



EVENTS

Regional Good Practices on FRA Price Setting

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia hosted a roundtable discussion on ‘Regional Good Practices on Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Price Setting’ at Best Western Plus Grand Hotel on June 16, 2016. The purpose of the roundtable discussion was to discuss the report “Leveraging Regional Policy Successes to Improve Interventions by the FRA and the Performance of Maize Markets in Zambia”. The report was written by CUTS’ Consultants: Natasha Chilundika and Kelvin Mulungu. The meeting was well attended by the representatives from about 11 institutions.

CFTA’s Support in Meeting the SDGs in Africa

CUTS Nairobi, Kenya in partnership with Africa Union (AU), Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (TRAPCA) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Africa held the meeting on ‘How Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) Can Support Meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)’. The event was held on July 20, 2016 at Kenya International Conference Centre (KICC), Nairobi (Kenya). The objective of the meeting was to interrogate questions surrounding CFTA delivery of development dividends, creating a platform for continued multi-stakeholder engagement with a view to ensure that CFTA delivers its intended goals and objectives and prosperity for all.



Sensitisation Meeting with Parliamentary Select Committee on Roads and Transport

CUTS Accra, Ghana organised a sensitisation meeting with the parliamentary select committee on roads and transport at the Parliament House on June 17, 2016. The aim of the meeting was to discuss ‘Competition Reforms in Key Markets for Enhancing Social & Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW)’ project findings from the transport sector and also create awareness on the benefits and need of a competition regime in Ghana.

Directorate-level Meeting

Under the coalition capacity building on ‘Trade and Economic Regulation Issues in Africa’ project supported by Oxfam Novib’s Pan African programme, CUTS Nairobi, Kenya organised a Directorate-level meeting, which was held on May 06, 2016 at Grace House Resort, Nairobi. The objective of the meeting was to develop a draft coalition strategic priority plan with the coalition members.

IN THIS ISSUE

Events	1
Forthcoming Events	2
Ongoing Projects	2
New Initiatives	3
Publications	3
Representations	4

EVENTS

Report Presentation to the Ministry of Agriculture

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia held a meeting within the Ministry of Agriculture to present the report, 'Leveraging Regional Policy Successes to Improve Interventions by the FRA and the Performance of Maize Markets in Zambia' officially. The meeting was held on June 30, 2016 and the report was presented to Given Lubinda, Minister of Agriculture, Zambia.

Sensitisation Meeting with Parliamentary Select Committee

On July 12, 2016, a sensitisation workshop was held for the parliamentary select committee members on Trade, Industry and Tourism. Currently, CUTS Accra, Ghana serves as a knowledge resource partner to the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MoTI) on issues of competition.

Pro-Competitive Public Procurement in Zambia

A roundtable on Pro-Competitive Public Procurement in Zambia was held by CUTS Lusaka, Zambia on June 01, 2016 at Best Western, Lusaka Grand Hotel. The purpose of the roundtable was to publicise a checklist for Public Procurement developed by CUTS and acquire feedback from the stakeholders present at the meeting. The checklist will seek to simplify the requirements under the law, and build-in a pro-competitive framework that Procurement Officers can rely on.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Impact of the Various Tax Related Investment Measures in the Economy – Special Focus on the Agriculture Sector

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia worked on a Synthesis Report for Oxfam entitled 'The Impact of the Various Tax Related Investment Measures in the Economy – Special Focus on the Agriculture Sector'. A meeting for the Synthesis Report discussion will be held on September 06, 2016.

Need for a Comprehensive Investment Policy in Zambia

A Scoping Study entitled 'The Need for a Comprehensive Investment Policy in Zambia' was conducted by CUTS Lusaka, Zambia for Oxfam. The objective of the study was to assess the policy, legal and institutional framework for investment, and its potentiality to inform a workable and development oriented investment policy for Zambia. The Scoping Study report meeting will be held on September 20, 2016.

Report Dissemination Meeting

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia will be having a report dissemination meeting under the project, "The Implications of the Market Structure and Nature of Competition in the Zambia Agriculture Sector – A Case Study of Soya Beans and Banana Agro-processing Value Chains". This meeting will be held on October 04, 2016.

Regional Integration in Africa

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia in collaboration with Caritas Zambia will be organising a conference on October 20, 2016 to discuss regional integration in Africa. The discussions will focus mainly on the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) and the CFTA and their implications on regional integration in Zambia.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Civil Society-Poverty Observatory Group Undertakings

Under the activities of the Civil Society-Poverty Observatory (CS-POG) Group, an umbrella institution of 50 non-government organisations (NGOs) in Zambia, as the head of the Policy and Research Technical Working Group, CUTS Lusaka, Zambia will be responsible for the implementation of the activities under the Public Finance thematic area. The project will involve conduction of trainings on social/social accountability as well as engaging media, such as radio listening groups. The Project will commence in August 2016 and will run for a duration of eight months.

CCPC Health Project

The objective of The CCPC Health Project – Understanding and Awareness Raising on Health Care Issues in Zambia/Assessing the Regulatory Effect to the Health Care System in Zambia'' of CUTS, Lusaka, Zambia is to understand the health care issues and the regulatory effectiveness of the health system in Zambia. CUTS Lusaka is currently waiting for the final report to be sent by Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC).

NEW INITIATIVES

Consumer Voice for Change: Food Losses and Food Safety Issues in the Dairy Sector

Consumer Voice for Change: Food Losses and Food Safety Issues in the Dairy Sector' is a five-year project in partnership with SNV. The objective of the project is to increase the capacity of consumers to drive demand for high standards of food safety in the supply chain; a functional and legitimate institution on food safety that will voice consumers concerns. CUTS Nairobi, Kenya is the knowledge partner on consumer issues in the consortium.

Energy and Climate Change Advocacy in Kenya

Energy and Climate Change Advocacy in Kenya is a five-year Advocacy project under the Strategic partnership on Energy with HIVOS. The overall goal for this partnership is a transition towards absolute Green and Inclusive Energy Systems that enhance the livelihood, support social services and create economic opportunities and growth for all while mitigating climate change. CUTS Nairobi, Kenya will be playing the role of the non-energy sector CSO bringing in the consumer perspective of renewable energy.

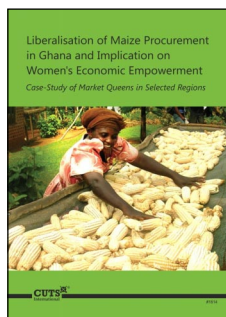
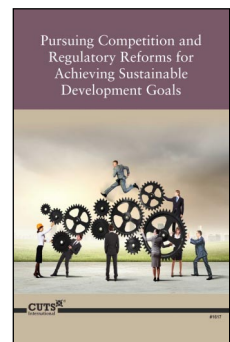
PUBLICATIONS

CREW Report

Pursuing Competition and Regulatory Reforms for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals

The Competition Reforms for Enhancing Social & Economic Welfare in Developing Countries (CREW) project of CUTS generated knowledge and evidence to reinforce the belief that promoting competition reforms through relevant policies can contribute towards achievement of social and economic welfare. Effective competition policies may address market failures and create a competitive business environment, thereby promoting efficiency and stimulating innovation. This publication serves to shed light on the role of competition policy and law as essential policy tools towards achieving sustainable and inclusive development. It provides a series of studies, which clearly reflect, from a pragmatic perspective, the importance of effective implementation of competition policies and regulations for sustainable development.

http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW-Final_Conference/pdf/Pursuing_Competition_and_Regulatory_Reforms_for_achieving_SDGs.pdf



Liberalisation of Maize Procurement in Ghana and Implication on Women's Economic Empowerment Case-Study of Market Queens in Selected Regions

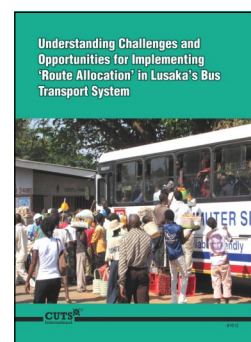
Ghana's domestic maize trade is largely dependent on a network of private women traders who dominate the local and regional markets while larger groups of wholesalers engage in spatial arbitrage across regions/districts. These women traders are referred to as 'Ohemaa' or 'Market Queens' (MQs). The study presents analysis of liberalisation of maize procurement in Ghana and implication on women's economic empowerment. Specifically, the study examined the activities of MQs and their contribution towards women's economic empowerment and employment opportunities, price setting mechanisms, types of support provided by MQs to the farmers, support of the state and perception of MQs on the effect of the introduction of the commodity exchange in Ghana.

[http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Liberalisation_of_Maize_Procurement_in_Ghana_\\$ Implications_on_Women_Economic_Empowerment.pdf](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Liberalisation_of_Maize_Procurement_in_Ghana_$ Implications_on_Women_Economic_Empowerment.pdf)

Leveraging Regional Policy Successes to Improve Interventions by the FRA and the Performance of Maize Markets in Zambia

This study was undertaken by CUTS to improve interventions by the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) and the performance of maize markets in Zambia. Nearly 90 percent of white maize consumption is in Africa and Central America. It fetches premium prices in Southern Africa where it represents the main staple food. Hence, maize marketing tends to attract much more public attention than many other crops.

The study aims to conduct an extensive analysis of strategic gain reserve agency operations in the region to identify demonstrated good practice of policy implementation; recommend practices that can work for Zambia, given the current status of maize market; and outline the actions that need to be undertaken to achieve the recommendations.



[http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Report-](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Report-Leveraging_Regional_Policy_Successes_to_Improve_Interventions_by_FRA_and_the_performance_of_maize_markets_in_Zambia_NC.pdf)

[Leveraging_Regional_Policy_Successes_to_Improve_Interventions_by_FRA_and_the_performance_of_maize_markets_in_Zambia_NC.pdf](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Report-Leveraging_Regional_Policy_Successes_to_Improve_Interventions_by_FRA_and_the_performance_of_maize_markets_in_Zambia_NC.pdf)

PUBLICATIONS



Understanding Challenges and Opportunities for Implementing 'Route Allocation' in Lusaka's Bus Transport System

Public transportation has become an important part of urban life in many African countries and especially for fast growing cities. As cities expand rapidly, concerns about the effectiveness of intra-city movements of people are becoming a source of worry and an important policy issue for many governments in the continent. This is because urban public transportation has important linkages with economic growth, productivity, social change and general well-being of the urban population.

This report provides an analysis of the current urban public transport system focussing on intra-city transport in Zambia, Lusaka in particular. The report uses some of the data from CREW project to describe the *status quo* of public transport system in the capital city highlighting various issues such as availability,

safety and quality of public transport to mention a few.

http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Report_Route_Allocation_in_Lusaka_Bus_Transport_System.pdf

REPRESENTATIONS

Appiah Kusi Adomako, Centre Coordinator and **Edayatu Lamptey** of CUTS Accra, Ghana had a meeting with the Country Director of Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung (FES) on February 11, 2016 to discuss the way forward on the submitted concept note on the Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Muntanga Musiwa of CUTS Lusaka (Zambia), attended a 'Disability Equality Training' workshop at Zambia Governance Foundation (ZGF) on July 20-22, 2016. The workshop's aim was to inform CSOs as to be more inclusive of people with disabilities.

Muntanga Musiwa of CUTS Lusaka, Zambia attended a workshop at the Intercontinental Hotel, Lusaka on June 21, 2016 that was hosted by the International Growth Centre (IGC) and the Innovations for Poverty Actions (IPA) called 'Evidence for Policy in Electricity and Water Utility Provision'. The primary objective of the workshop was to create a forum for exchanging ideas and discussing how research could help inform policies on utility provision in Zambia.

Leah Phiri of CUTS Lusaka, Zambia attended a consultative workshop organised by the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry (MCTI) on June 09, 2016. The purpose of the consultative workshop was to revise the 2009 Commercial, Trade and Industrial Policy and developing a National Export Strategy based on the 2009 and 2014 drafts.

Clement Onyango, Centre Coordinator, and Daniel Asher of CUTS Nairobi, Kenya Programme Officer attended the CUTS-SNV introductory meeting under the new partnership on Consumer Voice for Change Programme in the dairy sector on safety and loss issues. This meeting was held at Amber hotel, Nairobi on July 05, 2016.

Appiah Kusi Adomako Centre Coordinator, CUTS Accra (Ghana) and **Edayatu Lamptey** of the Centre had a meeting with Anne Ytreland and Aura Entuah of the World Bank Group private sector development team to introduce the Accra Centre and its work in the West Africa region on May 20, 2016. Besides, discussions were also held on funding opportunities for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) project proposal.

Rosebela Oiro of Nairobi, Kenya attended the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) CSO forum Local Coordination Committee meeting, organised by Tax Justice Network, held on May 19, 2016 at Fair Trade Africa office.

Leah Phiri of CUTS Lusaka, Zambia participated in a meeting organised by the Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) on May 24, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the role of the private sector in the maize sector thoroughly, looking in particular at the extent to which the private sector has the capacity to drive input supply and maize marketing.

Appiah Kusi Adomako and **Edayatu Lamptey** had a meeting with Cory O'Hara and Joe Dever both of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) West Africa office on May 24, 2016. The meeting was to discuss funding opportunities for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) project proposal and also to update the team on CUTS implemented projects in West Africa.

Appiah Kusi Adomako and **Edayatu Lamptey** had a meeting with the Borderless Alliance to discuss the possibility of taking forward the ECOWAS project proposal on June 01, 2016 and the meeting aimed at how best to incorporate some part of the project into advocacy work being implemented currently by same in the region.

Edayatu Lamptey, **Emmanuel Jumpah** and **Steve Yeboah** participated in the launch of the African Business Centre for Developing Education (ABCDE), a Pan African NGO at the invitation of the Ghana's Minister of Trade and Industry, Ekwow Spio-Garbrah on July 18, 2016 at the British Council Hall in Accra.

Edayatu Lamptey and **Emmanuel Jumpah** participated in the Joy Business Busy Talks on 'Transforming Ghana: Agribusiness to the Rescue' on July 19, 2016 at the Alisa Hotel. The aim of the meeting was to discuss how best to invest in the agriculture sector and also provide assistance to those interested in joining the sector.



State Seeks Empowerment for Farmers

Zambia Daily Mail, July 11, 2016

The government of Zambia is looking for effective ways that will help empower smallholder farmers and producers, as most of them are still living in poverty. Minister of Agriculture Given Lubinda said it is unfortunate that despite smallholder farmers being the major producers of food in the country, most of them are still living in poverty, which should not be the case. Lubinda Indicated this when he received a formal submission of the FRA price setting study from CUTS Lusaka, Zambia. He also mentioned that the Zambian government and other agro stakeholders see smallholder-led agricultural growth as the most viable solution to food problems as long as interventions are based on production technology and market development.

(http://www.cuts-international.org/arc/lusaka/media-State_seeks_empowerment_for_farmers.html)

CUTS Concerned with Consumer Information Gap

Q-FM Zambia, June 27, 2016

CUTS Lusaka, Zambia is concerned with the flow of information to the consumers on their rights as consumers. CUTS Programmes Officer Jimmy Maliseni indicated that CUTS has since embarked on projects aimed at enhancing the rights and welfare of the consumers. Maliseni informed that CUTS has just concluded a health project which looked at the health care delivery in the country and how people relate with medical services and personnel. He said the health project was carried out upon the realisation that many Zambians do not have an understanding or appreciation of their rights.

(http://www.cuts-international.org/arc/lusaka/media-CUTS_concerned_with_consumer_information_gap.html)

Mobile Phone Services too High

Daily Mail, June 17, 2016

The majority of Zambians consider the cost of mobile phone services to be too high, the latest survey of the CUTS Lusaka, Zambia revealed. The survey stated 57 percent of Zambian households believe that the price they pay for mobile network services is too high.

CUTS Lusaka's Centre Coordinator Chenai Mukumba said that 54 percent of respondents indicated that the price for mobile services had increased in the last six months. "We hope that Government will place high priority on ensuring accessibility of mobile phone services through the provision of efficient and affordable services", Mukumba added.

(http://www.cuts-international.org/arc/lusaka/media-Mobile_phone_services_too_high_survey.html)

High Mealie-meal Prices Unaffordable for Poor

Daily Mail, June 14, 2016

The continued high price of Mealie-meal in some areas of the country has resulted in about 42 percent of Zambians falling to afford to buy the staple food, according to survey of CUTS Lusaka (Zambia). Recently, CUTS conducted a nationwide survey to better understand how Mealie-meal prices are affecting ordinary citizens. CUTS Lusaka's Advocacy and Information Programme Officer Jimmy Maliseni mentioned that the inability of some households to buy Mealie-meal might continue in the future, especially among lower income groups.

(http://www.cuts-international.org/arc/lusaka/media-High_mealie_meal_prices_binder_poor.html)