Promoting growth, resilience and capacity

International Trade Centre projects in Least Developed Countries

ITC has a rich experience working in LDCs across Africa, Asia, the Pacific and Haiti. For nearly 60 years, we have supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) from LDCs through trade-related technical assistance. In 2022, 40% of ITC’s delivery was allocated to 43 LDCs. Thanks to our partners, ITC has supported LDCs in building productive capacities and fully integrating regional and international markets. Find a full list of active projects on the back.

For more information on how ITC will continue to support LDCs, download our brochure *ITC Contribution to the Doha Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries: Intervention Plan* from our website https://intracen.org or scan the QR code.
ITC in LDCs: A Snapshot

This infographics charts examples of recent ITC actions and programmes. Most stories are from between 2020 and 2022.

Find full stories in our brochure ITC Contribution to the Doha Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries: Intervention Plan.

The Gambia
Blazing trails in the Gambia
Tekki Fii – which means ‘Make It Here’ in Wolof – is a movement by Gambians, for Gambians, to equip young people with job-ready skills and entrepreneurship opportunities in a variety of sectors, ranging from the arts and agribusiness to tech and tourism and more. The goal is to empower young people to earn higher, stable incomes and create quality jobs for others.

Guinea
Urban logistics benefit small businesses during COVID-19
Closing down was not an option for Aoudi Food. The company switched to new ways of reaching out to its local customers. With support from INTEGRA-ITC, an ITC-led programme for the development of technical and professional skills, it upgraded its existing website to sell online, which put the business back on track.

Haiti
The women weavers of Labiche
Hat-making is a traditional craft in Haiti, where women in different rural areas are specialized in unique weaving styles. The Labiche community women weaver artisans produce hats, which are finished by artisans from the Port-au-Prince production hub, DOT. After receiving several trainings, the artisans can produce hats up to international market standards.

Liberia
ITC and MICAT organise first marketing and branding workshop on Liberia tourism
A number of interventions are being implemented under the project, including establishing an inventory of tourism resources in Liberia, developing a tourism information booth and tourist reception facilities at Robertsport, Providence Island and Marshall Island as well as building tourism governance capacities.

Madagascar
Broadening the horizon for a family-owned textile business
INDEX OI is a family textile company founded in 2000 which employs 120 people and operates three production lines. It joined ITC’s UKTP programme in 2019 and is working towards moving from sub-contracting to co-contracting.

Nepal
In the heartland of Nepali pashmina
ITC began the groundwork for the EU-Nepal Trade and Investment Programme (TIP) in 2019. The following three programmes are part of the initiative targeting the Chyangra Zone: a zone operation orientation workshop, a breeding and production increment programme and a meat processing programme.

Rwanda
Tracing Rwandan coffee digitally for inclusive trade
To help small businesses in addressing traceability, we started a new pilot at ITC: digitizing the traceability records of close to 1,000 women coffee growers in Rwanda. Offering traceability records in a digital format is essential for farmers and processors. It helps them improve their visibility to buyers as well as the sales value of their coffee.

Tanzania
Building a new market provides economic opportunities for women and youth
In the host community of Kigoma, ITC, together with 16 other UN agencies, is helping marginalized groups in this community, who have experienced an influx of refugees, build sustainable livelihoods in the agricultural sector. The project also indirectly benefits refugees in the region. Beneficiaries include women and young refugees as well as host community members.

Myanmar
Staying ready to receive tourists post COVID-19
In Southern Shan State, 80% of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the tourism ecosystem rely on Internet and online platforms for advertising their services to customers. Therefore, social media was chosen for sharing latest information and recommendations. A Facebook post now goes out regularly with practical tips.

Bhutan
Pioneering access to market information
In addition to new e-platforms, ITC provided advisory support on e-commerce, trade policy, investment promotion, business advocacy and business growth after COVID-19. It developed investment profiles for mineral processing, food processing, construction and non-alcoholic beverages to encourage investments in Bhutan. Furthermore, ITC provided targeted support to small-scale farmers, artisans and exporters.

Bangladesh
Local artisans shift gears in the midst of a pandemic
Tarango (fair-trade enterprise that specializes in jute products) initiated a host of measures to help cushion its employees and community from the fallout of COVID-19. It set up a safe home that could host up to 45 women and 25 children, developed COVID-19 awareness campaign for its staff members, and delivered food packages to women weavers and vulnerable families and masks and hand soaps to 120 families of the Mirpur community.

Uganda
Ugandan food hub connecting farmers to consumers
Minute5, a Uganda-based e-commerce platform offering a fresh food delivery service sourced directly from local farms and markets, has moved to this AWS (Amazon Web Services) cloud computing platform. The company introduced a successful full mobile functionality with contactless delivery and cashless payment model.

India
Digitizing the traceability records of coffee growers in India
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