

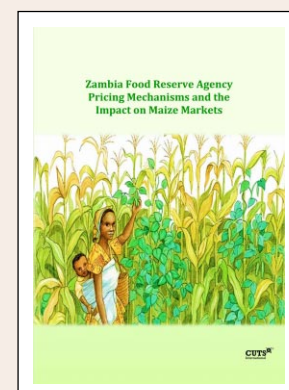
Publications Digest 2016

RESEARCH REPORTS

Zambia Food Reserve Agency Pricing Mechanisms and the Impact on Maize Markets

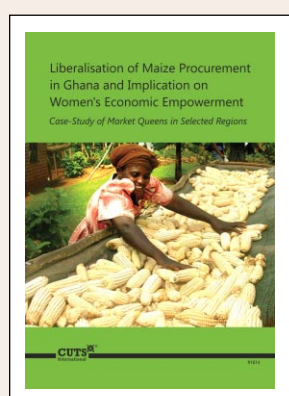
This Study investigates, and provides an understanding of Food Reserve Agency (FRA)'s pricing mechanisms in the maize markets in Zambia by assessing: (i) FRA's rationale for setting a maize floor price; (ii) the price determination process and (iii) the floor price effect in maize markets in the country. Analysis shows that setting a floor price in maize markets is based on welfare and political concerns, and is aimed at providing adequate production incentives and stabilising maize prices for farmers.

The Study hypothesises three major factors to influence price determination by the FRA in particular years before, during and after elections and expected sales. The Study found that a 1 percent increase in expected sales leads to a 0.5 percentage increase in FRA price and a 1.7 percentage increase in quantities purchased. The Study also found that while FRA's interventions have been based on welfare concerns, they are regressive and harm a large proportion of rural households (who are net buyers of maize in Zambia).



<http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/>

[Zambia_Food_Reserve_Agency_Pricing_Mechanisms_and_the_Impact_on_Maize_Markets.pdf](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Zambia_Food_Reserve_Agency_Pricing_Mechanisms_and_the_Impact_on_Maize_Markets.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). Market queens allegedly control procurement, distribution, pricing of maize and other commodities, such as yams and tomatoes.

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.

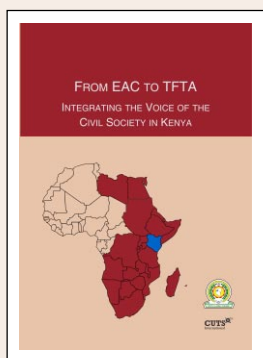
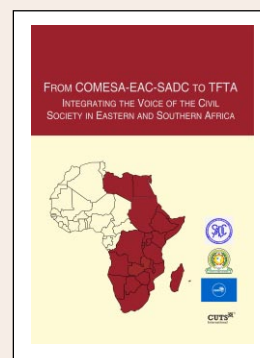
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[Liberalisation_of_Maize_Procurement_in_Ghana_&_Implications_on_Women_Economic_Empowerment.pdf](http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/Liberalisation_of_Maize_Procurement_in_Ghana_&_Implications_on_Women_Economic_Empowerment.pdf)

From COMESA-EAC-SADC to TFTA *Integrating the Voice of the Civil Society in Eastern and Southern Africa*

The Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) is an inter-REC integration initiative, launched independently of the framework of the African Union, but readily embraced by it as a decisive step forward that could bridge the gap between regional and continental integration efforts, and encourage the establishment of a Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA). Among the specific objectives of the TFTA include elimination of all tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade in goods. Greater integration into the regional, continental and multilateral trading system through freer trade increases the speed at which shocks can be transmitted to the domestic economy where poor and marginalised sections often lack means to withstand such shocks. This report, therefore, makes an assessment of the level and platforms of involvement of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and other Non-state Actors (NSAs) in The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community (SADC), East African Community (EAC) and TFTA processes.

http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Accra/IVORI/pdf/From_COMESA-EAC-SADC_to_TFTA_Integrating_the_Voice_of_the_Civil_Society_in_Eastern_and_Southern_Africa.pdf



From EAC to TFTA *Integrating the Voice of the Civil Society in Kenya*

CSOs play complementary roles in negotiations and implementation of regional trade agreements through provision of evidence for negotiation positions; sensitisation of potential beneficiaries; monitoring of implementation; and even providing government with alternative ‘politically incorrect’ negotiation positions or monitoring reports that a Partner State may not be able to voice officially as a government for diplomatic reasons. This report, which is part of a series of country studies under a project dubbed ‘Integrating the Voice of Civil Society

Organisations in Regional Integration Processes in Eastern and Southern Africa’ (IVORI-III) examines Kenya’s non-state actors’ engagement in regional integration processes, particularly, that of CSOs, and assesses successes, challenges and gaps in the existing engagement framework including its operationalisation.

http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Accra/IVORI/pdf/From_EAC_to_TFTA_Integrating_the_Voice_of_the_Civil_Society_in_Kenya.pdf

Non-State Actors’ Engagement Framework *Fostering Inclusion in the Tripartite Free Trade Area*

In order to foster an inclusive and well-functioning the TFTA, there therefore exists a need to establish comprehensive, well crafted, and effectively implemented consultative engagement framework for private actors and CSOs. In an effort to integrate the voices of NSAs in the on-going negotiations and implementation of the TFTA, this framework looks at how it can include marginalised private actors and CSO into the TFTA process.

This report, therefore, uses the term NSAs to refer to the collective group of these marginalised actors. Based on stakeholder input and analysing the existing engagement frameworks of the three Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as outside examples from around the world, a structure and process have been proposed for marginalised private actors and CSOs to effectively engage with the TFTA and its Member States.

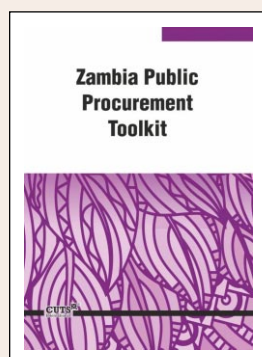
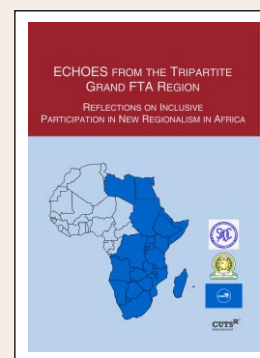
http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Accra/IVORI/pdf/Non-State_Actors-Engagement_Framework.pdf



ECHOES from the Tripartite Grand FTA Region *Reflections on Inclusive Participation in New Regionalism in Africa*

The main contention of this Paper is that the journey towards a dynamic industrial, globally competitive African economies, characterised by inclusive growth and development, decent jobs and equity, built on the full potential of all their citizens must of necessity integrate an inclusive engagement approach to build one. The early post-colonial attempts at regional economic integration (also known as old regionalism), are best remembered for their catastrophic failure to inspire socio-economic transformation of African economies. They were built on inward-looking policy frameworks involving protectionist tendencies (often in the context of authoritarian regimes) and suppressed any space for formations and participation of NSAs in the processes. Findings from the reviewed country and regional studies show a lot of challenges as far as CSOs and other NSAs' participation in trade issues at the national and regional-level are concerned.

http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Accra/IVORI/pdf/ECHOES_from_the_Tripartite_Grand_FTA_Region.pdf



Zambia Public Procurement Toolkit

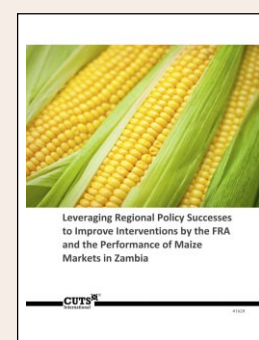
Public Procurement refers to the purchase by governments and State-owned Enterprises (SoEs) of goods, services and works. Public Procurement is estimated to account for between 10 and 15 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) and is one of the biggest areas of spending by a government. In Zambia, an estimated 10 percent of GDP is spent on Public Procurement.

This document is designed to provide a basic checklist covering the steps in a normal procurement cycle. It aims to simplify the requirements under the law, and build-in a pro-competitive framework for procurement officers to rely upon. Under the laws of Zambia, there are different modes under which a government agency may initiate procurement, namely: Open Bidding, Open Selection, Limited Bidding, Limited Selection, Simplified Bidding, and Direct Bidding. The conditions to adopt these modes and some of the steps in the procurement cycle differ. This checklist is limited to the procurement of goods under the Open Bidding process.

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

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

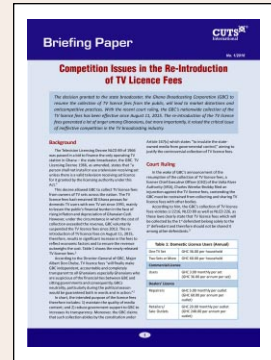
About 90 percent of white maize consumption is in Africa and Central America. It fetches premium prices in Southern Africa where it represents the main staple food. While grain marketing boards in Africa have remained major players in maize markets, their effects have been shown to be negative on both the development of agriculture markets and the participation of the private sector. Facing the classical 'food price dilemma', where governments want to raise the price of maize for producers and at the same time keep it low for consumers, governments have engaged in a host of interventions that have not been efficient and effective in achieving intended welfare policy goals. In this report, some good lessons have been selected from other African countries that can act as best practices for the FRA in Zambia. In 2002, however, the FRA increased its maize commodity purchases due to a drought related poor harvest that resulted in the country experiencing a deficit in supply.



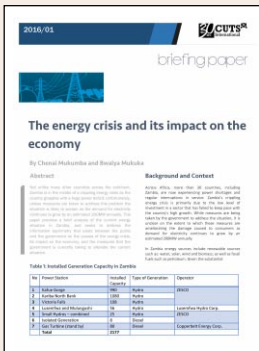
http://www.cuts-ccier.org/CREW/pdf/ReportLeveraging_Regional_Policy_Successes_to_Improve_Interventions_by_FRA_and_the_performance_of_maize_markets_in_Zambia_NC.pdf

Competition Issues in the Re-Introduction of TV Licence Fees

The Television Licencing Decree NLCD 89 of 1966 was passed in a bid to finance the only operating TV station in Ghana – the state broadcaster, the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC). TV Licencing Decree 1966, as amended, states that a person shall not install or use a television receiving set unless there is a valid television receiving set licence for it granted by the licencing authority under this Act. This decree allowed GBC to collect TV licence fees from owners of TV sets across the nation. The TV licence fees had remained 30 Ghana peswas for domestic TV users with one TV set since 1991, mainly to lessen the public is financial burden in the face of rising inflation and depreciation of Ghanaian Cedi. However, under the circumstances in which the cost of collection exceeded the revenue, GBC voluntarily suspended the TV licence fees since 2013.



http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Accra/pdf/Competition_Issues_in_the_Re-Introduction_of_TV_Licence_Fees.pdf



The Energy Crisis and its Impact on the Economy

Across Africa, more than 30 countries, including Zambia, are now experiencing power shortages and regular interruptions in service. Zambia’s crippling energy crisis is primarily due to the low level of investment in a sector that has failed to keep pace with the country’s high growth. While measures are being taken by the Government to address the situation, it is unclear on the extent to which these measures are ameliorating the damage caused to consumers as demand for electricity continues to grow by an estimated 200MW annually.

http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Lusaka/pdf/Briefing_Paper-The_energy_crisis_and_its_impact_on_the_economy.pdf

Tradequity

A quarterly newsletter, which covers news and analysis on Economics and Development; Trade; Regional Affairs and Environment; and Consumer issues relevant to key stakeholders and scholars of African countries.

www.cuts-international.org/ARC/Tradequity.html



Consumer Watch

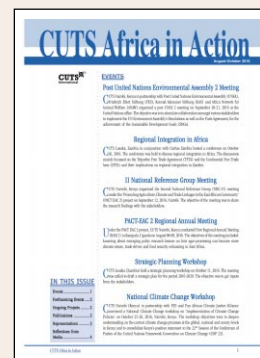
This quarterly e-newsletter is a joint initiative of CUTS Lusaka (Zambia) and Zambia Consumer Association (ZACA) published with the objective of enhancing consumer welfare through sensitisation, information dissemination and capacity building of consumers, business entities and the Government.

www.cuts-international.org/ARC//Lusaka/Consumer_Watch.html

CUTS Africa in Action

CUTS Africa (Lusaka, Nairobi and Accra) produces a quarterly report summarising major activities undertaken during the period. This document provides a quick overview of the various events organised and forthcoming events, ongoing projects and new initiatives, important publications and CUTS. African media news and their corresponding outputs/outcomes.

<http://www.cuts-international.org/ARC/>



EMAILER

CUTS Africa in Action Emailer

A quarterly Emailer of CUTS Africa Resource Centres (Lusaka, Nairobi and Accra) covering important Features and News relevant to key stakeholders of African countries. Besides, it also comprises recent activities and publications of CUTS Africa Centres.