

Sustainable and Inclusive Aid for Trade (SIAT) Symposium 2019



Theme: Sustainable and Inclusive Participation of Women in Trade

**Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
17-19th September 2019**

Workshop Report

Acknowledgement

This report was developed by Kevin Rombo (Research Manager, TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) and peer reviewed by Anthony Mveyange (Director, Research and Learning at TMEA, who provided valuable comments and inputs for the final piece.

Acronyms

AfCFTA	Africa Continental Free Trade Area
SIAT	Sustainable and Inclusive Aid for Trade
TMEA	TradeMark East Africa
EAC	East African Community
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
KEPSA	Kenya Private Sector Alliance
WTO	World Trade Organization
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
FOGE	Federal office of Gender Equality
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
TMEA	TradeMark East Africa
STR	Simplified Trade Regime
USD	United States Dollar

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1 Introduction

This report summarizes the experience of the high-level SIAT conference on: ***"Inclusive and Sustainable Participation of Women in Trade"*** convened by TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) in partnership with the University of Portsmouth UK in Nairobi, Kenya from 17 -19 September 2019.

1.1 Background and Rationale

Gender inequality has been a major impediment to poverty reduction and empowerment of women with gender discrimination and marginalization at the core of women related poverty. Women in developing countries more so in Africa and Asia are susceptible to more risks than men as there are inherent factors limiting their access to education, finance, asset ownership and information. The Fourth UN conference on women in 1995 identified eradicating the "persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women" as critical to reducing gender gap and empowering women and since then there have been some gains particularly in with increase enrollment in primary education, improved maternal healthcare and a reduction in the gender gap in labor force participation.

However, the gains have not been the same across all developing countries. The poorest countries have achieved minimal progress in improving women's status. Women's risks related to earnings and employment are still high as they participate more in the informal sector, domestic household and are strained by family commitments that affect their involvement in the labor markets. Trade can play a key role in empowering women and addressing the issue of poverty more so in developing countries where trade has created new opportunities for women involved in trade as small-scale, cross-border traders or in the production of traded goods and services. Trade openness has created new job opportunities, increased returns for women in export-oriented sectors and provided incentives to remove gender biases and discrimination with exporting firms employing a higher share of women than non-exporters. Cross-border trade enhances the income of agricultural producers and traders in poor countries, many of whom are women. While trade has improved the earnings of women, they still face a myriad of challenges that include: limited access to finance, limited access to markets, information and other trade support services, unfavorable policy/regulatory/Customs clearance frameworks, weak trader associations and representation, harassment at boarder points, lack of information on market opportunities across all areas of traded activity.

It is against the backdrop of these challenges that TMEA has since 2011 partnered with national and regional governments', private sector and civil society organizations within the East African Community (EAC) region to implement programmes and interventions that respond to some of the specific challenges faced by women traders and their SMEs concerning markets, policy framework, trade and customs regulations, standards. Between 2011-2014, TMEA reached about 6000 women with investment of USD1.2 million with this expected to rise to 25,000 women with increased investment of USD 4.5 million covering 18¹ borders across the EAC.

¹ Mutukula, Malaba, Busia, Namanga, Holili, Taveta, Lungalunga, Nimule, Kabanga, Kobero, Kagitumba, Katuna, Nemba, Rusizi, Rubavu, Cyanika, Kanyaru, Kabuhanga

The SIAT symposium organized as part of the TMEA's broader research and Learning agenda is aimed at generating and contributing to the new body of knowledge on AfT in Eastern Africa and beyond as well as strengthening lessons learned combined with complementary external partnerships and applied research to bolster TMEA's ability to produce long-term impact in its programmes.

1.2 Conference objectives

The objectives of the SIAT conference were:

- To Provide a platform for discussions on both research and policy discourse on women participation in trade and how its implication on inequality and poverty.
- To review and learn from good practices within the aid for trade space, Women in Trade (WiT) drawing experiences from South Asia, the EAC and ECOWAS region to inform TMEAs interventions.
- To Influence the discussions on formulating the EAC's regional and specific national policy agenda on gender and trade based on empirical research findings and experiences emanating from the symposium.
- To Influencing the research agenda on the measurement of '*hard to measure*' results in AfCFTA and particularly women in trade programmes.

1.3 Participation

The SIAT 2019 symposium had two components that is, the master class and the conference. The master class held on the 17th September 2019 was attended by 61 participants comprising of TMEA staff and Partners and was by invite only. The conference held on the 18 and 19 September 2019 was attended by 260 participants on day 1 the 18th September 2019 and 165 participants on day 2 the 19th September 2019. The participants included: Researchers; Government Representatives; Ambassadors and Consulate representatives; Partners-UNECA; Donor Representatives; Women Traders; Trade Association Representatives and Independent participants and TMEA. Participants were well drawn from various regions of the world i.e.) EAC, COMESA, South Asia, America, Australia and UK.



Participants following proceedings during the SIAT 2019 Symposium. The conference brought together participants from all over the world- EAC, COMESA, SADC, ECOWAS, Asia, Australia and America to share and learn on trade experiences, challenges and opportunities to identify potential policy options.

2 Conference Format

The format of the symposium was as below:

1. The Master Class session-A specialised training on sustainable and inclusive participation of women in Trade: An International Law approach was held on the 17th of September 2019 aimed at in-depth discussion on the role robust laws, policies and legislations can have on inclusive participation of women in trade.
2. The SIAT conference- A two-day conference (on 18 and 19 Th September 2019) comprised 5 plenary sessions, with 2-3 speakers per session and 3 breakout sessions along sub thematic areas. Each speaker was given 15 minutes to present, followed by 5-10 minutes for questions and the finalised by a 30-minute panel session on the evidence from the paper. The conference was structured to foster discussion between participants around the core themes with focus on WiT, Aid for trade space and economic development. This was achieved by having panel session after every presentation where the presenter together with other experts in the panel discussed broadly on issues arising from presentation then thereafter engaging the participants for more contribution and or question and answer session.

Box 1: Format of the SIAT 2019 Symposium

Master Class

Master Class (held on 17th September 2019) on Inclusive and Sustainable Participation of Women in Trade: *An International Law Approach*.

SIAT Conference

A 2-day conference (18-19 September 2019) with paper presentations, panel discussions and plenary engagements on the Aid for trade aspects in Africa with focus on inclusive participation of women in Trade

2.1 The Master Class

The Master Class held on the 17th September 2019 preceded the Conference and was themed "*Inclusive and Sustainable Participation of Women in Trade: An International Law Approach*" facilitated by Prof. Leila Chekurone, University of Portsmouth in UK and Prof. Erica George, University of Utah, USA. The aim of this was to deliberate on the role of laws, policies and regulations in empowering women in promoting inclusive trade and explore the opportunities and challenges that exist.

2.1.1 Introduction

There is a disconnect between human rights law and trade and particularly equity that is core to sustainable and inclusive trade. Historically inequality breeds oppression and violence as was the case in West Africa, Ghana where the colonialists established laws and policies that lead to mismanagement of resource hence disadvantaging women traders resulting into revolution. To mitigate against such occurrence there is need to take advantage of opportunities in the global market.

International Economic Cooperation between countries is governed by international law that provides a framework for harmonized relations by incorporating various components of international Laws. There has been a wave of surge in treaties with gender related provisions for instance, treaties signed between Chile and Argentina also the amended regional trade agreement between Canada and Chile that include relatively detailed trade and gender provisions covering a wide range of issues to do with domestic policies, international agreements, corporation activities, institutional arrangements on establishment of the trade and gender committee and consultation procedures as well as provisions on Labour.

2.1.2 Discussions

Men and women are affected differently by trade policy either socially and economically as their access to and control over resources is varied due to socio-cultural, political and economic factors. Women tend to bear the burden of negative effect of liberalization occasioned by gender biases in education and training, inequalities in distribution of income unequal access to productive inputs such as credit, land, and technology, which translate into significant gender differences in occupational distribution.

In most countries political positions controlled by men with little or no representation from women and hence when policies, laws and legislations are enacted they usually exclude or have little benefits for women. The case of international law negotiated by countries to promote trade is no different as these are designed with little attention to the needs of women more so gender differentials in



Master Class Participants engaged in group exercises during SIAT 2019 symposium

trade. Developments in trade liberalization and impact on gender equality provide a strong basis to incorporate gender perspectives into overall trade policy design and implementation. Gender mainstreaming in trade policy ensures that the impacts of policy on the welfare of men and women are captured and evaluating how trade policies affect gender relations, either by widening or closing the gender gap and formulating and implementing trade policy in a gender-sensitive manner. This is important for the following reasons: (i) understand challenges and opportunities facing men and women from trade policy; (ii) designing and implementing trade and other macro-economic policies to maximize opportunities for all; (iii) promote the successful integration of women into more technologically advanced and dynamic sectors of the economy; (iv) avoiding the increase of gender disparities and mitigating the existing inequalities; and (v) facilitating women's empowerment and well-being.

Women in business stand to benefit more when clear laws and policies are enacted on trade that focus on gender inclusion and equity. To fast-track women empowerment there is need to involve men to also champion and shape policy and legal conversations. Further, where laws are restrictive to women there is need to adequately reflect the views of women to derive alternatives and options. Incorporating gender aspects in trade policy is a critical element of an integrated development policy framework that combines social and economic aspects to ensure fair benefits to all involved. The benefits of trade to overall well-being of different economic actors involved in trade is enormous and requires adequate and specific policy responses. As much as trade needs to be gender inclusive in order to accommodate both men and women, there are other aspects related to the broader economy that are also necessary to reap the full benefits of expanding trade. These are: education, employment, fiscal and social policies, and, above all, policies that enhance productive capacities. Education and skills training are the most important in determining women economic opportunities and reducing wage disparities. There is need for a change in attitude and socio-cultural norms if improving women's access to education, technology and skills is to make any meaningful impact.

2.2 The 2019 TMEA's Annual Research Conference

The 2019 SIAT Conference with its focus on "inclusive participation of women in trade for sustainable development" brought together policy makers and practitioners, researchers and development partners to deliberate on innovative, evidence-based approaches to policy development and implementation of trade programmes.

Deliberations of research outputs, policy options were centred around the following sub-themes:

- a) Access to global markets
- b) Regional and continental economic integration
- c) Legal, policy, institutional, and socio-cultural barriers
- d) ICT for trade, poverty and climate change and
- e) Data and approaches to measure economic empowerment.

2.2.1 Opening Session

The conference kicked off on 18th September 2019 with the opening session comprising of remarks and a presentation as follows:

- a) Welcoming remarks and Official Opening by TMEA CEO, Frank Mutsaert:** TMEA has been working in the aid for trade space since 2010 in partnership with public and private entities implementing interventions aimed at reducing costs and time of trade. The WiT programme implemented by TMEA within the EAC region aims at addressing women's specific challenges in trade and promote their participation and boost gains from trade. The 2019 conference with thematic focus on women provided an opportunity for discussions on opportunities and challenges faced by women traders from policy or legal perspectives and the role of evidence based applied research in influencing policy and implementation of Women in Trade programmes. Partnership with Canadian Government for funding women in Trade programmes and with the University of Portsmouth on the research front have supported TMEAs work greatly.

b) Remarks by University of Portsmouth UK—Prof. Leila Choukroune; The university's collaboration with TMEA has been essential in the organization of the conference that convened together researchers, policy experts and participants from all over the world. The University would take the lead in evidence based applied research while leveraging on TMEA practical experience in implementation of trade programmes to jointly organize symposia, policy forums/dialogue sessions and peer reviewed publications-policy papers, trade report etc on identified thematic areas in the Aid for Trade space.

c) Remarks by TMEA Senior Director Business Competitiveness—Waturi Matu:

"Showcasing Women in Trade Programming"

Women account for 80 percent of cross border trade with an estimated value of US\$ 500,000. However, since they face a myriad of challenges that include: limited access to finance, inability to access to markets, information, unfavourable regulatory frameworks, harassment at boarder points, lack of information on market opportunities among others they cannot benefit from the opportunities trade has to offer. From TMEAs experience in implementing Women in Trade programmes, it is estimated that about 47 percent of women traders use informal transportation methods, with 38 percent reporting some form of harassment with bribery leading among the harassment types at 40 percent.

For Women traders to realise the full potential of participation in trade there is need to address the challenges above. Some of the proposed remedies include: Gender main streaming in improving physical access to markets; provisions for Infrastructure allows for separate clearance of small traders; Elimination of non-tariff barriers—support to national monitoring committees for reporting and tracking NTBs; Upgrade of customs; Decentralization of simplified certificates of origin—revenue authorities' delegation of issuance of simplified certificates of origin to women trade associations and operationalization of the African Free Continental Trade Area—a key helping women cross-border traders.

d) Fireside Chat— "Emerging Global Issues on inclusive Trade" hosted by TMEA CEO Frank Matsaert;

The fire side chat provided a platform to deliberate on the broader trade macro-environment with a touch on the current AfCFTA, key innovations, policies, and way forward for international trade. Further, it provided an opportunity to unveil the high-profile guests/speakers, understand their trade practice, insights and experiences on trade policy aspects. The panel comprised of the following: 1. Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, UNCTAD Secretary General; 2. Julius Court, DFID Kenya; 3. H.E Lisa Stadelbauer, Canadian High Commissioner; 4. Ambassador Erastus Mwencha, TMEA Board Chair; 5. Ms. Dorothy Tembo, ITC Deputy Executive Director;

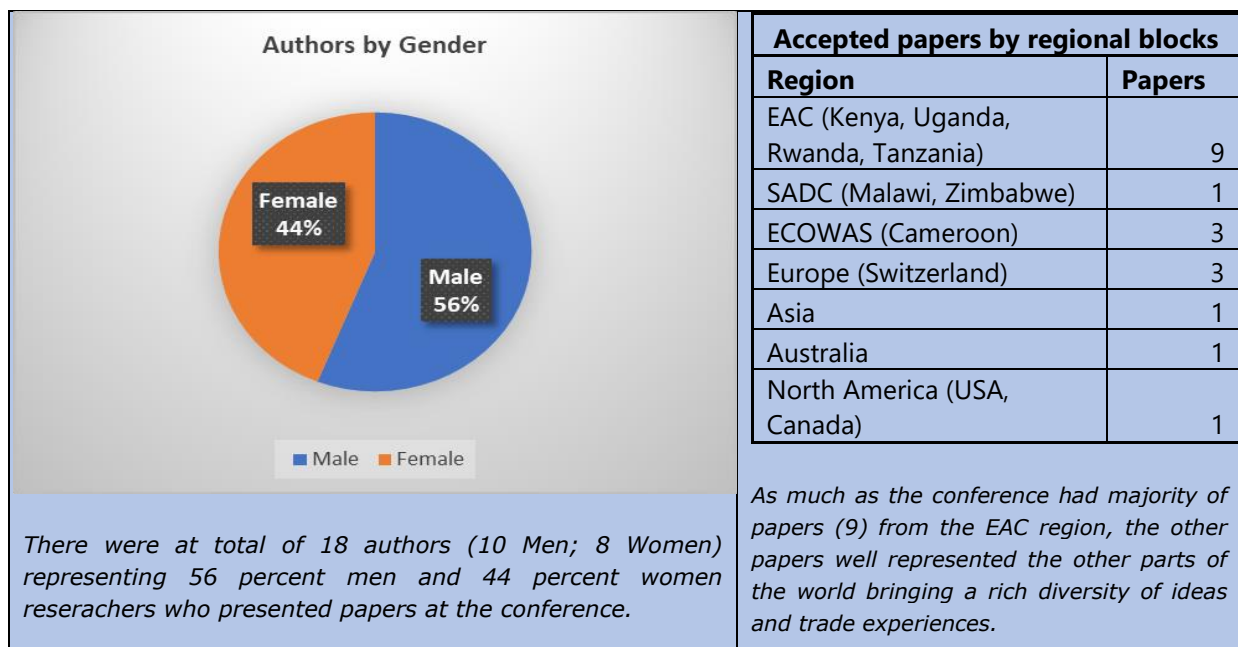
It emerged that in Kenya there are initiatives that the Canadian Government is funding through TMEA to promote SMEs and cross-border trade within EAC through the Busia

boarder aimed to formalise trade to ensure women in trade transition and be able to trade using designated crossing points, access information on customs and standards thereby formalising their businesses and benefiting from trade, improving their income and welfare. There is need for more partnerships and collaborations among donors, and governments' to promote inclusive trade and access to markets for SMEs, different categories of traders.

2.3 Summary of Papers Presented at the Conference

A total of nineteen (19) papers were presented at the conference and these were selected after rigorous scientific review by an independent scientific committee comprised of researchers from universities, research entities and TMEA staff from forty-two(42) papers that had been submitted in response for conference call for papers. A brief summary of authors and geographical regions for the 19 papers is as below:

Figure1: Authors representation by gender and accepted papers by regions



The 2-day conference comprised of 5 plenary sessions and 3 brake out session with a total of 19 papers presented by 18 Authors. The outline of the papers presented is shown in the table below.

*** To access SIAT 2019 Symposium full papers, presentations slides, authors profile and photos go to the link: <https://siat.trademarka.com/research-archive/> ***

Table 2: Papers presented at the Conference by Theme and respective authors

Plenary Session I - Regional and Continental Economic Integration – Catalysing gender equality and sustainable trade
1. Trade Policies Supporting Women's Economic Empowerment: Trends in WTO Members. <i>Presenter: Ms Anoush der Boghossian, the World Trade Organisation, Switzerland</i>

2. Facilitate Expansion of African International Trade to Empower Women and for Sustained Development. *Presenter: Prof. Emmanuel T. Laryea, Monash University, Australia*
3. Can Regional Economic Cooperation become the springboard for women empowerment? A comparative analysis between East Africa and South Asia. *Presenter: Mr Samir Bhattacharya, CUTS International, India*

Plenary Session II - Access to Global Markets – Obstacles & Opportunities

1. Exploring the Implications of Preferential Schemes on Women: The case of EU EBA scheme with Bangladesh and the US AGOA scheme with Kenya. *Presenter: Dr Mona Shrestha Adhikari, World Trade Organisation, Switzerland*
2. The Impact of Import Competition from China on Gendered Labour Outcomes in Ethiopia: Evidence from Firm-level Data. *Presenter: Ruby E. Agbenyega, Aarhus University, Denmark*
3. An Assessment of Effects of Compliance costs on Least-Developed Countries' Exports of Agricultural Products: A case of women-owned SMEs involved in groundnuts production in Malawi. *Presenter: Chimwemwe Richard Mwage, Trade Policy Expert, Malawi*

Breakout Session I: Empowering women to trade

1. Women economic empowerment: An inherent part of Aid for trade. *Presenter: Anoush der Boghossian, World Trade Organisation, Switzerland*
2. Joint Venture as a framework for Empowering Women in Harnessing Global Trade Opportunities: Experience from Dar es salaam, Tanzania. *Presenter: Baraka Israel, College of Business Education, Tanzania*
3. The Impact of the Harmonized System in Trade Policymaking. A case of Women Traders in Kikuubo Trading Center, Kampala, Uganda. *Presenter: Sheila Kyomugisha Singiza, Uganda Revenue Authority, Uganda*

Breakout Session II: Lessons experiences from West Africa and South Asia

1. Women in Trade in South Asia and the Potential for South-South Cooperation. *Presenter: Mashfique Ibne Akbar, North South University, Bangladesh*
2. Impact of Trade Liberalization on Employment in West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU): A gender approach analysis. *Presenter: Lesfran Sam Wanilo Agbahoungba, University of Parakou, Benin*
3. Regional integration and export supply constraints: Evidence from the ECOWAS zone by *Dr Kwami Ossadzifo Wonyra, University of Kara, Togo*

Plenary Session III – Addressing the legal, policy and social cultural barriers to women in trade

1. Legal Framework for Inclusion of Women in Trade: Case of the United Kingdom vis a vis Kenya. *Presenter: Nancy Namisi Siboe, University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom*
2. The impact of the simplified trade regime in facilitating women cross border traders in the Conflict-Affected Areas: A case study of Uganda. *Presenter: Ronald Nsubuga, International Organisation of Migration (IOM), Uganda*
3. Applied Research Paper on Inclusion and Exclusion in Global Markets of the Oil and GAS sector. *Presenter: Beatrice Kinyanjui, Cardno Emerging Markets, Kenya*

Plenary Session IV - ICT – an enabler for Inclusive Trade

1. Digital Formalization of Street Food Vending Business in Tanzania: A conceptual framework. *Presenter: Nasibu Mramba, College of Business Education, Tanzania*
2. Challenges of Women in ICT for Trade: The Case of Female Start-ups in Cameroon in the Domain of Digital Trade with Emphasis on E-Commerce. *Presenter: Mbipan Kwachuh Gilbert, Ministry of Trade, Cameroon*

Plenary Session V - Data and approaches to measure women's economic empowerment

1. Innovating Past Data Collection Obstacles for East Africa's Women Cross-Border Traders: Evidence from Sauti East Africa. *Presenter: Lance Hadley, Sauti East Africa, Kenya*
2. Measuring and Certifying Women's Empowerment through the W+ Standard™. *Presenter: Jeannette Gurung, WOCAN, United States of America*

3 Symposium Highlights

TMEA Chief Impact Officer, Jennifer Collier Wilson

The symposium generated rich and high-level engaging discussions on broader Aid for Trade issues with a focus the opportunities the ACFTA presents for inclusive Trade and development of women. The deliberations centred around three main components: research, policy and practice. The ACFTA has the potential to generate US\$100 Billion for the African continent in terms of gains from trade when fully operationalised. The digital revolution redefined trade and brought about numerous benefits to individual traders and SMEs in terms ability access markets for goods and services far and wide beyond their borders and the reduction in trade costs.

Enacting robust policy and legal frameworks is critical in defining the patterns of trade and distribution of benefits among the different actors. Empowerment and participation of women in trade and the economy is determined not only by policies but also by access to information, and power of self-advocacy among other aspects. Even among SME firms there is diversity in their origins, set up and how they are operated, and cannot be treated homogenously.

Research insights ought to be the basis for decision making at the policy level and firm level to ensure free inclusive trade and that the benefits of trade trickle to all involved. Information from research data should be the basis for influencing policies. There is power to help design solutions and power that provides a progressive measure of a process.

4 Conclusions/Way Forward

The SIAT symposium brought out insightful evidence from research papers presented, breakout sessions, panel discussions, plenary interactions of participants, researchers and

trade policy experts. It emerged that there is more knowledge and evidence on approaches of trade practices and experiences that have been beneficial in other regions of the world that can be shared and interrogated, learnt and even adopted albeit with some tweaking by other trade blocks. Specifically, the following resolutions were adopted as a way forward:

- TMEA with partners to advocate for enactment of policies and legislations that support inclusive and sustainable trade with a focus on women, cross border trade etc.
- TMEA to hold annual research symposium in partnership with like-minded partners to generate research evidence to influence trade policy and legislations.
- TMEA and partners to promote knowledge sharing through publication of research outputs on trade-poverty nexus, Trade diagnostics in Africa and publication of selected research papers presented at the SIAT 2019 conference in a leading journal or as a book through a rigorous scientific process.
- Development of Working Groups comprising of government representatives, development partners and trade policy experts to identify and focus on specific trade related policy issues and work towards formulation of policies to address the same.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Conference Programme

**Sustainable and Inclusive Aid for Trade Symposium
18 - 19 September 2019, Nairobi Kenya**

Time	Item	Presenter/Panellist
Day 1: 18th September 2019		
8:00 - 8:30	Arrival and Registration	TMEA
8:30 - 8:35	Welcome Remarks by TMEA CEO	Frank Matsaert
8:35 - 8:40	Remarks by University of Portsmouth UK	Prof Leila Choukroune
8:40 - 8:50	Showcasing Women in Trade Programming -TMEA Senior Director Business Competitiveness	Waturi Matu
Opening Session - <i>Fireside Chat – “Emerging Global Issues on Inclusive Trade”</i> hosted by Frank Matsaert		
8:50 - 9:25	Amb. Erastus Mwencha TMEA Board Chair H.E Lisa Stadelbauer Canadian High Commissioner Ms. Dorothy Tembo ITC Deputy Executive Director Julius Court DFID Kenya Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi UNCTAD Secretary General	
9:25 – 9:45	Q&A/ Response from plenary	Frank Matsaert
9:45 – 9:55	Keynote address by the Chief Guest- Cabinet Secretary for Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives	Hon. Peter Munya
9:55 – 10:05	Group Photograph	
10:05 - 10:35	Tea Break	
Plenary Session I - Regional and Continental Economic Integration – Catalysing gender equality and sustainable trade		Moderator: Allen Asimwe
10:35-12:35	<u>Research Papers:</u> 1. Trade Policies Supporting Women's Economic Empowerment: Trends in WTO Members Presenter: Anoush der Boghossian (Head of Trade and Gender Section, World Trade Organisation, Switzerland) 2. Facilitate Expansion of African International Trade to Empower Women and for Sustained Development Presenter: Emmanuel T. Laryea (Associate Professor, Monash University,	<u>Panellists</u> 1. Dr. Andrew Mold Acting Director - Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa UNECA 2. Marie Angeliqe Umulisa Principal Officer International Trade EAC Secretariat 3. Nick Nesbitt Chair East African Business Council 4. Dorothy Tuma Chair East African Women in Business Platform

	<p>Australia)</p> <p>3. Can Regional Economic Cooperation become a springboard for women empowerment? A comparative analysis between East Africa and South Asia Presenter: Samir Bhattacharya (CUTS International, India)</p>		
12:35 -13:35	Lunch Break		
Plenary Session II - Access to Global Markets – Obstacles & Opportunities		Moderator: Ahmed Farah	
13:35-15:35	<p><u>Research Papers:</u></p> <p>1. Exploring the Implications of Preferential Schemes on Women (The case of EU EBA scheme with Bangladesh and the US AGOA scheme with Kenya) Presenter: Mona Shrestha Adhikari (International Consultant-Trade and Gender, WTO)</p> <p>2. An Assessment of Effects of Compliance costs on LDCs Exports of Agricultural Products: A case of women-owned SMEs involved in groundnuts production in Malawi Presenter: Chimwemwe R. Mwage (Trade policy expert, Malawi)</p> <p>3. Impact of import competition from China on gendered labour outcomes in Ethiopia: Evidence from firm level data Presenter: Ruby E. Agbenyegaz (Aarhus University, Denmark)</p>	<p><u>Panellists</u></p> <p>1. Hadija Jabir Entrepreneur Tanzania 2. Jas Bedi Chair Export Promotion Council Kenya 3. Emmanuel Mutahunga Commissioner for External Trade, Ministry of Trade and Industry Uganda 4. Dr. Chris Kiptoo PS State Department for Trade</p>	
<i>Participants move to break out sessions (10mins)</i>			
15:45-16:45	Breakout sessions		
	<p>Session I- Empowering women to trade Moderator: Gloria Atuheirwe Loita Meeting Room <u>Research Papers</u></p> <p>1. Women economic empowerment: An inherent part of Aid for trade Presenter: Anoush der Boghossian (Head of Trade and Gender Section, World Trade Organisation)</p> <p>2. Joint Venture as a framework for Empowering Women in Harnessing Global Trade Opportunities: Tanzania Presenter: Baraka Israel (College of Business Education, Tanzania)</p>	<p>Session II – Lessons experiences from West Africa and South Asia Moderator: Moses Sabiiti Mara South <u>Research papers</u></p> <p>1. Women in Trade in South Asia and Potential for South-South Cooperation Presenter: Mashfique Akbar (BRAC University, Bangladesh)</p> <p>2. Impact of Trade Liberalization in West African Economic and Monetary Union: A gender analysis Presenter: Lesfran Sam Wanilo Agbahoungba -- (Economist/researcher, Regional center of excellence in generational Economy (CREG), Senegal)</p> <p>3. Regional Integration and Export Supply</p>	<p>Session III- Unpacking the gender and climate change nexus in trade Moderator: Wanjiku Kimamo Mara North</p> <p><u>Panellists</u></p> <p>1. Victoria Sabula CEO Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund 2. Carol Karuiki CEO Kenya Private Sector Alliance 3. Jeannette Gurung, Founder and Director, Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN). Samir Bhattacharya CUTS International, India Edina Mudibo Cross Border Trader Busia</p>

	3. The Impact of the Harmonized System in Trade Policy making. A case of Women Traders in Kikuubo Trading Centre, Kampala, Uganda. Presenter: Sheila Kemigisha Singiza (Uganda Revenue Authority, Uganda)	Constraints: Evidence from ECOWAS Zone Presenter: Kwami Ossadzifo Wonyra (Universite of Kara, Togo)	
16:45	Tea Break and Departure		
18:30	High Level Dinner Hosted by Kenya Country Programme in partnership with UNECA- By Invite Only **		
Day II: 19th September 2019			
8:00-8:30	Arrival and Registration		
8:30-8:40	Highlights from day I	Christian Nibasumba	
Plenary Session III – Addressing the legal, policy and social cultural barriers to women in trade			Moderator: John Ulanga
8:40-10:40	<u>Research Papers</u> 1. Legal Framework for Inclusion of Women in Trade: Case of the United Kingdom vis a vis Kenya Presenter: Nancy Namisi Siboe (University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom) 2. Impact of the Simplified Trading Regime on Cross Border Trade in Conflicted affected areas- A Ugandan case study Presenter: Ronald Nsubuga (International Organization of Migration (IOM), Uganda) 3. Inclusion and Exclusion in Global Markets of the Oil and Gas sector Presenter: Beatrice N. Kinyanjui (Regional Manager, Cardno Emerging Markets Ltd, Kenya)	<u>Panellists</u> 1. Lisa Karanja Kenya Country Head Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. 2. Hellen Oriaro Global Affairs Canada. 3. Prof Leila Choukroune Univ. of Portsmouth- 4. Finella Agnes Lams South Sudan Women Entrepreneurs Association 5. Ange Muyubira Entrepreneur Burundi	
10:40-11:10	Tea Break		
Plenary Session IV - ICT – an enabler for Inclusive Trade			Moderator: Alban Odhiambo
11:10-13:00	Presentation by Alban Odhiambo <u>Research Papers</u> 1. Digital Formalization of Food Vending Business in Tanzania- A Conceptual Framework Presenter: Nasibu Mramba (College of Business Education, Tanzania) 2. Challenges of Women in ICT for Trade: The Case of Female Start-ups in Cameroon Presenter: Mbipan Kwachuh Gilbert (Ministry of Trade, Cameroon)	<u>Panellists</u> 1. Representative from Safaricom 2. Representative from Twiga Foods 3. Teta Isibo Inzuki Designs SME Rwanda 4. Wanja Kiragu East African Online Transport Agency 5. Jussi Hinkkanen Founder and CEO of Fuzu	
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break		

Plenary Session V - Data and approaches to measure women's economic empowerment		Moderator: Dr Anthony Mveyange
14:00-15:45	<u>Research Paper</u> 1. Measuring and Certifying Women's Empowerment through the W+ Standard™ Presenter: Jeannette Gurung, (WOCAN, United States) 2. Innovating Past Data Collection Obstacles for East Africa's Women Cross-Border Traders: Evidence from Sauti East Africa Presenter: Lance Hadley (Sauti East Africa, Kenya)	<u>Panellists</u> 1. Dr. Tausi Kida Economic and Social Research Foundation Tanzania 2. Kezy Mukiri- Entrepreneur Organization of Women in Trade 3. Phebeans Oriaro Weya- Innovation for Poverty Action, Kenya 4. Dr Cleopatra Mugenyi International Centre for Research on Women
15:45-15:55	Presentation of symposium highlights and way forward	Jennifer Wilson, TMEA Chief Results Officer
15:55-16:00	Vote of Thanks/ Closing Remarks	Lisa Walker TMEA Council Member
16:00	Tea Break and Departure	

Annex II: Participants' Feedback on Symposium Experience

A random sample of feedback was taken from 30 participants to know their experiences in terms of what went on well, areas for improvement to enable TMEA learn from in order to inform the organization of future such conferences, policy forums and working group meetings. The summary is as follows:

Selected suggestions from participants

1. Engage more regional bodies like EAC, AU make presentations on their experiences and the space they provide to EA traders
2. Include more case studies of LDCs women challenges and only use example from ASIA and EU for comparison since there are difference in regional specific challenges. Examples and constraints of women in East African countries borders could be the best learning and recommendation from TMEA to take action from that ground. West African examples are good when they are compared to East Africans.
3. The power point presentations for the conference more so on the title of sections and content need to speak to wider audience and with understanding of the jargon. Full papers can be posted on the relevant website for those interested in read further. Participants interested
3. The authors should have been given more time for presentations.
4. Master class and Symposium were organised and provided a great learning experience. However, after all that fire talk, there's need for action. I suggest next year you set out a session for putting an action plan matrix with clear areas of actions, indicators and action party. With this in place, it will be easy for TMEA to follow through and push the women agenda further and to higher levels. ACTION PLAN.
5. Who was your audience for this Conference? Was it for an academic audience or/ high level workers/ partners of TMEA or for practioners in the field? What was the Goal and Objective of the Conference? What did it intend to achieve? The Conference dealt a lot on the theoretical Part / Researches and it was not balancing it with practice?
6. A small number of women traders were given the opportunity to share their experiences and even, so the time was limited.
7. Time management needs to be improved. This can start by reduction of panel sizes to enable more in-depth discussions. The programme needs to be set out in a way that the high-level opening does not interfere with the flow of the rest of the sessions.
8. Fewer sessions to provide deeper engagement
9. The area of Policy framework tackled on day 1 was well articulated very informative and educative. However, the conference was dominated with theoretical research presentations.

Example - The person who talked about Street Food Vendors and Digitalisation – was very theoretical-Yet the topic was interesting - I was expecting him to Model an Innovation - Like the SAFE BODA Model in Uganda - on how Motor Bike transport was organised digitally. Even in Breakout sessions - they were still presenting theory!!!

Areas for improvement based on feedback above

1. Have more case studies on Africa for discussions and engage regional bodies EAC, AU on their experience in the trade for space in the continent.
2. Provide authors with more time to present their papers (at least 15 minutes). The 5 minutes provided during 2019 SIAT symposium was too little.
3. There needs to be a clear matrix of action plan on issues to be followed up and implemented as part of the conference. e.g policy option adopted.
4. Have a manageable number of sessions and have more time for engagement rather than too many sessions as was in the SIAT 2019 with limited discussions.
5. There is need to find a blend between research and practice for future conferences and not focus more on one or the other.