

# CUTS HRC Activity Report

August-October 2017

## ONGOING PROJECTS

### Regional Inclusive Growth (Diginomics-I)

The Regional Inclusive Growth (Diginomics-I) project is jointly undertaken by CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition (CIRC) and CUTS Centre for Competition, Investment and Economic Regulation (CCIER), in partnership with CUTS HRC in Vietnam and the Philippines Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) in the Philippines. The project is to be implemented over a period of 18 months (June 2017 to December 2018).

Within the framework of this project, three country reports are to be prepared – for India, the Philippines and Vietnam respectively by project partner institutions. The studies will highlight the need to strengthen the Digital Economy while focussing on three key actors: Government, Producers and Consumers, and focussing more on Consumers. Best Practices across the sectors and geographies to showcase the benefits to the consumers associated with digital platforms, will also be highlighted in the studies.



### Competition Distortions in Vietnam

The Competition Distortions Dossier is a quarterly newsletter produced by CUTS Hanoi Resource Centre (HRC) comprising articles and analysis based on reliable published sources. It encompasses reforms and policies that the Government of Vietnam has put in place during the reporting period. This initiative will not only impact competition and consumer protection, but will also deal with the specific cases of violations of competition and consumer protection laws and regulations.

During the reporting period, the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the Competition Distortions Dossier of 2017 (English and Vietnamese version) was prepared. The Dossier has been disseminated to the relevant stakeholders and can be accessed at CUTS HRC website: <http://www.cuts-hrc.org/>

## REPRESENTATIONS

- In collaboration with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), CUTS HRC organised an international workshop entitled 'The Digital Economy: Potential Benefits, Challenges and Implications for Regulation' at VCCI Southern Office, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The event organised on August 30, 2017 marked the launch of CUTS 'Regional Inclusive Growth' Project (Diginomics-I). Alice Pham and Duyen Hoang from CUTS HRC participated in the event.



- Alice Pham participated in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Workshop on 'Consumer Protection Policy and Law' in Yangon, Myanmar on October 24-27, 2017, where she also conducted Needs Assessment of the Consumer Protection Landscape of Myanmar.