

FOREWORD

The publication *Aid for Trade at a Glance: Showing Results* highlights that the international community has responded effectively to the challenge of helping developing countries, and in particular the least developed ones, overcome structural and capacity limitations that undermine their ability to maximise the benefits of trade opportunities. It provides clear evidence that the Initiative has resulted in the prioritisation of trade in development strategies, has galvanised support to tackle the bottlenecks that undermine the ability of producers to connect to global markets, and has bettered the lives of many men and women in developing countries.

Aid for trade is leveraging development assistance to help countries tap into the power of markets, connect to new centers of economic wealth and, in turn, become the new growth poles in the global economy. To unleash such an economic transformation, we must learn from the successes and failures on how to make globalisation more inclusive. We need to know more about the results of our efforts.

The large number of case stories from partner countries, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, providers of South-South co-operation and regional economic communities probe deeper into the policies, processes, and programmes on aid for trade. They help us better understand what is working, what are the key ingredients of success, and what governments and practitioners can learn from these experiences. The case stories provide rich details of how aid-for-trade programmes and projects have made a difference in building human and institutional capacities, supporting the private sector, meeting standards, remedying market failures, facilitating trade and improving infrastructure.

We need to continue these efforts to strengthen mutual accountability about the aid spent on building trade capacities. To further enhance aid-for-trade outcomes and impacts we need to work together to develop country-led aid-for-trade results frameworks and platforms. But we also need to broaden our dialogue and include discussions about the right mix of complementary policies, good governance and policy coherence for development – all of which are crucial elements in maximising the contribution of trade in attaining national development objectives.

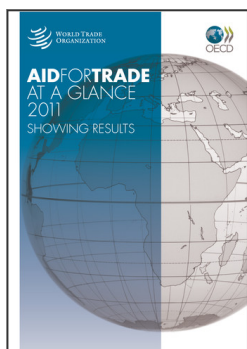
This publication provides new perspectives on these issues and points towards new pathways for leveraging aid for trade to attain the Millennium Development Goals, including through South-South co-operation. It contributes towards putting our collective knowledge and best practices about using aid to achieve trade results at the service of countries at different stages of development. This knowledge sharing will continue through the local, regional and global aid-for-trade dialogues and will receive further impetus from the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, which will be held in Busan, Korea, next November.



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