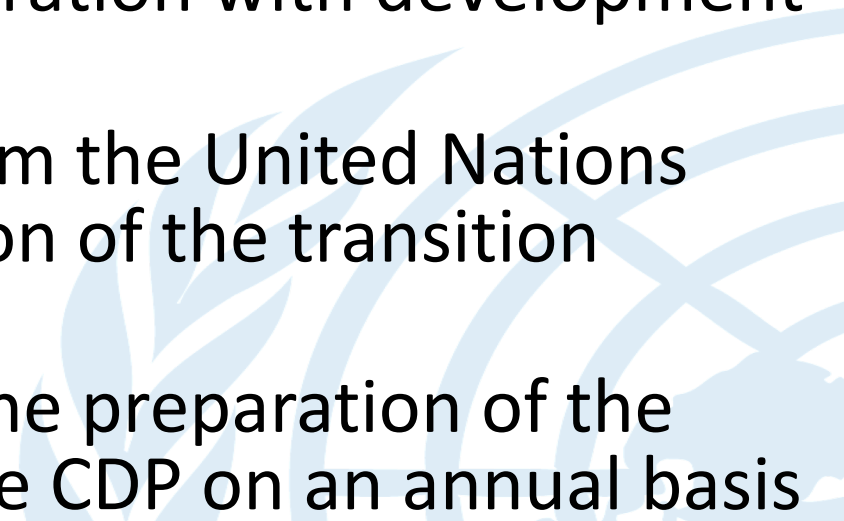


# Improved assistance for graduating LDCs

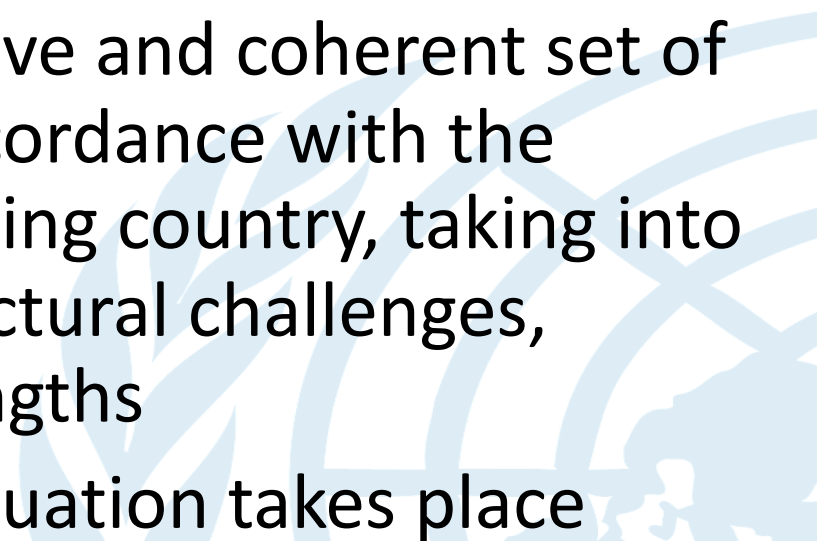
**Namsuk Kim**  
**Committee for Development Secretariat**  
**UN DESA**



# Graduating country actions

- Remains in the LDC category and is entitled to receive all benefits available to LDCs
  - Prepares a national transition strategy and establishes a consultative mechanism to facilitate its preparation in cooperation with development partners
  - May seek assistance from the United Nations system in the preparation of the transition strategy
  - Voluntarily reports on the preparation of the transition strategy to the CDP on an annual basis
- 

# Smooth transition strategy

- Aims to ensure that development efforts are not disrupted by graduation
  - Focuses on expected implications of loss of LDC status and associated special support measures
  - Presents a comprehensive and coherent set of specific measures in accordance with the priorities of the graduating country, taking into account its specific structural challenges, vulnerabilities and strengths
  - Implemented after graduation takes place
- 

# Countries scheduled for graduation

- Vanuatu (2020)
- Angola (2021)
- Bhutan (2023)
- São Tomé and Príncipe (2024)
- Solomon Islands (2024)



# Easing the impact of graduation

- Development partners should support the implementation of the transition strategy
  - WTO members should extend existing differential treatment available to LDCs for a period appropriate to the development situation
  - Development and trading partners should extend LDC preferential market access for some time
  - Development partners should avoid abrupt reductions in development or technical assistance
- 

# Introduction of Gradjet

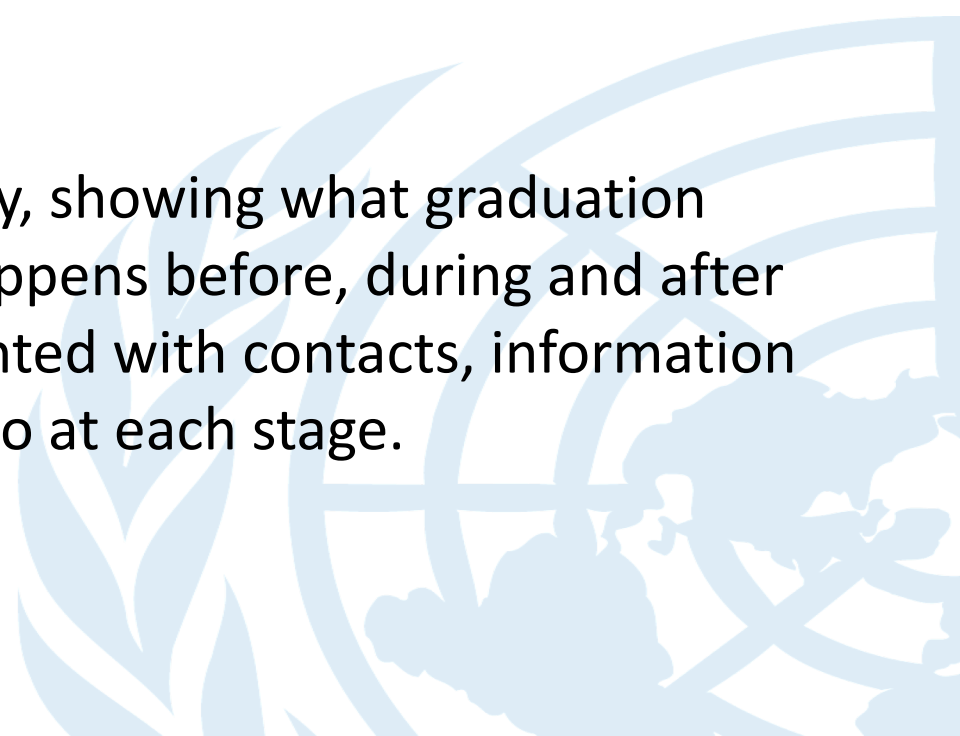
# Why?

- Many LDCs graduating – up to 13 by mid 2020s
- Requested at Midterm review of Istanbul Programme of Action
- Uncertainty surrounding graduation process
- Fear of losing international support measures
- Demand for information and support, particularly on smooth transition
- Need to put information and tools in one place.
- More focus on coordination of graduation-related activities with Inter-Agency Task Force on graduation

# What?

**Gradjet** helps government officials in least developed countries (LDCs) understand what it means to leave the LDC category and to plot a course for future action. It's also aimed at the wider development community and anyone else interested in LDC graduation.

**Gradjet** is tailored to each country, showing what graduation means in the context of what happens before, during and after leaving the category, complemented with contacts, information and suggestions about what to do at each stage.





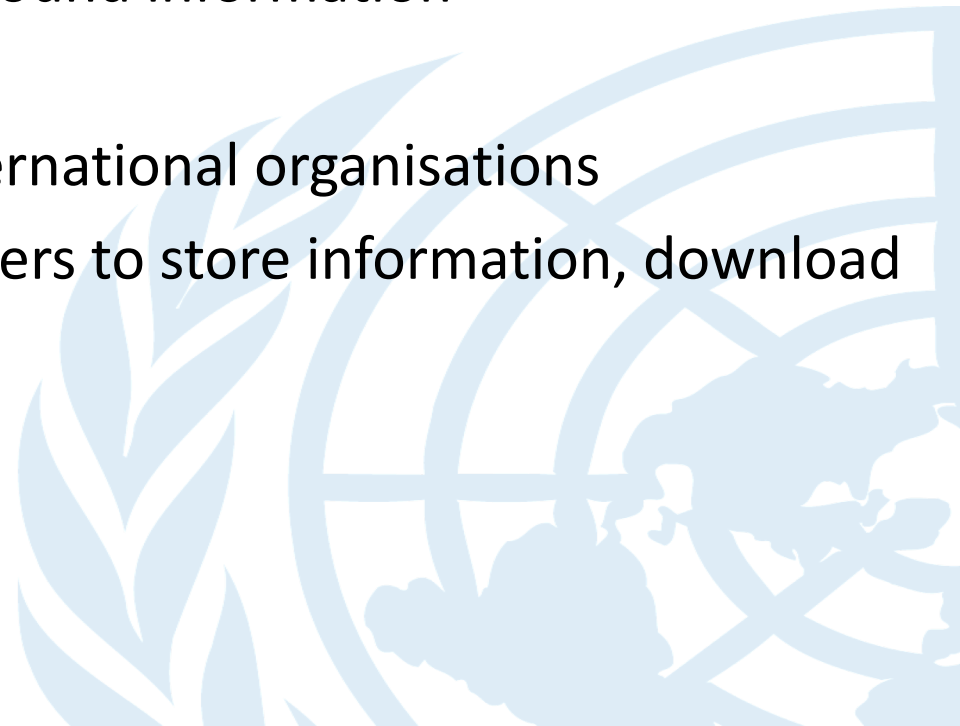
# What?

- [www.Gradjet.org](http://www.Gradjet.org)
- A **mobile-first** gadget detailing data, timeline and best practice for LDC graduation
- Each country has its own information
- Divided into '**before**', '**during**' and '**after**' graduation phases
- Country data and progress on LDC criteria tailored to countries
- Suggested activities



# Main features

- Simplified explanation of **international support measures**
- **Guides** on the impact of graduation and loss of S&D treatment
- How to build **productive capacity** into graduation strategy
- Best practice
- **Expert views**, tools and background information
- Calendar of LDC events
- **Contact points** at relevant international organisations
- A **'briefcase'** for designated users to store information, download it and share it





Gradjet helps government officials in least developed countries (LDCs) understand what it means to leave the LDC category and to plot a course for future action. It's also aimed at the wider development community and anyone else interested in LDC graduation. Tailored to each country, showing what graduation means in context, the site shows what happens before, during and after leaving the category, with contacts, information and suggestions about what to do at each stage. Register and log in to see information specific to your country, or use the drop-down menu to select another LDC.



1. Login
2. Country selection
3. Video explaining LDC category
4. Briefcase



## Graduation Process ▾

1.

### Before graduation

How graduation works, information about your country's LDC status and what to do in the years before you are considered for graduation

Case studies, background reading and contacts



Information



Information and suggested activities when your country has been identified for graduation

Activities



### During graduation

Information and suggested activities when your country has been identified for graduation

Good practice, expert views, contacts and examples of smooth transition strategies



Information



Good practice, expert views, contacts and examples of smooth transition strategies

Activities



### After graduation

How to manage graduation and incorporate it into policymaking

Good practice, expert views, contacts and case studies



Information



Four ideas about how to move forward successfully

Activities



1. Outline of graduation process
2. Suggested activities and information before, during and after graduation

# Information

## Examples

Case studies and examples of good practice

Angola's National Consultative Committee for LDC graduation ▼

How the UN helps countries graduate ▼

Cabo Verde's smooth transition strategy ▼

Samoa's smooth transition strategies ▼

## Expert views

Advice from Committee for Development Policy specialists and others on what to look out for during the graduation process



### Vanuatu's success in LDC graduation

Daniel Gay, Inter-Regional adviser with the Committee for Development Policy, presents the case of Vanuatu's LDC graduation, which can be



### Human development and the environment

Committee for Development Policy member Leticia Moreno talks about the importance of



### Beyond income: the environment, equality and graduation

Committee for Development Policy member Diane Elson talks about how LDC graduation is

## During graduation

Information and suggested activities when your country has been identified for graduation

Country snapshot ▼

### Activities

Information and suggested activities for when your country has been identified for graduation

- Consult development partners [→](#)
- Consult stakeholders, build awareness and plan [→](#)
- Prepare smooth transition strategy [→](#)
- Report to Committee for Development Policy [→](#)

### Information

Good practice, expert views, contacts and examples of smooth transition strategies

- Examples [→](#)
- Background Reading [→](#)
- Expert Views [→](#)

Home / Suitcase


## Suitcase of Angola

Logout

### Country snapshot

 Angola 


### Before graduation

**TOOL** A Guide to Leaving Least Developed Country Status: Sustaining Graduation with Momentum 

**TOOL** Stakeholder consultation tools 


**TOOL** Productive capacity tools 

### During graduation

**TOOL** A Guide to Leaving Least Developed Country Status: Sustaining Graduation with Momentum 

**TOOL** Stakeholder consultation tools 

### After graduation

**TOOL** A Guide to Leaving Least Developed Country Status: Sustaining Graduation with Momentum 

**TOOL** Productive capacity tools 

# Tools for information

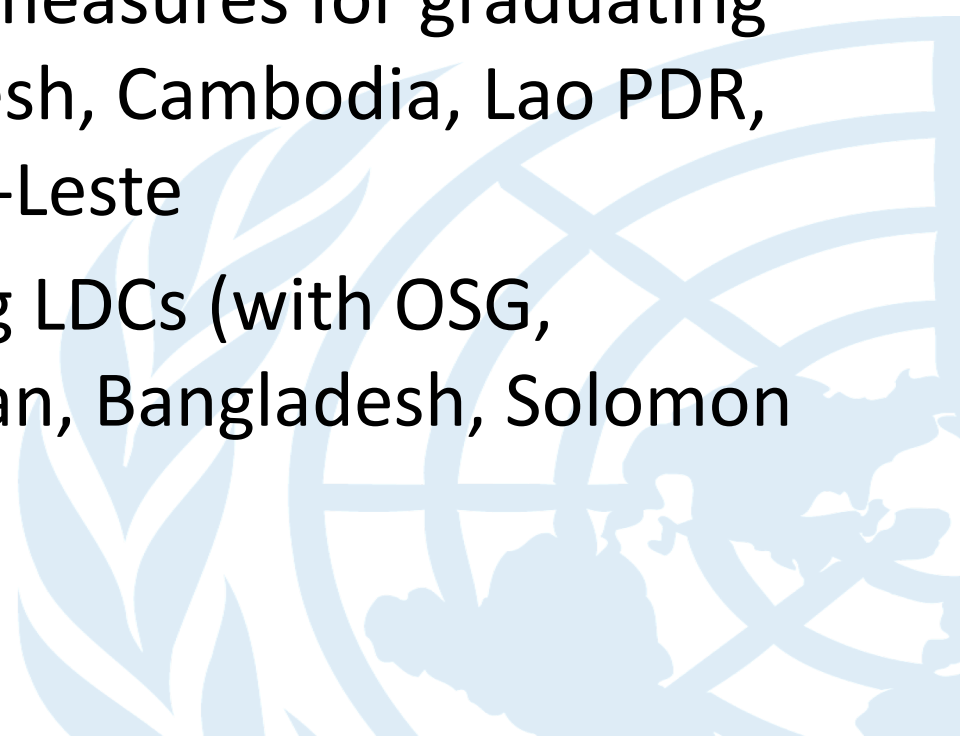
- Gradjet ([www.gradjet.org](http://www.gradjet.org))
- LDC portal ([www.un.org/ldcportal](http://www.un.org/ldcportal))
- CDP website ([bit.ly/leastdeveloped](http://bit.ly/leastdeveloped))
  
- Advisory missions on the impact, process, and smooth transition





# Capacity building

- Structural progress, and trade support using ePing (with UNCTAD) – pilot in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vanuatu
- Exploring new support measures for graduating LDCs – pilot in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Timor-Leste
- Financing for graduating LDCs (with OSG, OHRLLS) – pilot in Bhutan, Bangladesh, Solomon Islands



# THANK YOU

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[www.Gradjet.org](http://www.Gradjet.org)

[kimnamsuk@un.org](mailto:kimnamsuk@un.org)

