/2VhJkuB>

FOOD SECURITY | REPORTING
TOWARDS A ZERO HUNGER, NOURISH THE
FUTURE PLEDGE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

<https://bit.ly/3lsquCA>

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- Trade and environment at MC12: How can governments work together at the WTO to support a green and fair global economy? (Sep. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2Y5xu81>
- Youth ecopreneurs: Innovating to build back greener (Sep. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3io1e78>
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- Turning Our Shared COVID-19 Experiences into Collective Multilateral Actions to Build Resilience for Vulnerable Members and Groups (Sep. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2Wlba3X>
- What role and scope for green government procurement in an open international trade environment? (Sep. 29, 2021). <https://bit.ly/39KlBa0>
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- Tailoring trade provisions to crisis to enhance resilience (Sep. 29, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3kNL9JM>
- Facilitating transit and transport operation in crisis situation: Lessons learned from COVID-19 (Sep. 29, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3F1RGs9>
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- Quality Infrastructure for post COVID-19 resilience in Africa (Sep. 29, 2021). <https://bit.ly/39M5Zmm>
- Looking at WTO agreements and beyond to support business recovery. Can the WTO help to tackle illicit trade? (Sep. 29, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3upAd8r>
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- Trade Beyond COVID-19: Building Resilience (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3CYThNT>
- The triple “R” approach to trade: Resilience, robustness and rights-based (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3EYiSbs>
- Building bridges: Border carbon adjustment and the multilateral trading system (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3ocWQvt>

- How to construct a global governance architecture for digital trade (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3A00wmR>
- Advancing sustainable trade across the agricultural sector (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3FakKhs>
- Building ocean resilience beyond COVID: Global call for collective action on fisheries subsidies (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3kJCNTj>
- Women in international trade: The great accelerator of economic recovery (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3ifYqJk>
- TradeTech for inclusive and sustainable trade (Sep. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/39IfmU6>

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CLIMATE INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2021

- The Climate Decade : Reaching Positive Tipping Points to Reach the Paris Agreement, and How to Finance Them (Sep. 10, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2XibUNr>
- Making Net-Zero Finance a Reality : Cross-Sector Collaboration for Financing Climate-Resilient Development & a Green Recovery (Sep. 09, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2YNGjnn>

- Achieving a Just Transition: Investments in Adaptation & Resilience in Emerging & Developing Economies (Sep. 08, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2XcjUzG>
- Looking to COP26 – Transforming Change into Opportunity (Sep. 08, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2YKTYvl>

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UNCTAD IGE: COMPETITION POLICY

- Review of chapter XIII of the Model Law on Competition, part 2: Commentaries (Jul. 09, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3xvGGPR>
- Competition advocacy during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis (Jul. 09, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2TQ9mUU>
- Closing Plenary (Jul. 09, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2Tz3QWU>
- Review of capacity-building in and technical assistance on competition law and policy (Jul. 08, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3xpFQUx>
- Competition law, policy and regulation in the digital era (Jul. 08, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3hQKZyo>
- Voluntary peer review on competition law and policy: Malawi (Jul. 08, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3wliePK>

- Opening Plenary (Jul. 07, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3hHNtPC>
- International experiences and best practices in competition law enforcement against cross-border cartels (Jul. 07, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3AAWaE1>

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UNCTAD IGE: CONSUMER PROTECTION

- Consumer law, policy and regulatory actions in response to and in the aftermath of the COVID19 pandemic (Jul. 06, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3hD3AOj>
- Closing plenary (Jul. 06, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3yvvvqy>
- Report of the working groups on consumer product safety, consumer protection in electronic commerce, and modalities of UNCTAD voluntary peer reviews of competition and consumer protection (Jul. 06, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3dOIBat>
- Opening Plenary (Jul. 05, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3hg44eg>
- Consumer protection needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers in connection with public utilities (Jul. 05, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3AuA4mF>

- Voluntary Peer Review on Consumer Protection Law and Policy of Chile (Jul. 05, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3At10mP>

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UN TRADE FORUM 2021

- Good economics for hard times (Jun. 15, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3www2rE>
- Towards a more inclusive world. What can trade do? (Jun. 15, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3vq1c2n>
- Towards a green and inclusive recovery: Trade after the crisis (Jun. 14, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3vvZX1T>
- The green side of trade policy, what can we do? (Jun. 14, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3xcBoYW>

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OTHER REPORTING

- The Role of Advanced technologies in Cross-border Trade: a customs perspective (Mar. 29, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3j3TbFL>
- Accelerating Progress in Trade and Gender: New Policies and Data Developments (Mar. 23, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3uBiH1g>

- Briefing: WTO initiatives on environment & sustainable development: windows of opportunity for biodiversity (Mar. 23, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3DI76Ym>
- Think Up! #1: Financing Change: Trade Finance to Women Entrepreneurs' Rescue (Mar. 09, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3wcm9Sj>
- Empowering Women to Trade Green (Mar. 08, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3u14MRZ>
- Update on the Informal Working Group on MSMEs: February 2022 (Feb. 28, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3sVxTqt>
- Update on the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce: February 2022 (Feb. 28, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3sSZaKe>
- Update on the Joint Statement on Investment Facilitation: February 2022 (Feb. 28, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3MBojkj>
- Catalysing Young African Agri-entrepreneurs' Investments (Feb. 03, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3gw5xfq>
- Launch of the technical study Gender Mainstreaming in Free Trade Agreements: A Regional Analysis and Good Practice Examples (Jan. 27, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3IKc6Hf>
- The Future of the UNFCCC: How Can the International Climate Process Be More Effective? (Jan. 24, 2022). <https://bit.ly/3ILsTts>

- Update on the Joint Statement Initiatives: August 2021 (Aug. 31, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3jufhZN>
- Mise à jour sur les initiatives conjointes: Août 2021 (Aug. 31, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2V2KZEh>
- Últimas noticias sobre las Iniciativas Conjuntas: Agosto 2021 (Aug. 31, 2021). <https://bit.ly/38q9HBF>
- Informal Presidency workshop on the Global Goal on Adaptation: Africa Regional Climate Week Session (Aug. 17, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3mcG6nb>
- Deep Dives into Nexus of Food Systems, Climate Change and Nutrition (Jul. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3BOD4uO>
- Accelerating Progress towards Good Food for All: Exploring a New Consensus for Smallholder Farmers (Jul. 28, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3A9Xgpq>
- UN FSS Pre-Summit: Food Systems in Country NDCs (Jul. 27, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2VhJkuB>
- Towards a Zero Hunger, Nourish the Future Pledge For the Private Sector (Jul. 26, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3lsguCA>
- July 15: WTO Ministers Give Political Boost to Fisheries Subsidies Talks (Jul. 15, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3zeOLug>
- Greening Aid for Trade and the SDGs (Jun. 25, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3ddg1Ps>

- Perspectives and approaches to sustainable post-Covid-19 recovery (Jun. 22, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3d2CjDr>
- Covid-19 and Green Economic Recovery: What Roles for Sustainable Tourism? (Jun. 22, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3x1q561>
- COVID-19 Technical Cooperation Project on Competition Policy & MSMEs' Resurgence (Jun. 18, 2021). <https://bit.ly/35Fxxb6>
- Update on the Informal Working Group on MSMEs: November 2021 (Nov. 20, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3uDi2xR>
- Update on the Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce: November 2021 (Nov. 20, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3gBg2hr>
- Update on the Joint Statement on Investment Facilitation: November 2021 (Nov. 20, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3LIRwPt>
- Mise à jour sur les initiatives conjointes: Mai 2021 (May. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3BtUuvO>
- Últimas noticias sobre las Iniciativas Conjuntas: Mayo 2021 (May. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3DxwnOz>
- Update on the Joint Statement Initiatives: May 2021 (May. 30, 2021). <https://bit.ly/2WxqUpX>

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AUDIT REPORT

AUDITOR'S REPORT

CUTS International, Geneva

Accounts from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

As statutory Auditors, we have audited the accounting records and financial statements (Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure accounts and annexes) of your organisation for the year ended 31 March 2022.

While responsibility for the preparation of annual accounts rests with the Director of CUTS International, Geneva with the approval of the General Assembly, our mission is to verify these accounts and express an opinion. We confirm that we meet the qualification of independence.

Our audit was conducted in accordance with professional standards in Switzerland. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit so that material misstatement in the financial statements can be identified with reasonable assurance. We checked the items and the information in them by conducting tests and examination on a random basis. In addition, we appreciated the way the rules on the accounting principles have been applied, the significant way of evaluation and the presentation of the annual accounts. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the accounting records and financial statements at 31 March 2022 are consistent with legal requirements.

The activity of your organisation complies with the goals outlined in your statutes.

We propose to the General Assembly of CUTS International, Geneva to accept the accounts as at 31 March 2022 presented to it.

Geneva, 9 June 2022

Serge Humberset
Certified Auditor
Director
FFS COMPTABILITE & FISCALITE SA



AUDIT REPORT

INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	Swiss Francs	Swiss Francs
INCOME		
Grants	610 179.03	665 556.70
Donations	-	3 198.03
Bank Interest Received	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	610 179.03	668 754.73
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries & social salaries	479 799.65	630 680.00
Indemnités RHT	-	-142 603.55
Office Costs	64 805.24	58 002.58
Hospitality	645.08	229.00
Seminars & workshops	-	-2 000.00
Charges to project	6 579.95	88 373.17
Depreciation Fixed Assets	160.00	267.00
Currency fluctuation loss	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	551 989.92	632 948.20
Excess of income over expenditure	58 189.11	35 806.53
Excess of expenditure over income	-	-

For CUTS INTERNATIONAL

AUDITOR'S REPORT

In terms of our report of even date annexed here to

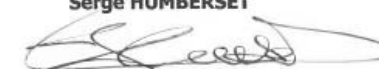
For FFS COMPTABILITE & FISCALITE SA
Serge HUMBERSET


BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	Swiss Francs	Swiss Francs
ASSETS		
Fixed Assets	642.00	802.00
Charges paid in advance	-	-
Cash & Bank balance	178 686.96	50 869.93
TOTAL ASSETS	179 328.96	51 671.93
LIABILITIES		
Grants received in advance	70 000.00	-
Charges dues	1 917.97	2 451.05
General Reserve	49 220.88	13 414.35
Excess of income over expenditure	58 189.11	35 806.53
Excess of expenditure over income	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	179 327.96	51 671.93

AUDITOR'S REPORT

In terms of our report of even date annexed here to

For FFS COMPTABILITE & FISCALITE SA
Serge HUMBERSET


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