

## DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE

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Unclassified**2004 OVERVIEW OF DONOR AND AGENCY POLICIES IN TRADE-RELATED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING****Summary of Responses to the OECD/DAC Survey on Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building****DAC Meeting on 22 April 2005**

*This document is circulated for INFORMATION to the DAC under item 7 of the 22 April 2005 agenda [DCD/DAC/A(2005)7]. Delegates are invited to send comments to the Secretariat. Changes in this revised version have been made on pages 49, 58 and 60.*

*The Overview summarises submissions to the Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Surveys conducted by the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate in 2002, 2003 and 2004. Survey questions have been sent out to DAC, multilateral and regional agencies on an annual basis, as part of the data request for the Doha Development Agenda Trade Capacity Building Database.*

*The aim of those Surveys is to complement the quantitative data contained in the Database and WTO/OECD Joint Reports, and as such contribute to greater information sharing and co-ordination amongst donors and agencies planning and delivering trade-related technical assistance and capacity building.*

*The Overview will be posted on 13 May on the OECD and Database websites. In addition, excerpts from this document might be used to draft the upcoming 2005 WTO/OECD Report on Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building. Reporters will however have an opportunity to report any inaccuracies by 30 June 2005.*

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## I. FOREWORD

1. This Overview is based on submissions to the Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building (TRTA/CB) Surveys conducted by the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate in 2002, 2003 and 2004.
2. The TRTA/CB Surveys aim to complement (statistical) reporting to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database (<http://tcbdb.wto.org>) and the annual *WTO/OECD Reports on TRTA/CB* (which draw on Database data), and as such, contribute to greater information sharing and co-ordination amongst donors and agencies planning and delivering TRTA/CB.
3. The Overview will be posted on the OECD website (<http://www.oecd.org/dac/trade>) and the Database website (<http://tcbdb.wto.org>). In addition, excerpts from this document might be used to draft the upcoming 2005 WTO/OECD Report on TRTA/CB. Reporters will however have an opportunity to report any inaccuracies by 30 June 2005.
4. Bilateral donors and multilateral agencies have been requested to provide (or update) information on (1) their strategy and objectives of TRTA/CB, (2) delivery mechanisms (bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives), (3) institutional arrangements, and (4) evaluation methodology, timetable and lessons learnt.<sup>1</sup> In cases where no information was sent or updated, the authors took the liberty to draft or update a donor/agency's profile based on information found in the public domain (e.g. official agency website and newsletters).<sup>2</sup>
5. In addition to these four issues, the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate invited respondents to send examples or case studies of (1) innovative TRTA/CB programmes (in 2003), as well as of (2) TRTA/CB programmes that have helped strengthen or institutionalise the public-private sector dialogue on trade-related issues in the partner country (in 2004). Examples of innovative TRTA/CB programmes were included in the *Second Joint WTO/OECD Report on Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building* (released in July 2003). Examples of programmes that have contributed to strengthen the public-private sector dialogue have been included in Section II, *Key Points*, of this Overview though little information has been received on that issue.
6. This Overview is structured as follows: Section II summarizes the key points emerging from the donor/agency "profiles" regarding TRTA/CB strategy and objectives; priority areas; delivery mechanisms; institutional arrangements; and evaluation timetable and method. In addition, this Section sums up the main lessons learnt from recent TRTA/CB evaluation reports and provides examples of TRTA/CB projects and programmes contributing to public-private sector dialogue. Section III includes the profiles of the 20 DAC Members; Section IV the profiles of multilateral organisations and international financial institutions and finally Section V, the profiles of regional organisations and development banks.<sup>3</sup> Annex I includes the original data request.



Michael Roeskau  
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<sup>1</sup> See 2004 Data Collection, in Annex I.

<sup>2</sup> Belgium, Germany, USA, IMF, UNDP, UNIDO World Bank, WCO and WIPO did not respond / send updated information in 2004. In addition, Greece, Ireland and Luxembourg did not respond to any of the surveys.

<sup>3</sup> The length of all Profiles has been limited to a maximum of 2 pages per donor/agency. In addition, the authors took the liberty to further edit the profiles to ensure consistency across the Overview.

## II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

7. The survey submissions indicate that bilateral donors and multilateral agencies have become much more active in TRTA/CB over the last few years, particularly since the 2001 WTO Doha Ministerial Conference. This increased activity is not only reflected in increased funding for TRTA/CB, but also in the number of donors/ agencies with explicit strategies and programming guidelines for TRTA/CB; enhanced awareness among donors of the importance of TRTA/CB for development and poverty reduction; and the strengthened, and sometimes institutionalised, dialogue between development and trade practitioners. In addition, several donors and agencies have recently embarked on ambitious reviews of their own bilateral TRTA/CB programmes and/or their participation in multilateral programmes, in order to assess the effectiveness of their TRTA/CB activities.

8. Key points emerging from the survey submissions:

### (1) Strategy and objectives of TRTA/CB

9. Almost 50% of all surveyed bilateral donors and multilateral agencies have prepared specific TRTA/CB strategy papers, work programmes or trade and development policy papers, most of which are consistent with the objectives and good practices outlined in the *DAC Guidelines on Strengthening Trade Capacities for Development* (2001).

10. Donors and agencies have often the same vision of TRTA/CB: they perceive it as one (out of many) means to promote economic development and reduce poverty, by supporting developing countries' greater participation in the multilateral trading system and their integration into the world economy. Almost half of surveyed the bilateral donors also highlight the importance of improved **coherence** between their country's trade and development policies (see also Institutional arrangements below). Furthermore, some donors and agencies have in recent years increased the focus on endogenous capacity development in their TRTA/CB programming (e.g. Canada and UNCTAD).

11. A number of bilateral donors and multilateral agencies have recently put more emphasis on trade in Country/Regional programmes (i.e. "mainstreaming" trade in development and poverty reduction programmes), but some donors emphasise that the outcome will depend on the priorities of the partner country (see also Delivery Mechanisms below).

### (2) Priority areas<sup>4</sup>

12. While bilateral donors often have a broad approach to TRTA/CB and do not specialise in the delivery of a selected number of specific TRTA/CB activities/categories (e.g. trade facilitation; TRIPs; business development; etc.), specialised multilateral agencies such as, e.g., the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and regional organisations and development banks, often have a narrower focus.

13. TRTA/CB activities often range from support for participation in trade negotiations and implementing WTO agreements, to supporting national trade institutions and enhancing productive capacity. Some donors and agencies give emphasis to activities targeted at supporting the trade policy

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<sup>4</sup> Refers to priority aid sectors/categories as well as regions/countries, emphasised in an agency's strategy or work programme paper. Findings might, in some cases, be inconsistent with data found in the TCB Database.

process and the “mainstreaming” of trade into national development plans (policy making). Others focus on private sector and Small and Medium sized Enterprise (SME) development - which often includes encouraging joint ventures with developing country firms<sup>5</sup>; promoting or facilitating imports from developing countries, e.g. Denmark’s Import Promotion Office for Products from Developing Countries (DIPPO), the EU Expanding Exports Helpdesk, the Netherlands’ Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (CBI), Sweden’s Open Trade Gateway and the Swiss’ Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO).

14. An increasing number of bilateral donors and multilateral agencies underline the importance of assistance aimed at facilitating trade (e.g. support for the simplification of import/export procedures and for the automation of customs administration) and at developing capacities to comply with health and technical standards, e.g. Canada, the EC, Japan, the World Bank and APEC.

### **(3) Delivery mechanisms<sup>6</sup>**

15. Important “delivery channels” for bilateral donors are: multilateral agencies (e.g. ITC, UNIDO), regional agencies and development banks (e.g. the Asian Development Bank, the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation), multidonor frameworks (e.g. the Integrated Framework on Trade-Related Technical Assistance for Least Developed Countries, the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme to Selected Least Developed and other African Countries, the Standards and Trade Facility and the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transport and Trade) and Trust Funds (e.g. Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund, managed by the WTO). In addition, EU Members also deliver a significant share of TRTA/CB through the European Commission (EC).<sup>7</sup>

16. Delivery through regional organisations is often perceived as cost-effective, as it enables to combine expertise and training for the whole group of countries, drawing on resources available from within the region. In addition, it allows for economies of scale for the beneficiaries, as some share of the required support infrastructure can be shared between countries, resulting in important reductions in the cost of establishing the service and in the operating cost (e.g. regional accreditation schemes; regional trade promotion agencies; etc.). Finally, it provides a major boost to regional co-operation.

17. Bilateral TRTA/CB is sometimes delivered as a component of broader development assistance programmes (e.g. private sector or rural development programmes), e.g. Austrian, Dutch, Canadian, German and Norwegian development assistance programmes.

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<sup>5</sup> e.g. Norway’s Matchmaking Programme; the Netherlands’ Programme for Co-operation with Emerging Markets.

<sup>6</sup> While the DAC Statistics distinguish between bilateral and multilateral ODA, for the purpose of this overview we have in the Profiles distinguished between (1) Bilateral delivery channels: TRTA/CB delivered to one beneficiary or a group of beneficiaries (e.g. a region), by the aid agency, another authority, department, or sub-contractor. (2) Regional delivery channels: TRTA/CB delivered in collaboration with, or through a regional organisation (e.g. APEC). (3) Multilateral delivery channels: TRTA/CB delivered in the frame of a multidonor initiative (e.g. IF), or through multilateral organisations (e.g. ITC) or Trust Funds (e.g. DDA Trust Fund). In addition, for EU Member States, we have highlighted the “EC” channel of delivery. Findings reflect donor/agency responses, and might in some cases be inconsistent with data found in the TCB Database.

<sup>7</sup> As the 2004 WTO/OECD TRTA/CB Report shows, the multilateral share in commitments to “trade policy and regulations” increased in recent years and accounted for 60% of total commitments in 2003. That same year, the multilateral share in commitments to “trade development” approximated 39%. This is noteworthy as exactly the *opposite* situation occurs for the delivery of ODA in general. Table 14 of the 2004 Development Co-operation Report shows that contributions to multilateral institutions approximated 28% of total ODA, while the bilateral share accounted for 72%.

18. Multilateral agencies and regional organisations and development banks are engaged both individually and jointly in TRTA/CB.

**(4) Institutional arrangements<sup>8</sup>**

19. TRTA/CB involves a wide range of different actors. In DAC Members, the agencies involved often include the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the aid agency, line ministries (e.g. Agriculture, Trade and Industry) and specialised agencies (e.g. customs authority). In multilateral and regional agencies, TRTA/CB often involves a number of different departments and decision making bodies.

20. The variety of stakeholders from the “donor/delivery side” involved in the formulation, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of TRTA/CB makes co-ordination and a shared understanding of good practices (in development co-operation generally and TRTA/CB specifically) sometimes difficult. A number of DAC Members have set up joint bureau’s or task forces on trade and development (e.g. the EC, Denmark and Switzerland) to increase co-ordination and coherence between trade and development policies and initiatives.

21. A number of donors/agencies also provide guidance and training for those involved in TRTA/CB planning, execution and review at headquarters and field offices (e.g. EC and USA). Some donors and agencies have also set up their own database of TRTA/CB activities (e.g. USA, APEC and WCO) to optimise information sharing.

**(5) Evaluation methodology and timetable**

22. Most TRTA/CB projects or programmes are evaluated as part of standard evaluation efforts, conducted by existing evaluation departments or independent consultants. They mostly use standard aid assessment methods (e.g. review of project documents; questionnaires) and assessment criteria, such as *relevance* (sometimes including relevance to the agency’s comparative advantage), *efficiency* (agency performance; cost-efficiency), *effectiveness* (sometimes including degree of donor co-ordination and coherence), *impact* and *sustainability*. Though the DAC provides definitions of the above criteria, interpretations of the latter often vary across agencies.<sup>9</sup>

23. Evaluation needs and measurement tools often differ depending on the *type* (i.e. category) of TRTA/CB activity assessed.

24. Some donors and implementing agencies, such as the EC, the Netherlands, the UK, ITC and the World Bank, are evaluating their *entire* TRTA/CB programme or approach (i.e. thematic evaluation). Yet the objective of such a broad exercise varies too (from refining an agency’s TRTA/CB Strategy, identifying its comparative advantage in TRTA/CB or reviewing the degree of incorporation of TRTA/CB activities in donor country/ regional assistance programmes).<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Refers to the Ministries, agencies and bodies responsible for planning, design, delivery and coordination of TRTA/CB.

<sup>9</sup> For a definition of the assessment criteria, see The DAC Principles for the Evaluation of Development Assistance, OECD (1991) and the Glossary of Evaluation and Results Based Management (RBM) Terms, OECD (2000), that can be found at [www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation](http://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation).

<sup>10</sup> See Summary Report, Informal Experts’ Meeting, 16 June 2004, Trade Capacity Building Results Monitoring/Assessment Framework, at [www.oecd.org/dac/trade](http://www.oecd.org/dac/trade) for more information.

**(6) Lessons from recent TRTA/CB evaluations**

25. A number of donor and implementing agencies shared evaluation reports of individual TRTA/CB projects (2003 TRTA/CB Survey) as well as reviews of their overall TRTA/CB programme or strategy (2004 TRTA/CB Survey).<sup>11</sup> The main lessons learnt from the evaluation reports received by December 2004 are summarised below. This summary is not meant to be exhaustive. A more thorough *DAC Study on Lessons Learnt from Thematic TRTA/CB Evaluations* is currently under preparation.

**Box 1. Lessons learnt**

- *Conducive environment:* TRTA/CB's effectiveness and impact depend on the political economy of the recipient, i.e. business environment and other domestic policies in the beneficiary country (e.g. macroeconomic policies, particularly exchange rate policies; private sector development policies; R&D policies; education, etc.).
- *Prior to designing a project or programme:*
  - It is recommended to conduct an accurate and thorough diagnosis/ assessment of trade capacity building needs, or at least an identification of priorities, cutting across all relevant trade-related policy areas, e.g. those related to the WTO negotiations and implementation of agreements; the regional trade integration agenda; the domestic institutional & regulatory framework for trade policy making; the positioning of trade within national development strategies and the production and export capacity of the private sector. (For IF participating countries: the needs assessment, done through the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study, is "shared" amongst all donors and agencies participating in the IF).
  - Where possible, the diagnosis should be undertaken by the beneficiary country itself (possibly with the support of a donor/agency that should help develop local expertise in needs assessment). In addition, the diagnosis or priority setting phase should involve wide consultations with relevant state and non-state actors (including representatives of the private sector and research community).
  - A donor project or programme should be responsive to the beneficiary's most pressing needs and take into account the national context (e.g. ongoing/ upcoming trade negotiations; existing business climate; political, geographical, institutional constraints; absorptive capacity) and the donor's capacity and comparative advantage.
- *When designing a project/programme:*
  - It is essential to identify the most appropriate aid channel, approach and instruments. Using multilateral or regional agencies with a specific thematic/regional expertise as the delivery channel, providing multi-country TRTA/CB (e.g. at sub-regional level) and supplying programme or budget support can help maintain cost-efficiency and donor co-ordination.
  - It is suggested to ensure built-in flexibility, to allow for adjustments in case of changing circumstances and enable a more nationally-driven choice of activities. This implies the need for regular and objective monitoring and evaluation throughout the implementation of the project, and not just ex-post. In addition, it highlights the need to develop aid instruments that can be rapidly mobilised or adapted to changing situations (often in the form of shorter-term TRTA).<sup>12</sup>
  - It is important to define realistic project/programme outputs and objectives at the design stage. Beneficiary government and donor expectations should be calibrated to take account of the scope of the issues to be addressed, the available funding, the timing and the capacities of both donor and

<sup>11</sup> E.g. DFID (UK), the EC, the Netherlands, USAID (USA), SECO (Switzerland), CIDA (Canada) and GTZ (Germany).

<sup>12</sup> Yet changes should not be too frequent, as they might complicate the assessment of a Strategy's success.

recipients.

- A long-term, continuous and integrated approach to TRTA/CB is however important to ensure greater impact and sustainability. Each focused TRTA/CB activity or project should be part of, or related to, a broader and cohesive programme and consistent with other donors' activities in the country. Hence, the necessity to ensure: (1) Follow-up, logical sequencing, continuity and synergies with other, complementary activities/projects (possibly funded/implemented by other donors or agencies). This implies the need for greater donor co-ordination at headquarters and field level (e.g. by holding regular meetings on TRTA/CB in the beneficiary country/region; appointing a lead donor or facilitator) and adequate communication between a donor's head office and field missions; and (2) Long-term and predictable resources devoted to trade capacity building, e.g. by increasing the financial contribution to the existing Trust Funds. The Integrated Framework provides a useful model of a comprehensive, integrated and coordinated TRTA/CB approach incorporated in nationally-driven Poverty Reduction Strategies (though the Framework requires further improvements to optimise its development effectiveness).<sup>13</sup>
- In addition, the direct link of the project/programme to poverty reduction should be examined.
- Where relevant, it can be useful to deliver TRTA/CB as part of broader donor programmes (e.g. private sector or rural development programmes), in order to ensure consistency of TRTA/CB with other types of assistance.
- *Implementation:*
  - Efficient mechanisms for dialogue and co-ordination at government, donor and implementing agency level can help ensure a clear division of labour between all stakeholders. A National Focal Point, set up and headed by a beneficiary representative, can help ensure adequate dialogue, division of labour and a strong oversight/management of the TRTA/CB project(s)/programme(s).
  - Sustained high-level political will and commitment and acceptance of change amongst all relevant stakeholders are essential prerequisites for effective TRTA/CB. A donor programme will have greater chances of producing positive and sustainable results if the beneficiaries themselves recognize and understand the need for change. Lobbying and awareness-raising in the recipient country is sometimes necessary in order to obtain results, as the government machinery sometimes moves slowly.
  - Donors/agencies and their implementing partners should avoid delays in the implementation of planned activities/outputs and in the disbursements of funds.
  - Delivering methodological support, training and guidance to donor/agency staff, particularly to those at field level, who are usually not familiar with the new and complex area of TRTA/CB, is essential. This can in turn trigger greater commitment to TRTA/CB in donor field offices, hence facilitating a greater input in project design (and de facto encouraging decentralisation of aid management).
- *Monitoring and Evaluation:*
  - Defining clear objectives, expected outcomes and outputs as well as measurable performance indicators at the design stage will facilitate monitoring and evaluation.<sup>14</sup>
  - It is recommended to involve all relevant stakeholders in the monitoring and evaluation process and to capitalise on (interim/final) conclusions by disseminating them and taking the lessons learnt/recommendations into account in future programme design or by adjusting the current

<sup>13</sup> Cf. Final IF Evaluation Report (December 2003).

<sup>14</sup> As highlighted by the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (March 2005), donors should where possible use the monitoring and evaluation framework/ indicators identified by the partner country, as to assess their performance against priorities and targets included in the national trade development and/or poverty reduction strategies.

programme.

- Monitoring and evaluation should be conducted by independent experts who were not previously involved in the design and/or implementation of the reviewed project/programme.
- Conducting joint evaluations with other donors/agencies can help alleviate the burden on the beneficiaries and determine the collective impact of donor/agency efforts on the beneficiary's trade capacity and poverty level (hence overcoming to some degree the attribution problem individual donors/agencies face when evaluating impact).

**(7) Examples of TRTA/CB projects and programmes that contribute to public-private sector dialogue<sup>15</sup>**

26. The recently launched joint UK and Dutch-funded *Trade & Poverty Project* (2005-2009) aims to support in-country debate between public and private stakeholders, as well as horizontal learning (across different countries) on linkages between trade, development and poverty reduction for use in policy development. The project is to be implemented in 15 countries in South Asia, South-East Asia, Eastern Africa and Southern Africa, and will be implemented by the NGO Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS).

27. A project initiated jointly by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Secretariat and the Institute for International Business, Economics & Law (financed by AusAID and the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund) entitled "*How Economies Participate in the World Trade Organization*" aims to identify the complex relationships among different (state and non-state) groups who may contribute to the management of national participation in the WTO, through a number of case studies. The case studies will reflect lessons relating to the role of different actors in decision-making processes and will identify the incentives and pressures that appear to act on both private and officials actors in different situations relevant to participation in the WTO.

28. In 2003, the International Trade Centre launched *Business for Cancun*, regional meetings held in the run-up of the Cancun WTO Ministerial Meeting, in order to facilitate the dialogue between the developing country business communities and their trade negotiators, to enable the integration of business sector views into national trade negotiation strategies. The meetings concentrated on identifying, reviewing and voicing business inputs, strengthening public-private sector interface and business advocacy in developing countries and transition economies. This initiative has been followed up in 2004, with the *Business for Development* project.

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<sup>15</sup> Unfortunately, very little information was received on that subject. Hence, the authors were not in a position to identify general good practices in strengthening public-private sector dialogue.

### III. BILATERAL DONORS (DAC MEMBERS)

#### Australia

<http://www.usaid.gov.au>

**Strategy and objectives:** Australia's broad strategy of TRTA/CB is to reduce poverty by helping developing countries to maximise the benefits of global trade. Australia's TRTA/CB has two core objectives:

- To assist developing countries to better understand and negotiate their trade-related interests in multilateral and regional forums;
- To support institutional and market development to facilitate developing countries' participation in global trade.

Australia has published a number of trade and development policy documents, among others "*Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction*" (2002) – that outlines the importance of trade for poverty reduction, as well as Australia's activities for helping developing countries adjust to freer trade, including the delivery of TRTA/CB yet also of assistance for improving governance; the provision of quota and tariff-free access for all goods from LDCs and the negotiation of lower agricultural trade barriers through the WTO.

**Priority areas:** New and pending bilateral and regional programmes have a more explicit focus on **WTO-related** negotiation and implementation issues. Australia's TRTA/CB activities are demand-driven and concentrate heavily on the **Asia Pacific** region. Trade-related capacity building has been identified as a sectoral focus within the Australian Agency for International Development's (AusAID) regional strategies for Asia.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** TRTA/CB is generally delivered through Australian Managing Contractors usually as part of larger economic governance and specialist training facilities focusing on short-term training and TRTA needs;
- **Regional initiatives:** a large percentage of Australia TRTA/CB multi-year programmes are delivered in partnership with regional forums, such as ASEAN, APEC and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat;
- **Multilateral initiatives:** Australia participates in a number of multi-donor activities. In response to the Doha Declaration (2001), Australia has significantly increased its contribution to WTO Trust Funds.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Australian Agency for International Development* (AusAID) is the main co-ordinating body for TRTA/CB. It consults and works in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as other sectoral government departments, for the delivery of TRTA/CB. A *Trade Advisory Group* has been established to guide monitoring and evaluation of TRTA/CB and to provide policy and technical advice on trade and development issues.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Assessment of the effectiveness of larger TRTA/CB activities follows standard aid programme methods. Design documents include (1) a *logical framework matrix* that relates higher-level objectives to component activities and lists performance indicators at each level, as well as (2) a *monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan*. Implementation contracts and reporting are then aligned with the log frame and the M&E plan.

Indicators: Specific indicators are prepared for each aid programme activity. At the output level, progress is measured against quantitative measures of performance and qualitative partner judgements. Sound indicators at *outcome* and for high-level objectives are more difficult to specify and measure.

Monitoring & Evaluation model: Some projects –e.g. trade-related training- have been subject to a monitoring and evaluation system based on the *Kirkpatrick Four Level Model* (1994). This model helps to monitor and report the extent to which participants find the training meets their needs, learn from the activity and/or change their behaviours as the result of the training.

### Summary of AusAID Assessment Tools

Assessment Tool	Timing and Responsibilities	Purpose/Comment
1. Appraisal or Peer Group Review	When design document complete, before implementation. By independent group of staff &/or consultants.	Checks that design is sound and includes active partner inputs.
2. Technical Advisory Group (TAG)	As required by AusAID manager during implementation. Independent specialists.	Often used for larger, complex projects.
3. Mid-term or other formative review	When manager decides overall review of programme direction is required or an extension is proposed. By independent reviewers.	Usually to address major issues or reorient programme. Typically involves field visits.
4. Individual sub-activity evaluation within programme	At activity conclusion. By participants and contractor.	To check participant perception; used in future activity planning.
5. Activity Monitoring Brief	Annually. By AusAID task manager (currently trialling involvement of contractor).	To gather agency-wide info. for aggregate analysis and external reporting of AusAID performance
6. Quality Assurance Group Panel	Random sample of programmes. By panel of AusAID staff and consultants.	Desk study to contribute to overall assessment of AusAID performance for accountability and learning.
7. Completion Report	At programme end by implementing contractor/agency.	To summarise achievements and provide basis for any future work.
8. <i>Ex post</i> Evaluation	After programme completion. By independent specialists.	For accountability and learning.

Guidelines for these reviews are available at [www.ausaid.gov.au/AusGUIDE](http://www.ausaid.gov.au/AusGUIDE)

## Austria

([http://www.bmaa.gv.at/view.php3?r\\_id=89&LNG=en&version=](http://www.bmaa.gv.at/view.php3?r_id=89&LNG=en&version=))

**Strategy and objectives:** No major changes have taken place in Austrian TRTA/CB strategy since the Doha Declaration (2001). “Private sector and development”, which covers TRTA/CB, is one of the thematic priorities of the Austrian co-operation, which emphasises economic growth as a prerequisite for poverty reduction, as well as greater involvement of the private sector, particularly in the countries of South-Eastern Europe.<sup>16</sup>

Austria’s TRTA/CB activities aim to support:

- Capacity building for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to produce quality goods for the local market;
- Trade-related training for officials (e.g. on antidumping, in Middle and Eastern European Countries);
- Promotion of fair trade, through a national information campaign and in the EU-ACP context;
- UNIDO, focusing on sustainable industrial resource management (through its cleaner production centres in various partner countries), strengthening productive capacities in developing countries with special emphasis on SMEs, particularly with regard to agricultural production, as well as contributing to the UNIDO Trust Fund Enabling Developing Countries to Participate in International Trade.

**Priority areas:** Due to its geopolitical position, Austria has a pre-eminent interest in stability and swift economic, social and ecological development of the **Central and East European countries** (CEECs) and the **Newly Independent States** (NIS), as well as their gradual integration into the world economy.

Austria mainly focuses on **micro, small and medium-sized enterprises development** and the development of productive capacities in developing countries – particularly in South-Eastern Europe- to improve their international competitiveness.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see Priority areas above.
- EU initiatives: Austria encourages the EC TRTA/CB to focus on development of productive capacities, as well as negotiation skills on market access and rules to permit developing countries, particularly the Laces better integrate into the multilateral system of trade (WTO). Emphasis will be placed in this respect on special and differential treatment for developing countries.
- Multilateral initiatives: Austria delivers TRTA/CB through joint programmes and co-operation with international organisations, such as UNIDO, UNCTAD, ILO and WTO. In addition, Austria has contributed to the DDA Trust Fund.

**Institutional arrangement:** The *Department for Development Co-operation* of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs manages the “private sector and development” platform (which covers TRTA/CB programmes) and coordinates development policy instruments in accordance with the demand for coherence in Austria’s *Development Co-operation Act*. The *Austrian Development Agency* (ADA) is primarily responsible for providing the substantive and administrative support for this platform. Other institutions involved in this platform are: the Federal Ministry of Finance; the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Labour (Austrian contributions to the DDA Trust Fund comes exclusively from this Ministry); the Federal Chancellery; the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Waste Management; the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture; the Austrian Federal

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<sup>16</sup> See Three Year Programme 2004-2006 on Austrian Development Policy.

Economic Chamber; Oesterreichische Kontrollbank; the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies; and Austria Wirtschaftsservice GmbH (AWS).

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## Belgium

(<http://www.dgdc.be>)

**Strategy and objectives:** The Doha Development Agenda and its emphasis on TRTA/CB have prompted Belgium to continue develop and refine its TRTA/CB strategy, yet this is still work in progress.

**Priority areas:** Information not available.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: assistance programmes implemented by the Belgian Technical Co-operation Organization or by indirect agents, e.g. NGOs, Belgian universities, the Association for Promoting Foreign Education and Training, the Flemish Association for Development Co-operation and Technical Assistance and scientific institutes, as well as other specialised associations.
- EU initiatives: through the European Commission.
- Multilateral initiatives: Joint programmes and co-operation with international organisations, including UNCTAD, UNDP, IF and the WTO Trust Fund. (Belgium works with 12 different multilateral organisations).

**Institutional arrangement:** The execution of the TRTA/CB programmes is entrusted to the *Directorate-General for Development Co-operation* (DGDC), which forms part of the federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Co-operation. Co-operation between governments (direct bilateral programmes) is prepared and financed by the DGDC, but it is implemented by the *Belgian Technical Co-operation* (BTC) Organization.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Information not available.

## Canada

(<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/>)

**Strategy and objectives:** Capacity development is a key concept in Canada's programming of development co-operation. Canada aims to support a process of continuous learning and innovation that will continue long after any particular project or initiative has ended. Among Canada's objectives for TRTA/CB is the desire to assist developing and least-developed countries in building their capacity to participate more fully in the global trading system and to use trade as a means to reducing poverty. Though Canada has no specific TRTA/CB strategy or policy paper, it has issued a *Policy on Capacity Development* as well as CIDA's *Private Sector Development Policy* (July 2003). The latter includes an objective related to TRTA/CB, namely the increased participation of developing countries and countries in transition in regional and international markets and institutions. This will be achieved through initiatives such as:

- capacity building in analysing, formulating, negotiating and implementing trade policy in developing countries and countries in transition;
- support for the participation of developing countries and countries in transition in regional trade bodies and the World Trade Organization (WTO);
- support for the participation of developing countries and countries in transition in international financial institutions (IFIs);
- the provision of technical assistance for more secure trade, enhanced supply chain linkages, and local trade network development; and
- trade facilitation initiatives such as technical assistance in customs administration, educating potential exporters about phytosanitary regulations, logistical and consumer taste issues, labelling requirements, and quality control.

The main principles behind Canada's approach are increased attention to local priorities and local needs in developing countries and countries in transition; stronger partnerships and better donor co-ordination; and greater *coherence* in Canada's policies that affect developing- and transitional-country partners.

Many of Canada's TRTA/CB activities are regional in scope.

**Priority areas:** Bilateral programmes mainly focus on assistance for:

- (1) business support services and institutions;
- (2) trade and environment issues;
- (3) trade education and training; and
- (4) customs valuation.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see above.
- Regional initiatives: e.g. through APEC.
- Multilateral initiatives: Canada contributed to the DDA Trust Fund. In addition, it supports multilateral organisations/programmes, such as ITC, the IF, JITAP, WTO, the Standards and Trade Development Facility, the Advisory Centre for WTO Law, the Commonwealth Trade and Investment Access Facility, AITIC, and the OECD/WTO TCB Development Database.

**Institutional arrangements:** The main Canadian agency involved in delivery of TRTA/CB is the *Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)*. However, roughly a **dozen** other Canadian Government Departments undertake TRTA/CB on a bilateral basis. In addition, a number of non-governmental organisations are actively involved in the delivery of TRTA/CB.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Performance indicators for outputs and outcomes are defined for each particular project or programme undertaken in the frame of the Private Sector Development Policy (including TRTA/CB programmes).

At the core of the Private Sector Development Policy lies a results chain with expected impacts, outcomes, and outputs defined at different levels (programme, institutional, and sectoral level). Performance is tracked in the local context as specified by locally appropriate and measurable indicators. In addition, evaluations are focus on producing "lessons" to inform more effective future programming.

The Private Sector Development Policy is expected to be reviewed in 2008.

## Denmark

[\(http://www.um.dk/en/menu/DevelopmentPolicy/\)](http://www.um.dk/en/menu/DevelopmentPolicy/)

**Strategy and objectives:** Danish TRTA/CB is aimed at strengthening the position of developing countries in the international trade system, hence spurring economic growth and alleviating poverty. The Danish government developed a three-pronged strategy to provide TRTA/CB to developing countries in the following areas:

- Support for participation in trade negotiations. This includes support to help define national priorities and develop negotiation strategies.
- Capacity building within their respective governments, private sectors and civil societies, with the aim of strengthening the capacity of partner countries to comply with and implement international trade agreements.
- Support the use of existing and future market access: covers support for overcoming supply side constraints (including those related to compliance with Technical Barriers to Trade -TBT and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards- SPS).

This strategy has been outlined in the policy paper, “*Trade and Development: Tackling Poverty*” (2003) which also highlights the importance of strengthened *synergies* between trade and development policies and initiatives. The strategy has been revised and updated in 2005 to take into account lessons learnt since the launch of the initial strategy in 2003. In addition, TRTA/CB has been included under “economic and social development” heading, which is one of the five objectives of Danish development co-operation for 2004-08.

**Priority areas:** Denmark’s development assistance is focused on a selected number of developing countries (so-called programme countries). In 2004, Denmark launched the *Nordic Africa Initiative*, a TRTA/CB activity, together with the 4 other Nordic countries (Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden). The main purpose of the Nordic Initiative is, through dialogue, to increase the understanding of how African interests can be accommodated by the active and constructive participation of all WTO members in the Doha Development Round. The focus will be on issues of importance for the promotion of development in Africa through multilateral trade and how the most can be made out of Africa’s trade potential.

Many bilateral TRTA/CB programmes relate to the **development of the private sector**. Activities include (1) the *Private Sector Development Programme*, supporting the establishment of long-term partnerships between Danish companies and companies in developing countries; and (2) the *Danish Import Promotion Office for Products from Developing Countries* (DIPO). In addition, Denmark provides general support for trade-related reforms and encourages the integration of the trade aspect in broader bilateral sector programmes.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see above. Bilateral development assistance efforts have initially been focused on **three** pilot countries (Ghana, Tanzania and Vietnam). In the course of 2005, the initiatives will be expanded to Kenya.
- EU initiatives: Denmark placed the issue of trade and development high on the agenda for the Danish EU presidency in the second half of 2002 and urged the EC to develop its Communication on Trade and Development (endorsed by the Council in 2002).
- Multilateral initiatives: Denmark contributed to the DDA Trust Fund and delivers TRTA/CB through a selected number of multilateral organisations and schemes, e.g. ITC, IF (Denmark holds the chairmanship of the IF Steering Committee) JITAP and the Standards and Trade Development Facility. In fact, multilateral programmes or agencies are the principal channel of Danish assistance.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs* is the most important Danish agency within the field of TRTA/CB and plays a co-ordinating role vis-à-vis other agencies involved in TRTA/CB activities. The

Ministry appointed an internal *Task Force* mandated to ensure coherence in Danish trade and development initiatives and draft a programme of action to strengthen the synergies between trade & development.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** The Evaluation Secretariat has conducted an evaluation of support to (general) capacity development. The objective was to develop a *methodology for evaluation* of Danish support to capacity development, primarily in relation to sector programme support. The first phase of the exercise was carried out in 2002, when the Centre for Development Research (now the Institute for International Studies) conducted a review of the existing international literature and prepared an analytical framework for the studies in subsequent phases. The second phase is a desk study of Danish support to capacity development. The third phase is the development of the evaluation methodology, and the fourth and final phase is the field testing of the methodology in one to three countries.

Regarding TRTA/CB more specifically: Though Denmark has not engaged in an evaluation of its overall TRTA/CB strategy so far, it is supporting the TRTA/CB evaluation of ITC (which is one of its main “delivery channels”).

## European Commission

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/issues/global/development/trta/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/issues/global/development/trta/index_en.htm)

**Strategy and objectives:** The EC has developed a strategy for TRTA/CB that is described in a Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, entitled the “*Trade and Development: Assisting Developing Countries to Benefit from Trade*” (endorsed by the Council in November 2002). The Communication is the main EU policy/reference document, which builds directly from a Communication adopted in 2000 on “*The European Community’s Development Policy*”, where Trade Related Assistance was already recognised as one of the 6 priority areas of development policy.

In September 2004, a report on the EU's trade-related assistance - *Making Trade Work for Development* – was released, setting out a number of “success stories”.

**Priority areas:** The Communication identifies the main priority areas of TRTA/CB, which are:

- Assistance for WTO accession and multilateral trade negotiations;
- Support for the implementation of existing and future WTO agreements;
- Support for policy reforms and investments necessary to enhance economic efficiency and to ensure greater participation in the world economy.

The **Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP group)** is the largest beneficiary of TRTA/CB, followed by the Mediterranean region, Asia and the Latin America region

The EC has recently launched a number of *regional* programmes, among which:

- *The Trade Policy Formulation, Negotiations and Implementation (Hub and Spoke) Project:* The EC, the ACP Secretariat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the "Agence Intergouvernementale de la Francophonie" launched a joint effort to support capacity in the ACP countries with regard to formulating trade policies and negotiating trade agreements. The 4 year programme (EUR20 million) will establish a network of trade advisors recruited mainly from ACP countries, to reinforce ACP international trade administrations. The programme, financed by the European Development Fund under the EU-ACP Cotonou Agreement, will also support in-country training of national counterparts. The programme will focus both on the on-going WTO talks under the Doha Round and the EU-ACP negotiations for the conclusion of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) under the Cotonou Agreement.
- The *Asia Trust Fund (ATF)* will be managed by the ITC. It is a channel to provide *quick delivery of short-term* Trade-Related Technical Assistance, in response to an immediate need identified by a national government or regional organisations. The ATF will be complementary to the bilateral and regional TRTA programmes of the EC.

In addition, it has set up an *Expanding Exports Helpdesk*, intended to support developing country producers seeking to export to EU markets.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** Country/regional strategy papers: the European Commission negotiates multi-annual framework documents with each partner country where the *priorities* for allocation of aid resources are decided and the sectors of concentration are chosen. These documents are known as *Country/Regional Strategy Papers (CSP/RSP)* and are the key vehicles for translating EU policy dialogue into concrete assistance programmes. The allocations are laid down in more precise financial terms in National and Regional Indicative Programmes. The Commission works with each country or region to assess what it needs, with the goal of ensuring that trade-related assistance is integrated in the wider development strategy. The funding for trade-related assistance has been adjusted as necessary in the mid-term review of the CSP/RSP which have been undertaken in 2003, following discussion with partner countries.

- Multilateral initiatives: e.g. through the IF or ITC (see above). The EC is active in the IF and has been the donors' representative in the IF Working Group until June 2004 as well as the IF Facilitator in 3 countries (Mauritania, Senegal and Ethiopia). The EC is also contributing to the DDA Trust Fund.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The Brussels-based *EuropeAid Co-operation Office* (EuropeAid) is the main body managing EC's external aid together with the wide network of EC Delegations (field offices). As part of an overall reform process, the EC Delegations have been given more responsibilities and are now in charge of implementing and monitoring projects, with technical support and assistance from EuropeAid.

In May 2003, the EC issued an internal working paper "*Guidelines for EC Trade-Related Assistance*" in order to provide some practical orientations to people involved in the design, planning and delivery of trade related assistance projects on the ground and to facilitate co-ordination and coherence between Member States' activities (the latter are consistent with the 2001 *DAC Guidelines for Strengthening Trade Capacity for Development*).

In addition, an internal EC Intranet Website named *Trade and Development Matters* has been set up to maintain interactive and continuous contact between Headquarters and Delegations staff involved in the delivery of trade-related assistance. A pilot *training programme on trade related assistance* has been developed in the second half of 2004 to provide training to EC staff in headquarters and Delegations.

An *Inter-Service Task Force on Trade and Development* within the EC headquarters has been set up following the Doha Ministerial meeting. It involves officials from both DG DEV and DG Trade and meets regularly to coordinate the efforts of the EC in TRTA and to discuss trade and development more generally.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:***

(1) Internal *Regional Reviews of TRA* programming and implementation for the main recipient regions have been finalised. These documents have allowed getting a better understanding of the specific objectives pursued and the results achieved.

(2) For 2004, a number of *thematic reviews* are underway on the main TRTA/CB areas (such as regarding Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Facilitation....) in order to get a better knowledge of the experience so far and draw lessons for future work.

(3) In addition, the EC released a thematic evaluation of its trade-related assistance implemented in recent years in June 2004, which included case studies in Kenya, Moldova, Tunisia, Vietnam and Zambia. The broad purpose of the evaluation was to identify lessons from the EC experience in TRTA focusing on programming and implementation issues, in particular the *impact* of trade-related assistance in the beneficiary countries. The evaluation is based on a standard evaluation methodology including evaluation questions, judgement criteria and indicators.

(4) An evaluation of the *Co-ordination of Trade Capacity Building between the European Commission and its Member States*, is currently underway.

## Finland

[\(http://global.finland.fi/\)](http://global.finland.fi/)

**Strategy and objectives:** The main goal of Finnish TRTA/CB is to promote export-oriented production, within the framework of poverty reduction. The objectives of TRTA/CB are to:

- Integrate developing countries, especially LDCs, into the world market by taking into consideration their level of development and special needs;
- Build the capacity of developing countries to take advantage of the multilateral trading system and to implement commitments;
- Promote market access of developing countries, especially in the areas of importance to them;
- Support the development of a favourable investment environment and the essential social and economic infrastructure for private enterprises in developing countries.

**Priority areas:** No major policy changes have occurred since the Doha Ministerial. Finnish TRTA/CB particularly focuses on **private sector development** and **governance**. The emphasis on **LDCs**, and on demand-driven and sustainable TRTA/CB activities, has been sustained. Finland aims in the longer-term to promote trade-related bilateral co-operation.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: bilateral projects in neighbouring areas, such as the Baltic States and Northwest Russia.
- EU initiatives: participation in EU policy-making concerning TRTA/CB activities in ACP countries, especially regarding the negotiations of the Economic Partnership Agreements.
- Multilateral initiatives: support to multilateral organisations and programmes, such as the WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, UNIDO and the Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation (AITIC).

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Minister for Trade and Development* within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for co-ordinating all TRTA/CB activities. The Department for International Development Co-operation is in charge of bilateral TRTA/CB. In addition, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Labour are involved in TRTA/CB.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Information not available.

## France

<http://www.afd.fr>

**Strategy and objectives:** France has identified “support to the private sector” as one of its ODA priority areas. France’s private sector development strategy aims at strengthening the competitiveness of the private sector by enhancing access to credit, services and world markets. Hence TRTA/CB is an aspect of that strategy.

French TRTA/CB aims at integrating developing countries in world trade, in order to spur growth and poverty reduction. The objectives of TRTA/CB are to:

- Improve the export capacities of developing countries;
- Support the negotiation capacities and the capacities to integrate into the multilateral trade system.

In February 2002, France released its TRTA/CB strategy (“Plan d’accroissement des capacités commerciales des pays en développement”) which is built on 2 components- a bilateral component (see PRCC below) with a €30 million budget, and a multilateral component with a €3 million budget (channelled through the IF and DDA Trust Fund).

**Priority areas:** Support for the development of **export capacities of LDCs**- including capacity development for compliance with TBT and SPS; formulating and implementing sound trade/ export promotion strategies (coherent with national development strategies) and increase trade finance. Cf. PRCC below.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: *Programme for the Strengthening of Trade Capacities* (PRCC -“Programme pour le renforcement des capacités commerciales”). The programme, launched in 2002, is mainly directed at LDCs (particularly from Sub-Saharan Africa). It focuses on improving (1) institutional capacities for negotiating WTO and regional trade agreements and accessing the WTO (€5 million budget); and (2) export capabilities of partner countries (€25 million budget).<sup>17</sup> It was initially designed for a 3-year period (2002-2005).

In addition, bilateral aid to SMEs in the area of food safety and animal care is also delivered under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture.

- EU initiatives: contributions to the programmes of the EC, particularly those targeted at ACP countries.
- Multilateral initiatives: contributions to multilateral programmes and agencies, such as the IF, JITAP, ITC and UNCTAD. France also contributes to the DDA Trust Fund.

**Institutional arrangements:** The “*Agence française de développement*” (AFD) - under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of French Overseas Territories- is managing and implementing the resources dedicated to TRTA/CB.

The AFD co-ordinates closely with (1) the *Directorate for Foreign Economic Relations* (“*Direction des relations économiques extérieures*” - DREE) of the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry, in improving export capacities (see PRCC), as well as with (2) the *Directorate General for International Co-operation and Development* (“*Direction générale de la co-opération internationale et du développement*” - DGCID) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for example in improving institutional, negotiation capacities.

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<sup>17</sup> PRCC will be carried out in 12 countries: Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Ghana, Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Cambodia and Vietnam. Four projects were approved in 2003: (1) programme to bring Senegalese businesses up to speed, (2) a project for creating certification labels for products made in Cambodia, (3) an improvement programme for the quality and support for the commercialisation of rubber from Cambodia, and (4) a framework agreement with Vietnam. Three other projects were identified in 2003, on a joint basis with AFD agencies and the Economic Missions in eligible countries.

Finally, AFD also collaborates with (3) the *Group for assistance for the development of trade in economic and financial technologies* (“Assistance au développement des échanges en technologies économiques et financières”- GIP ADETEF) of the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Industry, as well as other line Ministries (e.g. agriculture). In the last 3 years, internal co-ordination between those different bodies, and between development, international trade and governance experts has been strengthened (e.g. thanks to joint formulation and financing of programmes, personnel exchanges, etc.).

The evaluation of specific needs and subsequent identification of assistance projects is done mainly at *country level* (by AFD field offices or by the Economic mission or Co-operation service of the French Embassy). This is done with the input of a broad range of domestic stakeholders (including government authorities, enterprises and civil society), and in close collaboration with other donors present, in order to improve ownership and relevance and avoid duplication.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Evaluation of TRTA/CB projects and programmes follows standard aid programme methods. AFD has recently updated its monitoring and evaluation tools for all the phases of the project management cycle- from project identification to ex-post evaluation. AFD has also set up an experimental system for evaluating the quality of *ongoing* projects and the related risks, as to enable to swiftly identify projects requiring special attention, readjustment or even closure.

Whereas in the past evaluations used to focus mainly on projects and groups of projects, AFD is now widening the scope to include sector-based, subject-specific and geographical evaluations. However, no evaluation of overall TRTA/CB is planned for the coming year (the PRCC is still being executed).

## Germany

<http://www.gtz.de/en/themen/wirtschaft-beschaeftigung/privatwirtschaft/3014.htm>

**Strategy and objectives:** TRTA/CB is delivered on demand of developing countries as part of activities in the field of “economic development and employment”, one of the priority areas of Germany’s Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Germany emphasises the importance of embedding developing countries’ trade policies in comprehensive national development and poverty reduction strategies. German TRTA/CB’s longer-term aim is to reduce poverty by integrating developing countries into the global economy, enabling the latter to fully benefit from the advantages of globalization, while being able to respond to its risks effectively. In order to achieve that, Germany’s trade-related development programmes aim to strengthen developing countries’ capacity to:

- Negotiate multilateral trade agreements and improve the chances of a more equitable design of trade rules;
- Implement existing international trade rules, in order to achieve the greatest possible benefit for their national economies and for sustainable development;
- Trade, through improved competitiveness, in order to foster better use of new and existing opportunities for market access.

Germany also highlights the importance of *coherence* between OECD development and trade policies. It provides developing countries advice and information on the importance and potential effects of the dismantling of barriers and subsidies in industrialised countries.

**Priority areas:** The German Technical Co-operation Agency (GTZ) bilateral *Trade Programme* –which aims to better integrate trade-related issues into German development co-operation (see below) - focuses on 2 main components:

(1) **agricultural trade:** This component aims at improving concepts, methodology and instruments for TRTA/CB in the agricultural sector and at strengthening their integration into development co-operation projects, the strategies and programmes of partner countries and the work of the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ).

(2) **trade policy and trade and investment promotion (2003-05):** The goal of this component is to develop innovative approaches and tools for institutional support for trade policy formulation and formulation and execution of trade and investment promotion strategies oriented towards poverty alleviation.

LDCs will be given priority.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: GTZ’s bilateral *Trade Programme*, which is supported by BMZ’s “Monterrey Fund” (€5 million), is set up to support trade of partner countries. Yet it is interesting to note that many TRTA/CB activities are a component in larger bilateral sectoral programmes (such as private sector and agricultural programmes).
- EU initiatives: supporting the EC’s TRTA/CB.
- Multilateral initiatives: Germany works with multilateral organisations and multidonor frameworks, such as ITC, UNCTAD, JITAP and the IF. Germany also contributes to the DDA Trust Fund.

**Institutional arrangements:** The German *Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)* supervises all planned and ongoing activities. Projects are generally implemented by the German Technical Co-operation Agency *GTZ*, or by specialised agencies such as the German Metrology Institute (*PTB*) -if pertaining to technical assistance related to TBT; the state-owned development bank *KfW*- if pertaining to support for SME financing, and *InWent*- if pertaining to training on trade-related issues.

***Evaluation methodology and timeframe:*** Germany intends to develop a monitoring and evaluation mechanism specifically adapted to TRTA and would like to cooperate with other donors in this field (for example through the DAC's "trade capacity assessment framework" initiative). This would facilitate the establishment of a commonly-agreed monitoring and evaluation mechanism and set of indicators.

Though it has not conducted a thematic evaluation of TRTA/CB yet, it has released a study attempting to identify future directions of Germany's TRTA/CB - "*Projects and Programmes with Trade Promotion Activities: Models of intervention, needs and conceptual suggestions for future thematic integration of trade*" (E. Bahr, GTZ, 2004).

## Italy

[http://www.esteri.it/eng/2\\_10\\_128.asp](http://www.esteri.it/eng/2_10_128.asp)

**Strategy and objectives:** Italy's TRTA/CB aims to enable developing countries to fully benefit from trade opportunities in order to achieve growth and development. Italy's TRTA/CB strategy has three main objectives:

- Assist institutions and enterprises in developing countries to better understand the global market rules and to actively participate in trade negotiations.
- Strengthen SMEs through financial and non-financial instruments (including technical assistance in institutions capacity building), in order to increase their capacity to compete in the global market.
- Support to the OECD Bologna Process for the promotion of SMEs in developing countries.

Italy's technical assistance in the area of international trade aims to help developing countries to:

- Actively participate in WTO trade negotiations;
- Have the capability to concretely apply trade regulations and hence make the most of the opportunities offered for exporting;
- Take advantage of the opportunities provided by the liberalisation of trade in national poverty reduction strategies.

**Priority areas:** Italy's bilateral development assistance programmes heavily focus on **SME development** in developing countries, particularly in the **Mediterranean and the Middle Eastern countries**, as well as on **micro-credit** support. In addition, Italy supports the IF to provide the LDCs with TRTA/CB and the DDA Trust Fund providing TRTA/CB to developing countries taking part in multinational trade negotiations.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: programmes carried out with the support of Italian training centres.
- EU initiatives: contributions to EC's TRTA/CB.
- Multilateral initiatives: multilateral schemes– e.g. IF- and organisations are the principal channel of delivery. Since the Doha Ministerial, Italy has also allocated more resources to multilateral funds such as the DDA Trust Fund to respond to the need for co-ordination between donors' TRTA/CB activities.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Directorate General for Development Co-operation* (DGCS) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the main agency responsible for the delivery of TRTA/CB activities. The Ministry of Foreign Trade is also involved at the strategic level through its technical support.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Information not available.

## Japan

<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/index.html>

**Strategy and objectives:** Japan believes that international trade can play an important role in the promotion of economic development and poverty reduction. Japan's TRTA/CB has the following objectives:

- In the short term, to improve the capacity of developing countries to comply with WTO rules and participate actively in the Doha Development Round negotiations and work programme. The primary objective of Japan's WTO-related capacity building is to help recipient countries build the capacity necessary to maximise benefits from the WTO system and minimise obstacles, while bearing in mind the medium- and long-term maintenance of the WTO system through effective participation of developing countries.
- In the mid to long term, to enhance their capacity for self-development through trade and investment, by extending TRTA/CB to address issues such as institutional development, infrastructure building for trade and investment facilitation, increased productivity, promotion of SMEs as well as improvement of industry and trade policy making.

**Priority areas:** Japan's TRTA/CB, namely assistance in the area of trade and investment facilitation, focuses on:

- (1) **infrastructure building** for trade and investment facilitation (e.g. economic infrastructure maintenance);
- (2) capacity building for **trade facilitation**;
- (3) capacity building **for effective participation** of international trade and investment frameworks, such as WTO;
- (4) capacity building for the development of the **export industry**.

Japan's technical co-operation implementing agency (JICA) has responded to the needs of developing countries, in particular in the **Asia/APEC** region, by delivering WTO-related capacity building activities, e.g. supporting WTO accession, implementation of WTO agreements and multilateral trade negotiations by setting up specific regional/country training courses for each WTO agreement, (e.g. technical barriers to trade; agriculture; SPS agreement; dispute settlement body).

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: technical co-operation projects, i.e. technical assistance studies, dispatch of experts and training.
- Regional initiatives: contribution to regional TRTA/CB activities (with an emphasis on trade facilitation). Japan, together with Canada, lead APEC's WTO Capacity Building Group.
- Multilateral initiatives: contributions to multilateral funds and programmes such as the DDATrust Fund/ WTO Technical Assistance Plan, the IF and specialised agencies such as WIPO, WCO and FAO.

**Institutional arrangements:** The main implementing agencies for TRTA/CB are the *Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA)* under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), and the *Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)* under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). However, some other Ministries and Agencies also carry out TRTA/CB activities (e.g., METI is in charge for the APEC's WTO Capacity Building Group).

**Evaluations methodology and timetable:** The monitoring and evaluation of JICA projects including those of TRTA/CB is carried out using the *Project Cycle Management (PCM)* method and in reference to the *JICA Guideline for Project Evaluation* (updated in September 2004). The relevance and effectiveness of each JICA project is evaluated at four different stages during its project cycle from planning and implementation to evaluation – i.e., *ex-ante*, *mid-term*, *terminal*, and *ex-post* evaluations.

The PCM method employs the *Project Design Matrix (PDM)* – a Japanese off-shoot of the logical framework matrix system – to analyse the logical relationship among inputs, activities, project purpose, indicators, important

assumptions and other factors of a project. JICA adopts the DAC's five evaluation criteria (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability) for conducting its project-level evaluations.

*Project-level evaluation:* This type of evaluation, conducted both by the Agency's departments responsible for project implementation and by overseas offices, is intended to be reflected in planning and reviewing individual projects, in making decisions as to the continuation of projects and the revision of project plans, in planning and executing other similar projects, and in ensuring the accountability of operations.

*Programme-level evaluation:* This type of evaluation is principally conducted by the Office of Evaluation at the ex-post stages as a "country-programme" or "thematic" evaluation. It is intended for comprehensive evaluation of groups of projects that share the same overall goals and development issues, and of a set of projects under a specific co-operation scheme.

## The Netherlands

<http://www.minbuza.nl>

**Strategy and objectives:** Dutch TRTA/CB aims to help integrate developing countries in the world trading system and strengthen their position in the system so that they can maximise benefits. The objectives of TRTA/CB are to:

- Increase the negotiating capacity of developing countries in the WTO, to implement GATT and WTO Agreements, and make use of the Dispute Settlement Mechanism;
- Enable developing countries to make more effective use of trade opportunities created by trade liberalisation, i.e. to raise the export capacity of developing countries.

Since the Doha Ministerial Conference, the Netherlands has become even more convinced of the need for TRTA/CB, and has reinforced its efforts. It takes an active part in policy discussions in the WTO, UNCTAD, DAC/OECD on implementing the commitments on technical assistance embedded in the Doha Declaration

**Priority areas:** The role of **co-operation between Dutch and developing country private sector** has become more relevant in Dutch TRTA/CB policies in recent years. Similarly, the *Programme for Co-operation with Emerging Markets* (PSOM) and the *Netherlands Management Co-operation Programme* (PUM), two major private sector development programmes, have a substantial trade component. PSOM aims to encourage trade and investment relations between Dutch companies and local companies in PSOM countries. PSOM projects have a pilot character that enables replication or follow-up investments. Out of 58 current projects, 34 are trade-related, largely in agriculture. Current projects amount to €10 million in 2004, increasing to €46 million per year in 2009, of which 50 % is expected to be trade-related.<sup>18</sup> In addition, the Minister for Development Co-operation and the Minister of Economic Affairs released the Dutch policy memorandum on Economy and Development, *“In Business Against Poverty”* (2nd edition) in January 2002.

Since 2002, the Netherlands has also intensified bilateral activities in the area of **quality and safety standards**. A partnership project entitled *“Market Access through Meeting Quality Standards”* will be implemented (2003-2006) jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, in co-operation with the private sector. In addition, the Netherlands contributes to the Standards and Trade Development Facility.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** Bilateral co-operation focuses on the *Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (CBI)* that supports businesses in developing countries and on the project on quality and safety standards. There are also occasional TRTA/CB projects in countries which have chosen a productive sector as the focus of bilateral co-operation. It is noteworthy that developing country NGOs and academic research institutions aiming to increase research & knowledge and to stimulate an informed trade policy debate are an important target of Dutch policy.
- **EU initiatives:** support to EC’s TRTA/CB.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** Multilateral programmes and organisations are the principal delivery channel. The Netherlands supports the IF (additional staff has been assigned to bilateral activities in the frame of the IF), the Advisory Centre on WTO Law, the World Bank trade research programme and the Standards and Trade Development Facility. In addition, it contributes to the DDA Trust Fund.

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<sup>18</sup> The PSOM countries for the period 2004-2005 are: Bolivia, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Philippines, Ghana, Indonesia, Mozambique, Peru, India, Senegal, Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The main actor is the *Directorate-General for International Co-operation* (DGIS) within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with support from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** An evaluation of Dutch support to multilateral and some bilateral TRTA/CB programmes in the area of trade policy and negotiating capacity development has been commissioned by the Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The evaluation covers assessment of results of seven programmes/organisations in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and relevance. It has been conducted by an independent consultancy. The field evaluation reports are available at <http://www.euforic.org/iob>. The final synthesis report will be published in June 2005, addressing policy context of TRTA, financial support, results measurement and strategic issues.

## New Zealand

<http://www.nzaid.govt.nz/about/trade-development.html>

**Strategy and objectives:** TRTA/CB is a key development target in New Zealand's ODA. New Zealand published in May 2003 a trade and development policy, "*Harnessing International Trade for Development*", which recognises the need for addressing developing countries' trade concerns as part of broader efforts to reduce poverty, highlighting that trade can contribute to poverty reduction when critical economic and governance factors are in place. It also perceives the vital complementary role that TRTA/CB can play alongside market access. Hence, New Zealand stresses the importance of *coherence* between trade and development policies and emphasises that potential gains from fair trade would outweigh the financial flows from development assistance.

Concretely, the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID) supports its partners' abilities to reap the benefits from a fairer international trading system in two main ways:

- through trade policy development – by engaging widely in the international trade policy debate and working with the wider Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to develop common positions on key trade policy issues.<sup>19</sup> In addition, NZAID monitors New Zealand's SPS, rules of origin, and food safety requirements to ensure that these do not unduly constrain imports from developing countries;
- through TRTA/CB programming. The "Trade and Development Programme", initiated in early 2003, is an important mechanism for rolling out NZAID's trade and development policy. However, it is not the only mechanism, as trade and development initiatives are also funded through bilateral, regional and multilateral programmes (see below).

**Priority areas:** New Zealand places priority on the **Asia** and the **Pacific**. Its bilateral Programme focuses on:

- Addressing **supply-side constraints**: help developing country partners to move up the value chain into higher value-added activities such as processing, marketing, export and branding;
- **Removing border barriers** to trade: improve the standards of developing country exports as well as facilitating customs clearance;
- Promoting **fair trade**: build consumer awareness around fair trade (NZAID supports the NGO *Trade Aid* and has just provided funding over three years to promote public awareness of Fair Trade in New Zealand).

Additional TRTA/CB assistance includes building capabilities through skills training; improving access to finance; providing selective support for critical infrastructure; facilitating collective action by community groups; and promoting environmentally sustainable production.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** The "Trade and Development Programme", as well as TRTA/CB activities delivered in the frame of broader bilateral country programmes, e.g. local economic development programmes, SME and private sector development programmes. Priority actions for such programmes are usually identified by means of a country strategy review process, which is conducted by independent consultants, in close consultation with the partner government.
- **Regional initiatives:** Regional agencies are often project/programme co-ordination points and the main target of assistance, e.g. NZAID supports the Pacific Enterprise Development Facility (PEDF) -whose role is to facilitate

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<sup>19</sup> Major themes of interest include special and differential treatment for developing countries in the agricultural negotiations, and improving poor people's access to essential medicines to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB under the TRIPS agreement. Other trade-related discussions are conducted in the AFTA/ CER, APEC, and PICTA/ PACER contexts.

SME development in the region, the Pacific Regional Trade Facilitation Programme and the Pacific Island Trade and Investment Commission (responsible for promoting Pacific exports into Australia and New Zealand). In addition it collaborates with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; APEC; the ASEAN Secretariat; the Asian Development Bank and the Mekong Institute in Khon Kaen, Thailand (which runs trade-related courses for officials from the Greater Mekong countries). New Zealand also supports the Mekong Private Sector Development Facility.

- Multilateral initiatives: multi-donor initiatives; supporting WTO Secretariat programmes with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; supporting the DDA Trust Fund and the Commonwealth Trade and Investment Access Facility.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *New Zealand Agency for International Development* (NZAID) is the main policy and delivery agency for TRTA/CB. It is a semi-autonomous body within the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which is in charge of taking the lead role in New Zealand's international trade policy.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## Norway

[http://www.norad.no/default.asp?V\\_ITEM\\_ID=1588](http://www.norad.no/default.asp?V_ITEM_ID=1588)

**Strategy and objectives:** Since the WTO Doha Ministerial (2001), there has been a stronger focus on trade and on assisting developing countries to participate more fully in the multilateral trading system in Norwegian development co-operation. This focus has further been strengthened since the WTO “July Package” (1/08/2004).

The overall aim of Norwegian TRTA/CB is to assist developing countries to strengthen their participation in the international trading system and in international trade, thereby contributing to economic growth and poverty reduction. The objectives of TRTA/CB are to:

- Improve supply capacity and increase exports;
- Assist in integrating trade into national development plans, including PRSPs;
- Contribute to a better integration of developing countries in the multilateral trading system and thereby also enhancing their capacity to promote their interests, not least in trade negotiations (both multilateral and regional);
- Promote FDI and private sector development.

Norway’s TRTA/CB has been examined among others in the frame of the *Strategy for Norwegian Support for Private Sector Development in Developing Countries*. A series of country-by-country studies on private sector development have been conducted as part of the Strategy and Norway is now following up on recommendations in these studies; *inter alia* relating to trade.

**Priority areas:** Norway’s bilateral TRTA/CB focuses among others on improving **supply-side capacity**, including quality improvement, quality control, trade promotion strategy and implementation, based on the priorities of the developing country partners.

A study on quality assurance and certification of food products (**Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures/ Technical Barriers to Trade**) targeting various East African countries has been conducted in collaboration with the Swedish government. Findings from this study related to trade capacity and institutional building will be followed up within bilateral/regional co-operation with these countries. The project "*Promoting Exports through Quality and Product Safety*" proposes a co-operation programme with the countries of Africa to promote economic development and international trade, while at the same time protecting domestic markets and their own citizens against hazards related to inferior products.

In addition, Norway encourages Norwegian companies to engage in commercial activities in developing countries. Norway has launched a *Matchmaking Programme*, which aims to establish sustainable and profitable joint ventures between Norwegian companies and companies in India, Sri Lanka and South Africa. This is achieved through the development of business partnerships which foster transfer of technology, the exchange of management and business-skills between Indian/Sri Lankan/South African and Norwegian companies.

In 2004, the five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) have jointly launched a TRTA/CB programme called the *Nordic Africa Initiative*, whose main purpose is, through dialogues, to increase the understanding of how African interests can be accommodated by the active and **constructive participation of all WTO members in the Doha Development Round**. The focus will be on the issues of importance for the promotion of development in Africa through multilateral trade and how the most can be made out of Africa’s trade potential.

More generally, Norway’s TRTA/CB mainly focuses on **LDCs**.

***Main channels of delivery:***

- **Bilateral initiatives:** Development assistance focusing on improving the supply-side capacity (see above). Norad also funds research and institutional co-operation between Norwegian research institutions and research institutions in developing countries, and supports Norwegian civil society groups active in developing countries.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** Support to multilateral organisations, such as UNCTAD, ITC, WTO, UNIDO, and the Bretton Woods institutions, and joint initiatives such as the IF, JITAP and the Advisory Centre on WTO Law. Norway also contributed to the WTO DDA Trust Fund.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation* (NORAD) is responsible for bilateral TRTA/CB; the *Ministry of Foreign Affairs* is responsible for the overall strategy and planning, as well as for the multilateral assistance.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Norway gives financial support to the ongoing evaluation of ITC, initiated by Denmark.

## Portugal

(<http://www.ipad.mne.gov.pt/>)

**Strategy and objectives:** Portugal's TRTA/CB activities aim to:

- Contribute to support the developing countries' negotiation capacity within the WTO;
- Promote a better integration in the multilateral trading system.

**Priority areas:** Subsequent to the WTO Doha Ministerial, Portugal has strengthened its programmes in TRTA/CB on the so-called new topics in international trade – i.e.:

- Trade and Investment, Competition
- the Transparency of Public Markets
- Trade Facilitation
- Trade and the Environment.

TRTA/CB programmes are targeted at the technical and human institutional empowerment of the equivalent bodies in the ODA recipient countries, particularly the **LDCs, the five Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa and East Timor**. Portugal also assists these countries in the ongoing negotiations at the WTO with a view to a multilateral framework for the different areas.

Portugal's co-operation strategy puts greater emphasis on the **promotion of regional economic integration**, given the importance it will possess to the progressive insertion of the exports of the developing countries and the LDCs into the world market. The support for trade-related sectors like agricultural productivity and the development of energy sources – including renewable forms of energy – remains an important field for Portugal's bilateral development assistance. The country also seeks to promote a closer articulation between public co-operation and the so-called business co-operation.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: activities that are designed according to the partner country priorities and adjusted to the predefined objectives of both parties. Recently, as part of its bilateral co-operation with East Timor, activities were developed to construct and pursue sectoral development strategies that cover tourism, energy, geology and mining, with the aim of stimulating investment and business co-operation.<sup>20</sup>
- EU initiatives: As an EU Member State, Portugal has continued to pursue the Union's commitments in the trade and development fields, including those made within the framework of the *Everything But Arms Initiative*, and the *Euro-Mediterranean Partnership*.
- Multilateral initiatives: Portugal supports the World Bank's Africa Project Development Facility in the five Portuguese-speaking African countries. It also contributes to the TRTA/CB activities of the WTO.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Ministry of Economy* is responsible for the policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of TRTA/CB activities. The assistance to developing countries is co-ordinated with the *Institute for Portuguese Development Support (IPAD)* of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is responsible for the global framework of the Portuguese development co-operation policy.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Information not available.

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<sup>20</sup> Beyond TRTA/CB, Portugal has also entered into *Investment Protection and Promotion Agreements* (e.g., with Mozambique and Cape Verde) and *Dual Taxation Agreements* (e.g., with Angola, Mozambique and Cape Verde) with a number of African countries, all with a view to promoting a favourable climate to investment in two-way trade.

## Spain

(<http://www.aeci.es>)

*Strategy and objectives:* Information not available.

*Priority areas:* Most TRTA/CB is aimed at **Central American** and **Caribbean** countries.

*Main channels of delivery:*

- Bilateral initiatives: training on SPS and TBT requirements, certification and compliance; risk management in agriculture; technical assistance in the tourism sector (mainly institutional capacity development; support for trade promotion and for the development of sustainable tourism) and training in customs administration.
- EU initiatives: support EC's TRTA/CB, particularly in regard to the EPA negotiations.
- Regional initiatives: support the Central American Tourism Integration Secretariat and Central American Tourism Promotion Agency; and collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB).
- Multilateral initiatives: Spain contributes to the DDA Trust Fund (and as such support TRTA delivered by the WTO Secretariat).

*Institutional arrangements:* The *Spanish Agency for International Co-operation* (AECI) is the main agency managing TRTA/CB. It collaborates with the General Secretariat for External Trade, the General Secretariat of Tourism, both under the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade; the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA) and the Customs authority.

*Evaluation methodology and timetable:* Information not available.

## Sweden

<http://www.sida.se>

**Strategy and objectives:** Capacity development– including among others building up sustainable institutions- is at the core of Swedish development co-operation. The goal of the Swedish TRTA/CB activities is to enhance developing countries' ability to make use of international trade to boost their development and fight poverty. Sweden's TRTA/CB activities can be divided into the following categories:

- Enhancing developing countries' ability to formulate and implement a trade policy and to negotiate (multilateral) trade agreements;
- Strengthening institutions that are vital for efficient trade in goods and services;
- Developing marketing and export capacity among developing country exporters (including the capacity to meet requirements related to SPS and TBT and the ability to use preferential trading arrangements).

On the one hand, the Government instructed the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida) to respond to the commitments regarding TRTA/CB that were made by Ministers in Doha and to integrate trade aspects when formulating country development strategies (mainstreaming trade in development). On the other, the Swedish "*Policy for Global Development*", an initiative (adopted in 2002/3) which is placing the development perspective into focus in all of Sweden's policy areas- encouraged higher priority for TRTA/CB within Swedish trade policy (mainstreaming development in trade).

**Priority areas:** TRTA/CB focuses mainly on support for **trade policy formulation** and implementation, **WTO** negotiations and participation, trade-related **infrastructure** and **trade promotion** activities (covering institutional support, targeted export support, as well as business-to-business support)

In 2003-2005, Sweden will support (through IDEAS) a number of West- and Central African countries with a view to strengthen their negotiating capacity in the WTO "Cotton initiative". The aim of the initiative is to eliminate all trade-distorting support to the cotton industry.

In addition, Sweden has engaged in the *Nordic Africa Initiative*, a TRTA/CB activity, together with the 4 other Nordic countries (Finland, Iceland, Norway and Denmark). The main purpose of the Nordic Initiative is, through dialogue, to increase the understanding of how African interests can be accommodated by the active and constructive participation of all WTO members in the Doha Development Round. The focus will be on issues of importance for the promotion of development in Africa through multilateral trade and how the most can be made out of Africa's trade potential.

The *Open Trade Gate Sweden*, an initiative of the Swedish Minister of Trade and Industry and the Swedish Minister of Development Co-operation, strives to facilitate trade for exporters in developing countries doing or planning to do business with Sweden. Open Trade Gate Sweden is a one-stop-information centre and will provide exporters in developing countries with cost free information on trade rules and regulations.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see above.
- EU initiatives: supports EC's TRTA/CB.
- Multilateral initiatives: through multilateral organisations and programmes (e.g. WTO, UNCTAD, ITC, Advisory Centre on WTO Law - ACWL, Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation - AITIC, Consumer Unity & Trust Society - CUTS, IF, JITAP, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development - ICTSD and OECD). Focus is on WTO negotiations and participation, strengthening the institutional capacity needed for enhancing trade, and enhancing marketing and export capacity. In 2003, A large share of total TRTA/CB funding has been channelled through multilateral organisations.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *Ministry for Foreign Affairs* – managing international co-operation- is responsible for policy formulation and for the budget for multilateral programmes (SEK 50 million in 2004). *Sida* handles bilateral development co-operation as well as some activities channelled through multilateral organisations. Sweden encourages improved co-ordination between the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and SIDA.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Generally, evaluations are used as a tool for accountability, management and learning. In 1999 Sida introduced the so-called "Management Response" with the purpose of strengthening the learning aspect. The department concerned may give proposals on how to implement recommendations of the evaluation, suggest further dissemination and also how lessons learnt from the evaluation are best made use of.

Sida's independent *Secretariat for Evaluation and Internal Audit* (UTV) takes a broad view, focusing on thematic and strategic evaluations of wider relevance, while Sida's sector and regional (operative) departments commission evaluations within their respective areas of responsibility. Evaluations are most often carried out using interdisciplinary teams of external experts.

Though no specific thematic TRTA/CB evaluation has been conducted, Sweden has recently made efforts trying to identify how Sweden's TRTA/CB could be strengthened and made more efficient.

## Switzerland

<http://www.seco-cooperation.ch>

**Strategy and objectives:** The *Strategy 2006* is the main strategic framework guiding the operations of the Swiss Economic Development Co-operation. It seeks to promote sustainable economic growth in partner countries by supporting stable macroeconomic conditions, encouraging investment and trade and by building a basic infrastructure, in order to foster the integration of these countries in the world economy, with the overall goal of reducing poverty. The *Strategy 2006* was complemented in 2004 by the *Poverty Reduction Agenda 2010*, which sets concrete targets for the Swiss trade-related co-operation.

The division for Economic Development Co-operation within the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) aims at an optimal *coherence* between the objectives of development co-operation and those of foreign economic and trade policy.

The objectives of the Swiss trade-related co-operation are the following:

- Ensure the active participation of developing countries in multilateral trade negotiations by supporting their efforts to accede to the WTO, identify their interests, negotiate, and implement trade agreements.
- Strengthen the integration of developing countries in the world trading system by supporting trade reforms, enhancing the capacities of SMEs to export (supply-side), and improving market access.
- Focus on sustainable trade by promoting the integration of environmental and social standards in trade activities and enhancing coherence between trade rules and conventions from international environment and social-oriented organisations (Kyoto Protocol, Biodiversity Convention, International Labour Organization, etc.).

More specifically, trade-related co-operation activities are structured around five main areas:

- *Support trade policy:* Strengthen trade policy formulation and implementation capacities in partner countries and in Geneva (including WTO accession, intellectual property, competition, government procurement, trade reforms, etc.).
- *Facilitate access to the Swiss market:* Support the import to Switzerland and neighbouring countries of goods produced by SMEs in partner countries through the Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO). Promote tariff reduction and preferential access to the Swiss market (through the General System of Preferences) and support labels such as fair trade and organic production.
- *Increase supply side capacities:* Help SMEs to build up their ability to meet international norms and standards; increase their export capacities and their competitiveness (marketing, market research, quality management, procurement); and support the development of the relevant institutional structures, as well as measures to ease trade (e.g. customs modernisation).
- *Trade, Environment and Social:* Support efforts of partner countries and their industry sectors to comply with international environment and social conventions in relation to trade aspects. Promote coherence between trade, biodiversity, climate change and social considerations.
- *Commodities:* Switzerland is actively involved in the main international organisations dealing with raw materials, promotes sustainable production (multistakeholders approaches), and supports partner countries' efforts to diversify their economic structure basis in order to reduce their dependency on raw materials and introduce price risk management.

**Priority areas:** Since the Doha WTO Ministerial Conference in 2001, the division for Economic Development Co-operation has extended its activities to *new fields of activity*, namely **intellectual property rights, public procurement, competition law, and technical standards**. In addition, comprehensive bilateral programmes for trade support have been established in Bolivia, Peru, Mozambique, Tanzania, Viet Nam, Serbia and Kyrgyzstan. Switzerland also supported actively the Integrated Framework initiative aiming at facilitating a better integration of LDCs in the world trading system and promoting the **inclusion of trade in national development plans**, as well as a coordinated response to the countries' trade-related technical co-operation needs.

The *Poverty Reduction Agenda 2010* sets the following priority measures in the field of trade:

- Better **integration of trade** and trade-related technical co-operation in PRSP
- Enhanced **inclusion of the development** dimension in the WTO negotiations
- Strengthen efforts to **open the Swiss markets** to poor developing countries' exports
- Promotion of a better **access to medicines** in developing countries
- Assist disadvantaged population groups in benefiting from **intellectual property rights**
- Support participation of disadvantaged population groups in **global value chains**
- Facilitate the implementation of **commodity risk management** system
- Strengthen the compliance with **environmental and social standards**.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: Comprehensive bilateral programmes are established in selected priority countries.<sup>21</sup> They generally include the five main areas of activities listed above. Programmes are delivered by strategic (local, regional or international) partners.
- Regional initiatives: Switzerland promotes south-south trade as well as regional integration and exchange of experience. This implies, for instance, strengthening relevant regional institutions and enhancing their skills to deliver capacity-building to neighbouring countries (e.g. TRALAC, the Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa).
- Multilateral initiatives: Multilateral organisations and programmes, such as the ITC, WTO DDA Trust Fund, IF, Advisory Centre on WTO Law (ACWL), Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation (AITIC), World Bank, UNIDO, UNCTAD, International Commodity Organisations, etc.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Division for Economic Development Co-operation* within the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) is the responsible agency for trade-related technical co-operation, as well as for macro-economic assistance, investment promotion, infrastructure financing and relations with international financial institutions. Within that division, it is the *Trade and Clean Technology Co-operation* sector (WEHU) that is responsible for the strategy and management of the trade-related technical co-operation, leaving implementation to strategic partners (specialised multilateral institutions, NGOs, etc.).

In order to better take into account the interests of developing countries in the ongoing Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and to improve policy coherence, Switzerland has created a high-level task force bringing together the different governmental entities responsible for development issues, *WTO Task Force on Trade and Development*. The Task Force is responsible for the Swiss participation in the WTO negotiations when development issues are discussed, e.g. “special and differential treatment” of developing countries. It prepares positions among others on food aid, tariff escalation, agricultural quota management, and tariff reduction formulas.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** SECO has commissioned numerous independent evaluations of specific TRTA/CB projects, but has not conducted a thematic or overall evaluation of its TRTA/CB programmes yet.

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<sup>21</sup> Bolivia, Peru, Tanzania, Mozambique, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, VietNam.

## United Kingdom

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

**Strategy and objectives:** The UK's TRTA/CB aims to help developing countries work up a development plan or poverty reduction strategy that incorporates trade and growth, by (1) listening to countries to identify what their development priorities are; (2) ensure that trade contributes to achieving the MDGs, by supporting developing countries to seize new opportunities and mitigate any short-term adjustment costs of trade liberalisation. TRTA/CB should hence focus on supporting countries in managing their own trade policy.

The UK works closely with developing countries to build the skills and knowledge they require to deal with trade issues as they relate to their country's specific needs. This requires *internal work to mainstream trade within country or regional programmes* and ensure effective links between central and country offices. It has also a strong official on donor co-ordination and highlights that TRTA/CB activities also need to be carefully sequenced in line with different countries' ability to make use of and manage assistance.

In addition, the UK emphasises the importance of *coherence* between its own trade and development policies, and has set common targets for the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Department for Trade and Industry in the trade area.

The 2000 White paper "Eliminating World Poverty: Making Globalization Work for the Poor" already highlighted the importance of trade for poverty reduction. In 2001, DFID published a policy paper, *Trade Matters* (2001), as well as guidance for its staff "*Building Trade Policy Capacity in Developing Countries and Transition Economies: A Practical Guide to Planning Technical Co-operation Programmes*" (March 2001), which is in line with the DAC Guidelines on Strengthening Trade for Development. Most recently, DFID released its *2005-2007 Draft Strategy Paper on Increasing the Impact of DFID's Work on Trade* (which is based on the findings of DFID's recent thematic evaluation of TRTA/CB- see below).

**Priority areas:** The UK TRTA/CB programme includes:

- **training** government officials to analyse trade issues, develop trade policy and negotiate internationally. This can also involve improving systems linked to trade, such as customs and excise;
- helping the **private sector** respond to opportunities arising from the multilateral trading system as well as cope with possible negative knock on effects;
- making sure that **trade policy** takes into account the impact of trade on the lives of poor people;
- strengthening stakeholder **dialogue** on trade reform.<sup>22</sup>

Yet priority areas also vary depending on the beneficiary region and the 2005-7 strategy outlines regional strategies for Africa, Asia, and Europe, Middle East and Americas.

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<sup>22</sup> E.g. the Project on "Linkages between Trade, Development & Poverty Reduction" supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands and DFID, and implemented by CUTS (Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment). Starting from January 1, 2005, over a period of four years it will be implemented in 17 countries. The project aims to focus on the following aspects: (1) Partnership approach; (2) Bridging the gaps and differences between the southern and northern civil society and other stakeholders vis-à-vis the role that international trade should play in poverty reduction; (3) Manifest the linkages between the international trading system and the national development strategies; (4) Implementation through participatory and multi-stakeholder approach; and (5) Information-based advocacy.

Since January 1998:

- Over half the overall funding has been for programmes in *Africa*.
- Twice as much funding has been allocated to *trade development* as to trade policy and regulations. (in this regard, it is noteworthy that the 2005-7 strategy highlights the need to focus more on interventions with a longer-term impact).
- Nearly two-thirds of trade policy and regulations programmes have been aimed at *integrating trade into development plans or poverty reduction strategies*.
- Nearly three-quarters of trade development programmes *assist small businesses and access to trade finance*.
- Nearly a quarter of trade policy and regulations funding has been for training negotiators and helping developing countries develop their negotiating positions.

***Main channels of delivery:***

- **Bilateral initiatives:** bilateral and regional programmes with national governments, as well as with local civil society (e.g. Consumer Unity & Trust Society – CUTS) and private sector. These are often delivered in collaboration with sub-contractors. The UK is increasingly providing support directly to central government budgets. In addition, the UK supports a number of British NGOs and research institutes such as Oxfam and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) that in turn provide support to developing countries.
- **EU initiatives:** support to the EC TRTA/CB (e.g. regarding the EPAs).
- **Regional initiatives:** DFID intends to provide greater support, and deliver more TRTA/CB, through regional organisations and development banks.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** contributions to multilateral organisations and multi-donor initiatives, and collaborations with other donors and agencies. The UK contributes to the IF, JITAP, Commonwealth Trade and Investment Access Facility, Standards and Trade Development Facility. It supports and collaborates with the World Bank, UNCTAD, UNIDO, WTO and ITC.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The main agency involved in providing TRTA/CB is the *Department for International Development* (DFID). DFID's *International Trade Department* (ITD) focuses on multilateral TRTA/CB projects, while the regional and country departments focus on bilateral projects and contribute to joint donor initiatives in country.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** DFID and ITD have undertaken reviews and evaluations of their portfolio of TRTA/CB projects according to standard performance assessment and evaluation methods. Evaluations are often conducted jointly with other agencies and include consultations with all stakeholders, as well as assessments of the lessons learnt.

A fundamental review of the DFID's TRTA/CB programme from 1998 to 2003 has been undertaken by independent consultants in 2003/2004. Findings of the latter have been fed into DFID's new Trade Strategy 2005-2007.

The 2005-7 strategy paper suggests monitoring DFID's trade strategy on an annual basis.

## United States of America

[http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/economic\\_growth\\_and\\_trade/eg/trade.html](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/economic_growth_and_trade/eg/trade.html)

**Strategy and objectives:** The United States is committed to working in partnership with developing countries and transition economies to remove obstacles to development, among which are barriers to trade, and to help these countries take advantage of the opportunities from participating in the rules-based multilateral trading system.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) released a strategy paper, “*Building Trade Capacity in the Developing World*” (March 2003), in which it recognises that TRTA/CB activities are likely to have greatest impact when implemented in reform-minded developing countries. The Paper also stresses the importance of having a demand-driven approach to TRTA/CB. In preparation for the Cancun WTO Ministerial Meeting, the US also released “*US Contributions to Trade Capacity Building: Improving Lives Through Trade and Aid*” (September 2003).

**Priority areas:** US TRTA/CB assistance activities focus on 3 broad issues, namely support for:

(1) **Participation in trade negotiations:** USAID helps to build negotiators capacity to understand and analyse the issues in complex bilateral, regional and multilateral trade talks and agreements, including accession to the WTO. The US conducts TRTA/CB for trade-related negotiations in trade forums such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); APEC and negotiations on bilateral Free Trade Area agreements between the United States and a number of developing countries.

(2) **Implementation of trade agreements:** USAID helps countries to carry out trade agreements that may require special reporting and institutions plus increased co-ordination, information management, and oversight across ministries.

(3) **Responding to and benefiting from to trade opportunities:** USAID implements projects to address a wide range of development needs in the public and private sectors to increase countries’ competitiveness—from helping governments create a competitive and enabling environment to supporting local enterprises’ abilities to produce goods and services the world is willing to buy (including support for export diversification).

The emphasis of assistance differs in each region.

The US has a number of *regional* programmes for enhancing trade competitiveness and improving the potential of developing country producers to sell to the US market: e.g. in **Africa:** the *Trade for African Development and Enterprise* (TRADE), which aims to promote regional integration and regional co-operation by strengthening the ability of African countries and businesses to develop their export trade and better take advantage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). Programme implementation is coordinated by 3 *Regional Hubs for Global Competitiveness* located in USAID regional offices: the West Africa Trade Hub (Mali), East and Central African Trade Hub (Kenya) and the Southern Africa Global Competitiveness Hub (Botswana). e.g. **Latin America & the Caribbean:** the Caribbean Trade and Competitiveness Development Programme (C-Tradecom), which addresses the issues of competitiveness and trade expansion for the countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Dominican Republic, with a special emphasis on the countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** TRTA/CB projects are planned predominantly by US Missions in the field, jointly with partner governments, and are implemented by USAID and other US government agencies, often with the support of subcontractors. In addition, some projects directly involve the US private sector and target directly developing country private sector organisations (e.g. industry associations) or enterprises.
- **Regional initiatives:** US TRTA/CB is often delivered by regional organisations such as the Organization of America States (OAS); African regional trade organisations and networks; and CARICOM.

- Multilateral initiatives: the US contributes to the DDA Trust Fund and participates in a number of multi-donor activities, e.g. the IF, ITC and the OECD/WTO TCB Database.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The US is funding a broad range of activities in support of TRTA/CB. The diversity of assistance is matched by the diversity of U.S. Government agencies that provide such assistance, e.g. Department of Labour; the Department of Agriculture (USDA); the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA); Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the State department, etc.). *USAID* – mainly through *EGAT* (the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, established in 2002) is the main coordinator for TRTA/CB and provides about 70% of all US TRTA/CB assistance. EGAT provides direct support to Missions in the design and implementation of technical approaches to trade capacity building and helps disseminate lessons learnt and TRTA/CB good practices across different countries and continents. In order to increase information sharing and updates on recent developments, it also organises monthly *Economic Growth Sector Council Meetings* and *Trade Working Group* meetings for all interested USAID staff.

Due to its limited number of staff, USAID/EGAT is supported by Nathan Associates which implements the *Trade Capacity Building Project* that assists Missions in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating TRTA/CB. It does so through project planning guides, trade-related research and analysis and trade training for USAID officials.<sup>23</sup> In addition, the Project helps developing countries assess their trade constraints and prioritise their TRTA and provides short-term TRTA, as requested by host governments and USAID missions.

Furthermore, inter-agency working groups within the US Government have been set up to help improve the effectiveness and coherence of US TRTA/CB activities. The US has also designed a *Trade Capacity Building Database* that includes all US TRTA/CB for FY1999-2003.<sup>24</sup>

***Evaluation methodology and timeframe:*** In 2003/4, USAID's Office of Development Evaluation and Information completed a review of USAID experience in strengthening trade capacity and its effectiveness.<sup>25</sup> It released an Overview report (An evaluation of TCB Programmes: Overview), as well as three more specific reviews:

- (1) USAID behind-the-border trade capacity building
- (2) USAID support for WTO/FTA accession and implementation
- (3) Regional trade agreements -- a tool for development?

Progress towards implementing the TRTA/CB Strategy is measured on several levels, e.g.: in the short-term:

- No. of countries accessing the WTO
- Degree of participation in negotiations
- No. of countries implementing WTO obligations
- No. of trade & investment inducing reforms
- No. of USAID TRTA/CB programmes responding to needs and negotiation timetables
- Customs clearance time

e.g. in the longer-term:

- Higher value-added of exports
- Volume of exports
- Diversification of exports

In addition, the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 requires, among other things, that overseas USAID Missions develop strategic plans and quantifiable indicators to measure performance on an annual basis. And, as noted above, USAID/EGAT is responsible for disseminating lessons learnt and intends to prepare an evaluation toolkit, including the preparation of guidance and related materials on evaluation for use by USAID operating units in planning and managing evaluations.

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<sup>23</sup> 25 reports, on a wide range of specialised topics (e.g. SPS; agricultural trade; domestic trade policy dialogue, etc.), have been released between 1999 and 2004 by USAID's EGAT.

<sup>24</sup> The database is available online at <http://quesdb.cdie.org/tcb/index.html>.

<sup>25</sup> 23 programmes, accounting for more than half of all USAID funding for TRTA/CB in FY1999-2001, were reviewed.

#### IV. MULTILATERAL AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

### Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

[http://www.fao.org/trade/capacity\\_en.asp](http://www.fao.org/trade/capacity_en.asp)

*Strategy and objectives:* Trade is a substantive area of common interest to many FAO departments and has been identified in FAO Strategic Framework 2000-2015 as one of 16 *Priority Areas for Inter-disciplinary Action (PAIAs)* over the medium-term.

The objective of FAO's TRTA/CB Programme is to enhance FAO's support to Members, particularly developing and transition countries, for their effective participation in multilateral trade negotiations on agriculture, as well as their integration into global trade of food, agricultural, fishery and forestry products.

FAO's approach is multidisciplinary in that it involves capacity building for trade, including analytical as well as operational field activities with a direct impact on supply-side capacities.

*Priority areas:* FAO's TRTA/CB encompasses:

- (1) Work of immediate urgency in support of the **WTO negotiations** on agriculture, e.g.
  - Provision of information and analysis: Data related to agricultural production, consumption and trade in agricultural, fishery and forest products; statistics and analysis on food import bills of LDCs (e.g. through databases FAOSTAT and AMAD). FAO's trade website provides up-to-date information and analysis on the various issues relating to trade, agriculture and food security (e.g. FAO Trade Policy Technical Notes on issues related to the WTO negotiations on agriculture, such as cotton; Resource Manual on Multilateral Trade Negotiations on Agriculture, etc.).
  - Training activities, which include national and regional workshops aiming to assist countries in preparing for negotiations, evaluating compatibility of their food and agricultural policies with WTO Agreements and in incorporating trade policy concerns in the formulation of domestic agricultural policy (e.g. the FAO Umbrella Training Programmes).
- (2) Support for **compliance with agreements**, e.g. establishing or adapting legislation, regulations and systems to comply with the WTO agreements relating to agriculture.
- (3) Long-term **supply-side capacity building**, e.g. support for upgrading domestic Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures/Technical Barriers to Trade mechanisms to strengthen capacity to meet the standards and norms of the international market place; setting up trade information and export marketing systems; and supporting the formulation and implementation of investment projects to overcome supply-side difficulties hindering competitiveness. Support is provided in the frame of FAO's Technical Co-operation Programme. The programme does not operate in isolation, but is closely associated with other normative and field activities of the Organization.

In addition, FAO also supports developing countries' needs assessment, by providing support for the identification and formulation of development project/programme proposals to be financed by a donor.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: Country and regional projects and programmes are being designed in collaboration with governments of Member countries, and are often being delivered by specialised subcontractors, with the fullest possible involvement of beneficiaries and the maximum utilisation of their personnel and resources.
- Regional initiatives: FAO also delivers TRTA/CB through regional organisations such as the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). Indeed, it supports sustained and longer-term “horizontal” technical co-operation among different institutions/countries.
- Multilateral initiatives: FAO is involved in the IF and in the Standards and Trade Development Facility.

**Institutional arrangements:** The FAO *Inter-Departmental Task Force on Assistance for WTO Trade Negotiations* (AWTON-PAIA) is the main body managing FAO’s TRTA/CB Programme. It coordinates various FAO technical programmes dealing WTO-related trade matters.

Technical co-operation programmes often fall under the overall responsibility of FAO’s *Technical Co-operation Department*, which carries out its activities through its staff located at headquarters and, increasingly, the *decentralised offices*, and through field project staff.

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** FAO’s trade-related work is reviewed and evaluated as part of the entire FAO work biennially. The FAO Umbrella Training Programme, implemented during 1999-2001, represents an example of a comprehensive capacity-building activity on trade negotiations that reached a large number of country and officials in a comprehensive manner. The main objective was to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve understanding of WTO agreements and of new issues likely to arise in the negotiation process (Table 1). The delivery of the Umbrella training workshops was evaluated by participants, at the time the workshops were organised and subsequently on the basis of a questionnaire. The programme received a very high rating of success.

Table 1: Objectives, indicators and outputs of the FAO Umbrella Programme, 1999 - 2001

Narrative	Indicators	Outputs/Outcomes*
<b>Goal:</b> Improved understanding of the WTO Agreements affecting agriculture and emerging negotiating issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some 850 officials trained on WTO Agreements on Agriculture, SPS/TBT and TRIPS.</li> <li>• Resource materials on Agriculture, SPS/TBT and TRIPS Agreements prepared and disseminated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced negotiating capability</li> <li>• Enhanced capability to respond to opportunities and challenges in international agricultural trade</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose:</b> Enhanced capability of Ministries of Agriculture and Foreign Trade to negotiate effectively and respond to new opportunities and challenges in international trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A critical mass of officials knowledgeable on WTO matters</li> <li>• Institutional capability developed in Ministries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical and related capability for dealing with WTO matters as they arise</li> </ul>

\*At completion

## International Monetary Fund (IMF)

<http://www.imf.org> )

**Strategy and objectives:** The IMF has responded to the trade adjustment challenges facing developing countries by stepping up its work on trade since the Doha Ministerial, yet it has not developed a fully-fledged TRTA/CB strategy so far.

Looking forward, the Fund is examining ways to further strengthen support for trade adjustment, including through the use of floating tranches under Fund arrangements aimed at mitigating the balance of payments impact of trade reforms whose timing remains uncertain. The Fund could discuss the case for such tranches with authorities in the context of new Fund-supported programmes, or under existing arrangements, in conjunction with an augmentation of access at the time of a review. While it is not expected that floating tranches would be large, their release might serve as a trigger for additional donor funding in support of trade adjustment.<sup>26</sup>

**Priority areas:** Trade-related activities at the IMF fall mainly into four categories: surveillance; financial support; technical assistance; and research.

(1) **Surveillance of trade policies:** Following the Doha Declaration, the IMF Executive Board encouraged the stepped-up surveillance of trade policies, especially in industrial countries whose policies are of fundamental importance for the world trading system. The Fund has now established a track record of frank dialogue with members about trade, both in the context of bilateral surveillance and through multilateral instruments such as the World Economic Outlook, which has incorporated ten significant trade sections or boxes since 2001.

(2) **Financial assistance:** The Fund remains fully committed to assisting members that face external payments imbalances in finding the appropriate mix of adjustment and financing, including when these imbalances stem from trade policy reforms. The **Trade Integration Mechanism (TIM)**, introduced in April 2004, provides additional assurances to Fund members of the availability of Fund financing in the face of uncertainty over the possible balance of payments impact of liberalisation by *third countries*—such as from preference erosion, changes in food terms of trade or the expiry of textiles quotas.<sup>27</sup>

(3) **TRTA:** Assistance has increasingly focused on strategic elements aimed at providing an overall framework for reform and continuing oversight, thus complementing the more detailed elements of the technical assistance provided by other institutions and donors. The IMF has, among others, provided TRTA/CB for customs and tax reform.

(4) **Research:** Trade-related research is an important input into the more operational trade work. Fund studies in such areas as preference erosion, for example, have helped to identify countries with trade-related macroeconomic vulnerabilities and thereby led to more focused surveillance and a better dialogue with national authorities. Operational work has also benefited from Fund studies in areas such as the revenue implications of trade reform, the design of regional trade agreements, balance of payments safeguards, and the links between exchange rate volatility and trade.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: in the area of surveillance, financial assistance, TRTA/CB and research (see above).
- Multilateral initiatives: The IMF is one of the core agencies of the Integrated Framework.

**Institutional arrangements:** Information not available.

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** Information not available.

<sup>26</sup> Development Committee, *Information Note: Aid for Trade: Competitiveness and Adjustment* (April 2005).

<sup>27</sup> TIM's Factsheet (March 2005) can be downloaded from <http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/tim.htm>

## International Trade Centre (ITC)

(<http://www.intracen.org>)

**Strategy and objectives:** ITC is a trade-related technical co-operation organisation of UNCTAD and the WTO, whose mission is to support developing and transition economies, and particularly their business sectors, in their efforts to realise their full potential for developing exports and improving import operations, with the ultimate goal of achieving sustainable development. ITC's work focuses on the following long-term goals:

- Facilitate the integration of developing and transition economy enterprises into the multilateral trading system;
- Support national efforts to design and implement trade development strategies;
- Strengthen key trade support services, both public and private;
- Improve export performance in sectors of critical importance and foster international competitiveness (of SMEs in particular).

**Priority areas:** ITC activities revolving around private-public partnerships, practical capacity building for export, supply-side expertise, enhancement of trade support institutions and enterprise competitiveness are its quintessence. In the view of its Executive Director<sup>28</sup>, ITC could further concentrate its support in a number of niche areas, e.g.:

(1) **Public-private partnership:** e.g. through the organisation of annual International Trade Fora that involve both public and private sector.

(2) **South South trade:** e.g. through buyer-sellers meetings.

(3) **Export-led poverty reduction:** e.g. by linking poor communities with export chains of products and services they can supply (the focus is on low capital, intensive sectors).

(4) **Business advocacy for trade talks:** e.g. through World Tr@de Net and Business for Development projects.

(5) **Export of services:** e.g. through ServiceExportNet.

(6) **Provision of strategic trade information:** e.g. market analysis tools, to help bring more transparency in market trends, competition rules and knowledge of trade barriers (e.g. SPS/TBT).

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: (1) Tailor-made trade development projects in partnership with specialised networks and institutions in selected countries; (2) Development of specialised tools for global use (e.g. business guides; guidelines for exporters) and national product networks in partnership with local trade support institutions and business representatives.
- Multilateral initiatives: Multi-agency capacity development programme in partnership with networks and players in selected countries. ITC participates in JITAP, the IF (as a core participating agency) and in joint training programmes with the "Agence de la Francophonie".

**Institutional arrangements:** Information not available.

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<sup>28</sup> *Forty Years of Building Capacity to Trade...And More to Come*, by J.D. Bélisle, International Trade Forum, Issue 4/2004

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** ITC conducts regular external and internal evaluations of its TRTA/CB projects, using the DAC assessment criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. Most evaluation teams include at least one independent consultant. Furthermore, ITC developed indicators of achievement at *corporate level* (see below), against which it is reviewed on an annual basis.

In addition, ITC has launched a joint evaluation of its TRTA/CB efforts, in order to: (1) identify its current and potential comparative advantage in this field, (2) determine the future focus of its activities and (3) ascertain how it could enhance its contribution to the achievement of international development goals. This evaluation was proposed by Denmark and is conducted by independent consultants.

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
Establishment of national core expertise in multilateral trading system issues that involves a good understanding of product and market reality and potential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of country networks established/supported under the World Tr@de Net and related ITC programmes;</li> <li>• Increase in the level of activity of individual advocacy networks;</li> <li>• Increased number of inter-institutional committees established in African countries participating in JITAP</li> </ul>
Establishment of trade development strategies that take into account supply capacities, international demands and commercial practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of trade development strategies developed through ITC collaboration under implementation;</li> <li>• Increase in the number of countries assisted in incorporating an “e” dimension into export strategies;</li> </ul>
Reinforcement of national trade support institutions, which provide business development and competitiveness enhancement services to the business community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of trade support organisations partnering with ITC;</li> <li>• Increased number of institutions applying ITC support tools of application of ITC support tools by these institutions;</li> </ul>
Improvement of trade performance in selected product and services sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of enterprises participating in ITC buyer-seller meetings and matchmaking activities;</li> <li>• Increase in the number of countries using ITC strategic market analysis tools;</li> <li>• Increase in the number of trade-in-services associations established;</li> <li>• Increase in the number of institutions applying ITC developed management, export and e-audit tools;</li> </ul>
Increase in entrepreneurship skills for exports and in competitiveness at the enterprise level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the number of enterprise associations applying ITC developed support tools;</li> <li>• Increase in the number of trainers trained and regional hubs/networks launched;</li> </ul>

## Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

<http://www.oecd.org/trade>

**Strategy and objectives:** The OECD aims to help member governments to tackle the economic, social and governance challenges of a globalised economy, by fostering good governance in the public service delivery and in corporate activity. It helps promote growth and development in OECD member states and in non-member states, and supports the multilateral trading system. In some cases, e.g. in the case of trade and aid, the OECD work pertains heavily to non-member economies too.

**Priority areas:** The work related to trade includes original data collection and analysis, cross-country comparisons, identification of good practices and dissemination of recommendations/guidelines in the areas of:

- (1) Trade policy, competition, and international investment;
- (2) Trade-related technical assistance and capacity building; and
- (3) Private sector, agriculture and sustainable development.

A CD-ROM toolkit designed to help trade policy makers, especially in developing countries, to enhance their understanding of trade policy issues and negotiating procedures of direct relevance to the Doha Development Agenda has also been produced.<sup>29</sup> In addition to disseminating the results of the analytical work, TRTA/CB is offered through policy dialogue and co-operation with non-members.

The OECD also participates actively in global policy discussions on TRTA/CB and in the Integrated Framework Working Group, and has developed jointly with the WTO a transparent and user-friendly Trade Capacity Building Database to enhance co-ordination and coherence in TRTA/CB delivery.

**Main channels of delivery:** OECD programmes cover the major policy areas of OECD expertise that are of mutual interest to OECD and non-member countries:

- Bilateral initiatives: (1) OECD Global Forums (sometimes organised in co-operation with other international organisations), a set of specialised dialogue initiatives and networks with global participation; and (2) Regional and Country Programmes consolidated into three areas: Europe and Central Asia; Asia; and South America.
- Regional initiatives: OECD Regional Workshops and Publications, which aim to disseminate OECD findings and policy recommendations, that are prepared in collaboration with regional organisations, e.g. UNECA, UNESCAP etc.
- Multilateral initiatives: Partnerships with other international organisations, such as UNCTAD, the World Bank, and the IMF. The OECD/DAC is also an observer in the IFWG.

**Institutional arrangements:** Activities with non-Members are organised by specialised OECD directorates (namely, the Development Co-operation Directorate, the Trade Directorate, the Economics Department, the Agriculture Directorate, the Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs etc.), with overall co-ordination by the OECD Centre for Co-operation with Non-Members (CCNM).

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** Assessment of OECD outputs occurs annually, through the Programme Implementation Reporting (PIR) survey sent to “end-users” (policy makers, civil servants, programme managers, etc.) in capitals of OECD Member States, who rate the quality and impact of OECD outputs.

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<sup>29</sup> Information about the Tool Kit is available at [www.oecd.org/trade](http://www.oecd.org/trade), with a link to "Updates to the CD-ROM Tool Kit".

## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

(<http://www.unctad.org>)

**Strategy and objectives:** The principal aim of UNCTAD's technical co-operation is to enhance the human and institutional capacities of developing countries to:

- Better understand their economic problems and strengthen their development policies;
- Create an institutional environment conducive to sustainable development;
- Participate fully in the world economy, particularly in international trade, finance and investment, including through effectively taking part in international negotiations, and in their implementation.

In October 2003, the Trade and Development Board at its 50<sup>th</sup> session, adopted decision 478L requesting the secretariat to implement the new *UNCTAD Technical Co-operation Strategy*, based on the concept of *capacity development*. This strategy stresses the need to enhance the endogenous capacity of developing countries to formulate, implement and evaluate their own national trade, investment and development policies, with a view to supporting poverty reduction policies and the achievement of the MDGs. The text of the Strategy is contained in document TD/B/50/14 (Vol. I) to be found on the UNCTAD's website.

UNCTAD's capacity development refers to enhancing developing countries' endogenous capacity to formulate, implement and evaluate home-grown policies for (1) the development and diversification of their domestic productive sector; (2) the design and implementation of trade and investment policies and negotiating strategies; and (3) the development of trade support services, within the framework of their development goals and taking into account the evolving international economic environment.

**Priority areas:** The thrust of UNCTAD's technical co-operation is capacity development in the main areas of its work, i.e.:

- (1) **Trade Policies and Trade Negotiations** (e.g. training negotiators; capacity building of research institutes);
- (2) **Investment Policies and Investment Promotion** (e.g. capacity building for implementing investment agreements);
- (3) **Enterprise Development** (e.g. the EMPRETEC programme for supporting the creation of SME support structures);
- (4) **Transport Logistics and Trade Facilitation** (e.g. support the technical modernisation of customs through the Automated System for Customs Data –ASYCUDA- Programme);
- (5) **E-commerce** (e.g. support for identifying policies and strategies in order to benefit from e-commerce);
- (6) **Structured Training and Networking** (e.g. the TRAINFORTRADE Programme which seeks to strengthen capacity building through distance learning).

Programmes often combine analysis, policy advice, training and other direct assistance.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** Projects are implemented at country, regional and inter-regional levels, at the request of individual countries, groups of countries, the Conference or the Trade and Development Board.
- **Regional and multilateral initiatives:** UNCTAD's technical co-operation is often provided in partnership with other agencies providers of trade related technical assistance, in consonance with respective mandates, expertise and areas of comparative advantage. UNCTAD delivers TRTA/CB through a number of regional organisations and participates in the IF and JITAP, collaborates among others with the WTO, UNDP, the non-governmental World Trade Point Federation (emerged from an UNCTAD initiative).

**Institutional arrangements:** While the highest decision-making body is the *Conference*, which formulates policy recommendations, the *Trade and Development Board* deals with ad hoc policy and institutional issues. The Board comprises 3 Commissions (Trade & Commodities; Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues; and Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development) which address policy issues in specific areas and provide guidance for the work of the Secretariat. It is the Secretariat's *Division on International Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities* (DITC), the *Division on Services Infrastructure for Development and Trade Efficiency* (SITE) and the *Special Programme for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries* (LDCs) that are most actively engaged in the delivery of TRTA/CB.

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** UNCTAD conducts every year an in-depth evaluation of its technical co-operation activities in specific sectors or on specific topics. *Capacity building* was the subject of the 2002 in-depth evaluation of UNCTAD's technical co-operation activities. This evaluation was a thematic one, thus dealing exclusively with the capacity building component of UNCTAD's technical co-operation programmes. In this evaluation, capacity building performance was assessed by an independent evaluation team along five evaluation measures: *relevance; effectiveness; efficiency; sustainability and impact* (i.e. DAC assessment criteria). The UNCTAD Secretariat subsequently initiated a process of consultations with Member States in order to integrate the appropriate elements arising from the thematic evaluation of capacity building into its technical co-operation strategy (see *UNCTAD Technical Co-operation Strategy* above).

In 2003 the in-depth evaluation was on the programme for *trade, environment and development (TED)*. The Evaluation has been conducted by independent consultants, along the same indicators as mentioned above. In addition to these annual evaluations, several project evaluations have been carried out at the request of the donor/s or in accordance with the relevant project documents. No evaluation was carried out in 2004.

In January 2003, a TRAINFORTRADE project for building training capacities in Benin, Burkina Faso and Mali was evaluated on the basis of established criteria verifying the relevance, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the project as well as its impact and sustainability. The project strategy was considered fully relevant and coherent with the needs of the beneficiaries. The achievements were found to be qualitatively and quantitatively satisfactory. The impact and sustainability of the project was considered good since pedagogical, institutional and financial support was partially provided at the national level. It was however, judged that the extension of the project to a larger regional organisation would provide more stability.

Evaluation measures used:

<b>Relevance</b>	Appropriateness of an activity, in terms of its national priority and in relation to capacity gaps that may not have been appropriately considered.
<b>Effectiveness</b>	Objectives defined prior to the implementation of a programme have indeed been achieved. In this regard, a clear definition of objectives is required to assess the effectiveness of a programme properly.
<b>Efficiency</b>	The input/output ratio and more generally to the cost of a programme in relation to the results attained. Efficiency does not receive the attention it merits, and the report points to several measures, including costing of activities and greater use of regional expertise and facilities, which could result in better performance in this respect
<b>Sustainability</b>	The survival potential of programmes once support has been terminated. Sustainability parameters may be defined more precisely depending on the nature of a programme, for instance in terms of financial, networking, managerial, substantive or operational sustainability. Sustainability, which is central to capacity building, could be improved through greater attention to the long-term perspective as well as to institution building.
<b>Impact</b>	The effect of a programme on national social and economic development or in a specific domain such as trade expansion or debt management savings. Impact has not been adequately assessed in evaluations. Sustained impact should be the overarching goal for all of UNCTAD's capacity building programmes. Better co-ordination among donors and improved management within UNCTAD in both the promotion of its programmes to donors and in coordinating its programmes would result in greater effectiveness and impact.

## United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

<http://www.undp.org>

**Strategy and objectives:** While acknowledging that the expansion of international trade and participation in the world economy can lead to long-term economic growth and human development, UNDP considers trade as a means to human development, not an end in itself.

In this connection, UNDP and the Millennium Declaration advocate and “inclusive and equitable globalisation” which can best be achieved through a human development paradigm. Along with the international partners, UNDP supports a number of regional and national efforts to strengthen the ability of developing countries to integrate into the global economy on their own terms, and with the greatest possible impact on poverty. UNDP also plays the central role in the monitoring of the 8th goal of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which is essentially designed to hold donors accountable to their trade, aid and debt obligations.

UNDP considered the following topics as central areas of concern to the development content of the Doha Development Round, which needed to be addressed during the 2003 WTO Ministerial in Cancun: (i) agriculture; (ii) implementation issues and special & differential treatment (S&D); (iii) services; (iv) LDC-specific commitments; and (v) capacity development. Progress in these five areas could be viewed as partial steps towards making the global trade regime more development-friendly and better oriented towards achievement of the MDGs.

On a related note, UNDP launched an initiative and released a report in 2003 on “*Reforming Technical Co-operation for Capacity Development*” which explored the fundamentals of (trade and non-trade) capacity development and how technical co-operation could best contribute to the development of lasting local capacities. For more information, see the UNDP website on capacity building (<http://capacity.undp.org/>).

**Priority areas:** Major areas of focus are the strengthening of the **bargaining power of countries in WTO negotiations and capacity development.**

Current trade-related activities at global, regional and national levels include:

- Advocacy on the linkages between trade, human development and the MDGs through MDG country reports; policy-oriented studies and discussions at the national level, encompassing government officials, parliamentarians and stakeholders from civil society and the private sector; and analytical work to improve the trade negotiating position of poor countries.
- Incorporating human development concerns into the IF and in other country-level trade capacity development interventions, including strengthening linkages between national poverty reduction plans and PRSPs and pro-poor trade policies; facilitating donor co-ordination and South-South co-operation on trade-related issues; and the management of the IF Trust Fund.
- Establishment of a corporate database as a tool for knowledge sharing on trade capacity development experiences – the poverty and MDG knowledge networks provide a platform for discussion of pro-poor issues of which trade is a subset.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see Priority areas above.
- Multilateral initiatives: UNDP is one of the core IF agencies, and is the manager of the IF Trust Funds.

**Institutional arrangements:** Information not available.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** Information not available.

## United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

<http://www.unido.org/doc/25393>

**Strategy and objectives:** UNIDO's mission is to contribute to the achievement of a considerable increase in the share, volume and amount of the Manufacturing Value Added (MVA) and exports of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with a special focus on LDCs.

The *UNIDO Trade Capacity Building Initiative* has been refocused to respond more effectively to the Doha Development Agenda and to address more specifically the relation between trade, sustainable development and poverty alleviation as called for in the UN Millennium Declaration. Consequently, UNIDO services are linked to industrial and trade policies and regulations as well as to industrial trade development, and aim to build human and institutional capacity to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the multilateral trading system. UNIDO's strategy paper, entitled "*Enabling Developing Countries to Participate in International Trade - Strengthening the Supply Capacity*" was released in March 2002.

**Priority areas:** The Trade Capacity Building strategy adopted by UNIDO to facilitate trade, foster export capacity and increase access to markets consists of three-pronged coordinated and integrated actions, the 3C Approach:

- (1) *Compete*: Remove supply side constraints and increase the competitiveness of the industrial sector;
- (2) *Conform*: Enable products to conform with market requirements (standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures) and overcome barriers to trade;
- (3) *Connect*: Enable industrial firms to be connected with the market and foster integration in the multilateral trading system.

In removing supply side constraints, the focus is on the manufacture of products with high-export potential, especially in *agribusiness*, and the provision of assistance related to **enterprise upgrading, innovation, technology acquisition, increasing capacity to meet international standards**, technical requirements and environmental regulations. Through the introduction of supporting legislation, policies and **institutional reform**, UNIDO supports also the creation of an enabling environment for foreign direct investment, formulation of policies conducive to greater competitiveness, increased productivity and trade and investment flows. The strengthening of supply capacity encompasses also the identification of key exported products that encounter technical barriers to trade and are facing supply-side impediments, the promotion of technology transfer and best practices related to process/product upgrading including quality management, cleaner technology and **supply chain management**.

In ensuring conformity and international recognition of local certificates and laboratory analysis and tests, UNIDO focus is on **upgrading standards, metrology, testing and quality infrastructure and services**. UNIDO also supports developing countries to overcome barriers to trade and to participate in international standards setting. Furthermore, UNIDO assists the establishment, on a national or regional basis, of accreditation/certification systems, national measurement institutions to ensure harmonisation with international metrology systems, and of market surveillance institutions.

In ensuring connectivity with markets, export promotion support is provided in co-operation with other specialised organisations. Specifically, UNIDO assists in **value chain integration** and in strengthening those institutions that bear directly on developing countries' export performance, such as small business export consortia and export-oriented **clusters and networking** and support to enable SMEs to respond to changing market conditions in increasingly opened economies. In addition, assistance is provided to enable the streamlining of customs procedures and mechanism to ensure more efficient trade flows (**trade facilitation**).

**Main channels of delivery:** UNIDO's TRTA/CB activities address three different levels: Policy, Institutional and Enterprise, and are delivered as follows:

- **Bilateral initiatives:** TRTA/CB programmes at country or regional level, that aim to strengthen supply capacity, improve conformity with market requirements and facilitate integration in regional and international supply chains, as well as to overcome technical barriers to trade and implement Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
- **Regional initiatives:** UNIDO strategy is characterised by strong emphasis on building and strengthening existing regional trade-related organisations and agreements, by working with the Secretariats of such organisations and with specialised structures at the regional and sub-regional levels to deliver TRTA/CB; e.g. WAEMU; NEPAD; APEC.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** UNIDO cooperates with the WTO, UNCTAD, ITC and other development agencies, as well as with technical agencies, such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and those responsible for accreditation, metrology and measurement, such as Joint International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), the "Bureau International des Poids et Mesures" (BIMP) and the International Organization for Legal Metrology (OIML). Closer co-operation with FAO and WHO in respect of the Good Hygiene Practices (GHP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) applications and Codex Alimentarius food safety standards and related national legislation is also part of UNIDO's strategy. In addition, UNIDO participates in the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transport & Trade (cf. World Bank profile) and in the IF.

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** The evaluations are often conducted by independent consultants, according to the following indicators: *scope, ownership, implementation* (outputs), *relevance, synergy* (with other components of the TCB Programme) and *results* (outcomes).

## World Bank

<http://www.worldbank.org/trade>

*Strategy and objectives:* The World Bank's work on trade has objectives at the global and country levels:

- *At the global level:* Advocacy of changes in the world trading system to make it more supportive of development, especially in LDCs. This includes support for a "pro-development" outcome in the Doha Development Agenda, as well as working with partners to maximise the development impact of regional trading agreements.
- *At the country level:* The World Bank Group's Trade Capacity Building (TCB) Programme aims to build capacity in client countries to:
  - (1) Formulate and implement sound trade policy to enhance growth and reduce poverty
  - (2) Manage the adjustment costs of trade reform and external trade shocks
  - (3) Participate effectively in international negotiations
  - (4) Develop appropriate regional trade policies

The World Bank's trade agenda and work programme, "*Leveraging Trade for Development: The World Bank Agenda*" was released in September 2003. In addition to these TRTA/CB activities, the Bank invests heavily in trade-related infrastructure (see also Operations, lending and capacity building below).

*Priority areas:* Following the Doha Ministerial meeting, the World Bank increased the focus on trade capacity building in developing countries in the following activities: (1) training and research support, (2) Operations, including analytical and advisory activities, and lending and capacity building; and (3) advocacy (at global level).

The Bank indeed expanded its learning programmes, among others through the *World Bank Institute Trade Programme* which aims to build client countries' research capacity, build deeper understanding of trade policy choices and foster and facilitate debate.

It also increased TRTA/CB in Operations at country and global level, including in analytical and advisory activities (AAA), e.g. by carrying out the IF Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS) and providing policy advice for countries pursuing unilateral trade liberalisation reforms or working towards WTO accession.<sup>30</sup> The Bank's Operations also enhanced its lending and technical assistance portfolio, with more projects containing trade capacity building components (including projects undertaken in the frame of the IF), and appointed trade coordinators in each region. Most projects with trade capacity building components address **export development, trade facilitation and standards** (TBT/SPS).

Hence, the World Bank Group's trade agenda extends beyond the traditional "border" tariff and non-tariff issues (i.e. liberalisation of trade in goods and services; preferential liberalisation) to include those aspects of the "behind-the-border" agenda that directly affect trade, namely trade facilitation and logistics and product standards, e.g. SPS and TBT. The Bank has recently launched a *Trade Facilitation Initiative* to further expand the scope of its trade facilitation efforts to a wider number of countries (see also GFP)<sup>31</sup>. The Initiative covers Operations (analytical and advisory activities, lending and capacity building) and learning activities in 4 areas: customs, ports, transit and multimodal transport.

The Bank also gives greater attention towards the distributional impact of trade and trade reforms.

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<sup>30</sup> In FY05, 44 trade components of country-level studies and 11 regional studies were completed. Development Committee, Information Note: Aid for Trade: Competitiveness and Adjustment (April 2005).

<sup>31</sup> Other outputs include the Customs Modernisation Handbook, the Trade and Transport Facilitation Audits (diagnosis of procedural or operational constraints) as well as Global Logistics Indicators (which help measure progress in key areas such as customs and port performance).

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: lending, capacity-building and training programmes. Training is provided through the World Bank Institute (WBI), often in partnership with developing country think tanks, local research institutes and networks and universities (to ensure relevance and sustainability of the assistance provided).
- Regional initiatives: The Bank often collaborates with regional organisations, e.g. regional advisory and research networks (e.g. the African Economic Research Consortium – AERC, and the Southern African Trade Research Network - SATRN); ASEAN; APEC; etc.
- Multilateral initiatives: the World Bank collaborates with a number of other multilateral agencies (e.g. IMF, UNCTAD, OECD, UNECE...) and participates in numerous joint TRTA/CB programmes:

(1) IF: the World Bank is one of the six Agencies involved and is the executing agency for the DTIS.

(2) the *Standards and Trade Development Facility* (STDF; [www.standardsfacility.org](http://www.standardsfacility.org)): launched in 2002 jointly with WTO, FAO, WHO and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Facility focuses on TRTA/CB in food safety standards. The strategic aim of the STDF is to assist developing countries enhance their expertise and capacity to analyse and to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, improving their human, animal and plant health situation.

(3) the *Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade* (GFP, [www.gfptt.org](http://www.gfptt.org)), which aims at pulling together all interested parties, public and private, national and international, who want to help achieve significant improvements in transport and trade facilitation in World Bank member countries. The Partners of the GFP have together agreed to design and undertake specific programmes towards meeting this objective, making use of their respective comparative advantage in the subject matter in a coordinated fashion.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Trade Department* and the *Operations Department* are the 2 bodies mainly involved in TRTA/CB. The Trade Department capacity building programmes consist of learning/training programmes delivered by the *World Bank Institute* - WBI (e.g. to enhance trade reform or negotiating capacity) and research capacity building undertaken by the Department of Development Economics and the WBI.

The Operations Department's TRTA/CB mainly focuses on trade facilitation, export development and standards and includes the elaboration of DTIS and lending for trade capacity building (through the *International Development Association* - IDA).

**Evaluation methodology and timeframe:** Evaluations of TRTA/CB efforts occur as part of the World Bank's broader operational and programme evaluation, e.g. in July 2003, the Operation Evaluations Department has initiated an evaluation of the World Bank's work on trade over the last two decades.

TRTA/CB activities carried out as part of the World Bank lending operations are subject to standard quality enhancement and monitoring, while WBI activities are regularly evaluated by participants for their effectiveness.

## World Customs Organization (WCO)

<http://www.wcoomd.org>

**Strategy and objectives:** The World Customs Organization's mission is to promote effectiveness and efficiency of customs administrations through (i) developing and maintaining *standards* for customs procedures; (ii) promoting international co-operation to *share information and best practices*; and (iii) providing *technical assistance* to implement trade and customs standards and capacity building. In this context, the WCO has developed and promoted numerous standards (the most prominent one being the revised Kyoto Convention) to assist customs administrations in trade facilitation and ensuring trade security. Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of customs administrations can ultimately contribute to national development objectives such as revenue collection, national security and, ultimately, poverty reduction.

In June 2003, the WCO developed and adopted the *Customs Capacity Building Strategy*, which was designed to provide a pragmatic response to identifying and addressing capacity building needs of customs administrations in the developing world, including support for developing and adopting global standards for customs procedures. In order to assist customs administrations and practitioners active in the area of capacity building to implement the Strategy, the WCO subsequently developed and is now finalising its *Customs Capacity Building Diagnostic Framework* to identify the real needs of capacity building and establish country-specific programmes. This Framework includes:

- (1) a *Readiness Assessment Tool* (checks whether essential prerequisites for effective TRTA/CB are present), and
- (2) specific guidelines on how to design, implement, monitor and evaluate TCB activities in the area of customs, and encourage the participation of all stakeholders.

The WCO has also developed a standard methodology for the collection and analysis of customs' operational performance, the *Time Release Study* (the World Bank is developing software that will further facilitate its implementation). The WCO has also collaborated with the World Bank in producing a *Customs Modernization Handbook*, which is complementary to the Strategy and the Diagnostic Framework.

**Priority areas:** The Customs Capacity Building Strategy emphasises the importance of a **regional approach** to capacity building, which can facilitate synergies between the activities of regional players, and bring their initiatives in line with global standards.

In response, the WCO established its *Regional Office for Capacity Building for the Asia-Pacific Region* (ROCB) in Bangkok, Thailand in September 2004. The objective of the ROCB is to promote the WCO's Customs Capacity Building Strategy at regional level through assisting member customs administrations with their capacity building programmes in close co-operation with the WCO Secretariat in Brussels. The WCO has also opened several Regional Training Centres – two in China (Shanghai and Hong Kong), one in India and one in Japan – which are managed by the ROCB.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** the WCO expert missions, training courses, workshops or seminars organised and conducted at national or regional level, aim at strengthening institutional capacity of developing countries and help them comply with international agreements. (These are sometimes directly funded and implemented by WCO member countries).
- **Regional initiatives:** the WCO carries out regional programmes in collaboration with, e.g., the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), ASEAN, APEC and the Commonwealth Secretariat.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** the WCO participates in the IF; works jointly with the WTO and the World Bank (e.g. on the Customs Modernization Handbook); and is an active participant in the *Global Facility Partnership for Transport and Trade*, initiated by the World Bank.

***Institutional arrangements:*** Internally, the *Human Resources Development Services (HRDS)* has helped the WCO fulfil its mission and attain its objectives by co-ordinating the technical assistance activities carried out by the various Sub-Directorates. The annual mission plan is prepared on the basis of Members' needs and the priorities set by the Council.

To make its technical assistance more consistent, a high level *Working Group* has been tasked with promoting co-ordination between the various players (beneficiaries, donors) in assigning technical assistance actions. Moreover, the WCO is currently looking into possibility of setting up a new directorate dedicated to capacity building within the Secretariat to better respond to the needs of its Members.

The WCO has also developed a *Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Database* for improving co-ordination between donors and beneficiaries and limit duplication of work. Available on the WCO Intranet, this database can be accessed by the Members and international organisations that jointly conduct certain TTA missions.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

(<http://www.wipo.int>)

**Strategy and objectives:** In its *Medium-term Plan for WIPO Programme Activities for 2006-2009*, the WIPO, a specialised UN agency, has reaffirmed its role in the area of intellectual property (IP) within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals.

The Plan highlights the importance of reinforcing WIPO's co-operation efforts with governments and the private sector, in order to enhance technical assistance in favour of developing and transition countries, and more particularly LDCs. Such technical assistance includes the necessary support in capacity building and the development of appropriate infrastructure, as well as the strengthening of human resources.

WIPO programme activities are grouped into five strategic theme areas, each with specific deliverables. One of these areas is dedicated to "*Co-operation for Development* which aims to enable developing countries and LDCs to establish or modernise intellectual property systems, consistent with national objectives and requirements, and to exploit them for their social, economic and cultural development.

**Priority areas:** WIPO's technical assistance and capacity building activities focus on:

- Strengthening of IP's role in the development of national policy (supported with analyses of the economic impact of IP)
- Strengthening of national human resource capabilities, including training of IP professionals (e.g. training of trainers)
- Deployment of online tools for small IP offices via the *WIPOnet*
- Further development of customised regional/national action plans
- Continuing assistance in IP office automation.

The *WIPO Worldwide Academy*, a training/knowledge centre, aims to develop the human capital of developing countries, in order to enable them to capitalise on the full benefits of the international IP systems. WIPO has set up modern and tailor-made training programmes for policy advisors, development managers, and other target groups.

As part of its Digital Agenda, a work programme on electronic commerce, the WIPO aims to integrate developing countries into the international digital environment, including through the use of the *WIPOnet* – a global intellectual property information network – and the electronic delivery of information and services. To further facilitate the electronic integration of developing countries, IP offices in developing countries will be provided with Internet connectivity and basic equipment.

Other activities include support for the modernisation and expansion of national IP offices; support for creating and strengthening collective management systems for copyright and related rights on a national and regional scale; as well as assisting members of the WTO to bring their IP legislation and administration into line with the provisions of the Agreement on TRIPS.

WIPO has recently launched a new programme which supports governments in designing policies and strategies that meet the intellectual property needs of SMEs.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: The WIPO Nationally-focused Action Plans (NFAPs): integrated plans for tailor-made assistance at country level covering a one- to three-year time frame. (In 2002, 51 NFAPs were executed in Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean).
- Regional initiatives: Information not available.
- Multilateral initiatives: WIPO collaborates with the WTO through a joint initiative (launched in 2000) to help developing countries meet their WTO TRIPS obligations. Special attention is given to those LDCs that need to meet their TRIPS obligations by 2006. In addition, it is interested in contributing to the IF.

**Institutional arrangements:** The *Permanent Committee on Co-operation for Development Related to Intellectual Property* (PCIPD) oversees the WIPO's TRTA/CB activities. A special unit within the Secretariat looks after the concerns of the LDCs which require special attention and assistance so that they too can reap the benefits of intellectual property.

Governments of some member States and other partner international organisations make financial and in-kind contributions for specific WIPO projects, such as training and advice, primarily for the benefit of developing countries.

**Evaluation methodology and timetable:** The success of WIPO's programme activities are evaluated against one or more of the following broad performance indicators:

- (1) IP policy of the Member State
- (2) Integration of IP policy into the cultural-socio-economic policies of the Member State
- (3) Enhancement and development, in both quantity and quality, of IP rights and assets
- (4) Number of accessions or ratifications, the geographical coverage and the effective use of treaties administered by the WIPO
- (5) Number and range of users of the WIPO's global protection systems
- (6) Status and functions of IP-related institutions (e.g. effective IP offices and copyright collective management societies, competent courts, customs offices for IP enforcement, etc.)
- (7) Number of people who benefited from the WIPO programmes, including government officials, innovators, academic researchers, IP practitioners, etc.

Moreover, WIPO's activities are evaluated according to the following operational criteria: *sustainability*, *specificity* (level to which projects are adapted to particular needs of individual countries- equivalent to *relevance*) and *cost-effectiveness* (equivalent to *efficiency*)

The *Empowerment for Development* sub-programme, which aims at empowering Member States to develop, protect, enforce, manage, and commercially exploit IP as a tool for development, is evaluated according to the following performance indicators:

Expected Results	Performance Indicators
1. Propagation of IP as a tool for economic development.	Number and nature of initiatives undertaken at the national level.
2. Developing countries' policy-makers are enabled to formulate policies, particularly in response to emerging IP issues.	Number of fora for policy-makers at the national, regional and international levels and feedback on policy formulation.

3. IP Offices cooperate with federations of industries, chambers of commerce, academic and research institutions, including universities and SMEs to develop linkages and programmes directed to a sustained use of the IP system for economic growth.	Number of linkages and programmes with the objective of developing and supporting national IP asset development, protection and management.
4. Enhanced knowledge by policy makers, academics, inventors, research institutions, cultural institutions, and private enterprises of how to manage intellectual assets for economic benefit.	Number of human resource development and capacity building programmes and effectiveness of such programmes.

NB: The Commission on Intellectual Property Rights released a Report, “*Integrating Intellectual Property and Development Policy*” (September 2002), in which it reviews all IP-related technical assistance and capacity programmes (undertaken mainly by WIPO, EPO, UNDP, UNCTAD and the World Bank) and identifies ‘best practice’ for effectively delivering IP-related TA.

## World Trade Organization (WTO)

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/devel\\_e/teccop\\_e/tct\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/teccop_e/tct_e.htm)

**Strategy and objectives:** WTO Technical Co-operation and Training activities' key objectives are to enhance institutional and human capacity in beneficiary countries to: (1) address trade policy issues and concerns, (2) mainstream trade into national plans for economic development and strategies for poverty reduction, (3) facilitate a fuller participation of beneficiaries in the Multilateral Trading System (MTS), in particular in the current negotiation process, (4) adjust to WTO rules and disciplines and implement obligations, and (5) exercise the rights of membership.

The WTO, together with the DAC/OECD, also promotes a coordinated TRTA/CB delivery through the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database. The WTO mandate to carry out TRTA/CB is reiterated in the WTO Doha Declaration.<sup>32</sup>

The WTO Secretariat publishes annual Technical Assistance and Training Plans, which identify the products that can be used in the delivery of technical assistance and training and list the Geneva-based or regional activities to be undertaken for a given year. These activities are funded by the Regular Budget or the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund and are often carried out in partnership with other agencies, bilateral donors and TA providers. The Plan is designed in such a way that all eligible Members and Observers can systematically benefit. In light of their pressing trade development needs, priority is given to Least-Developed Countries (LDCs). The *2005 Technical Assistance and Training Plan* (WT/COMTD/W/133Rev.2) can be found on the WTO website.

The 2005 Plan emphasises the importance of strengthening local capacity in beneficiary countries and ownership, by building partnerships with other providers of technical assistance. In addition, it highlights the importance of improving the relevance and sustainability of WTO TA, e.g. through the delivery of more specialised, demand-driven and longer activities.

**Priority areas:** The WTO TRTA/CB focuses on:

- (1) **Training:** Trade Policy Courses are held in Geneva and in the regions. They last 12 weeks and consist of a series of presentations on the WTO, including a historical background, the rules and procedures, and its functioning. All Agreements and issues on the WTO agenda are covered. The purpose is not to form specialists in each area of activity of the WTO but rather to ensure that participants are thoroughly exposed to all WTO-related issues, and develop practical skills as well as an extensive network of contacts. In addition, specialised and advanced courses are organised on a regular basis.
- (2) **Technical assistance (TA):** General and Specialised/Advanced TA:
  - workshops, seminars, technical missions, on specific Agreements or national issues, held in a country or region.
  - courses on Trade Negotiations Skills,
  - Outreach Activities for Parliamentarians and Civil Society: national and regional workshops to inform participants on the functioning of the WTO and encourage dialogue on trade-related issues,
  - Support for conducting needs assessment (from 2005)

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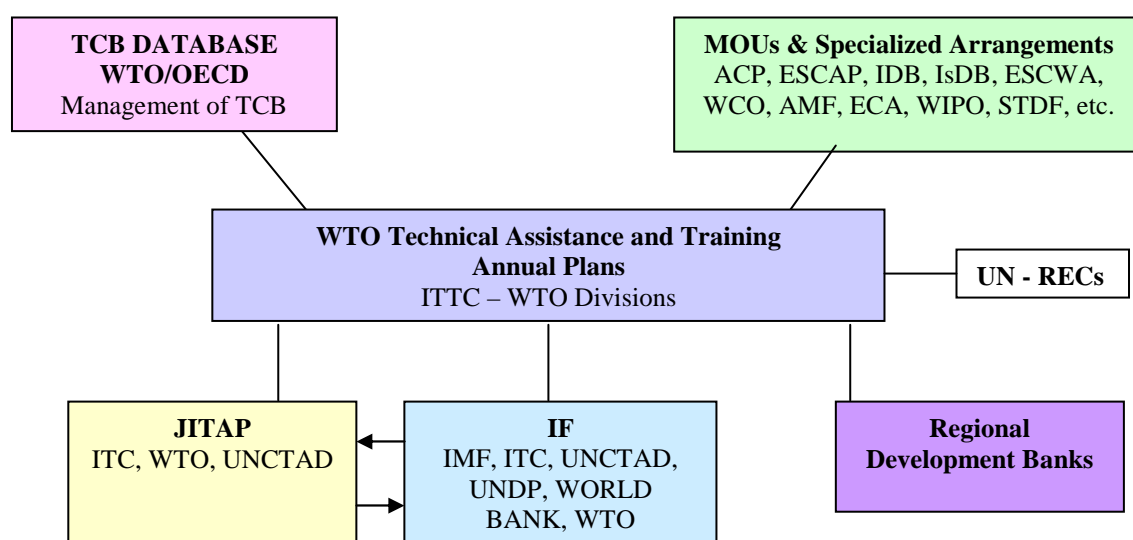
<sup>32</sup> Art 38: "We instruct the Secretariat, in coordination with other relevant agencies, to support domestic efforts for mainstreaming trade into national plans for economic development and strategies for poverty reduction. The delivery of WTO technical assistance shall be designed to assist developing and least-developed countries and low-income countries in transition to adjust to WTO rules and disciplines, implement obligations and exercise the rights of membership, including drawing on the benefits of an open, rules-based multilateral trading system. Priority shall also be accorded to small, vulnerable, and transition economies, as well as to members and observers without representation in Geneva."

- (3) **Academic support:** Support to trade-related academic institutions and networks, in order to strengthen in-country institutional and human capacities for delivering WTO-related training and encourage regional exchange of information and training.
- (4) **Support TA facilities:**
- Geneva Weeks: in order to meet the special challenges faced by the Non-Residents and to enhance their participation in the MTS, the WTO organises two "Geneva Weeks" per year.
  - Trainee programmes and internships.
  - WTO Reference Centres: these in-country centres generally attached to the Ministry of Trade in over 90 countries are used as a documentation and trade information facility where relevant documentation on the MTS is made readily available to officials, the press, the general public, the business community, and academia.
  - Trade Policy Clinics: this form of national activity is designed to help respond to trade-policy issues identified by Members and provide diagnosis and practical recommendations on how they might be addressed.
  - Distance Learning: the WTO promotes the use of information technology tools and the Internet in the delivery of its training as a complement and sometimes, as an alternative to traditional programs.

**Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: cf. Priorities above. These initiatives are sometimes implemented by subcontractors (consultants, specialised TA agencies).
- Regional initiatives: Partnerships for training and capacity building exist with national and regional academic institutions, policy think tanks and regional organisations, such as APEC, UNESCAP, UNECA, ACP, "Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie", AMF, APEC, IABD, IDLO, IsDB, UNECA, UNESCAP, UNESWA, etc.
- Multilateral initiatives: the WTO collaborates with other international agencies (e.g. WCO, WIPO, World Bank, ITC, UNCTAD, OECD, UNIDO) in the delivery of TRTA/CB and participates in a number of multilateral initiatives, e.g. the IF, JITAP, Standards and Trade Facility.

**Structure of WTO Technical Co-operation**



**Institutional arrangements:** Delivery of TRTA/CB involves almost all WTO Divisions, (as well as partner institutions, regional development banks and other agencies- see channels of delivery), yet is managed and

coordinated by the WTO *Institute for Training and Technical Co-operation* (ITTC) and the *Technical Assistance Management Committee* (TAMC).

***Evaluation timetable and methodology:*** Members review the implementation of the annual Technical Assistance and Training Plan on a quarterly basis. In addition, individual outputs are evaluated directly by the beneficiaries, by self-evaluation, combined with Technical Co-operation Audit's on-site evaluations, as a modality for ensuring the improvement of the planning, design and delivery procedures and practices.

In 2005 efforts will be made to regularly follow-up the recommendations emerging from self-evaluations on the one hand and to the systematic dissemination and application of the lessons learnt, on the other. In addition, more internal evaluations are foreseen and other forms of evaluation, e.g. a thematic evaluation will also be experimented with.

## V. REGIONAL AGENCIES AND DEVELOPMENT BANKS

### Asian Development Bank (ADB)

[\(http://www.adb.org/poverty/\)](http://www.adb.org/poverty/)

**Strategy and objectives:** ADB has been playing a key role in assisting its developing member countries (DMCs) to open their economies and integrate effectively into the global economy through multilateral, regional and sub-regional co-operation initiatives.

The Bank's assistance in the trade area is part of its broader country-specific programme of assistance for poverty reduction in Asia and the Pacific.<sup>33</sup> With its country knowledge and a combination of lending and technical assistance, ADB has unique strength in the trade area, particularly in trade-related aspects of policy and institution reforms.

The Bank provides a comprehensive programme of assistance in the area of trade, including support for the following:

- Policy and institution reforms;
- Trade financing (loans);
- Trade facilitation (e.g., modernisation of the customs administration);
- Research and capacity building activities;
- Institutional support for the implementation of various WTO agreements;
- Increased participation in international trade negotiations.

**Priority areas:** Following the WTO Doha Declaration, ADB has increased its TRTA significantly in an effort to assist its developing member countries to **participate in the new trade round** (by supporting WTO accession and participation in negotiations) and address various difficulties arising from the implementation of the **WTO agreements**. The Bank also helps to raise awareness of the importance of trade as an integral part of development agendas in the region. Hence, another important area of capacity building concerns the **regional co-operation and trade agreement initiatives**, which are promoted in ways that complement the multilateral trading system and serve the long-term development interests of developing countries.<sup>34</sup> ADB has recognised the importance of capacity development and will provide strategic support to enhance a DMC's capacities to formulate and implement policies, reforms, and investments needed for poverty reduction.

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<sup>33</sup> See "Enhancing the Fight Against Poverty in Asia and the Pacific: The Poverty Reduction Strategy of the Asian Development Bank" (Dec. 2004). The chapter on regional co-operation is of particular relevance.

<sup>34</sup> The Bank's implementation record of TRTA/CB activities (including planned activities) – all funded by ADB's Japan Special Fund (JSF), include: **In 2002:** a High Level Meeting on the WTO Trading System and an Intensive Course on Trade Facilitation. **In 2003:** an Intensive Course on WTO Customs Valuation Agreement and an Intensive Course on WTO TRIPs Agreement. **In 2004:** an Intensive Course on Anti-Dumping; a High Level Meeting on Key Doha Round Issues; and an Intensive Course on Rules of Origin. **In 2005:** an Intensive Course on Investment; and a High Level Meeting on Key Doha Round Issues. **In 2006:** two intensive courses on accession and on dispute settlement mechanisms are planned.

***Main channels of delivery:***

- **Bilateral initiatives:** ADB assists DMCs through a combination of lending and technical assistance activities (e.g. workshops, training on WTO rules, etc.).
- **Regional initiatives:** ADB supports APEC's WTO capacity building initiatives; and has organised a series of seminars and conferences with ASEAN.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** ADB collaborates with the OECD, WTO and the World Bank, to help raise the awareness of DMCs on the importance of trade as an integral part of development agendas and address policy issues brought by the new trade round and regional trade agreement initiatives.

***Institutional arrangements:*** Information not available.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC)

<http://www.apec.org>

**Strategy and objectives:** APEC operates as a cooperative, multilateral economic and trade forum. It is committed to reducing trade barriers and increasing investments without requiring its member economies to enter into legally binding obligations.

APEC works in three broad areas – trade and investment liberalisation, business facilitation and economic and technical co-operation – to meet its overarching goal of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region by 2010 for developed economies and 2020 for developing economies. Recognising that this goal will require increasing the capacity and skills of its developing members, APEC devotes substantial attention to capacity building in a range of areas. This work is collectively referred to as economic and technical co-operation, or *ECOTECH*.

In 2003, APEC Ministers agreed to focus ECOTECH efforts on four priority issues, among which “Integration into the Global Economy” which aims to:

- Improve the capacity of member economies to implement trade agreements and other measures that facilitate trade (including customs reforms), and participate actively in international trade negotiations;
- Strengthen SMEs in order to facilitate access to APEC members’ markets and increase the capacity to compete in the global economy (includes human capacity building);
- Develop member economies’ trade-related institutional and legal frameworks.

**Priority areas:** APEC has been working on **trade policy-related capacity building** since 1999, when it created the *Implementation of WTO Obligations Group* within the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) to realign its work to enable substantive work on Uruguay Round implementation to be carried out in more effective way. In 2001, after adopting a demand-driven *Strategic Plan on Capacity Building of WTO Obligations* (2000), this group was re-named the *WTO Capacity Building Group (WCBG)*. The Plan includes projects in training and exchanges of information on the implementation of the Uruguay Round agreements, and guides member economies to prepare for future WTO negotiations, by providing information on a broad range of WTO-related issues.

In 2004, APEC organised a workshop on *Best Practices in WTO Capacity Building*, which aimed to identify specific capacity building challenges and needs from both the donors’ and recipients’ perspective, as well as to produce concrete recommendations for future activity in this area. The key suggestions for the future work of the WCBG which came out of this workshop were to define best practices in multi-stakeholder consultations and in intra-government co-ordination.

APEC has also been involved in leading work on **trade facilitation capacity building** (through the *2002 Trade Facilitation Action Plan*), and on increasing the **participation of SMEs and micro-enterprises in international trade**, mainly through the *Integrated Plan of Action for the Development of SMEs (SPAN)*. It has designed numerous projects aimed at enhancing SMEs’ understanding in implementing standards and accreditation, improving the skills of managers, entrepreneurs and educators/trainers in key sectors and increasing access to market information and business development services, in order to their raise the quality, productivity and export capacity of SMEs. A number of projects are also targeted at increasing business linkages and networking, enhancing access to financial and capital markets and enabling SMEs to capitalise on e-commerce.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: APEC is not a donor organisation and its activities including WTO capacity building projects are centrally funded by annual contributions from its 21 member economies, or directly funded and organised bilaterally by its Member Economies.
- Regional initiatives: APEC collaborates with other regional organisations, such as ADB.

- Multilateral initiatives: APEC collaborates among others with the World Bank, WTO and the WCO.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *Committee on Trade and Investment* (CTI) is APEC's voice on global trade and investment issues and is the coordinating body for all of APEC's work on the liberalisation and facilitation of trade and investment; the *WTO Capacity Building Group* (WCBG) is a sub-forum of CTI with a mandate to coordinate, promote, monitor and discuss APEC's work in TRTA/CB in support of the Doha Development Agenda, and is co-chaired by Japan and Canada.

The Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Committee on Economic and Technical Co-operation (*ECOTECH*) assists APEC Senior Officials in coordinating and managing APEC's ECOTECH agenda, as well as identifying initiatives for cooperative action by member economies.

Other bodies overseeing the implementation of TRTA/CB activities include the Human Resources Development Group, the Trade Promotion Working Group and the SMEs Working Group.

WCBG, which oversees the Strategic Plan on Capacity Building of WTO Obligations, has launched the *APEC Directory of WTO Capacity Building Projects* website ([www.apec-trta.org](http://www.apec-trta.org)) to enhance co-ordination and monitoring of WTO capacity building projects in the APEC region.

***Evaluation methodology and timeframe:*** All APEC projects are evaluated to assess their success and their compliance with APEC financial guidelines. A new and comprehensive "Quality Assessment Framework" - assessing the quality of project proposals for operational account funding- has been drafted by the Small Group on Evaluation of ECOTECH in October 2004 (an initiative of Australia). The latter is being considered by APEC member economies.

In response to the 2003 APEC Ministerial, WTCBG established a "Friends of the Co-Chairs' Group" to work towards performing an evaluation of APEC's past WTO capacity building projects and extract lessons learnt in order to identify measures and practices to improve WTO capacity building activities in the future. The evaluation would be performed by an independent expert, who would utilise existing evaluation methodologies within APEC, particularly the work of the Small Group on Evaluation. The results of this evaluation will help APEC target and administer WTO capacity building assistance better.

## European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

<http://www.ebrd.org>

**Strategy and objectives:** The EBRD views international trade as a key part of fostering the transition towards open market-oriented economies and for promoting private and entrepreneurial initiative in the Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

EBRD's TRTA/CB is primarily undertaken in the frame of its *Regional Trade Facilitation Programme* (TFP) which is a network of banks that uses EBRD guarantees to reduce risk in international trade. The objectives of this Programme are to promote foreign trade to, from and within CEECs and CIS, and to provide liquidity to the trade system.

**Priority areas:** Most TRTA/CB activities consist of granting greater **access to trade finance** (by providing guarantees to international commercial banks) and delivering **training in trade financing**. The TFP provides credit facilities in the form of EBRD guarantees issued in favour of international (and regional) commercial banks, covering the political and commercial payment risk of transactions undertaken by participating local banks (client banks) in the countries where EBRD operates. In this way, the international banks benefit from the EBRD's triple A credit rating. The EBRD also provides direct financing (short-term loans) to selected local banks for trade-related purposes. The TFP guarantees any genuine trade transaction to, from and within the countries of operations. The TFP activities are centred around:

- Institutional building within client banks;
- Demonstrating new ways of financing trade, new products and processes; and
- Developing skills in the region.

Through its TFP, the EBRD facilitates transition to a market economy, helping local banks in the region to obtain access to international finance, strengthen their trade finance experience, introduce transparent banking practices, and enable local staff to gain experience working with Western commercial banks.

Activities are mainly focused on the CEECs and CIS.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- Bilateral initiatives: see priority areas above.
- Regional initiatives: The EBRD has entered into an agreement with the ADB to co-operate under the *Regional Trade Facilitation Programme in Asia*. The EBRD has also signed a number of other risk sharing agreements: with a German development agency, the "Deutsche Investitions – und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH (DEG)", Netherlands development agency, "Nederlands Financierings-Maatschappij Voor Ontwikkelingslanden N.V." (FMO) and Canadian Pension Fund Cordiant Capital (IFPT) for its portfolio of transactions with banks in Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Russia.<sup>35</sup>

**Institutional arrangements:** Information not available.

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<sup>35</sup> The governments of Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland financially support the Trade Facilitation Programme through financially contributing to its risk sharing funds – which are placed on deposit at the EBRD and are used by the TFP to mitigate risk, as well as share losses with the EBRD. There are three such risk sharing funds: the South Eastern Europe Initiative (SEEI), the Central Asia Risk Sharing Special Fund (CARSSF) and Financial Intermediary Investment Special Fund (FIISF) for several Early Transition Countries.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** A Special Study assessing the performance and potential of the TFP was conducted by the Bank's Project Evaluation Department and completed in June 2003. The study reviews the TFP's transition impact and presents recommendations for further enhancing the programme.

## United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

<http://www.uneca.org>

**Strategy and objectives:** UNECA is one of five regional commissions under the administrative direction of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and is mandated to support the economic and social development of its 53 member States, foster **regional and sub-regional integration**, and promote international co-operation for Africa.

UNECA deploys several modalities and services to support its member States which include: policy analysis and advocacy; enhancing partnerships; technical assistance; communication and knowledge sharing; and supporting sub-regional activities.

As part of its mandate, UNECA assists members in implementing policies and programmes through technical co-operation. As the agenda of the multilateral trade negotiations has expanded in recent years, most African countries have found their capacities inadequate to deal with the complex issues that have emerged. In 2003, at the request of member States, UNECA undertook several activities aimed at strengthening officials' abilities to more effectively participate in the new multilateral trade arrangements.<sup>36</sup>

At the 2004 UNECA annual Ministerial conference, the Ministers underscored the importance of successfully concluding the Doha Development Round in order to better integrate Africa into the global trading system, and reached consensus that trade must be mainstreamed into broader national development strategies in order to achieve pro-poor growth.

**Priority areas:** As part of its Priority Activities 2004-2006, UNECA plans to intensify its activities and programmes toward strengthening the capacity of member States to participate effectively in the global economy, by **promoting the private sector, intra-regional and international trade, and enhancing regional co-operation in Africa.**

In this context, UNECA considers the ongoing WTO negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda and negotiations on Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with EU as two major challenges facing Africa. For 2004-06, its training activities via the *African Trade Policy Centre* (ATPC), established with the strategic partnership of the Canadian government, will target African trade negotiators and officials based in Geneva and national capitals, parliamentarians, and civil society organisations that are expected to make major input into trade issues. UNECA will provide technical assistance to its member States, in response to their requests, for **negotiations within the WTO and Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) framework** – e.g., technical assistance to the government of Sudan for its accession to the WTO.

The ATPC is designed to provide Africa-specific research, training, knowledge and tools on trade-related issues, such as the accession to the WTO and negotiations on the trade protocols of EPAs; intra-African trade promotion; mainstreaming trade into national development policies and programmes; and the revenue implications of trade liberalisation. Through ATPC, UNECA enhances its capacities in information dissemination and trade-related advisory services and technical support.

Since 2003, UNECA's *Inter-regional Advisory Service* in Geneva has also been providing demand-driven technical assistance to trade negotiators in day-to-day negotiation processes within the WTO, as part of the daily front-line

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<sup>36</sup> These include the following: (1) In collaboration with the African Union (AU) and other organisations, UNECA organised a second *High-level Brainstorming Meeting of African Trade Negotiators* in Mauritius in June 2003 to agree on a consolidated African position on multilateral trade negotiations, which was subsequently used to inform at the Cancun WTO Ministerial meeting in September 2003. (2) The Commission, AU and the Government of Ghana organised an expert group meeting in November 2003 to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the implications of the Cancun WTO meeting for African countries; assist them to develop and refine strategies for further negotiations; and identify their immediate research needs in this context. (3) A training workshop on enhancing capacities in agricultural trade negotiations was conducted in Tunisia in April 2004.

support to the Africa WTO Geneva Group, as well as the most recent findings from informed research, the latest trade developments and their potential implications for Africa.

***Main channels of delivery:***

- Bilateral initiatives: training and support through the ATPC and Advisory Service (see above).
- Regional initiatives: UNECA collaborates with the African Union, AfDB, United Nations Regional Economic Commissions (RECs); as well as African universities, policy and research centres and NGOs, such as the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), “ENDA Tiers Monde”, the International Lawyers and Economists Against Poverty (ILEAP), the Southern African Trade Research Network (SATRN), and the Third World Network.
- Multilateral initiatives: UNECA has been conducting training courses in collaboration with UNCTAD and the WTO for African trade officials. ECA also builds synergies with other trade-related activities taking place on the continent including the IF and JITAP. Major partners include UNDP, and other UN agencies.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *Trade and Regional Integration Division* is the main programme division within UNECA that manages all TRTA activities.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC)

<http://www.eclac.cl/comercio/default.asp?idioma=IN>

**Strategy and objectives:** UNECLAC is one of five economic commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). UNCLAC's TRTA/CB aims to:

- Strengthen the capacity of Latin American and Caribbean governments to define national and regional interests and to put them forward in the various trade negotiating fora (WTO, Free Trade of the Americas Agreement, sub-regional integration schemes);
- Strengthen the process of regional and sub-regional integration;
- Contribute to the formulation of trade policies and regulations convergent with rules and practices of international commerce and in accordance with development needs;
- Establish more coherence between trade policy and environmental policy to enhance sustainable development.

**Priority areas:** Under its general programme of work in the field of economic development, UNECLAC carries out a *sub-programme on International Trade & Integration* that looks at the linkages with the global economy, integration and regional co-operation. Activities of this sub-programme are organised around four areas of work:

- International Trade,
- Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations,
- Regional Integration and
- Inter-regional Relations.

In all of them, UNECLAC addresses analytical aspects, empirical *studies* and policy recommendations in order to cooperate with the governments of the region in the improvement of the quality of their participation in the international flow of goods, services, labour, technology and capital.

In 2002-2003, the sub-programme focused on four strategic topics: (1) **analysis of global trends** in the world economy and in Latin America and the Caribbean trade policies; (2) the rules governing international trade, integration trends and **national trade policies**; (3) issues relating to specific markets of interest to the **region**; and (4) development finance.

Under another sub-programme that focuses more on the production side, UNECLAC carries out activities that support countries of the region in productive, technological and business development in the industrial and agricultural sectors.

UNECLAC's activities are targeted at **Latin America and the Caribbean**.

### **Main channels of delivery:**

- **Bilateral initiatives:** At the national level, UNECLAC provides technical assistance, advisory services and training. At the regional level, UNECLAC executes research projects and training, as well as convenes technical and ministerial level meetings.
- **Regional initiatives:** UNECLAC collaborates with other regional organisations such as the Latin American Economic System (SELA), the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean Countries, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Organization of American States (OAS) and "*Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano*" in executing its activities.
- **Multilateral initiatives:** Following the Doha Ministerial meeting, a closer relationship between multilateral agencies involved in similar TRTA/CB activities has been reaffirmed and is already taking place. UNECLAC

maintains reciprocal collaboration ties with various international organisations, such as UNCTAD and other UN agencies, WTO and the World Bank.

Depending on the subject area and the nature of the relevant activities, periodic consultations are held with international, regional and sub-regional bodies – for example, globalisation and changes in the international setting (UN, UNCTAD, SELA, the Group of Latin American and the Caribbean Countries); trade policies and export promotion (the Latin American Integration Association, the Latin American Bank for Exports, the Andean Development Corporation, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration and the Caribbean Development Bank); regional and sub-regional integration activities (SELA, IDB, OAS, the secretariats of the different integration organisations operating in the region, and government and private bodies with responsibility for integration). UNECLAC co-operates with other UN regional commissions as well – for example, UNESCAP on executing the comparative studies on Latin America and Asian economies.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *International Trade and Development Finance Division* (DCII) manages the sub-programme on International Trade & Integration, while the *Division of Production, Productivity and Management* manages the sub-programme dealing with production and supply side issues.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** Information not available.

## United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

(<http://www.unescap.org>)

**Strategy and objectives:** UNESCAP is one of five economic commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and aims at promoting economic and social development through regional and sub-regional co-operation and integration.

The main objective of its trade and investment programme is to enhance the capacity of UNESCAP members and associate members to integrate into the world economy and to enable them to participate effectively and equitably in the multilateral and regional trading systems via enhanced regional co-operation and technical co-operation.

The Trade and Investment Division, which handles TRTA/CB activities, primarily assists its member countries in their efforts to:

- Understand WTO agreements and their implications, including the Doha Development Agenda;
- Facilitate trade and investment flows, including trade finance and e-commerce;
- Promote regional trade agreements in conformity with the multilateral trading system;
- Understand the economics of trade policy;
- Negotiate accession to WTO, especially for LDCs and economies in transition;
- Formulate more effective policies and strategies for foreign direct investment promotion and facilitation;
- Develop SMEs;
- Access trade and investment related information.

UNESCAP activities comprise training (see below); research and policy analysis and regional policy dialogue. Research and policy analysis consists of analytical issue papers on trade and investment policies as they relate to development and poverty reduction strategies of developing countries of the region. An area of particular interest at present is the mapping and monitoring of regional trade agreements (RTAs), bilateral trade agreements (BTAs), and their relationship with multilateralism.

The Secretariat has also set up, with funding support from IDRC, the *Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade* (ARTNET), which is open to all institutions across the region involved in trade policy and trade facilitation issues.

Regional policy dialogue is facilitated by the intergovernmental structure of UNESCAP, which provides its members and associate members with a permanent forum for an intergovernmental exchange of views, sharing of experiences and formulation of policies to strengthen regional economic co-operation.

**Priority areas:** Since the Doha Ministerial Meeting, UNESCAP has strengthened its efforts on TRTA/CB activities. It offers *inter alia* training programmes on WTO agreements and negotiations under the Doha Development Agenda through the joint “*WTO/UNESCAP Technical Assistance Programme*” – its flagship training programme since 1999 to build up a regional body of expertise on WTO issues. The programme aims to increase governments’ understanding of the rules, strategies and policies of the multilateral trading systems so that they have **increased capacity to implement their commitments under WTO agreements and participate in and influence ongoing WTO negotiations**. It seeks to respond to these concerns by organising a series of training courses and specialised seminars for mid- and high-level government officials, and to increase and deepen understanding on WTO issues of interest to the region.

The work programme of the Trade and Investment Division for 2004-2005 focuses on trade and investment policy, trade efficiency and facilitation, and enterprise development with particular emphasis on **SME development**. The Millennium Summit Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Development Agenda provide the framework within which the Division implements its work. The work programme includes an increased number of

capacity building initiatives on Doha Development Agenda negotiations, WTO accession, and trade policy research on goal 8 of the MDGs, regional/bilateral trade agreements and economic integration,.

UNESCAP also continues to serve as the Secretariat of the region's oldest preferential trade agreement, the *Bangkok Agreement*. **Trade facilitation**, both in terms of operational aspects such as rationalisation, simplification and alignment of trade documentation, as well as the WTO negotiating aspects is also a priority area.

***Main channels of delivery:***

- Bilateral initiatives: UNESCAP organises and conducts WTO Training Courses at the request of its members. A regional advisor on trade and investment policy provides advice at the request of members. In addition, the secretariat conducts research and policy analysis.
- Regional initiatives: WTO/UNESCAP Technical Assistance Programme: UNESCAP in partnership with WTO carries out training courses and seminars (see above). It also collaborates with other regional agencies, e.g. ADB, ASEAN.
- Multilateral initiatives: Projects aimed at providing assistance on WTO accession to landlocked LDCs have been designed in collaboration with the EC delegation in New Delhi, India. UNESCAP often work in partnership with other global agencies – e.g. ITC, UNDP, UNIDO, UNCTAD, WCO, etc. – in the field. UNESCAP also provides occasional input to the IF.

***Institutional arrangements:*** The *Trade and Investment Division* plays a major role in assisting UNESCAP member developing countries to understand and implement regional and multilateral trading and investment systems in order to help them to participate more effectively in the global economy.

***Evaluation methodology and timetable:*** As part of its evaluation of selected projects on managing globalization, the Programme Managing Division of UNESCAP carried out an independent qualitative assessment of the *WTO/UNESCAP Technical Assistance Programme* in November 2003. ESCAP members endorsed its evaluation report, finding that the “programme is clearly of great relevance,” being “very responsive to [partner country] government needs” and “designed in an efficient and cost-effective way.”

The Trade and Investment Division conducts bi-annually a self-evaluation of its work programme, of which TRTA is a major component. In the evaluation of the work programme 2002/2003, it was found that “the programme has clearly had a positive impact on the formulation and implementation of national trade and investment policies of the region over the biennium.” Indicators used were: (1) the increase in demand for participation in UNESCAP's TRTA activities on a self-financed basis, (2) the increase of senior-level participants, (3) the increase in the number of activities, as well as (4) the interest of new donors in the programme.

Moreover, each seminar/workshop is evaluated by the participants through a detailed and impact-oriented evaluation form. Among others, 66% of the participants said that the seminar/workshop would definitely contribute to the negotiation capacity of their agency.

## ANNEX 1: 2004 DATA COLLECTION

### **B. Follow-up to the survey**<sup>37</sup>

#### **Trade Related Technical Assistance / Capacity Building (TRTA/CB) 2004 Data Collection**

Through the Trade Capacity Building Database and Survey there is now a wealth of information available regarding the TRTA/CB activities of donor countries and organisations both at strategic and project level. Several donors have however indicated that they wish to see additional information on the (1) *role of donors in supporting participatory trade policy processes*, and (2) *effectiveness of TRTA/CB*. The DAC-WTO meeting of 2-3 March 2004 provided the OECD with a mandate to develop a common TRTA/CB evaluation framework (methodology and set of indicators for assessing the impact of TRTA/CB).

Consequently, the main objective of this short follow-up to last year's survey is to provide more comprehensive information about good practices in strengthening public-private dialogue and TRTA/CB evaluations, which could be shared among donors. This is also an opportunity for countries and organisations to update and correct the information provided last year. Countries and organisations that did not submit information to the survey are invited to do so, by contacting [caroline.lesser@oecd.org](mailto:caroline.lesser@oecd.org), +33 1 45 24 90 46.

#### **Questions**

**1. Provide information relevant to TRTA/CB effectiveness.** Include electronic copies (Word or PDF files) and web links to existing documentation produced by your country or organisation:

- a) Evaluations of all TRTA/CB related activities/ strategy
- b) Indicators you use for assessing TRTA/CB

**2. Provide information regarding support to public-private dialogue in trade policy/strategy formulation and implementation.** Include electronic copies (Word or PDF-files) and web links to existing documentation produced by your country or organisation:

Short abstracts of innovative TRTA/CB projects or programmes that have helped strengthen or institutionalise the dialogue between the public sector and relevant private sector and civil society stakeholders in the partner country.

**3. Correct and update the information provided last year.**

- a) Report any inaccuracies in the summary of your country or organisation found in the *Summary of Responses to the 2003 Survey* (to be found on [www.oecd.org/dac/trade](http://www.oecd.org/dac/trade) ).
- b) Describe any major changes in your country's or organisation's strategies, modalities or institutional arrangements for TRTA/CB since last year's survey.

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<sup>37</sup> Extract from the *Joint WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database (TCBDB) 2004 Data Collection*.

**ANNEX 2: LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
ACWL	Advisory Centre on WTO Law
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AERC	African Economic Research Consortium
AfDB	African Development Bank
AGOA	US African Growth and Opportunity Act
AITIC	Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation
AMAD	Agricultural Market Access Database
AMF	Arab Monetary Fund
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ATPC	African Trade Policy Centre
AU	African Union
BTA	Bilateral trade agreement
CAFTA	Central America Free Trade Agreement
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CEECs	Central and Eastern European Countries
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee
DDA	Doha Development Agenda
DDAGTF	WTO Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund (DDA Trust Fund)
DDAGTF	Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund
DTIS	Diagnostic Trade Integration Study
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
GFP	Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
ICTSD	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
IDA	International Development Association (World Bank)
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IF	Integrated Framework on Trade-Related Technical Assistance for Least Developed Countries
IFI	International financial institution
IFTF	Integrated Framework Trust Fund
IFWG	Integrated Framework Working Group
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IP	Intellectual property
IsDB	Islamic Development Bank
ITC	International Trade Centre (established jointly by UNCTAD and the WTO)

JITAP	Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme to Selected Least Developed and other African Countries
LAIA	Latin American Integration Association
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MSMEs	Micro, small and medium sized enterprises
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NIS	Newly Independent States
OAS	Organization of American States
ODA	Official Development Assistance
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
RECs	United Nations Regional Economic Commissions
RTA	Regional trade agreement
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SATRNET	Southern African Trade Research Network
SEATINI	Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute
SELA	Latin American Economic System
SMEs	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TCBDB	Trade Capacity Building Database
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TRTA/CB	Trade Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WBI	World Bank Institute
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization