

Concept Note and Preliminary Program

Book Launch & Panel Discussion

“How Africa Eats” – Trade, Food Security and Climate Risks

13 November 2025, 18:00-19:30

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Geneva (FES) in collaboration with the Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) will host a public book launch and panel discussion in Geneva to present “How Africa Eats”, edited by Prof. David Luke. The book examines Africa’s food systems, structural constraints, regional trade dimensions, and policy reforms required to achieve food security and resilience.

This event will also connect with Prof. David Luke’s earlier publication, “How Africa Trades,” highlighting the critical intersections between food systems, trade policy, and Africa’s economic transformation agendas.

Africa faces multiple challenges: rapidly growing populations alongside vulnerability to climate change, external market shocks, and structural food import dependencies. “How Africa Eats” provides African-centred insights into:

- How food systems connect with regional and global trade rules
- Opportunities and constraints for advancing food security through trade policy and AfCFTA implementation
- Policy recommendations for achieving sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems on the continent

This launch will showcase African expertise and policy perspectives within the trade and development discussions in international Geneva. It will emphasize the critical connections between food systems, trade regulations, and Africa’s structural transformation. The initiative aims to promote authentic African viewpoints and practical policy recommendations while fostering dialogue on pathways to achieving equitable, resilient, and sustainable food systems across the continent.

Preliminary Programme

Welcome Remarks, Renate Tenbusch, FES Geneva

Presentation of the Book, Prof. David Luke, LSE

Panel Discussion, Moderator Prof. David Luke

- Bright Okogu, Chief of Staff, WTO (TBC)
- Shannon Howard, Head of Geneva Office, WFP (TBC)
- Shruti Patel, ETH NADEL
- Hernan Manson, Head Inclusive Agribusiness and Trade, ITC
- Representative, IUF (TBC)

Open Discussion

Wrap Up and Conclusion

Informal Reception & Networking