Scenario Planning for EAC Agricultural Development

CUTS ARC, Nairobi with support from Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA) organised a regional workshop under the project entitled, 'Scenario Planning for EAC Agricultural Development' in Nairobi, on February 22, 2011. The workshop provided a platform to senior agriculture policy makers and planners at the national and regional level, scholars, farmers, consumers and traders to discuss the current happenings in the region with regard to food security and the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The discussions were preceded by briefings on aspects of the state of agricultural development and food security conditions in the East African Community (EAC), the institutional-policy environment and constraints to agriculture development and food security, regional food trade environment, major drivers and trends influencing food security, risks and uncertainties, threats and opportunities to achieving food security.
Advent of Competition and Consumer Protection Act

ARC, Lusaka in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) organised a one-day workshop to build the capacity of stakeholders for the effective implementation of the Competition and Consumer Protection Act (2010) in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 07, 2011. The workshop drew participants from the media, sector regulators, academia and civil society.

World Consumer Rights Day

The World Consumer Rights Day (WCRD) was commemorated in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 15, 2011. Zambia’s local theme for 2011 is ‘Consumer Rights and Obligations – Knowledge is Power’. On the commemoration, ARC, Lusaka Board Chair, Ambassador Love Mtesa, said that the enactment of Competition Law in Zambia is a milestone and consumers should know their rights.

A Media Workshop on AGOA

ARC, Lusaka in collaboration with Caritas Zambia and Centre for Trade Policy and Development organised a media workshop on African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 28, 2011. The meeting was graced by the Permanent Secretary Dr Phiri. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the opportunities and challenges surrounding the AGOA process and how media could help raise awareness on such issues thereby influencing policy changes.

Informal African Consumer Dialogue

Four issues of Informal Africa Consumer Protection Dialogue newsletter were published and disseminated. These can be accessed at: www.cutsinternational.org/ARC/Nairobi/Africa_Consumer_Protection_Dialogue.htm

BETAMPOR Project

One Brochure and Poster was published.

Pradeep S Mehta, Bipul Chatterjee and Fredrick Njehu attended the Global Poverty Summit at Johannesburg, South Africa, on January 17-18, 2011. The meeting discussed both the Doha Development Round and Millennium Development Goals.

Clement Onyango and Victor Ogalo attended the launch of Trade Mark East Africa held in Nairobi, Kenya, on February 02, 2011.


Lee Hamunji attended the Centre for Training & Project Development Strategic Planning meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, on February 17-19, 2011.

Fredrick Njehu attended a Trade Policy Training Course organised by the University of Sussex with support from Department for International Development (DFID), UK in Arusha, during February 28-March 04, 2011.

Parret Muteto attended the Teleconference meeting with the US CSOs at the American Embassy in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 24, 2011.

Daniel Asher participated in a national workshop to launch the ISO26000 on Social Responsibility organised by Kenya Bureau of Standards in partnership with Ufadhili Trust in Nairobi, Kenya, on March 30, 2011.
CUTS said improving business skills will help entrepreneurs to penetrate the US markets under the AGOA. Acting Centre Coordinator Simon Ng‘ona said promoting international business linkages would enhance the export base of Zambia’s products entering the US markets. He said Zambia should try to create an awareness of opportunities that exist under such initiatives to truly benefit from AGOA. Zambia needs to move away from traditional exports of primary commodities and diversify into value added products.