

Climate Change and Clean Energy Technologies

Policy Options for the Global Trade and Investment System

10 October 2017, University Foundation, 11 rue d'Egmont, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by ICTSD & ERCST

Climate action has been recognized as an overarching priority of the international community in the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC as well as in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The recent decision of the United States to withdraw from the Paris Agreement seems to have strengthened the resolve of other signatories of the agreement to fulfill their commitments. At the same time, it has enhanced the need to strengthen international responses to climate action through all possible means.

Trade policy is one such area which could make a difference for climate action. To begin with, trade is vital for ensuring that clean energy technologies be available on a global level, in particular as manufacturing remains largely concentrated in a few producer countries. In a similar vein, carefully designed trade policies could help ensure that products with a low emissions intensity are available at a global level. Moreover, the trade system must be supportive, and not stand in the way, for countries' responses to climate change, be it carbon pricing, energy efficiency standards or labels. At the same time, it must be acknowledged that there are also possible tensions between trade and climate change- one country's efforts to stem emissions may reduce demand for imports from another country, or affect the competitiveness of its own firms compared to industries in other countries.

In order to ensure that trade is enabled to play a role which facilitates and scales up climate action, while acknowledging and addressing the possible tensions, ICTSD together with the Chatham House, Climate Strategies and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, has taken a fresh look at the intersection of trade-climate and clean energy under the joint ICTSD-World Economic Forum's E15 initiative, and come up with a range of policy options for policy makers in trade, investment and climate change. This session will present a selection of the findings from that effort, and discuss them in the context of the post-Paris world.

About the E15

The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), the World Economic Forum, and 16 partnering institutions brought together more than 375 international experts in over 80 interactive dialogues between 2012 and 2015 under the E15 Initiative. At the core of the Initiative are 15 thematic Expert Groups and three Task Forces, each comprised of leading thinkers from developed and developing countries drawn from different fields and backgrounds. Their work has been complemented by an overarching dialogue looking at the global trade and investment



International Centre for Trade
and Sustainable Development



COMMITTED TO
IMPROVING THE STATE
OF THE WORLD

architecture, involving consultations with hundreds of thinkers and policy-makers. The entire process has yielded approximately 150 analytical papers and its deliberations have stimulated a fresh look at the long-term challenges and opportunities facing the global trade and investment system, especially in respect of its efficacy, inclusiveness and contribution to sustainable development.

The policy option papers prepared by each E15 thematic group offered a detailed and comprehensive set of suggestions for improved governance of the global trade and investment system in the 21st century. They are accompanied by a Synthesis Report, which summarizes and interprets the significance of the proposals for progress on many of the international community's most important shared imperatives.

Draft Agenda

Chair: Andrei Marcu, Senior Fellow, ICTSD and Director of ERCST

9h00 – 9h15: Welcome by the chair

9h15 – 9h30: Introductory remarks by Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, ICTSD Chief Executive

9h30 – 11h00: Global Rules for Mutually Supportive and Reinforcing Trade and Climate Regimes

- Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, Chief Executive ICTSD: an overview of E15 trade policy options for climate action
- Michael Grubb, Professor of International Energy and Climate Policy at UCL: *Economic/trade aspects*
- Andrei Marcu, Senior Advisor, Climate Strategies: *Emissions Trading Schemes/carbon markets*
- Jake Werksman, Principal Advisor, DG Clima European Commission, *Perspective of EU policy maker*

11h00 – 11h15: Coffee break

11h15 – 12h45: Enabling the Energy Transition and Scale-up of Clean Energy Technologies: Options for the Global Trade System

- Mahesh Sugathan, Senior research fellow, ICTSD: *Barriers and drivers to trade in CET*
- Ingrid Jegou, Senior Associate, ICTSD and group manager, E15 on Clean Energy Technologies and Trade: *Subsidies to clean and fossil energy- trade policy options*
- Jodie Roussel, Head of the Global Solar Council: *Renewable energies*
- DG Trade

12h45 – 13h00: Concluding remarks by Mr. Meléndez-Ortiz and Mr. Marcu

Read the full policy option papers and Synthesis Report at e15initiative.org.

E15 Interactive Tool

Access and engage with the 150 E15 think pieces and overview papers
e15initiative.org/interactive/

Agriculture and Food Security – Clean Energy Technologies – Climate Change – Competition Policy – Digital Economy
Extractive Industries – Finance and Development – Fisheries and Oceans – Functioning of the WTO – Global Value
Chains – Industrial Policy – Innovation – Investment Policy – Regional Trade Agreements – Regulatory Coherence
Services – Subsidies