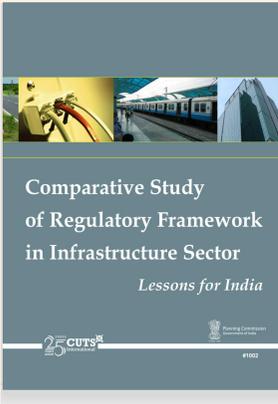


# CUTS LATEST PUBLICATIONS

## COMPETITION & INVESTMENT



## Comparative Study of Regulatory Framework in Infrastructure Sector – Lessons for India

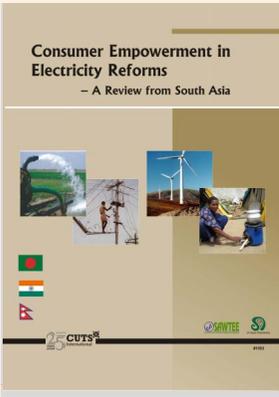
For the Indian economy to achieve and sustain a high growth rate, creation of quality infrastructure is critical. It is estimated that India needs more than a trillion dollars of investment in infrastructure. The Report focuses on how such a regime can be developed by studying international experience in infrastructure regulation. It assumes as its operating premise the need for a regulatory framework to be transparent, consistent, effective and independent of the government.

It analyses and compares the institutional and governance aspects of regulatory frameworks in seven countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka and UK. On the basis of such comparison lessons are identified for India.

*Research Report*

*Suggested Contribution: Rs 495/US\$60*

## COMPETITION & INVESTMENT



## Consumer Empowerment in Electricity Reforms – A Review from South Asia

The report reviews the status of consumer participation in the regulatory reform process in the project countries, Namely, Bangladesh, India (Rajasthan and West Bengal) and Nepal. It concludes that most of the consumers are not satisfied with the existing complaint redressal mechanism as well as the quality of service available to them. Moreover, there is a need to conduct capacity building activities so that consumers become aware of their rights as well as responsibilities.

This Report is useful not only for researchers but also for policy makers and regulators as it provides a comprehensive review of the status of reforms and consumer participation in select South Asian countries which could pave the way forward for future regulatory reforms for ensuring effective consumer participation.

*Research Report*

*Suggested Contribution: Rs 350/US\$30*



**Consumer Unity & Trust Society**

**March-April 2010**

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**BRIEFING PAPER**

**Reforming and Strengthening the WTO:  
Some Reflections and Suggestions**

**Introduction**  
The paper provides a brief, high-level overview of the WTO's functioning and its objectives with a view to identifying areas for reform and strengthening. It also discusses the role of the WTO in the global development debate and offers suggestions for reform and strengthening. The paper is intended to provide a starting point for discussion and debate on the WTO's role in the global development debate and offers suggestions for reform and strengthening.

# Reforming and Strengthening the WTO: Some Reflections and Suggestions

This briefing paper seeks to contribute to the ongoing reform discussion and focuses on three areas: the first section reviews WTO's objectives and puts them into the context of the global development debate. The second section takes up some of the fundamental criticism of the WTO and discusses its justification. The third section explores two rather neglected WTO areas, i.e., the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM) and the WTO accession process and offers reform proposals.

It is argued that comparably small procedural improvements would already have significant impacts. They could be implemented simultaneously with the Doha Round, would allow the WTO to better contribute to the achievement of its objectives and, thereby, to counteract criticism.

*This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:  
[http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing\\_Paper10-Reforming\\_and\\_Strengthening\\_the\\_WTO.pdf](http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper10-Reforming_and_Strengthening_the_WTO.pdf)*

**BRIEFING PAPER**

**Facilitating Sustainable Development  
in the Developing World  
Ensuring that Economic Growth is Inclusive  
and Environmentally Sustainable**

**Introduction**  
This paper examines the interplay of economic development, social equity and environmental sustainability. It argues that economic growth that is inclusive and environmentally sustainable is the only path to sustainable development. The paper offers suggestions for reform and strengthening of the WTO to better contribute to the achievement of its objectives and, thereby, to counteract criticism.

# Facilitating Sustainable Development in the Developing World: Ensuring that Economic Growth is Inclusive and Environmentally Sustainable

The term 'sustainable development' is probably the most frequently used piece of terminology in current discourses on development. Much of the use is from a specific point of view: the user's intention is often to focus on a specific type of sustainability - for instance, sustainability of the environment, of financial systems or of economic growth.

This paper emphasises that a meaningful concept of sustainable development necessarily has to be holistic in nature as the economic, environmental and social aspects of human behaviour and quality of life are closely linked. It critically reviews the literature on sustainable development concepts that explicitly recognise this linkage and uses this review as well as the recent development experience of India and China to develop an operational definition and indicators of sustainable development.

*This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:  
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BRIEFING PAPER

Reforming the World Trade Organisation: Developing Countries in the Doha Round

Abstract
Of the poorest beneficiaries of developing...
Introduction
The WTO is the largest international...
The WTO is the largest international...

Reforming the World Trade Organisation: Developing Countries in the Doha Round

This paper reviews some of the conventional wisdom in the academic literature about the role of developing countries in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) until the launch of the Uruguay Round, provides evidence to rebut the arguments presented by these mainstream writers.

This paper analyses the role of developing country alliances in the WTO and provides a conceptual framework to assess the contribution of the stronger developing country groups in the WTO. It is also concerned about the reform of the WTO and its institutions and addressed the need to introduce fundamental changes to the practices and institutions of the WTO in order to address the existing asymmetries inherited from the old GATT, created in 1947 and largely incorporated into the WTO in 1995.

This Briefing Paper can be viewed at:

http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing\_Paper10-Reforming\_the\_World\_Trade\_Organisation.pdf

CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economic & Environmental Discussion Paper

Tapping the Untapped: Renewing the Nation Focus on renewable sources especially solar energy



Abstract
Two complementary pathways have been suggested, by scientists and environmentalists, to reduce human impact on climate: reduction in magnitudes of human consumption through limits on per capita levels as well as population growth; and a greater reliance on renewable sources at the expense of non-renewable ones.

Tapping the Untapped: Renewing the Nation – Focus on renewable sources especially solar energy

Two complementary pathways have been suggested, by scientists and environmentalists, to reduce human impact on climate: reduction in magnitudes of human consumption through limits on per capita levels as well as population growth; and a greater reliance on renewable sources at the expense of non-renewable ones.

This discussion paper focuses on the mentioned second pathway and addresses various problems caused by the usage of conventional sources of energy, i.e. fossil fuels, and the benefits of increasing dependence on non-conventional/renewable sources for our energy requirements. It evaluates economic viability of alternative sources of energy, especially solar energy and comes up with policy explanations on the basis of sound research and analysis.

This Discussion Paper can be viewed at:

http://www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Discussion\_Paper10-Tapping\_the\_Untapped-Renewing\_the\_Nation.pdf

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