#### Independent evaluation of the Subprogramme 5 (SP5): Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes (2013-17)

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Geneva; Sep 4, 2018

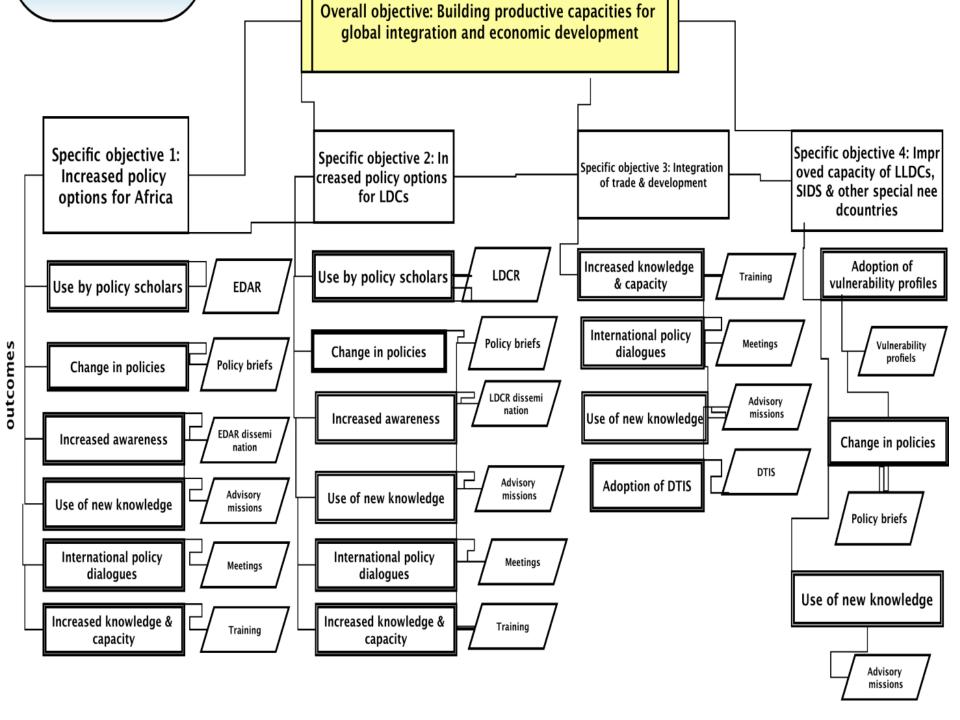
## ALDC/SP5

- Overall objective:
  - To promote development of national policies and international support measures to build productive capacities for economic development and poverty reduction in Africa, LDCs and other groups of countries in special situations and to progressively and beneficially integrate them into the global economy.
- Implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under Programme 10: Trade and Development of the UN's Biennial Programme Plan for 2018-2019

#### Two Branches

- Trade and Poverty Branch
- Research and Policy Analysis Branch
- 32 staff members





### **Evaluation Methodology**

#### Mixed method, triangulation (UNEG & OECD-DAC guidelines):

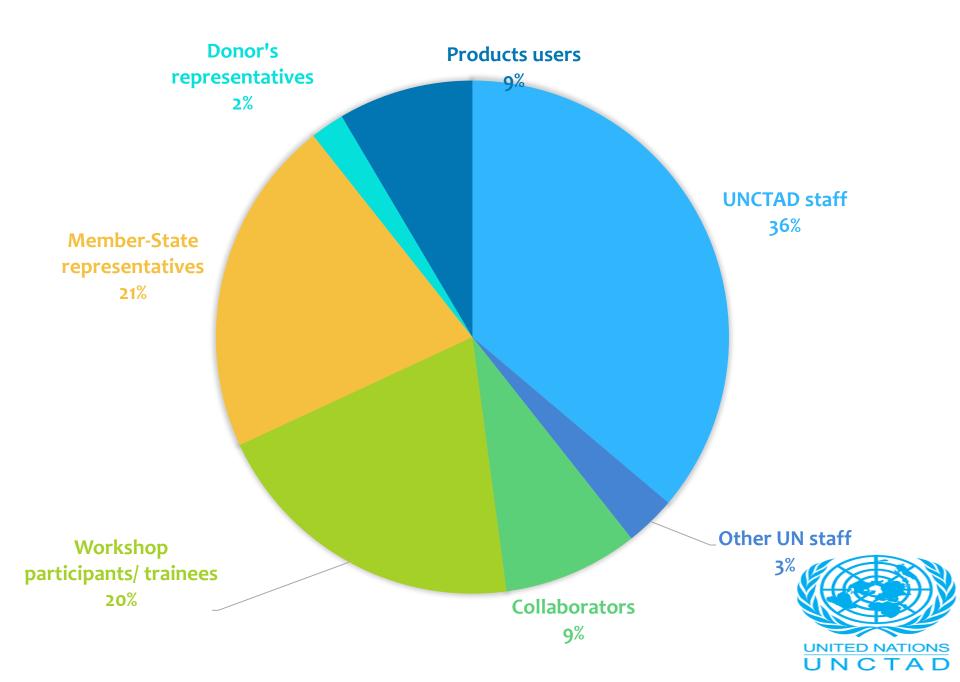
- Desk review: 321 documents +
- Headquarters consultations: Geneva, NY
- 3 Field missions (Ethiopia, Laos and Cambodia)
- Focus group discussions: 3 staff + 5 MS
- 139 semi-structured interviews
- Survey: 93 responses (= 49% response rate)
- External data, open source research

Watson, I know what caused the death



But you have only administered a few interviews and gone on two site visits. Should you not collect evidence that is more robust?





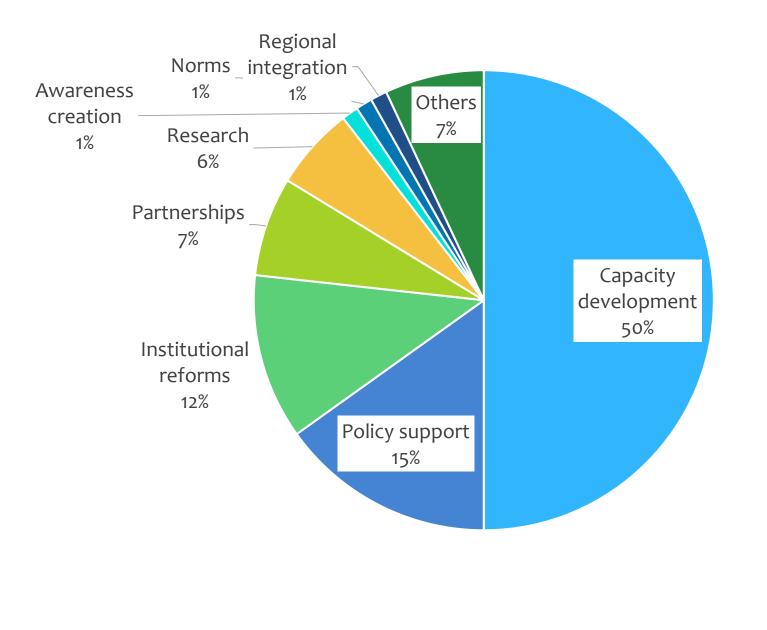
# Design and relevance



- \* Doha and Nairobi Mandates
  - \* Paragraph 10(a) to 10(e) of the Nairobi Maafikiano
- \* Custodian of SDG 12.6, Contributes to 4 SDGs: 17, 10, 9 and 8
- \* Partner for the World Bank on SDG 17.4
- \* WTO and ITC on SDG 17.10, 17.11 and 17.12.
- \* Contributes to 52 specific targets on 10 of the 17 SDGs.



#### Respondents' needs assessment





#### **Effectiveness**

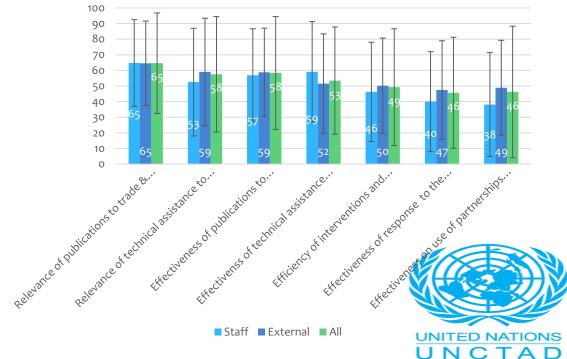


Research & publications
Policy briefs
Consensus-building
Norms and agenda-setting
Technical cooperation

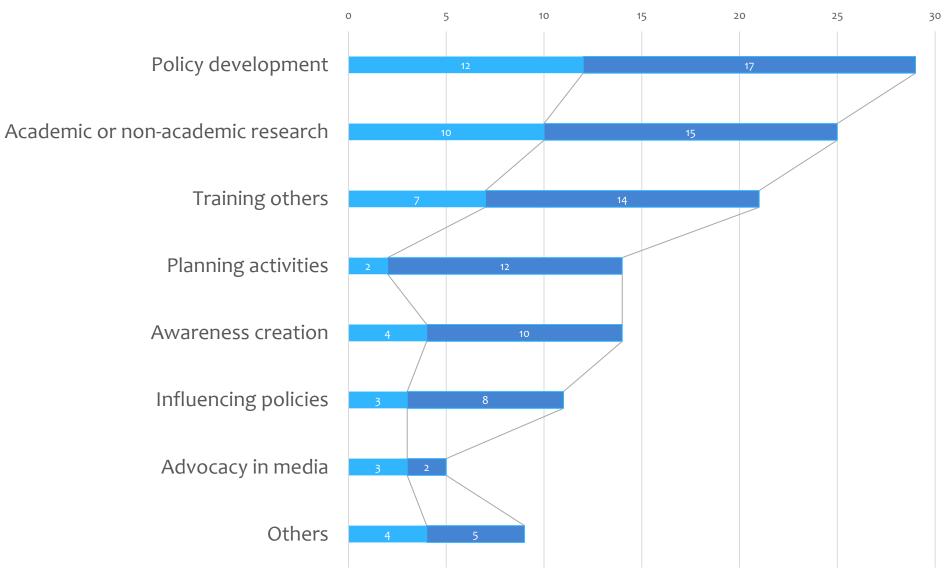
#### Overview

Research, TC and consensus-building

## All interventions rated highlyBUT ....



### Self-cited use of publications

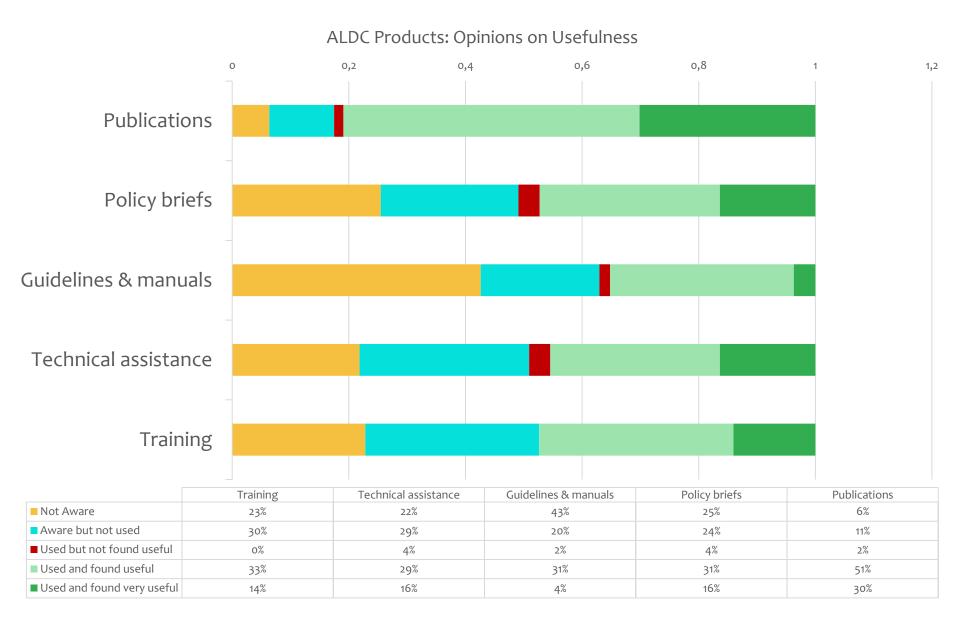


#### Effectiveness

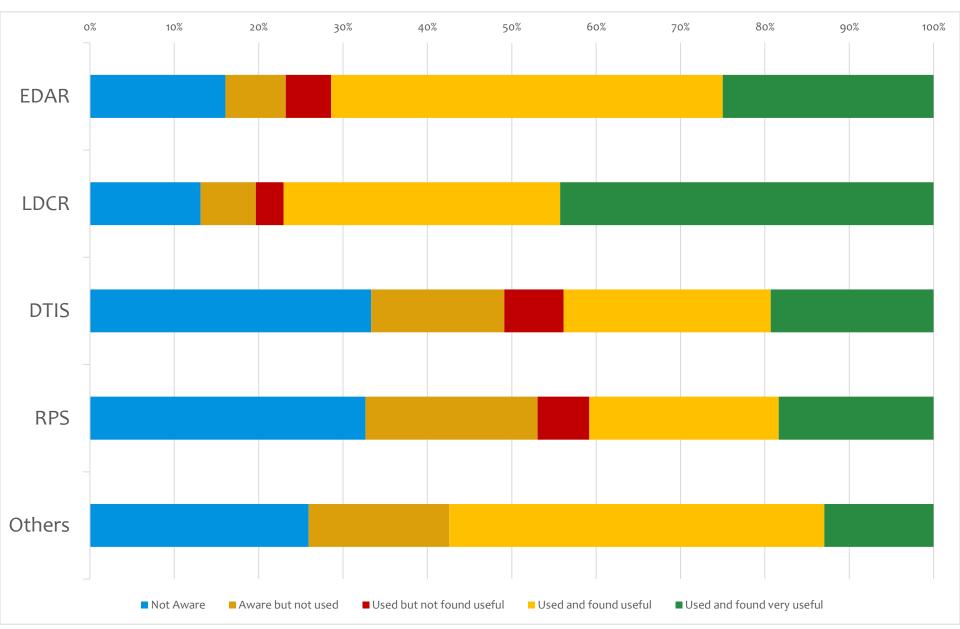
- \* Downloads: 267K (EDAR), 92K (LDCR)
- \* Stories in media (Lexis Nexis): EDAR (283), LDCR (262)
- \* Google Scholar Citations: EDAR (120), LDCR (84)



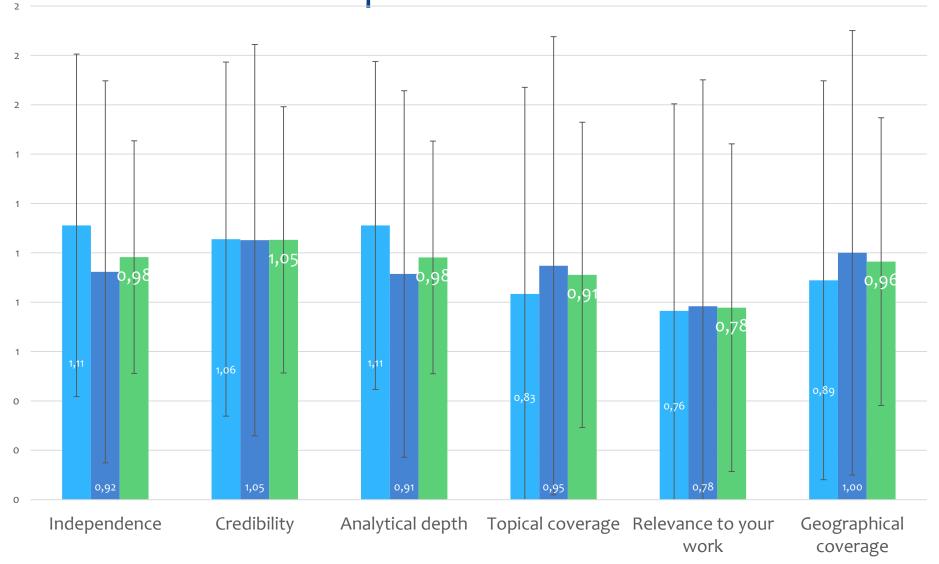
#### Perceived usefulness of SP5 products

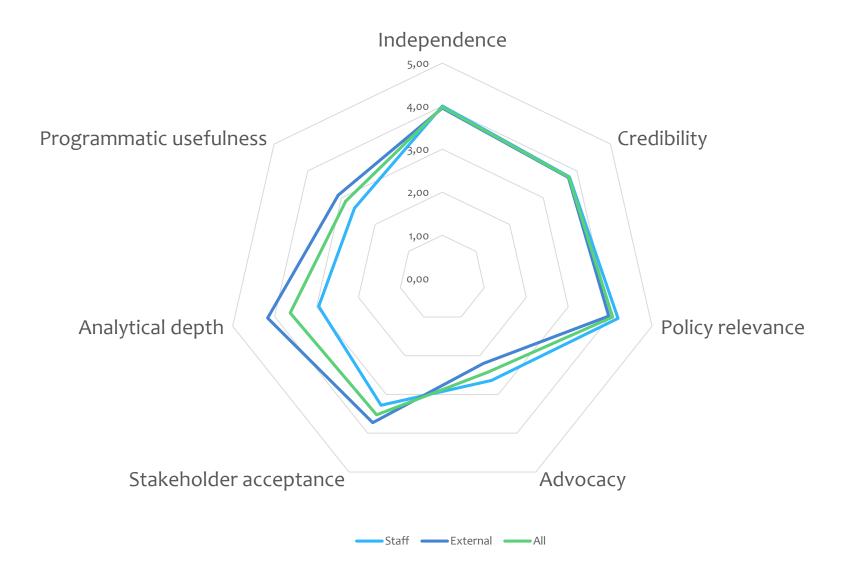


#### Perceived usefulness of research products



## Satisfaction with various attributes of the publications





### **Technical cooperation**

- \* Highly valued and sought after
- \* DTIS and EIF



## Policy changes: Examples

- Tourism in Mali & Somalia
- Trade facilitation in Djibouti
- Commerce readiness in Liberia, Burkina Faso, Senegal, etc.
- LDC graduation in Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Nepal
- Ethiopia: DTIS to mainstream trade into its national plan
- Geographical indications and cassava projects in Cambodia
- Value chain development strategy in Cambodia
- Entrepreneurship development policies in Gambia



## **Consensus-building**

- \* EDAR and LDCR reflected in TDB agreements.
  - \* 4 of 5 recommendations from the 2015 EDAR on trade in services.
  - \* 4 of 7 from the 2017 EDAR on tourism.
  - \* 2015 LDCR on rural economies
- Cited in SG's reports to the General Assembly, especially in 2014.
- \* UN DESA reported using NVPs produced by SP5 in considering the issue of graduation of LDCs.



## Challenges

- Partnership and collaboration
- Avoidable duplication
- Small projects
  - New programmatic/ regional approach



## Efficiency

## Efficiency: Outputs/inputs

- \* Human resources: The major expense
- \* Small division, big responsibilities

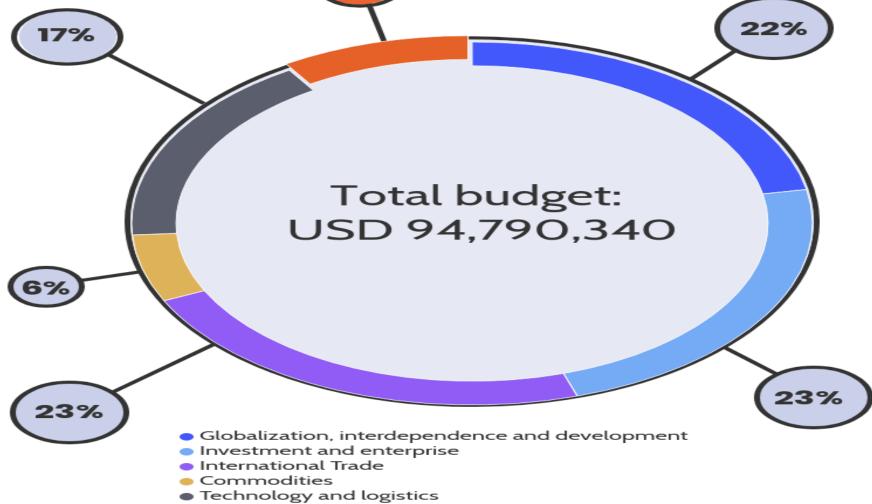


## Annual expenditure trend (\$000s)



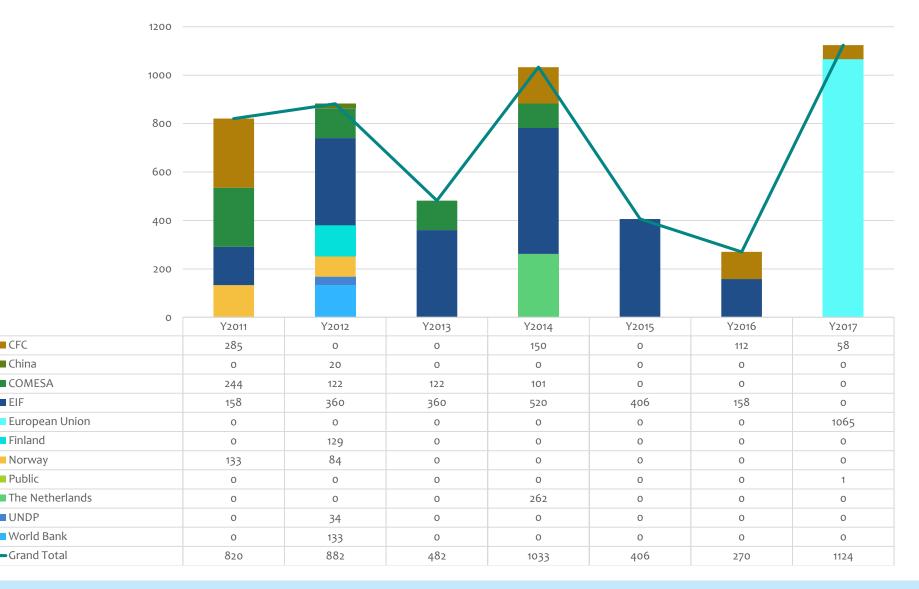
Share of Division on Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes in extrabudgetary technical cooperation expenditures, 2013–2017

9%



Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

#### Contributions and contributors



#### Total Contributions (2011-17) = US\$5.02M

CFC

EIF

Finland

Public

UNDP

China

#### Implementation rates as per Programme of Work Source: IMDIS

	Including TC			
	Total	Implementation	Total	Implementation
	outputs	rate (%)	outputs	rate (%)
ALDC	106	104	164	119
DGDS	277	102	454	102
DIAE	303	104	531	114
DITC	297	106	443	109
DTL	199	114	347	115
TOTAL	1 650	104	2 4 2 4	108



## Efficiency: Outputs/inputs

- \* Managing resources efficiently
  - \* opportunities for adjustment and prioritization



# Impacts & sustainability

Impact

#### **OECD/ DAC results-chain**



#### Significant impacts: Contributions during 2013-17

- \* AfCFTA
- \* Ethiopia- Djibouti corridor
- Fisheries in Uganda and Mozambique; Centres of Excellence in Mauritius and Vietnam
- \* Angola, Bhutan and Laos integrated UNCTAD policy recommendations into their respective graduation strategies
- Geographic Indications project in Laos and capacity development project in Ethiopia reportedly helped farmers improve their performance in exports markets for palm sugar and coffee respectively



## Sustainability

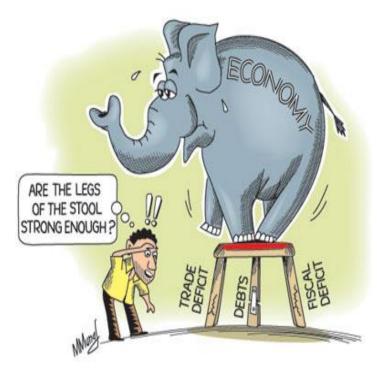
#### Follow-up and inadequate TA: A major issue

#### Economic Development in Africa Report:

- Private sector dynamism (2013),
- Investment for transformative growth (2014),
- Services trade (2015),
- Debt dynamics and development finance (2016),
- Tourism (2017)
- Migration (2018).

#### The Least Developed Countries Report:

- Growth with employment (2013),
- Post-2015 development agenda (2014),
- Transforming rural economies (2015),
- Path to graduation (2016).





Partnerships & Cooperation

## Partnerships & Cooperation

#### \* Steps to promote collaboration:

- \* Interdivisional publications committee at UNCTAD,
- \* Proposed joint publication of Economic Development Report with UNECA,
- \* Train for Trade project in Angola, and most notably,
- \* The UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity
- \* Better at forging partnerships with direct beneficiaries
- \* "Disadvantaged by not having ears to the ground"



Gender & human rights

## Human rights & Gender equality

- \* Numerous UN commitments
- Reports increasingly highlight gender issues
- \* Much more needs to be done

Table 3. Gender representation in staff									
	ALDC			UNCTAD					
Staff:	Μ	F	All	Μ	F	All			
Professional	60%	40%	25	66%	34%	335			
General	14%	86%	7	24%	76%	149			
Consultants	80%	20%	45	59%	41%	422			
Total	52	25	77	531	375	906			



# Conclusions

# SWOT analysis

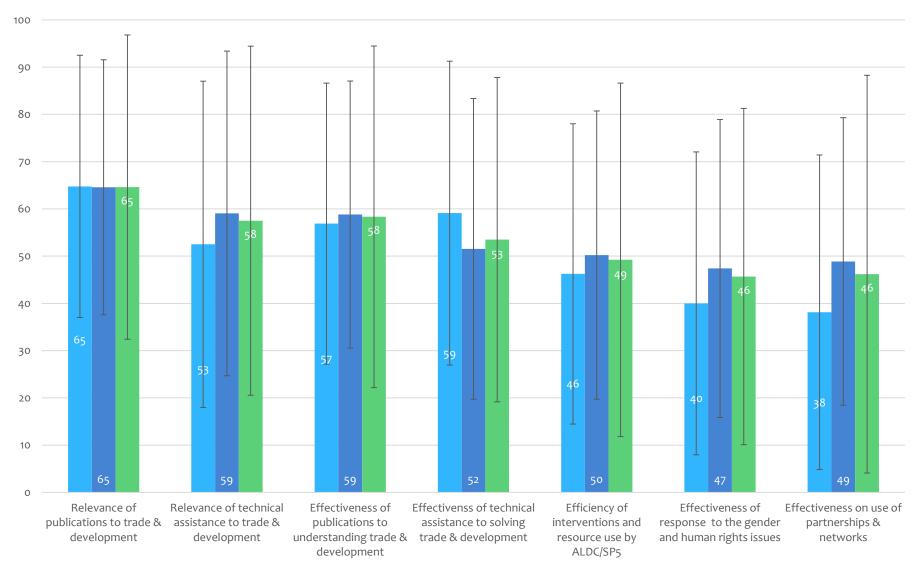
\* Quality of outputs\* Impactful work

Inadequate resources
Follow up
M&E
Field presence

- \* Portfolio rebalancing
- \* Regional presence
- \* UN reforms
- \* Partnerships

- \* Unmet needs
- \* Sustainability

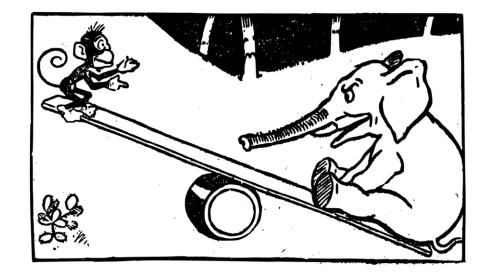
### Ratings on various dimensions



## Recommendations

### Rebalancing the portfolio

**1a** 





# 1b

# • Interdivisional resource allocations



### Sustainability considerations



This is how the pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine works. The number of doses and when they are given depends on the vaccine.

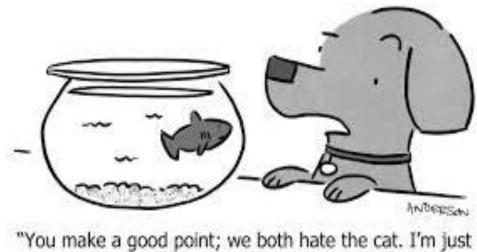








### • Partnerships roadmap



"You make a good point; we both hate the cat. I'm just not sure what it is you'd bring to a partnership."





### Integration of regional office



 Measuring results more systematically





### • HRGE considerations





### **OVERALL CONCLUSION**

Substantial contribution towards improving the effectiveness of stakeholder response to current and emerging challenges



Table 2. Outputs and manpower (2017): A comparison across divisions											
	ALI	ALDC		DGDS		DIAE		DITC		DTL	
	Р	A	Р	A	Р	Α	Р	Α	Р	Α	
Substantive servicing of meetings	21	21	38	38	74	74	60	66	24	29	
Parliamentary documentation	17	19	21	22	13	17	17	18	20	23	
Expert groups, rapporteurs, depository services	8	9	8	8	14	14	9	9	7	7	
Recurrent publications	6	6	4	4	10	15	36	39	4	4	
Non-recurrent publications	5	6	19	19	40	45	21	22	13	21	
Other substantive activities	43	45	174	186	135	138	135	143	100	115	
Advisory services	30	30	52	57	109	115	52	57	15	16	
Training courses, seminars and workshops	10	30	81	84	75	111	80	84	48	50	
Field projects			33	33	12	12	22	22	61	82	
Conference services, administration, oversight			3	3							
Total outputs	140	166	433	454	482	541	432	460	292	347	
P: Programmed, A: Actual											
Self-reported work months (SWM) per IMDIS		405		1181		1321		735		939	
Staff (Source: HRMS UNCTAD):											
P+		25		48		61		57		101	
GS		7		26		18		26		16	
Permanent staff		32		74		79		83		117	
Consultants		45		49		114		110		84	
Total staff		77		123		193		193		201	
Adjusted total staff (ATS)		43.25		86.25		107.5		110.5		138	
SWM/ATS		9.4		13.7		12.3		6.7		6.8	
Lower bound (-10%)		8.4		12.3		11.1		6.0		6.1	
upper bound (10%)		10.3		15.1		13.5		7.3		7.5	

Note: ATS assumes consultants work 3month/year on an average.