



Survey on International Support Measures specific to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) related to Bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Iceland

SUMMARY RESULTS

**prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
and the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) Secretariat***

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. ODA Commitments and flows	1
B. LDC status and ODA priorities	2
C. LDC-specific bilateral support programmes	2
D. LDC-specific multilateral support measures	2

A. ODA Commitments and flows

The Programmes of Action for the Least-Developed Countries (LDCs) aim at improving human conditions of the population of the LDCs and provide frameworks for partnership between LDCs and their development partners.^a

At the first United Nations Conference on the LDCs in 1981, the members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) committed themselves to allocating 0.15 per cent of their total gross national income (GNI) (including funds channelled through international organizations) to LDCs.^b In the 2001 Conference, all donor countries reaffirmed their commitment to make their best efforts to accelerate their endeavours to reach the target. Meanwhile, donor countries that had already met the 0.15 per cent target undertook to reach the 0.20 per cent target promptly.^c

* This summary was prepared by the DESA/CDP Secretariat, based on the survey response submitted by Iceland. The content, findings, interpretations, and conclusions as expressed in this summary reflect the views of its authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the United Nations or Iceland. The views presented in this document should not be considered as the official position neither of the United Nations nor Iceland.

a See [General Assembly, A/CONF.191/13](#), 20 September 2001.

b See [Strengthening International Support Measures for the Least Developed Countries](#), Policy Note, UN/DESA/CDP, August 2010, p.13-14.

c [Goal 28-30, A/61/82](#), p.25.

Annex Table 1 describes Iceland's total net ODA flows, the ODA flows to LDCs as a share of total ODA, and the net ODA-to-GNI ratio.

Country response

No specific commitments were made by Iceland regarding LDC-specific ODA targets, because the country's general policy statement emphasizes support to LDCs.

B. LDC status and ODA priorities

The United Nations Committee for Development (CDP) uses the following criteria to identify LDCs: low-income levels, as determined by GNI per capita; weak human resources, as measured by the Human assets Index (HAI); and high economic vulnerability, as defined by the Economic Vulnerability Index (EVI).^d Donors may consider the LDC criteria for establishing ODA priorities and allocation.

^d See the "[Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category: Inclusion, Graduation and Special Support Measures](#)"; UN/DESA/CDP, 2008.

Country response

Among the criteria used in the identification of LDCs, GNI is taken into consideration for establishing priority countries for the allocation of ODA.

Iceland gives priority in its ODA allocation to the following countries, on the basis on their LDC status: Malawi, Mozambique, and Uganda.

C. LDC-specific bilateral support programmes

LDC-specific bilateral support measures can be provided in the form of special funds and programmes, cooperation activities, training activities, and other modalities (excluding WTO-related technical assistance and support to the Integrated Framework for trade-related technical assistance to LDCs, as these are dealt with under a separate survey).

Country response

Iceland does not have any LDC-specific bilateral support measures in place.

D. LDC-specific multilateral support measures

Multilateral support measures that are specific for LDCs could be provided through multilateral technical assistance funds, or Trust Funds of international organizations to facilitate the participation of LDCs in international meetings.

Country response

Iceland does not have any multilateral support measures that are specific for LDCs. Instead, it has contributed to other priorities, such as sectoral trust funds.

ANNEX

Table 1: Overview of Iceland's total net ODA flows (bilateral and imputed multilateral flows)

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Net ODA (current US\$, millions)	8.61	9.73	12.65	17.66	21.24	27.23	41.49	48.24	48.39	34.42
Share of ODA flows to LDCs on total ODA (per cent)	42.40	50.40	33.10	29.30	28.90	40.60	46.30	40.60	39.70	39.80
Net ODA to LDCs (percentage of GNI)	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.12	0.11	0.19	0.13