

PUBLICATIONS

Research Reports

- Enforcing Competition Law in Zambia
- Investment Policy in Zambia – *Performance and Perceptions*

Monographs

- Market Practices in Zambia: *Where do the Consumers Stand?*
- Investment Policy in Zambia – *An Agenda for Action*

Policy Briefs

- COMESA Competition Policy – *A Consumer Perspective*
- The Trade Performance under AGOA and Cotonou Initiatives: *The Case of Tanzania*
- COMESA Regional Trade Agreements – *The Zambian Experience*
- Investment Policy – Performance and Perceptions: *Case Studies of Tanzania and Zambia*
- Economic Partnership Agreement Negotiations: *Cotonou Undermined*
- PRSP and HIPC Completion Point: *Unravelling Zambian experience*

Newsletters

Tradequity

A quarterly newsletter which covers news on economic and trade issues in the context of World Trade Organisation (WTO) relevant for the African region.

Consumer Watch

This quarterly e-newsletter is a joint initiative of CUTS ARC and Zambia Consumer Association (ZACA), published with the objective of enhancing consumer welfare through sensitisation, information dissemination and capacity building of consumers, business entities and the Government.

Weekly Trade Highlights

This is a weekly electronic news bulletin on trade, economic and consumer-related stories disseminated to partners.

PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT

- HIVOS, Regional Office, Zimbabwe;
- Ford Foundation, US;
- Department for International Development (DFID), UK;
- Commonwealth Foundation (CF);
- Oxfam Novib, The Netherlands;
- Danish Association for International Co-operation (MS-Zambia);
- The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); and
- Embassy of Finland, Zambia.

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CUTS offices also at Jaipur, Calcutta, Chittorgarh and New Delhi (India); Nairobi (Kenya); Hanoi (Vietnam); London (UK); Geneva (Switzerland).

To function as a resource, coordination as well as networking centre to promote South-South cooperation on trade and development by involving state and non-state actors

CUTS
AFRICA
RESOURCE
CENTRE,
LUSAKA



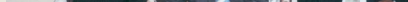
BACKGROUND

Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International) has been working out of its offices in India, since 1983. It started off as a small consumer rights group working on local issues (in the city of Jaipur in northern India); but graduated over the years into an international civil society organisation with a fairly good reputation of having implemented projects combining research and policy advocacy in various parts of Asia and Africa on issues related to consumer protection, international trade and competition policy.

A decision to establish an office in Lusaka, Zambia stemmed from the findings of a project on competition issues that CUTS International had been implementing in four countries in the region. The establishment of CUTS Africa Resource Centre (CUTS ARC) in Lusaka in the year 2000 was a first big step taken by the organisation in expanding its physical presence outside India.

ABOUT THE CENTRE

CUTS ARC functions as a resource centre for Africa-based civil society organisations (CSOs), besides being involved itself with research, advocacy and networking activities. Its establishment signifies a step forward in development of a close and beneficial relationship between Africa and Asia especially on South-South economic cooperation through civil society actions. The Centre works with several national, regional and international organisations on areas such as trade, competition policy, foreign direct investment (FDI), economic regulation and consumer protection.



OBJECTIVES

- Promote South-South civil society co-operation on trade and development;
- Create and build long-term capacity of civil society representatives to address issues of equity and accountability; and
- Coordinate and implement CUTS projects in Africa.

ACTIVITIES

- Policy Research
- Capacity Building
- Co-ordination and Networking
- Information Dissemination and Outreach



PROJECTS

A Comparative Study of Competition Regimes in Seven Selected Countries of the Commonwealth (7Up)

Examined the national and regional understanding of competition regimes, which involved both research and advocacy on competition policy and consumer protection.

Investment for Development (IFD)

Provided information and understanding to policy-making bodies for designing and implementing investment policies that facilitate development.



Competition Policy and Consumer Protection

Provided support to consumer organisations in Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Mozambique for bringing out brief essays on competition policy and consumer protection issues.

Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction (TDP)

Explored the linkages between trade, development and poverty reduction by conducting perception analysis of relevant stakeholders and lobbying for enabling policy and practice changes.

Capacity Building for Media Coverage on Trade and Economic Issues in Zambia

Created awareness among media representatives about the ongoing Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations to enable proper reporting on the process; thereby enhancing their ability to analytically report on trade and development issues.

Fostering Equity and Accountability in the Trading System (FEATS)

Addressing a core issue of raising awareness among civil society, for better coherence between development and trade policies in Eastern and Southern Africa.