



Trade and Development | What are the Linkages? Jakarta, 2016

Center for International Trade and Investment





Structure of the present lecture

- Trade's Role in Development
- Trade Contribution to Development in Developing Countries
- Challenges in Promoting Trade
- Building Trade Capacities
- Multilateral trading system Contribution to Development



Role of Trade in Development

- Trade openness is a necessary condition to economic development.
- Trade liberalization generally improves aggregate welfare although gains might be small and unequally distributed.
- Constraints to income distribution come from various factors such as infrastructure, skills and institution environment.
- Policies aiming at reducing trade barriers, improving infrastructure, enhancing good governance, and broadening access to education could allow the benefits of economic globalization to be share more equally.



Trade Contribution to Development in Developing Countries

- Trade helps to reduce poverty and stimulate growth
- It enhances competitiveness, encourages innovation and transfer of knowledge
- It opens an opportunity to access new markets and diversify exports
- Consumers can have more choices and get lower price
- It creates employment opportunities and improves the labor standards
- It strengthens ties between nations and contributes to peace and stability

Read: <u>10 Benefits of Trade for Developing Countries</u>



Challenges in Promoting Trade

- Liberalizing trade has become challenging
 - Trade issues/negotiations become more complex
 - Domestic interest groups opposition
 - Concerns that trade reforms will affect employment, income distribution, poverty and vulnerability
- Supply side constraints: inadequate logistics and infrastructure, inefficient government bureaucracy, policy instability



Trade-Development-Poverty Linkages (Export-Oriented Sectors)



Source: Trade-Development-Poverty Linkages and Aid for Trade by Selim Raihan



Building Trade Capacities (Multilateral Trading System Initiatives)

- Aid for Trade
- Trade-related technical assistance
- Enhanced Integrated Framework



Aid for Trade Initiative

- Launched at 6th WTO Ministerial Meeting in Hong Kong
- Objectives: (i) to help developing countries and least-developed countries in particular; (2) to build the trade capacity and infrastructure; (3) to benefit from trade opening
- It focuses on: (i) trade assistance; (ii) infrastructure improvement; (iii) productive capacity; (iv) adjustment assistance



The Role of WTO in AFT Initiative

- Encourage the flow of Aid for Trade from donors to support requests for trade-related capacity from beneficiaries country
- Monitoring and evaluating the initiative
- The WTO, however, is not a development agency
- Collaboration with other agencies such as the IMF, the World Bank, the OECD



Trade-Related Technical Assistance

- Activities overseen by the Committee on Trade and Development
- Technical assistance and training activities, for example trade policy course, Geneva week, Regional and sub-regional capacity-building programmes, training for government officials, national technical assistance activities, outreach activities for parliamentarians and civil society
- Trade-related academic activities programmes, for example the WTO Chairs Programme



WTO Chairs Programme

- Launched in 2010
- Objectives: (i) to provide cutting-edge research; (ii) to provide teaching support and to promote capacity building; (iii) to disseminate research and to promote discussion (outreach)
- Fourteen institutions from developing countries were selected as WTO Chairs for a four-year term in 2009, and seven institutions selected in 2014 for the second phase of WCP
- One of seven institutions is Universitas Pelita Harapan



UPH's WCP Implementations





Enhanced Integrated Framework

- A multi-donor programme to help least-developed countries to play more actively in the global trading system
- Core partner agencies: IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, WTO, the World Bank, UNINDO (observer)
- Genuine partnership among the donors, the partner agencies, the executive secretariat and the trust fund manager to support LDCs to (i) mainstream trade into national development strategies; (ii) to build capacity to trade; (iii) to address the issues of supply-side constraints



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The WTD-led Aid for Trade initiative encourages developing country governments and denots to recognize the role that trade can play in development. In particular, the initiative seeks to mobilize resources to address the trade-related constraints identified by developing and least-developed countries.	PROGRAMME as WTO Chairs for a four-year term in 2009. An additional seven institutions were selected for Phase 2 of the Programme in 2014.
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Conclusion

- Trade has positive contribution to development, although trade alone cannot significantly improve development.
- Other factors such as infrastructure, efficient bureaucracy, good governance and education are needed by trade in order to hasten development.
- WTO as a multilateral trading system has taken initiatives to enhance many trade-related aspects in order to help countries, especially developing countries in their development.

