

SDG TRADE MONITOR

Analysing the contribution of international trade to the Sustainable Development Goals



SDG Trade Monitor

The International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) are the custodian agencies of six trade-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators: 2.b.1: Agricultural export subsidies; 8.a.1: Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements; 10.a.1: Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff; 17.10.1: Worldwide weighted tariff-average; 17.11.1: Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports; and 17.12.1: Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States

These indicators were approved during the 48th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC). Data on the current indicators is provided on an annual basis for the SDG Report by the three agencies. However, a repository of information on trade-related SDG indicators that policymakers and development professionals can consult anytime and use for customized analyses has not existed.

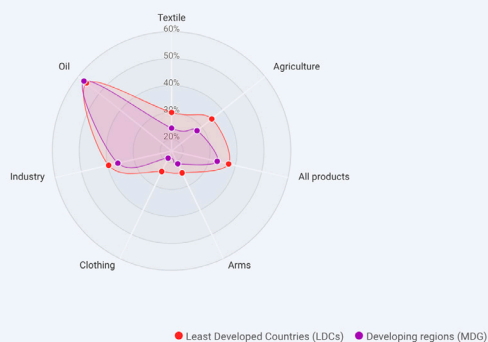
The **SDG Trade Monitor** (www.sdgtrade.org) addresses this gap with a practical tool to explore the manifold synergies between trade and SDGs through the use of official trade-related SDG indicators and other complementary indicators.

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE SDG TRADE MONITOR ARE:

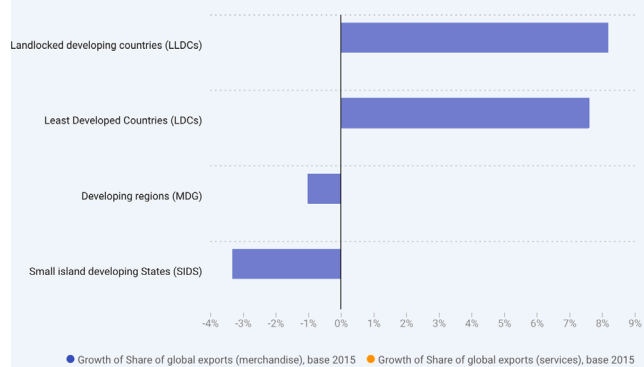
- Presenting the official SDG trade indicators through an interactive one-stop-shop that streamlines statistical coordination processes within the UN System;
- Facilitating the comparison of regional and country level data on the SDG trade indicators and other complementary statistics;
- Broadening understanding of the horizontal dimension of trade within the SDG agenda

As most data for the SDG Trade Monitor is provided by national customs authorities, statistics institutions and regional trade secretariats, their goodwill and cooperation is key to a successful SDG Trade Monitor.

Share of duty free products (all products) to World in 2018



Evolution in Share of global exports (merchandise) and Share of global exports (services) up to 2019



PROGRESS ON TRADE IN THE SDG AGENDA

In recent years, positive developments in relation to the trade-related targets of the SDGs since their introduction five years ago included:

- A continuous downward trend in agricultural export subsidies notified to the WTO, both by advanced and developing economy members;
- An increase in Aid-for-Trade commitments and Aid-for-Trade disbursements, with Asia and Africa remaining the primary recipients.

Nevertheless, it can already be observed that slow export growth in least developed countries (LDCs) means that the target set by the Istanbul Programme of Action of doubling the share of LDCs' global exports by 2020 will not be met. It is important to be able to monitor these developments in order to understand what are the required policy actions and to ensure that trade can act as an engine for development.

KEY FUNCTIONALITIES

- Intuitive interface to explore trade-related indicators and navigate goals and targets;
- Comparison of national and regional trends;
- State-of-the-art visual approach with multiple graphical options that can be easily shared or embedded into other website or publications;
- Data exploration from a country and product perspective;
- Data download functionality;
- Customized analytic reports (upcoming);
- Availability in multiple languages, including English, French and Spanish (upcoming).

ESSENTIAL TOOL TO MONITOR PROGRESS

ITC, UNCTAD and WTO have joined forces to develop an extensive repository of data on the trade-related SDG targets for trade policymakers. The tool can be accessed through a user-friendly interface portal, the SDG Trade Monitor (www.sdgtrade.org). The SDG Trade Monitor allows users to conduct customized analysis of official trade-related SDG indicators and other complementary indicators. This will assist them in acquiring a more nuanced understanding of the relation between trade and development in the SDG agenda.