

Introduction to the Development Account Project

Regional Dialogue on
Enhancing the contribution of PTAs to
inclusive and equitable trade

21-22 June 2017

Bangkok



The Development Account

- Established by the General Assembly in 1997 through resolution 52/12 B
- The Development Account is a mechanism to fund capacity development projects of the economic and social entities of the United Nations
- The Development Account has programmed **335 projects for a total budget of \$209.7 million**

The Ninth tranche

- The theme of each tranche is the result of internationally agreed development goals and outcomes of major conferences and summits
- **Support Member States in designing and implementing strategies and policies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development**

NINTH TRANCHE OF THE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROJECT

**ENHANCING THE CONTRIBUTION OF
PREFERENTIAL TRADE AGREEMENTS
TO INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE TRADE**

Motivations for the project

- Expanding trade and investment has driven growth in many developing countries, reducing poverty and increasing welfare
- However, not all countries – and groups within countries – have been able to benefit from trade
- Preferential trade agreements (PTAs) have the potential to promote growth, employment, and social welfare

Project goals

- The project provides training and reference materials for governments to enhance their understanding of trade and PTAs
- The goal is to help governments understand how PTAs can be used to foster economic and social development, with the aim of contributing to better policymaking

Pilot countries

- The project is led by ESCAP in collaboration with ECA and ECLAC

African countries

- Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mauritius, Senegal

Latin America and Caribbean countries

- Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica

Asia and the Pacific

Viet Nam	15-17 March 2017
Bangladesh	28-29 March 2017
Mongolia	19-21 April 2017
Myanmar	7-9 June 2017
Islamic Republic of Iran	<i>Upcoming (12-15 August)</i>

Project activities

- National training workshops
- **Regional dialogue**
- Global meeting

- PTA Advisory Board
- Developing an online knowledge platform
- Dataset and indicators to monitor PTAs with regards to inclusivity

Outcomes

- Country studies on the social and economic impacts of preferential trade agreements
- Collected regional best-practices to be disseminated at the regional dialogue
- An online knowledge platform sharing training materials and country studies
- A dataset and indicators for tracking the performance of preferential trade agreements in a context of inclusive trade

THANK YOU