UNCTAD activities in support of small island developing States (SIDS)

15 September 2017

Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
SIDS are more vulnerable than other developing countries

(all data are based on the UN's Economic Vulnerability Index, 2015)
THREE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE U.N. ACTION TO HELP SIDS

Clarity on beneficiaries

- Identifying SIDS and measuring vulnerability
- 4 criteria
- A list of 28 SIDS

Identifying special responses to SIDS problems

- Monitoring of SIDS vulnerabilities
- An Integrated Framework of T.A. for SIDS

Leading by example for the direct benefit of some SIDS

- Advocating a handful of specialized measures
- A SIDS fund for climate-related adaptation
- Proposed amendment to the grad. rule
- Technical assistance to 6 SIDS (res. bldg, smooth transition)
## Five lines of UNCTAD action in support of SIDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LINES OF ACTION</th>
<th>RELEVANT DIVISIONS</th>
<th>MAIN OUTPUTS</th>
<th>MAIN BENEFICIARIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identifying SIDS</td>
<td>ALDC</td>
<td>Periodical review of the list of SIDS</td>
<td>All SIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raising the visibility of the vulnerability issue</td>
<td>ALDC</td>
<td>Economic Vuln. Index Vulnerability profiles</td>
<td>All SIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifying possible special measures for SIDS</td>
<td>ALDC, DITC</td>
<td>Substantive advocacy in all relevant arenas</td>
<td>All SIDS, particularly LDC-SIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting the resilience-bldg efforts of SIDS</td>
<td>ALDC, DITC, DTL, DIAE</td>
<td>All UNCTAD action susceptible to enhance economic specialization</td>
<td>All SIDS, Special attention to 6 SIDS facing the challenge of grad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting the trade, invest. and transport policies of SIDS</td>
<td>DITC, DIAE, DTL</td>
<td>Publications Policy reviews Advisory services</td>
<td>24 SIDS (see Annex, p. 16-17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A complex pattern of special treatments for SIDS, yet no special treatment by virtue of SIDS status.

LDC treatment

Market access:
- GSP: Australia, Canada, EU (EBA)

WTO:
- Some concessions for LDC-SIDS

Development financing:
- Donors
- Technical assistance: EIF for LDC-SIDS

UN-related travel support for LDC-SIDS

Other treatments

Market access:
- GSP (USA)
- AGOA
- EU: EPAs; ex-LDCs (3 yrs)

Development financing:
- WB's "small island exception" (IDA)
- ADB, AfDB
- EU (EDF...)

Technical assistance:
- Various partners
- EIF after graduation
- UN-related travel support after graduation (3 yrs)

Ad hoc treatments:
- Maldives, 2005
- Samoa, 2009
...
Merci

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