



Quarterly BIEAC Project Status Report: July – September 2009

Building an Inclusive East African Community (BIEAC) project third quarter activities included: Awareness raising workshops; advocacy to advance Civil Society Organization's (CSO's) position on EPA issues; Networking with Civil Society Trade Coalitions; and Preparation of Civil Society Position papers.

The above activities were implemented in all the five EAC member states; highlights are as follows:

Burundi

- ADIR the BIEAC project partners in Burundi participated in two EAC-EC EPA negotiations preparatory meetings organized by the National Forum for Development and Trade Policy that were considering proposals for the next dedicated sessions on Development and Economic Cooperation and Market Access. Here they were able to advance CSO's position on the issues.
- A technical group was constituted from among the CSO's to embark on preparation of the CSO's position paper on EPA's.

Kenya

- CUTS-NRC the BIEAC project implementers in Kenya, among other activities in the quarter held a three day awareness raising workshop on: *Perspectives on Standards, Services and the Future of Trading Preferences*. The event was well attended with representatives from the Private Sector; Civil Societies; Trade Consultants; Media and Academia. ([Read Full Report](#)).
- Informal advocacy and networking activities were carried out at the various EPA and Trade related meetings that were attended during the Quarter.

Rwanda

- ACORD the project implementers in Rwanda *Inter alia* carried out the following activities: published Trade Guides on agriculture issues related to the EPA negotiation and disseminated them to CSO's; Media and Government institutions involved in the EPA negotiations.
- Advocacy meetings were held that brought together all stakeholders involved in EPA and EAC integration process.

Uganda

- The two project partners in Uganda SEATINI and DENIVA implemented several activities in the period and these included: an Awareness raising workshop that covered both the state of play in the EPA negotiations and the EAC integration process; Trade guides and Policy briefs were also produced and disseminated to all stakeholders during the period.

Tanzania

- TANGO the project partners in Tanzania, among other activities during the quarter held an awareness raising workshop in Dodoma, aimed at disseminating the EPA process to the ordinary people living up-country while at the same time collecting their views for in-pur in the advocacy activities; Trade guides were also produced and disseminated to all stakeholders.

For more information, contact:

Atul Kaushik, Director, CUTS Geneva Resource Centre
(www.cuts-international.org/grc), at
Email: ak@cuts.org, or phone +41.22.734.6080