



**Interactive workshop on
*Food Security in India: The Interactions of Climate Change, Economics, Politics & Trade***

**Venue: Ashraya International Hotel, 149 Infantry Road, Bangalore
Wednesday, 26th October, 2016**

BACKGROUND NOTE

Objectives

- To disseminate key findings from the work packages in the project related to food security in Karnataka
- To discuss definite issues which govern the food security scenario in Karnataka in the context of climate change and agricultural trade
- To generate discussion on the role of various social safety nets in deciding food security at household level

Climate change threatens the food production systems and livelihoods of significant proportion of the population in India. The potential impacts of climate change on agriculture are multi-faceted, directly influencing productivity, yields and the availability of arable land and water, as well as food prices and trade patterns for staple and high-value products alike. The potential effect on food security, where a number of Indian states already face shortages in production under climatic conditions, is likely to be exacerbated by climate change directly or indirectly.

To study this scenario, CUTS International, along with its strategic partners in Bihar and Karnataka had undertaken state-specific programme on studying the economics and politics involved in the food security scenario in India with support from The Research Council of Norway. Other partners involved are National Institute of Consumer Research (SIFO), Norway, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi. In Karnataka, CUTS International has partnered with Consumer Rights Education and Awareness Trust (CREAT), Bangalore.

The project was based on the premise that a broad but a concrete empirical approach is needed to understand the mechanisms of food security i.e. an institutional approach addressing how various kinds of food production and distribution institutions operate and interact to produce a combination of entitlements that can ensure household food security. Recognizing the variation in food institutions across India, the project had focused on two states i.e. Bihar and Karnataka, which represent contrasting cases with regard to food production and distribution systems as well as household food security.

The focus of this interactive workshop will be to discuss key findings from the household survey conducted in Karnataka for assessment of food security in rural and urban households. In addition to this the feedback of stakeholders from various streams will also be aligned to the ground realities. The expected outcome will be to arrive at policy recommendations to improve the social safety nets and strengthen agricultural value chain in the backdrop of climate change.

More details about the project can be accessed here: <http://www.cuts-citee.org/FOODSEC/>