Improved assistance for graduating LDCs

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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?

- 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. 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
- Human development and the environment
- Beyond income: the environment, equality and graduation
During graduation

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

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
Suitcase of Angola

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)
• LDC portal (www.un.org/ldcportal)
• CDP website (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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