



The ACP Geneva Office and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Geneva Office are kindly inviting you to the panel on the 2016 WTO Public Forum, Session 2:

“How can ACP countries harness digital innovation as critical enabler for promoting inclusive trade?”

27 September 2016, 13:00-14:30 at Room S2, WTO

Today's international trade world is dominated by digital innovation. Effective participation of ACP States in the digital economy is crucial to their trade and development initiatives. Although internet and mobile connectivity continue to raise in all parts of the world, severe gaps remain and trade inclusiveness is by far not achieved. Digital technologies change the world of work, of business and the private life of many millions all around the world. However, inequality is growing, and therefore the urgent need for enhancing domestic and international actions necessary to enable ACP states to implement development objectives including those contained in the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Many ACP countries have witnessed successful developments in bridging the digital divide. However, universal digital inclusiveness is not yet reached. This session jointly organized by FES Office -ACP Geneva Delegation will focus on the following questions:

- How can trade policy and trade - related development policy assist ACP countries' desire to fully benefit from digital innovation?
- What are the ingredients for an inclusive digital economy and on which success stories can be built on?
- What do ACP countries expect from the WTO in order to increase their capacities to harness digital innovations?

Speakers include

- ❖ His Excellency Mr. **Marwa Joel Kisiri**, Head, ACP Geneva Office
- ❖ Ms. **Yvonne Theemann**, Senior Program Officer, FES Geneva Office
- ❖ Mr. **Roy Ombatti**, founder, African Born 3D Printer, Kenya
- ❖ Ms. **Daniela Zehenter-Capell**, Head of Division, Trade-related development cooperation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
- ❖ Ms. **Cécile Barayre**, Economic Affairs Officer, ICT Analysis Section, Division on Technology and Logistics, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)