



ALDC

Division for Africa,
Least Developed
Countries and
Special Programmes



**Division for Africa,
Least Developed Countries
and Special Programmes**

2018

Economic Development in Africa

Least Developed Countries

Landlocked Developing Countries

Technical Assistance to the LDCs

Small Island Developing States

Trade and Poverty Reduction

The Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes

The Division aims to address development challenges in Africa and the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), as well as in countries with specific geographical barriers, notably Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). *Key outputs include:*

Evidenced-based research and policy advice

Flagship reports including the *Least Developed Countries Report*, and the *Economic Development in Africa Report*

UN-mandated Vulnerability Profiles

Tracking of progress towards graduation, and preparation of smooth transition strategies

Tailor-made and demand-driven technical assistance programmes

Support and facilitation of intergovernmental consensus building, and coordinaton of UNCTAD's work on Africa, LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS



Targeted Activities in 2018

BUILDING PRODUCTIVE CAPACITIES

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EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY OPTIONS FOR STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION

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GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS & RULES OF ORIGIN

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EU-UNCTAD JOINT PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT FOR ANGOLA : TRAIN FOR TRADE II

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Building, Maintaining and Utilizing Productive Capacities



Productive capacities are “the productive resources, entrepreneurial capabilities and production linkages which together determine the capacity of a country to produce goods and services and enable it to grow and develop.”

UNCTAD

The Least Developed Countries Report (2006)

ALDC has contributed to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa publication, *Socio Economic Prospects for the Sahel*, authoring a chapter on “Policies and strategies to foster productive capacities and structural economic transformation in Sahel countries”.

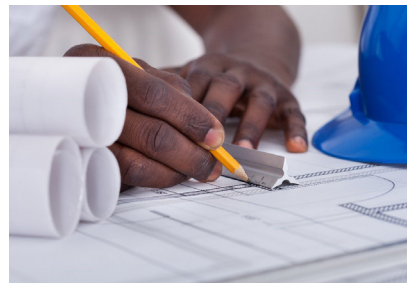


With a focus on landlocked countries, the Division is operationalizing its analytical research framework aimed at productive capacities development by:

- Developing productive capacities indices.
- Benchmarking productive capacities development.
- Applying productive capacities indices to three economies (Rwanda, Botswana and Lao PDR) with the aim of facilitating evidence-based policy making.
- Drafting a manual on building, maintaining and utilizing productive capacities.

Strengthening productive capacities in the LDCs is **the first objective of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020.**

Building productive capacities is a key requirement for LDCs to achieve sustainable economic growth and development under the auspices of the SDGs.



Evidence-Based Policy Options for Structural Transformation

Through its research, the Division provides evidence-based policy options aimed at enabling structural transformation in the most vulnerable countries

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



The Least Developed Countries Report 2017: Transformational Energy Access

- About 42% of enterprises in LDCs identify the lack of consistent access to energy as a major constraint.
- Highlights the basic needs, and pressing economic, social and environmental aspects of access to electricity.
- Underlines the need for policies that facilitate progressive technological upgrading, along with science, technology and innovation.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



The Least Developed Countries Report 2018: Entrepreneurship for Structural Transformation

- National policies need to target the most transformational and dynamics, which have a high potential to overcome structural deficiencies.
- More than 70% of workers in LDCs are self-employed. A majority of entrepreneurs are necessity-driven, rather than opportunity-driven.
- The report underlines the need more a more pro-active role for Government, the entrepreneurial state.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



The Economic Development in Africa Report 2018: Migration for Structural Transformation

- Challenges the main narratives about migration and reveals most migration in Africa is intra-continental,
- In destination countries, migrants' economic contribution is important - 19% of GDP in Côte d'Ivoire in 2008,
- In origin countries, migrants notably contribute through remittances. They accounted for at least 51% of private capital inflows in Africa in 2016.



Achieving the SDGs in the LDCs: A Compendium of Policy Options

“The publication synthesizes research by UNCTAD over the past decade and a half and links potential development objectives with concrete steps and practical actions to achieve specific targets of the SDGs”

Amina J. Mohammed

- Offers a comprehensive set of policy options for LDC policymakers.
- Serves as an appeal to development partners for collaborative support at the international level.

Geographical Indications and Rules of Origin



Geographical Indications

There is untapped potential, particularly in LDCs. Rural communities have an invaluable array of products which are linked to their cultures, traditions and natural biodiversity.

The Division is supporting rural communities in LDCs in their efforts to promote traditional products through Geographical Indications (GIs), a trade-related intellectual property-right under the World Trade Organization TRIPS Agreement.



The Divisions's activities on GIs include:

- Specific training, in collaboration with the European University Institute.
- Technical cooperation on GIs for LDCs in collaboration with FAO and World Custom Organization.

Rules of Origin

ALDC contributes research and analysis on Rules of Origin (RoO). In January 2018, ALDC launched *The Use of EU's Free Trade Agreements: Exporter and Importer Utilization of Preferential Tariffs*, in collaboration with the Swedish National Board of Trade.



In April 2018, ALDC presented an analysis of the origin certification requirements highlighting their diversity and complexity at the WTO Committee on Rules of Origin.

The Division developed a technical capacity-building programme with the African Union Commission on RoO, to support African countries in the negotiations of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement.

EU-UNCTAD Joint Programme of Support for Angola: Train for Trade II



“Despite Angola’s exceptional improvement in per capita earnings, progress in economic diversification and advancement in social and human capital indicators has been limited.”
Paul Akiwumi

Angola remains heavily dependent on oil, which accounts for 93% of the nation’s total merchandise exports. The aim of this project is to shift this oil-dependency towards an inclusive, diversified and sustainable growth.

The objective of this programme for Angola is to improve human and institutional capacities to foster appropriate economic diversification policies in Angola and to help the countries build a more resilient economy capable of eradicating poverty.

This holistic and cross-divisional programme managed by ALDC has seven main components:

- Commercial diplomacy
- Trade facilitation
- Trade logistics
- Small business development
- Investment
- Scoping of non-oil sector opportunities
- Creative economy

This European-Union funded capacity-building programme will last until 2021. The programme includes the delivery of tailored training courses and workshops to provide tools aimed at enhancing the capacities of public, private and academic sector actors. ALDC has pioneered a new programmatic approach to technical cooperation and support to member States.

“The most ambitious programme UNCTAD has ever led.”

Mukhisa Kituyi



The first training took place in June 2018. It answered the need for a National Green Export Review – an in-depth assessment of less environmentally-harmful sectors where Angola could have a competitive advantage.

Train for Trade II

EU-UNCTAD joint Programme for Angola

For more information:

[https:// www.unctad.org/angola-trade.](https://www.unctad.org/angola-trade)

Strategic Partnerships

The Division has strengthened its efforts to collaborate and build strategic partnerships, in support of a new business model.

The Division and **the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa** (UNECA) both have consistently argued that achieving the SDGs in African countries requires a deep structural transformation of their economies.

In 2018, UNCTAD and UNECA:

- Ongoing implementation of a joint UNCTAD-UNECA development account project on services trade in Africa
- Organization of a joint event in June 2018, *“Achieving accelerated structural transformation in Eastern Africa: Policy ideas from two United Nations bodies”*.



The ALDC is also very active in its collaboration with member States.

The Division is organizing a High-Level Panel on *“Migration and Structural Transformation in Africa”* to be held in September 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on the margins of the seventy-third United Nations General Assembly.

The event is being co-organized by the Governments of Morocco and Rwanda and UNCTAD. Morocco is the African Union champion on the issue of migration.

The main purpose is to **provide a platform to raise awareness and discuss how to maximize the economic and developmental impacts of migration in Africa.**



