

## **S. Integration of the trade dimension in the United Nations development assistance framework**

**UNCTAD (\$534,800)**

### **Background**

98. Recent surveys of the content of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)<sup>1</sup> show that while there is a strong focus of the United Nations assistance at the country level on social, governance, environmental and gender issues, the role of economic and trade-related issues in achieving poverty reduction and development goals is still marginal in these plans. Social and domestic goals addressed by the United Nations assistance at the country level are not effectively connected with the economic and productive capacity issues, nor with the international economic environment that surrounds and largely determines any national development process.
99. Similarly, links between the Enhanced Integrated Framework (a six-agency trade-related assistance mechanism) and the “One UN” plans are now being introduced by UNCTAD and UNDP, but they need to be consolidated in terms of policy and operational coherence with the United Nations country assistance plans. A recent study prepared by UNDP on “Trade for poverty reduction: the role of trade policy in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers” (July 2008) shows that the role of trade (and trade-related assistance) in the papers is marginal, and that the economic development needs identified by the Papers are not fully taken into account in the formulation of UNDAFs and similar country assistance initiatives. The updated United Nations Development Group Common Country Assessment/UNDAF Guidelines adopted on 30 January 2009<sup>2</sup> include, for the first time, a specific reference to these issues.
100. In line with the United Nations system-wide coherence process and the resolution on triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations systems,<sup>3</sup> this proposal aims at enhancing inter-agency coherence and joint initiatives and national ownership in the area of trade-related assistance and capacity-building.
101. UNCTAD leads the United Nations Chief Executives Board on Coordination inter-agency cluster on trade and productive capacity, launched in April 2007. This cluster includes UNDP, UNIDO, FAO, WTC, ITC, UNEP, UNOPS, and the five regional commissions. Its aim is to coordinate joint operations at the country level.<sup>4</sup> This proposal aims at supporting the national involvement of government and stakeholders in the preparation of joint operations on trade-related issues among the United Nations entities that are part of the cluster, including the World Bank and IMF as required in each case. UNCTAD will act as lead agency of this proposal, in

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<sup>1</sup> Surveys of UNDAFs done by UNCTAD and International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO in 2006 and 2007 show that less than 20 per cent of recent and ongoing UNDAFs in 120 countries include a reference to trade and investment issues — usually in the narrative parts of the UNDAFs but not in the operational parts.

<sup>2</sup> [www.undg.org/docs/9879/WGPI\\_2007-CCA-and-UNDAF-Guidelines-FINAL-February-2009-LOCKED.doc](http://www.undg.org/docs/9879/WGPI_2007-CCA-and-UNDAF-Guidelines-FINAL-February-2009-LOCKED.doc).

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 62/208.

<sup>4</sup> See [www.unctad.unctadxii.org/en/Programme/Other-Events/Parallel-and-Side-Events/](http://www.unctad.unctadxii.org/en/Programme/Other-Events/Parallel-and-Side-Events/).

close coordination with all the agencies of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination cluster mentioned above, with different inter-agency initiatives as required in each country targeted by this proposal. The coordination is carried out in a very flexible and action-oriented manner on a case-by-case basis through field missions, audio-conferences and e-mail.

<p><b>Objective of the Organization:</b> To strengthen policy coherence, inter-agency cooperation and integrated activities on trade and productive sectors within the United Nations system and in particular at the country level.</p>	<p><b>Summary budget</b> (Thousands of United States dollars)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Consultants</td> <td>96.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel</td> <td>60.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contractual services</td> <td>18.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating expenses</td> <td>10.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Study tours</td> <td>80.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops</td> <td><u>270.0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>534.8</b></td> </tr> </table>	Consultants	96.0	Travel	60.0	Contractual services	18.8	Operating expenses	10.0	Study tours	80.0	Workshops	<u>270.0</u>	<b>Total</b>	<b>534.8</b>
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<p><b>Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 and the Millennium Development Goals:</b> UNCTAD subprogrammes 1 to 5 (Globalization, interdependence and development, Investment and enterprise, International trade, Technology and logistics, Africa, least developed countries and special programmes); Millennium Development Goal 8.</p>															

<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
<p>(a) Increased ownership and participation of national Governments and stakeholders in the formulation of United Nations assistance plans in 10 selected countries — Africa (4), Asia/Pacific (3), Latin America and the Caribbean (3)</p>	<p>(a) (i) Increased number of consultations held with government officials (ministries in charge of planning/economy/trade) and national stakeholders of trade-related assistance during the formulation of new UNDAFs, “One UN” plans and other initiatives at the country level</p> <p>(ii) Increased quality of these consultations from the point of view of the involvement of all concerned governmental entities, business sectors, civil society, academia and donors’ representatives</p>
<p>(b) Improved knowledge management, better utilization and improved coordination of the United Nations expertise in the area of trade-related assistance by national authorities, stakeholders and donors</p>	<p>(b) (i) Increased number of trade-related assistance operations requested by national authorities according to national goals and effectively included in the UNDAFs, “One UN” plans and other United Nations assistance initiatives</p> <p>(ii) Increased number of inter-agency trade-related operations requested by national authorities and effectively included in the UNDAFs, “One UN” plans and other United Nations assistance initiatives</p>
<p>(c) In the case of the least developed countries, improved policy and operational coherence among the various development assistance areas targeted by the United Nations entities, particularly in view of more interface between the Enhanced Integrated Framework, Poverty</p>	<p>(c) (i) Increased number of assistance needs and operations identified by the Enhanced Integrated Framework and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers that are included in, or articulated with, the United Nations assistance plans, as</p>

Reduction Strategy Papers and United Nations plans, as well as more coherence of these plans with the bilateral aid delivered at the country level

required by national authorities

(ii) Increased quality of these inclusions from the point of view of their policy and operational coherence and coincidence with national goals

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### **Main activities**

102. The main activities of the project will include:

- (a) Advisory field missions of UNCTAD staff and staff of the agencies of the cluster as required in each country targeted by this project;
- (b) One four-day training and consultation study tour workshop in Geneva, organized by UNCTAD in cooperation with the agencies of the cluster, for the government officials of the selected countries in charge of planning development assistance (one official per country). This workshop will include: three days on the role of trade in development processes and trade-related assistance issues, and one day for consultations on national needs with the agencies of the cluster, donor and developing countries on aid for trade issues. The United Nations Resident Coordinators and country teams will be informed about the results of this workshop;
- (c) Organizing three regional training and awareness workshops on the role of trade policies and trade-related assistance in development plans, with the participation of government officials, stakeholders and donors' representatives of the selected countries as well as countries of the region, in view of a multiplier effect of the project in other countries. These regional workshops will be held at the locations of the regional commissions for an effective involvement of their secretariats' expertise;
- (d) Preparing training inputs and other materials on trade-related assistance to be disseminated and used in these activities, among agencies, donors and stakeholders in all regions and in United Nations bodies such as CEB and the United Nations Development Group.

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<b>Implementing entities:</b> UNCTAD		<b>Duration:</b> 2010 – 2013
<b>Objective:</b> To strengthen policy coherence, inter-agency cooperation and integrated activities on trade and productive sectors within the UN System and in particular at the country level.		
<b>Summary budget</b> <i>thousands of US dollars</i>	<b>Detailed budget (US dollars)</b>	
	<b>Consultants</b>	96 000
Consultants	96.0	International consultant for supporting UNCTAD staffing to prepare training inputs and organizing the one 4-days training/consultation Study Tour in Geneva and the three regional training and awareness workshops (in support of activities (d), (b) and (c)). (10 work months x \$ 6,000 per month) and (\$30,000 for consultant travel)
Travel	60.0	One work month for project evaluation (\$6,000)
Contractual Services	18.8	<b>Travel of staff</b>
Operating expenses	10.0	Travel of UNCTAD staff for advisory field missions and to organize and coordinate the 3 regional training workshops (in support of activities (a) and (c)) (\$6,000 per trip x 6 trips)
Study tours	80.0	Travel of staff of agencies of the CEB cluster to take part in advisory field missions and to participate as resource persons in the training/consultation study tour in Geneva and in the three regional training (in support of activities (a), (b) and (c)) (\$6,000 per trip x 4 trips)
Workshops	<u>270.0</u>	<b>Contractual Services</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>534.8</b>	Contractual Services in support of all activities (\$18,800)
		<b>Study Tour</b>
		Geneva 4-days training/consultation study tour for 20 participants from 10 countries (in support of activity (b)). (\$4,000 per participant to study tour including travel and DSA x 20 participants)
		<b>Seminars and Workshops</b>
		3 regional training and awareness workshops in Africa, Latin America and Asia (in support of activity (c)) (\$3,000 per participant x 30 participants x 3 workshops)
		<b>Operating expenses (\$10,000)</b>
		Communication expenses (in support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d))
		Editing and printing (in support of activity (d))