



**UNESCAP**  
2007

# ***Trade and Investment in UNESCAP: A brief overview***

*Marc Proksch*  
Trade and Investment Division  
UNESCAP



# 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](http://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**

# ***Making Trade and Investment work for all***

## **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 UNESCO 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](http://www.unescap.org/tid/aptiad)

133  
PTAs

ITI

GLOSSARY

Trade and Investment Division, UNESCAP - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail Print Preview

Address <http://www.unescap.org/tid/aptiad/> Go Links

Google C Go Bookmarks Popups okay Check AutoLink AutoFill Send to Settings

United Nations ESCAP

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Home Site Map Index Contact

About UNESCAP Media Centre Members Projects Secretariat UNESCAP Publications Jobs

Search:  Go

Bangkok, Thailand

Trade and Investment Division (TID)

Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database  
APTIAD

Trade agreements database

Interactive trade indicators

Glossary

Areas of focus

- Doha Development Agenda
- Regional Trade Agreements
- Trade Facilitation
- Trade and Investment Information
- Investment Promotion and Facilitation
- Enterprise Development

What we do

- Activities
- Projects
- Publications

Latest Highlights

- Subcommittee on International Trade and Investment
- Calendar of events
- Related links
- Contact us

Related links

To search publications on PTAs

Keywords:

Focus area: Preferential Trade Agreements Go

To access related resources on Asian FTAs ADB Asia Regional Integration Center

start Windows Li... New Memo ... WITS 2 Window... Microsoft P... Trade and I... 11:55

# **ARTNeT:** [artnetontrade@un.org](mailto: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 e-single 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***