



## EVENTS

### **Policy Roundtable Discussion on Competition Reforms**

A Policy Roundtable discussion was held on December 04, 2013 to discuss whether businesses and consumers are losing out due to the absence of a functional Competition Regime in Ghana, and hence, the need of Competition Laws in Ghana. The theme was “World Competition Day: Are Businesses and Consumers Losing out Due to Absence of a Functional Competition Regime in Ghana”? All the participants unanimously agreed that Ghana is in dire need of Competition Law and Policy to conform to the Regional Competition Laws and Policies, such as those of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and West African Economic and Monetary Unit (UEMOA). Additionally, the participants also agreed that a strong national institution should be established to monitor the Law and Policy.

### **Facilitating Training of Women Groups on Livelihood Business Technique**

Driven by an understanding that women are growth accelerators, CUTS Lusaka facilitated training for selected members of Cinci Wababili, a Women Dairy Cooperative situated in Ndola, Copper belt Province. The training aimed to enhance their understanding on how to address the productive capacity related constraints in the production of milk through using traditional methods.

### **PACT EACT: Raising Awareness of Holistic Policies**

Promoting Agriculture Climate-Trade Linkages in the East African Community (PACT-EACT), a Regional Annual Meeting and a Regional Training Workshop (RAM/RTW) were organised from 23-27 September, 2013 at the Silver Springs Hotel, Kampala, Uganda. The objectives of the second RAM and RTW were to raise awareness of much needed holistic policies and strategies; to prioritise advocacy and networking activities; to strengthen links between Geneva and the grassroots on World Trade Organisation (WTO) related issues; to undertake the first regional training programme and to plan and prepare activities for the upcoming year of the Project.

### **Regional Integration as a Tool for Poverty Reduction**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Public Lecture commemorating CUTS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was held in Accra, Ghana on August 26, 2013 at the University of Ghana. The theme for the lecture was dubbed as ‘Regional Integration as a Tool for Poverty Reduction in West Africa’. Hanna S Tetteh, Ghana’s Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration was present as the keynote speaker. The event was chaired by Ernest Aryeetey, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana. The discussants included Ishmael E Yamson, Chairman, Standard Chartered Bank, Ghana and Toga Gayewea McIntosh, Vice President, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The event was held in association with the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), a partner of CUTS in Ghana. CUTS Centre in Accra was officially commissioned by the Hanna S Tetteh.

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## EVENTS

### BETAMPOR Project Closing Meeting

After continuous interventions aimed at promoting ownership and domestication of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) the Better Exploration of Trade as a Means of Poverty Reduction (BETAMPOR) Project came to a close. The closing meeting, which was graced by the Deputy Minister of Trade, Richwell Siyamunene, Former Bank of Zambia Governor, Caleb Fundanga, World Bank Lead Economist Praveen Kumar, took stock of some of the activities. The meeting was held on September 27, 2013 at Protea Hotel (Cairo Road), Lusaka and was attended by various civil society organisations (CSOs) and other development organisations.

## REPRESENTATIONS

**Daniel Asher** participated in the “Stakeholders’ Forum” on the review of SIM card regulations, under the Information and Communication Act on December 11, 2013 in Nairobi by invitation of Communication Commission of Kenya.

**Daniel Asher** attended the ‘Consumer Awareness Sub-committee Meeting’ on Digital Television on December 10, 2013 at the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology.

**Munu Martin** attended the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial Conference from 03-06 December 2013 in Bali, Indonesia.

**Munu Martin** attended a workshop in preparation for the WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia on November 26, in Nairobi. The workshop was organised by the National Committee on WTO (NCWTO), under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

**Daniel Asher** attended the Financial Regulation and Human Rights Convening on November 14-15, 2013 at the Rainbow Resort Ruiru organised by Akiba Uhaki Foundation.

**Daniel Asher** attended the first Kenya Consumer Protection Stakeholders Forum on Development of Consumer Protection Act 2012 Regulations on November 05, 2013.

**Appiah Adomako** attended a CSOs Project on Anti-corruption organised by the Ghana Integrity Initiative and funded by the STAR Ghana on October 25, 2013. The event aimed at mobilising CSOs to harness efforts and resources to tackle corruption in the country.

**Appiah Adomako** and **Kshitiz Sharma** attended Association of Ghana Industries (AGI) Local Content Exhibition at the Accra International Conference on October 22, 2013. The exhibition meant promoting made in Ghana products.

**Daniel Asher** attended the 70<sup>th</sup> Digital Television Committee Meeting on October 22, 2013 at the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology, Teleposta Towers to discuss on the progress in relation to consumer awareness sub-committee actions towards the digital migration process in Kenya.

**Appiah Adomako** attended the Policy Forum on ‘National Gas’ organised by the Africa Centre for Energy Policy and funded by the STAR Ghana on October 17, 2013 in Accra. The Forum sought to seek inputs from CSOs on the proposed National Gas Policy Document, which is being finalised on by the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Energy.

**Appiah Adomako** attended a Ghanaian Panel on Economic Development organised by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) on September 13-14, 2013 at Sogakope in the Volta Region. The discussion centered towards an efficient financial sector and job creation in Ghana.

**Susanne Rabisch** and **Rosebella Oiro** attended the pre-bidding Conference for UNDP of awareness raising campaign for Energy Standards and Labels in Industrial Sector in Kenya on September 05, 2013

**Daniel Asher** participated in the AUF grantee convening meeting in Arusha Tanzania held on August 26, 2013 at Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge where the impact of CONSREG Project was discussed together with other grantees and other priority areas for AUF identified for the period of 2013/2014.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### CREW 2<sup>nd</sup> NRG Meeting

CUTS Lusaka will collect members of the CREW National Reference Group (NRG) for the second time at a meeting to be held in June- July 2014. The objective of this meeting will be to present the Draft Diagnostic Country Report for the CREW Project.

### CUTS Accra Policy Roundtable Series

The next CUTS Policy Roundtable would take place in June 2014. The discussion topic would centre around Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and its implication to regional integration in West Africa and also how to maximise the gains from the EPA. It would be chaired by distinguished Jurist, Justice Date-Bah.

## NEW PROJECTS

### LECOP Project for Subsidy Removal on Fuel

CUTS Lusaka in partnership with other organisations implemented the Project “Leveraging Consumer and Producers’ Voices in Policy Reforms”. The objective of this research project is to shed light on the impact of the subsidy removal on fuel in Zambia.

### EACOMP Project for EAC Competition Act

The Project ‘Accelerating implementation of EAC Competition Policy and Law (EACOMP)’ is being implemented in the five EAC partner states and its objective is to promote the implementation of the EAC Competition Act and contribute towards the establishment of effective Competition Regimes at national level that promotes private sector development. It is being financially supported by Trade Mark East Africa.

### Empowering Marginalised Community Groups

Empowering marginalised Community groups for inclusive governance in Kenya’s Health Service Delivery (EMACIGHES). The Project’s main objective is to ensure equitable and quality health service delivery to the marginalised groups through Community Monitoring in Kenya. The Project is being financially supported by Akiba Uhaki Foundation.

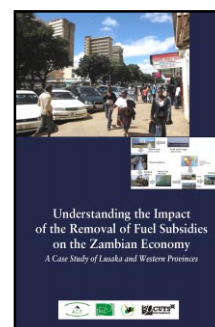
## PUBLICATIONS

### Research Report

### Understanding the Impact of the Fuel Subsidy Removal on the Zambian Economy: A Case Study of Lusaka and Western Province

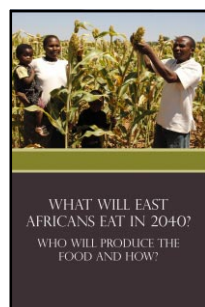
The overall objective of this study is to contribute to a deeper understanding of the nature and dynamism of the fuel subsidy removal on the Zambian economy (carried out in early 2013). This publication is expected to inform state and non-state actors on the issue and provide some thoughts on the possibly way forward.

This study seeks to evaluate the welfare implications of the fuel subsidy removal on key sectors of the economy. It assesses the reform process against best practice, discusses issues that need to be addressed when designing subsidy reforms to enhance success and assesses the extent to which the reform process has buy-in from stakeholders.



This Research Report can be viewed at:

[www.cuts-international.org/ARCL/Lusaka/LECOP/pdf/Project-Report\\_Impact\\_of\\_Fuel\\_Susidies\\_in\\_the\\_Zambian\\_Economy.pdf](http://www.cuts-international.org/ARCL/Lusaka/LECOP/pdf/Project-Report_Impact_of_Fuel_Susidies_in_the_Zambian_Economy.pdf)



### What Will the East Africans eat in 2040? Who Will Produce the Food and How?

The study report explores the existing dilemma in realizing sustainable food security in the East African Community (EAC). It analyses whether the EAC has positioned itself to attain sustainable agricultural production and food security for its population, given the enormous challenges and uncertainties lying ahead. The report further underscores the current competition for scarce agricultural resources as a future threat to food production, especially where bio-ethanol production, increased urbanization and industrial development will mean competition for critical resources, such as land, water and energy.

[http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Nairobi/pdf/](http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Nairobi/pdf/What_Will_East_Africans_Eat_in_2040_Who_will_produce_the_Food_and_How.pdf)

[What\\_Will\\_East\\_Africans\\_Eat\\_in\\_2040\\_Who\\_will\\_produce\\_the\\_Food\\_and\\_How.pdf](http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Nairobi/pdf/What_Will_East_Africans_Eat_in_2040_Who_will_produce_the_Food_and_How.pdf)

### Newsletter

### Tradequity

The newsletter comprises Cover Story on the implications of the Bali Package for Africa. It also covers news on Economic Development, carries Trade, Environment and Consumer issues. It is carrying a Special Article on “Regional Trade: A Catalyst for Growth and Sustainability of Small Business in the Southern African Region” under CUTS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lecture series.

[http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/pdf/Tradequity14-African\\_Consumers-Rise\\_up\\_for\\_your\\_rights.pdf](http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/pdf/Tradequity14-African_Consumers-Rise_up_for_your_rights.pdf)



### Critical Dimensions of Indian Investment in Africa

CUTS CCIER through CUTS Lusaka is currently implementing a Research Project entitled ‘The Critical Dimensions of Indian Investments in Africa (IIA)’. The Project seeks to analyse 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, Zambia and sectors selected for the study are agriculture and mining.

### Accelerating the Implementation of the EAC Policy and Law

CUTS Nairobi is implementing a Project “Accelerating the Implementation of the EAC Policy and Law”. The Project is being implemented in five East African Community (EAC) countries and its objective is to promote the implementation of the EAC Competition Act and contribute towards the establishment of effective Competition Regimes at national level that promotes private sector development. It is being financially supported by Trade Mark East Africa.

## REFLECTIONS FROM MEDIA

### **CSOs Call for Quick Response to Effects of Subsidy Removal**

*Zambia Daily Mail, December 20, 2013*

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) have called for a quick implementation of policies that will respond to negative effects resulting from the removal of fuel subsidy. CSOs group representative Chilufya Tayali said Government should look for additional measures to compensate the poor households for the losses they have suffered as a result of the inflationary pressure emanating from the subsidy removal. Tayali said in Lusaka yesterday when CSOs presented their findings of the study they undertook on the impact of the fuel subsidy removal on the Zambian economy. The study was done by the Economics Association of Zambia (EAZ), Consumer Unit Trusts (CUTS), the Zambian Voice and the Agricultural Consultative Forum.

<http://daily-mail.co.zm/>

### **Lack of Coordination Will Cost LDCs at WTO Meet-CUTS**

*The Post Newspapers, Zambia, November 30, 2013*

LACK of coordination and speaking with one voice will cost Least Developed Countries (LDCs') chances of getting a positive outcome at the World Trade Ministerial Meeting next month, says a fair trade advocate. In an interview ahead of the 9<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Meeting scheduled for Bali, Indonesia, Consumer Unit and Trust Society (CUTS) International Zambia Coordinator Simon Ng'ona said it was saddening to learn that LDCs had failed to harmonise their position before the meeting.

<http://www.postzambia.com/>

### **Zambia's Trade with the USA under AGOA**

*The Post Newspapers, Zambia, August 03, 2013*

SINCE its enactment by former USA president Bill Clinton's administration in May 2000, the African Growth and Opportunity Act has led to an increase in US-Africa trade. This has created a lot of excitement on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean among the business people. The Act offers tangible incentives for African countries to continue their efforts to open their economies and build free markets. AGOA has also helped in enhancing US engagement of Sub-Saharan Africa to a higher level and is perhaps the most significant American initiative on Africa in the American History. Although tourism is not AGOA eligible, the country can benefit from the AGOA Forum by marketing its tourist attractions as well as the UNWTO conference slated for August 24<sup>th</sup> -29, 2013. This is Zambia's moment and the time for Zambia to reap from AGOA is now.

<http://www.postzambia.com/>

### **Proper Policies are Needed to Devolve SMEs**

*Business Daily Africa, August 05, 2013*

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) have the capacity to achieve rapid economic growth, while generating a considerable extent of employment opportunities. SMEs create about 85 percent of Kenya's employment but only contribute about 20 percent of the total GDP. This confirms a dismal performance of the sub-sector. An effort to revamp the subsector is therefore necessary given the current regime on devolution in Kenya. A well formulated devolved system of governance is expected to promote favourable macroeconomic environment for economic activities, which benefits the sectors with greater multiplier effects on local economic development, where SMEs are known to constitute larger percentage of economic activities.

<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/>

### **Date-Bah Calls for Competition Law**

*Business and Financial Times, Ghana December 09, 2013*

The Chairman of University of Ghana Council, Justice Samuel Date-Bah has said the country needs Competition Law and Policy to ensure its proper functioning in the interest of consumers and producers. He said it is therefore a legitimate public policy interest to ascertain the health of competition law and policy in the country and West Africa at both the national and sub-regional levels – including interactions between the national and regional policy process on the issue.

<http://www.ghanaweb.com/>