



Trade and Investment in UNESCAP: A brief overview

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UNESCAP:

RE-ENGINEERING AND RE-POSITIONING



Our Overall Objective in Trade

and Investment:

To assist member countries to integrate effectively into the regional and global economy and benefit from it

2 Specific Objectives:

- to assist member countries to create market access
- to assist member countries to benefit from market access (supply side capacity development)

UNESCAP - Trade and Investment Division:

www.unescap.org/tid

- Provides high quality training
- Undertakes normative and analytical work
- Conducts policy studies and research
- Provides advisory services
- Organizes policy dialogues and expert group meetings

Capacity building through

- Strengthening institutions
- Human resource development
- Exchange of best practices
- Networking and information exchange

Some major programmes

- WTO/ESCAP Technical Assistance Programme
- Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)
- Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreement Database (APTIAD)
- Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT)
- Asia-Pacific Forum on Efficient Trade (AFET)
- Trade and Investment Information Service (TISNET)
- Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF)
- Supply-side capacity building in investment and enterprise development (including supply-chains and innovation systems)
- Asia Pacific Trade and Investment Review

WTO/ESCAP Technical Assistance Programme

- Objective: To strengthen developing countries' effective participation in the Doha negotiations through a deeper understanding of WTO Agreements and rules
- Joint contribution by the WTO Secretariat and UNESCAP towards the implementation of the Doha Development Agenda.
- Since 2000, ...joint workshops and seminars have been held, with increasing involvement of ARTNeT.

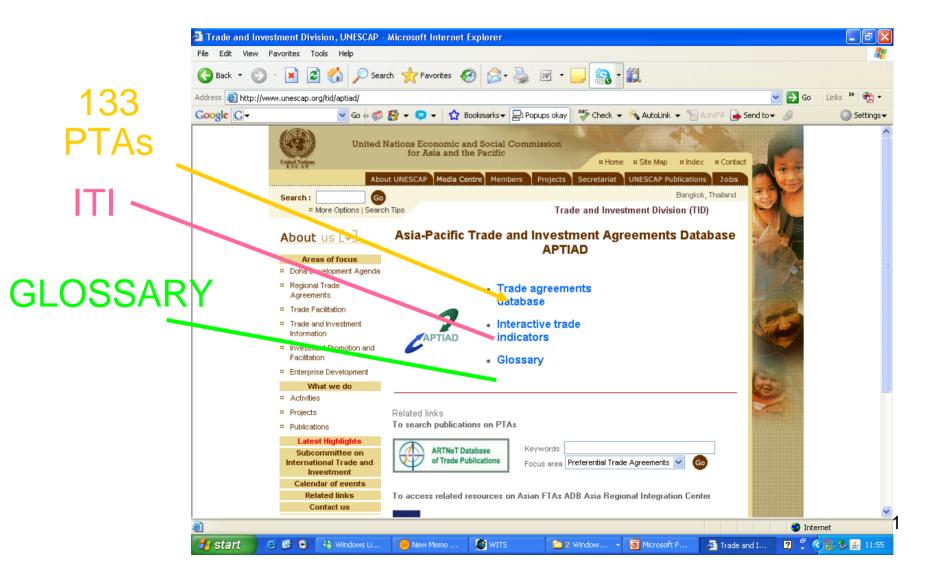
WTO/ESCAP Technical Assistance Programme

- It has been identified as a UNESCAP flagship programme.
- It is a country-led, demand-driven programme.
- An independent evaluation report, endorsed by ESCAP members, found that the "programme is clearly of great relevance", and that "it is designed in an efficient and cost-effective way".
- We hope the programme will continue to live up to ESCAP member's expectation.

APTA

□ APTA is the oldest preferential trade agreement among developing countries of the Asia-Pacific region □ APTA aims at promoting regional trade through exchange of mutually agreed concessions by member countries □ UNESCAP is secretariat ☐ Current members: Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka ☐ Three rounds of tariff concessions completed; fourth round launched last October ☐ Current efforts to expand membership and deepen and widen commitments and evolve APTA as a building bloc of the MTS

APTIAD www.unescap.org/tid/aptiad



ARTNeT: artnetontrade@un.org

- an open regional network composed of leading trade research institutions across the UNESCAP region,
- supported by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.
- UNDP, UNCTAD and WTO are core partners. ESCAP is secretariat
- Objective: increasing the amount of quality and relevant trade research in the region
 - harnessing the research capacity already available
 - developing additional capacity
 - through regional team research projects
 - enhanced research dissemination mechanisms
 - increased interactions between policymakers and researchers
 - and specific capacity building activities catering to researchers and research institutions from least developed countries.

Trade Facilitation

- Capacity building in the simplification and alignment of trade data and documents and esingle window
- UN Toolkit for Aligned Trade Documents (developed jointly by UNECE and UNESCAP)
- National Trade and Transport Facilitation Action Plans in selected Central Asian countries
- Establishment of 2 National Trade and Transport Facilitation Committees (Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan)
- Establishment of the UN Regional Network of Experts for Paperless Trade (UN Next) Trade facilitation project for the SPECA countries (to be launched in December 2007)

Investment and enterprise development

- Supply-side capacity building
 - Integrating SMEs in global and regional value chains (GMS)
 - Technological competence building (incl. subnational innovation systems)
- Business for sustainable development
 - Regional cooperation to meet growing demand for responsible production (incl. CSR)

- Public-private dialogues
 - Asia-Pacific Business Forum (APBF)
 - UNESCAP Business Advisory Council



United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Thank you