



**United Nations  
Economic and Social Council  
Economic Commission for Africa**



**International Centre for Trade  
and Sustainable Development**

# **Invitation**

**To a Dialogue on Environmental Goods and Services**

## **"Opportunities for Africa from trade in goods and services: Supporting the transition to a low carbon future"**

**19 October 2011 ~ 14:00-18:00**

**United Nations Conference Centre, Room 5  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

It is our pleasure to invite you to a dialogue organised jointly by ICTSD and UNECA in advance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Africa Region. This half-day event will focus on opportunities for Africa in trade in environmental goods and services, which form an important component of the Green Economy.

In Africa there is considerable potential for countries experiencing energy poverty to tap into their continent's abundant low carbon renewable energy sources and thus change their fortunes. Such a transition could be made possible by enhancing trade in Environmental Goods and Services (EGS); doing so could also contribute toward reducing environmental degradation, improving public health, and fostering sustainable socio-economic development.

At the dialogue, experts will brief participants on the state-of-play of the EGS negotiations at both the World Trade Organization (WTO) and in regional and bilateral settings. ICTSD will also present its latest research regarding market access opportunities in environmental goods for Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

This meeting will also address a series of related issues that are of importance to African countries, with a particular emphasis on trade, energy, and climate change linkages.

Presentations will be followed by a panel discussion between experts on environmental goods in Africa and event participants. Questions addressed at this dialogue will include:

- What are the import and export opportunities for African countries in the area of environmental goods?
- How can African states participate more effectively in the Doha EGS negotiations, and in doing so identify goods that are of interest to them?
- What is the best way to ensure coherence between negotiations on liberalising environmental goods and services at the multilateral and bilateral levels, while taking into account developing country needs?
- How can trade in EGS between African countries be enhanced?
- How can the capacity of African negotiators on EGS be strengthened, particularly through the involvement of trade and environment ministries and the elaboration of a joint negotiating position for African countries?

This Roundtable will take place at the United Nations Conference Centre at Addis Ababa, room 3. We would be grateful if you could confirm your interest in attending to <ncubilla@ictsd.ch> by 16 October. You will then receive further event information and background material.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or comments. We hope you will be able to join us and look forward to welcoming you.

## Agenda

### Agenda: Wednesday 19 October 2011

14:00 – 14:15 hrs	<b>Welcoming remarks</b> , <i>Mrs. Isatou Gaye, Chief Environment and Sustainable Development section, UNECA</i>
	<b>Remarks</b> , <i>Mr. Christophe Bellmann, Director of Programmes, ICTSD</i>
14:15 – 15:15 hrs	<b>Presentations</b> (moderated by Christophe Bellmann, ICTSD)
	<b>Presentation 1:</b>
	<b>Introduction to Environmental Goods and Services:</b> WTO context and key issues for developing countries
	<i>Dr. Luansi Lukonde, Africa Group of Negotiators, Geneva</i>
	<b>Presentation 2:</b>
	<b>Market access opportunities for ACP countries in environmental goods</b>
	<i>Mr. David Laborde, Research Fellow and co-leader of the “Globalization and Markets” research program in the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division, IFPRI, Washington, DC</i>
	<b>Presentation 3:</b>
	<b>Environmental Goods and Services: challenges and opportunities for Africa</b>
	<i>Mr. Patrick Chabeda, Founder, Enven Resources</i>
15:15 – 15:45 hrs	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
15:45 – 16:00 hrs	<b>Tea/Coffee break</b>
16:00 – 17:30 hrs	<b>Panel discussion: environmental goods perspectives for African countries</b>
	Moderated by <i>Mr. Cheich Tidiane Dieye, Programme Coordinator for Trade, Regional Integration and Development, ENDA</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Head of Advisory Services, Green Economy Initiative, UNEP</i></li><li>• <i>Mr. Naoto Shibui, Managing Director, Environmental Technology Africa Ltd.</i></li><li>• <i>Monga Mehlwana, Biofuel Expert, Regional Integration, Infrastructure and Trade Division, UNECA</i></li></ul>
17:30 – 18:00 hrs	<b>Q&amp;A + Wrap up</b>
18:00	<b>Cocktail</b>