Global opportunities act as local game changers

Opportunities and challenges for developing countries in trade in services were the focus in a recent presentation by Anders Aeroe, Director of ITC’s Market Development Division, at the China International Service Outsourcing Cooperation Conference (CISOCC) in Nanjing, China. More info

From one to few to many:
NTF II helps thousands of farmers, ITC’s Aeroe says

Thousands of farmers have benefitted from NTF II’s support of sector development, primarily in agri-produce, by strengthening production structures and institutions in Bangladesh, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda. Anders Aeroe, ITC Director of the Market Development Division, explains how the programme makes a difference. More info

Training sessions aim to help
Senegalese mangoes exporters improve their access to finance

Within the framework of the NTF II project in Senegal aimed at promoting mango exports, 7 women and 13 men from the Centre de Gestion Agréé de Dakar, CIRAFINANCE and the Association of Enterprise Development Consultants participated in a 24-27 July training session designed to

Ugandan agriculture minister praises NUCAFÉ’s five-year strategic plan as a boon for coffee growers, exporters

Tress Buchanayande, Uganda’s Minister of State for Agriculture, launched NUCAFÉ’s five-year strategic plan, which he lauded for helping to improve the livelihoods of coffee farmers, reduce poverty and increase foreign-exchange earnings through exports. He pledged
help them coach micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) on gaining better access to finance. More info.

government support both at the policy level by finalising the coffee policy and at the collaborative level through a memorandum of understanding between NUCAFE and the ministry. More info

Branding needed to promote Bangladesh as outsourcing destination

Few companies are aware that Bangladesh is a prime outsourcing destination, with a large number of highly educated and competent IT workers and services that cost less than those of rivals such as India, says Paul Tjia, a senior consultant for offshore sourcing at GPI Consultancy. Branding as the first step to overcome this hurdle, according to Tjia. Watch video
Bangladesh ITC industry needs to recognize crucial role of women.

The information and communications technology industry in Bangladesh is a thriving and is offering both well paid and highly skilled jobs. But the future success of the sector depends largely on the ability of attracting both visionary entrepreneurs and qualified employees. Despite these challenges, the industry appears to ignore half of the available brains and the growth potential of a key resource base: women. More info

Uganda is capable of becoming one of the world's top coffee producers...again

With coffee output ranging from 2.8 million to 3 million bags annually, Uganda has dropped to 10th place among the world's coffee producers, according to Trade Minister Amelia Kyambadde. The country has the potential to boost output at least threefold and become much more competitive, said coffee exporter Michael Nuwagaba. The launch of Uganda's National Coffee Export Strategy, supported by the ITC, will help. Watch video
‘We can make a difference’ in Uganda, says CBI’s Dick de Man

Uganda’s coffee sector has huge potential that has not yet been tapped in terms of better quality and marketing and improved access to finance, all of which will ensure that more value is retained domestically, says CBI Deputy Managing Director Dick de Man. “We have chosen this particular sector as the most promising one where in a comparatively short period of time, that is three to four years, we can make a difference,” he said. Watch video

Upcoming Events

Switzerland

NTF II Steering group meeting 12 September, Geneva
Workshop on key learning from large programme, joint ITC-CBI workshop, 13 September, Geneva

Bangladesh

B2B Matchmaking event in Copenhagen, 18-20 September 2012
12 IT and ITES companies from Bangladesh will go to Copenhagen to meet with potential partners and buyers. Find more here. You can register here.
B2B Matchmaking event in Amsterdam and Leeuwarden, 10-12 October 2012
14 IT and ITES companies from Bangladesh will go to Amsterdam and Leeuwarden to meet with potential partners and buyers. Find more here. You can register here.

Senegal

Monitoring and Evaluation workshop - 21 -23 September, Saly, Senegal