

## 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.

## Resources & Partnerships

- Observer status to the WTO, UNCTAD and UNFCCC, and excellent working relationships with ITC, FAO, UNEP etc.
- Experienced staff including former government officials and WTO negotiators
- Robust financial management and M&E systems, with track record of successfully handling multi-million US\$ projects.
- Strategic alliances and partnerships with like-minded organisations in over 50 countries, including African and Least-Developed countries.
- Ability to leverage CUTS centres on 3 continents, for fast and cost-efficient operations with access to an extensive network of partners and experts.

## Programme Areas

### ● Global South & Multilateral Trade

We assist developing country negotiators in the WTO, while connecting them to state and non-state actors in the Global South including their grassroots and capitals.

### ● Regional Integration & South-South Cooperation

We support regional integration and promote experience-sharing through inter-regional cooperation projects in the South. We see regional integration as a building block towards global integration, which should not lead to a fragmented world and "regional fortresses".

### ● Regulatory Reforms

We support policy makers in crafting and implementing balanced, transparent regulations on services, competition, investment, consumer protection and selected economic sectors.

### ● Linkages for Holistic Policies

We analyse and develop capacity of stakeholders about the linkage across economic sectors and issues like trade, agriculture, the environment etc. This is to "break silos" towards more holistic and coherent policies.

### ● Empowering Stakeholders

We adopt a bottom-up approach that promotes the engagement of key stakeholders in designing and implementing economic development policies, from the national to the international level.

## Impact & Outreach

- Linkages between climate change, food security and trade were built in several national policies and inter-ministerial committees as a result of PACT EAC (Promoting Agriculture-Climate-Trade Linkages in the EAC) project. For instance, the new Kenya Environment Policy now includes a dedicated section on trade and environment.
- Successfully established several forums for developing country WTO delegates and Ambassadors, who reported the use of CUTS' support materials, advice and grassroots contacts to develop positions. This has improved the participation of South Asian, West African, and Eastern and Southern African countries in the WTO.
- Increased stakeholder inclusiveness of a number of policy-making and implementation processes across Western, Southern and Eastern Africa as well as South Asia. Our inclusiveness indexes developed under the FEATS (Fostering Equity & Accountability in the Trading System) and EIF sPokes projects were path-breaking in this regard.
- Since the BIEAC (Building an Inclusive EAC) project and the resulting institutionalization of CSO-government dialogue on East African trade integration, CSOs now sit in various governmental bodies such as the "National Implementation Committees of EAC processes" and the "Non-Tariff Barriers Monitoring Committees".
- Our projects inspired a substantial number of locally-own spin-off projects. For instance, the PACT EAC project alone was found to have triggered over 30 similar initiatives in East Africa.
- Over 3000 stakeholders around the world, mainly from developing countries, receive our regular research and advocacy communications.
- Established national and regional networks that bring together, informed, trained and moved to advocacy action hundreds of stakeholders who often formed a critical mass for policy change.

## Future Plans

- Building trust and convergence among WTO members towards concluding the Doha round and reviving trade multilateralism
- Improving inclusiveness and comprehensiveness in the formulation and implementation of trade, investment, competition, environment and other related policies at the national, regional and multilateral levels
- Upscaling our work on climate change, food security and consumer protection

# 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**, Ambassador to United Nations and World Trade Organisation in Geneva, and Coordinator of the LDC Group at the WTO in 2014.



"I think the EAC Geneva Forum should not end next year, because the capacity building in this area is very essential. Another extension of three years would be better and we would find a way to sustain the programme after that."

"Delegates in my mission have a big appreciation of CUTS, because they are learning a lot from CUTS-organised meetings where exchange of views and ideas is always a matter of the day."

"New colleagues who join the diplomatic corps would need to be part and parcel of this CUTS programme"

**Modest Jonathan Mero**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Tanzania to the UN 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**, Commercial Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Rwanda in Geneva

## Development Partners



"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

## National & Regional



"I am glad that CUTS is a partner in our agenda for integration and development, including our collaboration in EAC agriculture - climate change-trade linkages and the EAC Geneva Forum. I thank you for this partnership."

**Richard Sezibera**, 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



"I thank CUTS International for championing the promotion of linkages between climate, food and trade for better planning within the EAC region"

**Flavia Nabugere Munaaba**, Minister of State for Water and Environment, Uganda

## International Organisations



"The study by CUTS Geneva on "Agricultural Linkages with Trade, Productivity, Livelihood and Food Security" sets out a very important menu of recommendations for our consideration: increasing agricultural productivity, promoting regional trade, educating and building the capacities of farmers and traders..."

**Pascal Lamy**, Director General World Trade Organization (2005-2013)



"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**, Deputy Director General, World Trade Organization