



Strengthening Africa in World Trade

**SOUTHERN AND EASTERN AFRICA TRADE, INFORMATION
AND NEGOTIATIONS INSTITUTE (SEATINI) UGANDA**



ANNUAL REPORT 2013



Table of Contents

List of Acronyms	2
Message from the Executive Director	
Ambassador Nathan Irumba	3
Message from the Country Director,	
Ms. Jane Nalunga	4
1.0 Programme Highlights of 2013.....	5
Petition on Promotion of Sustainable Development through Investment	5
Media awards	5
Participation in the 9th WTO ministerial conference in Bali	5
SEATINI addresses the UN Assembly	5
2.0 SEATINI-the organization	6
SEATINI Uganda's Broad Objectives	7
3.0 Programme Implementation	8
3.1 Trade and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	8
3.2 Influencing bilateral trade negotiations and multilateral system	10
3.3 Regional Integration Highlights	14
3.4 Financing for development/ Tax justice	16
4.0 Research and Publication.....	19
4.1 Institutional Development	22
4.2 Governance	22
4.3 Partnerships and Networks	22
5.0 Financial Report Summary	23
5.1 Members of Staff	23

List of Acronyms

AAIU	Action Aid International Uganda
AGOA	Africa Growth and Opportunity Act
ARIPO	Africa Regional intellectual Property Organization
ATN	Africa Trade Network
CAN-U	Climate Change Network Uganda
CRAFT	Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair Taxation
CSCO	Civil Society Coalition Oil
DCOs	District Commercial Officers
EAC	East African Community
EACSO	East Africa Civil Society Forum
EALA	East Africa Legislative Assembly
EPAs	Economic Partnership Agreements
ESCR	Economic Social and Cultural Rights
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FRA	Food Rights Alliance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMOs	Genetically Modified organisms
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture
MEACA	Ministry of the East African Community Affairs Animal Industry and Fisheries
NARO	National Agriculture Research Organisation
OWINFS	Our World is Not for Sale
PVP	Plant Variety Protection
SEATINI	Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Institute
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TIP	Trade and Investment Partnership
TIPA	Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement
TJN-A	Tax Justice Network Africa
TMEA	Trademark East Africa
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property
UNCST	Uganda National Council on Science and Technology
ULA	Uganda Land Alliance
WTO	World Trade Organization
VAT	Value Added Tax



Message from the Executive Director

Ambassador Nathan Irumba

The year 2013 saw African Union celebrating its 50th anniversary. The anniversary is expected to facilitate and celebrate African narratives of past, present and future that will enthuse and energize the African population to use their constructive energy to accelerate a forward looking agenda of Pan-Africanism and renaissance in the 21st century. It provides a unique opportunity and comes at a moment when there is a new narrative of “Africa is on the rise” and must therefore build its confidence in its future. This should not lull into complacency as much of Africa’s growth is jobless growth propelled by reliance on production and export of primary commodity and is marked with youth unemployment.

2013, was marked with a lot of challenges such as Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), World Trade Organization(WTO) Impasse and the global economic crisis. However, SEATINI continued to advocate for Africa’s trade issues as well as create a platform for these issues to be discussed by the public.

SEATINI continued to sensitize the public on the implications of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). We advocated for a revisit of the overall objectives of the negotiations and highlighted the dangers of concluding the EPAs without addressing the contentious issues such as Rendezvous clause, export taxes, agricultural subsidies that farmers in the EU benefit from and

non trade issues. While we appreciate that some of our issues have been put on board, some are still left out and will jeopardize the region’s Sustainable Development in case the EPAs negotiations are concluded without addressing them.

We have also done recommendable work under the tax justice in relation to resource mobilization. If we are to avoid aid dependency, it’s critical that people are sensitized to pay tax. This tax should also be well utilized to ensure that the tax payers see the benefits.

On the campaign against Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), Africa has become a new frontier for the proponents of GMOs. We need to be careful by looking at the pros and the consequences before we embrace them due to their implication on food sovereignty. SEATINI has been at the forefront of the campaign against GMOs. We have carried out useful work in creating public awareness about the effects of GMOs.

As I conclude, I take this opportunity to thank our development partners, and our entire stakeholders for the invaluable support that has enabled SEATINI to effectively execute its mandate of strengthening Africa in World trade. To the board and staff, thank you for the commitment you exhibited during the year.



Message from the Country Director,

Ms. Jane Nalunga

It is with great pleasure to once again share with you our annual report for the year 2013. 2013 marked the first year in the implementation of our three year strategic plan, which focuses on implementing programmes in the areas of Trade and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR), Regional Integration, Financing for Development and Institutional Development.

SEATINI Uganda continued to work closely with its stakeholders and NGOs that work on issues of trade, taxation and development in order to link our advocacy at the international level to people's day to day life/challenges.

Under the trade economic, social and cultural rights program, a lot of work was done on the campaign against the GMOs and the Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill. Because of the awareness created, SEATINI together with other CSOs, was allegedly identified by National Agricultural Research organization as working against government programmes. But this did not stop us from continuing with the campaign against GMOs and the passing of the Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill. As a result, our campaign proved success when the MPs adopted our positions during the plenary discussion and this led to the sending back of the bill to the grass root for more consultations.

Due to the wide scope of issues under trade economic, social and cultural rights, most of the interventions under Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations and Trade and Investment were handled and implemented as a fully fledged programme on Bilateral and Multilateral Negotiations. SEATINI made strides in its advocacy work on EAC-EU EPA negotiations when its statements and recommendations especially regarding the contentious issues such as the Duties and Taxes on Exports, Domestic Support, Most Favored Nation, Non Execution Clause; Rules of Origin were adapted by the EAC during the negotiations.

Our advocacy on EPAs continues in 2014 since the

negotiations have not yet come to conclusion. We shall continue to engage the policy makers and technical people nationally and regionally to ensure that the outcome of the EPA negotiations is for the development of the EAC region.

Another area of work was Financing for Development/ Tax Justice Programme. We continued to implement the Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair Taxation (CRAFT) Project and the Tax Incentives project. Through Research, Training, Policy Advocacy, Awareness campaigns, coalition and alliance building and networking, the programme made significant strides in mobilizing communities to promote taxation as a sustainable tool for development.

Under Regional Integration, SEATINI continued to participate and closely monitor the Regional integration processes under the overall objective "Promote effective stakeholder engagement in the EAC regional integration processes". The program implementation included analyzing developments and developing positions, mobilizing stakeholder views and input into the processes, awareness creation through use of the media and research into key issues that impact on the integration process.

At the regional and continental level, we worked with EALA and other regional bodies /platforms such as East African Civil Society Forum (EACSOF), Tax Justice Network Africa (TJN-A), Africa Trade Network (ATN) and Our World is Not for Sale (OWINFS) to share information, awareness creation and lobbying on a number of issues.

As we continue to work towards strengthening Africa in world trade, we offer our heartfelt appreciation to our development partners whose support have gone a long way in ensuring that our advocacy work on issues of trade taxation and developments is a success. I must sincerely thank the Board members led by Mr. Ndebesa Mwambutsya and the staff for the commitment to the organization.



1.0 Programme Highlights of 2013

Petition on Promotion of Sustainable Development through Investment

SEATINI Uganda in partnership with other Civil Society Organizations presented a petition to the Speaker of the Uganda Parliament (Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga), petition entitled *"Promoting Sustainable Development through Investment: Rethinking the EAC-US Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement"*. The petition aimed at expressing CSOs concerns on the progress and direction of the EAC-US TIP negotiations with a calling to the Members of Parliament to ensure that the interests of the nation are protected and promoted in the TIPA negotiations. This would lead to achieving of a win-win situation whereby there is a balance between the rights and obligations of both the investors and the host countries.

Media awards

Six business journalists were recognized by SEATINI Uganda for their contributions to Promoting Taxation as a tool for Development. The awarding ceremony was held at Hotel Africana. The awards also aimed at popularizing tax as a viable and sustainable source of financing development.

Participation in the 9th WTO ministerial conference in Bali

SEATINI was part of Uganda's official delegation to participate in the 9th Ministerial Conference in Bali Indonesia which aimed at streamlining trade, allowing developing countries more options for providing food security, boosting least-developed countries' trade and helping development more generally. They also adopted a number of more routine decisions and accepted Yemen as a new member of the WTO.

SEATINI addresses the UN Assembly

SEATINI addressed the UN Assembly and was able to raise issues of Trade and sustainable development. This was as a result of the UN-Non Governmental Liaison Service Post-2015 Civil Society Consultation for the UN Secretary-General, UN General Assembly, and the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals that saw SEATINI's submission being selected among the best. As a result the Country Director was invited to make a presentation at the UN General Assembly.



2.0 SEATINI-the organization

Founded in 2001, the Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI Uganda) is part of a regional non-governmental organization called SEATINI that was founded in 1996 soon after the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference. This was after realizing that Africa in particular and Third World countries in general were marginalized in the WTO negotiations and other global processes. Government's capacity to negotiate was limited and the participation of other stakeholders' i.e. private sector, CSOs, MPs was very minimal. The civil society's understanding of the complexities of the international regime was also limited. Civil society was also largely excluded from the trade negotiations and decision-making both at home and in international fora. The private sector was not adequately informed about the challenges of globalization and its effects on multilateral trading regime and thus narrowing their participation. The role of the Parliamentarians was also on the periphery.

Vision

A strong and confident Africa committed to pursuing and defending the interests, rights and aspirations of its people at all levels.

Mission

To strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders i.e. the Media, CSOs, government officials, Members of Parliament, farmers groups, trade unions to take a more effective part in and influence global, regional and national trade and trade related processes and better manage the process of globalization for sustainable development and improved livelihoods.

Values

SEATINI Uganda thrives as an independent, people-centered non-profit seeking organisation driven by the values of openness, transparency, integrity and non-violence, working with diligence towards greater justice and equity. We abide by the following principles in letter and in spirit. Commitment to:

- Human justice, democracy and fairness.
- people-centered development
- A Rights Based Approach to development.
- a search for alternatives to the contemporary mainstream neo-liberal model of globalization

- Non-partisan professional, non-racist, non-sexist and independent position in relation to national and global issues
- Non-profit seeking and non-exploitative work ethics within SEATINI Uganda
- regional and continental unity

SEATINI Uganda's Broad Objectives

SEATINI Uganda seeks to:

- Monitor developments in the area of trade –related matters to ensure that these processes generate favorable rules and environment which can be utilized to achieve equitable and sustainable development in East and Southern Africa in particular and the continent in general.
- To provide a platform for stakeholders to deliberate on global, regional and national issues with a view of developing a consensus.
- Contribute to build long term capacity of

Eastern and Southern African countries in particular and Africa in general in trade – related matters.

- Raise awareness, build capacities and bring into discourse the concerns of other key stakeholders i.e. Members of Parliament, Trade unions, Farmers' groups, women's groups, the youth, and civil society movements into trade-related matters.

In order to ensure that the above objectives are achieved, in our strategic plan 2013-2015, SEATINI Uganda decided do work in the following programmes areas:

- Trade and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)
- Influencing Bilateral Trade Negotiation and Multilateral Trading Systems
- Regional Integration
- Financing for Development
- Institutional Development



3.0 Programme Implementation

This was the first year of implementing the 3 year strategic plan with several changes made within the programme areas. SEATINI focused all her programme areas on linking and addressing issues from the local to the global level. As a result the different programme areas have had a stronger link to the grassroots and developed positions more strongly informed and championed at the grassroots level.

In order to effectively tackle some of the pertinent trade issues especially at the multilateral and Bilateral level, the organisation has realised the need to further refine the strategic plan and added a new programme area on “influencing

bilateral trade negotiations and multilateral trading systems” which specifically tackles issues of Investment, Bilateral Trade Negotiations and Multilateral Trading Systems.

SEATINI used the following advocacy strategies to implement its programs. They include, research, workshops, publications, working with Ministry officials, working at local level, petitions, networks at national regional and global levels, participation in national, regional and global conferences and media engagements (Print and Electronic media) in order to put these issues to the public domain.

3.1 Trade and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Programme objective: To influence trade and trade related policy processes for the attainment of people’s economic social and cultural Rights.

Trade and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (TESCR) focuses on strengthening the capacity of stakeholders to effectively participate in agriculture, investment and climate change related policy processes.

The programme advocates for policies and

agreements that enhance trade and climate justice, agricultural production and productivity, ecological integrity, value addition and marketing and gender equity to uphold sustainable livelihoods and ensure food sovereignty at household and national levels for the attainment of economic, social and cultural rights.

In 2013, the programme focused on issues of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), investment, food security, climate change in relation to the attainment of economic social and cultural rights.

Through the campaign on GMOs and the Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill 2012, SEATINI influenced policy makers to adopt and champion the CSO position which advocated for the recognition of the rights of farmers to save, exchange and recycle seed. The positions adopted are reflected in the report for the parliamentary committee on science and technology.

During our awareness creation, we reached over 150 Members of Parliament from different committees and developed proposals for the amendment of the different bills such as Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill 2012 in order to inform their position and debate on the bill. As a result the GMO bill has not yet been passed. The MPs were sent back for consultations in their constituencies.

Three (3) policy monitoring platforms on Biosafety and Biotechnology were formed in the Eastern, Northern and Western regions of Uganda. The platforms were formed specifically to mobilize communities on the Biotechnology and Biosafety Bill 2012 and create awareness on GMOs. The committees were also used to pressurize their members of parliament not to pass the Bill in its current state. SEATINI mobilized citizens in those regions, conducted meetings with them, built their capacity on the subject matter and thereafter assisted stakeholders in forming steering committees composed of small scale farmers, cultural leaders, religious leaders and other opinion leaders to continue pursuing the matter to ensure people's economic, social and cultural rights. 216 (80 female) stakeholders have actively participated in these policy monitoring platforms and the probability of achieving this outcome at the end of the project period is over 90% in case there are no drastic changes in the environment.

SEATINI together with other CSOs built capacity and mobilised local communities (farmers, cultural groups, media...) in the central, northern,

eastern and western regions of Uganda including farmer's cultural groups such as the ITEMI TESO in the Teso Sub-Region to advocate for the advancement of their own methods of preserving and utilization of seed. Communities in these regions were also able to form regional Biosafety Committees to continuously monitor developments in seed policy and practice and influence their leaders including local government leaders and policy makers to advance issues from the community.

On Climate Change, there has been considerable government consultation on climate change related policies and practices. SEATINI was for example together with other members of the Climate Change Action Network, able to jointly organize a meeting with the Ministry of Environment Climate Change Unit to consult stakeholders on realizing the implementation of the National Climate Change Policy.

Through the various engagements, SEATINI's contribution in the trade and agriculture sector has been recognized and we have been officially invited by MAAIF to participate in CSO-MAAIF meetings towards strengthening working relations between MAAIF and Civil Society meetings. This has been a major milestone due to the fact that MAAIF has never formally recognized the contribution of CSOs in the sector. The team of 10 NGOs that were identified by MAAIF will in the next year work towards formalizing this working relation.

Through radio programmes and Meetings on GMOs, there was creation of awareness and mobilization of different stakeholders at local, regional and national levels to reject GMOs and the current draft Biotechnology and Biosafety Bill. At the local level due to the awareness created through the regional dialogues, GMO watch committees were formed at sub-regional levels in the Eastern, Western and Northern regions of the country. These committees have gone ahead to sensitize their communities and developed petitions to the Speaker of parliament against GMOs and the current Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill. The committees have also been used as a tool to lobby members of parliament from their respective regions to reject the Bill.



Members of Parliament during the forum on the Biosafety and Biotechnology Bill in 2013 at Hotel Africana

At the regional level, as a result of SEATINI Uganda's continuity to lobby, CSOs from Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia and Zimbabwe were for the first time accepted to attend both the

ARIPO administrative meeting and the council of ministers meeting where they had an opportunity to lobby their respective national delegates on the proposed ARIPO PVP law.

3.2 Influencing bilateral trade negotiations and multilateral system

Program Objective: To enhance the capacity of stakeholders to effectively influence Multilateral and Bilateral Trade negotiation and other global processes to generate favorable rules and frameworks that are supportive of Uganda's and EAC's development and improved livelihoods.

The program Area focused on EAC-EU EPA negotiations, USA-EAC TIP Negotiations and the WTO negotiations. Under EPA negotiations, the program addressed negotiations on the contentious issues i.e Duties and Taxes on Exports, Domestic Support, Most Favored Nation, Non Execution Clause; Rules of Origin and the Development Matrix among others to ensure that their provisions are in line with EAC's development objectives.

Under the TIP negotiations, the program focused on advocating for an EAC model Investment Treaty to use in the TIP negotiations, while at National level, the need for reviewing the Uganda

National Code to make it more pro-development, and also to ensure that Investments at local levels promote host communities' economic, social and cultural rights.

At the WTO level, work was rotated on building up advocacy and national positions to inform Uganda's negotiation positions in the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference. Advocacy focused on the need for restoration of negotiation balance in the WTO and ensuring that the 9th WTO MC delivers on issues which were critical for LDCs' development; i.e. Agriculture, Duty Free and Quota Free Market Access, among others.

Highlights

Under USA-EAC TIP Negotiations, SEATINI Uganda in partnership with other Civil Society Organizations presented a petition on the EAC-USA Trade and Investment Treaty to the Speakers of the Uganda Parliament and the East Africa Legislative Assembly as well as to the Secretary General for the East African Community Secretariat. The issues presented in the petitions which were advocating for more consultations with relevant stakeholders and developing of an EAC Investment Model to use in the negotiations were accepted by the speakers and forwarded to responsible committees. Also the Secretary General responded to the petition thanking SEATINI Uganda for her concerns and continuous support to the secretariat in ensuring that pro-development negotiation positions were developed. As an achievement, current EAC positions on Article on Investment, National Treatment, Most Favored Nation, Expropriation

and Compensation and Performance requirements are in harmony with the positions suggested in the petition.

High level consultative meetings on the ongoing EU-EAC EPA negotiations were held and out of these meetings petitions and statements were developed to advocate for the EAC negotiators tying EPAs to EAC's development challenges and priorities such as market access, employment creation and sustainable development. These petitions and statements were sent to the EAC secretariat, MTIC, MEACA and Parliament which responded indicating the importance and relevancy of our concerns and how the EAC is working out positions to ensure that our concerns were incorporated. Indeed, many national consultative meetings organized by MTIC to develop Uganda's EPA negotiation positions used SEATINI's position papers as working documents for members to develop country positions.



The commissioner External Trade, Mr. Ojakolo Silver first Right with the representative from Uganda Christian Religious Council next to him and the SEATINI-U Directors during the consultative Meeting on WTO 9th Ministerial Conference.

SEATINI Uganda continued to work with the Members of Parliament by engaging them on their role in promoting trade for sustainable development in Uganda. MPs stressed Uganda's need to channel its investments to areas that lead to employment creation, skills and technology transfer because currently, investments like land based investments have only led to land grabbing, and thus have not benefitted the communities where they operate. They also expressed need for pushing a motion in Parliament advocating for the review the Ratification of Treaties Act CAP 204 that grants Parliament authority to only negotiate and ratify treaties involving armistice, while the rest of the treaties like Trade and Investment treaties are assigned to the executive.

SEATINI Uganda was able to reach out to policy makers, exporters and the general public through the radio Talk shows on issues of the

EAC-US TIP Negotiations and AGOA. Out of this outreach, members of Parliament supported the debate on the need for Uganda and the EAC to first develop their industries, address their supply capacity constraints before negotiating reciprocal trade and investment agreements like EPA and TIP.

As part of the outreach programmes, SEATINI Uganda reached out to over 600 youth in the Institutions of Higher Learning through debates and dialogues. Several debates on EPAs, FDIs and their implication to the youths and regional integration were organized. Participants raised a concern of Uganda's economy being characterized by unemployment, poor nutrition; food insecurity and registering high income inequalities which, EAC negotiators need to ensure are addressed in the ongoing Trade Negotiations like the EPA and TIP negotiations.



Students at Makerere University in the Public dialogue on the theme “Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA), Foreign Direct Investment (FDIs) and the implications to the youth and Regional Integration”



SEATINI Uganda's Programme officer (2nd left) holding a Placard reading LDC Package Now!, a statement that meant that the WTO MC 9 should deliver on its promises made to LDCs under the Doha Development Agenda. He was with members of Our world is not for sale (OWNIFS) during the 9th Ministerial Conference in Bali Indonesia

SEATINI Uganda has attended and facilitated in several regional and international meetings and conferences such as the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference, where CSOs demanded for restoration of balance in WTO negotiations, and adoption of a package that was favorable to aid in LDCs Structural Transformation.

SEATINI Uganda also made a presentation to the UN General Assembly on how to make Sustainable Development Goals work for LDC's development. During this presentation, SEATINI emphasized the fact that the post-2015 agenda should promote inclusive, people-centered pro-development policies and structural transformation of African economies.

SEATINI Uganda was also able to meet with other stakeholders from the NGOs, Faith Based Organizations (FBOs), Cooperatives, Civil Society, Academia, Media and farmers' groups' Private Sector, government ministries and agencies on the proposed areas of negotiation in the EAC US TIP as well as EAC-EU EPA negotiations raising concerns on the likely impact on the country's economic development and on peoples ESCRs.

Under the Promoting Agriculture, Climate change and trade linkages (PACT-EAC) project which is a sub component of the Program, SEATINI Uganda launched an advocacy campaign to advocate for the Promotion of Coherent Trade Negotiating Positions in Uganda and the EAC. The campaign seeks to promote the East Africa Community Climate Change Policy goal of contributing to sustainable development in the EAC region through harmonized and coordinated regional strategies, programs and actions to respond to climate change .

Still under the PACT-EAC project, trainings and advocacy campaigns carried out continued to raise awareness of stakeholders on the linkages between food security, trade and climate change and how these affect livelihoods. A good number of stakeholders from the Climate Change Unit, Ministry of East African Affairs, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Youths Organizations, Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, South African High Commission in Uganda, University Students, Trade Unions and Farmers benefited from these trainings.



A discussion group of representatives from the CSOs during the drafting of the training guide on policy advocacy strengthened evidence based advocacy on regional integration

3.3 Regional Integration

Programme Goal: To promote effective stakeholder engagement in the EAC regional integration processes.

The gist of SEATINI's program on regional integration is strengthening civil society engagement in regional integration with the purpose of ensuring that the integration processes lead to sustainable development. This informed program implementation during the year 2013.

Specifically during this period SEATINI set out to strengthen pro active engagement of the civil society at national and regional levels on regional integration issues. This involved mobilizing CSOs at national level to develop mechanisms of engagement and communication on regional integration at the national level. SEATINI also championed development of tools to enhance civil society's capacity for advocacy on regional integration issues.

At the regional level SEATINI was involved in mobilizing civil society and private sector groups to advocate for pro development intellectual property rights (IPRs) to ensure access to essential goods with a focus on access to food and access to medicines. This work involved mobilizing civil society to develop positions on the texts in IPRs regional bills, developing statements for submission to the East Africa Legislative Assembly on need for a further TRIPs extension, mobilizing media awareness on the need for pro development IPR legislations in the EAC, and creating linkages between the civil society and private sector (generic companies) to have joint advocacy on the expiry of the LDC extension period and its implications for access to medicines.



Members from regional generic manufacturing companies and CSOs working on issues of trade and Human rights in a meeting in Kampala

Highlights

At national level

Development of National CSOs' Engagement and Communication strategy and Monitoring tool as well as an Advocacy Training guide on regional integration. These tools are used by civil society in advocacy.

SEATINI's mobilization of CSOs to engage on regional integration resulted in formation of a national dialogue framework on regional integration by the Uganda NGO Forum with SEATINI nominated as the chair of the Trade thematic group.

During the year (2013), SEATINI has created awareness and built capacity of 205 stakeholders (CSOs, MPs, media, farmers, academia, government officials, youth at national and EAC levels) on the existing economic opportunities in the EAC region and these stakeholders are now in a position to contribute towards influencing

regional economic integration policies and processes.

The organization has also brought on board new stakeholders especially in the religious sectors that have taken on the campaign for an inclusive regional integration process.

At the regional level

A resolution developed by EALA in support of an LDC position for a further TRIPs extension on implementation of the Intellectual Property Rights legislations embedded in the TRIPs agreement was as a result of a regional CSO statement on LDC TRIPs extension. The EALA recognized that the EAC needs the further extension to enable it put in place a conducive policy environment for access to essential goods. The resolution was submitted and considered at the WTO ministerial meeting.



Tax Justice team with the Country Director in one of the Radio talk shows on taxation

3.4 Financing for development/ Tax justice

Programme Objective: To promote transparent and sustainable resource mobilisation, allocation and utilization of policies and practices.

Specifically, the programme builds and strengthens the capacity of key stakeholders to advocate for transparent and accountable tax policies and practices. It promotes fair and accountable tax and development policies and practices. It also supports the linkage between tax justice, governance and poverty eradication.

Financing for development is about how domestic and international resources contribute to development through various mechanisms including Domestic Resource Mobilisation. Domestic resource mobilisation is derived from two sources; tax and non-tax revenues. Non tax revenues are mobilised mainly from domestic and international non-tax sources, whereas domestic non-tax sources include proceeds from investments in state owned corporations, privatization of state corporations, rent from

government properties, fines, fees and royalties or signature bonuses from natural resource extractions. It is therefore important for citizens to actively engage with the state, parliament and other key stakeholders and influence transparent, accountable and pro-poor tax and tax related policies.

In 2013, Financing for Development/ Tax Justice Programme, continued to implement the Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair Taxation (CRAFT) Project financed by the European Union through Oxfam and the Tax Incentives project financed by Action Aid International. The Financing for Development and Tax Justice Programme (FFD/TJ) made significant strides in mobilising communities to promote taxation as a sustainable tool for development. SEATINI used the following methodologies to achieve the set

objectives: Research, Training, Policy Advocacy, Awareness campaigns, coalition and alliance building and networking.

The training modules developed in 2012 were used to carry out the civic education campaigns. The advocacy materials were also used to demonstrate key tax issues related to governance and accountability. As a result of these methodologies, we were able to train 50 civil society organisations from the targeted 5, engaged with over 150 members of parliament, local government and key decision and policy makers at local and national level to influence discussions on tax policy and practice. Furthermore we were able to reach 23 districts namely: Kampala, Wakiso, Nakaseke, Nakasongola, Masaka, Mityana, Jinja, Kasese, Mbale, Tororo, Mukono, Nebbi, Kumi, Katakwi, Pallisa, Busiiki, Kapchorwa, Amuru, Gulu, Iganga, Kalangala, Masindi and Pader. Ultimately, we were able to reach 1029 beneficiaries (426 female and 642 male) at the local level through the civic education campaigns that were carried out by over 60 campaigners.

The programme was also able to target 780 stakeholders (301 female and 479 male) including civil society organisations, members of parliament, media and community based organisations. The civic education campaigns and advocacy work done in 2013 provided an entry point for capacity building and awareness raising among citizens platforms to take place in 2014..



A group photo after the community meeting on Tax Justice awareness in Kasese District, Bugoya Sub-County.

Highlights

SEATINI Uganda has continued to network and collaborate with organizations that have interest in trade and development issues at national, regional and global levels through coalitions and CSO working groups. SEATINI Uganda uses the networks to share information, awareness creation and lobbying on a number of issues as well as disseminate its publications and enrich its resource through exchange of materials with institutions that undertake similar and related goals.

Through the tax justice campaign, SEATINI was able to influence policy change in regard to tax incentives. For example from several meetings and publications calling for the scrapping of Tax incentives, on July 13 2003, the Minister of Finance announced that the Government will scrap all tax incentives to individuals after demands for transparency from MPs who attended a tax justice workshop.

SEATINI has also contributed to emphasizing the linkage between tax justice, governance and poverty eradication. Many of the stakeholders have appreciated the link between tax justice, governance and poverty eradication. It has been emphasised that if tax policies are not fair and just, then there cannot be good governance and poverty cannot be eradicated especially if the tax policies fail to evenly redistribute wealth.

SEATINI Uganda built and strengthened the capacity of key stakeholders to advocate for transparent and accountable tax policies and practices. This was done through meetings, radio talk shows, and trainings for the tax campaigners. For example, the awareness meetings that were carried out in Kasese, Pader, Gulu, Kapchorwa, Masindi, Kumi, Katakwi, Palisa, Nebbi, and Amuru strengthened the awareness of citizens to know their role and responsibility in taxation processes and demand for transparency, accountability and service delivery. Radio Talk shows and spots were also organised to generated debate on tax and tax related issues. The talk shows enabled the programme reach a wider audience. It gave us an opportunity to assess the perceptions and attitudes citizens have towards taxation.



Tax Justice Campaigners during the Orientation meeting and the launch of the Tax Justice Civic Education Campaign under the CRAFT project

Being one of her stakeholders, SEATINI Uganda continued to engage the media to accelerate the popularizing and stimulation of debates on trade and development issues as a channel for key advocacy. This was done through radio programmes and publishing of articles in the Newspapers. SEATINI Uganda's good media relations witnessed increased media reporting on issues of trade and this significantly facilitated in demystifying trade, investment and development issues by putting these issues in the public domain at national and regional level.

In order to strengthen and empower media personnel in tax related discussions, debates, awareness and reporting on tax Policies and practices, six journalists were recognized and awarded with plaques by SEATINI Uganda for their contributions to Promoting Taxation as a

tool for Development. The awards also aimed at popularizing tax as a viable and sustainable source of financing development. Journalists recognized and awarded were from both broadcast and print media. (See text box for recipients)

Through SEATINI Uganda's tax justice meetings and community dialogues organized in different parts of the country, we managed to create awareness among hundreds of people on the importance of taxation to development. The participants appreciated the discussion and retaliated the importance of local governments working towards developing sustainable ways of collecting revenue locally and not to entirely rely on the government to fund local government projects.



Accolades

- **Ismail Musa Ladu Business Reporter, Daily Monitor**
- **Joseph Olanyo, Reporter, Weekly Observer**
- **Edward Ssekika, Reporter, Weekly Observer**
- **Jaramoji Patrick, Senior Reporter, New Vision**
- **Lydia Nabakoza, Business Reporter , NBS Television**
- **Hamzat Batiibwe Senoga, Talk show host, Central Broadcasting Services (CBS)**



4.0 Research and Publication

Research is crucial in SEATINI's work because it helps in coming up with informed decision during our advocacy work. SEATINI used studies and publications as key advocacy and capacity enhancement tools. The publications include both technical and advocacy information materials such as posters, brochures, stickers, T-shirts and studies centered on specific trade and developmental critical issues at national and Africa in general.

Research studies

Under the Trade, ESCRs programme, a desktop research on Foreign Direct Investment and its impact on peoples ESCRs was carried out to explore the landscape of investment policy Uganda has adopted both at national level and through the various Bilateral Investment Agreements the country signs. It also explores the kind of investment Uganda needs vis a vis the current trends at regional and global levels

Under Influencing bilateral trade negotiations and multilateral system programme, a study titled; "Assessing the Trade Policy and Negotiations Framework at National (Uganda) and Regional (EAC) level" was carried out to analyse Uganda and EAC trade policy framework, as well as assess the formulation and coordination of Uganda and EAC's Trade negotiation frameworks.

Under the Financing for development/ Tax justice programme, two action oriented research on "understanding tax justice in the context of transparent and accountable oil management in Uganda" was conducted. This highly strengthened awareness on taxation in the extractive industry which was lacking.

Citizen perception Surveys

SEATINI Uganda carried out a citizen perception study on the free movement of workers, focusing on the potential of Ugandan labor to utilize opportunities in the regional labor market. The study highlighted the gaps in labor skills of Ugandan graduates in contrast with the existing job opportunities in the regional market. As a result, a policy brief was developed highlighting the key issues in policy and practice that should be addressed by government and the EAC to enable citizens in Uganda and the EAC benefit from the free movement of workers.

A citizens satisfaction survey on access to markets was also carried out in Lira and Gulu districts with an aim of determining small holder farmers levels of satisfaction in relation to markets. Focus was on four major food and cash crops i.e. Maize, Cassava, Sunflower and Simsim. In the course of the research however a number of other crops of interests such as beans and groundnuts were identified.



Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials

SEATINI Uganda produced several information, education and communication materials which sensitized our stakeholders on different issues about trade and trade related processes. For example, open letters to the members of parliament highlighting the intentions of the Biosafety Bill and the dangers of GMOs were developed and sent to members of Parliament and as a result, they gained knowledge and started critticking it. Up to now the Bill has not been passed.

Under Influencing bilateral trade negotiations and multilateral trading system programme, SEATINI Uganda carried out a study titled; "Assessing the Trade Policy and Negotiations Framework at National (Uganda) and Regional (EAC) level to analyse Uganda and EAC trade policy framework, as well as assess the formulation and coordination of Uganda and

EAC's Trade negotiation frameworks. The report was launched by the Finance minister Maria Kiwanuka at Imperial Resort Beach-Entebbe. She appreciated SEATINI's work towards strengthening Africa's trade adding that the publication will enhance Uganda's participation in trade negotiations.

SEATINI Uganda continued to publish her quarterly newsletter titled "TRADE NEWS." During the year, the Newsletter extensively covered the four programme areas of financing for Development/Tax Justice, Strengthening and Democratizing Regional Integration Processes for Improved Livelihoods, Trade and Economical Social and Cultural Rights and Bilateral and Multilateral Trading Systems. A number of articles were developed and produced within the organizational quarterly newsletter on topical issues.



Policy Briefs

Policy briefs titled “Trade Facilitation in the WTO negotiations and Promoting EAC unity in the EAC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations: options for Kenya” were developed with an aim of assessing the implications of the Trade Facilitation Agreement in the WTO on LDCs and specifically Uganda as well as assessing the current state of play of the EAC-EU EPA negotiations in view of the EU's Market Access regulation which aims at removing the Duty Free Quota Free treatment to goods from LDCs that have not concluded and ratified the EPA.

Other Policy briefs were developed and distributed to policy makers. They played a big role in informing the members of Parliament during their deliberations in Parliamentary proceedings. These included a policy paper on revenue mobilization at local level for sustained service delivery and an analysis of the Biosafety and Biotechnology Draft Bill 2008 from a Farmers' Rights Perspective.



Leaflets

Under the CRAFT project, a leaflet was developed with calculations embedded in the prices of the assets most people in the urban setting purchase. Another leaflet was on “A day in the life of a tax payer”. With both leaflets, citizens were able to realize that they are tax payers and have a right to demand for accountability and service delivery from the government.

Generally, the Publications were distributed at workshops and meetings where participants were encouraged to put them into proper use and share with others. The publications increased knowledge among SEATINI's stakeholders on trade and development



issues. This is evidenced by the way our stakeholders deliberate on issues such as the Economic Partnership agreement, the genetically modified organisms and taxation.

Resource Centre

The facility is now 9 years since its initiation in 2005. It is both for research and resource for trade and development. SEATINI-Uganda's resource centre has over 13,100 numerous publications in terms of Policy briefs, training guides, periodicals, bulletins, reports, leaflets, magazines and research papers on Agriculture, Investment, Tax and Trade related issues with an online version of reference to the available books. SEATINI-U's resource has witnessed its validity basing on its accessibility by stakeholders; Civil Society Organisation, Farmers, Lecturers, Universities, students and other individual researchers. In the year 2013 SEATINI-Uganda also witnessed the sharing of its information materials with other CSO's resource centre and other civil societies working on development related issues.

Website

SEATINI Uganda continued to use its website on www.seatiniuganda.org to share and disseminate information with stakeholders interested in trade and development issues. Besides the website, the social media accounts such as Facebook and Twitter were also used to disseminate information about SEATINI Uganda's Programmes.

The website acted as a hub for easier access to SEATINI information materials online.

4.1 Institutional Development

- In 2013, SEATINI hired a consultant to work with the institution in the development of a new Monitoring and Evaluation Framework as a management tool to help the organization in evaluating impact for its work. It is expected that from this SEATINI will be in a better position to continuously monitor and evaluate its activities. This framework will also consider issues of gender mainstreaming within the programme activities.
- SEATINI Uganda has continued to operationalise management policies for better Institutional management and building of organizational Image. Such policies

include the Human Resource Management and Procedural Manual, the Procurement Manual and Finance and Accounting manual.

4.2 Governance

The Country Programme Management Board (CPMB) continued to meet and provide guidance to management on implementation of the organizational activities as stipulated in the work plan of the programmes. The CPMB participated in planning meetings and continued to give overall guidance and direction. However, one of the Board members Ms Sarah Ntiro retired.

Members of Country Programme Management Board

Mr. Ndebese Mwambutsya Chairman
Ms. Jane Ocaya Irama: Treasurer
Mr. Davis Ddamulira : Member
Mr. Vincent Mayiga: Member
Ms. Jane Nalunga: Ex-officio
Amb. Nathan Irumba: Ex-officio

4.3 Partnerships and Networks

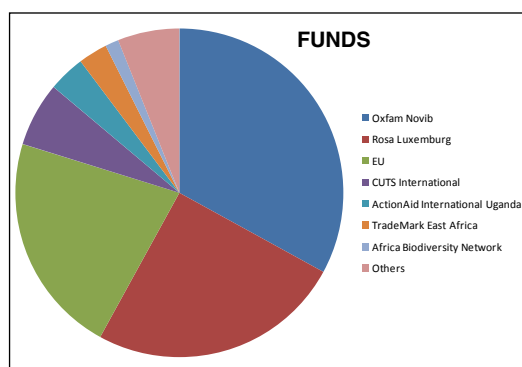
SEATINI continued to partner and network with organizations that have interest in trade and development issues at national, regional and global levels through coalitions and CSO working groups. These networks were key in information sharing, awareness creation and lobbying on a number of issues.

At national level, SEATINI Uganda is a member of Food Rights Alliance (FRA), Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG), Civil Society Coalition on Oil (CSCO), Climate Change Network-Uganda (CAN-U) and Uganda Coalition on Access to Medicines. While at the regional level and continental level SEATINI is a member of East African Civil Society Forum (EACSO), Tax Justice Network Africa (TJN-A) and Africa Trade Network (ATN).

5.0 Financial Report Summary

In the year 2013, SEATINI Uganda continued to receive grants worth UGX 1,317,315,374.00 from funders, which enabled it to implement its work plan. The funders were European Union, Oxfam, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation (RLF) Trademark East Africa (TMEA), Action Aid International Uganda (AAIU) Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS International) and Open Society Initiative East Africa (OSIEA).

Graphical representation of SEATINI Uganda's funds in 2013



Organisation	Funds received(UGX)	Percentage
Oxfam	434,476,480.00	33%
Rosa Luxemburg	329,523,000.00	25%
European Union	287,162,700.00	22%
CUTS International	83,192,143.00	6%
Action Aid International	47,495,000.00	4%
Trademark EA	37,796,976.00	3%
Africa Biodiversity Network	17,492,676.00	1%
Others	80,176,399.00	6%
Total	1,317,315,374.00	100%

5.1 Members of Staff

The following are the staff members who served SEATINI-Uganda in 2013

COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Ms. Jane Nalunga:

PROGRAMMES

Ms. Wilbrod Birabwa: Programme Coordinator

Ms. Bridget .M. Nabikolo: Programme Officer; Trade and Economic Social and Cultural Rights

Ms. Nelly Busingye Mugisha: Programme Officer; Financing for Development/Tax Justice

Ms. Regina Navuga: Programme Assistant; Financing for Development/Tax Justice

Ms. Lina Asiimwe: Programme Officer; Regional Integration

Ms. Dorothy Amuron: Programme Officer; Influencing Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Negotiations and Multilateral Trade Systems

Ms. Faith Lumonya: Programme Assistant; Regional Integration

Mr. Africa Kizza: Ag. Programme Officer; Influencing Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Negotiations and Multilateral Trade Systems

Ms. Loice Epetiru: Documentation and Communications Officer

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Eresi Mbambu; Accountant

Ms. Joanita Nassuna; Assistant Accountant

Ms. Emily Babirye; Administrator/Human Resource

Mr. Aloysious Kittengo; Assistant Administrator/Human Resource

Mr. Patrick Mukungu: Security Guard/Cleaner

INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Kafeero Herbert; Volunteer

Ms. Kemigisa Mercy; Intern

A background image showing a large crowd of people, mostly women, in a public setting, possibly a market or a community gathering. The image is faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.

SEATINI-UGANDA

Kampala Uganda Office and Regional
Coordinating Office for Eastern Africa

Plot 69 Bukoto Street, Kamwokya

P.O Box 3138, Kampala, Uganda

Tel: 256-414-540856

Email: seatini@infocom.co.ug

Website: www.seatiniuganda.org