



# Trade in Services for Development Initiative

## Overview

TS4D

# TRADE *in* SERVICES *for* DEVELOPMENT

- TS4D report launched by the WTO and World Bank in 2023 underscored the development impact of trade in services and the important opportunities it offers.
- While services trade carries great potential and opportunities, harnessing services trade can be challenging.
- The co-publication argued for increased levels of Aid for Trade in services, and called for a TS4D initiative to help mobilize a coherent Aft package in services.



## Trade in services for development

Fostering sustainable growth and economic diversification



# TRADE *in* SERVICES *for* DEVELOPMENT

## Delivering a Trade in Services for Development Initiative

*Stepped up levels of Aid for Trade in services directed to*  
**five key dimensions of improved services trade governance**

- Addressing data gaps in services trade
- Supporting the greater participation of developing and least-developed economies in policy discussions on trade in services
- Strengthening regulatory frameworks and institutions
- Promoting more diversified services export baskets, notably those delivered digitally
- Addressing key supply-side constraints and improving the services-related skills of workers.

# TRADE *in* SERVICES *for* DEVELOPMENT

- **TS4D initiative launched at the 2024 Public Forum: initial joint Work Programme of assistance for developing countries on trade in services.**
- **The aim is to mobilize resources to assist developing countries to better leverage trade in services for development.**
- **Announcement of TS4D Conference and TS4D Platform**



## Elements of a TS4D Work Program

- Developing a User-Friendly **Competitiveness Diagnostic** Dashboard
- Improving Services Trade **Statistics**
- Identifying Best Practices in **Export Promotion Strategies** in Services
- Expanding the coverage of the **STPD** and **STRI** in the developing world
- Promoting Services Trade Policy **Transparency**
- Assisting developing countries in facilitating trade through the promotion of **good regulatory practices** on services

# TRADE *in* SERVICES *for* DEVELOPMENT

## First TS4D Conference – December 2025:

- Launch of Services Trade Competitiveness Dashboard
- Launch of Handbook on GRPs
- Release of findings of case studies on services export promotion
- Launch of TS4D platform
- Geneva-based TS4D course



# TS4D Platform

TS4D

# TS4D Platform

[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/ts4d\\_e/ts4d\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/ts4d_e/ts4d_e.htm)

- Dedicated webpages to share information on the initiative and its different capacity-building workstreams.
- Provides access to TS4D tools being launched in the conference.
- Aims to promote information sharing about capacity-building efforts beyond those of the TS4D workstream to encourage co-operation.

# TRADE *in* SERVICES *for* DEVELOPMENT

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WORKSTREAMS -

## COMPETITIVENESS DASHBOARD

A Competitiveness Dashboard has been developed by the WTO and the World Bank to help developing economies evaluate their services trade performance, identify policy gaps, and integrate services trade into their development strategies. It provides a framework to analyse services trade along several dimensions and provides pointers for policy action.

[TS4D Competitiveness Diagnostic Dashboard](#)

[Find out more](#)

## EXPORT PROMOTION STRATEGIES

To help developing economies benefit from the export opportunities offered by services trade, the WTO and the World Bank, in partnership with other regional partners, are compiling a report on best practices for services export promotion strategies. The report will provide a series of country case studies, identifying critical elements of these countries' support strategies for services export development.

[Find out more](#)

## GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICES TO FACILITATE TRADE IN SERVICES

This WTO-World Bank handbook explains how good regulatory practices (GRPs) can facilitate cross-border services trade. It provides case studies, practical guidance and tools to help governments benchmark their domestic regimes against GRPs and prepare for reforms.

[Download the handbook](#)

[Find out more](#)

## MINISTERIAL SIDE EVENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT

SAVE THE DATE



### Ministerial Side Event on Trade in Services for Development

**Keynote remarks:**

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, WTO Director-General

# TS4D

Trade in Services for Development



Scan QR-code for more information

**Wednesday, 25 March 2026 - 10:00 – 11:30 (local time)**  
Room B, Palais des Congrès, Yaoundé, Cameroon





# Trade in Services Competitiveness Dashboard

TS4D

# TS4D – Competitiveness Dashboard

- This data-driven tool is intended to help scan readiness and performance, gaps, and opportunities in services trade.
  - A strategic diagnostic tool designed to help map an economy's readiness to leverage trade in services for inclusive growth.
  - Offers government officials and users a set of tools and analytical metrics to assess a country's competitive performance in services trade.
  - By scanning key features of the services economy and services trade and the related policy environment, it aims to help guide policymakers toward more competitive and development-aligned services trade ecosystems.

# TS4D – Competitiveness Dashboard

- The diagnostics can help to:
  - (i) document the domestic policy priorities of countries;
  - (ii) assist countries in defining the key strategic orientations and overarching objectives of their national services trade policies;
  - (iii) help define key interests that might best be pursued through international trade and investment negotiations or cooperation as complements to domestic (unilateral) reform efforts; and
  - (iv) help identify and prioritize development and technical assistance needs in relation to services trade policies, under the coordination of trade and investment ministries.

# TS4D – Competitiveness Dashboard

- In assessing a country's performance in services, it is useful to identify comparator countries to situate a country relative to its peers. Peers can be:
  - *structural*, focusing on countries with similar economic characteristics and/or per capita income levels;
  - *regional*, which draws attention to a country's performance relative to that of neighboring countries; and
  - *aspirational*, measuring country's distance from top performing (typically high income/frontier) economies.
- Such diagnostic work may lay the basis for dialogue with development partners on deepened country engagement involving the supply of technical assistance, advice on policy design and implementation as well as lending operations



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## WELCOME TO THE TS4D COMPETITIVENESS DIAGNOSTIC DASHBOARD

This interactive dashboard is a data driven tool to facilitate assessment of services trade competitiveness and performance.

It is designed to help developing countries evaluate their services trade performance, identify policy gaps and priorities, and integrate services trade in development strategies.

[START EXPLORING THE DASHBOARD](#)

dashboard

I - SCANNING THE ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE

1.1. Growth and jobs

1.2. Composition

1.3. Employment by services sector

1.4. Productivity

1.5. Inclusiveness

1.6. Linkages

II - SCANNING THE TRADE LANDSCAPE

2.1. Trade in Commercial Services - Balance-of-payments statistics

2.2. Bilateral trade flows

2.3. Digitally Delivered Services Trade

2.4. Trade in Services by Mode of Supply

2.5. Services Value Added in International Trade

2.6. Revealed Comparative Advantage

Philippines (PHL) Ghana (GHA) Mexico (MEX) Indonesia (IDN) Argentina (ARG)

The charts and tables update automatically. A default set of 5 economies are pre-selected, remove any to change.

## II - SCANNING THE TRADE LANDSCAPE

### 2.1. Trade in Commercial Services - Balance-of-payments statistics

Trade in services has been increasing, outpacing the growth of trade in goods over the past decade. Between 2010 and 2023, trade in goods increased by about 56 percent, while trade in services nearly doubled, rising by 95 percent. While services trade contracted markedly in light of the restrictions on travel and face to face interaction brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, its recovery since 2022 has outpaced that of goods trade.

Regions

Selected economies

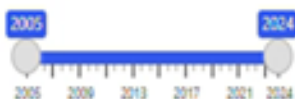
Comparing services and goods exports growth over time

 Philippines (PHL)
  Ghana (GHA)
  Mexico (MEX)
  Indonesia (IDN)
  Argentina (ARG)

Plot Table

Time

Years:





THANK YOU!

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