

Publications Digest 2013

CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS CITEE) produces this document for informing the relevant stakeholders its major publications in 2013.

RESEARCH REPORTS

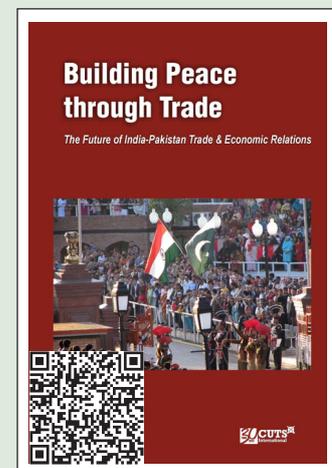
Building Peace through Trade

The Future of India-Pakistan Trade & Economic Relations

In the last 66 years, India & Pakistan have been unable to resolve their differences and develop a normal friendly relationship which would have been benefitted people of both the countries. There have been attempts to initiate sustainable peace process but so far none has worked. Does this mean that they would line in perpetual hostility or can they overcome their rivalry by setting aside differences to arrive at peace through common interests?

One way forward in the peace building process between India and Pakistan is to enhance not just interaction, but trade. This book is a compilation of articles on India-Pakistan trade relations. Readers of this book will find it interesting and exciting. The views expressed by people on both sides of the border that friendship and cooperation are a prerequisite for improving relations between the two neighbouring nations – India and Pakistan.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Bulding_Peace_through_Trade-The_Future_of_India-Pakistan_Trade_and_Economic_Relations.pdf



WTO Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement Market Access Opportunities & Challenges for India



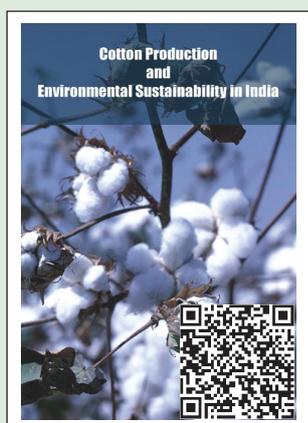
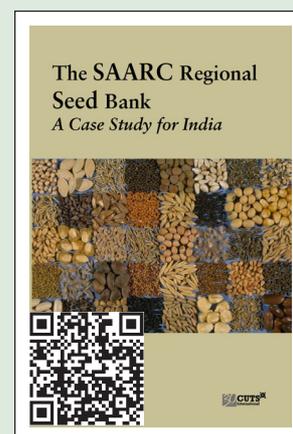
The study undertakes an assessment of opportunities and challenges which India is expected to encounter if it decides to negotiate to accede to the GPA. It presents factors which could inform decision makers and sectoral stakeholders while making the crucial decision on when accession should be undertaken, if at all, and the manner in which welfare objectives can be imbued in the negotiations. Further, an anatomisation of the commitments concluded by member-countries to the GPA presents insights on nuances in negotiating GPA commitments which can add value to an acceding country.

www.cuts-citee.org/GP/pdf/WTO_Plurilateral_Agreement_on_Government_Procurement_Market_Access_Opportunities_Challenges_for_India.pdf

The SAARC Regional Seed Bank A Case Study for India

The study attempts to understand the role of the proposed regional seed bank in the current scenario and tries to give an overview of seed dynamics in India in the context of realising the effectiveness of the SAARC Regional Seed Bank's efforts. The study has relied on primary literature survey and multi-stakeholder consultations. It supports India as one of the largest national agricultural research system in the world.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/The_SAARC_Regional_Seed_Bank-A_Case_Study_for_India.pdf



Cotton Production and Environmental Sustainability in India

The objective of this study is to understand issues of environmental sustainability in cotton production in India and in its value chain, and analyse related regulations. It aims to ascertain stakeholders' awareness towards environmentally sustainable practices. It seeks to examine how domestic policies have contributed and strengthened the environmental sustainability aspects of cotton production and its consumption in India.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Research-Report-Cotton_Production_and_Environmental_Sustainability_in_India.pdf

Environmental Standards & Trade A Study of Indian Textiles & Clothing Sector

This study on Textiles & Clothing Sector (T&C) sector plays a very significant role in India in terms of foreign exchange earnings and employment. With the dismantling of quotas in 2004 under mandate from the Agreement in Textiles & Clothing of the WTO, the focus has now clearly shifted to the future of the Indian T&C exports. This study will help make more informed decisions in trade policy by removing the notion that environmental standards are incompatible with development-friendly trade policy. As the study shows, if properly introduced and adopted, environmental standards can promote sustainable trade and development.

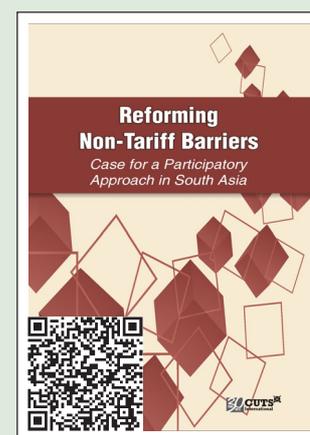
www.cuts-citee.org/SESTI/pdf/Report-Environmental_Standards_Trade-A_Study_of_Indian_Textiles_and_Clothing_Sector.pdf



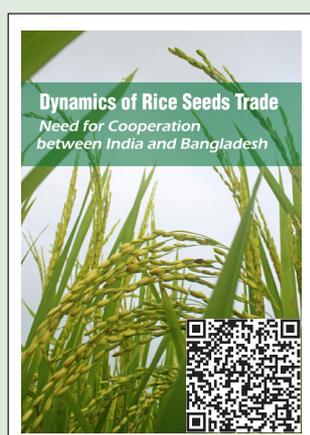
Reforming Non-Tariff Barriers *Case for a Participatory Approach in South Asia*

The Government of India has been consistently taking initiatives to address challenges emanating from non-tariff barriers. It is in this context that this study advocates a new approach to address the cost of doing trade in South Asia - an interventionist and participatory role of the private sector, CSOs and other important stakeholders in the identification and removal of non-tariff barriers and other procedural barriers to intra-regional trade facilitation. It emphasises on the need for an inclusive approach, in which various stakeholders are required to share responsibilities and support governmental efforts for effectively addressing challenges to reduce the cost of doing trade in the region.

www.cuts-citee.org/COENCOSA-Phase-II/pdf/Reforming_Non-Tariff_Barriers_Case_for_a_Participatory_Approach_in_South_Asia.pdf



Dynamics of Rice Seeds Trade *Need for Cooperation between India and Bangladesh*



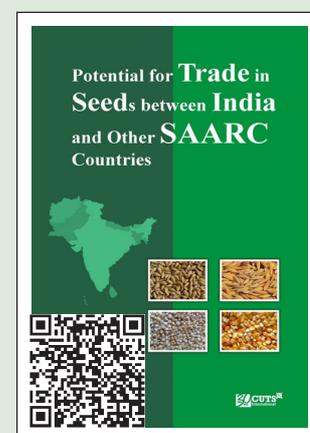
This Report introduces the issues relating to the importance of quality rice seeds and compare rice yields in both Bangladesh and India. It highlights the importance of quality rice seeds in raising yields. It also sheds light on factors influencing rice production and yields and deals with seed policy regimes and regulations in the two countries. The report also analyses rice seed industry structure and delivery mechanisms and sheds light on external trade and trade-related barriers in rice seeds. It also analyses issues of informal rice seeds trade and existing complementarity between the two countries.

www.cuts-citee.org/RISTE/pdf/Dynamics_of_Rice_Seeds_Trade-Need_for_Cooperation_between_India_and_Bangladesh.pdf

Potential for Trade in Seeds between India and Other SAARC Countries

India and other SAARC countries offer natural markets for each other's export products. The South Asia region enjoys mutual advantages of trade carried out within the group due to low transaction cost, scope for quicker delivery, similar agro-climatic conditions and food habits and common languages. These similarities are worthwhile to explore opportunities for increasing formal trade to meet demand, especially in food items. This paper explores potential for trade in seeds. It identifies nine important seeds that are directly or indirectly related to food security and livelihood in the region. These include vegetables, fruits, oil, maize, wheat, rice, barley, grain sorghum and buckwheat.

www.cuts-citee.org/RISTE/pdf/Potential_for_Trade_in_Seeds_between_India_and_Other_SAARC_Countries.pdf



Should India Join the WTO GPA?



The Briefing Paper suggests that India may consider two premises before acceding to the WTO Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): firstly, the ‘indicative’ market access figures that member-countries of the WTO GPA posit to provide are, in practice, whittled down through carve-outs for specific goods, sectors, non-tariff barriers and through exceptions; and secondly, the WTO GPA while regulating transparency in procurement does not adequately address socio-economic facets of the responsibility of procuring entities, neither does the text of the agreement contain provisions/waivers for developing countries.

www.cuts-citee.org/GP/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Should_India_Join_the_WTO_GPA.pdf

Consumers’ Attitudes towards Eco-labels

Sustainability challenges in the textile industry are many and complex, and the need for sustainable changes has been placed at the political agenda. This Briefing Paper is based on the information drawn from consumers’ perceptions of and attitudes towards environmental standards and eco-labels in the textiles and clothing (T&C) industry. The survey was undertaken in five European countries: Germany, England, France, Sweden and Norway. It deals with consumer practices and attitude towards environmental standards and eco-labels in T&C sector.

www.cuts-citee.org/SESTI/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Consumers_Attitudes_towards_Eco-labels.pdf



Prepare for New Environmental Standards in the Global Textile Value Chain

The Briefing Paper provides a brief overview of the conclusion from stakeholder interviews in Norway conducted under the project entitled, ‘A Study of Environmental Standards and their Trade Impacts: The Case of India’ (SESTI). A strategic selection of stakeholders was made based on existing knowledge about the Norwegian stakeholders in textiles & clothing (T&C) sector. 18 interviews were conducted with 23 informants, out of which six represented businesses and their organisations; three represented design institutions, labelling institutions, and labelling organisations respectively; seven represented public authorities; and three represented NGOs.

www.cuts-citee.org/SESTI/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Prepare_for_New_Environmental_Standards_in_the_Global_Textile_Value_Chain.pdf

The Political Economy of EU-India FTA

The proposed free trade agreement being negotiated between India and the European Union is due to be the first of its kind and may start a new generation of trade liberalisation as India is new to sign such an agreement between a developing country of South Asia, on one hand, and a group of developed countries of Europe, on the other. The contentious issues of negotiations include labour mobility, financial sector liberalisation, production of generic medicines, patent issues etc. This Briefing Paper focuses on these issues and argues that signing of an free trade agreement is not only an economic issue but also has political aspects.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-The_Political_Economy_of_EU-India_FTA.pdf



Opportunities and Challenges in Rice Seeds Trade Between India and Bangladesh

Rice, a major staple crop for India and Bangladesh, is important. It not only ensures food security, but also livelihood security of large number of small and marginal farmers engaged in rice cultivation. Trade being recognised as a tool for enhancing the domestic market capacities to meet the demands of domestic consumers as well as enlarging the platform for producers, therefore, this paper will focus on understanding the potential benefits which rice seeds trade between India and Bangladesh can bring in order to address challenges of availability and accessibility of quality rice seeds by increasing the supply in both the countries.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Opportunities_and_Challenges_in_Rice_Seeds_Trade_Between_India_and_Bangladesh.pdf



Climate Change, Food Security and Trade Linkages in South Asia

The South Asian region is particularly vulnerable to climate change owing to high population density, concentrated poverty and overly utilisation of natural resources. South Asian countries are largely dependent on agriculture for employment and subsistence. Cereals are the most important staple food in South Asia but no single country has significant comparative advantage for production of all cereals. This makes trade policies at the national and regional levels an important tool for ensuring food security. This Briefing Paper examines the linkages between climate change, food security and trade in South Asia.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Climate_Change_Food_Security_and_Trade_Linkages_in_South_Asia.pdf





Unlocking the Doha Impasse Imperative of a Balanced Bali Package

This Briefing Paper presents a brief analysis of the current state of affairs of the Doha Development Round. While the Doha Round is 'deadlocked' and, *inter alia*, exogenous circumstances have contributed to the current impasse, there is still a possibility that the WTO members will be able to reach an agreement on specific issues at the next Ministerial Conference in Bali in December 2013. The Paper discusses three possible areas of convergence that could be taken up in the run up to and at the Bali meeting.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Unlocking_the_Doha_Impasse_Imperative_of_a_Balanced_Bali_Package.pdf

Ensuring Access to Rare Earths Are WTO Disciplines on Export Restrictions Enough?

Global supply of rare earths has been inhibited by China's policies which prohibit/limit exports, which have been purportedly undertaken with salutary objectives like mineral conservation and public health. While it is pertinent to evaluate WTO norms on export restrictions, this Briefing Paper considers whether relying on WTO norms and the Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) can independently assure a country of its rare-earth supplies. It concludes that independently relying in WTO disciplines will not suffice. It also considers if the currently evolving disciplines on export restrictions can cripple valid mineral-conservation plans, and offers suggestions to justify such policies.



www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Ensuring_Access_to_Rare_Earths-Are_WTO_Disciplines_on_Export_Restrictions_Enough.pdf



Environmental Sustainability Challenges in Cotton Value Chain

How is India Responding to these Challenges?

Promotion of environmentally-sustainable agriculture, in general, and cotton, in particular has emerged as a major policy concern globally. The entire spectrum of activities from consumption, is no exception to this global trend. An assessment of the cotton value chain reveals a mix of economic and environmental factors which need policy attention. Against this backdrop, this Briefing Paper has tried to shed light on the role of Indian government policy and regulatory framework spanning mid-80s till now, to ensure delivery of better and sustainable cotton production and consumption along the value chain.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Environmental_Sustainability_Challenges_in_Cotton_Value_Chain-How_is_India_Responding_to_these_Challenges.pdf

Geneva Consensus for Trade Multilateralism

A Relook at the Eighth Millennium Development Goal – Global Partnership for Development

Given the current state of affairs on the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and also climate change negotiations, there is no evidence to suggest that such a consensus is on the horizon. This ‘consensus’, if not unanimity, is critical and would need a convergence of thoughts on the part of all international organisations in and out of Geneva to think and act together. These organisations need to liaison actively with capitals around the world to build better political ownership of Geneva Consensus.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Geneva_Consensus_for_Trade_Multilateralism.pdf



Trade and Exchange Rates

Effects of Exchange Rate Mismalignments on Tariffs

The issue of exchange-rate mismalignments and their impact on trade is not new, but it has recently gained increased attention from economists, and a number of estimates of mismalignments are available for all currencies in the world. The subject of currency and trade wars is gradually gathering interest among policymakers, experts and at the public domain at large. In the face of the magnitude of present mismalignments and their clear impacts on trade, one may wonder why and how this issue is absent from trade rules and multilateral trade negotiations at the WTO in Geneva.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Trade_and_Exchange_Rates_Effects_of_Exchange_Rate_Mismalignments_on_Tariffs.pdf



Brazil in the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding: A Perspective

Brazil is the most active developing country user and the fourth most active user overall of the WTO's DSU, after the US, the EU and Canada. Brazil has brought complaints in 25 cases, been a respondent in 14 cases and participated as a third party in 64 cases. Brazil is often touted for not only the quantity but the quality of its cases before the DSU. This paper examines why it is that Brazil, a developing country, has been successful in its usage of the DSU by examining its history during the GATT years, its WTO cases and by looking at its strategy for working with the DSU.

www.cuts-citee.org/pdf/Briefing_Paper13-Brazil_in_the_WTO_Dispute_Settlement_Understanding_A_Perspective.pdf



Economiquity

This Quarterly Newsletter is the flagship product of the CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment. It highlights important news and views on economic issues from different parts of the world with a view to keep the trade and development community abreast of the latest. Broadly, it covers Economic Issues; Trade Winds; Development Dimensions and Environment & Economics. It also contains articles of well-known researchers and policy influencers.

www.economiquity.org/



BRICS-TERN Newsletter

BRICS Trade & Economics Research Network (BRICS-TERN) was established as a platform for non-governmental organisations from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa to assist in furthering South-South cooperation through network-based policy research and advocacy on contemporary and developmental issues. In line with networks' agenda, every quarter BRICS-TERN publishes a four page newsletter that provides an overview of the most recent BRICS trade and investment-related activities and provides information on the research and networking activities that are being undertaken by BRICS-TERN partners.

<http://cuts-international.org/BRICS-TERN/publications.htm>

Dossier on Preferential Trade Agreements

This Quarterly Dossier does shallow analysis of potential impacts (on the Indian economy) of those preferential trade agreements of which India is not a party. One of the most interesting trends in today's global trade is the emergence of bilateral and regional trade arrangements, collectively known as preferential trade agreements. The slow pace of multilateral trade negotiations under the aegis of the World Trade Organisation contributed to this development. A large number of preferential trade agreements and related negotiations are underway of which India is not a party but they may potentially affect India's trading opportunities.

www.cuts-citee.org/PTADossier.htm

CUTS Trade Forum

'CUTS-TradeForum' is an e-platform to exchange views and opinions on contemporary issues of international trade, trade-related regulations and economic development. It helps its stakeholders to share information and participate in regular discussions and debates.

<https://groups.google.com/forum!/?fromgroups#!forum/cuts-tradeforum>

CUTS South Asia E-Group

'CUTS South Asia E-Group' provides on e-platform to discuss, share views and opinions on trade and economics among relevant stakeholders from the South. <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/CUTS-SouthAsia/info>

