



Trade Policy Climate Change & Environmental Sustainability Workshop

Kapok Hotel, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
September 19 & 20, 2013



ORGANIZERS

This workshop is organized by UWI Consulting, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and the Trinidad and Tobago Coalition of Service Industries (TTCSI). Financial support has also been received from the World Trade Organization (WTO) Chair at the University of the West Indies (UWI).

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

This workshop critically looks at both the ecological impact of climate change as well as the effects of mitigation and adaptation policies on key economic and trade sectors. The workshop will strengthen the capacity of governmental and non-governmental agencies and their staff to analyze and assess the trade and climate change governance scenario, formulate negotiation positions and identify strategic options to inform policy-making. Participants will be introduced to a range of methodological tools and the sessions will involve a mix of presentations, debates and case discussions that allow for critical and dynamic interchange between and among participants and facilitators.

Day One

Wednesday, 19 September 2013

- 09h00-09h45 *Welcome and introduction*
Keith Nurse and Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz
- 09h45-10h30 *Trade and climate change intersections*
Keith Nurse and Ingrid Jegou or Christophe Bellmann

This introductory session will provide participants with an overview of the linkages between trade and climate change that are important for the Caribbean region. Also it is an opportunity to gather preliminary questions from the participants and a call for inputs for this 2-day seminar.

Basic questions are: How can the biophysical impacts of climate change be expected to impact trade? And in what ways does trade influence climate change? What are the policy linkages between the two fields?

In addition, this session will give an overview will be given of the processes and players dealing with the climate change and trade nexus. Particular focus will be given to the mandate and the negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with respect to trade-related topics. The role of other relevant institutions of governance of relevance to the Caribbean region will also be highlighted.

- 10h30-11h00 REFRESHMENTS
- 11h00-13h00 *Sustainable energy goods and services for all: obstacles and drivers Caribbean countries*
Mahesh Sugathan - Overview (by videoconference and based on data gathering by Rene Vossenaar)
David Luff - Legal barriers, tariffs and government procurement
Joachim Monkelbaan - ICTSD (services)
Alexander Ochs - World Watch Institute (access to energy)
Local expert West Indies (specific interests in the Caribbean) - local concerns

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

In order to provide secure access to a clean environment and sustainable energy for all, a comprehensive shift to environmentally sound technologies and clean energy is key. Trade is an important channel for diffusion of technology, and can play a crucial role in promoting such a shift. Eliminating tariffs at the border on climate-friendly goods is one concrete option currently under discussion in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Green subsidies, local content requirements and feed-in tariffs are other examples of policy tools increasingly used to support the domestic industry in the transition to low-carbon technologies. Trade and investment in sustainable energy goods and services (SEGS) are also important drivers of capacity building and knowledge transfer.

In this session, we will explore how climate- and trade policies can promote respectively hinder trade in SEGS.

13h00-14h30 LUNCH

14h30- 14h45 Explanation of break-out groups

14h45- 15h30 *Break-out session 1: Setting the context - Linkages between trade and climate change: regional concerns*

15h30- 16h00 TEA TIME

16h00-16h45 *Break-out session 2: Ways forward for sustainable energy, trade and investment*

This forward-looking discussion session offers an opportunity to explore barriers to trade and investment in SEGS that were identified in the earlier sessions and possible solutions. Examples will be drawn from current trade disputes, private sector concerns and different kind of Sustainable Energy Trade Initiatives (SETIs).

16h45- 17h30 Reporting back from break-out groups and closing of day 1

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Day Two

Thursday, 20 September 2013

09h00-11h00 *Adaptation and climate change: mobilizing aid-for-trade, agriculture and competitiveness*

Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz: agriculture and food security

Local experts: competitiveness and adaptation

Robert Read: Aid-for-trade

Agriculture is a sector that contributes significantly to climate change. At the same time, agriculture in tropical regions such as the Caribbean is highly sensitive to the effects of climate change. An open and equitable trade system for food and agriculture is vital to food security and contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation; it can help offset climate-induced production decreases in certain regions and facilitate the transfer of food and agricultural products from regions where their production requires relatively fewer greenhouse gas emissions to regions where production would result in higher emissions. In this context, it is important to assess the effectiveness of different policy tools, such as standards and labelling, in catering to curbing carbon emissions while preserving the benefits of an open trade.

11.00-11:30 REFRESHMENTS

11:30-13:15 *International transport and bunker fuels*

Joachim Monkelbaan – ICTSD

Local experts

International transport is highly relevant in the nexus between trade and climate change, as it constitutes a direct impact on climate change from trade. Conversely, attempts to curb emissions from international transport may influence trade flows, possibly negatively affecting the economies of far-off countries, including in the Caribbean. This can have impacts on not only the trade in goods, but also tourism.

13.15-14.30 LUNCH

14.30- 15h15 *Break-out session 3: Adaptation: how to build resilience and diversify the economy?*

15h15- 15h30 TEA TIME

15h30- 16h15 *Break-out session 4: International transport and tourism*

16h15 Reporting back from break-out groups

17h00 Conclusion of the workshop

NOTES