

LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (LLDCs)

FACTS AND FIGURES

NUMBER AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF LLDCs

31 countries: 15 in Africa
12 in Asia
2 in Europe
2 in Latin America

Total population 2008: 370 million

Annual average growth rate: 1.74%



ECONOMIC GROWTH

- The average GDP annual growth for the LLDC group in 2006 was 7.1%.
- The GDP of LLDCs grew in average by 8% per annum for the period 2003-2006.

POVERTY

- 10 out of the 20 lowest-ranked countries in the human development index (2007/2008) were LLDCs.

AID

- The total ODA received by the LLDCs increased from US\$ 10.1 billion in 2002 to US\$ 16.1 billion in 2006.
- The ODA allocated to infrastructure increased from US\$4.4 billion in 2005 to US\$5.3 in 2006 and was projected to reach US\$6 billion in 2007.
- ODA remains the main source of external finance for LLDCs.
- Since 2003, World Bank lending relevant to the Almaty Programme of Action reached more than US\$800 million for over 30 projects.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

- The total FDI received by LLDCs increased from US\$3.9 billion in 2000 to US\$11.8 billion in 2006.

- The net FDI inflows to LLDCs in 2006 were 4.51% of their GDP.
- The share of total world FDI inflows going to the LLDCs in 2006 was 0.9%.

TRADE

- In 2006, LLDCs generated only 0.61% of world merchandise exports and 0.57% of world merchandise imports.
- The value of merchandise exports from LLDCs rose to US\$68.4 billion dollars in 2006 from US\$32.8 billion dollars in 2003.
- The exports increase in 2006 was mainly driven by the global oil and gasoline prices surge.
- As of June 2008, 9 out of the 31 LLDCs and 4 of the 34 transit developing countries were not members of the WTO.

DEBT RELIEF

- The external debt percentage of GNI of LLDCs as a group was 51.1% in 2006.
- As of February 2008, 9 LLDCs had reached the completion point, 4 were at the decision point, and 2 were at the pre-decision point of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative.
- In 2006, five LLDCs received debt relief under the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative.

INFRASTRUCTURE & COMMUNICATION

- The total volume of road networks in landlocked developing countries was 1.1 million km in 2006, up from about 974,000 km in 2003.
- Nevertheless, the quality of road networks in LLDCs remains poor, with only about 33% of the total roads paved in 2006.
- The combined rail network of all LLDCs is roughly 35,000 km.
- In 2006, the average of main line telephone and cellular service connections per 100 inhabitants in LLDCs was 13.7.
- Since the adoption of the Almaty Programme of Action, 23 LLDCs and transit developing countries acceded to or ratified 14 multilateral conventions in the area of transit transport.
- Significant progress have been made in Asia towards coordinated transport infrastructure development: it is estimated that around US\$25 billion in investment have already been committed for the development and upgrading of Asian Highway routes.

- Only 2.9% of the population used the Internet in LLDCs in 2006, compared to 11% in developing countries and 60% in developed countries.

EDUCATION

- The net enrolment ratio in primary education in LLDCs in 2005 was 76%.
- The primary school completion rate, in LLDCs in 2005 was 57%.
- The total adult literacy rate in the period 2005-2007 was 56.4%.

HEALTH

- The life expectancy at birth in 2007 in LLDCs was 56 years.
- The maternal mortality ratio in 2007 in LLDCs was 619 per 100,000.
- The infant mortality rate in 2006 in LLDCs was 75 per 1000.
- The estimated adult HIV prevalence rate in LLDCs (age 15-49) at the end of 2005 was 5.5%.

REFERENCES

- *Report of the Secretary General to the 63rd session of the General Assembly: Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, A/63/165.*
- *The State of the World's Children, 2008 UNICEF*



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