

REGIONAL INTEGRATION, TRADE FACILITATION AND GENDER EQUITY FOR AFRICA: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY ACTION



**A one-day workshop
Friday, 1 December 2017**

**Hosted by the Institute for International Trade (IIT), Australia
and the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA)
in Johannesburg at the University of the Witwatersrand**

Supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Institute for International Trade (IIT) acknowledges the support of the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as well as the support of Palladium who facilitated the participation and of the Australia Awards African trade officials in the workshop.

The Institute for International Trade at the University of Adelaide is particularly grateful for the contributions to this report from the guest speakers and panellists who contributed to this workshop as well as the specific contributions to the planning and organisation of this workshop and report from Asmita Parshotam, (SAIIA), Jim Redden (Visiting Fellow to IIT), Chelsea Markowitz (SAIIA) and Talitha Bertelsmann-Scott (SAIIA).

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Abbreviations

CFTA	Continental Free Trade Area
CPTPP	Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership
EAC	East African Community
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EU	European Union
GVC	Global Value Chain
IIT	Institute for International Trade
IP	Intellectual Property
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NTB	Non-Tariff Barrier
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Partnership
REC	Regional Economic Community
RTA	Regional Trade Agreement
SAIIA	South African Institute of International Affairs
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	Small, Medium Enterprise
TF	Trade Facilitation
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement
TFTA	Tripartite Free Trade Area
TIA	Trade Invest Africa
UK	United Kingdom
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
US	United States

Executive Summary

Against a backdrop of global shifts towards trade protectionism away from multilateralism in some countries, particularly in the Western world, it is promising that most African regions continue to embrace increased regional trade and economic integration. Progress on negotiations for the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) and the Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) serve as evidence of African initiatives to embrace more open trade.

However, this does not obfuscate the fact that many behind the border as well as cross-border challenges continue to impede the implementation of African trade agreements. Trade Facilitation (TF) initiatives need increased attention to ensure that continental agreements as well as trade between existing Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are not only effectively implemented but in a way that is inclusive of women, younger people and Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Financing initiatives to improve trade connectivity, essential infrastructure and regional integration remains a major challenge demanding close harmonisation between the trade related development goals of African governments with the efficient use of donor funded Aid for Trade initiatives.

Sponsored by the Australian Government, the Institute for International Trade and the South African Institute of International Affairs co-hosted a one-day workshop: ***'The Challenges of Regional Integration, Trade Facilitation and Gender Equity for Africa,'*** with the purpose of addressing a number of these challenges. The event aimed to provide a forum that articulated the major regional integration challenges confronting African economies, especially concerning gender equity and gender sensitive sustainable development. It sought to address the intersections between regional integration and trade facilitation issues through a gender sensitive lens, focusing on the challenges to inclusive trade related development while also seeking to provide practical solutions.

The panellists, respondents and moderators included a wide range of trade economists and gender experts from UNECA, UNCTAD, South Africa and Australia, as well as government and private sector trade representatives from East and West Africa. Expert input and a highly interactive workshop contributed richly towards addressing contemporary practical challenges and identifying the ways forward.

Workshop policy recommendations and suggested initiatives were divided into three categories:

1. Trade Facilitation and Aid for Trade
2. Gender and Trade Issues
3. Geo-Political implications for African Trade

In the first category, the importance of a continued focus on integrated regional planning between African economies was highlighted particularly in support of more efficient transport corridors and customs reform while building the capacity of SME traders to benefit from trade, for example with trade and customs regulations translated into local languages.

Much of the focus of the trade related gender recommendations was on how best to incorporate gender responsive analysis into the early stages of trade related planning, policy and programme formulation. These included more disaggregated gender analysis on a sectoral basis that takes account of where women work and can potential find jobs in the future. UNCTAD's gender tool kit was put forward as a useful approach for undertaking such analysis while also looking at the impact of potential trade reforms and agreements on women's livelihood. There were also a number of very practical initiatives suggested such as gender responsive reform at cross-border trading posts including the provision of child-care facilities, toilets and improved safety provisions for women. There were interesting suggestions in support of better access to finance for women whereby banking

and financial institutions might consider debt and equity products with a concessional nature for women or provide gender bonds which incentivise investment in women's trade and investment projects.

The complex issues surrounding the changing global geopolitics of trade brought forward a range of precautionary objectives proposing government led planning and consideration of future trade options. For example, it was thought that more consideration needed to be given to a post-AGOA era where reciprocal trade was likely to replace preferential trade and what the implications of this would be for different African economies. Concerns were expressed about the United States President Donald Trump's proposed cuts of about 30 per cent to aid which would impact on Aid for Trade support. The lack of US interest in the region could see countries turn more to other global powers for support. A wait and see approach was recommended but with a proactive engagement strategy with the US as well as with the European Union (EU), China and Russia.

Early planning in support of a new era of trade negotiations with the United Kingdom was seen as important without neglecting the ongoing significance of current EU and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations. Of interest there was discussion of the implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution marked by emerging technology breakthroughs in a number of fields including trade. It was suggested that African economies should seek to focus on the growing value add of services trade, Intellectual Property (IP) regulation and technology transfer wherever possible as issues at the heart of this revolution.

Given the recent political changes that occurred in Zimbabwe, it was suggested that other African nations encourage and support a proactive trade strategy with Zimbabwe and sow the seeds of the possible reintegration of that country into the region. It was acknowledged that this would be a complex process and will take time to progress.

A final recommendation emphasised the importance of a holistic, cross-cutting approach to the issues under discussion whereby for example, Aid for Trade should be utilised to a greater extent to support African trade facilitation and infrastructure development projects infused with gender analysis and gender responsive considerations and strategies to ensure female as well as male traders benefit from trade related economic development.

The suggestions and recommendations are put forward from workshop participants in good faith for African governments, regional trade communities, the private sector and donors – national, regional and multilateral – to consider in support of improved trade connectivity and inclusive African economic development into the future.

All workshop recommendations can be found in more detail at the end of this report.



Opening Session

Ms. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, CEO of SAIIA, opened the day by emphasising the importance of the day's topics of trade, gender and regional integration to both Sub-Saharan Africa and globally. She highlighted the longstanding relationship between SAIIA, IIT and the Australian High Commission and SAIIA's appreciation to co-host joint workshops over the last three years.

Mr. Jim Redden, of the Institute for International Trade at the University of Adelaide, gave a brief overview of the context and background for the day's event. He started his presentation by highlighting some of the unique challenges that Africa faces in regional integration, including inherited colonial borders, "thick borders" (in terms of the ease and efficiency of transporting goods across borders), and the large size of the continent. He also noted global geopolitical trends such as President Trump's move to a more narrower, protectionist view of trade, the significance of Brexit in terms of implications for regional economic communities and how the increasing influence of China and Russia will impact on the future of trade for African nations. Mr. Redden noted the importance of maintaining a broad scope for today's workshop, to consider both global and regional value chains, and also to adopt a broad definition of trade facilitation, extending beyond technical issues at the border to include capacity building to assist small traders to benefit from cross-border trading. Mr. Redden ended with the overarching point that all of today's discussions must link back to the ultimate objective of inclusive growth for Africa and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

His Excellency Adam McCarthy, the Australian High Commissioner to South Africa, continued the discussion by providing evidence of the importance of free trade to growth and development. He offered the example of his own country, which after opening its borders to free trade has relied on trade for 40% of its GDP, and is a strong supporter of FTAs (including emerging multilateral agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Australia is enjoying its 26th straight year of growth and the longest stretch for any country without economic recession, making the case for liberal trade in a time of uncertainty and protectionist tendencies. He noted that the Southern African Development Community (SADC) provided a good example of a more open, cohesive and effective trade regime in Africa. He thanked IIT and SAIIA for organising the workshop and noted that the Australian Government would take careful note of the outcomes and recommendations from the workshop.



(From left) Jim Redden, Institute for International Trade, Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, South African Institute of International Affairs and Adam McCarthy, the Australian High Commissioner to South Africa.

Objective of the Workshop

The key objective of the workshop was to provide a forum that identifies contemporary regional integration challenges confronting African economies in the current global trade climate and identify ways in which trade facilitation and aid for trade can provide opportunities and ways forward for gender sensitive sustainable development.

Recommendations emerging from the workshop will be shared with national governments, regional economic communities, development organisations in Africa and international/multilateral institutions as a basis for informing future strategies aimed at improving regional integration through enhancing trade facilitation, aid for trade and gender considerations.

Summary of Presentations

Keynote Address

Keynote Speaker: Peter Draper, Managing Director of Tutwa Consulting Group



Peter Draper speaking on risks to the global trading system

Mr. Peter Draper gave a broad but comprehensive introduction to the geopolitics which is affecting the African region's integration. It is necessary to consider these broader forces in order to better respond with appropriate policy measures.

Mr. Draper's presentation first gave a brief global geopolitical history, emphasising the role of the US in the foundation of the current neoliberal order. However, after the financial crisis in 2008, the consensus on Western capitalism as an economic model is now being challenged, not only with Trump's presidency, but also as a result of Brexit and the rise of China's alternative economic model. With these recent global dynamics, issues such as the need for policy space and the debate on who sets the rules of engagement for trade have become more prominent. US President Trump, from the Jacksonian tradition, has introduced non-traditional tactics into the global economic policy space, such as a preoccupation with trade balances and the use of trade as a foreign policy tool to engage with China.

While these global ideological shifts could impact on Africa, some believe the region is generally peripheral to these global dynamics. However, President Trump's preference for bilateral over multilateral agreements could pose a threat to African countries, who risk being left behind in this new dynamic. A question that is prominent in African countries and the West is the effect of liberal trade on inequality. The answer is difficult to ascertain definitively, as many dynamics can impact inequality concurrently such as growth, technology, structural change and political economy issues.

In terms of Africa's own path towards regional integration, Mr. Draper stressed the concurrent importance of regional integration and global integration through investment. He indicated the importance of "gateway countries" (regional investment hubs such as South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya) in linking global to regional value chains.

Another approach for African integration could be the “flying geese” model. This model posits that more industrialised nations serve as coordinating centres of global value chains (GVCs) and expand aspects of their production into developing countries due to various advantages such as labour cost. The prime example is Japan’s expansion of value chains into other Asian countries. While certain countries like Ethiopia are beginning to show signs of integration into this model in industries such as textiles, it is still uncertain whether this phenomenon will have significant reach on the continent. Mr. Draper detailed a debate between two approaches to encourage investment from these lead firms into Africa to form GVCs. The first approach maintains that changing perceptions of Africa to that of an attractive investment destination is paramount. This approach posits that countries should drive investment through strong and reliable institutions, relaxed rules of origin and investment protection legislation, which will attract investors through reduced risk and ease of doing business. The second approach argues that investment protection measures are not enough to ensure economic growth from GVCs, and it advocates for stricter conditionalities in investment legislation and import protection to ensure greater domestic policy space and economic spill-overs (even at the expense of driving some investors away).

Regardless of which method is adopted with regards to investment and global value chains, Mr. Draper emphasised that at the regional level, RECs could adopt a “lighter” approach to integration, focusing on trade facilitation and infrastructure connectivity first, rather than full institutional integration (i.e. EU-like monetary union). He ended with an important question for consideration on how new technological developments, often referred to as the “4th Industrial Revolution,” will affect the current models of regional integration and development in Africa.

Respondent: David Eggleston, the First Secretary (Trade and Economic) at the Australian High Commission and Australian Business Chamber of Commerce (Southern Chamber)

Mr. David Eggleston used this opportunity to present information on the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), which some but not all African countries have ratified, in furthering regional integration agendas on the continent. In Australia, the TFA process has helped to provide a forum for the business and government engagement that is necessary to detect behind-the-border trade barriers. He expressed hope that national committees established by the TFA will gain legitimacy over time and be able to hold governments to account on trade facilitation issues. He also indicated how the TFA can assist with two primary objectives of the workshop; gender and regional integration. The TFA will provide market information so that small traders and women with less capacity and resources will be able to better understand the requirements to trade in different markets. There is also potential for the national committees to be convened and organised at a regional level to ensure that the TFA contributes to existing regional initiatives.

Session Two: Trade Facilitation and Regional Integration: Challenges and Ways Forward



(From left) Connie Namutebi, Lerato Mataboge, Gilbert Mpipani, Adelia van Rensburg (facilitator), and Komi Tsowou

Komi Tsowou: Economist at the Regional Integration and Trade Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa.

Mr. Komi Tsowou's presentation focused on UNECA's 5 key pillars which are integral to enhanced African regional integration. The first pillar is trade and market integration, which includes the elimination of tariffs and non-tariff barriers (NTBs), and thus touches on the critical workshop theme of trade facilitation. The second pillar is the free movement of people. Both of these issues are addressed within the CFTA, which seeks to broaden regional markets to encompass the whole continent and allow free movement of businesspersons across the continent as well. However, a major challenge to reaping the benefits of these developments is that productive capacities in much of the region are still very low.

The third is macroeconomic policy convergence, which aims to create financial and monetary integration with an "African Economic Union" by 2028. These reforms are especially important so that in negotiating new agreements, for example with the UK, countries negotiate as regional bloc rather than individually, which reinforces former colonial trade relations. The fourth pillar is peace, security, stability and governance, which is often a necessary foundation to drive economic growth. The fifth pillar, the harmonization of sector policies, is crucially important and often overlooked. If a region is attempting to promote regional linkages in certain industries, it is important that all countries involved have the relevant sectoral policies so that, for example, if a region is trying to develop an indigenous furniture industry based on locally-sourced timber, one country does not allow imports of timber which would then threaten this value chain.

Mr. Tsowou also highlighted the importance of considering women in the above dynamics. The majority of women are still trapped in low wage subsistence agriculture activities, with low participation in industrial work which has the greater potential for profit and upward mobility. For women traders, Mr. Tsowou highlighted the challenges faced at borders in terms of lack of information and harassment. However, trade facilitation efforts can and must integrate women's issues to address these challenges, for example through more e-customs procedures that can reduce the time women

must spend at borders. UNECA has now enacted a simulation of the potential impacts of the CFTA on women and Mr. Tsouwou stressed the importance of also including gender specific provisions in the final agreement.

Africa Awards Trade Officials Presentation

Twenty one trade officials from across Africa had just completed an intensive trade policy course with the Institute for International Trade in Cape Town. Two of their representatives, Mrs. Connie Namutebi, from the Ministry of Trade in Uganda along with Mr. Gilbert Mbipan, from the Ministry of Trade in Cameroon, presented a summary of key trade facilitation and gender inclusive challenges and ways forward, on behalf of all the trade officials.

Mr. Mbipan started with analysis of regional integration by the African RECs, using the UNECA Regional Integration index. Each REC's overall progress on regional integration was computed based on an average of integration in five categories: trade integration, regional infrastructure, productive integration, free movement of people, and financial and economic integration. The average score among all of the RECs score is 0.47 (out of 1), indicating much room for improvement on the continent. Overall, RECs are performing the best on trade integration, and worst on macroeconomic and financial integration. Some of the biggest overarching challenges are overlapping REC membership (which the TFTA and CFTA seek to iron out), governance of RECs and the general willingness to subordinate national imperatives to regional ones in certain aspects of trade. Another prominent challenge is the reliance on tariffs for national revenue, which can conflict with the drive for their removal within regions.

Mrs. Connie Namutembi delved into more detail on trade facilitation and gender issues. There still exist tangible challenges at borders that can easily be rectified, such as uncoordinated working hours at the different sides of a border (i.e. different time zones, or some borders are open 24 hours while others are not). On the topic of gender, there are many complex structural issues which must receive more attention. These include the expectations that women should now be more integrated into the economy and trade, but still shoulder all the burden of unpaid responsibilities at home. Additionally, the financial packages offered to women require some form of collateral, which poses a challenge for most women as they cannot own land, either legally or due to tradition in their communities. It is especially important to collect more gender disaggregated data so that the challenges facing women are documented and support women's associations and lobbies so that collective personal accounts can be heard on important stages.

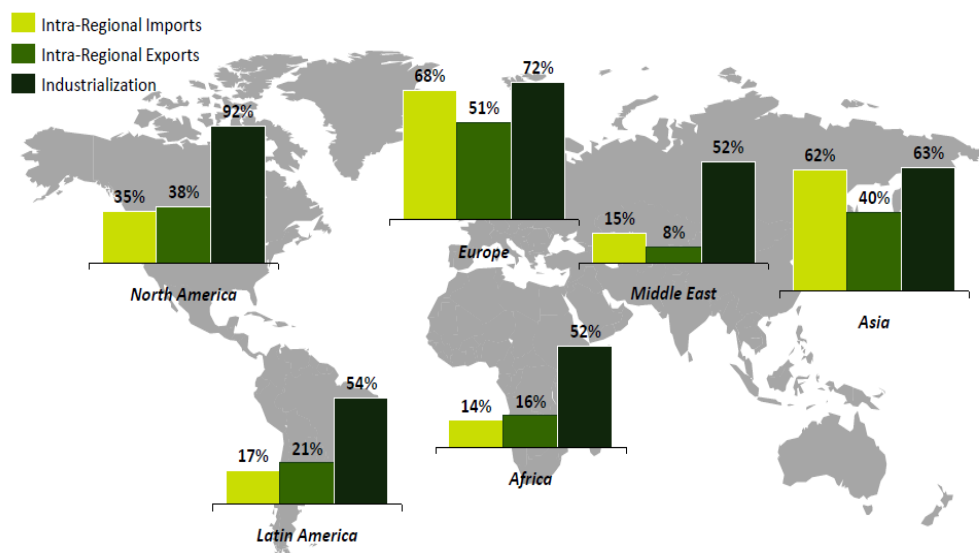


Some of the African trade official awardees in attendance at the workshop.

Lerato Mataboge: Head of Trade Invest Africa, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), South Africa

Ms. Mataboge began her presentation by outlining South Africa's approach to both regional and global integration. According to Ms. Mataboge, the strategy must go beyond institutional arrangements, as the continent faces serious supply-side constraints. The DTI's approach to addressing these challenges is three pronged. The first aspect is infrastructure development, and particularly new cross-border infrastructure, given the current infrastructure was built to serve colonial extraction purposes. The second aspect is industrial development and the general investment in manufacturing capacity in the region. The third aspect is market integration. While the RECs have made progress in eliminating tariffs, the real challenges lie in existing NTBs thus reinforcing the importance of trade facilitation in this workshop. Another point that Ms. Mataboge emphasised is that African countries do not buy from each other and there is mistrust in the quality of goods regionally, even when perception does not equate to reality.

Share of Intra-Regional Trade by and Levels of Industrialisation



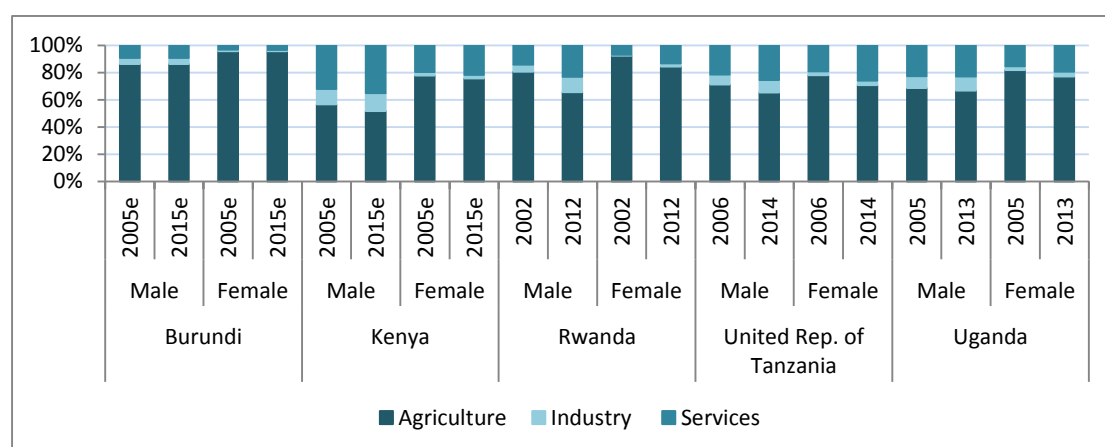
Ms. Mataboge then explained the purpose of the department that she heads, Trade Invest Africa (TIA). TIA supports South Africa's investment-led approach to regional integration on the continent, specifically through linking the South African government and private sector. TIA offers financial support for companies invested in South Africa (whether foreign or domestic) interested in expanding their investments into the region. It also offers support with market access, through business missions and government to government interactions. The last major offering of TIA is market information and intelligence in the region. TIA can potentially serve as a key institution to support the investment-led approaches to regional integration detailed earlier by Mr. Draper.

Session Three: Regional Integration, Aid for Trade and Gender Equity

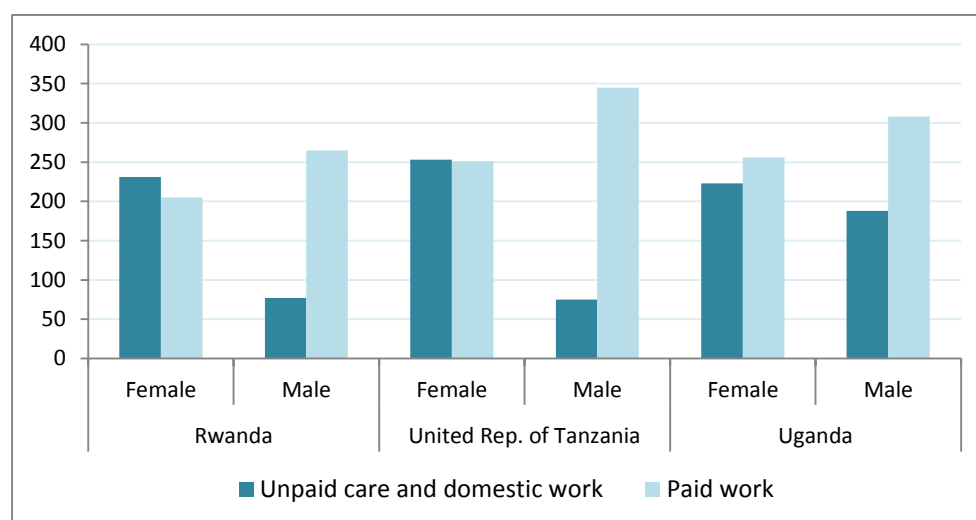
Dr. Nursel Aydiner-Avsar: Economist, Trade, Gender and Development Programme, UNCTAD.

Dr. Aydiner-Avsar focused her presentation on the various tools which UNCTAD has developed to assess gender impacts from trade and development. UNCTAD employs both ex-post and ex-ante assessments of trade reforms, as well as capacity building courses, and workshops to raise awareness. Dr. Aydiner-Avsar shared some findings from an ex-post study conducted on trade and gender in the East African Community (EAC). The study found gender parity in primary education but a gap in secondary and higher education and that the general shift towards services and industry has not been accompanied by higher employment for women, who are still mainly concentrated in agricultural or low-value subsectors of services and industry (validating statements made by Mr. Tsowou). Additionally, women have lower wages, higher informal employment, spend more time on unpaid work and have lower formal credit usage than men (validating statements made by Mrs. Namutembi). While women's political representation is increasing, female representation is still lagging behind in the private sector.

Composition of male and female employment by work status (per cent shares)

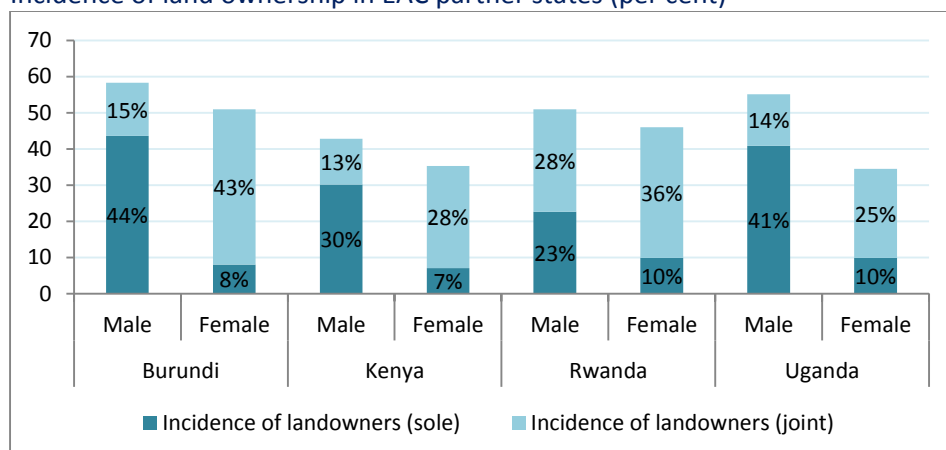


Time-use patterns in EAC partner states (minutes per day)



Source: UN Women (2016).

Incidence of land ownership in EAC partner states (per cent)



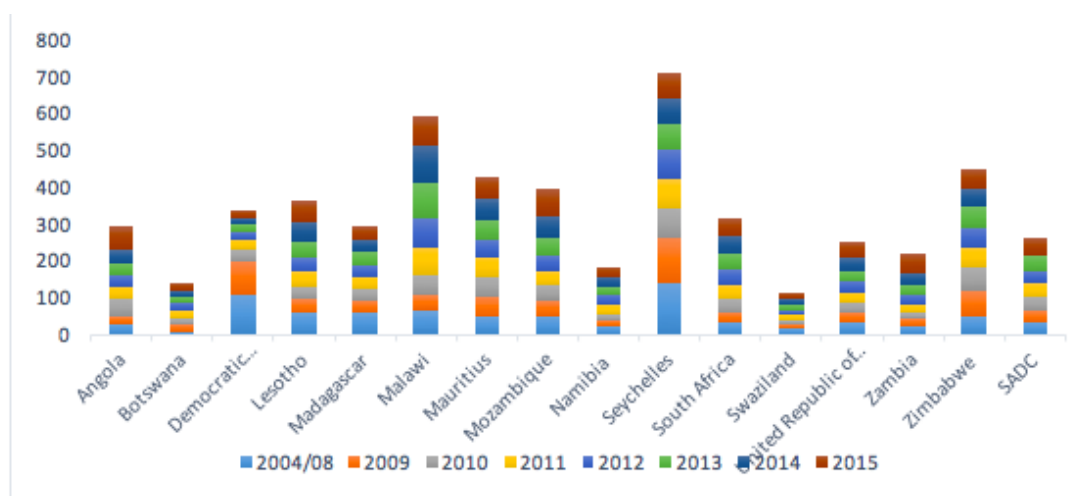
Source: World Bank Gender Statistics database (accessed in February 2017).

Dr. Aydiner-Avsar then discussed UNCTAD's ex-ante "trade and gender toolbox," which is the first mechanism designed to anticipate the impact of trade reforms on women before they are implemented. The toolbox aims to inform adjustment in trade policies before they are set in stone, making gender sensitive reforms easier. The toolbox combines in-depth contextual analysis of a case country's economy and existing gender equalities, with a quantitative analysis of predicted impacts on gender reforms, accompanied by a monitoring framework. This toolbox was tested using the case of the impact of Kenya's EPA on women.

Dr. Michele Ruiters: Strategy and Knowledge Management: Regional Specialist at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Dr. Ruiters began her presentation by raising the important question of how we can better quantify women's work (which often goes unpaid and/or not formally recognised) in a manner which does not detract from innovation of the informal sector. An important intervention to better recognise gender dynamics is to ensure that gender is mainstreamed; i.e. in economic research, gender must not only be included as a separate chapter, but its impacts should be analysed within all chapters of a report. Dr. Ruiters warned of global dynamics which pose challenges for gender inclusiveness, including large government wage bills and increasing public debt which will cause social spending to decrease, while at the same time populations in Africa are growing rapidly.

SADC Government Debt (GDP percent)



Source: UNECA, Statistics from the IMF World Economic Outlook 2016

The bulk of Dr. Ruiters' presentation delved into opportunities for women in two sectors: renewable energy and textiles. Renewable energy presents opportunities because the space is new and undeveloped, so there are not existing gender disparities which must be undone. This creates greater opportunities for women-owned companies, which development and even commercial banks are actively looking to support. In contrast, the clothing and apparel industry offers opportunities precisely because a great percentage of women are already employed throughout the value chain. This creates opportunities to design policies for women in higher value-add positions, to reverse the trend of feminising poverty (currently, for example, women are employed more frequently low wage positions such as cotton farming). Dr. Ruiters ended by stressing the importance of strategic, carefully planned approaches to choosing sectors and policies in these types of interventions.

The above presentations spanned a diversity of topics within the broad theme of promoting greater regional integration, including trade facilitation, gender inclusiveness and greater geopolitical trends. The presentations also contained many intersections, which presents opportunities for the development of cross-sectional policies which cover a range of important issues. The final session brought together the information from the day's presentations to end with specific policy recommendations.

Summary of Recommendations

The following table details specific policy recommendations derived from breakaway discussions on three topics: trade facilitation/Aid for Trade, gender and trade, and geopolitical implications for Africa. The table is supplemented by recommendations from the various presentations throughout the day.

Theme	Area of intervention	Recommended Actions	Responsible Entities
Trade Facilitation and Aid for trade	Infrastructure	-More integrated coordination of regional infrastructure	-High level government officials -Infrastructure departments -RECs -Corridor officials
	Infrastructure	-Capacity building to plan and source funding for transport corridors	-Technical assistants/consultants in project design and planning -Government finance/infrastructure technocrats
	Border TF	-Form associations and cooperatives to build the capacity of traders at borders to negotiate and process paperwork (help to mitigate harassment).	-Small traders, SMEs -NGOs -Government support -Donor aid for trade
	Border TF	- capacity building for customs reforms -Need to delineate who is responsible or has authority over enforcement of different procedures -Prioritise automation of customs procedures at borders that link to cross-border infrastructure -Provide translation of customs procedures into local languages	-Government finance/infrastructure technocrats -Corridors officials -Customs officials -IT/technical experts
	Local private sector integration	-Make the private sector more competitive through training for new and emerging SMEs wanting to undertake cross-border trade	-Border/customs officials -Identified SMMEs who desire to trade cross-border -technical assistants/donors/NGOs

		-Also extend training to IT, digital technologies to take advantage of TF	from TFA and Aid for Trade -Education department
	Local private sector integration	-Provide accessible information to traders on sustainability standards -Work towards long-term goal of harmonising standards across borders	-National and REC standards bodies -Donor support through Aid For Trade) -SMMEs
Gender and Trade Issues	Data Collection	-Promote gender disaggregated data as part of national policy formulation -develop regional standards or framework for gender benchmarks for example using the UNCTAD gender tool kit -Aid for Trade to support responsible entities & above initiatives	-Bureaus of statistics in each country, trade ministries and ministries for women's affairs -Women's associations -Supportive agencies such as UNCTAD and UNECA
	Employment	-Focus interventions on sectors with majority women workers, creating higher value add opportunities -Initiatives to raise women's employment in managerial positions	-Industry associations -Women's associations -Development banks -Local NGOs -Supportive international agencies
	Employment	-Promotion of entrepreneurship and start-ups for women	-Banks -Industry associations -Women's associations -Local NGOs -International agencies
	Access to Finance	-Programmes to transform customs on women's land ownership	-Donors/NGOs -Local government -Community members (particularly men)
	Access to Finance	-Create gender responsive investment products (gender bonds, social impact bonds, equity and debt products with concessionary terms)	-Development banks and other finance institutions -International institutions/NGOs
	Border Policy	-Provide more supportive facilities for women traders and SMEs for example through childcare	-Border/customs officials -Donors (Aid for Trade) -Women's associations -supportive international agencies

		facilities, safe accommodation at borders, cold storage	
	Trade Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Include gender in FTA provisions -Enhance capacity building initiatives -Conduct gender value chain analyses -Conduct ex-ante gender impact assessment of trade reforms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Researchers/economists -Trade policymakers/negotiators -Gender expert consultants
	Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Allow budget for gender sensitive training in ministries (finance, trade, planning etc.) -Provide training for women in SMEs to assist their ability to engage in trade and meet customs and standards requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministries, women's advocacy groups, technical advisors -Donor funded aid for trade programs
Geopolitical Implications for African trade	Zimbabwe's global trade reintegration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Needs support for a proactive trade strategy -Possible reintegration into the region through SADC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Zimbabwean trade officials -Regional policy researchers -Other African countries can play a supportive role
	The future of preferences (considering future end of AGOA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Open question that needs further consideration. - Need to consider possible reciprocal agreements, but won't be attractive or feasible for every country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Policy researchers, academics, African trade officials/negotiators
	US potential cuts to aid for trade	Monitor US policy in this area and engage with US on serious impact of cuts for Africa while also engaging with other global powers such as the EU, Russia and China re Aid for Trade and Africa's infrastructure needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Policy researchers, academics, African trade officials/negotiators -African embassies and diplomats abroad
	4 th Industrial Revolution	-Need to discuss this issue more seriously at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Policy researchers -Trade officials

		policy dialogues (while still balancing with pressing developmental concerns in the region) -Need to consider services, IP regulation as issues at the heart of the 4 th Industrial Revolution	-Industry
	How to engage with the UK post-BREXIT	-Need to begin planning possible future trade agreements with the UK -Possible interim preference scheme	-African trade officials -UK trade officials -REC officials -policy researchers
	Future of Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)	-Focus more on infrastructure, trade facilitation and use of preferential trade agreements over customs and monetary unions	
	Cross-cutting gender, regional integration, trade facilitation	-Need to ensure cross-cutting nature of interventions. For example, Aid for trade should target TF projects with high potential for regional integration, while including gender responsive strategies	-Governments -RECs -Donors -Trade officials Women's groups

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For any further information or feedback on this report and its recommendations please contact one of the following authors:

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Appendix 1: Workshop Programme

8.30am Registration

9.00am Welcome and Overview of the Workshop Program

- ***Jim Redden, Institute for International Trade, University of Adelaide***
- ***Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive Officer, the South African Institute of International Affairs***

9.15am Welcome from the Australian Government

H.E. Adam McCarthy, Australian High Commissioner to South Africa

9.30am SESSION ONE: Keynote Address

Chair: Senior African Awards trade official

Keynote speaker: Peter Draper Managing Director of Tutwa Consulting Group

“Implications of the new global trade environment for regional integration across Africa”

Respondent: David Eggleston, the First Secretary (Trade and Economic) at the Australian High Commission and Australian Business Chamber of Commerce (Southern Chamber)

Question and answer session

11am SESSION TWO: Trade Facilitation and Regional Integration: Challenges and Ways Forward

Chair: Dr. Adelia van Rensburg, PhD Candidate at North West University and former official at Southern African Customs Union (SACU)

Panel of speakers:

Lerato Mataboge: current Head of Trade Invest Africa, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), South Africa.

Africa Awards Trade Officials Presentation: Presentation on the role of aid for trade in addressing trade facilitation and regional integration issues in Africa

Komi Tsowou: Economist at the Regional Integration and Trade Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa.

Question and answer session

1pm – 2pm Lunch

2.00pm SESSION THREE: Regional Integration, Aid for Trade and Gender Equity

Chair: Catherine Grant Makokera, Senior Consultant and Director at Tutwa Consulting Group.

Panel of speakers:

Dr. Nursel Aydinler-Avsar: Economist, Trade, Gender and Development Programme, UNCTAD.

Dr. Michele Ruiters: Strategy and Knowledge Management: Regional Specialist at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Question and answer session

Participants divide into groups to discuss challenges and ways forward

3.45pm SESSION FOUR: Final Plenary and Summary

Facilitators: Jim Redden and an African Awards trade official

Divided into groups with each group to identify 3 key policy issues, with recommendations or strategies to address these issues.

Summary: Chelsea Markowitz

5pm Close

7pm Certificate Dinner for African Awardees: Wanderers Club in Illovo