

Capability Statement

Mission

To establish and promote a pro-trade pro-equity credible Southern NGO voice linked with the grassroots, and with a multi-stakeholder and holistic approach in the policy-making circles working on trade and development-related issues in Geneva.

Our Strategy embeds relevant SDGs in all areas of our work, from conception to implementation to evaluation.

Resources & Partnerships

- Track record of bringing about better policies through people's involvement and analysis across a wide and ever-expanding range of trade and development topics. These include climate change, investment, regulation, competition, trade policy, services, e-commerce, agriculture etc.
- Ability to leverage CUTS centres on **3** continents, for fast and cost-efficient operations with access to an extensive network of partners and experts. Strategic alliances and partnerships in over **50** countries.
- Robust financial management and M&E systems, with track record of successfully handling multi-million US\$ projects.
- Experienced staff including former government officials and WTO negotiators, trained on M&E and results-based management techniques.
- Observer status to the WTO, UNCTAD and UNFCCC, and excellent relationships with ITC, FAO, UNEP etc.
- Over **15'000** state and non-state actors around the world, mainly from developing countries, receive our regular research and advocacy communications.

Programme Areas

● Trading System

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.

WTO Regular Work | WTO Negotiations | WTO Reform | JSIs | | WTO Structured Discussions-Commerce | Regional Integration | National Trade Policy and Policy Making Processes | Plurilaterals

● Functioning Markets

Inclusive and progressive structural transformation require sound regulations and well-functioning markets. We help governments craft sound policy environments on trade, competition, investment, consumer protection, services, industrial and private sector development, technology and innovation, e-commerce and more.

Standards | Competition | Investment | Consumer Protection | MSMEs | Value Chains | Innovation & Technology | Digital Economy ...

● Environment and Climate Change

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.

Climate Talks | Adaptation | Mitigation | Agriculture | Technology Transfer | Finance | ...

● Food and Agriculture

Despite its huge potential in many developing countries, the agriculture sector often falls short of securing food for all and faces multi-pronged challenges. Tackling these from domestic realities to global agricultural trade rules, our support aims to promote sustainable agricultural systems that ensure food security.

Food security | Commodity Markets | Agricultural Trade | ...

Achievements

- **Broke Policy "Silos"**: We inspired several national policies to draw synergies across trade, climate change, food security and agro-processing issues. This includes Kenya's Environment and Trade Policies, Uganda's Trade Sector Development Plan, Burundi's Industrialization Policy, and Rwanda's Trade Policy Forum.
- **Smarter Negotiations**: Through using CUTS' analysis, grassroots contacts and regular forums, developing country WTO delegates and Ambassadors reported being better able to understand issues under discussion/negotiations. This has contributed to their better-informed participation on WTO issues, both traditional and newer ones (E-Commerce, Investment Facilitation, Gender, MSMEs, Environment etc.)
- **Empowered People**: We enabled more stakeholders including women to participate in a number of policy-making and implementation processes across Western, Southern and Eastern Africa as well as South Asia.
- **Sustained Results**: Our projects inspired a substantial number of locally-own, spin-off initiatives. For instance, our PACT EAC project alone was found to have triggered over **30** similar initiatives in East Africa.

Where we Are and Work



Testimonials

Geneva Missions



"I would like to appreciate what CUTS in Geneva is doing to assist the EAC countries in developing trade related issues like capacity building."

"CUTS has produced a lot of research on economic and trade activities in East Africa, which we use to advance our arguments and discussions on WTO issues."

Christopher Onyanga Aparr, Former Ambassador to United Nations and World Trade Organisation in Geneva.



"This is indeed a huge contribution from CUTS advising EAC Members how we can better attract FDI with responsible and sustainable investment principles."

Edouard Bizumuremyi, Former Commercial Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Rwanda in Geneva



"I thank you for your continued cooperation and look forward to explore further areas of cooperation with CUTS International"

Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, Deputy Secretary-General, East African Community Secretariat



"CUTS success in addressing contemporary development issues from the grassroots to the international policy arena, has made it one of the globally-noted organizations."

Hanna S. Tetteh, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Ghana (2013-2014)



"I am thankful to CUTS International for its work in the region, its comprehensive and inclusive strategy of interlinked research-advocacy, networking and training activities."

Hon. Joelson Mpina, Former Deputy Minister of State, Union Affairs and Environment, Tanzania

Development Partners



"Sweden is a proud partner to CUTS International, the East African Community, and all stakeholders of the programme."

Karin Anderson, Former Head of Regional Development Cooperation Section, Embassy of Sweden, Nairobi



"For 30 years CUTS has often been one of the few voices to make the case for free trade and for citizens to be empowered by openness, transparency and accountability."

Justine Greening, Secretary of State for International Development, UK (2012-2016)



"The Australian Government has a long and productive relationship with CUTS, in the policy and development fields."

Peter Varghese, Foreign Secretary, Australia (2012-2016)

International Organisations



"The work that we have been doing together with CUTS has been geared towards liberalising trade in a way capacity can be built and a kind of fairness can be guaranteed for the consumers at large"

Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary-General UNCTAD (2005-2013)



"CUTS has the distinction of initiating thoughtful work on emerging issues and having physical presence in various regions. This gives CUTS a unique advantage to connect grassroots with Geneva."

Yonov Frederick Agah, Former Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization



"CUTS has not only provided a constructive voice to the South on trade but also on other related areas like competition and aid for trade"

Arancha Gonzalez, Former Executive Director, International Trade Centre