

Umbrella Facility for Trade, Phase II (UFT 2.0)

The Umbrella Facility for Trade, Phase II (UFT 2.0) is the second phase of a Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Trade, the principal vehicle of the World Bank Group supporting analytical work, capacity building, technical assistance and training on trade for developing countries at a global scale.

Recent years have seen a rise in protectionism, climate challenges, digital trade and the erosion of the multilateral rules-based trade system. This trend should continue and even skyrocket, given the most recent political evolutions. In this context, UFT 2.0 intends to support trade and development, by helping developing countries navigating trade-related challenges, streamlining trade facilitation and border management and supporting digital trade-related policy implementation, regulatory reform and capacity building.

Overall goal

The development objective of UFT 2.0 is to foster trade in low- and middle-income countries that is green, resilient, and inclusive through three pillars: i) improving countries' markets access and deepening trade relations; ii) boosting firms' competitiveness and participation in global value chains; and iii) facilitating trade and strengthening its resilience.

Outcomes

Outcome 1: Strengthened, coherent and fair multilateral trading system with enhanced utilization of goods and services trade accession, openness and integration opportunities

Outcome 2: Enhanced firm level trade competitiveness and diversification in goods and services markets and value chain integration

Outcome 3: Streamlined border management, border crossing processes for goods and services and affordable and efficient trade related transport and logistics

Outputs

UFT 2.0 will produce and update databases and dashboards on various contemporary topics such as digital trade readiness, climate policies impact assessment, subsidies, trade and jobs indicators, deep trade agreements, trade competitiveness or logistics performance. The Programme will also continue its analytical work through global and regional analytical notes, papers, blogs, country climate development reports and trade

Country/region

Global

Main funding partners

Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Implementing partner

World Bank Group

Duration

2025-2029

Total budget

USD 67,600,000

SECO contribution

CHF 5,000,000



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policy reports. Finally, UFT 2.0 will conduct knowledge exchange events and capacity-building activities in the form of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement workshops and support national single window implementation.

Results of the previous phase

UFT 1.0 developed the WB's trade agenda (e.g. World Development Report 2020 on trade) and provided technical assistance and guidance on WTO accession issues helping the beneficiary countries to get WTO membership (e.g. Timor Leste and Comoros). The Programme led to 236 recommended policies adopted, 188 beneficiaries applying trade-related tools, 18 adopting national trade strategies considering poverty reduction, 74 using trade impact assessments for non-tariff measures addressing poverty/gender and, on average, 93.1% of clients satisfied with analytical and advisory services, 9.2M views of websites for databases supported by the UFT, 2571 citations of UFT-supported research, a contribution to an increase in trade volumes of sustainable commodities of 40B USD (0.04% of tot.), in export volumes of sustainable goods and services of 306B USD (1.45% of tot.), of 12% in the alignment with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and to 108.7M USD of private sector savings.

How to get involved

Requests for technical assistance under the UFT 2.0 can be made directly to the WBG offices and partners.

Further information and World Bank contact details

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Rules-based trade system



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