

Annual report

2007-2008



Annual Report 2007-2008

Published by

Consumer Unity & Trust Society

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#0830

CUTS 
International



CUTS International (Consumer Unity & Trust Society) began its journey in 1983 in Rajasthan, from a rural development communication initiative, a wall newspaper Gram Gadar (Village Revolution). This monthly is published regularly and has been instrumental in providing a forum for the oppressed classes to get justice. On seeing Gram Gadar, Rubens Ricupero, the immediate past Secretary-General of UNCTAD observed: "It confirmed my view that often the simple lack of awareness lies at the root of so much misery".

In 1983, CUTS was a small voluntary group of concerned citizens operating out of a garage on a zero budget at Jaipur. Today, its annual budget exceeds US\$2.5mn or Rs13crores. The organisation consists of five programme centres and one resource centre in India (at Jaipur with headquarters, Chittorgarh, Calcutta and New Delhi), two resource centres in Africa (at Lusaka, Zambia and Nairobi, Kenya) and one resource centre in London, UK. CUTS is probably the only Indian NGO with such overseas operations. The current staff strength is over 130 persons, of which one third are females at managerial levels too.

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From the Secretary General's Desk



As I present an overview of the year 2007-08, I view both ends – accomplishments and milestones that CUTS has achieved so far at the one end and unfinished work and future programme at the other. In between the two, I find more and more work as the only solution to myriad problems that the world in general and India in particular face.

This year also marks the silver jubilee of CUTS that began its journey from a zero budget out of a garage. Now there is an extra onus on it to engage in more meaningful programmes and activities. In the last 25 years, as I look back, CUTS has tried to carry forward its vision in a democratic manner by creating centres with exclusive responsibilities as the core mantra for expansion over times.

Among the major highlights is opening of a new overseas centre – CUTS Hanoi Resource Centre (CUTS HRC) – which was formally launched in Hanoi, on February 29, 2008, while another one – CUTS Geneva Resource Centre (CUTS GRC) – is expected to be established sometime in July 2008. Hanoi is the fourth overseas centre of CUTS International, opened with the aim of promoting trilateral development cooperation on a range of trade and economic policy issues.

On Economic Regulation and Competition Policy

Launched in September 2005, CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC) continued to work exclusively on the need for creating an intellectual and knowledge base, fostering better negotiating skills and improved capacity of understanding competition law & policy, economic and infrastructure regulation and commercial & economic diplomacy.

CIRC has developed and submitted proposals on Contract Management and Negotiations and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). So far, CIRC has organised 18 training programmes, two panel discussions and one international research symposium. For example, a Panel Discussion on *'The Political Economy of Regulation in India – What Do We Need to Do'*, was organised in Mumbai, in October 2007 with the objective of evolving a consensus on the implementation of an effective regulatory regime in India. It was chaired by C Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, who released a report entitled, *'Competition and Regulation in India, 2007'*.

CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation (CUTS CCIER), with a focus on one of its core programme areas, implemented *'Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select*

Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa codenamed 7Up3 Project in seven countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Uganda. The project products are, 'From the Bottom Up', a report on the state of competition in seven countries, four briefing papers and a policy brief.

One of our projects 'Study of Cartel Case Laws in Select Jurisdictions – Learnings for the Competition Commission of India' supported by the Planning Commission, Government of India studied cartel cases that have been tried under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act, 1969 and similar cases of cartels investigated in other countries.

The Centre implemented a project, 'India Competition and Regulation Report' (ICRR) that aims to highlight various distortions in economic management of the country and provide inputs on a periodic basis to Governments (Central as well as States), CCI, sectoral regulatory authorities, other governmental agencies, CSOs, business, academia, media, and professionals for taking necessary action to promote well-functioning markets.

Another significant project this Centre launched in March 2008 was 'Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Bangladesh, India and Nepal (RESA)' with an aim to build capacity of consumer groups/CSOs to enable them to deal with the issues involved, take up action research, share experiences, and carry out advocacy with policymakers and regulatory agencies to effect pro-consumer changes in the electricity regulatory/policy processes in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

During the year, CUTS C-CIER was selected by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Private Sector Development and President's Special Initiatives (MOTIPSDPSI), Government of Ghana to develop a Competition Act for the country. The Centre is working on the first draft.

The Centre represented at a seminar on 'Enhancing Consumer Protection via Competition Policy' as a fringe event on the sidelines of the 18th Consumer International World Congress 2007 in Sydney, on October 29, 2007.

On Trade and Development

CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS CITEE) made remarkable progress in implementing various projects successfully as well as carrying out research and advocacy programmes with greater commitment. It has been in the forefront of working on the equitable international trading system, especially trade negotiations and capacity building of grassroots CSOs under World Trade Organisation (WTO) Doha Round negotiations.

In this context, CUTS CITEE implemented a project, *South Asia Forum for International Trade (SAFIT-II)*, which was conceptualised on the premises of Doha Developmental Agenda (DDA). Under

the project, a book, entitled '*South Asian Positions in the WTO Doha Round: In Search of a True Development Agenda*', Volume II was published.

On advocacy and networking areas, CUTS CITEE organised one national consultation in each of the five South Asian countries (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) with an aim to get the best out of national consultation and country-wise incorporate/tally stakeholders' perception on the issue of domestic preparedness in the 'service sector'. To further the advocacy work on the issue, I attended a conference on 'Pathways to Legitimacy: The Future of Global and Regional Governance' at University of Warwick, Coventry UK and presented a paper entitled '*A Brief Account of Coalitions in the WTO*'.

On international trade issues, the Centre implemented another project, '*Services Trade and Domestic Regulation: A Multi-Country Study in Commonwealth Asia, Africa and the Caribbean*' supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London with a view that the service sector constitutes a significant share of the gross domestic product (GDP) in most of the developing countries in South Asia, Africa and the Caribbean region. Under the project, background paper on the '*Evolution of Service Sector*', with special focus on domestic regulations in six selected countries, i.e. Bangladesh; India; Gambia; Zambia; Kenya; and Jamaica were brought out.

CUTS CITEE implemented the project entitled '*Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy: A Pilot Project in Bangladesh and India*' (MINTDEV) that aimed to address social and political considerations into trade policy-making and engage civil society in a socially inclusive manner. Under the project, the Centre brought out a study on '*Regional Openness Index, Income Disparity and Poverty - An Experiment with Indian Data*'.

A training-cum-advocacy meeting for farmers and *panchayat* representatives entitled '*International Trade and National Development Strategy in India: Voices from the Ground*' in May 2008 at Jaipur.

CUTS CITEE implemented a project entitled '*Study to Identify Hurdles for Independent Indian Health Service Personnel in Selected Countries under GATS Mode IV*' to highlight how the ongoing General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) negotiations can be used to generate a stronger liberalising momentum in the health sector.

On environment issues, CUTS CITEE, as project partner, implemented the four-year project entitled, '*Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabel Opportunities*' to increase the environmental efficiency of key export products and related industrial processes in Brazil, China, India, Kenya, Mexico and South Africa by supporting the active contribution of industry and government to the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (Marrakech process).

On Consumer Protection and Governance

CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CART) implemented a project, *'Involvement of Consumers in Power Sector Reforms'* in Rajasthan (CUTS-FES Programme Phase-III) with a focused approach on 'Feeder Renovation' in Ajmer, Jodhpur and Jaipur districts.

Under '*Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP)*', the Centre helped spread consumer awareness at the grassroots by strengthening the capacity of the net workers in 20 selected blocks in Rajasthan through skill training programme, consumer friends training and consumer rallies.

With a motto of 'An Educated Investor is a Protected Investor' the Centre implemented the project, '*Securities Market Awareness Campaign*' (SMAC) – Round V, to sensitise investors on the functioning of the securities market.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India appointed CUTS as the Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for Rajasthan under the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) for three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

'Promoting Greater Role of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Rajasthan to Foster Rural Livelihood Opportunities: Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation and Economic Liberalisation' was another important project that the Centre worked on with an aim to strengthen the PRIs and grassroots' organisations in Rajasthan.

On Utility Reforms, Health, Safety and Rights

On utility reforms, CUTS CART implemented a project entitled '*Assessing 2Qs (Quality & Quantity) Outputs of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in Sirohi District of Rajasthan*', with an aim to test the effectiveness of social accountability approaches in influencing the public expenditure outcomes. A novel outcome of it was the creation of assessment criteria, e.g. Citizen Report and Community Score Card.

On road safety, the Centre implemented the project '*Traffic Claming Strategies to Improve Pedestrian Safety in India*' to highlight the key flaws in design of Indian roads and develop a unique manual, first of its kind in India for concerned policy/ decision makers in Police, Transport, Municipal Corporation, Development Authority and Public Works Department.

CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) was selected as the Mother NGO (MNGO) for Chittorgarh, Rajasthan under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) scheme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

With the aim of addressing the reproductive and sexual health problems of adolescents, through youth forums, the Centre joined *Seva Mandir*, with other NGOs, for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Initiative for Joint Action Network-Youth Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights (SRIJAN-YRSHR).

CUTS CHD, in association with *Bachpan Bachao Andolan*, New Delhi, organised an action week against child labour with an aim to create awareness on child labour. CUTS CART conducted a survey on 'Lunch box challenge', among the school children in Jaipur on the eve of the World Consumer Rights Day to assess their preference of food in the lunch box.

On Empowerment and Resource Management

CUTS CHD worked on creating Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and *Bal Panchyats* with special efforts towards making women self-reliant and reduction in cases of violence against girls through organising awareness campaigns.

The Centre, in association with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been implementing the SHGs project to ensure socio-economic development and enhance livelihood security in rural areas.

Under bio-diversity conservation, our work highlighted local environmental problems occurred due to industrial wastes. And to spread awareness on various issues, CUTS organised various important days such National Consumer Day, AIDS Day, International Youth Day, *Balika Pravesh Utsav*, World Food Day, International Women Day, etc.

CUTS was nominated as a member in the newly formed Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC), with the Gazette Notification dated September 14, 2007.

And Finally...

I sincerely feel indebted to all the partner organisations, funding agencies, individuals and institutions, experts and academics and government departments and private groups for their constant support and good wishes. Equally important have been the efforts and endeavours of CUTS staff who collectively contributed immensely towards making CUTS an internationally recognised organisation. I do hope, with all such supports continuing in future, CUTS will move forward in working for the people and the society with greater focus and commitment in the years to come.

**Jaipur
April 2008**

**Pradeep S Mehta
Secretary General**

About CUTS

CUTS was established in 1983 as a small group of concerned citizens. Since then it has been working towards bridging the gap between the people at the grassroots and international policy-making community. Today, it is a leading consumer organisation in India. More importantly, CUTS is now at the cutting edge of the consumer movement, not only in India but also in other parts of the world. The organisation focuses its programmes on the following five areas:

- Consumer Protection
- International Trade & Development
- Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation
- Human Development
- Consumer Safety

Historical Perspective

CUTS began from a rural development initiative, a wall newspaper, *Gram Gadar* (Village Revolution). As the organisation's mouthpiece, *Gram Gadar* is being published regularly and reaches every nook and corner of Rajasthan, even remote villages where radio is the only medium of communication. It has been instrumental in providing a forum for the oppressed classes at the grassroots to get justice.

Objectives

CUTS, as an advocacy and research organisation, aims:

- to initiate, undertake and aid directly or through its affiliated bodies, schemes for the furtherance of consumer and public welfare, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development;
- to promote, organise and assist measures for the availability of consumer commodities and services, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development;
- to study consumer and public interest/welfare problems and evolve remedies, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development;
- to publish studies, periodicals, reports and other literature relating to consumer commodities and services, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development;
- to undertake, research and case studies in respect of consumer commodities and services public interest/welfare, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development;
- to advise and if necessary, assist governments and the concerned authorities in framing and enforcing laws to safeguard the interests of the consumer and citizen, including

I congratulate my colleagues at CUTS for high quality analysis and publications for their exemplary work in social field, trade and economics and openness to disclosure with all sectors of society in India and abroad.

Raymond Saner
Director, Centre for
Socio-Economic
Development (CSEND),
Geneva

It was a wonderful experience to visit CUTS and participate in one of its training programmes. Over the last 20 years, CUTS has grown from strength to strength and is one of the premier CSOs of the country. Very professional with services of a high quality.

S N Menon
Former Secretary,
Department of
Commerce,
Government of India

Congratulations on the launch of the series of training programmes for the University of Commerce. This time trade capacity building is in action.

Geza Feketekuty
President, Institute
for Trade and
Commercial
Diplomacy, US



N C Pahariya
Secretary cum
Treasurer



Rajeev D Mathur
Executive Director



Siddhartha Mitra
Research Director



L N Sharma
Accounts Officer



Sudhir Kumar
Accounts Officer



Ruchi Sharma
Administrative
Officer



Sini Nair
HR Assistant

those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and socio-economic development; and

- to disseminate knowledge and information and to educate the public regarding consumer and public interest/welfare problems and programmes on a scientific basis, including those relating to environment, healthcare, general awareness, empowerment and economic development.

Vision Statement

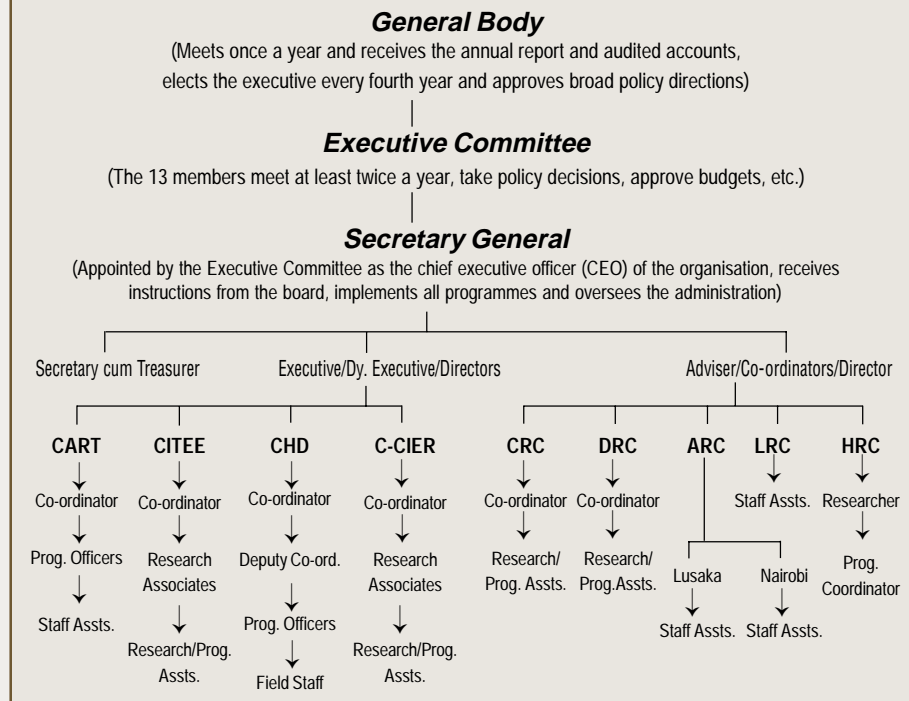
'Consumer sovereignty in the framework of social justice and equality within and across borders'

Organisational Development

From a small voluntary group of concerned citizens operating out of a garage on a zero budget to an international NGO, the journey has marked with healthy growth. The year 2006-07 was marked by important organisational developments within the country and abroad. CUTS' centres are broadly divided into two distinct categories:

- Programme Centres; and
- Resource Centres.

Organisational Structure



Programme Centres

- Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CITEE), Jaipur, India
- Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CART), Jaipur, India
- Centre for Human Development (CHD), Chittorgarh, India
- Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation (CCIER), Jaipur India
- CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC)

Resource Centres

- Calcutta Resource Centre (CRC), Calcutta, India
- Africa Resource Centre (ARC), Lusaka, Zambia
- London Resource Centre (LRC), London, UK
- Delhi Resource Centre (DRC), New Delhi, India
- Africa Resource Centre (ARC), Nairobi, Kenya
- Hanoi Resource Centre (HRC), Hanoi, Vietnam

Meeting of the General Body

The General Body Meeting was held on November 17, 2007 in which the Annual Report and audited accounts were presented.

Executive Committee Meeting

Meeting of the Executive Committee was held on November 17, 2007 where internal policy matters, progress made and budget were reviewed.

Human Resource Development

During this year Archana Jatkar, Sini M. Nair, Ajinish Biswas, Sonia Gasparikova, Amit Bhardwaj, Rachna Singh, Rebecca Band, Vibhor Bansal, Souvik Chatterji, Virendra Somara, Om Prakash Arya, Shashi Shikha, A. B. Paul, Rajesh Kumar, Ramrao Mundhe, Bhavna Jaipuriya, Arun Talwar, Manish Pareek, Cornelius Dube, Siddhartha Mitra, Sonja Blasig, Atul Kaushik, Ravikiran Naik, Soubhag Singh, Ladli Prasad Katara, Purnima Purohit and Arjun Kant Jha joined CUTS at Jaipur. Urmimala Chatterji rejoined CUTS CCIER.

Arnab Ganguly, Mrinmoy Dey and Selina Kabir have joined our Calcutta Resource Centre. Sumanta Biswas rejoined Calcutta Resource Centre. Nabeel Ajmal Mancheri has joined our Delhi Resource Centre. Whereas Pramod Dev rejoined Delhi Resource Centre.

Angela Mwape Mulenga joined Lusaka Resource Centre. Samson Awino joined Nairobi Resource Centre.

CUTS Website

CUTS has developed a comprehensive website with an URL www.cuts-international.org. It has useful links and hyperlinks leading to its various Programme and Resource Centres that provide an insight into the individual sub-domains. Main page mirrors the broad outline about the organisation and its activities. In addition, it provides valuable information on the following areas:

- Projects and events;
- Media articles and press releases;
- Current initiatives; and
- Advocacy campaigns.

CUTS Library and Documentation Department

CUTS library and documentation department plays a vital role in supporting in-house research work by facilitating access to relevant information sources.

Mukesh Tyagi
DTP Officer



Sweepthish Jayan
Assistant IT
Officer

Rajkumar Trivedi
DTP Assistant



Impressed by CUTS' specialisation in spreading its message to every nook and corner of the society. It would have been better if 'Gram Gadar' would have been published in regional languages from every region.

Rakesh Bhartiya,
Director
Department of Science
& Technology
Government of India



S K Soni
Personal
Assistant

M Shamsur
Rabb Khan
Editor



Madhuri Vasnani
Publications
Assistant



Lokpal Jangir
Assistant
Documentation Officer



Kirti Johari
Assistant
Librarian

I am very happy to be able to visit CUTS Headquarters. CUTS is currently implementing one important project for the Commonwealth Secretariat and I am impressed with the progress made so far and with the way project activities are coordinated. Particularly, I would like to congratulate Bipul Chatterjee and his staff at CUTS CITEE. I look forward to have further contact between our two organisations.

M A Razzaque
Commonwealth
Secretariat
London, UK

The Library

CUTS library has an extensive collection of books, journals, research reports, working papers, monographs, briefing papers and pamphlets in the fields of economics, economic development, foreign direct investment (FDI), competition, poverty, industry, international trade, trade and development, trade and environment, energy, agriculture, law, consumerism etc. It subscribes 22 journals/magazines and more than 10 newspapers. It also contains wide collection of CDs/audio-videos/photographs.

Information Unit

This unit has a database, which is a collection of international, national and grassroots level organisations including inter-governmental organisations, governmental organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). It contains Postal Mailing Lists (ML), Electronic List (EL), and Visiting Cards. Information Unit is responsible for providing mailing list(s) to the dispatch section in Label Format.

Infrastructural Development

Considerable investments were made on information technology and office equipments. New books were added to the library. The number of computers increased from 45 to 68 and some of the existing computers were upgraded for compatibility.

Heavy duty centralised printers were installed. Centralised Network and Internet connectivity was provided. High-end electronic gadgets like routers at all the three offices at Jaipur to control the Internet bandwidth and fight spam in order to give users non-stop browsing and increase the productivity, were purchased.

Capacity Building of the Staff

- Kirti Johari of CUTS attended a lecture on 'Knowledge Management & Knowledge Based Society' organised by Harish Chandra Mathur Rajasthan State Institute of Public Administration (HCM-RIPA), Jaipur, Rajasthan, on April 25, 2007.
- Rijit Sengupta of CUTS CCIER attended a consultative meeting on 'Corporate Social Responsibility in South Asia' organised by South Asia Watch on Trade Economics & Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal and PIC, India in Kathmandu, Nepal during April 25-28, 2007.
- Ritu Agarwal of CUTS CART participated in a course on 'Leadership and General Management for Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use' in Bangalore, during June 13-21, 2007.
- Deepak Saxena of CUTS CART attended a workshop on 'Social Responsibility and its Implications for Developing Countries' organised by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in New Delhi on April 16-17, 2007.
- Pramod Dev of CUTS CITEE attended an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) workshop

on 'Regional Trade Agreements and the Environment', in Tokyo, Japan, on June 19-20, 2007.

- Shashi Shikha of CUTS CITEE attended a workshop on 'Livelihoods and Governance' organised by Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), in Anand, Gujarat, on August 20 -24, 2007.
- Sabita Tripathi of CUTS CART attended a workshop on 'Gender Approach to Healthcare in Rajasthan' organised by Indian Institute of Health Mangement Reserach (IIHMR) in Jaipur, Rajasthan, on August 23-25, 2007.
- Suprita Jayram of CUTS CITEE attended programme on 'Mainstreaming Gender in Development Organisations' organised by IRMA, in Anand, Gujarat, during August 31, 2007 to September 03, 2007.
- George Cheriyan of CUTS CART attended a workshop entitled 'Generating Genuine Demand with Social Accountability Mechanisms sponsored by the Communication for Governance Accountability Programme (COMMGAP) in Paris on November 01-02, 2007.
- Dharmendra Chaturvedi of CUTS CART attended 'Sensitisation Programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 and its Amendment Act 2006' organised by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, on November 28-30, 2007.
- Simi T B of CUTS CITEE attended a startup workshop of the project entitled, 'Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabel Opportunities' organised by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and InWEnt in Bonn, Germany on December 03-04 2007.
- Rajesh Kumar of CUTS CCIER attended a conference on 'Power Distribution in India: Success, Concerns, Strategies and Outlook' in New Delhi, India, on December 18-19, 2007.

Donor Agencies

CUTS maintains an interactive association with various donor agencies both at the national and international levels. The organisation receives funds from national as well as international agencies to implement various development projects and programmes. By judicious use of the funds, the organisation pursues and strengthens its various functional areas. During 2006-07, the main funding agencies for organisation have been categorised into two sources: the governmental sector donors and the non-governmental sector donors.

The government sector donors include: Department for International Development (DFID), UK; Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), New Delhi; various Ministries of Government of India (GoI); Government of Rajasthan; Government of the Netherlands; Norwegian Agency for Development and Cooperation (NORAD), Norway; Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), Berne and New Delhi; Swiss Agency for International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Stockholm; United Nations Conference on Trade and

We very much value our partnership with CUTS, and the close and regular contact you maintain with us. I am aware, for example, that staff in International Trade Department recently participated in your excellent conference on Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and

Aid for Trade in Nairobi.

Gareth Thomas
Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State,
Department for
International
Development (DFID),
UK

Development (UNCTAD), Geneva; European Commission (EC); World Health Organisation (WHO), New Delhi; and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), New Delhi.

The non-governmental sector donors include: Oxfam GB in India; Novib the Netherlands; Save the Children, UK; Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Germany; International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada; and Commonwealth Foundation, UK. As the best practices, CUTS made consistent efforts to establish long-term working relations with donors.

Major Highlights of the Year 2007-08

Striving towards new challenges and new thinking, CUTS focused on its core functional areas during the year 2007-08. Some of the major activities are listed below:

Programmes and Events

2007	Major Events and Activities
April 27	Launch of <i>Vidhayak Samvad</i> in a meeting at the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly premises on April 27, 2007. Sumitra Singh, the honourable speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, launched the forum and delivered the inaugural address.
April 18	Launch meeting of a unique Project entitled, ' <i>Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State, by Applying Right to Information (RTI) Act as a Tool</i> ' in association with Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF) in Jaipur, on April 18, 2007.
July 24	A consultative workshop on ' <i>Promoting African Women's Voice in the EPA Negotiations</i> ' in Lusaka, on July 24, 2007.
August 21	An Advocacy Seminar under the project entitled, "Tobacco: Deadly in any Form and Disguise" in Jaipur, on August 21, 2007.
August 09	<i>Launch Meeting of the Project entitled, 'Assessment of the Qualitative and Quantitative Output of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) Project' in Sirohi, on August 09, 2007.</i>
September 19	Launched a new project entitled, 'Soho to Soweto' with the first debate: Does Aid aid Development? in London, on September 19, 2007.
October 29	A seminar on 'Enhancing Consumer Protection via Competition Policy' as a fringe event on the sidelines of the 18 th Consumer International World Congress 2007 in Sydney, on October 29, 2007.
October 16	A Panel Discussion on 'The Political Economy of Regulation in India – What do we need to do' in Mumbai, on October 16, 2007. A new CUTS Study, 'Competition and Regulation in India, 2007' was also released on the occasion by Dr C Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India.
November 22	A meeting of the Parliamentarians' Forum on Economic Policy Issues (PAR-FORE) to discuss the outcomes of 'Competition & Regulation in India, 2007' in New Delhi, on November 22, 2007.
November 29	A national consultation on 'Services Trade and Domestic Regulation in India' in New Delhi, on November 29, 2007
2008	
January 29	A panel discussion on PTAs and India: Where are we and where to go? in New Delhi, on January 29, 2008.
February 29	CUTS Hanoi Resource Centre (CUTS HRC) was formally launched in Hanoi on February 29, 2008. This is the fourth overseas centre of CUTS International, opened with the aim of promoting trilateral development cooperation on a range of trade and economic policy issues all over the world.
February 14-15	An international competition conference entitled, 'Promoting a Healthy Competition Culture in sub-Saharan Africa' in Gaborone on February 14-15, 2008 to mark the culmination of the project entitled, ' <i>Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa</i> ' (7Up3 Project).
February 17-18	A two-day training workshop on baseline survey on Handicapped Welfare Committee, Aaseend under the Mother NGO project in Bhilwara, on February 17-18, 2008.

Research & Publications

- A Book entitled, '*Competition and Regulation in India, 2007*' was released by Dr C Rangaraj. It contains research-based analyses that will stimulate a healthy debate on how the issues of competition and regulation policy are perceived. It also provides an assessment of present and future scenario in the context of competition and regulation in India.
- *South Asian Positions in the WTO Doha Round: In Search of A True Development Agenda Volume 2* is a well-researched study by a group of civil society organisations (CSOs) in South Asia. It is a vital collection of papers on five broad issues authored by experts in the field of trade and WTO issues.
- *Mainstreaming Development in the WTO: Developing Countries in the Doha Round* is a study that attempts to provide institutional base for the next generation of trade negotiations and an effort to provide a platform for others to continue to build on in pursuit of the goal of building a fair, balanced and development-friendly multilateral trading system.
- Two monographs entitled, '*ABC of Aid for Trade*' and '*Intellectual Property Rights, Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge*' were also published during the period.
- Five Briefing Papers under the Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth (IPPG) project were also published.
- Why was India's Ecomark Unsuccessful? This paper makes some vital recommendations as to how the Scheme could be revived, reinvigorated and implemented to benefit consumers, producers and the society at large.
- Politics Trumps Economics – *Lessons and experiences on competition and regulatory regimes from developing countries* discusses that mere adoption of regulatory laws is not a sufficient condition to be a part of the market reform agenda. Implementation is equally important.
- Consumer Protection Act and the Supreme Court is a compilation of consumer cases under COPRA and their interpretation by the Supreme Court. It offers precise information on all the inter-related topics under provisions relating to consumer protection, application of the Act etc.
- A Bill Blow up entitled, '*The Gram Nyayalayas Bill, 2007*' was published which analyses the Bill, including its purpose, benefits and loopholes.
- Trade-Development-Poverty Linkages: *Reflections from Selected Asian and Sub-Saharan African Countries Volume 1 – Country Case Studies* is the outcome of the research findings based on multi-country approach aims at contributing to the policy debate for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It also examines the individual country experiences in addressing the issues related to development and poverty reduction through trade in pre and post-liberalisation periods.
- '*From the Bottom Up*' published under the 7Up3 project charts out the competition scenario in seven countries in Eastern and Southern Africa, viz. Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, and Uganda, and highlights the weaknesses that require to be addressed for operationalising competition regimes in them.

Advocacy & Networking

- A Training Seminar on Economic Partnership Agreements was organised in Lusaka, Zambia, on May 14-16, 2007.
- A two-day *Orientation Workshop for Selected Surveyors* under the project entitled, 'Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State, India by Applying RTI Act as a Tool', was held in Jaipur, on June 28-29, 2007.
- A Roundtable entitled, '*An Enabling Environment for Socio-economic Development: Identifying precise Policies and Legal Framework for Kenya*' was organised in Nairobi on June 07, 2007.
- A roundtable discussion on 'Capacity Building Institute for Regulatory and Competition Issues in Indian Infrastructure' was held in New Delhi on November 21, 2007.
- 'RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall' on Citizen Awakening, Good Governance Development Exhibition was put at Pushkar, in Ajmer during November 17-24, 2007.
- A roundtable on Trade and Poverty: 'Making the Integrated Framework a Tool for Poverty Reduction?' in Geneva on October 18, 2007.
- Training workshops were organised under the project entitled, 'Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa' in Uganda during October 03-05, 2007 and in Ethiopia during October 10-12, 2007 respectively.
- A Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on 'Bridging Research and Policy' was held in Shimla during September 17-21, 2007.
- A toolbox analysis session was organised under the Grassroots Reachout & Networking in India on Trade and Economics (GRANITE) Project in Kolkata on May 28-29, 2007.

Honours & Achievements

- CUTS ARC, Lusaka represented the civil society in the Eastern and Southern Africa-Economic Partnership Agreement Regional Negotiating Forum in Mauritius during July 03-August 25, 2007. The organisation's involvement in this negotiation provided an opportunity to take forward the views of CSOs from ESA on different aspects and dimensions of the proposed EPA between the EU and ACP countries.
- CUTS was nominated as a member in the newly formed Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC). The organisation received the Gazette Notification dated September 14, 2007 constituting the new CCPC with only 35 members, as against the past unwieldy structure of 150 members.

Representations

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participants
April 04-05, 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka	International Conference on 'Trade in Services in South Asia: Opportunities and Risks in Liberalisation'	Spoke on services liberalisation in South Asia	Pranav Kumar
April 26, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	First Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) Task Force Meeting	Presentation of Advocacy Document of the 'South-South Economic Cooperation: Exploring GMS India Relationship' Project	Rajeev D Mathur
May 24, 2007, London, UK	Aid for Trade: One Year on – How Much, for Whom, and the Institutional Challenges?	Presentation on 'Diagnosing TRA Needs: Are We Asking the Right People? Are We Asking the Right Questions? Are We Listening?'	Gideon Rabinowitz
May 03, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	4 th East Asia Conference on Competition Law and Policy	Presentation of Recent Developments of Competition Policy and Law in East Asian Economies and Conduct a Trial Peer Review of the Vietnam Competition Law 2004	Pranav Kumar
June 15-16, 2007, Toronto	First overseas meeting of the Warwick Commission, UK on 'The Multilateral Trading System after Doha'	Deliberation on the Survey of 250 Experts on the Future of Trade Liberalisation Issues such as the Role of the WTO and Impact of Preferential Trade Agreements	Pradeep S Mehta
July 28, 2007, Kolkata, West Bengal	'Agri-Exports in Eastern Region: Opportunities and Challenges'	Problems faced by Agri-exporters in the Eastern Region of India	Keya Ghosh Prof Nabinananda Sen Jayeeta Sarkar Arnab Ganguly
September 06-07, 2007, Jaipur, Rajasthan	Regional Workshop on 'Biodiversity, Regulation: Legality and Reality'	Campaign for Community Control over Biodiversity, with Respect to Conservation and Management of Biological Resources and Traditional Knowledge	R K Sharma
September 10-12, 2007, Geneva, Switzerland	Multilateralising Regionalism	How Regional Trade Agreements Might Be Tamed Through a Multilateral Approach, to Redefine Trade Cooperation	Bipul Chatterjee
September 17-19, 2007, London, UK	International conference entitled 'Pathways to Legitimacy? The Future of Globalisation and Regional Governance'	Paper Presentation on 'A Brief Account of Coalitions in the WTO'	Pradeep S Mehta Archana Jatkar

Contd...

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participants
November 01-02, 2007, Paris	Generating Genuine Demand with Social Accountability Mechanisms'	Paper Presentation on 'Analysing the Public Sphere/Political Context: Learning from India'	George Cheriyan
December 03-05, 2007, Bonn, Germany	Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabelling Opportunities	Paper Presentation on 'Indian Textiles – Trade, Environment, Policies	Simi T. Balakrishnan
December 11-12, 2007, New Delhi, India	Results Measurement for Advisory Services	Speech on the evolution of Competition Scenario – from the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act to the Competition Amendment Act, 2007 – in India	Pradeep S Mehta
February 23, 2008, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in Health and Education sectors in India	Feedback on the draft report prepared by KPMG on PPP in Health and Education sectors in India	Ramrao Mundhe
February 25-27, 2008, New Delhi, India	Moving towards Gender Sensitisation of Trade Policy	Discussion on Gender Concerns in Context of Trade Liberalisation	Sonja Blasig

CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CITEE)

CUTS CITEE was established in 1996 with an aim to be a global level institution for research and advocacy on multilateral trade and sustainable development issues, and has been working on issues relating to trade and economics. The organisation's philosophy is "liberalisation yes, but with safety nets". In the early 1990s, when the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was at its peak, CUTS got involved with trade and economic issues (including regulatory issues such as competition policy and investment).

The Mission of CUTS CITEE is *"Pursuing economic equity and social justice within and across borders by persuading governments and empowering people."*

The main objective of the Centre is to enable and empower representatives of the civil society, from developing countries in particular, to articulate and advocate on the relevant issues at the appropriate fora and to create a questioning society through empowerment of civil society representatives thus ensuring transparency and accountability in the system. Simultaneously, it also tries to promote equity between and among the developed and developing countries through network-based research and advocacy on emerging and relevant issues.

CUTS CITEE aims to achieve its mission and objectives by means of three inter-linked functions: research, advocacy and networking. Developmental issues and capacity building of civil society organisations (CSOs) and other stakeholders, particularly from developing and least developed countries (LDCs), is cross-cutting.

It is regarded as a key research and advocacy group working on issues of trade and development, which are of interest to developing countries. CITEE operates closely with other CUTS' centres, in order to strengthen upward and downward linkages on critical trade and economic policy issues between policymakers and civil society.

Research is an essential component of the Centre's work in conducting effective advocacy. Without research inputs, advocacy would not be credible. Policymakers, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), business associations and other stakeholders are taken into the networking loop while conducting research and they are the Centre's advocacy targets.



Bipul Chatterjee
Deputy
Executive
Director & Head,
CITEE



Atul Kaushik
Advisor (Projects)



Pranav Kumar
Policy Analyst &
Deputy Head,
CITEE



Pramod Dev
Policy Analyst



Simi T
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Assistant
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Purnima Purohit
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Suprita Jayaram
Programme
Coordinator



Vishwajit Habbu
Programme Officer



Shashi Shikha
Assistant
Programme
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Archana Jalkar
Assistant Policy
Analyst



Anutosh Biswas
Programme
Assistant

Ravikiran Naik
Research
Assistant



Ladli Prasad Katara
Programme
Assistant

International Advisory Board

The Centre carries its activities under the guidance of an advisory board. The following is the list of the advisory board:

Chairman	T N Srinivasan , Samuel C Park, Jr Professor of Economics, Yale University, US
Members	<p>Jagdish Bhagwati, Professor of Economics & Professor of Political Science, Columbia University, New York, US</p> <p>Tariq Banuri, Senior Research Director, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Boston, US</p> <p>Magda Shahin, Director, Trade Related Assistance Centre (TRAC), Former Deputy Trade Minister of Egypt, Giza, Egypt</p> <p>Janice Goodson Foerde, Chairperson, KULU-Women and Development, Copenhagen, Denmark</p> <p>Mark Halle, European Representative & Director, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>Trudi Hartzenberg, Director, Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa (TRALAC), Stellenbosch, South Africa</p> <p>L Alan Winters, Research Director, World Bank, Washington DC, US</p> <p>Ann Weston, Vice-President and Research Coordinator, The North-South Institute, Ottawa, Canada</p> <p>Jasper A Okelo, Professor of Economics, University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>Arjun Sengupta, Chairman, Centre for Development and Human Rights, New Delhi, India</p> <p>Debapriya Bhattacharya, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, Bangladesh</p> <p>Phil Evans, Competition Trade & Consumer Consultant, London, UK</p> <p>Dianna Tussie, Senior Research Fellow, Latin American School of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Buenos Aires, Argentina</p> <p>Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International</p>

Programme Areas

- WTO Issues
- Regional Economic Cooperation
- Developmental Issues: Trade, Environment, Pro-poor Growth
- Capacity-building: A Cross Cutting Issue

Activities

The main activities of the Centre are as follows:

- Policy research and publications;
- Advocacy and dialogues;
- Training and networking;
- Information dissemination and outreach; and
- Human resource development.

Projects

- WTO Doha negotiations and South Asia: Linking Civil Society with Trade Negotiations (SAFIT Phase II)
- Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction (TDP)
- Grassroots Reachout and Networking in India on Trade and Economics (GRANITE Phase II)
- Improving Institutions for Pro-poor Growth (IPPG) Research Programme Consortium
- Service Trade and Domestic Regulation: A Multi-country Study in Commonwealth Asia, Africa and the Caribbean
- Study to Identify Hurdles for Independent Indian Health Service Personnel in Selected Countries under GATS Mode IV
- Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabel Opportunities
- India-EU FTA Trade Sustainability Impact Assessment (TSIA)
- Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy: A Pilot Project in Bangladesh and India (MINTDEV)

WTO Doha Negotiations and South Asia: Linking Civil Society with Trade Negotiations (SAFIT Phase II)

CUTS CITEE implemented the project 'South Asia Forum for International Trade (SAFIT-II)' on the premises of Doha Developmental Agenda (DDA). As per the framework agreement, the Doha Round of negotiations was to come to an end by December 2005, at the sixth Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Hong Kong, China. Given the realpolitik of negotiations, DDA could not be concluded in Hong Kong, though it did highlight some pertinent issues for future research and advocacy work. The researchers analysed the issues identified during the Hong Kong Ministerial text in Component I, such as:

- LDCs Developmental Package – Duty and Quota-free Market Access
- Services – Operationalisation of LDCs' Modalities and Article IV of General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)
- Preference Erosion and Aid for Trade
- Agriculture: Special Products and Special Safeguard Measures
- Non-agricultural Market Access (NAMA) - Non-tariff Barriers (NTBs)

Five research papers were prepared on the above topics, after conducting core research on one issue, by each partner, by providing its country inputs to other partners on other elements of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration. In the initial stage of drafting of the research papers, research partners, with the help of their civil society associates and their own existing country networks had done one-to-one consultation with stakeholders in their respective country, to map crucial data and information about the impact/implication of a possible policy measure.

SAFIT II focuses on the domestic preparedness of the countries to face the challenges of trade liberalisation and globalisation. This includes advocacy within these five South Asian countries, since the project calls for wider advocacy, particularly with trade negotiators, trade policy officials, business bodies, NGOs and civil society actors. Research under Component II commenced

with the drafting of the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) to be followed by each of the country partners, while researching on the issue of domestic preparedness of the respective South Asian country in the service sector.

Research for the background papers was carried out and the first draft of the same was prepared in pursuance of the ToR. The ToR outlined the purpose and scope of the study, along with the methodology. In accordance with the ToR, each partner focused on the domestic preparedness in his respective country, in terms of 'Services' and, hence, concentrated on the 'Service Sector' for necessary domestic reforms.

The first draft of these country papers was received and sent to the experts for review. Since each background paper contained domestic preparedness of a particular country, experts were also chosen from that particular country (for example, the Bangladesh paper was referred to an expert from Bangladesh on trade-in-services and the format was followed in the other South Asian countries). The comments from the expert reviewers were received with valuable inputs.

Research and Publications

Following books was published under the project:

- 'South Asian Positions in the WTO Doha Round: In Search of a True Development Agenda', Volume II
- "Domestic Preparedness for Services Trade Liberalisation: Are South Asian Countries Prepared for Further Liberalisation"

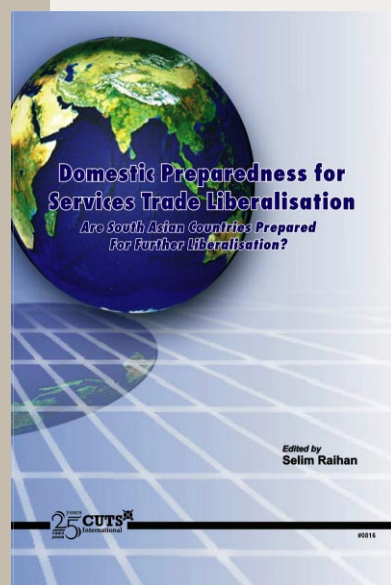
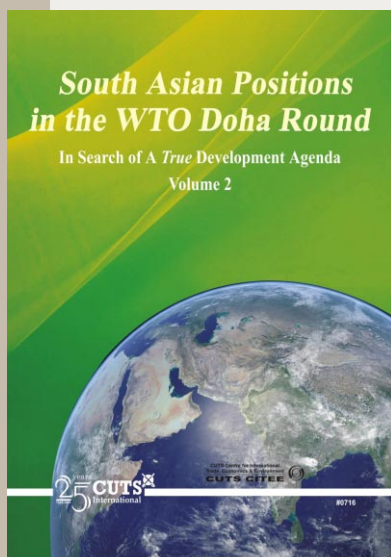
Following are the five briefing papers prepared under the project:

- Negotiations on Non-tariff Barriers under NAMA: *The Major South Asian Concerns*
- Hong Kong Duty-Free, Quota-Free Market Access Decision: *Implications for South Asian LDCs*
- The Luxury of Forum Shopping in International Trade Disputes: *Problems and Solutions*
- Preference Erosion and Aid for Trade: *A South Asian Perspective*
- Services Trade Negotiations after WTO Hong Kong Ministerial: *A South Asian Perspective*

Advocacy and Networking

One national consultation in each of the five South Asian countries (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) was organised. The audience was nation-specific (for example, in the consultation in Nepal, presenters/resource persons were the five project researchers and stakeholders/audiences were Nepal-based) and the same format was followed in all the countries. The idea was to get the best out of national consultation and incorporate/tally stakeholders' perception on the issue of domestic preparedness in the 'service sector', country wise. In pursuance of the same, national level consultations were held, which are as follows:

- Islamabad, Pakistan December 03, 2007
- Dhaka, Bangladesh January 24, 2008



- New Delhi, India November 29, 2007
- Kathmandu, Nepal March 10, 2008
- Colombo, Sri Lanka: November 30, 2007

The Centre organised a regional meeting on January 23-24, 2008 in Dhaka with the objective of bringing together the project stakeholders (five partners and experts) to review the research activities of the project that were carried out. It provided an opportunity to the respective partners to present and finalise their draft research papers and, simultaneously, ensure co-ordination and coherence of future activities.

More than 20 researchers, government officials and representatives from CSOs and business associations reviewed the research results during the meeting, whose primary responsibility was to provide negotiating inputs to South Asian governments during the Doha Round of negotiations. The meeting was graced by important dignitaries, which included officials of the Department of Commerce, Government of India, officials from the Commerce Ministry of Bangladesh and officials of the Trade Policy Division from other South Asian countries.

Linkages between Trade, Development & Poverty Reduction (TDP)

The TDP project aims to explore a sustainable policy environment to distribute equitably the fruits of globalisation (international trade being a driver) and advocate accordingly at different levels with diverse stakeholders. The project aims at enabling the stakeholders take better-informed decisions, and formulate their strategies with a greater level of understanding of the impact and the opportunities from international trade, with a pro-poor perspective.

TDP is a multi-country project involving 15 countries from South and South East Asia, Eastern and Southern Africa, Europe, viz. Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Kenya, Nepal, The Netherlands, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, UK, Vietnam, Zambia. Project activities include analysis of stakeholders' perception on TDP, networking with partner organisations and other stakeholders, advocacy with policymakers and CSOs, dialogues involving producers and CSOs and other stakeholders, outreach aimed at diplomats, parliamentarians, and developmental agencies (including donor agencies).

This is a four-year project from January 2005-December 2008. In 2006, the project aimed at attaining new acceleration in terms of research and advocacy work.

Advocacy and Networking

- CUTS CITEE organised a two-day Pre-UNCTAD XII Asian Civil Society Forum on March 2008 in Hanoi, Vietnam. The objective of the event was to provide an opportunity for CSOs to discuss the future role of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). A total of 37 participants from 16 countries attended the conference, including six CUTS staff



L to R: Atul Kaushik, David Ong'olo and Anna Tibaijuka

members from the Hanoi Resource Centre and CUTS CITEE, Jaipur. Several media representatives were present in the conference, who facilitated a wide coverage of the event in Vietnam and abroad.

- The Centre organised a two-day Pre-UNCTAD XII African Civil Society Forum on March 13-14, 2008 in Nairobi, Kenya. The objective of the event was to provide room for CSOs to discuss the future role of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). A total of 60 participants from 20 countries attended the conference, along with nine CUTS staff members from its Resource Centres in Nairobi, Lusaka and London as well as from CUTS International, Jaipur. Three media representatives were also present.

Research and Publications

Research Report

- Trade-Development-Poverty Linkages: *Reflections from Selected Asian and Sub-Saharan African Countries – Volume II - Sector Case Studies*

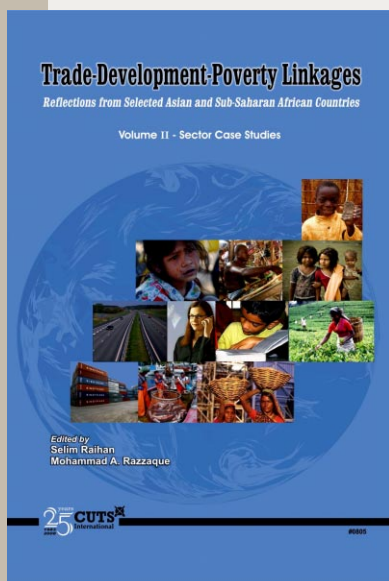
Briefing Papers

The following five briefing papers were published

- Trade as a Tool for Employment Generation
- Aid for Trade: The Process So Far, But What Next?
- Mainstreaming Development in the WTO: Developing Countries in the Doha Round
- From UNCTAD XI to UNCTAD XII: A Stocktaking
- Up-scaling Aid for Trade: A Kenya Perspective
- Trade Openness: The Only Path to Sustainable Growth
- Integrated Framework for Trade Related Assistance: What is its role in tackling poverty?
- Globalisation and Inequality: The Development Rationale
- WTO, Trade, Development and Aid: Some Misconceptions and Myths

Grassroots Reachout and Networking in India on Trade and Economics (GRANITE Phase II)

The GRANITE Phase II project aims to foster equity and accountability in the system of economic governance in India, ensure better economic literacy, enhance positive linkages between good economic governance & human development and generate a more coherent civil society voice on the economic governance of globalisation issues and its effects on the livelihoods of the poor, particularly women and other marginalised sections of the society.



GRANITE II is being implemented from July 2007 to June 2010 and follows up on the GRANITE I and KIC GRANITE projects which were implemented from January 2005 onwards to develop the capacity and comprehensiveness of state-based civil society organisations (CSOs) related to globalisation and how it affects economic governance in India, taking into account political and social ramifications as well.

The project is supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD, through the Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi) and Oxfam Novib (Netherlands). Project beneficiaries will include grassroots civil society organisations, non-governmental organisations, business associations, policy-makers, media persons, academics and researchers.

GRANITE II is being implemented in eight Indian states in partnership with local civil society organisations working on the grassroots level. The project focuses on the five major thrust areas under the National Foreign Trade Policy (NFTP), namely agriculture, handloom & handicrafts, leather & leather products, marine products and gems & jewellery.



Participants at the GRANITE II Toolbox Analysis meeting

Advocacy & Networking

- The Centre organised one and a half day meeting in Kolkata on May 28-29, 2007. The objective of the meeting was to deliberate various aspects related to the implementation of the Phase-II of the GRANITE Project. Among the participants were representatives from project partners from eight states across India and Oxfam Novib and Oxfam India. The presentation on the achievements of the Phase-I of the GRANITE project provided a discussion forum to all the partners and enabled them to properly fine-tune the outcomes and the deliverables of the Phase-II of the project.
- The Centre organised the Inception Workshop on GRANITE Phase 2 in Kolkata on August 09-10, 2007. The objectives of the workshop include: discuss the issues and research



L-R: Bipul Chatterjee, Valter Angell, S N Menon, S Nandwani, Keya Ghosh

methodology of the project; finalise the research issues, hypothesis and methodologies of carrying out the new research work; and to ensure the coordination and coherence of the Phase II activities, taking account of the priorities and circumstances of the participating states.

- CUTS CITEE organised the Rajasthan level inception workshop under GRANITE Phase-II on September 05, 2007, which marked the beginning of this three-year project (2007-2010). The workshop provided a platform for discussion on

export-oriented issues and the various provisions under NFTP. The farmers were made aware of and sought clarifications on trade, especially export related issues. A healthy discussion on the prospects and potential for the farmers to ensure better prices for their produce was the major highlight of the workshop.



L-R: Bhageerath Choudhary, Pranav Kumar, Dharendra Naidu, B S Rathore

Improving Institutions for Pro-poor Growth (IPPG) Research Programme Consortium

The Improving Institutions for Pro-poor Growth (IPPG) Consortium is a group of northern and southern research institutions funded by DFID, UK, and dedicated to exploring the hypothesis that pro-poor growth (PPG) depends critically on the interactions of formal and informal political, social and cultural institutions, including economic institutions, constitute an institutional matrix, which may either enhance or constrain PPG. Under the IPPG, research projects were implemented in Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Malawi, Mali, Bangladesh and India, apart from general econometrics analyses.

As a southern institution, CUTS CITEE, Jaipur has undertaken a study that aims to assess the state-business relations systematically across Indian states over the post-independence period and its impact on growth/growth-related outcomes in the state economy. Both organisations are a part of the Research Consortium on IPPG based at the Institute for Development Policy and Management, School of Environment and Development, University of Manchester, formerly at the London School of Economics, London, UK. The duration of the study is June 2008-December 2009.

Research and Publications

The following two broad sets of questions frame the research area under this project:

- What are the determinants of how states behave towards producers, which influence the pattern of growth and why does this behaviour differ between states?
- How does the institutional architecture – relating to property rights, quality of transactions, and organisation within and between firms and farms – influence the possibilities for productive agriculture, employment-generating firms and

remunerative self-employment, hence the prospects for PPG? In what way does the state help? In what way does the state obstruct?

The specific objectives of the research are to understand the nature of formal and informal interactions between the state and business across 16 major states in India and how the institutions governing these have evolved over time and understand the effects of different types of state business relations on measures of economic performance. An index will be constructed to analyse the relationship between state business relations and growth across Indian states and, over time, at the macro level.

Advocacy and Networking

The research findings are expected to be of value to the private sector, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, and the public sector, especially government officials in economic ministries and departments relating to industry and commerce, in understanding how effective state business relations come about, and how effective state business relations may impact on economic development. At the inception of the research process, a focused group of key stakeholders will be formed, who will be actively involved in the discussion and dissemination of the research findings. Regional workshops will be held in Bhubaneswar, Kolkata and Hyderabad in mid 2009, along with a national workshop in New Delhi in late 2009. Discussion and Briefing Papers will be available on the IPPG website when the research project is completed.

Service Trade and Domestic Regulation: A Multi-country Study in Commonwealth Asia, Africa and the Caribbean

The service sector constitutes a significant share of the gross domestic product (GDP) in most of the developing countries in South Asia, Africa and the Caribbean region, since these countries have an important stake in the Doha Round of negotiation on services liberalisation. Among the many issues being negotiated, “Domestic Regulation” has become very important for the developing and LDCs, while undertaking liberalisation of their service sectors. At the backdrop of the aforementioned, CUTS initiated a project, entitled ‘*Services Trade and Domestic Regulation: A Multi-country Study in Commonwealth Asia, Africa and the Caribbean*’ supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

The overall objective of the aforementioned project was to examine the process and the content of the service sector liberalisation in a selected number of Asian, African and Caribbean countries (Commonwealth Members), with special focus on domestic regulation. The project was implemented in six Commonwealth Countries: a) Bangladesh and India in Asia; b) Gambia, Zambia, and Kenya in Africa; and c) Jamaica in the Caribbean.

The activities conducted during the implementation period are as follows:

1. Writing a background paper on the 'Evolution of Service Sector', with special focus on domestic regulations in six selected countries, i.e. Bangladesh; India; Gambia; Zambia; Kenya; and Jamaica;
2. Selecting sectoral case studies, one each on social service sector and utility sector (commercially oriented/infrastructure type);
3. Organising a one-day dissemination workshop, involving various stakeholders, like policymakers, representatives from the civil society, academia, the media, etc., in each of these countries;
4. Preparing a synthesis paper; and
5. Preparing three policy briefs for each of these countries – consolidating inputs from country background paper and sectoral case studies.

Under this project, a team of researchers from CUTS travelled to Dhaka, Bangladesh to participate in a meeting, which focused upon regulatory issues in Bangladesh and India.

Study to Identify Hurdles for Independent Indian Health Service Personnel in Selected Countries under GATS Mode IV

With support from World Health Organisation (WHO), CUTS CITEE implemented a four-month project entitled '*Study to Identify Hurdles for Independent Indian Health Service Personnel in Selected Countries under GATS Mode IV*'. The project aims to focus on the experiences acquired by Indian professionals, to draw lessons that can facilitate in managing the temporary movement effectively. It intends to highlight how the ongoing GATS negotiations can be used to generate a stronger liberalising momentum in the health sector.

The study was implemented to achieve two main objectives: first, to examine the policy administrative and implementation mechanisms employed by various governments at the national, bilateral and regional levels, to manage temporary migration of independent health service providers in India. It also includes an analysis of the domestic regulations of various countries, namely, the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, the Gulf countries, Singapore, etc. This would help in identifying issues that have detrimental effect on the movement of Indian health service providers.

The second aim is to identify the barriers faced by Indian independent health service providers (namely, medical and dental service providers and services provided by midwives, nurses, physiotherapists and paramedical personnel) under Mode IV of GATS and appropriately give recommendations for strategising to ensure access of Indian health professionals to opportunities for employment abroad, through authorised channels.

Research and Publications

A research paper was brought out after critically evaluating the policy mechanisms. This paper has also incorporated the views and data collected during the personal interview/field survey carried out in India in the following states, viz., Delhi, Kerala, Chennai and Mumbai. Thus, the research study presents some key messages and lessons learnt from the feedback process by government officials and other stakeholders.

Advocacy and Networking

The Project Stakeholder Consultation was organised on July 16, 2007 in New Delhi to bring together the project stakeholders to discuss and finalise the draft research paper with the help of their views. The contributions of all the invited participants were of great value to the draft research paper and created a positive momentum in mobilising the participation of all key stakeholders. The event was designed to involve representatives of relevant project stakeholders from all the four states (Delhi, Kerala, Chennai and Mumbai) in this half-day consultation.

Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabel Opportunities

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP's) Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, together with other national partners, has started a four-year project, co-funded by the European Commission, within the EuropeAid programme, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (Germany). The project is aimed at promoting eco-labelling in emerging economies. CUTS is the national partner from India. The project involves several countries (Brazil, China, India, Kenya, Mexico and South Africa) that have selected different export product groups (textiles, footwear, appliances and paper), for which the project will help to seize eco-labelling opportunities.

The overall objective of this project is to increase the environmental efficiency of key export products and related industrial processes in the target countries, by supporting the active contribution of the industry and the government to the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (Marrakech process). While the specific objective is to increase the number of products from target countries in EU, as well as in their national and global markets eco-labelled with the EU Eco-label or other European countries' 'Type I' environmental labels.

Research and Publications

- The UNEP came out with a project background document in January 2008, which was written by Dirk Scheer, Dr Frieder Rubik and Stefan Gold of the Institute of Ecological Economy Research (IOW), Berlin, with initial contributions from the national partners and experts of this project.



Participants of the First Steering Committee Meeting of the project in Paris on July 02-03, 2007



A view of the start-up workshop in Bonn on December 03-04, 2007

Advocacy and Networking

- The First Steering Committee of this project was held in Paris at the UNEP premises on July 02-03, 2007. This meeting was the first occasion for the project partners and key associates to meet and exchange views on project implementation.
- The UNEP and InWent, Capacity Building International, Germany, jointly organised the Start-up Workshop of this project at InWent's headquarter in Bonn, Germany on December 03-04, 2007. A special session of the Steering Committee meeting was also held on December 05, 2007. This workshop brought together representatives of governments, industry and industrial designers, labelling/standardisation bodies and project partners with the aim of starting a fruitful collaboration.

Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy: A Pilot Project in Bangladesh and India

The Centre implemented 'Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy: A Pilot Project in Bangladesh and India', with the support of the Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi. Over a period of two years, this project built through scientific consolidation and expansion of the need-based and demand-driven agenda for mainstreaming international trade into national development strategies of the two project countries.

This project aims to address a major problem of trade policy-making and its implementation in developing countries, i.e., the problem of social exclusion, through collection of data/information from the grassroots and its analysis. This will address several questions, such as:

- How to embed social and political considerations into trade policy-making?
- How to engage civil society into trade policy-making in a socially inclusive manner?
- What are the conditions necessary for mainstreaming trade into national development strategy?

Research and Publications

- Regional Openness Index, Income Disparity and Poverty - An Experiment with Indian Data
- Political Economy of Trade Liberalisation in Bangladesh, Impact on Agriculture
- Political Economy of Mainstreaming International Trade into India's National Development Strategy
- Trade Liberalisation, Growth and Poverty in Bangladesh
- Exploring the Post-1990s Trade-Labour Linkage in India
- Trade and Poverty Linkages: A Case Study on Poultry Industry in Bangladesh

Representations

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
June 26, 2007 Jaipur, India	A Symposium on 'Agriculture Crisis and Farmer's Commission: Response from the States		Suprita Jayaram
August 20-24, Anand, India	Development Programme on 'Livelihoods and Governance', organised by the Institute of Rural Management (IRMA), Anand		Shashi Shikha
December 03-05, 2007 Bonn, Germany	Workshop on Enabling Developing Countries to Seize Ecolabelling Opportunities organised	Paper presentation on Indian Textiles Trade, Environment, Policies, Ecolabels'	Simi T. Balakrishnan
February 25-27, 2008 New Delhi, India	International seminar, held under the UNCTAD India Programme on 'Moving towards Gender Sensitisation of Trade Policy' to	Forum to discuss gender concerns in the context of trade liberalisation by international trade and gender experts, policy makers, academia and civil society	Sonja Blasig
January 15-16, 2008 New Delhi, India	National Consultation on Agricultural Livelihoods		Shashi Shikha
April 23-25, 2008 Paris, France	United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Expert Meeting on Sustainable Innovation	Paper presentation on 'Bio-fuels and the Course of World Economic Development'	Siddharth Mitra
May 28-31, 2008 Barcelona, Spain	Dialogue jointly organised by the International Chair WTO/Regional Integration (University of Barcelona) and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)		Pranav Kumar

CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation (CCIER)

To confer a distinct identity to CUTS' work on competition, investment and regulatory issues as well as to take it forward in a more cogent manner, CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment & Economic Regulation (CUTS CCIER) was established in 2003 in Jaipur, India. Pursuing its mission "Promoting Fair Markets to Enhance Consumer Welfare and Economic Development", CUTS CCIER has an International Advisory Committee headed by Prof Frederic Jenny, Judge, renowned competition expert and now a judge at the Supreme Court, France (*Cour de Cassation*).

International Advisory Board

CCIER operates under the guidance of an authoritative International Advisory Board tabled below:

Chairman	Frederic Jenny , Judge at the Commercial, Economic and Financial Law Chamber of the Supreme Court of France (<i>Cour de Cassation</i>)
Members	<p>Allen Asher, Barrister and a solicitor of the Australian High Court</p> <p>Allan Fels, Dean of the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG)</p> <p>Cezley Sampson, Director of National Energy Efficiency, and Regulatory Governance Adviser to the Government of Jamaica</p> <p>David Lewis, Deputy Chairman of the board of the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the state owned industrial development financial institution; also Vice-chairman of the Steering Group of the ICN</p> <p>Eleanor Fox, Walter J Derenberg Professor of Trade Regulation at New York University School of Law</p> <p>George Lipimile, Executive Director of Zambia Competition Commission</p> <p>Gesner Olievera, Professor of Economics at Getulio Vargas Foundation, Sao Palo, Brazil</p> <p>Mona Yassine, Chairperson of the Egyptian Competition Authority since its inception in September 2005</p> <p>Phillipe Brusick, Former Head, Competition and Consumer Policy Branch, UNCTAD, Switzerland</p> <p>RS Khemani, Microeconomic Consulting & Research Associates (MICRA), USA</p> <p>Robert D Anderson, Counsellor, Intellectual Property Division in the WTO Secretariat</p> <p>S Chakravarthy, Member of the Indian Administrative Service</p> <p>SL Rao, Chairman of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore</p>

Rijit Sen Gupta
Centre
Coordinator &
Deputy Head



V V Singh
Fellow



Udai S Mehta
Assistant Policy
Analyst



Vikash Batham
Programme Officer



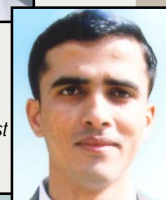
Cornelius Dube
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Rajesh Kumar
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Junior Economist



Sonia
Gasparikova
Legal Research
Assistant





Smita John
Assistant
Programme
Officer



Ashutosh Soni
Office Assistant

Members

Scott Jacobs, Managing Director of Jacobs & Associates, an international consulting firm specialising in regulatory reform

Simon J Evenett, Professor of International Trade and Economic Development, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

Taimoon Stewart, Vice president and Acting chair of the FTAA Negotiating group on Competition Policy (NGCP)

Xiaoye Wang, Professor and Director of Economic Law Department of the Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Competition Network

Programme Areas

Following are the Programme Areas of the Centre:

- Competition Law & Policy
- Economic Regulation
- Investment Climate
- Consumer Protection

Projects

- Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa (7Up3 project)
- Indian Investment Environment-Review/Study of Cartel Case Laws in Select Jurisdictions: Learnings for the Competition Commission of India
- India Competition Regulation Report (ICRR) 2nd cycle (2009)
- Competition, Regulation & Development Research Forum (CDRF) 2nd Research Cycle
- Preparation of the Ghana Competition Act
- Capacity Building on Regulatory Reforms in Electricity sector in South Asia (RESA)
- Comparative Study of Regulatory Framework in Infrastructure Sector: Lessons for India (RegFrame2)

Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern & Southern Africa (7Up3)

'Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa' codenamed 7Up3 project has been implemented by CUTS CCIER in seven countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Uganda, with support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Norway and DFID, UK.

The 7Up3 project has contributed to developing the capacity of national stakeholders including the policymakers, regulators, CSOs, academicians and the media in each of the project countries to understand and appreciate prevailing competition concerns from the national, regional and international perspectives through a participatory process, enabling them to participate proactively in the process of competition reforms in these countries.

Research and Publications

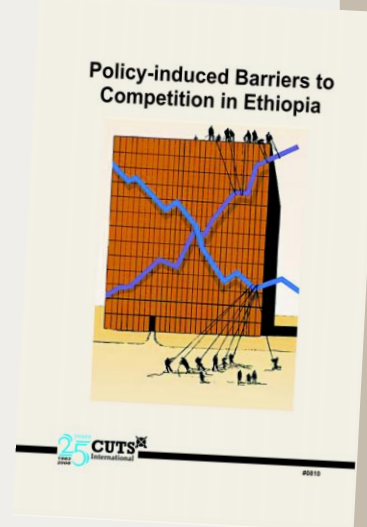
Under the project, following publications were printed:

Monograph

- Policy-induced Barriers to Competition in Ethiopia

Briefing Papers/Policy Brief

- Using Competition Policy to Regulate MNC Behaviour in Namibia
- Competition Policy in Malawi: A course to development
- Minibus Operators and Passenger Welfare in Malawi
- Taking the Right Steps: Competition Administration in Eastern and Southern Africa
- Privatisation initiated in Botswana: Any Bearing on Competition?



Competition Toolkits

CUTS has embarked on an endeavour to develop country specific 'Competition Toolkits' for various countries. Once completed, these would act as reference books/materials for the competition administrators to draw reference (mostly containing references) gathered from the developing world, and some from developed countries, in order to deal with specific competition issues. Competition toolkits have been prepared for five countries.



Resource Persons and Participants at the Ethiopia National Training Workshop

Advocacy and Networking

CUTS CCIER in association with CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC) organised a series of three-day long National Training Workshops (NTW) in seven African countries over the period July-October 2007. The need for the workshops was felt over the period of implementation of the 7Up3 project, which revealed a dire need for raising the level of understanding not only of the government representatives, but also other stakeholders (especially civil society and business organisations) to complement the efforts made by the government (line ministry or the competition authority) to operationalise national competition regimes.



A view of the Training Workshop held in Gaborone

An international competition conference was held in Gaborone (Botswana) on February 14-15, 2008 to mark the culmination of

the project. In addition to drawing project partners and other stakeholders from the seven project countries, this conference offered an opportunity for competition scholars and practitioners from the continent and outside, to engage in the discourse on the road ahead for evolving effective competition regimes in sub-Saharan Africa.

Indian Investment Environment Review

CUTS CCIER was engaged by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, France to undertake a preliminary review of the prevailing investment environment in India, especially analysing the regime from the perspective of investment and competition policy. The report submitted by CUTS would help the OECD undertake further detailed assessment of the investment environment in India, which it plans to undertake in partnership with the Government of India, subsequently.

Study of Cartel Case Laws in Select Jurisdictions: Learnings for the Competition Commission of India

CUTS CCIER undertook a project to study cartel cases that have been tried under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Act 1969 and similar cases of cartels investigated in other countries to derive lessons for the Competition Commission of India. The study identified practical difficulties in proving the existence of cartels. Cartel case handling mechanisms etc. were examined in US and Brazil, to derive relevant learnings for developing the right approach for dealing with cartels especially from the perspective of the treatment provisions of the Indian Competition Act (2007).

The study is a mix of theoretical and empirical analyses, based on both primary and secondary information. It highlights commonalities as well as differences in approaches to maximise the 'learnings'. The project was being implemented in partnership with National Law University, Jodhpur (India) and supported by DFID, UK and FIAS, the World Bank.

Indian Competition and Regulation Report II Cycle (2009)

India has been following a policy of market oriented economic reforms for the past one and a half decades. However, as yet there is no periodic review of the functioning of markets and related regulatory mechanisms which can provide relevant inputs to the policy community. This vacuum ought to be filled through a review which highlights various market related distortions in the economy, and provides relevant inputs to the policy community as well as other stakeholders to ensure well-functioning markets.

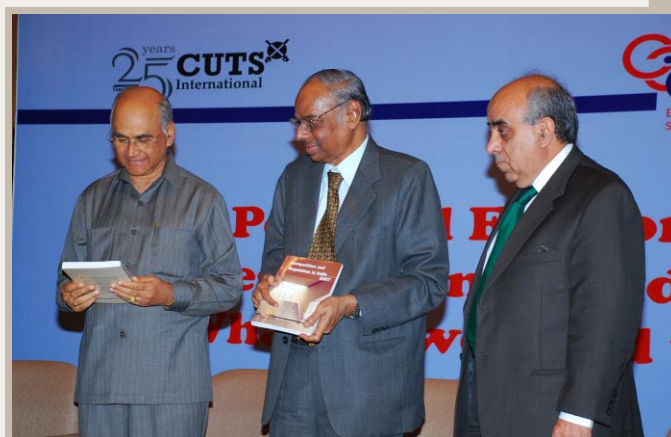
CUTS has been implementing a biennial project to assess the functioning of markets, highlight various market-related distortions in the economy that impede competition and regulation and provide relevant inputs to the policy community and other stakeholders to promote well functioning markets

would be stimulated. The project is supported by the British High Commission, New Delhi (India). The first issue of the biennial report, "Competition and Regulation in India 2007" was published and released in October 2007.

In continuation, a second research cycle was initiated in 2008 with the tentative theme "Competition Assessment in India". The broad objective of the report is to familiarise the policy community with competition assessment methods and suggest alternative policy options for better outcomes. The report would be released in 2009.

Advocacy and Networking

A Panel Discussion on 'The Political Economy of Regulation in India – what do we need to do' was organised under the aegis of CIRC in Mumbai, on October 16, 2007. The discussion aimed at evolving a consensus on the implementation of an effective regulatory regime in India. It also set the stage for the release of a report brought out by CUTS entitled, 'Competition & Regulation in India, 2007' by Dr C Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council.



Dr C Rangarajan releasing the report, 'Competition and Regulation in India, 2007'

Research and Publications

Following publications were brought out under the first cycle:

Research Report

- Competition and Regulation in India, 2007

Briefing Paper

- Status of Competition and Regulation in India, 2007

Competition, Regulation and Development Research Forum (CDRF) 2nd Research Cycle (2007-2009)

CUTS has envisioned a biennial research programme entitled, 'Competition, Regulation and Development Research Forum' (CDRF) on competition and regulatory regimes in the developing world, with a strategy to motivate researchers, particularly from the developing world to undertake research and participate in the accompanying symposium to present their research findings.

The project has been implemented through a research cycle comprising call for papers followed by writing of research papers, publication of a research volume and a symposium to deliberate on research findings. The project is unique in its approach, as it facilitates focused and cogent research on implementation issues concerning developing countries, which is currently absent, with an in-built agenda of enhancing research capacity.

The first cycle of CDRF project has already generated a wealth of research from all over the world on political economy and governance constraints encountered by competition and

regulatory agencies in developing countries. The findings of the first research cycle were discussed in a Symposium entitled, 'Political Economy Constraints in Regulatory Regimes in Developing Countries', organised under the aegis of CIRC.

The second research cycle has been planned on the theme, 'Institutional Issues covering Political Economy and Governance Constraints in Implementing Competition and Regulatory Regimes in the Developing World' and will delve into the institutional issues and problems related to the constraints discussed, catalogued and analysed in the first cycle and also seek solutions to the highlighted problems. Solutions to the problems will be sought through commissioned research papers, i.e. conflict in stakeholder objectives, which impedes the implementation of competition and regulatory policy; conflicts between competition and regulatory authorities; and conflict between public interest and promotion of efficient markets. The idea is to establish a base for further research and to stimulate sufficient interest so that momentum for research extending far beyond the temporal boundaries of the project could be sustained.

The second research cycle also plans to develop an integrated and holistic framework for assessing the quality of regulation in developing countries, such as India, Kenya and Brazil. Moreover, CUTS plans to coordinate as well as participate in the empirical implementation of this framework for the purpose of actually judging the quality of regulation in selected developing countries. The international research symposium for the second cycle to culminate is scheduled sometime in early 2009.

Research and Publications

Following briefing papers were published under the First research cycle:

- 1 Constraints Faced by Competition and Regulatory Agencies
- 8 Financial Services Regulation Perspectives in Banking from India and Bangladesh
- 4 Political Economy Constraints in Competition and Regulatory Regimes
- Efficiency and Effectiveness of Competition and Regulatory Agencies
- Effective Regulatory Regimes – Experiences of India, Kenya and Belgium
- Political Economy of Telecom Regulation in Jamaica
- Financial Services Regulation – Perspectives from Banking in India and Bangladesh

Preparation of the Ghana Competition Act

CUTS has been selected from an international bidding process to develop the new Competition Bill of Ghana. The process of developing the new Competition Bill of Ghana would involve a research on the prevailing competition regime in the country and based on outcomes from stakeholder consultations to be conducted in Accra by Ghana. CUTS would be providing this service to the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Private Sector



Development (PSD) & President's Special Initiatives (PSI) of Ghana. The assignment would commence from early 2008.

Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Bangladesh, India and Nepal (RESA)

The Centre with the support of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) is implementing a project on electricity regulation and reforms over a span of two years (2008-2010) in Bangladesh, India (West Bengal and Rajasthan) and Nepal. The objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of consumers – enabling them to understand issues involved, take up action-oriented research and carry out advocacy with policymakers and regulatory agencies on electricity regulatory/policy issues.

The project aims to:

- facilitate effective representation of consumers' /civil society's views in policy formulation and regulatory processes in electricity sector in Bangladesh, India and Nepal;
- strengthen capacity of civil society to take up action research and advocacy on regulatory/policy issues in the electricity sector;
- encourage regional co-operation and experience sharing on the subject through networking; and
- create a vertical mechanism to take the concerns and views from the grassroots to the policy level and vice versa, along with having horizontal linkages between different players at the same level.

Advocacy and Networking

- The project was formally launched in Kolkata (India) on March 13-14, 2008. During the meeting, all project partners along with various stakeholders such as policymakers, regulators, etc. participated. Following the launch event, a training programme was organised for the project staff, nodal persons, etc.

Comparative Study of Regulatory Framework in Infrastructure Sector: Lessons for India (Regframe2)

This research study undertaken by CCIER looks at governance and institutional aspects of regulatory framework prevailing in select seven countries and performs a comparative analysis while inferring relevant learning for India. Besides India, the economies selected include Australia (Asia-pacific), Brazil (Latin America), Canada (North America), South Africa (Africa), Philippines (East Asia), UK (Europe), and Sri Lanka (South Asia). These economies represent various regions and are at different stages of economic development. The regulatory frameworks in these economies also offer diverse experiences. This study suggests ways forward to strengthen the existing regulatory framework (i.e., policy, legislation and institutions) in infrastructure sector in India.



Representations

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
May 03, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	The fourth East Asia Conference on Competition Law and Policy hosted by the Vietnam Competition Administration Department in collaboration with the Japan Fair Trade Commission and the Asian Development Bank Institute	To present the recent developments of competition policy and law in East Asian economies and conduct a trial peer review of the Vietnam Competition Law 2004	Alice Pham
May 10, 2007, Melbourne, Australia	Luncheon Speaker at the Australia India Business Council (AIBC) 2 nd India Conference 2007	Presented a paper on 'India is Flat – A Few Thoughts'	Pradeep S Mehta
May 29-June 01, 2007, Moscow	The Sixth Annual Conference of the International Competition Network (ICN)	Competition related issues	Pradeep S Mehta
July 17-19, 2007, Geneva, Switzerland	UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group of Experts (IGE) Meeting on Competition Law and Policy	Competition policy & law	Pradeep S Mehta
September 08, 2007, New Delhi, India	Half-day meeting with the Consumer Advocacy Group (CAG), organised by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)		Rahul Ranjan
November 05-07, 2007, Accra, Ghana	Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED) Africa Regional Consultative Conference	Presented a paper on 'Competition Reforms – An Essential Element to Evolving a Sound Business Environment in Eastern and Southern Africa'	Rijit Sengupta
November 12, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	Competition Policy and Law in Vietnam: Building the Implementation Capacity of Key Actors organised by the Vietnam Competition Administration Department (VCAD) in collaboration with <i>l'Association pour le Développement des Echanges en Technologie Economique et Financière</i> (ADETEF), France, and the Vietnam Competition Council (VCC)	Made a presentation on 'Building a Healthy Competition Culture – Experiences from Select Asian Countries'	Alice Pham
December 11-12, 2007, New Delhi, India	International Finance Corporation's (IFC's) Meeting on 'Results Measurement for Advisory Services'	Spoke on the evolution of competition scenario – from the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act to the	Pradeep S Mehta

Contd...

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
		Competition Amendment Act, 2007 – in India covering the phases of trials and tribulations, the pressing needs and the interventions, along with some valuable recommendations for a better regulatory regime in the country	
December 11-12, 2007, New Delhi, India	Urban Infrastructure & JNNURM: Progress So Far and the Way Forward' organised by Indian Infrastructure magazine, with the support of the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India		Ramrao Mundhe
February 21-22, 2008, Paris, France	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Seventh Global Forum on Competition (GFC)	Presented a paper on 'The Role of Consumers in Promoting Pro-Competitive Reforms'	Pradeep S Mehta
February 23, 2008, Ahmedabad, India	The Focus Group Consultation Meeting on 'Public-Private Partnership in Health and Education sectors in India' organised by the Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, Asian Development Bank and KPMG	Get feedback on the draft report prepared by KPMG on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) in Health and Education sectors in India and identify steps towards developing a framework for delivery of PPP programmes across states	Ramrao Mundhe
February 29, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam	Launch meeting of the joint project between the Swiss Competition Commission, CUTS and the Vietnam Competition Administration Department (VCAD) entitled 'Strengthening the Vietnamese Competition Authorities'	Mehta made a presentation on Engaging Civil Society to Promote Competition Reforms in Developing Countries	Pradeep S Mehta, Alice Pham Thanh Mai
March 15-16, 2008, New Delhi, India	The International Bar Association's Conference on India's New Merger Notification Regime Commission, CUTS and the Vietnam Competition	Present and analyse amendments and the 2008 draft regulations relating to India's new merger notification regime from Indian and International perspective	Sonia Gasparikova Souvik Chatterjee
March 18-20, 2008, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	The Consumers International's (CI) Asia Pacific Regional Members Meeting, organised by CI Kuala Lumpur Office	Made a presentation on 'Competition & Consumer Protection'	Alice Pham

Contd...

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
March 24-28, 2008, Washington D C, US	56 th Antitrust Law Spring Meeting organised by the American Bar Association		Udai S Mehta
March 25, 2008, Mumbai, India	'Consumer Awareness Programme on Telecom Issues' organised by the Indian Merchant Chamber and Mumbai Telecom Users' Association		Rajesh Kumar
March 27-28, 2008, Paris, France	OECD Global Form on International Investment	Presented a paper on Competition Policy Enforcement: <i>Experiences from Developing Countries and Implications for Investment</i>	Rijit Sengupta

Research and Publication

Under the study, a research report, 'Creating Regulator is not the End, Key is Regulatory Process' was brought out in addition to a Briefing Paper entitled, 'Comparative Study of Regulatory Framework in Infrastructure Sector: Lessons for India'.



Other Activities

- CUTS and Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK jointly organised a Training of Trainers Workshop on "Bridging Research and Policy" in Shimla, on September 17-21, 2007. The aim of this five-day training workshop was to develop the understanding among select civil society organisations (CSOs) from the South Asian countries, namely Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka on evidence-based research for developmental policy advocacy. An outcome of this training workshop would be a 'Training of Trainers Manual'.
- CUTS and Consumers Federation of Australia jointly organised a half-day seminar on 'Enhancing Consumer Protection via Competition Policy', under the banner of the International Network of Civil Society Organisations on Competition (INCSOC), as a fringe event on sidelines of 18th Consumer International World Congress in Sydney, on October 29, 2007. The seminar initiated a discussion on the best way in which competition policy can be used for consumer protection. The sessions included: Competition: Why Every Consumer Should Care?; Competition and Consumer Protection; and Competition and Regulation: Making Regulated Industries Work for Consumers.

Special Endeavours

Parliamentary Forum on Economic Policy Issues (PARFORE)

- Assessment of the Potential Costs and Benefits of Special

Economic Zones in India

PARFORE under the auspices of CUTS International was organised at Council for Social Development (CSD), Lodhi Estate, New Delhi on May 03, 2007 held a discussion on Assessment of the Potential Costs and Benefits of Special Economic Zones in India. Dr P C Alexander, member, Rajya Sabha, chaired the discussion. Initiating the discussion Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS introduced the subject and referred to the study recently undertaken by CUTS.

- **Competition and Regulation in India A Status Report 2007**
CUTS organised a meeting of the PARFORE to discuss the outcomes of Competition & Regulation in India, 2007 in New Delhi, on November 22, 2007. Important issues which were discussed at length during the meeting includes: adoption and implementation of a National Competition Policy, importance of harmonisation of state level and central regulatory agencies during the process of implementation of regulatory reforms, systemic reforms like selection of regulatory authorities and their functioning needs.
- **Parliamentarians Panel Discussion on The Political Economy of Regulation in India? What do we need to do**
A Panel Discussion on “The Political Economy of Regulation in India - What do we need to do” was organised by CUTS Institute of Regulation & Competition (CIRC) with four Parliamentarians from both the ruling party and the opposition. The objective of the event was a step forward in evolving a consensus on implementation of an effective regulatory regime in India.



Santosh Bagrodia, MP (Congress) speaking at the PARFORE 7th meeting held in New Delhi

CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CART)

CUTS was founded in the year 1984 with the mandate of pursuing the cause of common consumers. With growth of the organisation, later the responsibility of moving forward with the inherited agenda of CUTS, i.e. consumer protection was handed over to CART, which was established in 1996. The programmes of the Centre are primarily aimed at generating awareness, creating a more responsible society and encouraging changes at the policy level by advocating with the government machinery and sensitising it to its issues of concern to the common man. The Centre has spearheaded several campaigns and pioneered consumer empowerment. It has created and trained over 1200 activists and helped establish over 300 independent groups in Rajasthan and elsewhere. Persistently, CUTS CART is having more than 1000 organisations in its network. Its mission is to *enable people, particularly the poor and the marginalised, to achieve their rights to basic needs and sustainable development through a strong consumer movement.*

Advisory Board

The Centre carries its activities under the guidance of an advisory board. The following is the list of the advisory board:

Chairman	Dr Sharada Jain , Educationalist and Director SANDHAN (Society for Education & Development), Jaipur
Members	<p>Prof VS Vyas, Professor Emeritus Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur</p> <p>Dr CS Barla, Consulting Economist and Consultant for District Poverty Initiative Programme (DPIP), Jaipur</p> <p>IC Shrivastava, IAS (Retd.) & Chairman, Human Well Being Foundation</p> <p>Dr Maya Tandon, Chairperson, Dr MN Tandon Memorial Charitable Trust (<i>Sahayata</i>), Jaipur</p> <p>Dr Kumkum Srivastava, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), <i>VIHAN</i>, Jaipur</p> <p>Justice VS Dave, former Judge of Rajasthan High Court and ex-Chairman of Rajasthan Law Commission</p> <p>PN Bhandari, IAS (Retd.) former Chairman, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Jaipur</p> <p>Madhusudan D Mistry, Member of Parliament and the Managing Director of Disha-Pathey, Ahmedabad</p> <p>Sharad Joshi, Social Activist and CEO of Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON), Jaipur</p> <p>Dr Anita Mathur, Chairperson of <i>Astha</i>, Udaipur</p> <p>Madhavi Joshi, Programme Coordinator, Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad</p> <p>Dr AJ James, Environmental and Natural Resources Economist, Gurgaon</p>

George Cheriyan
Director & Head,
CUTS CART



R K Sharma
Programme
Coordinator &
Deputy Head,
CUTS CART

Deepak Saxena
Programme Officer



Dharmendra
Chaturvedi
Programme
Assistant



B N Sharma
Assistant Editor



A K Thalia
Office Assistant



Om Prakash Arya
Assistant Project
Coordinator



Programme Areas

The following are the core functional areas of the Centre:

- Consumer Education and Protection
- Investor Education and Protection
- Good Governance with special focus on accountability and access to information
- Utility Reforms (Power and Water)
- Sustainable Mobility, which includes Road Safety
- Women and Child: Protection and Rights
- Sustainable Development (which includes MDGs, environment, livelihoods etc.)

Projects

- Involvement of Consumers in Power Sector Reforms in Rajasthan, India (CUTS-FES Programme Phase III)
- Tobacco: Deadly in any Form or Disguise
- Securities Market Awareness Campaign (SMAC)
- National Environmental Awareness Campaign (NEAC): Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for Rajasthan
- Promoting Greater Role of the *Panchayati Raj* Institutions in Rajasthan to foster Rural Livelihood Opportunities: Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation and Economic Liberalisation
- Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State by Applying RTI as a Tool
- Investor Education and Protection Programme (IEPF)
- Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP)
- Assessing 2Qs (Quality and Quantity) Outputs of the 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' (NREGS) in Sirohi District of Rajasthan, India
- Traffic Calming Strategies to Improve Pedestrian Safety in India
- Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in select South Asian Countries (RESA)



Third workshop held in Jhalawar on July 20, 2007

Involvement of Consumers in Power Sector Reforms in Rajasthan

CUTS CART and FES India jointly conceptualised and initiated the programme 'Involvement of Consumers in Power Sector Reforms in Rajasthan' in six districts of Rajasthan in August 2001. The first phase of the programme was held from August 2001 to March 2004. The second phase was held from May 2005 to June 2006. The third phase of the programme was held from May to December 2007.

The third phase implemented with a focused approach, which was woven around one single programme 'Feeder Renovation', which was run under the reform processes. The objective

was to pursue more and more civil society groups to work on this issue and set up an informal network of such groups across Rajasthan to enable concerted action and sharing of experiences.

The activities were implemented more intensively at a wider canvass so as to achieve critical mass in terms of presence of capable and well-equipped CSOs across the state. The districts under each of the DISCOMs where the programme was implemented included: *Jaipur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited*: Bharatpur, Jhalawar, Tonk and Bundi; *Jodhpur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited*: Pali, Bikaner and Sirohi; and *Ajmer Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited*: Sikar, Banswara and Nagaur.

In February 2005, World Bank's Water and Sanitation Programme-South Asia (WSP-SA) had identified the 'CUTS-FES Model' as one of the best practice in the entire country to enhance consumer voice and strengthen client power to ensure better service delivery to people. Independent research and documentation of this initiative was done for wide scale dissemination. The same was published in May 2007 by WSP-SA titled 'Engaging with Citizens to Improve Services'.

Tobacco: Deadly in any Form or Disguise

"Tobacco: Deadly in any Form and Disguise" is a school and community based Tobacco Control Intervention of CUTS CART. The project is in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO-India) and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. With active collaboration of the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Rajasthan, the project was implemented focusing on Section 6 of the Tobacco Control Act, 2003, which says, "*no person shall sell, offer to sale, or permit sale of, cigarette or any other tobacco product to any person who is under eighteen years of age; and In an area within a radius of one hundred yards of any educational institution*". It involved 50 selected schools in Jaipur city (both government and private).

Under the project, a poster competition involving the partnering schools of Jaipur city was organised on April 28, 2007 at Rotary Club Hall, Jaipur. The competition was based on the theme 'Tobacco & Health', in which 69 students representing 13 schools participated. In the meeting held at the end of the competition, Dr SP Yadav, Director, Family Welfare, Government of Rajasthan and Dr Malati Tiwari of Soni Hospital addressed the students. In addition, seven road shows were also organised.

To mark the World No Tobacco Day, a Road Show and Signature Campaign was organised on May 30, 2007 in Jaipur. Signature campaign focused on the 'ban of smoking in public places'. Approximately 200 people including lawyers, policemen, rickshaw pullers, and students pledged their support



A workshop was held on the theme, 'Role of Consumer in Feeder Reforms' in Jaipur on December 15, 2007



Students taking part in Poster Competition



Dr G C Jain, CMHO (Jaipur) distributing momentos to participating schools

to the campaign by signing on the banner. The Road Show was also supported overwhelmingly by the people.

A State Level Advocacy Seminar was organised on August 21, 2007, which marked the culmination of the one-year project. It aimed at providing a platform for the representatives of various stakeholders to come together to raise their voice collectively on matters related to tobacco control initiatives. About 75 participants attended the event. Dr Rakesh Gupta (President, Rajasthan Cancer Foundation), Dr AU Rehman (Director, Tobacco Cessation Cell, Bhagawan Mahavir Cancer Research

Centre) Dr Dharemveer Kateva (Indian Asthama Care Society), Sataya Narayan Pareek (Gayatri Parivar Trust) Dr GC Jain, Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO 2nd), Jaipur were the guests and the speakers. 20 points for advocacy emerged out of the seminar.

Securities Market Awareness Campaign (SMAC) - 5th Round

CUTS CART has actively been involved in investor education and protection activities. Being an Investor Association, CUTS is recognised by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and registered with the Ministry of Company Affairs, Government of India under Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF). In the past, CUTS has implemented investor education and protection programmes with the support of IEPF and SEBI, which launched a comprehensive education campaign aimed at creating awareness among investors about securities market, which has been christened as Securities Market Awareness Campaign (SMAC). The motto of the campaign is: 'An Educated Investor is a Protected Investor'.

CUTS CART has been implementing SMAC with the support of SEBI since May 2004. During the report year, under the 5th Round of SMAC programmes 10 workshops were organised in 10 cities of Rajasthan, which are as follows:

S. No.	Place	Date
1	Jhalapatancity, Jhalawar	July 19, 2007
2	Rani, Pali	August 31, 2007
3	Didwana, Nagaur	October 04, 2007
4	Abu Road, Sirohi	October 22, 2007
5	Banswara	November 19, 2007
6	Kishangarh, Ajmer	December 21, 2007
7	Rajsamand	January 24, 2008
8	Dungapur	March 07, 2008
9	Keshwaraipatan, Bundi	March 10, 2008
10	Malpura, Tonk	March 29, 2008

The Centre also received a number of investment related complaints during the year that were forwarded to the complaints handling cell of SEBI and the Ministry of Company Affairs, Government of India.

National Environmental Awareness Campaign (NEAC)

The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India has appointed CUTS as the Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for Rajasthan under the National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) for three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09. CUTS CART was entrusted with the responsibility of functioning as the RRA. The Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India has been organising the NEAC every year since 1986, with the objective of creating environmental awareness at the national level. In all, 34 organisations located in different parts of the country have been designated as RRAs.

'Bio-diversity Conservation' was the campaign theme for 2007-08. With the assistance of various local organisations, the Centre organised six Divisional Level Pre-proposal Open Workshops in Bhilwara (Ajmer Division), Chittorgarh (Udaipur Division), Bundi (Kota Division), Pali (Jodhpur Division), Churu (Bikaner Division) and Jaipur (Jaipur Division) in September 2007. A total of 494 proposals were received for the NEAC programme during the report year. A meeting of the Regional Committee was held on October 23-25 at Ahmedabad to scrutinise the proposals. The committee sanctioned a total of 349 proposals, covering all the 32 districts of Rajasthan, with a budget of Rs. 19,56,000.



A view of the workshop held under NEAC

Besides, a state level workshop was held on January 21, 2008 at Rotary Club, Jaipur, in which Satish Kumar Jain, Forest Officer and Sohan Lal Saini, Forest Guard, Department of Forest, Government of Rajasthan were the resource persons. More than 250 representatives of NGOs from all over Rajasthan participated in the workshop. It was held between January 25 and March 15, 2008. Out of 349 sanctioned NGOs, 344 participated in the campaign. Monitoring visits were also held during this period and activities of a total of 91 NGOs were monitored directly.

Promoting Greater Role of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in Rajasthan to Foster Rural Livelihood Opportunities: Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation and Economic Liberalisation

CUTS CART, in partnership with the Canada Fund Local Initiative (CFLI), Canadian High Commission, New Delhi conceptualised and implemented a project titled "Promoting Greater Role of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Rajasthan to Foster Rural Livelihood Opportunities: Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation and Economic Liberalisation".

S.No.	Tentative Date	District	Identified Handicraft item
1	July 13-14, 2007	Jaipur	Training of Trainers (ToT)
2	July 19-25, 2007	Jaipur	Leather Accessories
3	July 31-August 6, 2007	Bharatpur	Reed Stalk
4	August 08-14, 2007	Bikaner	Hand tufted & knotted carpets
5	August 30 – September 05, 2007	Tonk	Bamboo work
6	September 08 – 14, 2007	Bundi	Stone carvings
7	September 18 – 24, 2007	Dungarpur	Aratari work
8	September 27 – 03 October, 2007	Jodhpur	Cotton Carpets

The overall objective of the project was to strengthen the PRIs and grassroots organisations in Rajasthan, so that they could help in sustaining the livelihood, keeping in view the challenges posed by globalisation and economic liberalisation in the rural sector. After identifying the handicraft items, conducting a baseline survey and identification of key issues, training for rural artisans and PRI members was conducted as per the schedule mentioned below.



Gail Cockburn interacting with women artisans

Under the project, a meeting was organised in Jaipur on November 23, 2007 to discuss the future plan of action and sustainability of the interventions and also to facilitate the evaluation process. A team of evaluators from Handloom and Handicraft Development Organisation (HHDO) conducted an external evaluation of the project as required under the project in December 2007. Four issues of the newsletter titled '*Ajeevika Samvaad - A forum for livelihood dialogue*' were published during the project period. Gail Cockburn, Counselor & Head, Aid, Canadian High Commission visited target villages near Jodhpur and spoke to the local artisans in the training on September 28,

2007. Gail again visited another target location, Udaipuria village near Jaipur to meet the artisans and members of PRI on October 26, 2007.

Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State by Using RTI as a Tool

CUTS CART in partnership with the Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF), an international NGO based in Washington DC, US dedicated to helping civil society to play an effective role in the design, implementation and monitoring of national anti-corruption programmes, conceptualised a project titled 'Combating Corruption in Rajasthan State, India, by Applying RTI Act as a Tool'.

The overall objective of the unique project was to generate awareness in the rural areas, encouraging the common citizens towards application of RTI Act; empowering the CSOs and the vulnerable sections at the grassroots supporting in improving the functioning of the existing accountability mechanisms; and advocating with the policymakers for effective implementation of RTI Act for ensuring good governance and accountability. The project was implemented in March 2007 in two administrative districts of Rajasthan state viz., Jaipur and Tonk with a rural community based approach.



Dignitaries at the Launch of the Project

The project was formally launched on April 18, 2007. The dignitaries for the event were Wajahat Habibullah, Central Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), New Delhi, CD Arah, CIC, Andhra Pradesh, JVR Murty, The World Bank, Mumbai and Sonal Thacker, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Gujarat. Wajahat Habibullah, formally launched the project and delivered the inaugural address.

Under the project, a base line survey was conducted during July 04 -16, 2007 to assess the level of awareness. Two Divisional Level Workshops of two-day duration each were organised in Jaipur and in Tonk during July 27-28 and August 06-07, 2007 respectively. The formation of Consortium Group for Combating Corruption (CGCC) was also completed in each of the divisions immediately after the workshops. In all, 17 Block Level Consultations were organised during August and September 2007. Out of this, 11 were in Jaipur district and six in Tonk district. The Mid-term Dissemination meeting was organised on October 10, 2007 at Rajasthan Institute of Co-operative Education and Management (RICEM) conference hall to disseminate the issues that emerged from the baseline survey.



CUTC's stall at Pushkar Mela

RTI Advisory & Facilitation Stall was put up at the Pushkar Fair Exhibition venue on November 20-24, 2007 to provide necessary information and advise to the rural people on RTI Act and how to file their applications. Advise and counseling was provided to file a total of 139 RTI applications in different departments. The process of filing the applications was facilitated during the period November 2007 - January 2008. A total of 779 applications were filed under the project facilitated by the members of the CGCC. CUTC CHD collaborated with CART in setting up the stall and facilitating it.



M D Kaurani, State Information Commissioner addressing the participants

A day-long Final Dissemination Meeting was organised in Jaipur, on February 15, 2008 with an aim to disseminate achieved outcomes of the project. Key participants were MD Kaurani, CIC, Rajasthan; AK Pandey, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Government of Rajasthan, Sohini Paul, Project Officer, RTI Project, CHRI, New Delhi and representatives from various “rights based advocacy groups”, CGCC members from Ajmer and Jaipur divisions, PRI members from Tonk and Jaipur districts, academicians; lawyers, media persons and NGOs working on RTI, etc. The first phase of the project formally concluded on February 29, 2008.

Investor Education and Protection Programme

The project was supported by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India under the IEPF and primarily envisaged building of a network of investor protection organisations at the grassroots, by identifying potential individuals and organisations working at the grassroots and building their capacities through training workshops. CUTS proposed a three-pronged approach to address the situation by working in and for the rural investors of ten different district headquarters of Rajasthan. Three major activities were part of the project. Firstly, CUTS identified nodal grassroots consumer organisations in ten selected districts, namely, Jodhpur, Sawaimadhopur, Jalore, Churu, Ajmer, Bikaner, Jhunjhunu, Alwar, Bharatpur and Kota. Two representatives each (mainly the key persons) from these organisations were imparted training by CUTS in Jaipur. The training-cum-project launch meeting was organised on December 22, 2007 at the Pink City Press Club, Jaipur in association with ‘The Economic Club’ being managed by a leading newspaper ‘*Nafa Nuksan*’.

In the second part, training workshops of one and a half-day each were conducted in each of the ten identified districts (total of ten workshops) as per the schedule given below with a close involvement of the nodal organisations identified and trained in phase one.

1. Ajmer, December 26-27, 2007
2. Jodhpur, January 21-22, 2008
3. Jalore, January 26-27, 2008
4. Sawaimadhopur, February 08-09, 2008
5. Churu, February 22-23, 2008
6. Jhunjhunu, February 28-29, 2008
7. Bikaner, March 20-21, 2008
8. Kota, March 24-25, 2008
9. Alwar, March 26-27, 2008
10. Bharatpur, March 28-29, 2008

Apart from subject experts of CUTS, resource persons like representatives of local chambers of commerce, stock exchange, businesses, chartered accountants, district administration and lawyers formed the core of the resource team. The workshops were a combination of lectures and group activities. Booklets, handouts and other relevant literature pertaining to investments was distributed to the participants. In the third part, there were special lectures/sessions of half day at each place immediately after the workshops under phase two and also for the general public. The keynote speakers to these open houses were eminent people from the investor protection area.

Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP)

The Centre implemented Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP) project with financial assistance from the Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of Rajasthan. The project was launched on April 07, 2007 at CUTS CHD, in which the district coordinators of all the ten selected districts, representatives of consumer clubs including their nodal officers, representatives of the consumer groups of all the 14 blocks and representatives of DSO, Chittorgarh, media and local volunteers participated. Assistant Collector, Chittorgarh was the chief guest in the launch meeting. The objective of the project was to spread consumer awareness at the grassroots by strengthening the capacity of the networkers in 20 selected blocks in Rajasthan within 12 months and to build up a strong consumer movement. Following activities were implemented under the project.



A view of the Skill Training Programme held at Bhilwara on October 24, 2007

Skill Training Programmes- Phase I

The objective of skill training was to impart awareness to networkers and other volunteers of the block. Skill training focused on networking, office management and legal issues with emphasis on Consumer Protection Act, 1986, consumer rights, RTI, and other related laws etc.

Consumer Friends Training- Phase II & III

The purpose of organising consumer friends training workshops under phase II of the project was to create a team of networkers/activists, who in turn would take up litigation on behalf of aggrieved poor consumers in the consumer forums. The training was targeted at local employed or unemployed youth, networkers, volunteers, activists and interested persons from any class, profession or area. Under the III phase, small meetings were organised with focus on specific consumer issues like adulteration, misleading advertisements, right to information etc.

Awareness Rallies- Phase IV

The purpose of organising these rallies was to invite attention of the local administration and resolve the problems pertaining to local and second generation consumer issues like Public Distribution System (PDS), water, electricity, roads, adulteration etc. The participants were volunteers, representatives from government departments, school children, and people from the corporate.

Assessing 2Qs (Quality and Quantity) Outputs of the 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' (NREGS) in Sirohi District of Rajasthan



A view of the Launch Meeting

The Centre started the project 'Assessing 2Qs (Quality and Quantity) Outputs of the 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' (NREGS) in Sirohi District of Rajasthan' on May 30, 2007, though project activities formally began in June 2007. The main objective of the project was to assess the qualitative and quantitative outcomes of the NREGS implementation in Sirohi, with an aim to test the effectiveness of social accountability approaches in influencing the public expenditure outcomes.

The assessment mainly looked at

three main aspects of the scheme: highlights of implementation of the scheme; gaps, if any, in the implementation; and a set of recommendations to address the gaps.

Formal launch of the project was on August 09, 2007 at *Zilla Parishad Hall, Sirohi*. The dignitaries of the event were: Siddharth Mahajan, District Collector, Sirohi; Ashfaq Hussain, CEO, *Zilla Parishad*; Anna Ram Borana, *Zilla Pramukh*; Loomba Ram Chaudhary, *Pradhan, Sirohi Panchayat Samiti*; and O P Chauhan, Executive Engineer (NREGS) etc. The event witnessed an active participation of around 60 relevant stakeholders representing various CSOs, PRIs, government officials of concerned departments, media persons and beneficiaries of NREGS from the grassroots.

A criterion for survey sampling was developed and four different sets of questionnaires were prepared in consultation with the concerned officials at the World Bank and also after getting feedback and inputs from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur. An orientation workshop for field surveyors was organised on September 19, 2007. The final orientation meeting of surveyors was held in Sirohi on October 23, 2007 and questionnaires were distributed to the investigators. The actual field survey as part of the Citizen's Report Card (CRC) was held between last week of October and December 2007.

An orientation workshop-cum-field exercise on Community Score Card (CSC), was performed on March 12-15, 2008. Prof Santosh Kumar, who was invited as a resource person from the Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute, Ahmedabad, facilitated the entire process of CSC along with CUTS CART team. The CSC tool was applied in Watera and Rohida *Gram Panchayats*, in Pindwara block of the district, in close consultation with concerned officials of the district. An orientation workshop was held in the Rohida *Gram Panchayat*, where the relevant stakeholders from both *Gram Panchayats* assembled for the event.

Traffic Calming Strategies to Improve Pedestrian Safety in India

CUTS CART, jointly with Lund University, Sweden implemented the project entitled, 'Traffic Calming Strategies to improve Pedestrian Safety in India'. The project aims to highlight the key flaws in the design of Indian roads and develop a manual, first of its kind in India, which will contain suggestions/recommendations on "remedial traffic calming strategies" for concerned policymakers, primarily in the Departments of Police, Transport, Municipal Corporation, Development Authority and Public Works.



Dignitaries at the Project Launch Meeting

Experiences from Sweden and other countries clearly demonstrate the relevance of these strategies. Under this project 24 sites out of six locations in Jaipur city are aimed to be studied for road crashes involving pedestrians.

The project was launched on March 03, 2008 in Jaipur. Along with CUTS Secretary General Pradeep S Mehta, other dignitaries who attended the meeting were: Jagdish Chandra, Transport Commissioner of Rajasthan; Kumar Indu Bhushan, Deputy IG, Traffic Police, Jaipur; Prof Christer Hyden from Lund University, Sweden, Dr Dinesh Mohan and Prof Geetam Tiwari from Transportation Research and Injury Prevention Programme (TRIPP), IIT Delhi. Jagdish Chandra, the Transport Commissioner, Jaipur delivered the keynote speech, which was followed by expert comments from DIGP Traffic Kumar Indu Bhushan. Representatives from various line departments and stakeholder groups such as Transport Department, *Nagar Nigam*, Jaipur Development Authority, Traffic Police Department and NGOs working on road safety issues attended the meeting.

A training programme for the Indian team was also held on March 03-04, 2008 at the CUTS Conference Hall on identification of the sites. Prof Christer Hyden along with Prof Geetam Tiwari and Prof Dinesh Mohan discussed various issues important for selecting a site. They shared their experiences gained through studies in different states of India and abroad. To identify the high accident risk zones, a detailed study of total number of

pedestrian accidents in a year, was suggested as the first step. The study of human behaviour in different traffic conditions shall also be an integral part of this project.

Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Select South Asian Countries (RESA)

CUTS CCIER, implemented a two-year (2008-2010) project, 'Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Select South Asian Countries (RESA)' in Bangladesh, Nepal and two states of India, i.e. West Bengal and Rajasthan. CUTS CART is the project partner for implementing various activities in Rajasthan.

The project was formally launched in Kolkata on March 13-15, 2008. Sunil Mitra, Principal Secretary, Department of Power, Government of West Bengal; NF Tankariwala, Honorary Consul, as the representative of NORAD, AK Basu, State Planning Board, West Bengal were the guests and resource

persons in the launch meeting along with Pradeep S Mehta. HD Charan (ex- CMD of Jodhpur Discom); RC Sharma (Joint Secretary, RERC) and HP Yogi (CSO representative) from Rajasthan attended the workshop along with Deepak Saxena and other staff from CUTS.



'Gram Gadar' Awards distribution function

Special Endeavors and Highlights Gram Gadar Awards

Gram Gadar Awards are given every year to outstanding rural journalists for their work in various sectors. The Awards for 2006 were distributed by Sumitra Singh, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, in a small function on July 17, 2007 to the following persons on the respective topics.

1. Right to Information – Sikader Parik (*Rajasthan Patrika*, Sikar)
2. Management of Natural Resources – Gourav Kumar Jain (*Rajasthan Patrika*, Sikar)
3. Economic Development of Rajasthan – Vimal Jain (*Rajasthan Patrika*, Jaipur)

Vidhayak Samvad

CUTS launched *Vidhayak Samvaad* on April 27, 2007 at the Legislative Assembly Premises. This is a non-partisan forum of legislators in Rajasthan to discuss

issues such as infrastructure, economic, and centre-state issues. Sumitra Singh, the honorable Speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly delivered the inaugural address. Highlighting the need and importance of '*Vidhayak Samvaad*' Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS said that a need was felt to create such a forum in order to raise the issues of public importance. The theme of the



Pradeep S Mehta with Sumitra Singh at Vidhayak Samvad

first 'Samvaad' was water and electricity, in which 25 MLAs representing various political parties participated and shared their viewpoints and suggestions.

The second meeting of the *Vidhayak Samvaad* was held on September 18, 2007 in *Vidhana Sabha*. 20 *Vidhayaks* actively participated in the *Samvaad*, presided over by Sumitra Singh. In continuation to suggestions that emerged out in the first *Samvaad*, for "water" and "electricity" sector by the *Vidhayaks*, the second meeting succeeded in reaching a consensus to form an all-party committee to take the initiative forward.

Consumer Complaints Handling, Information and Advisory Services

During the report year, the Consumer Information Cell (CIC) situated in CUTS CART office handled a total of 55 main complaints, in addition to providing information and advisory services to a large number of consumers through direct counseling, and also through e-mail and telephone. Out of the total complaints handled 22 percent were related to telecom services; 13 percent to banking services, 9 percent to post/courier, 11 percent to transport/parking, 8 percent to insurance and 15 percent related to the sale of inferior quality of goods.

World Bank: NGO (Health Focus) Consultation

The World Bank, jointly with CUTS CART, organised a consultation of NGOs in Rajasthan working in the health sector, primarily on centrally sponsored programmes such as RCH, TB, HIV/AIDS on February 04, 2008 in Jaipur. The discussion focused on the extent to which CSO advocacy has led to improved accountability in general, and health in particular; how can one make health managers (and elected officials) pay close attention to tracking (methods adopted by the government or by the project itself) of the performance of a particular programme/project; and what roles are played by the community and the local NGOs. A total of 20 participants from 17 organisations participated and shared their views and experiences. Tekabe Belay, Senior Economist, The World Bank, and Kumar Amrendra Singh, Social Development Specialist, World Bank, New Delhi facilitated the discussions along with CUTS CART team.

Lunch Box Challenge Survey

CUTS CART conducted a survey titled 'Lunch Box Challenge', among school children in Jaipur city, on the eve of the World Consumer Rights Day to assess their preference of food in the lunch box. The survey revealed that 65 percent children like junk/fast food as their preferred item in lunch box and 43 percent of children prefer aerated and canned drinks. The sample survey was conducted among the students of classes 4 to 9 in the age group 9-14. 269 students from eight schools in Jaipur city participated in the sample survey. Out of the total students participated in the survey, 58 percent were boys and 42 percent girls.

Outreach Activities

In addition to *Gram Gadar*, the following newsletters are the regular publications of CUTS CART, which have been the major tools for outreach activities:

- *Paanchwan Stambh (in Hindi); and*
- *Catalyst (in English).*

In addition, the following articles, and study reports were also published:

- Study Report: Rajasthan, India: An Assessment of the Mid-day Meal Scheme in Chittorgarh District, August 2007 (internet version), Social Accountability Series (Case Study No.3), South Asia Sustainable Development Division, The World Bank
- Article: Changing Face of Governance (edit page article), Deccan Herald, February 28, 2008

Mini Retreat

CUTS CART Mini Retreat was held on July 28, 2007 at RICEM, in which staff members of the Centre participated. In addition to reviewing the ongoing projects, detailed discussions were held regarding the funding strategy, positive developments and the critical limitations.

Meeting of the Advisory Committee

During the report year, the Advisory Committee meeting was held on January 19, 2008 at CUTS CART office. In the absence of the Chairperson, Dr Sharada Jain, IC Srivastava chaired the meeting. Prof C S Barla, Dr Maya Tandon, Dr Anita Mathur, Sharad Joshi and PN Bhandari were the other participants.

Associations/Affiliations

CUTS CART is associated with the following bodies:

- International Resource Team on Social Accountability of the World Bank
- Institute on Sustainable Development (WBISD), Washington DC, USA
- Demand for Good Governance (DFGG) Learning Network of the World Bank
- South Asia Social Accountability Network (SASANet) of the World Bank
- Network for SAc Curriculum Development in South Asia of the World Bank
- South Asia Youth Environment Network (SAYEN)
- State Advisory Committee of the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC)
- CAB (City Advisory Board) of the ChildLine, Jaipur
- Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC), Government of India
- Core Group, Rajasthan NGO Alliance
- State Steering Committee, National Tobacco Control Programme, Government of India
- Advocacy Forum for Tobacco Control (AFTC), India

Representations

Date & Place	Events & Organiser	Issue/objective	Participant(s)
April 16-17, 2007, Delhi, India	Two days workshop on 'ISO 26000 Guidance Standards on Social Responsibility: its Implications for Developing Countries' organised by: BIS, New Delhi and VOICE, New Delhi in association with Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of India.	Social Responsibility	Deepak Saxena
April 23, 2007, Jaipur, India	IDSJ Silver Jubilee National Seminar on "Rain fed Agriculture in India - Perspectives and Issues in the Changing Economic Environment"	Rain fed Agriculture	George Cheriyan RK Sharma
May 09-10, 2007, Jaipur, India	Two days workshop on 'Rajasthan <i>Aajeevika Anveshan</i> ' in Jaipur organised by Rajasthan Mission on Livelihoods (RMoL) in partnership with Association for Rural Advancement through Voluntary Action & Local Involvement (ARAVALI).	Rural Livelihoods	Manish Dubey
May 09-18, 2007, Dhaka, Bangladesh	Training of Trainers on 'Social Accountability & Community Score Card'		George Cheriyan
May 17-18, 2007, Delhi, India	Two days 'National workshop for Capacity Building on Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use' organised by HRIDAY (Health Related Information Dissemination Amongst Youth)-SHAN (Student Health Action Network) in partnership with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India	Social Accountability Reducing Tobacco use	Ritu Agarwal
May 23, 2007, Delhi, India	3 rd Civil Society Review Meeting of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) organised by <i>Wada Na Todo Abhiyan</i> (WNTA)	Civil Society Review	R K Sharma
June 13-21, 2007, Bangalore, India	Nine day training course in 'Leadership and General Management for Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use' organised by India Resource Centre (IRC)	Reducing Tobacco Use	Ritu Agarwal
August 20-21, 2007, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	CI Regional Members Meeting for Asia and the Pacific organised by CI Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) to formulate global strategic plan	Global Strategy on consumer issues	Deepak Saxena
August 24, 2007, Jaipur, India	Training for the senior officials of various co-operative societies organised by RICEM	Consumer Protection and Good Governance	R K Sharma

Contd...

Date & Venue	Events & Organiser	Issue/objective	Participant(s)
August 30, 2007, Jaipur, India	Workshop on RTI organised by HCM-RIPA and the IC Centre for Governance New Delhi for the PIOs of various government departments	Right to Information	George Cheriyan
August 28-30, 2007, Delhi, India	Indo-US Workshop on Motor Vehicle Injury Prevention and Control	Injury Prevention	Deepak Saxena
September 05, 2007, Delhi, India	Workshop on 'Future Vistas for Food Safety' organised by the Quality Council of India (QCI) jointly with the Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MFPI), Government of India	Food Safety	George Cheriyan
September 06-07, 2007, Jaipur, India	Western-Central India Regional Workshop on 'Biodiversity, Regulation: Legality and Reality' co-organised by the CECOEDECON, Rajasthan along with FTN-Asia, <i>Kalpavriksh</i> , New Delhi in collaboration with GRAIN, New Delhi	Bio-diversity Regulation	RK Sharma
September 22, 2007, Jaipur, India	Meeting with NGOs on Convention of Child Rights organised by the Institute of Development Studies at the IDSJ	Child Rights	Sabita Tripathi
November 01-02, 2007, Paris, France	Learning Event on 'Generating Genuine Demand with Social Accountability Mechanisms' organised by Communication for Governance & Accountability Program (CommGAP) of the World Bank	Social Accountability	George Cheriyan
November 06, 2007, Jaipur, India	Consultative Meeting with NGOs organised by Rajasthan State Human Right Commission (SHRC)	Human Rights	Dharmendra Chaturvedi
November 19-20, 2007, New Delhi, India	Two-day brainstorming Workshop on 'Social Accountability (SAc) Curriculum Development in South Asia' organised by the World Bank	Social Accountability	George Cheriyan
November 28-30, 2007, Indore, India	Sensitisation programme on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and its Amendment in 2006 at National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), Western Regional Centre	Juvenile Justice	Dharmendra Chaturvedi
November 30, 2007, Delhi, India	Working meeting organised by WSP, World Bank to discuss collectively and refine the proposed Urban Water & Sanitation Services (UWSS) community monitoring strategy.	Community Monitoring	OP Arya

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Date & Venue	Events & Organiser	Issue/objective	Participant(s)
December 08, 2007, Jaipur, India	Public Dialogue on Good Governance and Access to Information with Special Focus on RTI Act (2005) organised by Center for Advocacy and Search organised	Good Governance	AB Paul
December 29, 2007, Jaipur, India	National Workshop on 'Empowering Mineworkers: Actions Taken and the Road Ahead' at Hotel Holiday Inn, Jaipur. The workshop was organised by GRAVIS jointly with its network alliance	Empowering Mineworkers	RK Sharma
January 24, 2008, Jaipur, India	Brainstorming session during the inception meeting on Rural Business Hubs (RBHs) organised by ACCESS Development Services	Rural Business Hubs	OP Arya
February 12-13, 2008, Lucknow, India	Two day 'Consultation for State Action Plans to Counter Child Abuse' organised by NIPCCD (National Centre for Public Cooperation and Child Development) and MWCD (Ministry of Women and Child Development)	Child Abuse	Sabita Tripathi
February 22, 2008, Jaipur, India	Orientation on the Asian Development Bank's Accountability Mechanism: Consultation Phase and Compliance Review Phase	Accountability	George Cheriyan
February 23, 2008, Jaipur, India	Symposium on 'Right to Information: Action now' at the Pink City Press Club, organised by the Public Relations Society of India along with Pink City Press Club, Jaipur	Right to Information	George Cheriyan Ajneesh Biswas AB Paul
February 25, 2008, Mumbai, India	Meeting of the Investor Associations recognised by SEBI	Investor Education	George Cheriyan
February 26, 2008, Jaipur, India	Consultation on "The Status of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Rajasthan" jointly organised by MoPR, IRMA and PRIA	Panchayati Raj	OP Aaya
February 27-28, 2008, Hyderabad, India	National Colloquium on "The Right to Information Act: Impact on Governance and Service Delivery" organised by Centre for Good Governance (CGG), Hyderabad and Yashwant Rao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YASHADA), Pune	Right to Information	George Cheriyan

CUTS Human Resource Centre (CHD)

Under the policy of working at the grassroots, Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) was established in 1991 in Senti village of Chittorgarh district. It was aimed at raising the living standards of people, especially women, neglected, deprived and weaker sections of the society. The Centre has been working to facilitate intervention process for 'community based action programmes' at the grassroots level. The Mission of the Centre is "To be an innovative centre for strategic interventions to raise the living standards of people". *The centre aims to be an innovative centre for strategic interventions to raise the living standards of people.*

Advisory Committee

CUTS CHD works under an Advisory Committee. They are:

Chairman	ML Mehta , Former Chief Secretary of Rajasthan
Members	<p>Usha Jumani, Jumani Foundation, Ahmedabad</p> <p>Neelima Khetan, Chief Executive, <i>Seva Mandir</i>, Udaipur</p> <p>Indu Kapoor, Director, <i>CHEITNA</i>, Ahmedabad</p> <p>BS Tanwar, Chief Engineer (Retd), Chittorgarh</p> <p>BL Sisodiya, Senior Advocate-cum-Social Worker, Chittorgarh</p> <p>IM Sethiya, Senior Chartered Accountant, Chittorgarh</p> <p>Barun Kanjilal, Dean, International Institute for Hotel Management Research (IIHMR), Jaipur</p> <p>MS Rathore, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur</p> <p>Anil Kumar Singh, Chief Executive, Network of Entrepreneurship & Economic Development (NEED), Lucknow</p>

Amit Choudhary
Centre Coordinator



Madan Giri
Goswami
Senior Field
Officer

Programme Areas

- Empowerment
- Reproductive and Child Health
- Natural Resources Management
- Good Governance

Projects and Programmes

- Mother NGO Scheme, Chittorgarh
- Mother NGO Scheme, Bhilwara
- Identification of Gaps in Health Services for Mother and Child in MADA Areas of Chittorgarh & Bhilwara
- National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)
- Sexual & Reproductive Health Initiative for Joint Action Network (SRIJAN)

- Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP)
- Micro Credit Project for Poverty Alleviation

Mother NGO Scheme

CUTS CHD has been working as Mother NGO for Chittorgarh under the 'Reproductive and Child Health (RCH)' scheme of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

Under the scheme, Department of Health and Family Welfare is identifying and sanctioning grants to the selected NGOs called Mother NGOs in allotted districts. These Mother NGOs, in turn, issue grants to smaller NGOs called Field NGOs in the allocated district(s).

The objectives of the project broadly include: utilisation and delivery of health services for reduction in maternal mortality; reproductive mortality; infant mortality and fertility; improvement in maternal healthcare; addressing general healthcare issues; childcare; and family welfare through multi-stakeholder involvement and action.

Chittorgarh

During the period, the Centre identified 3 Field NGOs, viz. HELP, VIKASH and Arunodaya out of 15 NGOs that applied for the scheme. The Department of Health and Family Welfare trained CHD staff responsible for the implementation of the scheme. The trained CHD staff then organised a four days training and orientation programme for representatives of the selected Field NGOs, who conducted a survey subsequent to the training. After the survey, data was analysed by CUTS and the gaps in mother and child health facilities were identified. Based on the findings, each Field NGO prepared a proposal, on the basis of which CUTS prepared the final proposal and submitted it to State RCH Jaipur.

Bhilwara

Under the Mother NGO Scheme, Bhilwara, CUTS CHD identified four Field NGOs such as *Mewar Sewa Sansthan*, *Prayas Sewa Sansthan*, *Gharib Nawaz Mahila Avam Bal Kalyan Samiti* and *Viklang Kalyan Sahayata Samiti* out of 11 NGOs who applied for the scheme, in response to an advertisement issued in leading newspapers. The trained CUTS staff then organised a four-day training-cum-orientation programme for representatives of selected Field NGOs on November 20-24, 2007. The purpose of the training programme was to orient Field NGO workers about Mother NGO project and facilitate them about the method of carrying out a survey for identifying the gaps in health services provided to the designated unserved and underserved areas of Bhilwara district. Three workers from each of the three Field NGOs – *Mewar Sewa Sansthan*, *Gharib Nawaz Mahila Avam Bal Kalyan Samiti*, *Prayas Sewa Sansthan* – participated in the training programme. During the training programme, trainees were asked to carry out a mock survey in Bilola village, and then the actual survey was carried out. CUTS CHD staff crosschecked the survey forms to find out the authenticity of

the data collected. For this purpose, a one-day orientation programme on survey methodology was organised at *Viklang Kalyan Sewa Sansthan* for workers of VKS. The outcome of the survey will be shared with the District Collector and health officials of Bhilwara district. The project planning training programme for Field NGOs will be held in April 2009.

Identification of Gaps in Health Services for Mother and Child in MADA Areas of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara Districts

Joffe Charitable Trust provided grant for carrying out a Base Line Survey to identify gaps in health services for maternal and child healthcare in 100 villages of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan that fall under Modified Area Development Agency (MADA) scheme. MADA includes the most backward areas of Rajasthan that are technically called the unserved and underserved areas. The purpose of the Base Line Survey was to identify problems and requirements in maternal and child health services in the area.

Advocacy and Networking

A two-day orientation programme for surveyors was organised on May 11-12, 2007. About 21 surveyors attended the orientation programme. All surveyors were selected from the target area and have experience in carrying out such survey work. 17 surveyors from Bhilwara district (six from Banera block and 11 from Mandalgarh block) and four surveyors from Chittor block of Chittorgarh district participated. Under the programme, the survey work was conducted from May 15 to June 12, 2007. About 2260 respondents were interviewed. A total of 29 surveyors were included in the final survey. Among them, four were Masters in Social Work (MSW) students, seven were CHD staff members and 18 were local people.



Participants at the two-day orientation programme for surveyors on May 11-12, 2007

Campaign on Bio-diversity under the NEAC

CUTS CHD as a partnering organisation has implemented a Bio-Diversity project during 2007-08 with the support from the MoEF, Government of India under its National Environmental Awareness Campaign facilitated by CUTS CART which is the Regional Resource Agency (RRA) for Rajasthan. The objective of the project was to create awareness among the community about the importance of herbal medicines.

Advocacy and Networking

- One-day consultation workshop was organised with the local media representatives at the Centre on March 14, 2008. The purpose of the workshop was to sensitise media people about the importance of herbal medicines. The subject of the advocacy workshop was 'Disappearing Knowledge of Herbal Plants'. TR Nimawat, Ayurvedic consultant was the lead speaker of the workshop. Two local healers named Surajmal

Bawari (Chipakhera, Dunga block) and Dalli Chand Keer (Punawali, Badi Sadri) were also invited for the workshop to share their experiences with media people. Media praised CUTS' initiatives in promoting herbal plants.

- One-day local healer consultation workshop was organised at CHD on February 15, 2009. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss about disappearing herbal plants and fading skills for curing diseases through herbal medicines. 35 people participated in the consultation workshop in which 20 were local healers from different parts of Chittorgarh district. Participants raised their concern on vanishing herbal plants and felt wider media coverage about the benefits of herbal medicines.
- The herbal garden was prepared in CHD campus. More than 20 varieties of herbal plants were planted. Community and school children visited the campus to see the garden.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Initiative for Joint Action Network (SRIJAN)

With the vision of dealing with the reproductive and sexual health problems of adolescents through youth forums, CUTS CHD joined *Seva Mandir* with other NGOs for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Initiative for Joint Action Network – Youth Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights (SRIJAN-YRSHR) network in Rajasthan. Through the SRIJAN-YRSHR network programme, the Centre put efforts to build the constituencies and capacities of the rural youth with the purpose of building a questioning society. The intention was to reduce incidence of violence against girls, which surface in the form of discrimination in food, low enrollment in schools, heavy workload at home, dowry, early marriage, in some cases foeticide/infanticide. Through the programme, the Centre created network for youths in five villages of Banera block of Bhilwara district.

Advocacy & Networking

A two-day Block level orientation and capacity building programme of youth leaders was organised on June 23-24, 2007 in the Government Upper Primary School, Kamalpura, in Banera block of Bhilwara district. About 40 youths participated from Kamalpura, Kajlodiya, Salriyakala, Laxmipura and Kherliya villages. Ganga Dadich and Shiv Lal Prajapat organised the programme. The purpose of organising the programme was to orient youths towards the programmes of Nehru Yuva Kendra and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and enhance their awareness level on health issues.



A view of the orientation and capacity building programme of youth leaders on June 23-24, 2007

Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP)

CUTS Centre for Consumer Action, Research & Training (CUTS CART) in association with Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Government of Rajasthan CHD is implementing a Consumer Awareness Programme (CAP) in selected 20 blocks of 10 districts of Rajasthan. CUTS CHD provided required support to implement CAP in Chittorgarh district and the launch of CAP was held at CHD on April 07, 2007.

Advocacy and Networking

CUTS CART organised a launch meeting in Chittorgarh under the Project on April 07, 2007. The skills training programme for selected representatives of two blocks of Chittorgarh district was also clubbed with the launch meeting. The activities, which are to be conducted under the programme over a period of one year include: skills training programmes; consumer friends training; awareness campaigns on specific burning issues related to consumer protection; and awareness rallies.

Micro Credit Project for Poverty Alleviation

Self Help Groups (SHGs) catalysed by CUTS CHD are those rural micro finance institutions (RMFIs), which are formed mostly by women aiming to build economic independence and develop negotiating skills with the formal financial institutions. During the period, the Centre formed 235 SHGs. The nomenclature of SHGs was done by the group members based on name of their village, local deity etc. All these groups regularly organised monthly meetings at mutually convenient places during evening hours. With an individual SHG having 11 to 15 members, keeping in view group homogeneity and solidarity, it decides the amount of thrift taking into consideration each member's income and capacity. Each group has a minimum of three records/registers namely, membership and decision register, individual savings pass-book and savings and credit register. Each SHG elects three office bearers viz., President, Secretary and Treasurer. All SHGs are linked to banks for loaning.

Several meetings were organised to share the philosophy and management of SHGs among the group members. Training Workshops were conducted with the help of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) for the leaders/office-bearers of SHGs. The objective of the workshop was to build their managerial and financial accounting capacity in running the groups and develop their negotiating skills and linkages with the formal/semi-formal as well as development institutions working on rural micro finance.

Advocacy and Networking

Capacity Building Training of SHG leaders was organised at the Government Middle School, Kamalpura under Banera block of Bhilwara district on June 25, 2007. The final Project Implementation and Monitoring Committee (PIMC) meeting of SHGs-NABARD project was organised at Bhilwara office of CUTS CHD on April 05, 2007. In the meeting, this two-year project

was reviewed and CUTS' efforts were lauded. Given the successful implementation, the Centre submitted a new proposal on formation of 800 SHGs (400 each in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts) was submitted to NABARD, Jaipur office.

A loan distribution ceremony for the SHGs was organised at CUTS CHD on September 25, 2007. The Bank of Baroda, Senti (Chittorgarh) Branch sanctioned the loan amount of Rs 50,000 to the Devalrani SHG and Rs 1,00,000 to the Parvati SHG. The members will utilise the fund for income generating activities. Sudhanshu Kumar, Assistant Bank Manager, NABARD and Tribhuvan Narayan Yadvendu, Branch Manager, Bank of Baroda, Senti, requested members of the group to utilise the money for income generating activities, so that they might not face difficulty in repaying the loan and earn credit with the bank. About 23 participants attended the meeting.

Outreach/Publications

The outreach resources of CUTS CHD include newsletter, monthly wall newspaper, training manuals, such as *Gram Gadar* (Village Revolution), *PACE*, *Aagae Badno Hossi* (Women Marching Ahead), *Sasakt Nari Sudrirah Samaj* (Empowered Women, Robust Society), *Mahila Swasthya Sakhsamata ki* (Towards Women's Health and Empowerment). *Gram Gadar* is widely read in the *Choupal Baithaks*, *gram Baithaks*, and SHG meetings. Information contained in the training materials and publications are disseminated among the villagers by the networkers.

Video shows on gender equity, environment, reproductive and child health, government welfare schemes were regularly organised in *Choupal Baithaks*, *gram Baithaks*, and SHG meetings. The films were: *Baat Mahri Maan Lo* (Heed My Advice) and *Ab Ya Pol Na Chale* (This Won't Do Any Longer). A documentary film was completed on the Participatory Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) technique adopted by CUTS in studying the effectiveness of Mid-day Meal Scheme in Semeliya Village of Dungla block of Chittorgarh district. The World Bank funded the film.

Other Initiatives

● Setting up Resource and Counselling Centres

- ◆ Setting up of *Panchayat* Resource Centre at the CUTS CHD premises for providing counseling and information to the elected representatives on matters related to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment and the processes governing the functioning of PRI's. This also acts as a library for those who want to avail the benefits of Resource Centre in gaining information about the working structure of PRIs in our Nation and State.
- ◆ Setting up of Consumer Resource Centre in all the 14 blocks of undivided Chittorgarh district for information dissemination and guidance to the consumers of the district.

- ◆ Setting up of Youth Resource Centre in the urban slums of Bhilwara district to provide counselling and guidance to youth regarding STIs, HIV/AIDS and other STDs.
- ◆ Setting up district non-government organisation forum at Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts.
- ◆ Setting up district forum for *Dais* (traditional birth attendants) and *gunis* (traditional healers) in Chittorgarh
- ◆ Formation of 250 SHGs in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts
- ◆ Formation of *Bal Panchayats* in 45 villages of Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts

- **Celebration of International Youth Day**

In order to enhance understanding on issues, policies and schemes related to Young People's Reproduction and Sexual Health and Rights (YRSHR) with the focus on HIV/AIDS, migration and livelihoods, International Youth Day was celebrated at Banera block of Bhilwara district on August 11, 2007. The peer educators organised activities like rallies, poster competitions, debates, and quiz programmes.

- **Rally on International Anti-drug Day**

A rally was organised on the theme "Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking" to mark the International Anti-drug Day, on June 26, 2007. CUTS CHD used wooden plates and banners with slogans as an expression of its determination to strengthen the rally. A seminar was also organised on drug addiction at Chittorgarh.



Rally on International Anti-drug Day

- **Balika Pravesh Utsav**

Continuing the practice of celebrating *Balika Pravesh Utsav* (Celebrations for Girl Child Enrollment in School), CUTS CHD organised two functions, one each in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts. The purpose of the function was to welcome un-enrolled and drop out girl children, admit them in the school and raise awareness among parents and villagers about the importance of education. In Chittorgarh district, one such function was held in a school in Bilola village on July 06, 2007. In another function in the government middle school, Kamalpura, Bhilwara on July 07, 2007, a rally was organised with the school children. Eight children in Chittorgarh and ten children in Bhilwara district were re-enrolled to the school.



A group of children enrolled back to school

- **Eliminating Violence against Woman**

A seminar was organised on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Woman on November 24, 2007. Speaking on the occasion, Prasanna Khameshara, Additional Superintendent of Police, Chittorgarh said that social evils like conservatism, abortion of female foetus, *Nata Pratha* (a system of illegal marriage in rural Rajasthan) can be eliminated through collective efforts.

- **Environment Awareness Week**

Under Wild Life and Environment Awareness Week (October 01-07, 2007), a seminar was organised jointly by CUTS CHD and District NGOs on the theme, "Role of NGOs in Environment Protection" on October 03, 2007, at CUTS CHD campus.

- **Bharat Nirman People Information Campaign Exhibition**

CUTS CHD, with assistance from NABARD, participated and put up stall at "Bharat Nirman People Information Campaign Exhibition" at the local *Dussehra Mela* Ground, Chittorgarh on October 24-28, 2007. In the exhibition, works of NGOs from Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts were highlighted.

Posters and banners depicting the women empowerment, Panchayati Raj Act, Consumer Protection Act, education, health and environment etc., were displayed. However, the special attraction of the Campaign Exhibition was CUTS' banner displaying women empowerment: "SHGs towards self-reliance". CUTS staff provided free counseling to men, women, children and children on SHGs, public distribution system (PDS), and consumer issues. Rural People were made aware of important issues through question-answer programme, music, dance and puppet shows.



CUTS campaign at the exhibition

- **Seminar on World Food Day**

CUTS CHD, in association with District Supply Office, Chittorgarh organised a one-day seminar on "Right to Food" at CUTS CHD campus on October 16, 2007.

- **Workshop on the Quality of Education**

A two-day orientation workshop for the surveyors on the quality of education was organised at CUTS CHD on October 12, 2007. Pratham Rajasthan carries out Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) every year to take stock of the quality of education in the State. Sheela Kumar of Pratham told that the organisation, with support from NGOs, does the survey every year to analyse the current status of education. After the training, 30 villages from the Chittorgarh district were selected randomly in which ASER survey was carried out. Under the survey, school survey, village mapping, family survey and test for children were conducted. About 30 surveyors of Chittorgarh district took part in the workshop.

- **National Consumer Day**

To mark the National Consumer Day, CUTS CHD, jointly with District Supply Office, Chittorharh, organised a seminar on the theme, "Aware Consumer is an Empowered Consumer" on December 24, 2007.

- **Awareness Rally on AIDS Day**

CUTS CHD organised a School Talk and Awareness Rally to mark the AIDS Day at Government Middle School, Sahanwa (Chittorgarh) on December 01, 2007.

- **Child Rights Situational Analysis Study work**

Save the Children, UK approached CUTS CHD for support in conducting the above-mentioned study. A plan was drawn and a three-day orientation programme was organised at Jaipur, on February 18-20, 2008. A team of six people was formed for conducting the survey. The survey was conducted from February 25 to March 01, 2008 in two blocks of Bhilwara district.

- **International Women Day**

International Women Day was celebrated in collaboration with *Sanjha Manch* (CARE, Bhilwara Dairy, FES, BAIF, *Asha Kiran* and *Prayas*) of Bhilwara on March 05, 2008 in Bhilwara. More than 400 SHG members attended the celebration. The occasion gave the women a platform to share their problems and pains, an opportunity to raise their voice against discrimination and show their strength. International Women's Day was also organised in Chittorgarh on March 08, 2008.



SHG members taking part in World Women's Day Celebrations

- **World Consumer Day**

In collaboration with the District Supply Office, Chittorgarh, CUTS CHD organised a series of activities during the World Consumer Day on March 15, 2008 at the Panchayat Samiti office. First, a rally was taken out in which about 50 school children participated. The rally was flagged off by GP Gupta, President, District Consumer Board. Later, a consultation workshop was held at the Block Development office (BDO), Chittorgarh.

- **Guni Workshop**

One-day Guni (local healer) consultation workshop was organised at the CUTS CHD, on February 15, 2008. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the disappearing herbal plants and fading skills for curing diseases through herbal medicines. In all, 35 people participated in the consultation workshop in which 20 were local healers from different parts of Chittorgarh district.

- **Media Workshop**

One-day consultation workshop was organised with the local media representatives at the Centre on March 14, 2008. The purpose of the workshop was to sensitise media people about the importance of herbal medicines. The subject of the advocacy workshop was 'Disappearing Knowledge of Herbal Plants'.

- **Road Safety Week**

CUTS CHD, in association with District Transport Department, Chittorgarh, organised the road safety week in Chittorgarh during January 07-13, 2008. During the campaign, replicators were stuck on the rear side of the vehicles at the Collectorate and Chanderia Police Station on January 11, 2008, to make the drivers aware of the transport rules. The drivers of 163 vehicles, which included 56 auto rickshaws, 28 tankers, 18 trolleys, 23 jeeps, 4 farmers' vehicles and 3 bullock carts were made aware of the traffic rules on the spot.

- **Child Anti-labour Campaign**

CUTS CHD, in association with *Bachpan Bachao Andolan*, New Delhi, organised action week against child labour. The objective of the campaign was to create awareness on child labour, and ensure the people's participation in stopping it. On February 17, 2008, a child meeting was organised at Bilola village of Chittorgarh Panchayat Samiti. Madan Giri Goswami of CUTS, said that parents and guardians send their children to work due to selfish reasons.

Representations

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
March 28, 2008, Bhilwara, India	District Health Committee Meeting	Review of progress related to health programmes	M G Goswami
February 21, 2008, Jaipur, India	Meeting to Review Proposal Status Submitted by CHUTS CHD	Whether CUTS would implement training and capacity building programme	Amit Chowdhury
February 06, 2008, Jaipur, India	Project Bid on Training & Capacity Building of Panchayati Raj representatives under	Total sanitation campaign project	M G Goswami
February 01-02, 2008, Jaipur, India	Mother NGO Data Training	Orienting Mother NGO representatives about the software to be used for computer data feeding and analysis.	Madan Lal Keer Ganga Dadhich
November 27-30, 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka	8 th Annual Symposium on Poverty Research	Theme of the symposium was 'Communicating Research and Influencing Change'.	Amit Chowdhury
November 24, 2007, Jaipur, India	Workshop on Child Marriage and Girl Foeticide	Discussion on violence against women	Seema Yagnic
November 16, 2007, Udaipur, India	Workshop on Mother & Child Care	Discussion on health related problems of mothers and children	Ganga Dadhich
October 22-25, 2007, Ahmedabad, India	Regional Level Meeting	Selection of NGOs for implementing the biodiversity conservation under NEAC project.	M G Goswami Dharmendra Chaturvedi
October 08-10, 2007, Hyderabad, India	Workshop on 'Thematic Meet on Investing in Young People for Achieving Millennium Development Goals'	Role of young people in development and poverty reduction	Amit Chowdhury
September 27-29, 2007, Jaipur, India	Training Programme for Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) Survey	Capacity building training to carry out the survey	Madan Lal Keer
August 17, 2007, Ajmer, India	Divisional Level Workshop on SHGs Project	Problems faced by NGOs on SHG activities while dealing with bankers.	M G Goswami
July 09, 2007, Chittorgarh, India	Meeting on Education for All Campaign	To review discuss the programme on "Chief Minister Education Support Campaign, 2007"	Madan Lal Keer

Contd...

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
June 18-21, 2007, New Delhi, India	Workshop on “Formation of Youth Clubs”	To orient participants towards formation of youth club at village, block and district level & sensitise them on early marriage, early pregnancy and HIV/ AIDS.	Ganga Dadhich
May 15-16, 2007, Jaipur, India	Srijan Network Training Workshop	To orient network partners on youth policies and programmes on adolescents.	Ganga Dadhich
April 26, 2007, Chittorgarh, India	Workshop on NGO	Discussion on the scope of CUTS partnership with NABARD	M G Goswami
April 16, 2007, Chittorgarh, India	District Level Meeting	Discussion on child marriage and plan to stop it	Amit Chowdhury Manoj Dixit

CUTS Calcutta Resource Centre (CRC)

Introduction

CUTS Calcutta Resource Centre (CUTS CRC), earlier known as Calcutta Centre of CUTS, has been operational since 1987. It started working in the area of consumer protection. The centre is working on a wide range of issues on international trade, economics, competition culture, protecting farmers' rights etc. in association CUTS CITEE, and other centres of CUTS. The mission of the Centre is 'To ensure consumer sovereignty and economic equality within and across borders in association with other CUTS Centres.'

Programme Areas

- Grassroots Economic Development
- Health
- Safety Watch

Projects and Programmes

- Farmers' Rights Programme (FRP-Phase II)
- GRANITE
- Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy
- Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Selected South Asian Countries
- Farmers' Perspective and Reactions to Agri Export Zones (AEZ) in West Bengal

Farmers' Rights Programme (FRP-Phase II)

CUTS CRC implemented the three-year (2004-07) project entitled, 'Farmers Rights to Livelihood' (FRP-Phase-II). This was a research and advocacy project aimed to study the impact of the WTO Agreements on the livelihood of farmers in the Himalaya-Hindukush region of India. The project focused on the issues of Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) and Prior Informed Consent (PIC) through farmers' participation in the decision-making process. It intended to create a system of sustainable agriculture by ensuring justified property rights on the farm resources and traditional knowledge (TK).

Advocacy and Networking

In Phase-II of the project, a National Level Advocacy Workshop on 'Farmers' Rights to Livelihood: Access & Benefit Sharing (ABS), Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Farmers' Participation in Decision- Making Process' was held in New Delhi, on June 21, 2007. The twin objectives of the workshop were: to share the findings of the project; review and identify the gaps and finally move towards a realistic solution by pooling in the contributions of all the key stakeholders. Hence, it aimed to sensitise the key

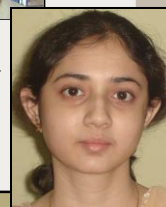
Keya Ghosh
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Office Assitant



stakeholders like parliamentarians, policy-makers and build capacity of CSOs, academicians and farmer groups.

Grassroots Reachout and Networking in India on Trade & Economics (GRANITE)

As a project partner, the Centre implemented a two-year project entitled, 'Grassroots Reachout and Networking in India on Trade & Economics (GRANITE)' Phase-I in partnership with CSOs in West Bengal. The project was implemented in eight Indian states, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal with support from NORAD and Novib (Oxfam, The Netherlands). After successful completion of the first phase of the project, the Centre was involved in Phase-II focusing mainly on agriculture/ horticulture and textile and handloom sectors.

Research and Publication

During the period, the project focused on the National Foreign Trade Policy of India, 2004-09 by taking stock of how state governments and other stakeholders in these eight states were involved in the process of preparation and implementation of this policy. An institutional analysis on the process of preparation and implementation of the National Foreign Trade Policy of India, 2004-09 was done in the first year of the project. To this end, the Centre undertook a survey to gauge the perception of various stakeholders on National Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09 in five districts of West Bengal namely, Hooghly, Nadia, Malda, Murshidabad, and Darjeeling. In these districts, a questionnaire was also used for the survey. After the survey, an interim research report was prepared to identify the various future deliverables. Based on the field survey, a report on West Bengal scenario was prepared.

Advocacy and Networking

- The Centre organised a Toolbox Meeting on GRANITE Phase-II on May 28-29, 2007 in Kolkata where the project partners were invited for an update and discussion on the achievement of GRANITE Phase-I, particularly how it fed into Phase-II and follow up of the evaluation that was done.

- An Inception Workshop was organised by the Centre on August 09-10, 2007 in Kolkata that aimed at taking stock of the endeavours made by CUTS CITEE and GRANITE partners. It also provided a forum for detailed discussions on the analysis of the major policy issues that were deterring/promoting the growth of the industries of countries chosen for the TDP Initiative.

- The Centre organised the State Level Inception Workshop on September 27, 2007 in Kolkata. The main objective of the workshop was to formally launch the project in the state and bring all relevant stakeholders (CSOs, local media, state government officials, academia, research institutions) to a common platform



A view of the State-level Inception workshop held in Kolkata on September 27, 2007

to discuss opportunities and challenges in the sectors of agriculture and textiles and to take stock of how the state governments and other stakeholders in West Bengal were involved in the process of preparation and implementation of National Foreign Trade Policy, 2004-09.

Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy (MINTDEV)

As a project partner, CUTS CRC, implemented the project titled “Mainstreaming International Trade into National Development Strategy: A Pilot Project in Bangladesh and India”. The project objectives were to ensure and enhance positive linkages between trade and human development; foster equity and accountability of the national trade policy; and enhance a more coherent civil society voice in the formulation and implementation of national trade policy and its linkages with national development strategy.

As part of advocacy and networking strategy, some local, state and national level training and advocacy workshops will be organised down the line.

Research and Publication

A field survey of 400 agricultural households spread across four districts of West Bengal namely, Hooghly, Purulia, Malda and Jalpaiguri was conducted by the Centre. The survey took into account the views and concerns about the various government officials and people’s representatives who are considered to be the key players for facilitating effective information flow and decision flow between the grassroots stakeholders and central policymakers.

Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Bangladesh, India and Nepal (RESA)

As a project partner, CUTS CRC with the support of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) is undertaking an initiative over two years (2008-2010) in implementing the project ‘Capacity Building on Electricity Reforms in Bangladesh, India and Nepal (RESA)’ to build capacity of consumer groups/ CSOs to enable them to deal with the issues involved, take-up action research, share experiences, and carryout advocacy with policymakers and regulatory agencies to effect pro-consumer changes in the electricity regulatory/policy processes. The Centre was responsible for implementing the project in West Bengal. Under it, the Centre conducted a Baseline Survey in 10 districts of West Bengal based on the findings of which a Territorial Base Paper was prepared.

Advocacy and Networking

- Under the project, a launch meeting and training seminar was organised in Kolkata on March 13-14, 2008. About 50 participants from all the three project countries, viz. Bangladesh, India and Nepal attended the launch meeting,



Participants at the State-level Inception workshop under GRANITE-II

which included policymakers, ex-regulators, subject experts, practitioners, CSOs, project partners and media persons.

Farmers' Perspective and Reactions to Agri Export Zones (AEZ) in West Bengal

A project on Agri-Export Zones in West Bengal and farmers' perspectives and reactions to AEZs was undertaken by CUTS CRC with the support of Department of Horticulture and Food Processing Industries, Government of West Bengal. The survey was conducted in July 2007 in three districts of West Bengal namely, Malda, Murshidabad and Siliguri.

Other Activities

As a project partner, CUTS CRC implemented a project on Assessment of the Potential Costs and Benefits of SEZs in India. The Centre was responsible for implementing the project in West Bengal where it conducted a survey in two SEZs: Falta Special Economic Zone and Manikanchan Special Economic Zone in March 2007.

As a project partner, CUTS CRC also implemented projects such as 'Traffic-Calming Strategies to Improve Pedestrian Safety in India' and 'Capacity building of Corporate Personnel about WTO and Competition Law'.

Outreach/Publications

FRP-II

- Research report (Phase II) on "Commercialisation of Traditional Knowledge and Benefit Sharing" under the Farmers' Rights Project was published.
- A Briefing Paper on 'Commercialisation of Traditional Knowledge' was published.

GRANITE Phase -II

- Two issues of *Safal Prayas*, 2007-08 were published.

Representations

Date	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
April 10, 2007	Energy Audit and Energy Conservation Relevance, Importance and Implementation	Sensitise different stakeholders about the necessity of power consumption through energy audit	Arnab Ganguly
	Eastern India Energy Summit 2007 <i>Petroleum and Beyond – Fuel Options 2007</i>	Discussion on various alternatives to fossil fuel for power generation	Arnab Ganguly
May 11, 2007	Towards a more inclusive policy formulation to ensure Food Security and Social Security of the Marginalised	To facilitate marginalised community access to the various government schemes on food security and social security	Keya Ghosh Arnab Ganguly
May 19, 2007	State level workshop on Civil Society Support Programme	To discuss the limitations and necessity to empower the grassroots CSOs so as to ensure a better trickle down effect of developmental projects	Keya Ghosh Arnab Ganguly
July 20, 2007	Exploring Export Potential of Agricultural Products of West Bengal organised	Agri-Export Zones and Mango export from Malda	Keya Ghosh Jayeeta Sarkar NK Sinha
July 28, 2007	Interactive Session on Agri Exports in Eastern Region: Opportunities and Challenges	Presentation on Study on Agri Export Zones (AEZ) in West Bengal: Farmers Perspective	Keya Ghosh Nabinananda Sen Arnab Ganguly Jayeeta Sarkar
August 03, 2007	Interactive Session on Future Roadmap for <i>Panchayats</i> in West Bengal	To improve the functioning and accountability of the panchayats in West Bengal	Arnab Ganguly
August 28-29, 2007	International Seminar on Farmers' Rights in Context of Global Regime on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)	Realising the importance of farmers' rights issues in relation to IPRs, particularly for developing countries	Arnab Ganguly Nabinananda Sen
August 30, 2007	Launch of West Bengal Civil Society Support Programme	Learning and promotion of participation and democratic governance	Arnab Ganguly Nabinananda Sen
November 11-14, 2007	South Asian CSO meet on promotion of CSR	Official launch of South Asian Forum for Responsible Business (SAFORB)	Keya Ghosh
February 01, 2008	Lecture Series under West Bengal Civil Society Support Programme (WBCSSP)	Understanding of Civil Society: Contribution and Challenges in the Contemporary World	Keya Ghosh Arnab Ganguly

Contd...

2007-08

Date & Venue	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
February 23, 2008	Seminar on Farmers' Rights and Protection of Plant Varieties	Legal aspects of IPR	Keya Ghosh
March 01, 2008	State Level Consultation on Right to Information Act (RTI)	Facilitate consultation and contribute for realisation of RTI in West Bengal	Arnab Ganguly

CUTS Delhi Resource Centre (DRC)

CUTS Delhi Resource Centre (CUTS DRC) was established in 2002 to act as the focal point for CUTS' advocacy, outreach and external relations with national and international institutions, including government departments and agencies. The objective of the Centre is to feed the work being done at the national level by the other centres of CUTS.



Vibhor Bansal
Acting Centre
Coordinator

Besides showcasing the work of CUTS and feeding the same in various policy advocacies at appropriate forums, the Centre also works towards strengthening network with research organisations and consumer groups. The Centre maintains regular communication with national and international media, national associations of trade and industry, other NGOs, parliamentarians and special interest groups and affiliations.

Programme Areas

The programme areas of the Centre are:

1. Parliamentary Advocacy
2. Media Outreach
3. Networking
4. Event Management

Parliamentary Advocacy

Parliamentary advocacy is an important activity of the Centre. To facilitate the parliamentary advocacy, the Centre worked on:

- sending questions to identified parliamentarians to be raised during the parliamentary sessions;
- following up of the questions raised and responses received, on subjects of interest; and
- informing and sensitising members of Parliament (MPs) for raising parliamentary questions on different socio-economic issues, including bills to be put forth for a wider and well-informed discussion on the floor of the Parliament.

The Centre organised two PARFORE meetings to discuss the issues of 'Assessment of Potential Costs and Benefits of SEZs in India' and 'Competition and Regulation in India – A Status Report 2007' respectively and a Parliamentarians' Panel Discussion on 'Political Economy of Regulatory Framework' during the fiscal. It also helped in feeding MPs with resources to raise questions in Parliament on policy issues that are important for national interest. Issue Notes published by CUTS from time to time were another important tool of CUTS advocacy in Parliament.

Media Outreach

CUTS DRC has successfully organised participation and coverage of media both print as well as electronic for CUTS' various events. The Centre is responsible for coordinating for columns/write

ups in various newspapers in print and electronic media for greater visibility of CUTS activities in media. It liaises with the press on one to one basis through informal meetings, giving press releases, sharing exclusive stories, and initiating debates on topical issues. The Centre also did advocacy with media, making them aware of issues of immediate attention coming out of CUTS' research.

Networking

The Centre was able to maintain working relationships with important Delhi-based CSOs, developmental organisations, premier Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Government Ministries and their various departments. It has been able to build up an effective and meaningful working relationship with the following ministries and their departments: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Finance (especially DCA & DEA) Ministry of Consumer Affairs (especially BIS), Ministry of Environment & Forest, and Planning Commission.

Event Management

The Centre was involved in executing and organising various events – beginning from booking of the venues, dealing with vendors, necessary logistics till the final execution of the event. This also includes the necessary followup with the participants, hotels/venues, signing the contract and ensuring the necessary and crucial elements for organising an event with economies of scale. Some of such events in which the Center was involved are:

- 4th and 5th PAR-FORE meetings on May 03, 2007 and November 22, 2007 respectively;
- ICRR NRG meetings on May 14, 2007 and April 01, 2008
- CUTS CRC National Farmers' Advocacy Workshop on June 21, 2007
- Project Stakeholder Consultation on "Study to Identify Hurdles for Independent Indian Health Service Personnel in Selected Countries under GATS Mode 4", July 16, 2007
- Reception Dinner by CUTS and Swedish Embassy, September 03, 2007
- Logistic arrangements in Delhi and Shimla for five days South Asia Training of Trainers workshop on 'Bridging Research and Policy', September 16-22, 2007
- CUTS-OECD meet on 'Realising the Potential of India's Trade Integration: A view from the OECD Secretariat', September 21, 2007
- Meetings on CIRC's Strategic Business Plan on September 28, 2007 and November 21, 2007
- CUTS Public Relations party on October 10, 2007
- CUTS-Warwick Commission seminar on 'Future of World Trade Regime after Doha' and reception dinner on October 11, 2007
- Meeting of all Warwick Commissioners with Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce and Industry on October 12, 2007
- Logistics for Panel Discussion on 'The Political Economy of Regulation in India – What do we need to do', Mumbai on October 16, 2007

- Marketing of CDS.02 (August 22-25, 2007); CDS.03 (October 22-26, 2007); and CDS.04, January 09-13, 2008)
- OECD Conference on October 23, 2007
- CIRC Governing Council Meeting on October 28, 2007 and 8th Managing Committee meeting on February 08, 2008
- National Consultation on 'Services Trade and Domestic Regulation in India' on November 29, 2007
- National Consumer Convention 2007 on November 29, 2007
- IPPG conference on December 19-21, 2007
- Panel Discussion on 'PTAs and India: Where are we and where to go?' on January 29, 2007
- Parliamentarians' Panel Discussion on 'The Political Economy of Regulation in India – What do we need to do' on March 31, 2007

Representations

During the year, the Centre was involved in representing CUTS in different conferences, seminars, workshops, meetings organised by different CSOs, consumer organisations, academic research bodies and institutions, ministries, financial institutions, embassies/high commissions. Some important representations include various meetings and programmes at TRAI, BIS, UN-ESCAPE, CII, FICCI, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, etc.

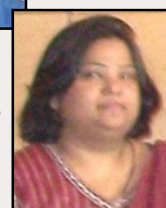
CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC)

In order to focus exclusively focus on the need for fair knowledge, better negotiating skills and improved capacity of understanding competition laws, economic regulation and commercial diplomacy, CUTS International launched CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC) in September 2005. CIRC is an initiative towards creating an intellectual and knowledge base on the core activity areas of competition policy & law, economic and infrastructure regulation and commercial & economic diplomacy. The motto “*enhancing knowledge, strengthening capacity*” explicitly defines the work area of CIRC.

The objective of CIRC is to facilitate research; enhance understanding and explore inter-disciplinary linkages among the identified subjects; create and maintain a knowledge database; and offer consultancy services to government, regulators and business houses.



Rahul Ranjan
Programme Officer



Richa Bhatnagar
Assistant Programme
Officer

Governing Council

Chairman	C. Rangarajan , Member, Rajya Sabha, and Former Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, New Delhi
Members	<p>Shankar Acharya, Honorary Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi</p> <p>Isher Ahluwalia, Chairperson, ICRIER, New Delhi</p> <p>Ritu Anand, Principal Adviser and Chief Economist at the Infrastructure Development and Finance Company Ltd. (IDFC), Mumbai</p> <p>Nitin Desai, Former Under-Secretary General of United Nations, New Delhi</p> <p>Frederic Jenny, Judge, French Supreme Court, Paris</p> <p>Amit Kapur, Partner J Sagar Associates, New Delhi</p> <p>D R Mehta, Former Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Jaipur</p> <p>Pradeep S Mehta, Director General, CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition (CIRC), Jaipur</p> <p>Nripendra Misra, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), New Delhi</p> <p>Kirit Parikh, Member, Planning Commission, New Delhi</p> <p>Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman, National Institute for Information Technology (NIIT) Ltd., New Delhi</p> <p>S L Rao, Chairman, Institute for Social & Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore</p> <p>Rubens Ricupero, Former Secretary General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva</p> <p>S Sundar, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi</p> <p>Vijay S Vyas, Prof. Emeritus, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur</p> <p>D P Wadhwa, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi</p> <p>B K Zutshi, Former Indian Ambassador to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Jaipur</p>

Programme Areas

- Competition Policy & Law
- Economic & Infrastructure Regulation
- Commercial & Economic Diplomacy

Activities/Events

Academic Lecture on Competition Policy & Law

CIRC, jointly with the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and the Centre for Corporate Research & Training (ICSI-CCRT), organised a half-day lecture on '*Competition Law and Policy in India*' in Mumbai, on April 18, 2007. Surendra Kanstiya, former President of Consumer Guidance Society of India (CGSI) addressed the lecture, which was attended by 45 participants including budding professionals, like company secretaries, lawyers, chartered accountants, etc., from Mumbai and elsewhere.



Participants at the 'Training Programme for Mid-level Civil Servants and Executives' during August 22-25, 2007

Building Skills on Commercial and Economic Diplomacy

CIRC organised a '*Training Programme for Mid-level Civil Servants and Executives*' in Jaipur during August 22-25, 2007. The programme was sponsored by the Department of Commerce, Government of India. The objectives of the training programme were to meet the imperative of having trained government officials at various levels who are involved in commercial and economic diplomacy; ensure coherence between India's domestic policy on trade and investment-related

issues with international commitments; and enhance the skills by developing/strengthening the capacity for taking effective part in trade and investment negotiations and the implementation aspects of related international agreements.

It was attended by 23 participants comprising officials from various ministries/departments of the Government of India, the State Governments, the Apparel Export Promotion Council of India (AEPC) and the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank). Various resource persons with expertise and knowledge in the sphere of commercial and economic diplomacy, designed the intensive and interactive programme. The participants sharpened their skills in various aspects of commercial and economic diplomacy, through lectures, real life experiences of resource persons, simulation exercises, group discussions, etc.

Panel Discussion and Report Release

A panel discussion on '*The Political Economy of Regulation in India – What Do We Need to Do*', was organised in Mumbai on October 16, 2007 with the objective of evolving a consensus on the implementation of an effective regulatory regime in India. The panel discussion was chaired by Dr C Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, and moderated by

Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International. It comprised of distinguished panellists such as Dr Rakesh Mohan, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI); G N Bajpai, former Chairman of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); Arvind Mayaram, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs; and Arun Nanda, Executive Director, Mahindra and Mahindra.

The said discussion also set the stage for the release of a Report Prepared under a project implemented by CUTS International, entitled, '*Competition and Regulation in India, 2007*', by Dr C Rangarajan. The Report takes stock of how competition and regulation prevails across the sectors in the country and comes out with recommendations as to what still needs to be done.

Developing Skills on Commercial and Economic Diplomacy

CIRC organised a training programme for Junior-level Civil Servants and Executives in Jaipur during October 22-26, 2007. This programme was a sequel to the training programme that was earlier organised by CIRC during August 22-25, 2007 at Jaipur (Building Skills on Commercial and Economic Diplomacy. The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India supported CIRC to conduct the training programme to address the need to fill the vacuum that exists in terms of absence of institutional base to offer training/educational programmes on commercial and economic diplomacy in India.



A view of the Training Programme held in Jaipur during October 22-26, 2007

The programme brought experts together to explore and deliberate various aspects involved in commercial and economic diplomacy namely, Ahmed Farouk Ghoneim, Associate Professor, Cairo University; B K Zutshi, Former Indian Ambassador to GATT and Member, Governing Council of CIRC; Kishan S Rana, Former Ambassador of India, Senior Fellow, Diplofoundation; Suhail A Nathani, Economic Law Practice; Bipul Chatterjee; Deputy Executive Director, CUTS International; and N C Pahariya, Associate Professor, University of Rajasthan.

It was attended by 32 participants comprising government officials from various ministries/departments of the Government of India handling work related to international trade and negotiations on various bilateral, regional and multilateral issues. The training programme brought experts/resource persons together to explore and deliberate various aspects of commercial and economic diplomacy. Over the period of five days, the participants sharpened their skills on various aspects of commercial and economic diplomacy through lectures, real life experiences of resource persons, simulation exercises, group discussions, etc.

Academic Lecture on 'Current State of the Doha Round of Negotiations'



L to R: Bipul Chatterjee and Ahmed Farouk Ghoneim

An interactive session with Prof. Ahmed Farouk Ghoneim, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economic and Political Science, Cairo University, Egypt was held in Jaipur on October 26, 2007. The participants in the interactive session were government officials, academics and experts. This lecture was organised keeping in mind that the target audience does not often get a chance to take part in such interactions and thus CIRC brought in this distinguished professor to address this gap.

Prof Ghoneim stressed on world trading system and emphasised that the existing friction between EU and US is the reason behind delay of the Doha Round. He further discussed the overview of Doha Development Round giving reasons for the launch of the Round, main issues and concerns in Agriculture,

Non Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) Services and other related issues under the ongoing negotiations.

Strengthening Skills on Commercial & Economic Diplomacy

A three-day training programme on "Strengthening Skills on Commercial & Economic Diplomacy" was organised in Jaipur on January 09-11, 2008. This training programme was a part of the three-year capacity building project on Commercial & Economic Diplomacy supported by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

Participants were from various ministries namely, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. There was also representation from governments of Orissa, Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh.



A view of the three-day training programme held in Jaipur on January 09-11, 2008

In the training sessions, GK Pillai, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Kishan Rana, Former Ambassador of India and Course Director, CIRC; BK Zutshi, Former Indian Ambassador to GATT; and Geza Feketkuty, Former US Negotiator on

Services in Uruguay Round deliberated upon various aspects of effective commercial and economic diplomacy, including negotiations and dispute settlements in trade and investment agreements.

The objective of the programme was to ensure coherence between India's domestic policy on trade and investment issues with

international commitments and to enhance skills by developing strengthening capacity of officials for trade and investment negotiations.

Outreach/Publications

Outreach Activities

Website

CIRC website has been developed with comprehensive information to facilitate understanding of the institute. The activities and progress of the institute are updated regularly on the website.

Newsletter

CIRCular, the quarterly Newsletter carries special articles on the subjects that CIRC covers, along with other news pieces relevant to CIRC's sphere of work.

Marketing

To reach out to the target clientele CIRC uses multiple platforms. Marketing of the institute would be taken up in full stream once the new Director and other support staff is in place. Some efforts that are being carried out at present are:

Advertising through Internet to clientele as per the database:

Each issue of the newsletter is e-mailed to a list in the database. The database contains CIRC's target clientele i.e. civil servants, staff of regulatory bodies, CSOs, researchers, professionals, academicians and business and is updated on a regular basis. Event specific E-templates are also sent out to our target clientele.

Write-ups and discussion forums:

Write-ups on a regular basis are sent to Learning Curve, Economic Times, ET Knowledge Curve, etc. The CIRC-Forum, which has been designed and used as a platform to spread information about CIRC, is kept active by way of postings and announcements of events that are being conducted under CIRC banner. Drawing from real life cases, the forum offers a platform to inform various clients about the relevance of the capacity building solutions offered by CIRC. The members of this forum include CIRC's target clientele as mentioned above. Other than this, the participants of various CIRC workshops and events are added as members of this forum on an ongoing basis.

Collateral: Brochure, Inserts, event-specific fliers, nomadic stand etc: Event-specific fliers and E-templates are designed and sent to the clientele for promoting the event and gaining participation. Nomadic stand for CIRC has been designed and is used during various events.

Press/News Release: Press releases are also made prior to the events as a marketing tool.

Publications

- Research report 'Competition and Regulation in India, 2007', under the India Competition and Regulation Report, - I Cycle
- Eight Policy Briefs have been developed based on the final research papers comprising key implementation issues concerning competition and regulatory regimes and the approaches/recommendations that emerged from the research cycle.
 - Constraints Faced by Competition and Regulatory Agencies (CDRF No. 1/2007)
 - Competition and Regulatory Regimes in Small & Developing Countries (CDRF No. 2/2007)
 - Political Economy of Regulation in Electricity Sector in India (CDRF No. 3/2007)
 - Political Economy Constraints in Competition and Regulatory Regimes (CDRF No. 4/2007)
 - Efficiency and Effectiveness of Competition and Regulatory Agencies (CDRF No. 5/2007)
 - Effective Regulatory Regimes – Experiences of India, Kenya and Belgium (CDRF No. 6/2007)
 - Political Economy of Telecom Regulation in Jamaica (CDRF No. 7/2007)
 - Financial Services Regulation – Perspectives from Banking in India and Bangladesh (CDRF No. 8/2007)

Future Endeavour

CIRC plans to initiate certificate courses on Fundamentals of Public-Private-Partnership and Interface between Competition Law and the Economy sometime in 2009. The course, as envisaged by CIRC, will draw experiences from developing countries and will focus on quality of educational and training programmes, which will be at par with those of the developed countries. This will be achieved through association with renowned western universities/institutions in the identified subjects. The course curriculum will be designed jointly by CIRC and the respective university/institute in order to attain the cutting edge knowledge.

Overseas Resource Centres

CUTS Africa Resource Centre (ARC), Lusaka

CUTS Africa Resource Centre is a registered NGO in Zambia since 2000. Since its inception CUTS ARC has been operating on two levels: as a Southern Africa Regional Resource Centre of CUTS and implementer of Zambia national programmes. The objective of the Centre is to promote South-South civil society cooperation on trade and development and create long-term capacity of civil society representatives to address the issues of equity and accountability. It focuses on capacity building activities on international trade, investment and competition policy issues, including other areas such as environment, consumer protection and regulatory reforms. The responsibility of the CUTS-ARC is to function as a resource, coordination as well as networking centre for Africa-based NGOs, consumer organisations as well as for the studies, research and advocacy programmes conducted by CUTS.

Projects

During the period, the Centre implemented the following projects:

- Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction (TDP)
- Trade and Market Linkages Strategy for Small Scale Producers in Eastern Province, Zambia
- WEMOS Food Basket Study
- Promoting African Woman's Voice in EPA Negotiations
- Agri-business Research Study
- NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative
- Capacity Building of Media Coverage on Trade and Development Reporting in Zambia

Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction (TDP)

CUTS ARC, Lusaka in collaboration with Organisation Development and Community Management Trust (ODCMT) organised five advocacy workshops in four different towns of Zambia, namely Kitwe, Chipata, Livingstone and Lusaka respectively. The workshops aimed at introducing the participants to the debate on TDP and gather stakeholders' views on the case studies for Zambia.

Research and Publication

A TDP Campaign Toolkit for Zambia was produced by advocacy partner, ODCMT. The document raises lessons from liberalisation, based on two sectors, the agro-processing and textiles. A first draft of the international campaign kit was reviewed by the TDP project partners and a range of other experts at a TDP International Conference held in Nairobi on March 15-16, 2007.



Angela Mwape
Mulenga
Programme
Coordinator



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Charles
Katangola
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Tamiko Sichinga
Mule
Administrative
Assistant

Trade and Market Linkages Strategy for Small Scale Producers in Eastern Province, Zambia

The Centre, with the support of The Danish Association for International Co-operation in Zambia (MS Zambia) undertook the project entitled, 'Trade and Market Linkages Strategy for Small Scale Producers in Eastern Province, Zambia'.

Advocacy and Networking

The Centre, in collaboration with Catholic Commission for Justice Development and Peace (CCJDP), held a two-day advocacy workshop in Lusaka on July 23-24, 2007, which aimed at sensitising farmers on the different scenarios in different markets. The workshop was attended by local participants and farmers from other districts.

Research and Publications

The following advocacy documents were produced:

- Horticulture Trade and Poverty Reduction
- Access to Secure Market - a Scenario of Luapula Province
- Access to Secure Market - a Scenario of Eastern Province

WEMOS Food Basket Study

CUTS in coordination with Civil Society Trade Network of Zambia, Zambia Association for Research and Development, a Programme against Malnutrition, jointly undertook a study on the Impact of Trade Liberalisation on Nutrition in January 2007.

Promoting African Woman's Voice in EPA Negotiations (AWEPON)

The Centre, with the support of African Women's Economic Policy Network (AWEPON)-Uganda/Diaconia has undertaken the project entitled, 'Promoting African Women's Voice in Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations'. The project is being implemented in South Africa, Zambia, Kenya and Uganda.

Advocacy and Networking

A workshop was organised on 'Promoting African Women's Voice in the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) Negotiations' in Lusaka, on July 24, 2007. The workshop deliberated upon the ways of making the EPAs gender responsive and ensuring economic rights to the women in Africa.

Research and Publication

A draft study entitled, 'Threat of EPAs on Women in Zambia' was prepared to examine the likely effect on the EPA on women in Zambia. The study aimed to bring out the findings by examining sectors in which women dominate, such as services and agriculture.

Agri-business Research Study

CUTS, in partnership with Civil Society Trade Network of Zambia (CSTNZ) and support from Oxfam Novib, launched a study, which aimed at understanding the role of agribusiness on small-scale farmers and workers' rights. The study highlighted that some of

the challenges in the agri-business include the lack of corporate social responsibility and poor workers conditions.

NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative

The Centre has undertaken a study on behalf of OECD to prepare and present a background report for the NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative Roundtable held in Lusaka on November 27-28, 2007.

Research and Publication

The preparation of the background paper was done by CUTS Consultant, Annie Zulu Chime. The background paper was presented at the stakeholders' workshop in Lusaka on November 27-28, 2007.

Capacity Building of Media Coverage on Trade and Development reporting in Zambia

The Centre with the support of Oxfam Novib and One World Africa (OWA) undertook a two-year project entitled Capacity Building of Media Coverage on Trade and Development Reporting in Zambia;. The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- create awareness among media practitioners about the ongoing EPA negotiations; and
- build capacity among journalists to report on EPA and encourage them to analytically report on trade and development issues.

Advocacy and Networking

The Centre hosted a media workshop on EPAs at Lusaka, Zambia on January 06, 2007. The objective of the workshop was to engage media in Zambia on EPA negotiations, enhance communications on EPA between policymakers, CSOs and the media.

Outreach and Publication

The Centre collaborated with CUTS Africa Resource Centre, Nairobi for the joint quarterly newsletter entitled, 'Tradequity', which is circulated among the stakeholders in the region. It produced three issues of a quarterly electronic newsletter, 'Consumer Watch' with the objective of enhancing consumer welfare through sensitisation, information dissemination and capacity building of consumers, business entities and government.

Representations

Date & Place	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
April 13, 2007, Lusaka, Zambia	Southern African Development Community-Non Governmental Organisation (SADC-NGO) Forum	Effective civil society participation in the regional development and democratic governance in southern Africa	Vladimir Chilinya
April 26-28, 2007, Nairobi, Kenya	Interface of the WTO Doha and EPA negotiations workshop	Draft a regional strategy on EPAs and planning for activities before the ESA-EPA RNF	Vladimir Chilinya
May 31, 2007	ESA-EPA Information Seminar organised by the EC	Information exchange on the state of play of the EPA negotiations the concerns of the private sector and CSOs	Masheta Musamai
June 07, 2007, Lusaka, Zambia	Meeting on NGO Regulation Opts for Absolute Self-Regulation	Assessing NGO's position on Government's proposed Draft Bill for NGO regulation in Zambia.	Masheta Musamai
June 07-10, 2007	Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment Cluster Workshop	Revise and adopt the SADC Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (TIFI) Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) Implementation Framework for Zambia	Patrick Chengo
August 08-10, 2007, Mauritius	Training workshop on Competition Policy and Law organised by the Institute for Consumer Protection (ICP) and CUTS International	Enhance the understanding of select national stakeholders on competition policy issues	Vladimir Chilinya
August 15-16, 2007, Lusaka, Zambia	Southern African Development Community (SADC) People's Summit'	Opportunity for CSOs to share experiences and make their voices heard on various issues affecting the SADC region and Africa	Masheta Musamai
May 07-10, 2007, Lusaka, Zambia	Workshop on competition by the Zambia Competition Commission	Review of the Draft Competition and Consumer Protection Act, Zambia	Masheta Musamai
October 02-04, 2007, Pretoria, South Africa	Advanced Trade Analysis Course	Capacity building training	Masheta Musamai
February 22, 2008, Lusaka, Zambia	Consultation on, 'Non State Actors and local Authorisation in Development'	Role of CSOs in development programmes	Angela Mwape Mulenga

CUTS London Resource Centre (CUTS LRC), London

CUTS International LRC was established in February 2003 with an office opened and a full-time manager employed in late 2004. It gradually expanded during 2005 and the first half of 2006, engaging in networking; preparing funding applications with CUTS' other offices; developing its own projects; carrying out advocacy; representing CUTS at conferences and seminars in Europe; and producing outreach materials (policy and briefing papers; and a newsletter).



Gideon Rabinowitz
Centre Manager

Programme Areas

- Trade, Development and Poverty Linkages
- EU-Africa Trade Relations
- Aid for Trade
- Trade Development in East Africa

Projects

LRC is currently involved in three projects:

- Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction
- Soho to Soweto - 5 Debates to Connect You to Today's Development Issues (S2S Project)
- Capacity Building of Eastern and Southern African Civil Society during the EPAs Project

Advocacy and Networking

Through the TDP project, CUTS LRC has been communicating new perspectives on trade and development gathered from in-depth research carried out by project partners from 13 African and Asian countries to the UK development community. As a part of its TDP advocacy work, CUTS LRC has also been monitoring and responding to developments in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Aid for Trade (Aft) discussions carrying out through organising workshops; research; and presenting civil society's views at relevant conferences.

Through this work, CUTS LRC has established itself as one of the few NGOs that is responding to Aft agenda, and has contributed some important views to the on-going discussions. It has also developed an effective working relationship with Department for International Development (DFID) on these issues.

CUTS LRC organised an International Roundtable on 'Trade and Poverty: Making the Integrated Framework a Tool for Poverty Reduction' in Geneva, on October 18, 2007. It was attended by government and civil society representatives from Africa and Asia, multilateral and bilateral donors and EU NGOs, who discussed the challenges facing the Integrated Framework (IF) Trade Related Technical Assistance (TRTA).

The EPAs project was completed during 2007. Through this project, CUTS LRC supported its civil society partners in five Eastern and Southern African (ESA) countries in training activists on key EPA issues and engaging in advocacy. LRC hopes

to build on this work in the coming years by supporting these civil society partners in response to unresolved issues relating to EPAs and ensuring development.

With the support of the ODI, CUTS LRC helped organise training workshops on EPA market access issues in Kenya and Uganda. Each workshop was attended by around 25 CSO representatives and policymakers, and provided participants with an opportunity to learn how to model different liberalisation scenarios and explore the implications for their economies.

Soho to Soweto Project was launched in July 2007 and involves a series of public debates which allow the public to quiz development policymakers and opinion formers on their response to the critical development challenges of modern times. Two debates were held in 2007, entitled 'Does Aid aid development?' and 'Are supermarkets responsible superpowers?', with high profile panelists from the media, government, academia and the (NGO) community. This project has created a new and innovative space for public debate on development in the UK and further three debates (on security, environment and democracy) were organised in 2008.

Representations

- Pre-UNCTAD African Civil Society Forum in Nairobi, on March 15-16, 2007.
- 'Aid for Trade: One Year on – How Much, for Whom, and the Institutional Challenges?', organised by the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in London, on May 24, 2007.
- A workshop on EPAs, organised by the Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations (DENIVA), with support from the ODI, UK, in Uganda, during August 09-10, 2007.
- Global Aid for Trade Review at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), in Geneva, during November 19-21, 2007.

Research and Publications

The Centre produced "Bridging the Gap" bi-annually, a publication designed to communicate the work of other CUTS offices and southern opinions on development issues generally to an interested audience in the UK. It has also produced the following two Policy Briefs:

- "The Integrated Framework for Trade Related Technical Assistance: What role in poverty reduction?"
- "Diagnosing aid for trade needs: Are we asking the right people? Are we asking the right questions?"

Newsletter

- Bridging the Gap

CUTS Africa Resource Centre, Nairobi

CUTS Africa Resource Centre (CUTS ARC), Nairobi is a registered NGO that started its operations in the year 2002 to work in not only the region of East Africa but also the Horn of Africa. It was set up with the mandate of providing support to NGOs in Eastern Africa in the areas of consumer protection, poverty reduction, development of trade and economic policy, training and advocacy in these regions. All this continues to be done with a view to consolidate and expand the activities of CUTS International in promoting South-south civil society cooperation in economic development and trade in the world economy. CUTS ARC's mission is to develop a close and beneficial relationship between two developing regions, namely Eastern and Central Africa and South Asia. The Centre also functions as the Centre for African-based CSOs, and a resource centre for studies, research and advocacy programmes conducted by CUTS. It works closely with partner institutions in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia, among others.



Clement Victor Onyango
Administration Officer

Programme Areas

- Trade and Development
- Consumer Education and Awareness
- Competition, Investment and Economic Regulation

Projects

Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction

The Centre coordinated the advocacy and networking aspect of the CUTS CITEE project entitled, "Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction (TDP)", which was implemented over a period of four years (January 2005 to December 2008), with support from the Royal Netherlands Embassy and DFID, UK. The project has been implemented in select countries in Asia, Africa and Europe in a partnership mode. The Centre carried out coordination in the East African region along with the following partner organisations and institutions in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Trade and Development Impact of ESA (SADC)-EU EPAs

The Centre with the support of FES Kenya and EcoNews Africa held an event entitled, "Trade and Development impact of ESA (SADC)-EU EPAs" to identify the trade and development implications of the Dual ESA-EU and SADC-EU EPAs on the integration agenda of East African countries.

Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa (7Up3)

CUTS ARC, as resource partner coordinated the project entitled "Capacity Building on Competition Policy in Select Countries of Eastern and Southern Africa.", codenamed 7Up3, which was implemented in seven countries, viz. Botswana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Uganda, with

support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Norway and DFID, UK.

Capacity Building for the Fast Tracking of East African Common Market

The Centre with the support of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) implemented the project entitled, "Capacity Building for the Fast Tracking of the East African Common Market". The objective of the project was to undertake consultation and sensitisation, advocacy, networking and capacity building to monitor the East African region before the common market becomes operational.

Capacity Building on Media Coverage on Trade and Development Reporting in Kenya

CUTS ARC implemented the project entitled, "Capacity Building on Media Coverage on Trade and Development Reporting in Kenya". The objective of the project was to build capacity among journalists to effectively and analytically report on trade and development in selected countries.

Helping CSOs to Influence EPA Process

A project supported by Oxfam GB was initiated that would involve lobbying, capacity building, research and advocacy on the EPA negotiations between the EU and the ACP countries at the centre of it would be the civil societies. There was, therefore, a need to ensure that CSOs are effectively engaged in the EPA process through capacity building and sensitisation workshop to ensure that EPAs are pro-poor.

Understanding Supply-side Capacity and Export Response: Diagnostic Studies in Selected Commonwealth Developing Countries of Kenya, Uganda and Zambia

This was a research project aimed at finding out the factors determining export success of a few firms in certain sectors of individual LDCs and Small Vulnerable States (SVS). The project was supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Research and Publications

CUTS ARC, Nairobi has continued to collaborate with CUTS ARC, Lusaka in developing quarterly newsletter: 'Tradequity' which highlights on current hot topics and debate on trade, environment, regional integration within the region. The Centre continued with the development of its quarterly in-house e-newsletter "Regional and Economic Development Monitor" this has been circulated within its network. As the name suggests the bulletin aims at bringing out good stories and resources from various sources in the region that touch trade and development.

Policy Briefs

- "Towards a Conducive Policy Framework for Socio-economic Development in Kenya

Advocacy Toolkit

- Beyond Rhetoric: Ensuring EPAs Deliver on Development
- A Changing Global Order, Eastern Africa Perspective

Events

- Regional conference on “A Changing Global Order – Eastern Africa’s Role and Interests” This was held on the June 15 – 16, 2007.
- A two-day capacity building workshop on “Economic Partnership Agreements for the media: trade reporters and journalists” on July 23–24, 2007 in Nakuru, Kenya.”
- One day multi-stakeholder consultation meeting on pro-development benchmarking for EPAs. The meeting was held on August 02, 2007.
- A three-hour Economic Roundtable meeting entitled “An Enabling Environment for Socio-economic Development”: Identifying precise Policies and Legal Framework for Kenya, on June 7, 2007.
- A regional conference in collaboration with FES-Kenya, and EcoNews Africa “Trade and Economic Impacts and Implications of ESA-EU and SADC-EU EPAs” was organised on September 06-09, 2007 in Naivasha, Kenya.
- a three-hour roundtable meeting entitled “Unraveling Policymaking Process in Kenya and Impact on National Development” on November 21, 2007.
- A national consultation workshop was organised on trade in services, which launched “A Multi-country Case Study on Health, ICT on Trade in Services and Domestic Regulation”. The event was held on November 30, 2007.
- WTO meeting on NAMA organised by the Ministry of Trade and Industry on January 25-26, 2007 in Nairobi.
- EPA update meeting organised by KEPLOTRADE in Nairobi on January 19, 2007.
- EPA workshop organised by BEACON on the March 12, 2007.
- COMESA Policy Roundtable meeting organised by the Institute of Economic Affairs, Kenya, on August 14, 2007.
- Luncheon workshop for *citizen’s* handbook on the budget process organised by Institute of Economic Affairs –Kenya, Nairobi on June 12, 2007.
- Workshop for International Trade Lawyers organised by IEA-Kenya in Nairobi on October 09, 2007.
- Regional meeting on the “Role of EAC Legislative Assembly” on economic integration and political federation of the EAC in Arusha, held on September 21-23, 2007.
- Conference on “Fast Tracking of East African Community Regional Integration”. The meeting was held on April 21, 2007.

Advocacy and Networking

CUTS-ARC, Nairobi remains a key member of the TDP roundtable in Kenya incorporating organisations and institutions working on trade and development. Among them include DFID, Action Aid, Econews Africa, Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Center for International Trade and Investment Law (CITIL) and Kenya Trade and Poverty Programme (KTPP) of the Ministry of Trade,

Kenya. The aim is to bring together like-minded organisations in working together and complement each other. The centre remains an active member among the Non State Actor (NSA) member/representative of the Ministry of Trade and Industry Kenya under the EU-funded Kenya-European Union Post Lome Trade Programme (KEPLOTRADE).

CUTS Hanoi Resource Centre (CUTS HRC)

Established in 2007, CUTS HRC functions as a resource, coordination and networking centre of CUTS in Vietnam and the Southeast Asian region. The Centre was formally launched in Hanoi on February 29, 2008. This is the fourth overseas centre of CUTS International, opened with the aim of promoting trilateral development cooperation on a range of trade and economic policy issues.

CUTS HRC will be providing technical assistance to the Vietnam Competition Administration Department (VCAD) under the Ministry of Industry & Trade, over the period 2008-10 with support from the Government of Switzerland, in a capacity building project on competition policy and law. It is also planning to provide support to the VCAD in the drafting of a law on consumer protection for Vietnam, bringing in its 25 years of experience working on the issue from India and other countries in the world.

CUTS HRC's mission is: *To be a catalyst in transferring objective knowledge and advocacy skills from India and elsewhere to the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) towards mainstreaming the civil society movement therein into the development process.*

CUTS HRC was set up to initiate dialogue between the policy community and the civil society and cross-fertilise exchange of knowledge and research-cum-advocacy skills through making regional and international good policies and practices available in Vietnam and other countries in the region. The Centre plans to achieve this by undertaking multi-country comparative research studies, organising workshops, conferences, policy dialogues, study tours and site visits across developing countries at the regional and international levels.

Projects

CUTS HRC implemented the following four projects:

- Vietnam-OECD Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) - An assessment of Vietnam's Investment Climate Policies against the PFI (02)
- The Greater Mekong Sub-region: Addressing Development Challenges in the New Globalisation Era
- Strengthening the competition authorities of Vietnam
- Strengthening the Consumer Movement in Vietnam

Vietnam-OECD Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) - An assessment of Vietnam's Investment Climate Policies against the PFI (02)

The Centre implemented the project entitled, 'Vietnam-OECD Policy Framework for Investment (PFI) - An assessment of Vietnam's Investment Climate Policies against the PFI (Phase II)' with the support from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) after the successful completion of Phase I. Under Phase-II of the project, the Centre will prepare a questionnaire to assist the Vietnamese authorities

Alice Pham
Director



in understanding and answering the questions and sub-questions of the PFI and in providing the necessary background information to the OECD assessment of Vietnam policies as regards the PFI chapters to be covered by the review.

The Centre implemented the project entitled, 'The Greater Mekong Sub-region – Addressing Development Challenges in the New Globalisation Era' with the support of SDC, Switzerland. The project aims to contribute to the process of bridging the gap between the poorer countries of the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) and their better-off neighbours of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) by informing the stakeholders, especially those playing a vital role in this process.

Research and Publications

Under the project, following 10 Policy Briefs were published:

- IT Trade, Technology Transfer and their Relationship with Economic Development in the GMS: *Ground Realities and Future Options*
- Banking and Financial System in GMS Countries: *Its Relationship to Economic Development*
- Agriculture and Rural Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: *The Important Nexus*
- Trade Capacity Building and Private Sector Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region
- Border Trade in the GMS: *Ground Realities and Future Options*
- Facilitation of Trade and Investment in the GMS: *What role for whom?*
- Opportunities for Trade in Services between GMS and India: *Challenges and Options for Future*
- The Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam (CLV) Development Triangle: *Opportunities, Challenges and Options for Future*
- Review of the Energy Sector Integration in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: *A Focus on the Electricity sub-Sector*
- Community Based Ecotourism for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Mekong Region

Strengthening the Competition Authorities of Vietnam

The project entitled, 'Strengthening the Competition Authorities in Vietnam' has been implemented with the support of State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland (SECO) and the Swiss Competition Commission (COMCO). It would contribute to the establishment of a business environment that is conducive to the development of the private sector; and would deepen the application and the implementation of Vietnamese competition policies. The duration of the project is three years.

Strengthening the Consumer Movement in Vietnam

The Centre has implemented a project entitled "Strengthening the Consumer Movement in Vietnam" in association with the Vietnam Standards and Consumers Association (VINASTAS) with the support of The Ford Foundation - Office for Vietnam and Thailand.

The overall goal of this project is to promote a healthy and vibrant consumer culture in Vietnam, which ensures the meeting, in



the long term, of the seven legitimate needs of consumers as set out in the United Nations' Guidelines for Consumer Protection. The duration of the project is two years, expectedly to be completed by 2010.

The specific objectives of the project include:

- Structured development of the consumer movement in Vietnam, with the core being VINASTAS, its provincial branches and subordinate institutions, based on clear strategies and innovative activities;
- Positive developments/changes in consumer protection laws and regulations; and
- Effective mechanisms for engagement of all relevant stakeholders, most of all consumers, and ensure active participation channels for better representation of consumer voices.

Representations

Date & Place	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
April 26-27, 2007, Melbourne, Australia	APEC High-Level Public-Private Policy Dialogue on the OECD's Policy Framework for Investment	Presentation on the pilot study of applying the PFI in the Vietnam's context	Alice Pham
April 26, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	GMS Task force meeting organised by The Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEPP)	Presented an advocacy document of a CUTS project entitled, 'South-South Economic Cooperation: Exploring GMS India Relationship'	Rajeev D Mathur Trang
May 03, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	4th East Asia Conference on Competition Law and Policy	Presented the recent developments of competition policy and law in East Asian economies and conducted a trial peer review of the Vietnam Competition Law 2004	Alice Pham
May 23, 2007, Jakarta, Indonesia	Conference entitled, 'Challenges to Competition Law in Asia' jointly organised by the Hong Kong-based Asia Competition Forum and the Indonesian office of GTZ	Paper entitled, 'Status of Competition Laws and their Implementation in the Asia Pacific region' in the conference	Alice Pham
June 14-16, 2007, Khon Kaen, Thailand	Follow-up Policy Dialogue on 'Regional Support to Address Social Impacts of Infrastructure Corridors in the GMS', organised by the Mekong Institute	Meeting was wholly dedicated to issues pertaining to the GMS	Alice Pham
August 06-07 2007, Singapore	ASEAN Think Tank Forum organised by the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) jointly with the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic integration and competitiveness; • The human dimensions of security; Issues of the 	Alice Pham

Contd...

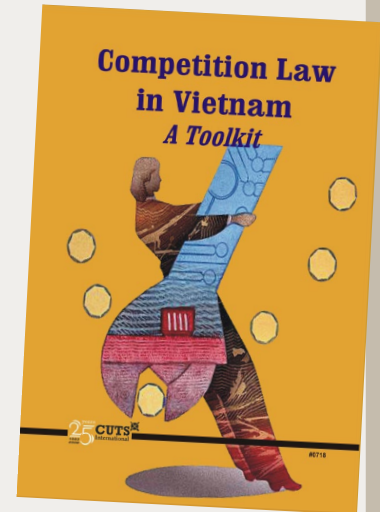
2007-08

Date & Place	Event	Issue	Participant(s)
	Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)	environment, energy and climate change; and Others like: proposed ASEAN Charter and ASEAN Community; and ASEAN's external relations	
August 13, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	International Conference on Needs to Build an Effective Regional Competition Institution	Presentation on 'The role of Civil Society Organisations in Increasing Competition at the Regional level'	Alice Pham
September 21, 2007, Hanoi, Vietnam	National Dialogue on Aid for Trade and Pro-development Integration, organised by the Centre for Development and Integration (CDI), jointly with the Vietnam Asia-Pacific Economic Centre (VAPEC), with support from CUTS International	To exchange views on the effect of trade liberalisation on Vietnam's development path and the country's efforts towards poverty reduction	Alice Pham Le Quyên Thanh Mai
October 27-28, 2007, Singapore	'Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Civil Society Conference 2007' organised by the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), with the endorsement of the ASEAN Secretariat	Conference presented the civil society's views to the ASEAN Summit 2007	Alice Pham
January 13-14, 2008, Khon Kaen, Thailand	Mekong Institute Research Advisory Roundtable Meeting, organised by Mekong Institute with the support of New Zealand's International Aid and Development Agency (NZAID)	Foreign Direct Investment Opportunities, Challenges and Trends in the GMS countries	Alice Pham
February 29, 2008, Hanoi, Vietnam	Launch meeting of the project 'Strengthening the Vietnamese Competition Authorities'.	Presentation on 'Engaging Civil Society to Promote Competition Reforms in Developing Countries'	Pradeep S Mehta Alice Pham Thanh Mai
March 06-07, 2008 Hanoi, Vietnam	The Pre-UNCTAD XII Civil Society Forum		
March 18-20, 2008 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Consumers International's (CI) Asia Pacific Regional Members Meeting	Presentation on Competition & Consumer Protection	Alice Pham

Special Endeavour

Competition Law in Vietnam - A Toolkit

The purpose of this toolkit is to suggest ways to deal with all types of competition abuses. What we have tried to do in this toolkit is look at different types of anticompetitive practices in light of the competition law of Vietnam and juxtapose it with examples from the country and of similar cases from other jurisdictions, in particular from other developing countries. This toolkit is an outcome of the work that CUTS has been doing, specifically to help citizens in Vietnam to appreciate the problems and their solutions in order to promote an orderly market and economic democracy. It is a dynamic issue as the contours of competition practices and their regulation continue to evolve and change over time. It is available both in English as well as Vietnamese language.



Selected CUTS Publications

Books

- Mainstreaming Development in the WTO: *Developing Countries in the Doha Round*
- South Asian Positions in the WTO Doha Round: *In Search of a True Development Agenda Volume 2*
- Trade-Development-Poverty Linkages: Reflections from Selected Asian and Sub-Saharan African Countries *Volume 1 – Country Case Studies*

Research Reports

- Globalisation and Trade Policy: *The GRANITE Advocacy Experience in Four Indian States*
- Competition and Regulation in India, 2007
- From the Bottom Up

Monographs

- Intellectual Property Rights, Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge
- Politics Trumps Economics – Lessons and experiences on competition and regulatory regimes from developing countries
- Consumer Protection Act and the Supreme Court

Advocacy Document

- Strengthening the Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction

Toolkit

- Competition Law in Vietnam: *A Toolkit*

Briefing Papers

- Learning through GRANITE (No 1/2007)
- Globalisation and Inequality: *The Development Rationale* (TDP No 4/2007)
- Financial Compensation in the WTO: *Improving the Remedies of WTO Dispute Settlement* (No 6/2007)
- WTO Doha Round and Special Measures for Less Developed Countries (No 7/2007)
- The WTO Telmex Case – Implications for Vietnam (C-CIER No 1/2007)
- Integrated Framework for Trade Related Assistance: *What is its role in tackling poverty?*
- The Luxury of Forum Shopping in International Trade Disputes: *Problems and Solutions* (No 8/2007)
- Services Trade Negotiations after WTO Hong Kong Ministerial: *A South Asian Perspective* (SAFIT-II 2/2007)
- Preference Erosion and Aid for Trade: *A South Asian Perspective* (SAFIT-II 3/2007)
- Hong Kong Duty-Free Quota-Free Market Access Decision: *Implications for South Asian LDCs* (SAFIT II No 4/2007)
- Negotiations on Non-Tariff Barriers under NAMA: *The Major South Asian Concerns* (SAFIT II No 5/2007)
- Competition Concern in the Fishery Sector in Cambodia (C-CIER No 2/2007)
- Status of Competition and Regulation in India, 2007 (C-CIER No 3/2007)
- Taking the Right Steps: *Competition Administration in Eastern & Southern Africa* (C-CIER No 1/2008)

- Sectoral Regulation – Challenges for the Developing World (RegFrame No 1/2007)
- Trade Openness: The Only Path to Sustainable Growth (TDP No 1/2008)
- Up-scaling Aid for Trade – A Kenya Perspective (TDP No 2/2008)
- Evolution of Service Sector in Zambia towards Greater Trade Orientation: An Overview

Policy Briefs

- COMESA and EPAs: Awkward Bedfellows? (LRC Policy Brief No 1/2007)
- Community-based Ecotourism for Sustainable Tourism Development in the Mekong Region (HRC No 1/2007)
- Review of the Energy Sector Integration in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: *A Focus on the Electricity Sub-Sector* (HRC No 2/2007)
- The Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam (CLV) Development Triangle: *Opportunities, Challenges and Options for Future* (HRC No 3/2007)
- Opportunities for Trade in Services between GMS and India: *Challenges and Options for Future* (HRC No 4/2007)
- Facilitation of trade and investment in the GMS: *What role for whom?* (HRC No 5/2007)
- Border Trade in the GMS: *Ground Realities and Future Options* (HRC No 6/2007)
- Trade Capacity Building and Private Sector Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (HRC No 7/2007)
- Agriculture and Rural Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region: *The Important Nexus* (HRC No 8/2007)
- Banking and Financial System in GMS Countries: *Its Relationship to Economic Development* (HRC No 9/2007)
- IT Trade, Technology Transfer and their Relationship with Economic Development in the GMS: *Ground Realities and Future Options* (HRC No 10/2007)
- Constraints Faced by Competition and Regulatory Agencies (CDRF No 1/2007)
- Competition and Regulatory Regimes in Small & Developing Countries (CDRF No 2/2007)
- Political Economy of Regulation in Electricity Sector in India (CDRF No 3/2007)
- Political Economy Constraints in Competition and Regulatory Regimes (CDRF No 4/2007)
- Efficiency and Effectiveness of Competition and Regulatory Agencies (CDRF No 5/2007)
- Effective Regulatory Regimes – Experiences of India, Kenya and Belgium (CDRF No 6/2007)
- Political Economy of Telecom Regulation in Jamaica (CDRF No 7/2007)
- Financial Services Regulation - Perspectives from Banking in India and Bangladesh (CDRF no 8/2007)

Bill Blow-ups

- The Gram Nyayalayas Bill, 2007

Issue Notes

- Vague & Dodgy Responses: Whither to Go from Here?
- Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in India (No 2/2007)

Trade Law Brief

- The Banana War at the GATT/WTO

Training Manual

- Capacity Building of Indian CSOs on Trade and Globalisation Issues: *A Training Manual*

Annual Accounts 2007-08

Management Report

The management of the CUTS International is responsible for preparing the financial statements, which are in accordance with the auditing standards generally applied in India. These are on a consistent manner and are never overstated or misstated for reasons varying from error to fraud. The financial statement includes amounts that are based on management's best estimates, accuracy and consistency.

The management of CUTS International has formulated and maintains a system of internal discipline by providing the integrity and reliability of the financial statements, the protection of assets from unauthorised use or misuse and prevention of fraudulent financial reporting.

In addition, management administers its responsibility by fostering ethical environment so that the organisation's affairs are carried out according to the highest standards of individual as well organisational regulation. This responsibility is reflected in the organisation's code of conduct, development of a systematic process in compliance with the policies, and open communication in resolving conflicts, if any.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

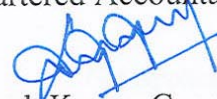
We have examined the Balance Sheet of **CONSUMER UNITY & TRUST SOCIETY, BHASKAR MARG, BANIPARK, JAIPUR** as at 31st March 2008 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the said society.

We have obtained all the information and explanation which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of the audit. In our opinion proper books of accounts have been kept by the society so far as appears from our examinations of the books.

In our opinion and to best of our knowledge, and according to explanations given to us, the said accounts subject to our comments given in the annexed Accounting policies and Notes of accounts- annexed with Balance Sheet, give a true and fair view: -

- (i) In the case of the Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the abovenamed society as at 31 March , 2008 and
- (ii) In the case of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended on 31st March 2008.

For Goyal Dinesh & Associates
Chartered Accountants



Dinesh Kumar Goyal
(Partner)
MN 72959

Place: Jaipur
Dated:

29 JUL 2008




Consumer Unity & Trust Society
Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2008

Figures as at 31.03.2007	Liabilities	Sch.	Figures as at 31.03.2008	Figures as at 31.03.2007	Assets	Sch.	Figures as at 31.03.2008
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.
3040395.50	Corpus Fund B/f		3040395.50	15414396.52	Fixed Assets	D	17481685.95
					<u>Current Assets</u>		
3376676.47	Capital Reserve B/f		3376676.47	17846192.67	Cash & Bank Balance	E	11749903.72
34741877.38	Grants-in-aid	A	39822394.09	10105160.67	Fixed Deposit with Banks		20472212.58
200000.00	Employee Welfare Fund		200000.00	1524423.00	Loans, Advances & Deposits	F	2593658.88
10475093.62	Depreciation Fund	B	11580895.42	6967812.11	Income & Exp. A/c	G	6281300.35
23942.00	Advances	C	558400.00				
51857984.97			58578761.48	51857984.97			58578761.48

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes of accounts - Schedule I

For Consumer Unity & Trust Society


 Secretary


 President

AUDITORS' REPORT

In terms of our report of even date annexed hereto

For Goyal Dinesh & Associates
Chartered Accountants


 Dinesh K Goyal
 Partner
 M N 72959



Jaipur
Dated

129 JUL 2008

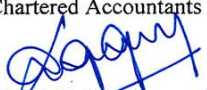
Consumer Unity & Trust Society
Income & Expenditure A/C for the Year ended on 31st March, 2008

Figures for 2006-07	Expenditures	Annex	Figures for 2007-08	Figures for 2006-07	Incomes	Annex	Figures for 2007-08
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.		ex.	Rs.
14033936.00	Salaries & Honorarium	'A'	14768929.90	133561.00	Donations & Contributions		1100.00
11907489.98	Office Costs	'B'	11618864.25	317736.85	Sales of Publications		75049.69
1246298.13	Traning & Networking	'C'	3180331.34	87352146.43	Grant in Aids	'G'	80182331.99
24780825.88	Seminar & Workshop	'D'	23519815.67	238400.38	Interest received		1090733.87
33640279.44	Research & Investigations	'E'	25004826.96	545843.94	Training Fees		542359.00
1743317.00	Publications	'F'	2089563.87	88586.44	Misc. Income		83071.00
982631.05	Depreciation		1105801.80				
341497.56	Excess of Income over Expenditure		686511.76				
88676275.04			81974645.55	88676275.04			81974645.55

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes of accounts - Schedule I

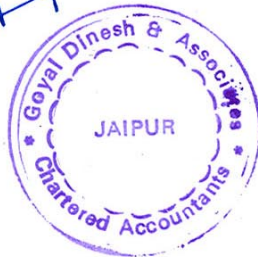
In terms of our report of even date annexed hereto

For Goyal Dinesh & Associates
Chartered Accountants


Dinesh K. Goyal
Partner
MN 72959

Jaipur
Dated

29 JUL 2008



For Consumer Unity & Trust Society


Secretary


President



Consumer Unity & Trust Society

D-217, Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur 302 016, India

Ph: 91-141-228 2821, Fx: 91-141-228 2485

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