

At present the trade relations between the EU and the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific are to be transfigured within Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA). These agreements follow the principles of a WTO compatible Free Trade System. EPAs might expose some of the poorest countries in the world to unfair competition with European export products. Local markets will possibly be threatened, and the room for autonomous political decisions concerning economic and social policies might be limited.

Affected by such developments would be, among others, smallholders and people without land tenure. The majority of people in Africa is directly depending on agriculture. European agricultural policy has wide influence on terms of trade and on the food situation of African smallholders. Known examples of European cheap exports are those of beef, poultry and tomatoes to West Africa; they dramatically reduce the marketing potential of local smallholders. Consequences of dumping and liberalisation are various violations of the human right to adequate food.

Within the EU project "**African smallholders in focus - a voice in EU trade policy**" we want to strengthen the position of smallholders within the EPA negotiations and beyond. We will also cover the question of what we can do here.

We are looking forward to your participation!

*Kerstin Lanje, Germanwatch*

### Venue

Hotel Christophorus-Haus  
Schönwalder Allee 26  
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### Directions

By train to Spandau Station:  
All ICE, regional trains and metro trains stop at Spandau Station. From there take Bus M45 from *Rathaus Spandau* (opposite on the right side when leaving the station) till final destination *Johannesstift*.

By train to Bahnhof Zoo:  
At *Bahnhof Zoo* you can take Bus M45 till ultimate destination *Johannesstift* which takes 45 min. Or take metro train S9 or S75 till Spandau station and change into bus M45 till ultimate destination *Johannesstift*.

From Tegel Airport:  
Take the Airport Bus 109 till *Jakob-Kaiser-Platz*. Change to underground line U7 till final destination *Rathaus Spandau*. From there go on with Bus M45 till final destination *Johannesstift*.

### Contact/Registration

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Please register until 7th of December.

Conference fee: € 40 (both days), € 20 (one day).

Conference language: English (German translation can be arranged - please let us know)

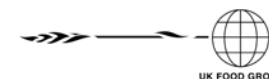
### Conference website

[www.germanwatch.org/termine/2007-12-11.htm](http://www.germanwatch.org/termine/2007-12-11.htm)

## African smallholders in focus - a voice in EU trade policy

## First exchange conference on concerns and common political strategies

Berlin, 11-12 December 2007



## Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2007

**12:00** Arrival and coffee / tee / snacks

**13:00** Introduction: "African smallholders in focus - a voice in EU trade policy"

Kerstin Lanje, Germanwatch, Bonn

**Background 1: Impact of IMF and world bank policies and EPAs on smallholder farmers in Uganda, Zambia and Ghana**

Kerstin Bertow, Univ. Giessen

**Background 2: EPAs: A Threat for the Right to Food?**

Armin Paasch, FIAN Deutschland, Köln

**Comments**

Dr. Cosmas Milton **Obote Ochieng**, IFPRI, Ethiopia

**15:00** Coffee & tea

**15:30** The concerns of smallholder farmers in Ghana

Mohammed **Issah**, SEND Foundation, Ghana

**The concerns of smallholder farmers in Zambia**

Dominick **Chanda**, CSTNZ, Zambia

**The concerns of smallholder farmers in Uganda**

Henry R. **Kimera**, Consent, Uganda

**18:00** Dinner

**19:00** EPA negotiations: Update and agenda for the next month

Burghard **Ilge**, Both Ends, Netherlands

Odur **Ong'wen**, Seatini, Kenya

**Key points of intervention - preparation of working groups**

Mohammed Adam **Nashiru**, Cotton Farmers Association, Ghana

**20:30** Get together

## Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2007

**8:00** Breakfast

**8:30** Speak out round

John H. **Mwemba**, Magoye Smallholder

Dairy Farmers Co-operative, Zambia

Harriet **Alooro**, Small Scale Farmer, Uganda

**9:15** Working groups on key points of intervention (f.e. services and investment)

Input and moderation: Patrick **Mulvany**,

UK Food Group; Angela **Mulenga**,

KASA, Heidelberg;

Alexandra **Strickner**, IATP, Österreich

**10:45** Coffee & tea

**11:15** Building of alliances and coordination of actions

Reporters of working groups and Henry

Richard **Kimera**, Consent; Dominick

**Chanda**, CSTNZ; Mohammed **Issah**,

SEND

**12:45** Lunch

**Agrofuels and rural Development in the South**

**14:00** Agrofuels in Africa – Current dynamics and views of different actors

What positions and strategies do African

governments have as regards agrofuels?

What is the strategy and approach of the

U.S. and EU governments. What role will

Economic Partnership Agreements play?

What are farmers and other civil society

groups thinking?

(Speakers to be confirmed)

**Perspectives from Africa (Farmers)**

Salious **Sarr**, ROPPA, West Africa

Jospeh **Ssuuna** PELUM, Zambia

Civil Society

Mariam **Mayet**, Africa Biodiversity Center, Ethiopia

Anne **Sugrue**, CURES, South Africa

**Perspectives from Europe and the US**

Peter **Riggs**, Forum on Democracy and Trade

N.N., German Platform on Sustainable Biomass

**16:00** Coffee & Tea

**16:30** Perspectives from Latin America and Asia

Comparison with situation on agrofuels in their regions (role of imports, export promotion, domestic use, corporate strategies, impacts on small farmers).

What are their governments strategies as regards agrofuels and Africa

Eduardo **Gudynas**, Brazil

N.N., Civil Society Group from Asia

**18:00** Dinner

**19:00** What impact will the current hype over plant based fuels have on small farmers and rural development in the South especially in Africa?

General Discussion

**20:30** Get together

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Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection

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