

Inclusive Growth, Economic Integration and Sustainable Development in Africa



CUTS Africa Resource Centres were established to promote South-South cooperation on trade and development and create the long-term capacity of civil society representatives to address equity and accountability issues. This Dossier provides a brief overview of trade and economic activities in Africa.

1. Public-Private Dialogues on AfCFTA Implementation Issues in Ghana

Client: GIZ Trade Hub

Duration: June-December 2023

Budget: GHC 514,000



The overall objective is to improve public and private dialogue relations between the government and the private sector to bolster the discourse on African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) thereby improving the implementation issues.

2. Technical Advice to the Government of Ghana on its Competition Law and Policy

Client: CoWater International, British High Commission, Accra

Duration: March-April 2023

Budget: £34,000

The overall objective is to provide technical advice and support to the government of Ghana, through the Ministry of Trade and Industry in the draft of its Competition Policy and Law.



3. Non-State Actors Capacity Building Programme in the SADC Region

Client: Southern African Development Community

Duration: 2021-2023



The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of regional civil society organisations (CSOs) and their structures to effectively engage with key stakeholders to contribute toward the implementation of the SADC regional integration agenda. This will effectively contribute to achieving

the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) - 2020-2030 and SADC Vision 2050.

4. Market Research and Analysis in Key Sectors of the ECOWAS for the ECOWAS Regional Competition Authority

Client: ECOWAS Commission/ECOWAS Regional Competition Authority

Duration: June-December 2022

Budget: US\$82,500.00

The study's overall objective was to promote, maintain and encourage competition in West Africa and enhance economic efficiency in production, trade and commerce at the regional level.



5. Rules of Origin Training Under AfCFTA for Representatives of the Malawian/Ivorian/Ethiopian Private Sector (Phase I and II)

Client: GIZ AUC, Ivorian and Ethiopian Offices

Duration: June-December 2022

Budget: US\$58,000.00 (Phase I) and US\$15,000.00 (Phase II)



The overall objective was to create awareness and build the private capacity sector, representatives of industry associations and the chamber of commerce on AfCFTA Rules of Origin for them to adequately implement the new AfCFTA Rules of Origin requirements and take advantage of the AfCFTA.

<https://cuts-accra.org/cuts-international-builds-the-capacity-of-malawi-private-sector-on-afcfta-rules-of-origin/>

6. Public-Private Dialogue on the Role and Participation of the Private Sector in AfCFTA

Client: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) Ghana Country Office

Duration: September-November 2022

Budget: US\$45,000.00

The objectives of the series of dialogues were to engage relevant stakeholders with the findings of the diagnostic reports, the current state of play of AfCFTA implementation and seek their inputs and recommendations to improve the framework conditions for the private sector,



particularly SMEs and women-led businesses to take advantage of the AfCFTA. The PPD also sought to improve public and private dialogue relations in improving the discourse on AfCFTA.

<https://cuts-accra.org/cuts-giz-public-private-dialogue-ppd-on-afcfta/>

7. Unlocking the Potential of AfCFTA for SMEs in Ghana

Client: GIZ

Duration: August-November 2021

Budget: US\$95,000



The project assessed the level of competitiveness and growth-readiness of Ghanaian SMEs for enhanced participation in the AfCFTA. It also sought to identify how uncompetitive framework conditions could affect the competitiveness of SMEs under AfCFTA.

<https://cuts-accra.org/improving-framework-conditions-to-unlock-the-potential-of-afcfta-for-smes-in-ghana/>

8. Investment Facilitation for Sustainable Development in Ghana

Client: World Economic Forum and Ghana Investment Promotion Centre

Duration: July-September 2019

Budget: US\$35,000.00

The principal objective was to understand better how investment facilitation can lead to sustainable development in Ghana. The project aimed to increase both the quantity and quality of investment for sustainable development in Ghana.



<https://cuts-accra.org/investment-facilitation-sustainable-development-in-ghana/>

9. SADC Non-State Actor Engagement in the Continental Free Trade Area Processes

Client: OSISA

Duration: 2019-2021

Budget: US\$100,000



The focus of the project was on interventions on non-state actor (NSA) engagement in the trade policy-making process under the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by engaging in activities geared towards ensuring a meaningful consultation, transparency for comprehensive CFTA negotiations and implementation through an NSA engagement forum.

10. Critical Dimensions of Indian Investment in Africa

Client: Heinrich Böll Foundation

Duration: 2019-2021

Budget: US\$100,000

The project analysed the impact that these current Indian investments have had on the sustainability of local communities, as a lesson for future policy-making and implementation at the national levels in select 'host' African countries. The African countries comprise Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, and Zambia and the sectors selected for the study were agriculture and mining.



11. Understanding Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on Exports for Cocoa, Cashew Nuts, and Tuna Products in Ghana

Client: GIZ & Alliance for Product Quality in Africa

Duration: June-October 2020

Budget: US\$8,150.00



The project sought to enhance exports and the potential of SMEs in the identified sectors to leverage the favourable terms of market access in both the EU and Germany by overcoming challenges faced by SMEs as far as SPS is concerned.

<https://cuts-accra.org/pdf/sanitary-and-phytosanitary-export-measurement.pdf>

12. Understanding Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on Exports of Mango Products in Ghana

Client: GIZ & Alliance for Product Quality in Africa

Duration: August-October 2021

Budget: US\$8,120.00

The project sought to enhance exports and the potential of SMEs in the identified sector to leverage the favourable terms of market access in both the EU and Germany by overcoming challenges faced by SMEs as far as SPS is concerned.



<https://cuts-accra.org/pdf/understanding-sps-requirements-for-ghanas-exports-to-the-eu.pdf>

13. Baseline Survey of Supply Chain Performance in Ghana

Client: Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation & GIZ

Duration: June-August 2020

Budget: US\$18,462.00



The project's objective was to assess importers and freight-forward agents in the pharmaceuticals and fertiliser sectors to ascertain the time and cost necessary to complete each step of the supply chain.

14. Assessing Ghanaian Private Sector Readiness for AfCFTA Implementation

Client: BUSAC Fund

Duration: September 2019-March 2020

Budget: US\$38,000

The project's objective was to assess Ghana's private sector and institutional readiness for the AfCFTA Implementation.

<https://cuts-accra.org/trade-development/>



15. Client Needs Assessment in the Mobile Insurance Sector in Ghana

Client: GIZ Ghana Country Office

Duration: June-October 2018

Budget: US\$88,000.00



The project's objective was to conduct supply- and demand-side research to identify existing mobile insurance (m-insurance) practices and procedures in Ghana and to gather insights into consumer experiences and preferences regarding disclosure and transparency of information, customer needs assessments, as well as

complaints handling and redress.

16. Promoting African Woman's Voice in EPA Negotiations

Client: OSISA

Duration: One year (2019 report)

Budget: US\$83,000.00

The objective of the project was to conduct research in South Africa, Zambia, Kenya and Uganda on the likely impact of the EPAs on women, and on sectors dominated by them; and identify major issues in relation to EPA.



17. Keeping Pace with Trade and Development: Barriers MSMEs to Export at Regional and International Level (Phase I and II)

Client: Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Duration: October-December 2017 (Phase I) and October-November 2018 (Phase II)

Budget: US\$5,100.00



The project's objective was to help WTO negotiators to have a fair idea and understanding regarding the challenges facing women-led MSMEs when exporting at the regional and international levels.

18. Social and Economic Impact Assessment at Ghana-Burkina Faso border on the Tema Ouagadougou Corridor

Client: World Bank

Duration: December 2018-April 2019

Budget: US\$67,800.00

The main objective of this study was to assess the impacts of reforms in the Customs transit system along Tema Ouagadougou Corridor on the concerned stakeholders.



19. Agricultural Commodity Management in Zambia

Client: Zambia Commodity Exchange (ZAMACE)

Duration: Five months (2018 report)

Budget: \$17,000.00



CUTS Lusaka, Zambia jointly with Zambia Advocacy Programme (ZAP) undertook a study to aid the enhancement of ZAMACE in the agricultural sector. The study helped enhance the work that ZAMACE has already done in the agricultural sector.

20. Post Advocacy of COMPAD

Client: BUSAC Fund

Duration: February 2017-March 2020

Budget: GHS103,000

The objective of the project was to ensure that the gains made in COMPAD are sustained and to see to the operationalisation of the Competition Policy.



21. State of the Economy II -The Energy Crisis and the Impact of the Economy



Client: Oxfam

Duration: US\$20,000

Budget: Four months (2017)

The project's objective was to undertake a study and advocacy measures on the likely impact of the removal of fuel and electricity subsidies on consumers.

22. Resolving the Unresolved NTBs in the EAC

Client: Food and Agriculture Organisation

Duration: Three months (2016)

Budget: GBP17, 030

This project aimed to measure the magnitude of NTBs affecting trade facilitation and transport among the EAC partner states and assess the impact of their removal on regional trade and production. A key objective is to identify the effects of specific NTBs on income, employment and prices; this will help to assess the likely effect of the removal of NTBs on efforts to alleviate the high levels of poverty that currently affect countries in the region.



23. Promoting Agriculture, Climate and Trade Linkages in the EAC - Phase 2 (PACT-EAC)

Client: Swedish International Development Agency

Duration: 2015-2019

Budget: US\$ 791,586



The project aimed to build the capacity of individuals, networks and institutions to identify and promote appropriate policies for climate-aware, trade-oriented, food security-enhancing agro-value-addition in the East African Community (EAC) region.

24. Integrating Consumer Voice into the West Africa Integration Process

Client: Department for International Development, UK through the Support to West Africa Integration Process (SWARIP)

Duration: 2015 (12 months)

Budget: US\$35,000.00

The project's objective was to inform studies on the perception of regional integration by consumers in two ECOWAS Member States: Senegal and Ghana, as a pilot initiative.

<https://cuts-accra.org/ivori/>



25. Assessment of the Status of Zambia's Agriculture Sector Development Framework and Improvement of Small Scale Producer's Livelihoods



Client: Oxfam Zambia

Duration: 2015-2015

Budget: US\$16,500

The objective of the project was to establish the status of Zambia's Agriculture Sector Development Framework and its impact and contribution to improving Small Scale Producer's Livelihoods.

26. Integrating the Voice of CSOs in Regional Integration Process

Client: Oxfam's Pan-African Programme

Duration: 2015-2015

Budget: €100,000

The project's objective was to build awareness and capacity of non-state actors in Eastern & Southern African countries and establish a dynamic network to gather inputs and views for effective implementation of the TFTA.



CUTS have developed a forward-looking 'Engagement Framework and Action Agenda' that specifies the roles and responsibilities of national governments, regional authorities, the business community and CSOs in the region.

<https://cuts-accra.org/ivori/#a4>

27. Engaging with Economic Think through ZEAP

Client: Zambia Economic Advocacy Programme

Duration: 2014-2015

Budget: US\$136,000



The initiative's objective was to engage with selected civil society organisations that are economic think tanks in Zambia. The main interest of the initiative is to build the capacity of these economic think tanks in areas of advocacy, research and M&E by providing core funding to these organisations.

28. China-UK Cooperation on African Trade and Investment for Poverty Reduction: The Case for Kenya

Client: Department for International Development, UK through International Development Studies

Duration: 2014-2014

Budget: GBP29,986

The objective of the project was to assess the trade relations of the UK and China with Kenya, including the state of play, challenges, opportunities and the way forward. The focus is on effectively supporting growth, structural transformation and poverty reduction, examining possible synergies between UK and Chinese policies.



29. Competition Reforms in Key Markets for Enhancing Social & Economic Welfare in Developing Countries

Client: Department for International Development, UK and GIZ

Duration: 2013-2016

Budget: US\$135,250.00



One of the main goals of this project is to demonstrate the benefits of competition reforms for consumers and producers so that greater attention and support can be provided to this issue by policymakers based in developing countries.

<https://cuts-ccier.org/crew-in-media/>

30. Accelerating Implementation of EAC Competition Policy and Law

Client: Trade Mark East Africa

Duration: 2013-2015

Budget: US\$199,760

The project was implemented in five EAC countries to promote the implementation of the EAC Competition Act and contribute towards the establishment of effective Competition Regimes at the national level that promotes private sector development.



www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Nairobi/EACCOMP/

31. Better Exploration of Trade as a Means for Poverty Reduction

Client: Finnish Embassy in Lusaka

Duration: 2011-2013



The project's objective was to build the capacity of state and non-state actors (especially at the grassroots) to strengthen and influence participation in the EIF process, thus helping promote the utilisation and ownership of the process.

<https://cuts-lusaka.org/the-better-exploration-of-trade-as-a-means-for-poverty-reduction-betampor/>

32. Research Project on Competition Policy and Regulations in the Energy Sector in Kenya

Client: Trust Africa

Duration: Seven months (2009)

Budget: US\$50,000

The project's objective was to assess overlaps in institutional and regulatory frameworks between the competition and energy regulator and suggest measures for effective cooperation between them.



33. Fostering Equity and Accountability in the Trading System

Client: The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Duration: 2008-2011

Budget: US\$54,000



The objective of the project was to understand the political economy landscape of the country so that future trade-related work can focus on key actors and processes to highlight and utilise the role of trade for poverty reduction and development.

<https://cuts-lusaka.org/fostering-equity-and-accountability-in-the-trading-system-feats/>

34. Building an Inclusive East African Community

Client: German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Duration: 2008-2010

Budget: US\$88,717

The project covers all five EAC members: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The objective was to support a range of CSOs in project countries to examine the implications of external trade policies in the context of livelihoods and provide a better understanding of challenges and opportunities from Economic Partnership Agreements and regional trade integration.



35. Strengthening Constituencies for Effective Competition Regimes in Select West African Countries

Client: Department for International Development, UK/International Development Research Centre, Canada and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Duration: 2008-2010

Budget: GBP327, 400



The project's objective was to develop baseline information on competition issues in seven ECOWAS countries (Anglophone – The Gambia, Ghana and Nigeria; and Francophone – Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal and Togo) through the active engagement of CSOs.

<http://www.cuts-ccier.org/7up4/index.htm>

36. Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa

Client: Department for International Development, UK and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

Duration: 2007-2008

Budget: GBP230,000 from DFID and NOK 1,700,000 from NORAD

The project was implemented in seven countries (South Africa, Kenya, Zambia and Tanzania in Africa, and Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India in South Asia) to evaluate how these countries enacted and implemented competition laws and how effective they have been. These countries differed significantly in terms of population size, size of the economy, per capita incomes, industrial structure and exposure to the world economy.

<https://bit.ly/3Go9TmR>



37. Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction

Client: Department for International Development, UK/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

Duration: 2005-2008

Budget: GBP564,149 and €1,500,000 from MINBUZA



The project aims to explore the linkages between trade, development and poverty by conducting a perception analysis of relevant stakeholders; establish a positive linkage between trade & development, especially from the point of view of poverty reduction, by looking into coherence between different policies & roles of different stakeholders.

<https://cuts-citee.org/tdp/>

38.A Comparative Study of Competition Regimes in Seven Selected Countries of the Commonwealth

Client: Department for International Development, UK

Duration: 2001-2004

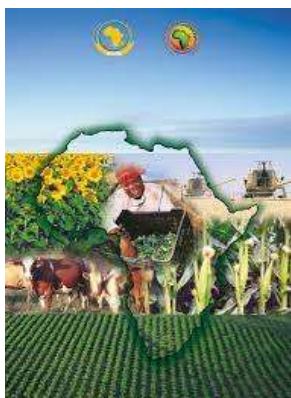
Budget: GBP318, 042

The project's objective was to examine the national and regional understanding of competition regimes, which involved research and advocacy on competition policy and consumer protection. Among other countries, the project was implemented in South Africa, Zambia, Kenya and Tanzania.



<https://cuts-ccier.org/comparative-study-of-competition-regimes-in-select-developing-countries-of-the-commonwealth/>

39. Information-based Advocacy, Networking & Capacity Building on NEPAD in Zambia



Client: Canadian International Development Agency
Budget: US\$36,700

The project's objective was to understand the dynamics between the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), various trade agreements and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).

40. Enhanced Integrated Framework

Client: Finnish Embassy and Civil Society for Poverty Reduction

A major objective of the EIF is to deliver trade-related technical assistance to participating LDCs by first identifying priority TRTA needs through diagnostic studies called Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies. Identified needs are prioritised as an action matrix for a country. The aim is to integrate those priorities into the national development strategy of a country and its elements, such as the PRSP.



<https://cuts-lusaka.org/enhanced-integrated-framework-eif/>

41. Scenario Planning for EAC Agriculture Development and Sustainable Food Security by 2020

Client: Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA)
Budget: KES3,725,500



The project aimed to achieve an understanding of the current state of agriculture development and food security in EAC; an understanding of the current public policy on agriculture development and food security in the region; an understanding of drivers and critical uncertainties with an influence on EAC food security; as well as outline

scenarios for food security in EAC developed.

https://cuts-nairobi.org/pdf/SCP-EAC-Project_Briefs.pdf

42. Hands off the Land

Client: Solidaridad
Duration: Three years
Budget: €10,000

The project aimed at raising public awareness, especially in four countries: Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Poland. The objective was to contribute to better compliance by European and home states regarding the promotion and protection of Human Rights to Adequate Food and Water.



43. Cross Border Trading Literature Review

Client: OSISA (Modern WTO)
Duration: October-December 2016
Budget: US\$10, 000.00



CUTS Accra, Ghana, implemented this project to document literature on cross-border trade in Africa in partnership with CUTS Lusaka and Nairobi.

44. Capacity Building for the Fast Tracking of the East African Common Market

Client: 1 Canadian International Development Agency
Budget: KES 2,875,352
Client: 2 Department for International Development
Duration: Four months
Budget: KES 862,767

The project's objective was to undertake consultation and sensitisation, advocacy, networking and building capacity to monitor the East African region before the common market becomes operational.



45. Rules of Origin Training Under AfCFTA for Representatives of the Malawian/Ivorian/Ethiopian Private Sector (Phase I and II)

Client: GIZ AUC, Ivorian and Ethiopian Offices

Duration: June-December 2022

Budget: US\$58,000.00 (Phase I) and US\$15,000.00 (Phase II)



The overall objective was to create awareness and build the private capacity sector, representatives of industry associations and the chamber of commerce on AfCFTA Rules of Origin for them to adequately implement the new AfCFTA Rules of Origin requirements and take advantage of the AfCFTA.

<https://cuts-accra.org/cuts-international-builds-the-capacity-of-malawi-private-sector-on-afcfta-rules-of-origin/>

46. Advocating for a Functional Competition Regime in Ghana

Client: BUSAC

Duration: June 2015-December 2016

Budget: US\$58,000.00

The project's objective was to facilitate the process towards the evolution of a national competition regime in Ghana, through an informed process, incorporating views of key actors and with support from Ghanaian businesses and consumers.



<https://cuts-accra.org/advocating-for-a-functional-competition-regime-in-ghana-compad/>

47. Fostering Fair Competition to Stimulate Investment in the East African Community

Client: USAID/ East Africa Trade and Investment Hub

Budget: US\$240,000



The project's objective was to facilitate fair competition in the ICT, Financial Services, and Agri-business (dairy) sectors in the EAC through legal/ policy and institutional reforms.

48. Private Sector and CSO' Engagement in the Continental Free Trade Area of Africa

Client: Africa Trade Fund (AfTra)

Duration: Three years

Budget: US\$1,498,400

The objective of the project was to ensure that the CFTA Implementation process results in improving social and economic benefits for African citizens. Strengthening the ability of PSOs and CSOs to meaningfully participate and influence the CFTA implementation process for better results on the ground.



49. Integrating the Voices of Economic Justice Advocates in the EAC Economic Development Agenda through a Right-Based Approach (IVORI IV)

Client: OSIEA

Duration: Six months

Budget: US\$50,000



The objective of the project was to enhance the voice of economic justice advocates in the EAC region; identify key issues on economic justice within the EAC region to be addressed; develop a strong network of economic justice advocates for a coherent voice in the EAC region; and to develop a Strategic Action Plan for addressing economic Injustices in the region.

50. Understanding the Role of Zambia Markets in Agricultural Diversification

Client: CSPR

Duration: Six months

Budget: US\$3,000.00

The objective of the project was to raise awareness about market opportunities and challenges, and build capacity of District Farmers Associations and small scale farmers to effectively influence policy for enhanced production, and market access.



51. Poverty Impact of Doha Development Agenda Negotiations



Client: Overseas Development Institute

Duration: Six months

Budget: £4000

The project assessed the possible impact of the WTO negotiations for poverty reduction in Zambia.

52. Integrating the Voices of CSOs in EAC Intra-Regional Trade and the AfCFTA

Client: Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa and GIZ

Duration: One year

Budget: US\$50,000

The objective of the project was to enhance the effective participation and influence of CSOs within EAC in intra-regional trade and AfCFTA.



53. Strengthening Skills of Government Officials in Sub-Saharan Africa on Commercial Diplomacy and Trade Policy Issues

Client: Commonwealth Secretariat

Budget: €25,000



The objective of the project was to enhance skills by developing/strengthening the capacities of government officials from selected Commonwealth countries in the Sub-Saharan African region to take an effective part in trade and investment negotiations and implementation aspects of related international agreements.

CUTS Journey

Consumer Unity & Trust Society began in 1983 as a rural development communication initiative, a wall newspaper, Gram Gadar (Village Revolution). Gram Gadar is published regularly and reaches every nook and corner of Rajasthan, including remote villages. It has been instrumental in providing a forum for the oppressed classes to get justice. The organisation's mission is *Consumer Sovereignty in the Framework of Social Justice, Economic Equality and Environmental Balance Within and Across Borders*.

CUTS is an international research, public education and networking organisation working in various fields, including international trade, competition policy and law, economic regulation, consumer protection and sustainable development issues. From a humble beginning in 1983-84, the organisation now has three resource centres in Jaipur, each in Calcutta, Chittorgarh and New Delhi in India. It works internationally, especially in the developing world, through its resource centres based in Kenya, Zambia, Ghana, the USA, Vietnam and Switzerland. More information about the organisation and its centres can be accessed here: <http://www.cuts-international.org>.