

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 Jaipur (India); but has graduated over the years into an international civil society organisation (CSO) 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 implemented in four countries in the region. The establishment of CUTS Lusaka in the year 2000 was a first step taken by the organisation in expanding its physical presence outside India.

ABOUT THE CENTRE

CUTS Lusaka functions as a resource centre for the Southern Africa region – engaged in undertaking research, advocacy and networking activities. Its establishment also signified a step forward in the development of a close and beneficial relationship between African and South Asian, civil society actions. The Centre works with several national, regional and international organisations on areas, such as trade and development; competition policy and economic regulation; investment regulation; and consumer protection and governance.



Inauguration of
CUTS Lusaka
(Zambia)
in 2003

OBJECTIVES

- Create and build long-term capacity of civil society representatives to address issues of equity and accountability in trade and sustainable development;
- Coordinate and implement projects on trade, regulation, consumer protection and good governance; and
- Promote South-South civil society cooperation on trade and sustainable development issues.

MODUS OPERANDI

CUTS mode of operating follows an integrated model called RAN (Research, Advocacy, Networking and Capacity Building) and forms the basis for every project and partnership. The organisation relies heavily on building local capacity on trade and sustainable development related issues to achieve lasting impacts. The organisation employs the following methods for implementing its activities:

- Policy Research
- Capacity Building and Advocacy
- Issue Based Networking
- Information Dissemination and Outreach



Speakers and Panelists at CUTS 30th Anniversary Lecture
in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 10, 2014

PROJECTS

Ongoing & Completed

- Enhanced Integrated Framework Project
- Better Exploration of Trade as a Means of Poverty Reduction
- Competition Reforms in Key Markets for Enhancing Social & Economic Welfare in Developing Countries
- Leveraging Consumer and Producer's Voices in Policy Reforms



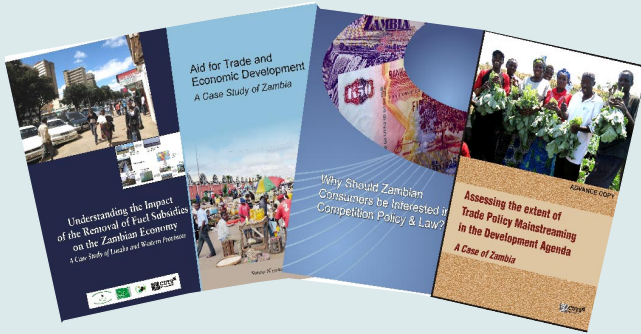
- Zambia's Agricultural Sector and Impact on Small Producers
- Linkages between Climate Change, Trade and Food Security – An Overview from Zambia
- Critical Dimensions of Indian Investments in Africa
- Fostering Equity and Accountability in the International Trading System
- Role of Stakeholders in Promoting Competition in Zambia

Forthcoming

- Strengthening the Voice of SMEs as Advocates for Fair Businesses and Regulatory Practices
- Assessing the Impact of Businesses Licencing Reforms in the Public Transport Sector
- Addressing Consumer Concerns in Public Healthcare
- Progressive Regional Action & Cooperation on Trade

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Amongst top five think-tanks in Zambia
- Member of National Steering Committee on EIF
- Global visibility to national trade issues and challenges
- Close working partnership with Competition & Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC), Zambia
- An alert consumer watchdog, protecting rights of the Zambian consumer



PUBLICATIONS

- Aid for Trade and Economic Development: A Case Study of Zambia
- Understanding the Impact of the Removal of Fuel Subsidies on the Zambian Economy: A Case Study of Lusaka and Western Provinces
- The Linkages between Trade, Climate Change and Food Security: *A Case of Zambia*
- Assessing the Extent of Trade Policy Mainstreaming in the Development Agenda: *A Case of Zambia*
- Role of Stakeholders in Effective Implementation of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act, Zambia
- Why Should Zambian Consumer be Interested in Competition Policy and Law?
- An Assessment of the Zambian Diagnostic Trade Integrated Study
- A Study of the Rice Value-chain in Zambia

Tradequity

A free quarterly newsletter which covers news and analysis on trade and sustainable development issues relevant for African countries. It is a useful reference for practitioners and scholars with interest in African countries.



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OUR PARTNERS



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CUTS LUSAKA

To function as a resource, coordination as well as networking centre to promote South-South cooperation on trade and development, investment, regulation, consumer protection and good governance by engaging state and non-state actors

