Brussels Rural Development Briefings
A series of meetings on ACP-EU development issues

Briefing n° 3:
Can aid fix trade? The new Aid for Trade Agenda

Brussels, 5th December 2007

A Reader[1]

Resources on Aid for Trade

compiled by Isolina Boto and Camilla La Peccerella

The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU (CTA)

CTA

partageons les connaissances au profit des communautés rurales

sharing knowledge, improving rural livelihoods

[1] Most text in this Reader has been directly taken from the original documents or websites and is intended not to exhaustively cover the issue of Aid for Trade, but to give a brief overview of it and information resources. For any input, kindly contact Isolina Boto (boto@cta.int) or Camilla La Peccerella (lapeccerella@cta.int). The Reader and its main resources are also online at http://brusselsbriefings.net

INDEX

What is Aid for Trade?

1. Rationale and background

Aid for Trade is about assisting developing countries to increase exports of goods and services, to integrate into the multilateral trading system, and to benefit from liberalized trade and increased market access[2]. It is part of overall development aid, but with the specific objective of helping developing countries to play an active role in the global trading system and to use trade as an instrument for growth and poverty alleviation. It is not a substitute for trade opening, but a necessary and increasingly important complement.[3]

In principle, trade may be necessary for developing countries' sustained industrial development, but it is not sufficient. In the right circumstances, trade liberalisation creates opportunities for development, but other factors determine the extent to which those opportunities are realised. In addition, any 'gross' welfare gains from trade liberalisation must be balanced against its associated costs. Liberalisation incurs adjustment costs as resources are moved from one sector to another in the process of reform and whereas it may take decades for multilateral trade reform to deliver gains to developing countries, the adjustment costs are automatic and usually upfront. Furthermore developing countries will need to incur additional costs if they are to realise the full benefits of new market opportunities. In many cases they lack the necessary exporting infrastructure (e.g. efficient ports, adequate roads, reliable electricity and communications) or lack the necessary technology and knowledge to meet product standards prevailing in high value markets (sanitary measures, technical barriers, certification, etc.). To benefit from liberalisation developing countries will need to make public investments in infrastructure and institutions as well as private investment in productive capacity.

The aid for trade agenda reflects the realisation that, for developing countries, the necessary investments are particularly large, and the capacity to meet them is particularly small. There is an emerging consensus that the current WTO Doha Round will require adequate trade-related assistance to mitigate the detrimental effects of trade reforms, and to enhance the trading capacity of developing countries[4].

The explicit recognition of a WTO interest in and responsibility for aid at its Sixth Ministerial Conference in 2005, as set in the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration[5], raised high expectations that it would now be possible to ensure that no country lost from the Doha negotiations and that developing countries would receive the assistance that they needed to take advantage of any improved access to markets. But there was also concern because of disappointment at both the limited results of the technical assistance mentioned so frequently in the Uruguay Round Agreement and the failure of the Integrated Framework[6] to guarantee that donors responded to identified needs. After considering the scope and mechanisms for Aid for Trade, and receiving submissions from both international organizations and WTO member countries, the WTO Aid for Trade Task Force submitted its recommendations to the WTO General Council of 27-28 July 2006[7].

In a nutshell, the WTO Aid for Trade Task Force argued that a global picture of aid for trade flows is important to assess whether additional resources are being delivered, to identify where gaps exists, to highlight where improvements should be made, and to increase transparency on pledges and disbursements.

2. Priority areas of intervention

The WTO Task Force defines aid for trade in terms broad enough to reflect the diverse trade needs identified by developing countries, while trying to establish a boundary between aid for trade and other development assistance of which it is a part. More specifically, projects and programs should be considered as aid for

---

[2] WTO, 'Recommendations of the Task Force on Aid for Trade', doc. WT/AFT/1, 27 July 2006
[3] WTO, Aid for Trade. Why, what and how? http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/what_why_how_e.pps
[4] Stiglitz, Charlton, 'Aid for trade. A report for the Commonwealth Secretariat', 2006 http://earthmind.net/slm/docs/commonwealth-2006-aid-for-trade.pdf
[5] WTO, Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, doc. WT/MIN(05)/DEC, para. 57
[6] The 'Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical assistance to Least Developed Countries', also known as the 'Integrated Framework' (IF), is an international initiative through which the IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, the World Bank and WTO combine their efforts with those of least-developed countries and donors to respond to the trade development needs of LDCs. This integrated approach was launched in October 1997 at the High-Level Meeting on LDCs' Trade Development organized by the WTO. http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/teccop_e/if_e.htm
[7] ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief n.16, 'Aid for trade: a new issue at the WTO, January 2007. http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab16_aid_for_trade-a_new_issue_in_the_wto_jan_07.pdf

trade if they have been identified as trade-related development priorities in the national development strategies of the recipient country. At the same time, clear and agreed benchmarks are necessary for reliable global monitoring of aid-for-trade efforts[8]. Consequently, the Task Force has concluded that aid for trade comprises the following six categories:
(a) Trade policy and regulations;
(b) Trade development;
(c) Trade-related infrastructure;
(d) Building productive capacity;
(e) Trade-related adjustment; and
(f) Other trade-related needs[9].
The first two categories have traditionally been grouped under the "Trade-Related Assistance" definition in the Joint WTO/OECD database, and include:

- trade policy and trade regulation, which are aimed at ensuring effective participation of developing countries in multilateral trade negotiations and assisting these countries in the implementation of trade-related legislation;
- development of trade and the business climate, and improvement of business support services and institutions.

The four further categories has been added by the WTO Task Force but their scope has not been precisely identified: given the wide range of trade related assistance measures to developing countries the very definition of AfT may therefore raise contentious issues[10].

3. Financial resources

Between 2002 and 2005, donors committed on average USD 21 billion per year on the aid categories more closely associated with aid for trade. This included USD 11.2 billion to build economic infrastructure, USD 8.9 billion to promote productive capacities (including USD 2 billion for trade development), and USD 0.6 billion for increasing the understanding and implementation of trade policy and regulations. The average share of aid for trade in total sector aid was 34% between 2002 and 2005, during which time commitments rose by 22% in real terms. The share fell slightly from 35% to 32% during that period, reflecting high levels of donors spending on social sectors, such as education and health[11].
Bilateral donors provide on average 31% of their sector allocable Official Development Assistance (ODA) to aid for trade. However, considerable variation across countries is also evident. Large multilateral and regional institutions – *e.g.* the World Bank and the Regional Development Banks – provide around 50% of their sector programs to aid for trade. In volume terms, the World Bank and the European Commission are also large donors, providing particularly significant support for infrastructure and productive capacity building[12].
All major donors have either maintained or increased over time their spending on trade related assistance. To assess the extent to which countries are specialized in this type of assistance, an index of specialization in aid for trade for the major donors has been developed. On this measure, only the EC and Japan have had a relative specialization in aid for trade over the period 2001-04, although it has been declining for both countries. The value for the EC is mainly driven by expenditure on trade policy and regulation and trade development, while Japan's value is the result of the focus on infrastructure in its development assistance strategy. The US has an index greater than 1 only in 2004, because spending on infrastructure in Iraq and Afghanistan. All other donors are spending relatively little on trade related assistance, with UK, Canada, France and Italy at the bottom of the list[13].
Between 2002 and 2005, Asia received 51% of total aid for trade, Africa 30%, Latin America and the Caribbean 7%, Europe 5% and Oceania 1%. Asia's predominance is driven by large allocations to economic infrastructure. Most aid for trade went to lower middle income countries (36%), followed by the least developed countries (25%)[14].
An analysis by recipient shows that the funds are fairly equally spread across regions. For countries, the largest recipients over 2001-04 are all Asian countries: Vietnam, India, Indonesia and China. The first sub-Saharan country, Ethiopia is in the 12th position, confirming a different (less trade related) model of

---

[8] OECD-WTO, Aid for Trade at a glance 2007. 1st Global Review, http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/24/63/39638213.pdf; Executive Summary: http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/35/43/39640651.pdf
[9] WTO, Recommendations of the Task Force, cit.
[10] In this sense, European Parliament, Committee on International Trade, 'Working Document on the EU's Aid for Trade' of 11 January 2007, doc. DT\647666EN
[11] http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/35/43/39640651.pdf
[12] OECD, WTO, 2007, cit.
[13] ILEAP-JEICP Background Brief n. 9, 'The financial architecture of Aid for Trade', April 2006 http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/bb9_the_financial_architecture_of_aid_for_trade_apr_06.pdf
[14] OECD, WTO, 2007, cit.

development assistance for Sub-Saharan Africa compared to Asia. This finding is confirmed by regional indices of relative specialisation in aid for trade. Europe and the Far East are the regions with the highest level of trade related aid relative to the total aid they receive, while sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and South America have the lowest values of the index. Low–Middle Income countries (LMIs) and non- LDC low income countries (OLICs) have received highest share of trade related funds over 2001-04. This result is in line with the analysis of the spending relative to total ODA, which shows that LDCs (and Upper-Middle Income countries) receive a lower level of spending in trade-related assistance relative to total aid than LMIs and OLICs. Such a figure may be a cause for concern to the extent that LDCs face the highest costs in the trade integration process[15].

However, with increased donor attention to trade, infrastructure and the broader economic growth agenda, the volume of aid dedicated to improving the capacity of developing countries to become more dynamic players in the global economy could rise significantly[16].

How much has been pledged for Aid for Trade? How much of it will be new?

Almost two years after the 2005 Hong Kong WTO Ministerial Declaration, aid for trade has assumed growing importance in most donors' programs.

In Hong Kong and Gleneagles donors have submitted their aid-for-trade pledges:

- The European Commission will provide an annual EUR 1 billion increase by 2010, with an additional EUR 1 billion from EU Member States.
- The United States will double its spending to USD 2.7 billion by 2010.
- Japan will dedicate USD 10 billion in the period 2006 – 2008.
- Furthermore, in December 2005, the G7 group of countries (Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Italy, UK, USA) agreed to increase spending to $4 billion

As far the European Union is concerned, as set out in the European Consensus on Development, increased and more effective Aid for Trade (AfT) is needed to enable all developing countries, particularly LDCs, to better integrate into the multilateral, rules-based trade system and to use trade more effectively in promoting the overarching objective of poverty eradication in the context of sustainable development[17]. As a follow up of the 2006 WTO AfT Task Force, the European Council has recently adopted Conclusions on EU strategy on 'Aid for Trade: Enhancing EU support for trade-related needs in developing countries[18] spelling out that the EU AfT strategy aims at delivering effective response to developing countries own trade-related priorities in the context of their poverty reduction strategies and that it will help the EU to achieve better policy coherence in the areas of development and trade. On a global trade perspective, it has been recognised that AfT is a complement, but not a substitute, to a successful outcome of the WTO DDA negotiations amplifying the benefits from the negotiations for developing countries. However, delivery of AfT should not be conditional upon the speed of progress in the Round.

Moreover, the Council has recognised that one aim of the EU AfT Strategy is to support the ACP countries and regions to take full advantage of the increased trading opportunities, including those provided by future EPAs, while the EU delivery of AfT does not depend on the outcome of such negotiations. It has been underlined the Community and Member States' commitment to increase their trade-related assistance from 1 to 2 billion euro by 2010 and expressly stated that almost 50% of this increase will be available for needs prioritised by ACP countries[19].

To increase the volume of aid, the Commission has recommended that:

- the Member States reach a level of EUR 600 million per year by 2008, in order to attain the 1 billion target set for 2010;
- a significant share of the increased aid should be allocated to the ACP countries in support of regional integration and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). In particular, the ACP countries must be given guidance on the actual amounts involved.
- In addition, in all the developing countries, it is necessary to develop effective approaches to trade needs assessments at regional level and to ensure that these needs will be taken into account in the national development strategies of the partner countries. In particular, the EU should endeavour to apply effectively the instrument of the Integrated Framework used with the LDCs and to extend the same type of approach to non-LDCs[20].

[15] ILEAP – JEICP paper, 'The financial architecture of Aid for Trade', cit.
[16] OECD, WTO, 2007, cit.
[17] Council Conclusions of 16 October 2006 (doc. 14018/06).
[18] Council Conclusions of 15 October 2007 (doc. 14470/07)
[19] Council Conclusions of 15 October 2007 (doc. 14470/07)
[20] European Commission, 'Towards an EU Aid for Trade strategy – the Commission's contribution', doc. COM(2007)163 final : http://ec.europa.eu/development/ICenter/Pdf/2007/Final_Communication_COM(2007)163_EN.pdf

Precedents in other funds

A survey of 25 funds - some general, others vertical, both trade and non-trade - suggests that there are quite a few funds that address diagnostics of what trade measures are required (IF, part of EC TRA, JITAP, the PMU, etc.), but far fewer programs address supply side constraints directly (though the MCC could do some) or implementation costs of trade Agreements (though current WTO assistance might fit with this, and the data on trade related aid suggests that this is being funded from normal aid programs). Thus there are significant gaps that the debate on AfT can address.

Some funds have emerged out of international conventions or agreements**,** e.g. the Montreal Protocol Fund and the Global Environmental Fund; others have reflected special concerns that were thought to need additional attention, e.g. the health and research funds. Some of the trade-related funds have been specifically to address potential adjustment needs from trade reform: the ACP PMU by the EC to examine the effects of possible EPAs, and the Sugar, Banana, and Rum funds. Others are more general, e.g. the MCC focuses on growth and poverty reduction. This corresponds well to the discussion on AfT, for both narrow and broad interpretations[21].

4. What is the European Union doing in Aid for Trade?

In view of this meeting of the WTO General Council on 21 November 2007, the European Union adopted a Joint Strategy on Aid for Trade on 15 October 2007 that brings together the Commission and the Member States in an overall policy strategy that can be summarized in one simple sentence: 'More, better and quicker aid for trade'.

Firstly, more aid: the EU has pledged to increase its trade related assistance to a total of 2 billion euros per year by 2010. In 2006, the European Commission financed trade related projects worth approximately 960 million euros, and 880 million on average per year since 2001. In the same period, Member States financed an annual average of 370 million euros, and they will increase their spending significantly in line with their commitments. In addition, the European Commission will strengthen its support to the wider aid for trade agenda. Most importantly, the EU already gives more than 2 billion per year to infrastructure. This will go up.

The second element of the EU strategy is better and quicker aid. How to achieve this?

(i) <u>ownership:</u> the EC value the prime responsibility of developing countries in defining what is best for them and what they need to achieve with our support. To that end, EU donors will enhance efforts to support integration of trade policies and AFT priorities in national development strategies and implementation plans of developing partners.

(ii) <u>coordination and collaboration</u>: in order to make the best use of our resources, inconsistencies between donor policies should be minimized. Therefore, EU donors will collaborate closely when assessing and responding to partner needs, and will encourage other donors to join in.

(iii) <u>effectiveness and alignment</u>: it is essential to minimize transaction costs for developing countries. For this, EU donors will apply modern delivery approaches which reinforce partner countries ownership and control of efforts undertaken. Budget support is a particularly effective tool to address trade adjustment costs such as tariff revenue losses[22].

5. Key issues on the implementation process

Eligibility for Aid for Trade

The question of which countries should be eligible for special treatment is sensitive in both aid and trade. While aid agencies can determine their own differentiations among recipients, and define groups, the WTO can only differentiate by consensus of all members, and it is clear that there will be no new general categories adopted in this Round. The only classification in current use that is the same is Least Developed Countries. Beyond this, the WTO gives special status in a few agreements to developing countries, and specifies this as a condition for allowing preferences. What has become the practice is to list, either positively or negatively, countries other than LDCs that may be eligible for particular treatment (e.g. the subsidies' part of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture) or excluded from it (e.g. the agreement on importing pharmaceutical products of 2003). In legal terms, any eligibility for A4T specified by the WTO would have to follow this model[23].

[21] ILEAP – JEICP paper, 'The financial architecture of Aid for Trade', cit.

[22] Looking Ahead. Statement by Commissioner Louis Michel at the WTO General Council on Aid For Trade, Geneva, 21 November 2007 http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2007/november/tradoc_136854.pdf

[23] ILEAP-JEICP, 'Aid for Trade: a new issue in the WTO', cit.

Reconciling Aid for Trade and programs and principles for Aid[24]

The different purposes and the large scale of what donors are now calling AfT, as well as the unwillingness of both donors and recipients to rely on a single existing institution, suggest that the way in which AfT will work will be mainly through existing funds, multilateral and bilateral. There is therefore a need to find a way of reconciling multiple funds from multiple donors each covering some countries and/or some types of spending in order to secure adequate funding for all relevant countries and purposes. It is possible that some of the needs identified here will be so far from what donors and their rules of operation recognise as official development assistance that new funds or new sections of funds will be needed[25].

Delivering of Aid for Trade

Donors and partners agree without exception, that the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness sets out the principles that should guide the delivery of aid for trade. The commitment to these principles, which encapsulate decades of lessons learned and which set out clear guidance on how to deliver aid most effectively, was evident in all responses. Reducing transaction costs associated with delivering aid for trade is also emphasised by donors and partners. On a business as usual basis, transaction costs can be expected to increase significantly as aid for trade is scaled up.

Increasingly, donors and partners are engaged in joint monitoring and evaluation of programs that fall within the scope of the aid for trade initiatives. Orienting aid-for-trade activities towards achieving desired results (*e.g.* management for results) and being accountable to each other for these results (*e.g.* mutual accountability) is a clear challenge. Donors and partners agreed that these challenges in delivering aid for trade effectively are not unique, but are, in fact, part and parcel of the broader aid effectiveness agenda. The approach of the Paris Declaration, in setting out clear and mutually supporting objectives and monitoring progress towards them might thus be adapted for the aid-for-trade initiative. In doing so, it would help provide focus to this part of the initiative. The value of monitoring aid for trade will be maximised if it can be used as a tool to encourage and share best practice. It is also essential that partner countries participate more fully in the monitoring of aid for trade[26].

Enhancing the quality of Aid for Trade: the EC recommendations[27]

In order to improve the quality and effectiveness of Aid for Trade, the European Commission has recommended that the EU strategy focus on the following aspects:

- lay down the means to ensure that the Aid for Trade actions produce results in this field, e.g. by identifying the areas of Aid for Trade which bring about the widest and most sustainable reduction in poverty;
- ensure better ownership and participation by integrating trade-related issues into poverty reduction strategies, with active participation by stakeholders of the private sector and civil society;
- promote the institutional and financial sustainability of programs, by stakeholder capacity-building and ownership in all operations. It is also necessary to guarantee social and environmental sustainability by means of sustainability impact assessment of trade policies and agreements. In the specific case of environmental sustainability, the EU must help partners develop sustainable production methods. Other important aspects are the promotion of decent work and the development of effective labor market and social adjustment mechanisms;
- ensure joint analysis, programming and delivery between EU partners. The joint analysis of trade-related needs must be undertaken by using the Integrated Framework instrument in the LDCs and by developing similar processes in other countries. The EU could then better coordinate its response strategies in countries and regions. The opportunities for joint delivery depend in particular on progress in working through sector-wide approaches (SWAPs) in the field of Aid for Trade. In particular, the SWAPs are to permit the development of joint delivery methods, such as budget support and co-financing between EU partners;
- aim for aid effectiveness in regional Aid for Trade, in particular:
  - supporting regional partners' capacity to own and lead Aid for Trade efforts;
  - coordinating the program in support of regional and trade integration, including in economic and social areas;
  - streamlining the methods of delivery, including regional methods equivalent to budget support and co-financing;
  - enhancing cooperation with non-EU donors.

In particular, the EU strategy must give priority to regional interventions in the EPA context.

[24] ILEAP–JEICP paper, 'The financial architecture of Aid for Trade', cit.
[25] ILEAP-JEICP, 'Aid for Trade: a new issue in the WTO', cit.
[26] OECD-WTO, 2007, cit.
[27] European Commission, 'Towards an EU Aid for Trade strategy', cit.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE

ADB (Asian Development Bank)

Aid for Trade: how Asian Development Bank can help, 2007
http://aric.adb.org/pdf/a4t/Aid%20for%20Trade%20brochure%2007.pdf

ACP

Aid for trade for Tanzania: case study, Amanda Sunassee Lam
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/Presentation%20-%20Aid%20for%20Trade%20for%20Tanzania%20-%20SUNASSEE%20LAM.pdf

The realities of the EC "Aid for Trade" support in Bostwana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, Lessons for the EPA negotiations
http://www.acici.org/aitic/AidForTrade/Docs/11rappAidforTradeA4fc.pdf

AFRICAN UNION

AU Commission's proposal on the WTO "Aid for Trade" initiative
http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/Conferences/Past/2006/April/TI/PROPOSAL_OF_THE_%20AU_COMMISSION_ON_AID_TRADE.pdf

AITIC

AfT Documents Webpage
http://www.acici.org/aitic/AidForTrade/Docs.htm#A

ATPC

U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, African Trade Policy Centre (ATPC) Work in progress n. 4, 'Trade Facilitation to integrate Africa into the World Economy', September 2004
http://www.uneca.org/atpc/Work%20in%20progress/4.pdf

CHRISTAIN AID

'The opportunities and risks of Aid for Trade', 2006
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/Christian%20Aid_EN_1007_Christian%20Aid_The-opportunities-and-risks-of-aid-for-trade.pdf

COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

Report on Aid for Trade, Joseph E. Stiglitz and Andrew Charlton, 2006
http://earthmind.net/slm/docs/commonwealth-2006-aid-for-trade.pdf

CRNM

Aid for trade: a Caribbean Perspective. A study by Dr. Elizabeth Parsan, May 2006
http://www.crnm.org/documents/studies/Aid_For_Trade_Report_Prepared_by_E._Parsan.pdf

ECDPM

Discussion Paper n. 80, 'Aid for Trade: twenty lessons from existing aid schemes', South Centre and ECDPM, September 2007
http://www.southcentre.org/publications/occasional/DP80-ECDPM-Aid-for-Trade-20-lessons.pdf

‘Aid for Trade and the Post-Washington confusion’, Arne Melchior, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs, December 2006
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/Melchior_EN_08122006_NUPI_Aid-for-Trade-and-the-Post-Washington-Confusion.pdf

EU

‘EU Strategy on Aid for Trade: Enhancing EU support for trade-related needs in developing countries’ – Conclusions of the EU Council, doc. 14470/07, 15 October 2007
http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/07/st14/st14470.en07.pdf

Council agrees EU strategy on aid for trade, Press Release, 15 October 2007
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/misc/96506.pdf

Aid for Trade - Conclusions of the EU Council, doc. 14018/06, 16 October 2006
http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st14/st14018.en06.pdf

Aid for trade – Conclusions of the EU Council, doc. 9555/07, 15 May 2007
http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/07/st09/st09555.en07.pdf

European Commission, ‘Towards an EU Aid for Trade strategy – the Commission's contribution Towards an EU Aid for Trade Strategy’, doc. COM (2007) 163 final
http://ec.europa.eu/development/ICenter/Pdf/2007/Final_Communication_COM(2007)163_EN.pdf

European Research Office, The Experience of EC Provided EPA Related Adjustment Support: the Reality of EC “Aid for Trade” Support in the BLNS - Overview of the Experience and Major Lessons, 2006
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/ERO_EN_011206_ERO_The-reality-of-EC-Aid-for-Trade-support-in-the-BNLS.pdf

Eurostat, EU-27 trade with ACP countries 2006
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-SF-07-073/EN/KS-SF-07-073-EN.PDF

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Committee on Development, Opinion for the Committee on International Trade on the EU's Aid for Trade, 7 November 2006
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/ad/638/638293/638293en.pdf

Committee on International Trade, Working document on “The EU's Aid for Trade”, Rapporteur: David Martin, 11 January 2007
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/dt/647/647666/647666en.pdf

FAIR TRADE

Aid for Trade: another missed opportunity to make trade work for development?, April 2007
http://www.fairtrade-advocacy.org/documents/FINEcontributiontoAidforTradeDebate.pdf

ICCO

Aid for Trade debate- Moving beyond “Business as usual”
http://www.acici.org/aitic/AidForTrade/Docs/ICCO%20moving%20beyond.pdf

ICTSD

J. Frederiksen and F. Rampa, ‘New EU Aid for Trade strategy: a window of opportunity?’, Trade Negotiations Insights, vol. 6, n. 8, December 2007/January 2008, p. 16
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/TNI_EN_6-8.pdf

R. Tiemoko, ‘Aid for Trade and Africa’, Trade Negotiations Insights vol. 6, n. 7, November 2007, p. 8
http://www.ictsd.org/tni/tni_english/TNI_EN_6.7.pdf

Comparative Table of Recommendations, Proposals and Views on Aid for Trade, 2006
http://www.ictsd.org/dlogue/2006-11-14/Matrix_A4T.pdf

IGTN (International Gender and Policy Network)

'The Doha Development Agenda and Aid for Trade: Finding the Policy Link', International Gender and Trade Network
http://www.igtn.org/pdfs/aidfortrade2-1.pdf

ILEAP (International Lawyers and Economists Against Poverty)

ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief n.16, Aid for trade: a new issue at the WTO, January 2007.
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab16_aid_for_trade-a_new_issue_in_the_wto_jan_07.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP Negotiation Advisory Brief n. 12, Regional Aid for Trade, January 2007
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab12_regional_aid_for_trade_jan_07.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief n. 15, Scale and Types of Funds for Aid for Trade, January 2007
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab15_scale_and_types_of_funds_for_aid_for_trade_jan_07.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief n. 14, Financing International Public Goods. A Framework to Address Aid for Trade, January 2007
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab14_financing_international_public_goods_jan_07.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP Background Brief n. 12,"Aid for Trade" Facility: Lessons From The Tanzanian Experience On Trade Related Assistance, August 2006
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/bb12_aid_for_trade-lessons_from_the_tanzanian_experience_apr_06.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP Background Brief n. 10, Aid for Trade - How we got here Where we might go, May 2006
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/bb10_aid_for_trade-how_we_got_here_where_we_might_go_sept_06.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP Background Brief n. 11, Operational Modalities for the Aid for Trade Initiative, May 2006
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/bb11_operational_modalities_for_the_aid_for_trade_initiative_apr_06.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief n. 11, An African Perspective on Aid for Trade, April 2006
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab11_an_african_perspective_on_aid_for_trade_april_2006.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP Background Brief n. 9, The financial architecture of Aid for Trade, April 2006
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/bb9_the_financial_architecture_of_aid_for_trade_apr_06.pdf

ILEAP-JEICP, Negotiation Advisory Brief No. 10: Aid for Trade - Why and How?, December 2005
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org/downloads/nab10_aid_for_trade-why_and_how_dec_2005.pdf

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Aid for Trade. The Inter-American Development Bank experience in Latin America and the Caribbean, May 2006
http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=799639

ITC (International Trade Centre)

'Aid for Trade: a wider scope', Interview with M. Horn – Chair of WTO Task Force on Aid for Trade, 2006
http://www.tradeforum.org/news/fullstory.php/aid/1091/Aid_for_Trade:_A_Wider_Scope.html

Countries bring trade into development projects, M. Harrington – Millennium Challenge Corporation, 2007
http://www.tradeforum.org/news/fullstory.php/aid/1128/Countries_Bring_Trade_into_Development_Projects.html

Aid for Trade Main Webpage
http://www.tradeforum.org/news/categoryfront.php/id/952/Aid_for_Trade.html

OECD

WTO and OECD, Aid for Trade at a glance 2007: 1st Global Review
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/24/63/39638213.pdf

WTO and OECD, Aid for Trade at a Glance 2007: Country & Agency Chapters
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/45/7/39638682.pdf

OECD-DAC Donor Questionnaire on Aid for Trade, 2007
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/15/26/39120395.pdf

OECD-DAC Partner Country Questionnaire on Aid for Trade, 2007
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/16/17/39124158.pdf

'The Development Dimension. Aid for Trade: Making it effective', 2006
http://earthmind.net/slm/docs/oecd-2006-aid-for-trade.pdf

Trade Related Assistance: What do Recent Evaluations Tell Us?, 2006
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/31/45/37624158.pdf

ODI

Views on Aid for Trade by Various Multilateral Organizations, Regional Agencies, and member states, 2006
http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg/Projects/Aid4trade_files/aid_for_trade_multilat_orgs_views.pdf

ODI Opinions, Aid for Trade: What does it mean? Why should aid be part of WTO negotiations? And how much might it cost?, 2005
http://www.odi.org.uk/publications/opinions/61_aid_for_trade_dec05.pdf

ODI Background Briefing, Aid for Trade: one year on
http://www.odi.org.uk/IEDG/Projects/Aid4trade_files/aid_for_trade_one_year_on_BB.pdf

House of Commons, UK, Committee on European Scrutiny, Report on the European Commission Communication: Towards an EU Aid for Trade strategy — the Commission's contribution
http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmselect/cmeuleg/41-xviii/4112.htm

ODI report, Forthcoming changes in the EU Banana/sugar markets: a menu of options for an effective EU transitional package
http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg/Projects/EU_banana_sugar_markets/SUGARreport.pdf

SOUTH CENTRE

Aid for trade and financial assistance to implement the EPAs, May 2007
http://www.southcentre.org/publications/AnalyticalNotes/Other/2007May_EPA_Fact_Sheet_No6.pdf

Elements for the architecture of Aid for Trade, April 2006
http://www.southcentre.org/publications/AnalyticalNotes/CrossCuttingIssuesTradeNegotiation/2006Apr_AidForTrade.pdf

'Aid For Trade' initiative in need of a definitive structure, October 2006
http://www.southcentre.org/wto-doha-round-aid-for-trade-South-Centre.html

UNCTAD

Erosion of trade preferences in the post-Hong Kong framework: From ´Trade is Better than Aid´ to ´Aid for Trade´, December 2007
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/ldc20056_en.pdf

S. Laird, 'Aid for Trade: cool aid or kool-aid? UNCTAD G-24 Discussion Paper Series n. 45, November 2007
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/gdsmdpbg2420076_en.pdf

S. Page, 'The potential impact of the Aid for Trade Initiative', UNCTAD G-24 Discussion Paper Series n. 45, April 2007
http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/gdsmdpbg2420073_en.pdf

UNECA – United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Mobilising Aid for Trade- Focus Africa
http://www.uneca.org/aidfortrade/media.htm

WORLD BANK

J. Nielson, Aid for Trade
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/239054-1126812419270/27.AidForTrade.pdf

World Bank and International Monetary Fund, Aid for Trade: harnessing the global economy for economic development, 2007
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVCOMMINT/Documentation/21510688/DC2007-0019(E)AidforTrade.pdf

World Bank and International Monetary Fund, Doha Development Agenda and Aid for Trade, 2005
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVCOMMINT/Documentation/20651864/DC2005-0016(E)-Trade.pdf

WTO

All WTO official documents can be found on the WTO Websites (http://www.wto.org/) > Documents Online gateway, by using the Document symbol

DG Lamy's Speech at the WTO Committee on Trade and Development Meeting on the 2008 Aid-for-Trade Roadmap, February 2008
http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/sppl_e/sppl87_e.htm

2008 Aid for Trade Roadmap
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/a4t_roadmap_feb08_e.doc

Doha Development Agenda, Developments in the Aid for Trade work programme
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/developments_e.htm

Doha Development Agenda, Implementing para. 57 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/implementing_par57_e.htm

Mobilizing Aid for Trade: Focus Africa. Report and Recommendations, November 2007
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/africa_e.pdf

Mobilizing Aid for Trade: Focus Asia and the Pacific. Report and Recommendations, November 2007
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/asia_pacific_e.pdf

Mobilizing Aid for Trade: Focus Latin American and the Caribbean. Report and Recommendations, November 2007
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/latin_american_e.pdf

Recommendations of the Task Force on Aid for Trade', doc. WT/AFT/1, 27 July 2006
Annexes Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness
Joint WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database
Paragraph 57 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration

Communication from Mauritius on behalf of the ACP Group, ACP Concept Paper on Aid for trade, doc. WT/AFT/W/8, 4 May 2006

Communication from Benin on behalf of the African Group, Concept paper – African perspective on aid for Trade: Scope and gaps, doc. WT/AFT/W/21, 21 June 2006

Communication from Zambia on behalf of the LDC Group, Aid for Trade – an LDC perspective, doc. WT/AFT/W/22, 29 June 2006

OTHERS

UNIDO, Building Productive Capacities for Trade Competitiveness: Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and UNIDO's response, Background paper to a High-Level Panel at the 12th Session of UNIDO General Conference, December 2007
http://www.unido.org/file-storage/download/?file_id=83982

A. Melchior, Aid for Trade and the Post-Washington confusion, December 2006
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/files/Melchior_EN_08122006_NUPI_Aid-for-Trade-and-the-Post-Washington-Confusion.pdf

MULTIDONORS INITIATIVES

Integrated Framework for Trade Related Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF)

The Integrated Framework for Trade Related Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF) is a six agency program chaired by the World Trade Organization which aims to integrate the Least Developed Countries into the global economy. Through a multi-agency coordination, the program provides trade-related technical assistance and capacity building. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the UN Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank (WB) and WTO work with LDCs and their development partners to identify and address their trade development needs to assist them in becoming full and active players and beneficiaries of the multilateral trading system. OECD participates as observer.

The IF's objectives are twofold

(1) assist LDCs in mainstreaming trade priority areas of action into their national plans for economic development and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs);

(2) encourage the co-ordinated delivery of trade-related technical assistance and capacity building.

http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/teccop_e/if_e.htm

Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP)

The Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme is a collaborative programme launched by the International Trade Centre (ITC), the UN Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and WTO to trigger a solid process of trade policy-making in poor countries in Africa starting from a very low level of awareness and institutional capacity.

http://www.jitap.org/

Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) is a global programme in capacity building and technical co-operation established in 2002 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The strategic aims of the STDF are:

i) to assist developing countries enhance their expertise and capacity to analyze and to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, improving their human, animal and plant health situation, and thus ability to gain and maintain market access; and

ii) to act as a vehicle for co-ordination among technical co-operation providers, the mobilization of funds, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of good practice in relation to the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation.

In addition to facilitating international trade, SPS capacity building can result in improved human and agricultural health conditions for local markets and so favour economic and social development.

In achieving its aims, the STDF acts both as a co-ordinating and a financing mechanism.

http://www.standardsfacility.org

WEBSITES

ACP-EU TRADE ORG
http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/

Agency for international trade information and cooperation (AITIC) – Aid for Trade webpage
http://www.acici.org/aitic/AidForTrade/index.htm

CTA – Agritrade
http://agritrade.cta.int/

DAC - OECD Development Cooperation Committee
http://www.oecd.org/department/0,3355,en_2649_34665_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

FAO
http://www.fao.org/trade/index_en.asp

ECDPM
http://www.ecdpm.org

ICTSD
http://www.ictsd.org

ILEAP
http://www.ileap-jeicp.org

Integrated Framework for Trade Related Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF)
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/teccop_e/if_e.htm

Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP)
http://www.jitap.org/

ODI
http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg/aid4trade.html

OECD - Aid for Trade Webpage
http://www.oecd.org/document/52/0,3343,en_2649_34665_39145396_1_1_1_1,00.html

South Centre
http://www.southcentre.org

Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)
http://www.standardsfacility.org/index.htm

UNCTAD
http://www.unctad.org/

UNECA
http://www.uneca.org/aidfortrade/

TRALAC
http://www.tralac.org

WTO – Aid for Trade webpage
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/aid4trade_e.htm

ACRONYMS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries
AFT	Aid for Trade
AITIC	Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation
APEC	Asian Development Bank
AfDB	African Development Bank
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CAPs	Country assistance programs
CIACEX	Commission on International Trade
CRS	Creditor Reporting System of the OECD
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (OECD)
DDA	Doha Development Agenda
DDA	GTF Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
DGs	Directorate Generals of the European Commission
DSU	Dispute Settlement Understanding
DTIS	Diagnostic Trade Integration Study
DWP	Doha Work Programme
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GRM	The Global Review Mechanism
HIPC	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
IDA	International Development Association (World Bank)
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IF	Integrated Framework on Trade-Related Technical Assistance for Least Developed Countries
IFC	International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFI	International Financial Institution
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITC	International Trade Centre
JITAP	Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme
ITC	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO
LDC	Least developed country
LMIC	Lower middle-income country
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MFN	Most Favoured Nation
MTPDP	MediumTerm Philippine Development Plan
MTS	Multilateral Trading System
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIE	Organization for Animal Health
OLIC	Other low-income country
OOF	Other Official Flows
PCB	Productive Capacity Building
PIP	Public Investment Programme
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SPS	Sanitary and phytosanitary standards
STDF	Standard and Trade Development Facility

TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TCBDB	Trade Capacity Building Database
TRTA/CB	Trade-Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building
TPR	Trade policy and regulations
TRIPs	Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights
UMIC	Upper middle-income country
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCO	World Customs Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
TPRM	Trade Policy Review Mechanism

GLOSSARY

Adjustment cost
It is the cost accounting to retribute or financially compensate the potential downside effects of trade liberalisation, such as preference erosion, higher food prices or loss of government revenue. It an important component in the Aid for Trade.

Aid Harmonisation
Is the process wherein aid process, procedures and practices would be streamlined such that aid coming from different sources will have common arrangements, simplified procedures and at the same time shared information for aid utilization and disbursement.

Aid Alignment
It is another principle of making effective aid delivery and streamlining the required assistance with the priorities with result oriented strategies. This would entail lining of systems in a way that donor agency would find it easier to route the funds through recipients own system of building capacity to trade.

Bilateral Aid
Official aid and official development assistance (ODA) delivered by a donor country government to more than 100 developing countries and transition economies as listed by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Resources are channeled via the development ministry, associated agencies or other institutions working with recipient countries, mostly based in the donor country.

Support
Funds supporting government programs, aimed at fostering economic growth and poverty reduction and enhancing relevant institutions or funds made available that are administered by the recipient government through its financial management systems.

Creditor Reporting System (CRS)
OECD database capturing aid flows that will be used for monitoring Aid for Trade along with the database of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The CRS has data on donors, geographical areas and sectors targeted by aid. It also provides information on aid policy issues.

Development Assistance Committee (DAC)
Forum at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) among 22 donor countries and the European Commission. At the DAC, members consult on aid delivery methods and ways to raise aid flows and ensure effectiveness. Members are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and United States.
The work of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) on trade and development aims to help developing countries integrate effectively in the global economy and generate sustainable, pro-poor growth, through improved market access and enhanced trade capacity.
Its work focuses on:
- Monitoring & co-ordination: Monitoring the delivery of donor-funded (Trade-related technical assistance and capacity building, TRTA/CB) projects and programs, as well as donor strategies for TRTA/CB;
- Recommendations/Guidance: Sharing good practices in the implementation of TRTA/CB projects and programs, amongst relevant stakeholders in OECD countries, donor field offices and developing country officials, business people and academia (see DAC Guidelines on Strengthening Trade Capacity for Development);
- Impact assessment: Collaborative work in assessing the impact of donors' TRTA/CB programs (concrete outputs still need to be agreed upon).
- Dialogue and advocacy: Facilitating dialogue between trade and development policy makers at the OECD and in developing countries, in order to encourage greater coherence between trade and development policies.
Notably, Trade-related technical assistance and capacity building programs seek to enhance the ability of policymakers, enterprises and civil society in developing countries to:
1. Formulate and implement a trade development strategy incorporated in a broader national development or poverty reduction strategy.
2. Increase the volume and value-added of exports, diversify export products and markets and increase foreign investment to generate jobs and exports.

3. Participate in – and benefit from – the institutions and processes that shape international commerce (particularly the WTO).
DAC Members' websites. http://www.oecd.org/linklist/0,3435,en_2649_34665_1797105_1_1_1_1,00.html

Doha Development Agenda Trade Capacity Building Database (TCBDB)
Joint WTO/OECD database on national and regional trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building projects. Data provides information on trade category (trade policy and regulations, trade development or infrastructure), recipient country or donor.

Export-led Poverty Reduction Programme
Technical assistance programme launched by the International Trade Centre (ITC) in 2002. It seeks to create employment and raise incomes of disadvantaged communities by improving export opportunities. Activities include identification of exportable goods and services produced by the poor, reinforcing production and marketing skills through training, and providing institutional support aimed at strengthening linkages with markets abroad.

Generalized System of Preferences
It refer to a trading system prevailing in the importing country generally in developed country granting special concession to a particular country over and above the general MFN principle.

Institutional Development
Technical assistance and capacity-building for official agencies or government departments. Measures include strengthening human resources for policy implementation, establishing new administrative and financial management systems (e.g. using information technology) and supporting policy implementation, for example by facilitating access to information or data collection for monitoring purposes.

Integrated Framework (IF)
The IF for Trade Related Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF) is a multi-donor initiative aimed at (1) assisting LDCs in mainstreaming trade priority areas of action into their national plans for economic development and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs); and (2) encouraging the coordinated delivery of trade-related technical assistance and capacity building, in response to needs identified by the LDC. The IF was launched in 1997 by 6 core agencies -the IMF, World Bank, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, and WTO- and revamped in 2001, in order to increase its effectiveness.

Low-income countries
A World Bank category of countries with a gross national income (GNI) per capita below US$875.

Lower-middle income countries
A World Bank category of countries with a gross national income (GNI) per capita between US$876 and US$3,465.

Mutual Accountability
It is a principle of making effective delivery by committing donors and partners in a resource sharing framework with emphasis on transparency level. The participatory mode would involve formulation and assessing progress in the national development strategies.

Official Development Assistance (ODA)
Financial flows from state entities to multilateral institutions and eligible countries as per the DAC list. ODA comprises grants and loans at concessional rates with the objective of promoting economic development and welfare in the recipient countries.
Link to DAC list of ODA recipients for 2005, 2006 and 2007:
http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/23/34/37954893.pdf.

Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP)
Studies undertaken by international institutions to assess the level of poverty across different countries and this paper are important in planning the development programs and packages granted by multilateral development agencies.
Nationally-owned" country strategies (including economic and social policies and programs) to promote growth and reduce poverty. It was agreed at the Bretton Woods institutions' 1999 Annual Meetings that the PRSP should provide the basis for the World Bank and IMF concessional lending and debt relief.

Special Products (SP)

These are self-designated products which get additional flexibility to developing countries to avoid strict reduction commitment. These products would serve development interests of food security, livelihood security and rural development purposes.

Special Safeguard Mechanisms (SSM)
It is a special instrument designed to provide flexibility to developing countries to impose additional duties over and above the bound level of duties in the even of surge of imports.

Sector approach
Donor funding targeting a single sector policy and expenditure programme in the form of technical assistance, project or budget support.

Special and Differential Treatment
It refers to the principle adopted at the WTO accepting the difference persisting between countries and the capacity to trade.

Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)
Technical assistance and capacity-building programme on trade and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS). The STDF coordinates and finances activities supporting developing countries in complying with SPS standards and thereby improve human, animal and plant health as well as market access for their products. It is implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Trade facilitation
“Trade facilitation" refers to simplification and harmonisation of international trade procedures, e.g. practices and formalities involved in collecting, presenting, communicating and processing data and other information required for the movement of goods in international trade.
Trade facilitation can have a significant impact on economic development and poverty reduction. Studies by the OECD Trade Committee show that the benefits of trade facilitation reforms are multiple and occur on different fronts and for different stakeholders (i.e. government, private sector and consumers). More efficient international trade procedures and customs operations can significantly reduce trade transaction costs, which results in increased volumes of trade and welfare gains, particularly for developing countries. They can also increase competitiveness and the attractiveness for foreign investors, enhance revenue collection and help prevent corruption and smuggling. Hence, committing resources to support such reforms is a sound and cost-effective investment that can have multiplier effects for development.

Trade Integration Mechanism (TIM)
It is a special initiative by the IMF in the year 2004 to support countries to cover the balance of payment crisis on account of multilateral liberalisation. The main objective of this initiative is to provide a predictability and accessibility of resources as available in the situation prior to liberalisation. Only two countries, Bangladesh and Dominican Republic, have obtained support under this scheme.

TRIPS Agreement
WTO agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property that establishes a minimum level of protection that each member country has to give to the intellectual property of fellow member countries. Covers copyright, trademarks, geographical indications, industrial design, patents, layout designs of integrated circuits, undisclosed information including trade secrets.