



Committee for Development Policy
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Development Policy and Analysis Division

Graduation Diagnostics Toolkit: Assisting LDCs in better understanding implications of leaving the LDC category

Side-event to the Mid-term review of the Istanbul
Programme of Action
Antalya, 27 May 2016

Roland Mollerus
Committee for Development Policy Secretariat
UN-DESA

Structure

1. The CDP and the LDCs
2. Capacity building by the CDP Secretariat
3. Objective of graduation diagnostics toolkit
4. Outline of the toolkit



THE CDP AND THE LDCS

CDP Secretariat

Mandates

Committee for Development Policy (CDP) :

Subsidiary body of ECOSOC (resolution 1998/46)

- Policy advice
- Identification of LDCs:
 - Triennial reviews
 - Methodology and process
 - Monitoring of graduating and graduated LDCs

CDP Secretariat (DESA/DPAD):

- Dissemination of CDP work
- Substantive support
- Capacity development



**CAPACITY BUILDING BY THE CDP
SECRETARIAT**

CDP capacity building objectives

1. Improving information on international support measures (ISMs)
 - LDCs can't benefit from support they are not aware of
 2. Facilitating access to ISMs
 - LDCs can't benefit if support is not accessible
 3. Assist countries in preparing for graduation
 - LDCs ultimately lose access to ISMs specific to LDCs
 - ISMs can be used until graduation and for certain time after
 - Access to general assistance remains available
 - Identifying priority sectors
- Graduation diagnostics toolkit falls under the third objective, but builds on work aimed at the first two
- Part of multi-year project on building productive capacity and graduation

Improving information on ISMs: WWW.UN.ORG/LDCPORTAL



Support Measures Portal for Least Developed Countries



Home Trade Development Assistance General Support Find support measures in our



✓ Done!

Improving Access to Support Measures

This Portal gives users access to information about special international support measures (ISMs) adopted by the international development community for countries included in the LDC category. ISMs are meant to assist LDCs in confronting their special development challenges and in achieving progress towards graduation from the category. The measures can be grouped into 3 broad areas of assistance:



Trade

International support measures from development partners related to international trade.

[go to Trade »](#)



Development

Support measures related to the volume and quality of Official Development Assistance.

[go to Development »](#)



General Support

Other support measures such as dedicated travel funds and caps on contributions to the UN.

[go to General Support »](#)

New! Coverage

SPOTLIGHT: EIF success stories - lessons learned
Several reports have reviewed the impact of EIF projects. Most of these studies give valuable...

Jonathan Werner, Coordinator EIF Secretariat
Jonathan Werner - Coordinator at the Enhanced Integrated Framework at the WTO. Mr.

New! Coverage

LDCF Background and Experience
The LDCF was proposed at the 7th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in...

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
UNDP gives particular attention to the development challenges of LDCs through earmarking a...

New! Coverage

United Nations Office of the High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS (UN-OHRLLS)
OHRLLS was established on the recommendation of the Secretary-General of the UN by the GA in its...

Briefing LDC Portal to New York based Delegates
On Thursday 15 November the

Latest stories

■ **Bangladesh' exports to Canada: the importance of flexible rules of origin***
The Canadian GSP scheme for the LDCs was revised in 2002 when almost all tradable items were made...

■ **LDCF Background and Experience**
The LDCF was proposed at the 7th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in...

[more »](#)

Latest news

■ **LDCs request indefinite extension of TRIPS transition periods**
At the meeting of the WTO Council on TRIPS which took place in Geneva on 6 -7 November 2012,...

■ **Briefing LDC Portal to New York based Delegates**
On Thursday 15 November the CDP Secretariat will organize a briefing for delegates to present the...

[more »](#)

Facilitating access to ISMs



SPS & TBT notification alert system



search notifications

help

subscribe

login

EN

Keep track of product requirements in foreign markets

What is eping?

WTO members establish SPS and TBT regulations defining requirements for imported products. When these regulations change, WTO members are required to inform the WTO. This happens through a notification containing a summary of the new SPS or TBT regulation. The ePing global export alert notification system allows users to stay updated about new notifications issued by trading partners on products of interest. **Subscribe to access all features!**

Search notifications

Search SPS and TBT notifications using criteria such as product codes, objectives and keywords

Register for alerts

Register to receive email alerts on new SPS and TBT notifications

Collaborate

Once registered, benefit from additional features such as discussion fora and file sharing



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GRADUATION TOOLKIT: OBJECTIVE





Uncertainty

Uncertainty is major constraint to graduation

- Timing of graduation
- LDC specificity of ISMs
- Actual use of LDC specific ISMs
- Impact of graduation on ISMs
- Likely impact of graduation on development
- Managing graduation
- Nature of smooth transition strategy



Approaching uncertainty

- Uncertainty cannot be fully eliminated!
- But it can be reduced
- ...and it can be managed
- Overall approach:
 - Identify sources of uncertainty
 - Provide basic information
 - Explain how to obtain and use detailed information



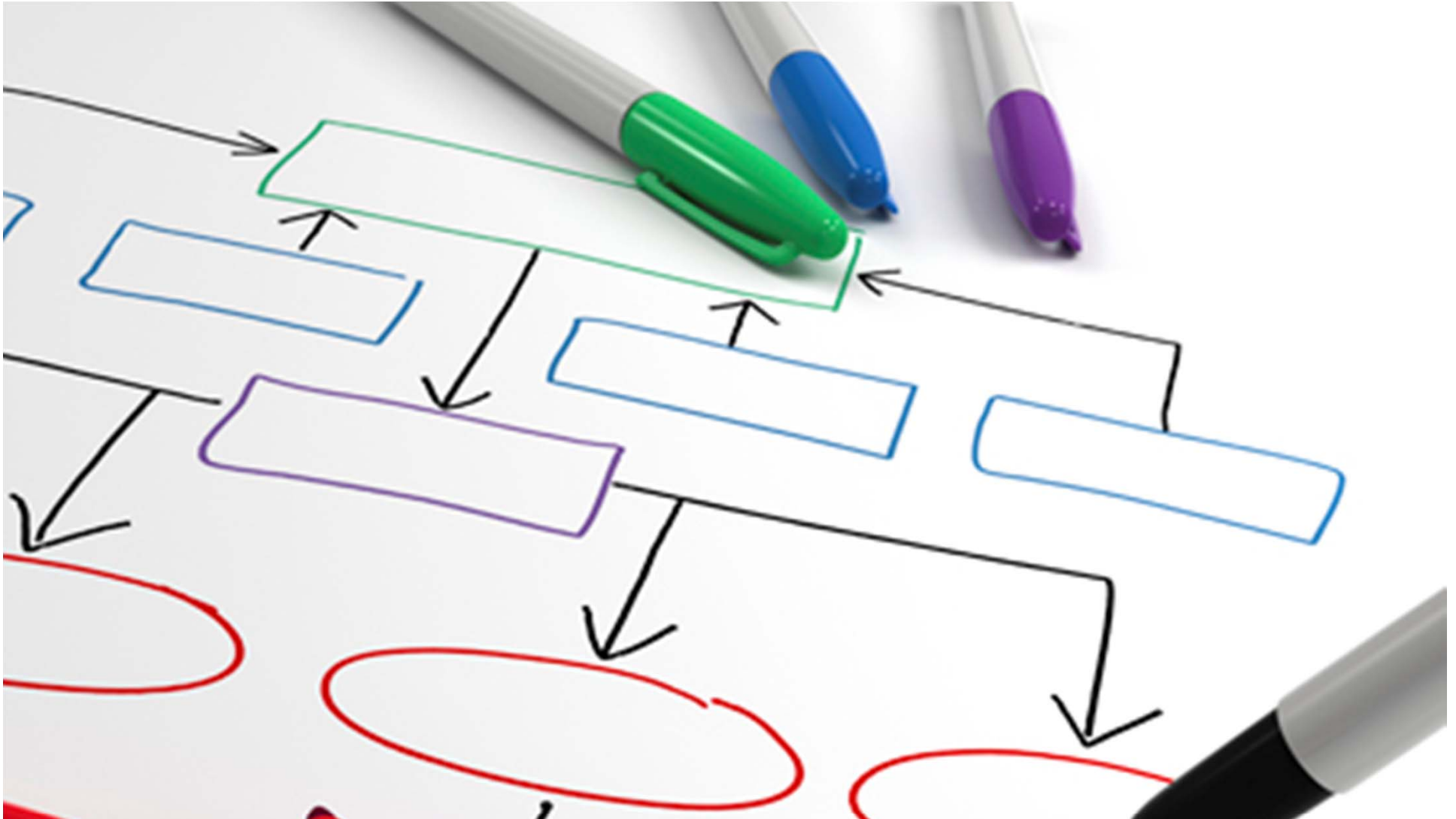
Graduation diagnostics toolkit

Goals

- Assist in better understanding LDC-specific support
- Better prepare for graduation

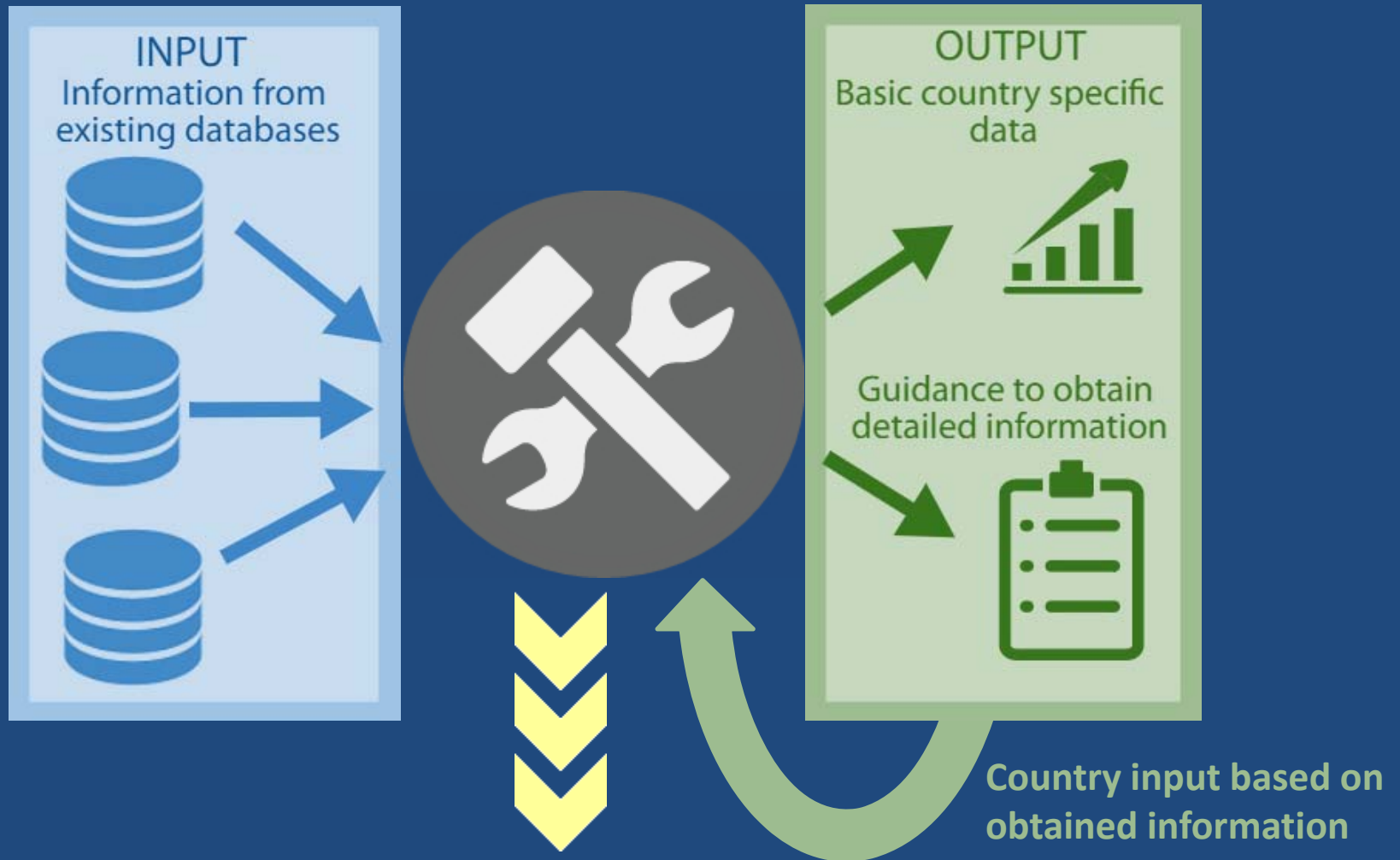
Objectives

- Access to graduation data
- Map out type of LDC specific support received
- Identify relevant sectors and impact of ISMs
- Assess impact on development progress
- Promote collaboration between stakeholders
- Identify policy priorities
- Establish roadmap to graduation
- Integrate smooth transition strategy in development strategies
- Facilitate transition strategy



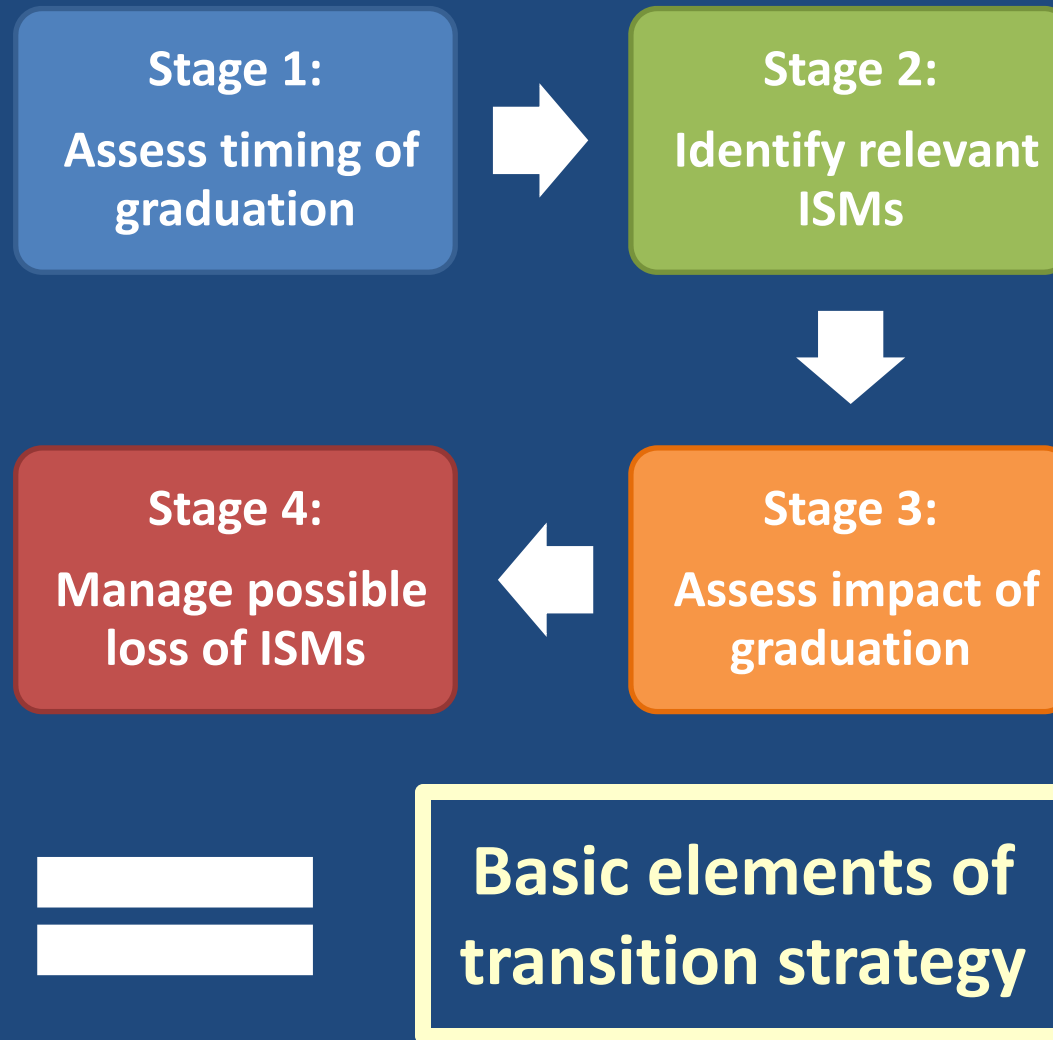
GRADUATION TOOLKIT: OUTLINE

Toolkit approach



Basic elements of transition strategy

Basic stages of the toolkit



Stage 1: Timing of graduation



Information directly accessible from toolkit

- General timelines from graduation procedures
- Role of different actors
 - Government
 - United Nations GA and ECOSOC
 - CDP
 - UNCTAD
 - UNDP
- Country data from last review



Guidance for getting more detailed information

- Contact planning institution, think tanks, Ministries
 - Information on expected future progress in LDC criteria
- ➔ Information is recorded in toolkit



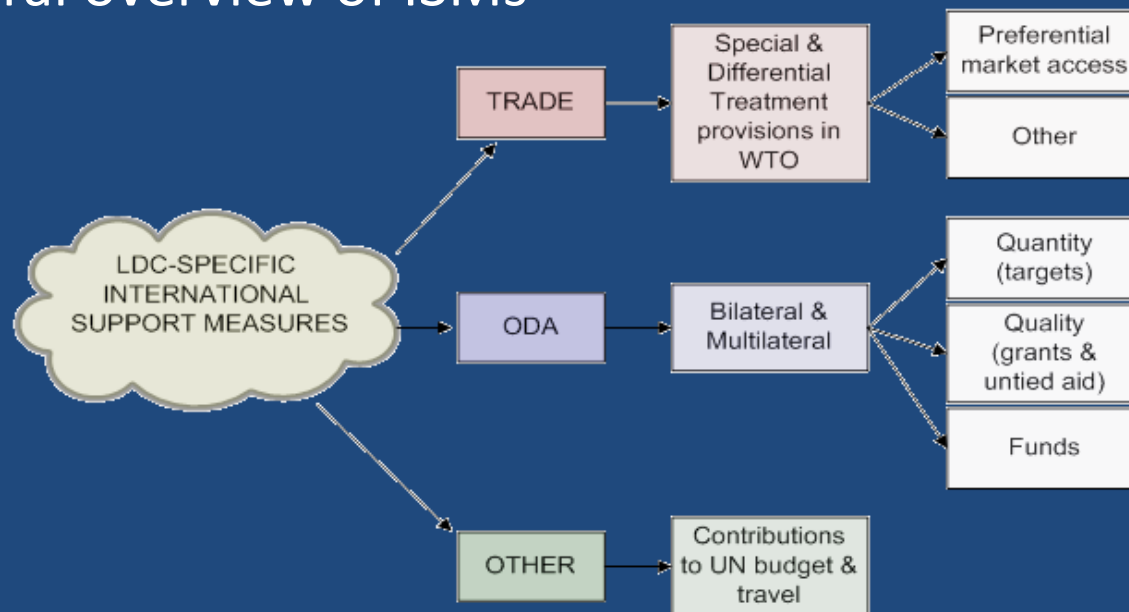
Expected timeframe for graduation

Stage 2: Identifying ISMs



Information directly accessible from toolkit

- General overview of ISMs



- List of ISMs the country is eligible to receive
 - Certain WTO provisions not relevant for non-Members
- Link to LDC Portal for further detail



Information on which ISMs could be used until graduation
Information on potential losses in support

Stage 2: Identifying ISMs (cont'd)



Basic information on **actual use** of LDCs

- Basic data on exports covered by trade preferences
- Sectors producing goods covered by preferences
- Information on ODA receipts and conditions
- Projects under the LDC Fund administered by GEF
- Enhanced integrated framework (EIF) studies and projects
- WTO special & differential treatment



Guidance on how to obtain detailed information

- Suggested stakeholders to be contacted for detailed information
 - Business associations, Chamber of Commerce,
 - Ministries, National focal points
 - International agencies
 - Development partners

➔ Stakeholder responses and views recorded in toolkit



Information on relevance of ISMs

List of sectors possibly affected by graduation

Information on ISMs not yet used

Stage 3: Impact of graduation



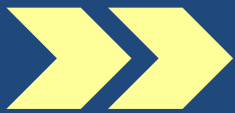
Basic information on impact of graduation on ISM

- General smooth transition provisions
- List of smooth transition measures for ISMs actually used
- Impact assessments prepared by DESA



Guidance on gathering further information

- Link to international organizations
 - UNDP, UNCTAD, ESCAP, ECA, ...
 - List of sectors to be explored for further studies
 - E.g., impact of loss of preferences on exports and employment
 - List of stakeholders that are critical for managing graduations
 - List of key development partners that provide ISMs
- ➔ Information is recorded in toolkit



Information on what is 'at stake' in graduation
Sectors/issues that need to be managed

Stage 4: Managing graduation

- Main components
 - Establish coordination mechanism
 - Assistance from UN Resident Coordinator available
 - Communicate impacts to non-governmental stakeholders
 - Dialogue and negotiate with development partners
 - Map graduation impacts on national development and sectoral strategies
 - Report to CDP to bring concerns to the international attention
- Toolkit contains description of components
- Toolkit provides experiences by other countries



Elements of graduation strategy

Questions

- Do you think the toolkit is useful for countries?
- What additional information should be covered?
- Who could be the main users within countries?
- Would you use the toolkit?
- Is the approach flexible enough to reflect differences between LDCs?

Thank You

Contact: Roland Mollerus

Committee for Development Policy Secretariat
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations

email: mollerus@un.org

[http:// www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp)