
SESSION 4 SUMMARY

SESSION TITLE: HOW WILL THE FUTURE LOOK?

SESSION DATE: 30 September 2016

SPEAKERS:

Sadie Homer, Senior Policy Advisor, Consumers International

Fabio De Franceschi, Assistant Policy Officer, Directorate General for Trade, European Commission

Helmut Fischer, Head of the Division for Sustainability Standards, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Olalekan Paul Akande, Head, Agribusiness, Partnership & Sustainability, Institute of Export Operations & Management (IEOM)

Eliza Anyangwe, Writer, editor and moderator, The Guardian/The Nzinga Effect (MODERATOR)

CONCLUSION:

The most important factor in increasing access to open data in global value chains is trust, followed by infrastructure and collaboration. It is important to go from trade to 'good trade'.

NOTES FROM THE PANEL:

Sadie Homer, Consumers International:

Consumers – wherever they live – want sustainable products. Retailers have a responsibility to make sure that sustainability is an easy choice for consumers.

Fabio De Franceschi, European Commission:

The linkages between initiatives need to be strengthened, especially in regards to the inclusion of the developing country actors. Responding to the demand for relevant market data is an opportunity to facilitate better information about market access to small producers.

Helmut Fischer, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ):

It is important to go from trade to 'good trade', as ITC's Executive Director said in her opening speech to this Forum. Germany translates it into 'fairer global value chains' and puts SMEs and their role in global supply chains into focus. The lack of financial resources could be a bottleneck. This can be changed by fostering the matchmaking between financial institutions and SMEs.

Olalekan Paul Akande, Institute of Export Operations & Management (IEOM):

There is a gap between markets and sustainable production. Private standards can be perceived as a barrier to trade and costly for the farmer.

QUOTES FROM THE FLOOR

We have to develop a system that allows everyone here in the room to work together. It is not enough to do 'cool things', in silos.

We have to encourage entrepreneurial activities to mitigate climate change.

The WTO context gives the opportunity to mainstream sustainability.